



## ASLC Senate Minutes

March 21, 2019

### I. Welcome to Dean Holmes-Sullivan

- **Dean Holmes-Sullivan:** I wanted to stop by and say hi. I've been on the job for about a month. Prior to coming to L&C, I was at UC, which is made up of ten institutions, and I was the Vice President for Student Affairs for all of the campuses. I missed being on a campus, and I realized that I wanted to come back. The LC job popped up, and I decided I wanted to apply. Prior to UC, I was at UO as the Vice President and before that, as a counselor. I'm very interested in learning about how student government works here and making sure the relationship between student government and administration goes well. We're going to be leading a lot of programs out of my office that require ultimate student engagement and I want students to be leading those efforts, so I'll be in touch about the best ways to do that. I'm very excited about that and about enhancing the student experience at LC. My door is always open and I'm always happy to come to events. I have to leave a little early today but I'm looking forward to watching the meeting.

### II. Legislation

- **SP19 SB007**
  - **Alden:** The sponsor, Nicole Dean, is not here, so we can't do this right now.
- **SB19 SB010**
  - **Hannah:** The important part of this is changes to the compensation structure. This is new to SAAB, and the goal is to get SAAB representatives paid equal to Senators, despite the fact that they do as much work as, if not more work as, Senators in reading and deciding upon grants. I know not everyone here fully understands the SAAB process, so if you have any questions about that, please ask me. I'm bringing this despite the fact that I'm currently a representative, so I added a part at the end that says that I won't be paid for this semester.
  - **Jacob:** Has this been passed by SAAB already?

- **Hannah:** Yes, it was passed on Monday.
- **Jack:** How much money?
- **Hannah:** There are at most 35 representatives.
- **Marshall:** It comes out to \$3500 a year.
- **Hannah:** It would come from the SAAB ops account, and there's enough in the account this year to pay it.
- **Jack:** What's their relationship to us?
- **Hannah:** They're under ASLC and in SAAB, there's the Grant Board and tutoring. This is for the grant board part.
- **Elizabeth:** During the Cabinet debate, there was talk of making the SAAB representative process more democratic. Because we're paying it now, my hope would be that it is more open. Is that in progress?
- **Hannah:** It's in progress, we just needed to get the compensation process through this week. Everybody was more comfortable knowing that once this is passed, we can fix the process of how we get members.
- **Marshall:** Just getting compensation to the reps makes it more accessible to all students, since many students don't have time to attend the meeting and not get paid for it.
- **Hannah:** There are also some departments that refuse to nominate reps because they weren't getting paid, so we hope to represent all of the departments.
- **Jack:** Are tutors compensated as well?
- **Marshall:** They get paid minimum wage.
- **Violet:** In the Constitution, we can't make changes to stipends that would affect us this year.
- **Hannah:** That's not anywhere in the SAAB bylaws.
- **Ariel:** SAAB is a separate entity from ASLC, so if it's not in their bylaws it's not a rule for them.
- **Violet:** My only concern is that the people voting on it in SAAB were people voting to get themselves paid.
- **Hannah:** Can I straw poll to see if people would like me to amend it so SAAB reps are not paid this year?

- STRAW POLL:
  - Raise hand for yes → Elizabeth raises her hand
- **Marshall:** I just want to remind everyone that SAAB reps do just as much as Senators and they've never been paid, so I think it would be hypocritical of Senators.
- **Alex:** Does the Constitution even permit it?
- **Ariel:** The Constitution does permit it.
- **Violet:** There's extra money in the budget anyway that wouldn't go to anything, right?
- **Elizabeth:** If that's the precedent within the bylaws, then could the next group change it to \$100 a semester and then they get paid that amount? So could we add a bylaw that says they can't change their own stipends anymore
- **Hannah:** Yes.
- **Marshall:** And that would have to go through this body as well.
- **Ben:** It has to go through senate too, so if it were a serious issue, then we would be able to do something about it.
- **Alden:** Would you still like to do your straw poll?
- **Hannah:** No.
- VOTE:
  - FSU: Aye
  - GLU: Aye
  - Jack: Aye
  - Max: Oi, I'm a SAAB rep
  - Nick: Aye
  - Jacob: Aye
  - Hannah: Aye
  - Ben: Aye
  - Elsa: Aye
  - Alex: Aye
  - SAAC: Aye
- **Alden:** The bill passes.

