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Senate Meeting

Friday, January 26th, 2023

Presiding Officer: Vice President Brooks

Minute Taker: Chief Justice Zabaleta

1. **Call to Order:** Call to Order at 1:02 PM
2. **Roll Call:** Roll Call completed at 1:04 PM
3. **Approval of Minutes from November 17th:** Motion to Approve the minutes from November 17th by Senator Augustyn, Seconded by Senator Agarwal
4. **Adoption of the Agenda:** Motion to Adopt the Agenda by Senator Augustyn, Seconded by Senator Burns
5. **Public Comments:**
6. **New Business:**
7. Filmmaking Club Organization Presentation on Request for $5,000
   1. **Presented by the Marketing Club**
   2. Representative Torres: Have you reached out to the CU Denver film cage to request gear/equipment? Have you applied for any outside grants?
   3. Marketing Club: The Film Cage is unable to rent equipment and staff due to the volume of gear and projects from junior and senior films. Have been approved for the Film Education Grant and the EURECA proposal to address these challenges.
   4. Senator Burns: What does external fundraising look like? Can you explain other fundraising opportunities you have done? Could you explain your first funding request? If you had to prioritize budget items, which ones would you prioritize?
   5. Marketing club: External fundraising via screenings and popcorn sales. Collaborating with the advisor to seek opportunities to shoot for other clubs/organizations for extra funding. After a meeting with department heads and crew from past films, they identified additional needed items not initially considered. Priority is given to items linked on the "analog" slide, which reflects the most expensive budgeted items.
   6. Chief of Staff Bachman: How many opportunities exist are there for students to watch the films and participate in Q&As outside of the major capstone event?
   7. Marketing club: Q&A sessions and screenings promoted via social media and campus flyers. Weekly screenings on Wednesdays, club meetings every Tuesday, followed by production meetings with opportunities for freshmen participation.
   8. Justice Wright: Have you ever had issues with student not returning equipment and if so, what is the protocol?
8. Resolution to Recommend the Approval of Filmmaking Club Request for $5,000
9. **Presented by Senator Augustyn**
10. Senator Burns recommends prioritizing some of the more expensive equipment. The club could rely in film students to bring smaller items.
11. Representative Torres: Appreciate the effort to apply for grants and collaborate with the Denver community to collect funding and expand themselves. Recommends allocating the request to include all the items being asked for.
12. Senator Augustyn: Finance and funding spending currently stands at 46.6% of the total budget, good position for funding. The club did a great job in the application process. Highlights the importance of student impact in the allocation decision. This project allows freshmen and sophomore students to participate in films, which were not possible because of school constraints
13. Director Galloway: The club is taking the time to get freshman and sophomore students involved and allow them to make a difference in the community.
14. Senator Augustyn: With the request, the club will be at 13.8% of the total budget for the semester. Encourages more conversation to think about equity concerns.
15. Representative Torres: Although these are large requests, if the equipment is treated right, it could last a long time. This represents a long-time investment for the essential items they require, it is reasonable to give them this amount.
16. Senator Flores: It will be a great impact on the staff, they don’t have to ask their students to rely on their own resources.
17. Representative Valdez: They made a great use of what was previously was given, thinking about the student on campus who cannot afford this type of purchases. The worry is that these requests might become repetitive each semester, so it may be wise to include a stipulation to prevent frequent large requests.
18. Chief of Staff Bachman: The equipment is having a substantial continued impact shown through the weekly screenings, bringing important professionals to the campus, and accelerating their professional development. Longevity in what it is being funded, connecting students to Denver and each other.
19. President Combs: An opportunity to attract influential figures to the campus and establish valuable networking connections. Requesting something that will make their films better which will reflect positively on them outside.
20. Representative Valdez: This will also impact more student organizations, could help more students to meet people and grow their clubs.
21. Point of information by Senator Augustyn: After this recommendation, the vote for the allocation will take place on Wednesday during the F&F meeting.
22. Motion to move to a vote on giving the CU Denver Filmmaking club an allocation request of $5000 by Representative Torres, Seconded by Senator Agarwal
23. Roll Call vote: 15-0-0
    * + 1. The Resolution PASSED
24. A Bill to Abolish the Finance and Funding Religious Activities Exclusion Policy
25. **Presented by Senator Augustyn**
26. Senator Burns: Is this only about requesting the allocation?
27. Representative Valdez: Can you elaborate more on the case law and conversations with legal?
28. Senator Augustyn: Met with Chris Puckett, the legal counsel at CU Denver, who did a thorough review on the matter. It was a recommendation from Chris.
29. President Combs: If we've already established a precedent of approving a request for one organization, we must ensure consistency with future requests. We will now assess the request based on its circumstances, not solely because it involves religious ceremonies.
30. Senator Augustyn provided examples of what religious ceremonies/services might look like. Request from the Muslim Student Association including prayer mats for their membership. Important foundational identity beliefs supported at the school, already supported through the reflection space initiative.
31. Motion to Call to Question on “Bill to abolish the Finance and Funding Religious Services and Ceremonies Exclusion Policy”
32. Roll Call Vote: 15-0-0
    * + 1. The Bill PASSED
33. Updates:
    1. President: Went to an event with Regent James at Boulder. Inter Campus Student Forum touch base meeting to give an overview report of the current state of the campus. The next board of regents will be on February 8th. The CU system presented to the Joint Budget Hearing Committee on January 9th, making sure we are staying connected to local and state government. Joined in for the student leaders group meeting with the Secretary of State Jena Griswold. Met with CEO of AHEC Collen Walker to talk about SACAB voting rights, transparency with ABOD meeting minutes and voting tabulations. Meeting with AVC Genia and the executive team to give an overarching spring semester update. Meeting with the Office of Advancement for the system. Had a meeting with Ken English, program director of Black Student Services about the Black Education Impact conference on February 23rd. Making sure we open to our constituency, posting meeting times, minutes, and agendas. We want to be vocal, bring life to the campus, push out and reinvigorate the campus.

