A black text on a white background

Description automatically generated

Senate Meeting

Friday, March 15th, 2024

Presiding officer: Vice President Brooks

Minute Taker: Chief Justice Zabaleta

1. **Call to Order:** Call to Order at 2:02 PM
2. **Roll Call:** Roll Call complete at 2:04 PM
3. **Approval of Minutes from March 8th:** Motion to Approve the minutes from March 8th by Senator Burns, Seconded by Senator Rodriguez
4. **Adoption of the Agenda:** Motion to move the presentation after updatesby Representative Valdez
5. Vote of Affirmation: 17-0-0

Motion to Adopt the Agenda by Senator Burns, Seconded by Senator Augustyn

1. **Public Comment:**
2. **Updates:** 
   1. President: I attended the AHEC masterplan open house, there was good representation from SGA. I have been working on my speech for the system gala. I have been focusing on planning our transition, as we will be heading into elections and transitioning immediately after spring break. Transition documents are due by the end of the day on April 26th. Our last official Senate meeting is scheduled for April 12th. Once elections are concluded, we will use the remaining time as our transition period, providing elected members with a better understanding of SGA. The official term for everyone ends on May 10th, except for Chief of Staff Bachman, Vice President Brooks, and me, whose terms extend until commencement. I met with Chief of Staff Dan Maxey and one of our associate vice chancellors, Teri Engelke, to discuss the search committee and the process of finding the new Senior Vice Chancellor of Student Engagement and Student Success.
   2. Vice President: I attended the grand opening of Sigi’s Hub with Mitchell, where I had the opportunity to deliver a brief speech to all the students and everyone involved in setting up. SACAB did an excellent job organizing the event, and I am looking forward to hearing the exact numbers from Representative Mauro. Additionally, I have begun working on my transition documents this week.
   3. Chief of Staff: There are only three Senate meetings remaining, so if you have any legislation, presentations, or any other items requiring agenda time, please be proactive in submitting them to Vice President Brooks as soon as possible. With elections on the horizon, if you are running, that is fantastic – we welcome returners and wish you the best of luck with your campaign. If you will not be returning next year, we ask for your willingness to assist with elections. The AHEC open houses have concluded, marking the last step before ABOD approves the master plan on May 15th. The master plan process will conclude after our Senate term, so this may be a legislative issue someone wants to bring up in the final session of the year. Meanwhile, at the Colorado State House, progress on the long bill has been significant this week. After spring break, we have Civics legislation presentations, elections, a few remaining legislative items, the act mentioned last week, and a couple of other resolutions expected to be introduced.
   4. Civics: We have questions prepared for our Civics meeting with Victoria on the 25th that will help build bridges with the Food Pantry and inform Student Government in the future. Nourish Now is happening on the 27th and the 28th, the signup sheet is in General, and we would love some additional help to really show up for our students. On our Senate back, the Civics is also presenting on some Bills we were assigned to Track for the Colorado Legislature that may have an impact on our constituents. I had a meeting with Tony Rush, who will be taking over the assessment evaluation of the reflection space initiative. The goal is to present a contextualized view of what the reflection space initiative has entailed and what outcomes have been achieved, potentially leading to a resolution for support of the space or an extended period of evaluation.
   5. College Council

CAP: I have been working on the College Council presentation and brainstorming ideas for my student advisory council and securing the remaining representatives.

CAM: I have been working on the presentation we are having today. I reached out to a member of Denver Lynx’s Radio to discuss the expectations and topics for their meeting with Addison regarding the potential pursuit of university-sponsored student organization status. Upon returning from break, I hope to meet with Anthony to further explore the possibility of CAM being the university sponsor for their student organization, should they choose to proceed in that direction.

Business:

CEDC: We had our first Student Advisory Council meeting, where we discussed potential ways to support our college. The Dean is supportive and willing to help us promote the council, including sending emails to students and featuring it on their website. I worked on the presentation we will be having later today. On Wednesday, I met with Justice Wright to discuss a collaboration on a summit regarding AI, education, and policy.

SPA: I attended the opening of Sigi’s Hub and visited the AHEC campus vision table. Although there may be mixed feelings about the use of post-it, I still wanted to contribute to the feedback gathering. Unfortunately, due to the Snow Day, I had to cancel the planned Pizza with a Professor event, but we are working to reschedule it. I attended a meeting with Dan Maxey today. I have been working on our presentations for today.

