



January 25, 2022 | [Zoom Link](#)

1. Welcome
2. [Senate Special Election](#)

AC - currently associate justice and member of the finance committee. Priori is to work with spac and to organize it to help transparency and fairness.

MS - VPSL committee, leadership experience from highschool. My first semester really sucked and as a student of color and myself have been victim to sexual harrassment on campus.

OW - thank you both so much, did any senators have questions. What is one thing that you have done in the past that you feel you did a good job that you would want to model yet again.

MS - I was a staff at a karate studio for years. Our boss asked assistant instructors like me what they wanted to see.

AC - some exp that i gained was working on the environmental symposium i make sure that i keep up on my responsibilities.

Lee - did either of you run in the first election?

AC - I ran for special election last spring, and I ran last semester.

MS - I didn't run last semester because I didn't realize it was an option a little too late.

SC - if elected, what are some other things you would pursue as a senator.

MS - i want to find resources for people undergoing sexual harassment. There are resources on campus but nobody knows about them unless they are in student government.

AC - I want to see how things flow in the senate and how action should be taken.

MM- the two senate seats up for election - finance and saab, do you have opinions of these committees. Saab is the academic affairs group so they meet with faculty, and the others are the finance committee participating in allocations weekend. Do you have a preference towards one of those committees and what do you see yourself best working in?

AC - I was already nominated this morning to be a Saab representative.

MS - I don't have a preference, I just want to be a part of the process.

FC - those were the only two candidates we had for these positions. I have a problem electing members with no experience or knowledge of the position that they are taking on. Can we extend it or are these the only options?

OW - they were given all the information you all were given who ran for senate. If you have an issue with it being too vague that is a fair point.

SC - me and a lot of freshmen came in with no experience before. It's not an easy nor complicated job, they will be fine.

MM- MS has served on an institutional committee with me and I am pleasantly surprised with her qualifications since most people who apply to senate have that as their introduction to ASB

Lee - I agree with Sam, this isn't a super hard job and I agree that this is a great place to start out.

SC - motion to vote

OW they are both elected.

3. [IA Symposium](#) Funding Discussion & Vote

OW - the role of SOC is vacant so finance is not currently meeting. This doc has information. They had to change bond prices and on this doc there is the budget, supplementary questions.

NR - we have 800k in the rollover account. Finance had access to 350k. Our goal was to spend 180 last year, we spent 120k. Each symposium received 76% of their minimum request. Maybe we should give international affairs a bit more. They only got 50 something% of their minimum request. They updated their meal prices because it is a bit higher now. The first row explains the numbers, the second is what you vote on.

FPS - what happens to the money that is not used.

NR - that goes to the rollover account and is why we had a goal. We don't want to overspend so we save money as we go. Whatever is left will go into next year's budget.

OW - all of the money that student orgs don't use rolls over into our emergency fund that we use to support the pIO, we voted for that in the senate.

SC - so they're asking for 36k.

OW - that's the max but yeah.

SC - I think we should lean towards the maximum IAS does a lot of good, and I think its important to fund initiatives like this, especially because IA is one of the largest majors at the school.

FPS - it is known in the IA circle with diabetes every year. The speakers we invite have to be international. The IA symposium can't make a contract with the speakers unless we know how much \$\$\$ we have. We have speakers from all

over the world. We need to plan that out. We are having a woman come from Nigeria who is a huge name. We need to move forward with our contracts. I will not be voting as that would be a conflict of interest.

MM - i was in the finance committee and i think for me as a voting member what tripped us up was that there were a lot of options presented. In comparison to other budgets the IA symposium receives significantly more funding and is one of the larger ones. I would advise the senate, I personally cannot pick out all of them, but i think closer to the max because even if they don't spend it the money comes back to us.

TKM - also an advocate for the symposium. I recognize all of the potential it has and think it could be wonderful.

FDK - we are making a symposium about IA in the context of other things, we will have an environmental debate, and international debates. It is broad in many themes and it is IA in relation to all other subjects.

SC - motion to fund second to last one - 26k...

IB - second

MOTION PASSES.

OW - be professional about sharing information.