### III. Ad Hoc Committee Reports

- **Jack:** Not too much has happened this week. Hopefully by the end of spring break, we'll have some new tables out in front of Howard, Odell, and between Platt and Copeland. We're still waiting to hear back from someone in Facilities. No news on Tamarack.
  - **Violet:** In Bon Committee, we talked about social spaces.
  - **Jack:** I don't know what to say about that right now.
- **Alex:** For those of you who weren't here last week, we got the textbook subsidy bill passed, and we're waiting to get it approved by CSRC.
  - **Hannah:** We had a meeting today to approve it but there weren't enough people.
  - **Alex:** After break, we can start working on assembling the fall textbook subsidy committee. Talk to me after break. It does not have a maximum number of people who can serve on it, so if you'd like to volunteer to serve that would be great. We didn't have a meeting this week, but we had one last week and found out more information about the bookstore. There's no scholarship offered by the bookstore. Sometimes financial aid gives people more money for books. The bookstore said they'd be willing to work with us on getting cheaper books for people to get. We'll work on that moving forward as well as communication with departments about getting book costs down.
  - **Elizabeth:** I work in the bookstore, and Barnes & Noble College gives the LC financial aid department an amount of money, I think roughly \$8,000, and it's supposed to be for students' books, but then the college just uses it as part of financial aid packages, so there's technically a scholarship, so from the bookstore's perspective, they don't want to be seen as not doing anything for students. There's also money from B&N college for veterans and other identities. This is just stuff that the bookstore wants communicated and is also willing to talk about best practices, like sending emails to professors about looking at the cost of different editions.

#### IV. Senate Reports

- **Elizabeth:** AORTA training has finally been rescheduled, so that's happening on Saturday April 6th from 12-4 in the Coop. That signup will be circulated soon, and I

encourage you to sign up. FSU has been putting on programming for Women and Gender Minorities month. Next month, we're planning for Sexual Assault Awareness Month, and we're going to end the month on a speakout/Take Back the Night-style event.

- **GLU:** We're having an event in Smith from 9-12 this Friday. We're planning a spoken word poetry thing happening next month after spring break, and we're encouraging everyone to come and speak their stories and share with everybody. We're also preparing for the senior banquets.
- **Jack:** Nick and I were at the first Bon Committee meeting on Wednesday. That was a great experience. It completely changed my whole perception of that group. They are very receptive to students' concerns; it seems like the biggest problem is that there's a lack of communication for students' thoughts and concerns to reach the management. Also, I love the idea of using the Coop for AORTA training.
- **Max:** Last week I was working on meeting with groups for SOC for the first round of allocations, getting ready for the April 8th deadline for allocations. Additionally, ISLC is working on a proposal to increase diversity training during NSO and PSI as it relates to faculty and awareness of empowerment.
- **Nick:** I'm excited to be elected as SOC next year. In the time we haven't had Senate, I've started working on discounts at local Portland businesses. There about 15-20 businesses who are down, including restaurants and stores and an eye doctor. There are still 70 businesses that I want to contact, but it's coming together. I want to reach out to Campus Living to have a one sheet with that and Pio and Trimet information for exploring Portland. I'm reaching out to the sustainability office about honeybees. PSU has honeybees and orchard mason bees, but I think it could be good for the bio and ENVS departments.
- **Jacob:** Outside of Senate, I'm the chair of the Teacher of the Year selection committee. We have 79 submissions for nominations and we're selecting either 5 or 6 finalists that'll be sent out over spring break, and we'll be accepting submissions for about a week and a half.
- **Hannah:** A few weeks ago I brought the complaint to Senate about the bus driver. I've been in contact with people from transportation and the administration. They analyzed the bus driver's routes and had that driver go through a safety program, and

that driver's driving is being more closely monitored for 30 days. The driver is driving slower, and there are also posters up on the buses now so you can more easily get in touch if there are more problems. The next big thing I'm working on is trying to unify the payment system for Senate, Cabinet, and SAAB. I was talking with Harold and I had a meeting with Charlie Ahlquist trying to make sure you're not paid at the end of the semester.

- **Ben:** This week, I had SOC meetings with various clubs, and the second deadline is April 8th. Second, I'm meeting with the Renewable Energy Fee committee with Alex, and we had two applications for grants, which we fully funded. It's a great opportunity for people to work on sustainability on campus through personal projects.
- **Elsa:** At the beginning of the semester, I campaigned on the promise that I would establish an ASLC anonymous tip line, so students could efficiently and discreetly communicate their needs to ASLC. That's been up for two weeks now. I've been tracking trends over time. Monetary reimbursements for club leaders are slow. People want ASLC to publicize their meeting times more. Another issue raised was more picnic tables and spaces for communal gatherings on campus. There were also various issues with the meals and food in Fields; I want to send those to Bon Appetit and share them at the next Bon Committee meeting. The document where I record all feedback is shared with Cabinet and Senate, but not yet with the student organization leaders, because I wanted to get a sense of whether you want access to that.
  - **Elizabeth:** I would say yes, because we have access to large groups of people. How can we communicate that we have a committee on what's being brought up?
  - **Elsa:** People get upset that ASLC sends them a lot of emails, so we need to figure out how to communicate these things without spamming people. Maybe something we could display near the office?
- **Alex:** Textbook committee is still working on things and will continue to do so after spring break. The two projects we allocated money to in Renewable Energy Fee Committee were an internship with a solar energy research firm and the other one is a trip for Cuba Club to research the installation of solar panels there.