Public Relations: Not present

* 1. Finance & Funding: Today, we approved 10 requests and denied one. Some highlights include the ASU night in Africa, the ASA Blossom Ball celebration, and MSA events celebrating the upcoming religious holiday, and the DSOC End of Year Luncheon. Following today's approvals, we have an estimated $3,428 remaining. I am pleased to see that our legislation appears to have been successful in extending our funding for the final week of March. After March 29th, we will shift our focus to legislative efforts, bylaw revisions, and professional development for our members. Keep an eye out during the March 29th Senate meeting for new legislation that the Chief of Staff and I have been working on for the past couple of weeks, as well as further legislation from the rest of our committee members. This week's committee member of the week is Senator Anson for his continued successful communication with student organizations.
  2. Judicial: We will not be implementing the Desk shift sign-up sheet this semester due to its proximity to the end of the semester. However, we plan to implement this for next year. We may potentially receive an appeal, and we will have more information about that after spring break. An offer has been accepted for the position of Director of the Counseling Center, and we can expect our new director to join us in the next couple of weeks. We recently had a meeting with ex officio Dew and Spray to discuss the appeal and how to proceed, including potential implications for the remainder of the year. I have been in communication with the Finance and Funding Committee, taking minutes and discussing some issues related to conflicts of interest.
  3. SACAB: On Monday, we had the town hall, and there was a good turnout on both days. They are considering organizing another town hall, in mid-April or early April, so please keep an eye out for updates on that. On Wednesday, we celebrated the grand opening of Sigi's Hub, with over 50 attendees. This morning, we had SACAB, during which we passed a resolution to allocate $3,500 to the ASCP for their Earth Week event. There was a master plan meeting this morning, and they are postponing the ABOD vote for approval until the June meeting. Prior to Senate, I attended a meeting with Chief of Staff Maxey and Teri Engelke.
  4. SSRC: I have a meeting scheduled today to follow up with the Office of International Affairs regarding their responses to our SSRC questions. I also attended the SESS meeting with Dan Maxey. Next week, I will finalize the endorsements. John Rogers has also shared his answers to the questions. Today's meeting will be the last of a set of meetings for the SSRC.
  5. Ex Officio: For those who may not be joining us in student government next year, if you are interested in helping with elections, I would appreciate it. This year, we are introducing online voting through My Lynx, and we are also trying out in-person voting. In the Tivoli, we will have in-person voting on the eighth, ninth, tenth, and eleventh of April. Individuals will need a unique identifier, in this case, their student ID, to prevent double voting. Daphne is assisting me in creating a candidate guide that will be released publicly on Monday the 25th, outlining contested races and those that are less competitive. This is my final call for volunteers next week; if you are interested, please let me know. There is a training session today after the conclusion of Senate. If you would like to learn more about these opportunities, I am happy to connect you with Jodyanna.

1. **New Business:**
2. Presentation by College Council (2:00-2:45pm)
3. Motion to Suspend the Minutes by Senator Burns, Seconded by Representative Torres
4. Motion to Reinstate the Minutes by Senator Burns, Seconded by Representative Valdez
5. **General Business from the Floor:**

President Combs: I want to ensure that everyone is prepared for potentially lengthy Senates when we return from spring break. Our last three official Senates may extend beyond their scheduled time to ensure ample time for discussion of all agenda items. Please review the agenda carefully. I am aware that at least one piece of legislation on the agenda is quite substantial. Also, if you have not joined the March Madness bracket, it is still available on the open floor if you are interested.

Senator Anson: I attended the staff council meeting again this month. There's discussion about creating more study spaces on campus for students to utilize. There was a mention of faculty members having two offices, and it is worth mentioning that many do not necessarily need both, so those spaces could be used as additional study areas. There was also discussion about improving accessibility to student life offices, as they are currently dispersed across campus and can be difficult for students to find. Additionally, it was noted that the Bursar’s office is primarily located on the Anschutz campus, and it is hard for CU Denver students who need to visit the office. The master plan was also presented at the staff council meeting, and I had the opportunity to discuss some of my questions in more detail with one of the members, which gave me confidence knowing that other students are also involved in the process.

Ex officio Dew: Thank you for attending the staff council meeting and providing thorough notes. I have a point of clarification around the student life piece, who was that brought up by and was on an agenda item? I want to address concerns raised by those involved.

Senator Anson: I do not remember specifically who raised the issue. Lance was also present, and he might have been the one to bring it up, but I could be mistaken. It was mentioned in the context of faculty having multiple office spaces.

Ex officio Dew: Thank you, Senator Anson. I will look into it further. I am familiar with Tammy and Ingrid, the co-chairs, and I understand how the conversation might have evolved.

Senator Anson: Tammy also mentioned that they are looking for another staff member from Student Life since that used to be your role. She also mentioned that you were considered for a staff award.

Ex officio Dew: I will remind Tammy and Ingrid that anyone is welcome in the space, and I will work on identifying another member to represent us.

1. **Adjournment:** Motion to Adjourn by Senator Augustyn, Seconded by Senator Agarwal
2. Adjourned at 3:30 PM