- Important update: "We also have a slight change to the budget proposal in regard to food costs. We spoke with the events office and they informed us that Bon prices have risen, and because of severe staffing issues, Bon catering may not even be a reality. If we can secure Bon catering, our Tuesday/Wednesday night dinner costs would experience a minor increase (i.e. \$825 rather than \$750), but if we were forced to seek outside catering, the minimum dinner costs would most likely rise by approximately \$10 per person, pushing our minimum necessary food allocation from (\$750 per dinner to \$1,375 per dinner). Similarly, we had to increase our on-campus meal request since we usually use the Trail Room and will now have to use boxed lunch or cold catering. We just wanted to notify you of this important change before our budget is reviewed, and attached to this email is a copy of the most updated version of our budget reflecting this one change.

4. [Land Acknowledgement Discussion](#)

OW - do we want to keep having it, i made this document of community agreements. It can be really sensitive to people, assuming everyone is coming with their best intention. Step up, step back. Speak from your own experience and knowledge. Don't feel forced to make a decision. We can change it, if you want to modify it. I linked some readings below that influenced my knowledge. I want to provide you with this information and get a gauge of interest. What potential harm does this land acknowledgement cause?

FDP - what made you want to have this discussion.

OW - every week I read this acknowledgement that it is more harmful than it is good and it just makes us feel better about ourselves. Before and acknowledgements I didn't acknowledge at all the people before me, but we have recently

been looking from the perspectives of indigenous people in my history of Portland class.

ET - I don't know exactly what native people are thinking about just a land acknowledgement. These symbolic acts are symbolic. I definitely need to do these readings. I think we all need to do these readings. As a senate we should talk about what we need to do to support indigenous communities.

OW - that is what I am hoping for, I hope you research and find perspectives that you identify with.

IB - can we ask the indigenous student union, speaking from myself im european why do i get a say in this at all, as the descendants of those people shouldn't we get the perspective of those living in that legacy.

ET - I brought this up last semester. There is a spot for NSU but they don't show up often. The next best thing, We could look at articles from native voices to emulate their wishes while maintaining that we are white and do not know what is best.

AM - we should not put all of the responsibility on the NSU for this topic. I went to one of their events in indigenous heritage month and they said that they are always asked to teach peers, but we should not give that responsibility to them. As a member of nsu, we are focusing more on our indigeneity and what that means to us. For reading articles from indigenous people.

OW - I can email NSU and invite them to join us if they want to. They should celebrate identity and not have to advocate for it. I agree that a good way to acknowledge that a lot of us are white is to educate ourselves from indigenous people.

IC- this topic is really relevant given the name change last semester, from what i was reading there is no talk about land acknowledgements in classrooms. Native gov.org talked about giving land back. I know we can't do that, but we could fundraise for indigenous organizations to return land to native americans. Is that something that we would want to support. Land acknowledgements recognize history but dont always move forward.

SC - the land acknowledgement is way too sugarcoated and just says "they were here" If we even keep the land acknowledgement we should be mentioning the genocide that occurred, the modern troubles that indigenous communities face, and what the school and community can do to help end these. However that can not be the only action we take, we have to ensure that we as a college are taking real action to help support these communities.

OW - thank you for that comment. This was written at least a year ago by past senates.

IC - I do not see a disparity between the achievements of students of color vs white students on campus. I don't know if anyone could provide examples that would be great.

TKM - i don't want to speak over students of color, i am a part of marginalized communities that are expected to struggle more with academic performance. I acknowledge the pressures that are put on marginalized people. Personally if i had someone tell me that my adhd makes it hard for me to study

ET - everyone's position is definitely different. It depends whether knowledge is triggering or beneficial.. To my experience. There are quite a few places where there is a notable achievement gap. I didn't apply to all the schools that I should have or could have gone to due to years of generational trauma. ... that person did not have access to information.

FPS - ... how are you treated on campus versus anywhere else? As a black person being from austria it is good to not constantly be reminded of what austria has done.

ET - I think that I can see what you are saying about continuing on kansas. There are a lot of differences between those who live impoverished and wealthy. Your life is not the same as a privileged person once you step on campus. Access to information is an enormous privilege.

AM - thank you all for sharing. I forgot where this conversation was going. I think Isabelle understood the achievement gap between white and poc students. If we looked at the transfer rate, and the demographic, the retention of students. Being one of the few POC in the classroom is intimidating and makes me feel out of place when I hear that my classmates had access to tutoring. The access that they had is systemic.

- Community Guidelines
- Will be continued next week

5. Community Updates

6. Robin is coming next week!