

Senate 2/7/19

### Helens' Senate Auditor report

- Things that need improvement in senate
  - Diversity
    - How can we improve it?
      - Ben
        - Initial student unions meetings could push ASLC membership
        - Jack
          - Good idea, relates back to people being unaware of senate and what we do
          - We should appeal to more students and showcase the power of senate and how they can improve it/campus
        - Max
          - What about coordinating with
        - Alden
          - Linked with accessibility
          - Environment of senate is focused on efficiency but that makes a poly-sci feel overall, may deter people who are not into politics and others who feel that politics is not open for their participation
        - DSU
          - Advertise that senate sessions are open for the public
          - Focus on more of forum-type discussion
    - There is too much focus on the constitution/ by laws/ bills and not enough time on student concerns
      - Can this be improved?
        - Sherlock
          - Bylaws might feel secondary but they need to be edited to enable a better ability to address student concerns
        - Hannah

- Don't need to necessarily tone down bylaw work but we should boost addressing student concerns
- DSU
  - More ad-hoc committees would help direct support and enable concerns to be addressed
- Ben
  - Senator office hours may be helpful to give people the opportunity to talk to us
    - Jack
      - Does anyone get any visits in office hours?
      - Ben had one person
    - Jack
      - Office hours sound good but they are not useful in action
      - Senators don't need to focus all their efforts in the senate space
    - Alex
      - The name office hours may be intimidating
    - Marshall
      - People don't come to the office for office hours, they come whenever they need to
      - More time with the office open may be better than specific advertised hours
    - Ben
      - Tabling might be more effective than office hours
        - Go to the students instead of waiting for them
    - Sherlock
      - Do senators need office hours?
        - Just talk to people everyday/just talk around office
      - Be a bit more proactive outside of the senate space

- Tom
  - More people in the office is not the solution
  - Take the hours to people ie- tabling
  - Talk on your own time everywhere, not specific times only in the office
- Alex
  - Contest where people submit issues for us to look into
  - Draw a name of all people who submit for a gift card or anything
- Jack
  - How has the bon to pick worked out?
  - Helen
    - Beneficial but not for the purpose of students coming to us, we end up talking about ASLC outside of regular hours
  - Tom
    - In the mind of a student- who comes into the bon to voice their concerns
      - People are at the bon with other people, not free to join us
    - A table outside the bon would be better
- Jack
  - Publicize our agenda more and make it appeal to public interest
    - Get more people interested in what we talk about and what we do
- DSU
  - Maggie's coffee meet and greets may be a good idea
  - Elsa
    - Didn't we do this last semester?

- It was not successful
- Not enough visibility/outreach within the student unions
  - What can we do?
    - Alden
      - Senate has an outreach fund
        - Talk to William
    - SAAC
      - Would senate come to student union meetings?
        - Help bridge the gap and allow representatives to talk to unions in person
    - Jack
      - People seemed to like the resolutions last year
      - Get unions more involved with resolution process
    - Katie
      - An exchange with the unions
        - They already send a rep to senate meeting we should send a rep to their meetings
    - Alex
      - Advertise senate meetings and agendas more
        - Get people interested in coming to meetings
    - Elsa
      - Hosting and advertising open forums at the end of senate meetings would open up meeting time for student body voice
      - Stand by the idea of a physical anonymous tip line for students to input their concerns/ideas/voice
    - Harold
      - The video idea was done before
        - It talked about what happened in each meeting
          - funny/nice/senators involved
      - The average student does not want to be in this room
        - Take this into consideration, senate is not fun
      - Outreach fund
        - Used to be used for food

- Good incentive for student participation
  - Alex
    - Fund could be used to sponsor social media posts
- Alden
  - I can add things to the agenda whenever i want
    - Would people want to add a general discussion period to the senate meetings?
      - Everyone
        - Yes
- Senator activity
  - How do we get senators to do more?
    - Jack
      - Talking with a UP student
        - They have a person whose job is to keep senators working, make sure senators do things
          - Chief of staff?
    - DSU
      - Involving senators with clubs and unions will solve the senator work problem and help those groups
    - Esla
      - People are busy but what if we introduce a mid term reports
        - Tom
          - We do that now right?
        - Alden
          - Is that still in the constitution?
    - Jack
      - Did we know about the outreach fund?
        - Alden
          - Yes
- Training?
  - DSU
    - Training is definitely needed

- Ben
  - Yes, more training is needed
    - How to write a bill/legislation
    - How to get funding
  - We had some but more would've been nice
- Elsa
  - Can we do an ASLC workshop?
    - Alden
      - Were doing one soon
- Max
  - Info session for people who are running for senate
- Office space
  - How can we improve it?
    - Helen
      - Student artwork
    - Sherlock
      - Can we rearrange it so that people don't have their backs to the door?
        - Promote conversation
      - Mary-clare
        - Yes, we've talked about this in cabinet
        - It is super unfriendly to enter
        - Maybe a middle table
    - Jack
      - Plants in the office
    - Hannah
      - Her job in IT is to move computers
        - Can look into the possibility of re-arranging the office computers
- Senate/cabinet relationship
  - How can we improve it?
    - Max