- **SAAC:** We finished our Mental Health Awareness Month last week. It was mostly on social media. Now we're preparing for DIII week, which is an NCAA week. It'll be the first week of April, and we'll have food trucks and a staff appreciation day, and a diversity and inclusion day. The luau will be April 6th at 7pm in the gym.

## V. Cabinet Reports

- **Ariel:** My friend and I applied for and received a TEDx license, and have just started the application process for speakers. The two weeks after spring break, there will be an audition booth. If you have a topic you'd like to give a talk on, you can go into this booth and give a 60-second pitch, then we'll interview finalists. Other than that, I've been planning on meeting with Allison, who will be replacing me next year, and training her.
- **Helen:** The Auditory has been working on reducing the cost of STI testing. We met with Margaret Upton. She's been talking to the Health Department about offering reduced-cost testing a few times a semester. We'd still like to find ways to make it less costly, so we're exploring options there. That might be a good topic for discussion period. After spring break, I'm hoping a member of my staff will present on the communication methods survey. I also want to emphasize that it's important for us as leaders to go to the AORTA training. I also met with Devon about diversity training and how it would involve student unions.
- **Violet:** I wanted to extend an invitation for Bon Committee -- the next meeting will be on April 16th at 4pm in Fields. Feel free to invite people you think would be valuable.
- **William:** Last week, Finance Committee funded grants for Cuba Club and Hillel for a Passover event. I talked to Charlie Ahlquist about issues with reimbursement times and why the current system is in place. I want to find ways to visualize why it takes so long, because I do the best I can, but a lot of people are involved.
- **Marshall:** I'm on Curriculum Committee, and two weeks ago there was a proposal brought to us by the Athletics Departments for a change in the way PE classes are paid for. There are budget cuts around the school, so we were given a proposal to add fees to 8 PE classes, increasing fees in 3 classes, and there are several classes that used to cost nothing and would now cost \$125. I voted to increase the fee, because it was either that or discontinuing all of these classes. My biggest concern was that

they're adding a \$125 to Self-Defense for Women. I have three ideas: one is to protest it and demand removal of the fee through civil disobedience; offering yet another subsidy through student fees through subsidizing this course; another is maybe for FSU and QSU to offer their own course, but that wouldn't count toward the requirement on PE courses. If anybody has a problem with how I voted, I would love to hear that feedback.

## **VI. Advisor Report**

## **VII. Discussion**

- **Alex:** We amended the constitution so funded resolutions weren't a thing anymore in the fall, right? In the Senate Bylaws, that was never amended, so we amended the constitution but the bylaws still have a long section.
  - **Alden:** I recommend writing a bill. In a conflict, the Constitution takes precedent.
  - **Alex:** I just wanted to confirm that was in place.
- **Ben:** I'll bring up the STI testing that we talked about in Auditory. We met with one of the people from the Health Center. Helen prepared a list of questions for them. We asked them about the cost of STI testing with insurance, and the offer was 7 different STI tests. The prices are rather high and the school insurance covers \$400 per person per year. Because they have to be sent to the lab, a test worth \$17 ends up costing \$17 plus \$22 for lab fees, so \$39. Other insurances vary. I believe it's anonymous in that it just shows up as a Health Center charge in the student account. That's the same experience I had when I got a vaccine there. Another question we asked was how often students come in for STI testing. We had a total of 353 visits and 240 students. We also asked whether STI testing happened differently at any time in LC's history, and 10-15 years ago, there was an HIV Awareness Day, in which the Health Department or another company came to campus and offered free testing. This was funded by ASLC. We had a discussion with the health center representative about decreasing this fee. The fees actually went down for this year, and aside from including this in the new health fee, there weren't any apparent solutions. Some people come in three times a year for this, and some people never come in, so it would be a whole student fee for a smaller group. But if we limit it, we



don't want to make testing unavailable to students who need to be tested multiple times. I wanted to open it up to discussion about how we can improve this system.

- **Elizabeth:** If insurance covers \$400 per person, is that saying you can have \$400 worth of testing?
- **Ben:** You can have \$400 worth of Health Center services; it's not just for STI testing.
- **Elizabeth:** But it wouldn't cost anything out-of-pocket until that \$400?
- **Ben:** Right, but the full array of tests could cost a lot more than that. The herpes test can be up to \$100, and that's not including the handling fee. So if you're doing many of those and go to the health center for other things, the current structure makes it hard to prioritize your health first.
- **Dean Holmes-Sullivan:** Only about 700 students have the campus health insurance, but it has a \$500 deductible that must be used first. If you're on your parents' plan, there's a good chance there's a family deductible.
- **Ben:** We discussed possible solutions. One of them was bringing the Health Department here; the issue with that is the \$50 fee per student. I was interested in the idea of ASLC paying for a day once a semester of funding this testing to get people to come out and get tests done. If it's free, I think it's more likely for people to do it.
- **Violet:** How much would that cost?
- **Ben:** To be able to come up with a cost, we'd have to cap the number of students who could attend. For 100 students, it would be \$5,000.
- **Helen:** We'd also have to talk to the Health Department about how they're funding it.
- **Violet:** That's still coming from student fee money.
- **Ben:** We also talked about raising the student body fee.
- **Violet:** That's not up to us.
- **Ben:** I'm curious what people think about raising the fee, especially after what Marshall said.
- **Elizabeth:** If we raise it, would it have to be one day a semester or could you get tested at any time in the Health Center?

- **Helen:** We calculated it with 500 tests a year. You could go any day, but if we wanted more than that, we'd have to increase the fee by more than \$50.
- **Elizabeth:** If we raised the student health fee, would we be able to tell them to hold testing?
- **Helen:** There would have to be a lot of discussions about testing and we would have to see how receptive administration would be to raising the fee.
- **Violet:** When they were looking into implementing the fee, they looked at different numbers and one of them included testing, but I don't remember the numbers.
- **Helen:** I'm not supporting any one action but a lot of students don't have \$50. People most affected by STIs are young and low-income, and I think we need to take that into account.
- **Ben:** I'd also like to add another comment in favor of a day of STI testing. We could also use it for awareness of prevention of these diseases.
- **Hannah:** About PE classes, I'm not sure how to go about that, but I want to say that if this had happened two years ago, I wouldn't have taken any of the PE classes I've taken. That self-defense class is extremely important, and everyone in the class feel empowered by it and enjoy it. I want to look into it.
  - **Marshall:** I've been thinking about this a lot for the last two weeks. My first thought was a subsidy, which is unfortunate because we don't have as many students contributing fees. I'm leaning more toward protest. It's pretty heinous, in my opinion, to charge students for this, and there's some pretty effective messaging that could shame people about putting this forward. I'm more than willing to organize, if people want to do that with me, if people are willing to start a campaign about this.
  - **Elizabeth:** Is it set and happening?
  - **Marshall:** Yes. We had the option of approving the fee or the courses get cut.
  - **Helen:** Who brought the proposal?
  - **Marshall:** It was brought by Sharon Sexton. I know she didn't feel good about this.

- **Helen:** I think before we protest, we should organize some meetings and let them know that if it's not taken care of, the next form is protest.
- **Marshall:** It's going to be brought up in CC the week after spring break, and I'm planning on voicing my discontent with this.
- **Ben:** How do you see it being resolved, assuming they hear our protests?
- **Marshall:** Budgets are somewhat zero-sum. They attach fees to all classes where they bring outside instructors in. I would assume that money has to come from some other part of the athletics budget or student life budget.
- **Alex:** Elsa and I are looking into a subsidy.
- **Marshall:** I do want it to be coordinated so we aren't protesting while resolving the issue.
- **Violet:** My concern with the subsidy is when do we stop doing subsidies? Are we going to create a subsidy for everything? How do we pick and choose what we subsidize?
- **Marshall:** Earlier this year the Board was debating whether or not to raise tuition by 3.5 or 4%. Revenue comes from tuition, so this is a trade-off.
- **Ariel:** PE classes are a gen ed requirement, so students should have options without having to pay.
- **Marshall:** There are still options without a fee. But I would hate for a student to be in a situation where the only classes that fit in their schedule come with a fee, so we recommended that they start scheduling classes in the normal time slots.
- **Hannah:** One other thing. William, I wanted to ask about club repayments, because a couple of clubs have asked me about that. How long is the longest it's taken for someone to get paid?
  - **William:** It depends on whether people sign off forms correctly. It normally takes three weeks to a month, but it fluctuates.
  - **Hannah:** I'm talking to a club for which it took four months. They weren't aware of anything on their end being incorrect. Is there a way to speed up the process?
  - **William:** I'll look into holding a workshop on how to fill out forms.
  - **Hannah:** Is there a way to digitize it?

- **William:** That's possible. I'd have to talk to Charlie and Jason about that. I meet with Jason every week, so I can talk to him.
- **Dean Holmes-Sullivan:** So is the reimbursement process now a paper process? Because we use a digital process for the school. So could the same process be used?

**VIII. Public Comments**

- None

**IX. Final Remarks**

- **Alden:** Y'all did such great work this week. I'm really proud of all of you. Next week is spring break, so we don't have Senate and you have an extra-long time to write lots of bills. Have a wonderful spring break.