- Comfortable voicing things but there are times when cabinet seems to drive things, but it does not seem to stem from a lack of senate input
- Jack
  - Senate is mostly underclassmen, cabinet is mostly upperclassmen
    - Get more upperclassmen in senate
- Sherlock
  - Doesn't cabinet start in May?
    - Helen
      - Training is done at the beginning of school
  - Some cabinet members were working with school before senate was a thing, this warps the idea that cabinet is older/ has more influence than senate
  - Seems like most of the work that senators do is done for cabinet members/at their recommendation
- Tom
  - Cabinet talks a lot about doing this historically
  - Having a training day for senators would be great
    - If we train during senate than we lose a couple of weeks and there is an established 'cabinet is higher than senate'
- Alden
  - One thing we could do is write a bill to change the rules of order that requires cabinet members to remain silent unless senators call on them
  - Cabinet is supposed to be a source of information, not a source of opinion
    - Helen
      - Maybe make sure cabinet members can talk when necessary
    - Alex
      - That wouldn't work, especially in the beginning before senators know what to do

- Hannah
      - This is a bad room, cabinet is too separate and we cannot see everyone's face
  - Maxine
    - Training should be done without cabinet to establish solidarity among senate
      - Alden
        - There will be demo run soon but the plan is to have a training with only senators and the VP
- Accountability for cabinet members
  - How can we improve?
    - Helen
      - Maybe do a senator/cabinet member of the month to incentivise work
    - Elsa
      - Cabinet reports that are submitted to senators
    - Alden
      - The website is not updated
      - We need to go over senate and cabinet reports/accountability
    - Sherlock
      - Feel like cabinet updates tend to be long
    - Jacob
      - Instead of a senator of the month based off of work do one just randomly, get everyone involved
- More careful communication with the community
  - "Look at the bills closely before sending them to LC community"
    - Elsa
      - Was there an issue with past resolutions?
        - Helen
          - We think its just that there has been too much sent out to LC students
        - DSU



- Maybe plan more in regards to what is necessary to send out
  - What we do right
    - The job is fun and feels like it it worth it
    - Alden is a good facilitator
    - Transparency

#### Community Space Ad Hoc committee report

- Jack
  - Big week
    - We have Tamarack access
    - Logistics need to be figured out and a test run will be done
      - A survey will be sent out to Forest residents
        - Meeting with auditor to make that survey
    - Ben talked to people at the all club meeting to get more people involved
    - Sherlock reached out to the head of the alumni association to learn about old school traditions/ events that we could start again
    - Reaching out to the professor in charge of revamping the gazebo and the space overall
    - Anything else? Any concerns?
      - Sherlock
        - Maybe we can think about adding more couches by the bon and in pamplin
          - Alden
            - Not sure we can use student fee money to purchase furniture
          - Tom
            - SOC is for student clubs only
          - Jack
            - If we want to buy more charis do we do a funded resolution?
          - Alden

- Any purchase of furniture for another space is not something that ASLC can do
- Harold
  - There is free used stuff under the facilities office

- That's all

#### Senate Updates

- FSU
  - New rep- Caroline
  - AORTA training is in the coop
  - Getting ready for women's history month
- DSU
  - Nothing
- Jack
  - Nothing else
- Max
  - Went to the all club meeting
- Nick
  - Going to a meeting to work on the website
- Maxine
  - QSU has an event on saturday in SMith
- Jacob
  - Student advisory
    - Working on a campus safety forum
- Sherlock
  - Bon documentary about plates has been canceled
  - Finalizing edits to the bylaws
  - Working on cabinet payments
- Hannah
  - Volunteered to do newspapers every morning
  - Had a good SAAB meeting
    - Bringing bylaw changes to seantes attention
    - Got good donations

- At the all club meeting
  - Feedback that the meeting did not go well
    - Too many questions
- CS teacher asked about changing the school; got student response
  - More on campus housing
  - Better housing
  - More CS classes/teachers
  - Fix the music major
    - Too many requirements
  - More research positions
    - Maybe just advertise these more
  - Fix parking
  - Lower tuition
- Can we communicate with the bon?
  - No more onions in the grilled cheese
  - Alex
    - Talk to the dietician
      - She can be a liaison with us and the bon
- Ben
  - All club meeting
    - Towards the end it went on a little long
- Elsa
  - Physical drop boxes need to be installed
    - Figuring that out
    - Will look in to the outreach fund
  - Measles is a thing
    - Useful to create legislation that denounces the anti-vax movement
      - Harmful and based in flawed/untrue science
  - Alex
    - Creating an ad hoc committee to look into the textbook stipend
      - Textbook Stipend Ad-Hoc Committee
        - Vote to create the committee
          - Passes
  - SAAC

- Mental health awareness started last night
  - There will be events and a bulletin board throughout the month
- Basketball senior night
- Swim team is at conference
- National girls unlimited sports day

#### Cabinet updates

- Helen
  - Thanks for the feedback on survey presentation
  - Will hear about community spaces tomorrow
  - Working on the website
- Katie
  - CSRC Meeting tomorrow
  - Storm the dorm is on the 13th
  - Changes to the website are being made
- Tom
  - All student club meeting
    - Was too long
    - Working on going through data from the meeting
  - SOC
    - New application process will be ready next week
- Mary Claire
  - Cabinet applications are going out soon
    - Even less popular than senate voter turnout
- Marshall
  - SAAB is doing a lot, will report next time
- Harold
  - There is a service project this saturday
    - Fundraiser for migrant farmers
  - Willamette wants to do shared student gov't training
    - Straw poll
      - This is a popular idea
  - Budgetary issues on campus
    - Now is the time to speak out about what should be overall LC strategic priorities

- Alden
  - Practice senate retreat is next saturday
    - Will get more info to everyone soon

Adjourned