Ex officio Brown: On Monday, there will be a brand presentation for Student Life staff, SGA, student organization leaders. Attend the presentation to share your opinions with the campus. If you are not scheduled to work, efforts will be made to compensate you for that hour.

* 1. Vice President: Following the censure proceeding in February. Getting ready for the policy and budget review, information is confidential. Additionally, Vice President Brooks attended the open houses for the masterplan and went to ABOD.
  2. Chief of Staff: Communicating with chairs to find optimal committee meeting times. If the committee meeting times set do not work for a member, schedule a meeting with the executive team. Please complete the work-study application if eligible. Complete the Information Security training by the end of February 2nd. Scheduling one on one biweekly meeting with all chairs. Completed hiring for Judicial and Election Commissioners, in the process of completing vacancies for SACAB and a CLAS representative. Colorado General Assembly updates: Governor gave his State of the State address, important to be with what was said. Legislation to know about: HB24-1012 Rail Efficiency program, HB24-1007 Ban Residential Occupancy limits, SB24- 075 Transportation Network Company Transparency.
  3. Civics: Held two unofficial meetings, plan to align meeting times for accessibility. We hope to transition away from the Reflection Space initiative and seek out ways to connect with the student body. Implementing better parliamentary procedure and Roberts Rules. We are starting to work on Food insecurity initiatives and plan to meet with Victoria Watson, in charge of the wellness Center food pantry. Attended ABOD and the open houses.
  4. College Council

1. CAP: In the process of going through the transition documents and contacting the dean and student organizations. Wants to contact the studio organization representatives.
2. CAM: The new dean, Dr. Lucinda Bliss, has been officially hired. Working on hosting and internship/alumni career fair, I want to work with staff to bring this opportunity to students. Staff had a stakeholder meeting on Tuesday, Representative Torres should be getting an email from Anthony about the role she can play. Will have a meeting with Sarah to schedule the student advisory council meeting.
3. Business: Working on bringing more students to the student lounge in the business school. Will be planning the student advisory board and increase the frequency of meetings. Trying to schedule an appointment with the associate dean about goal setting for the semester. Working with the Business school alumni network.
4. SEHD: Met with dean Marvin Lynn and the dean of student success Sandy Mondragon to discuss the statistics around CU Denver’s Education students. Working on getting together a student cohort comprised of students from the 14 programs withing the school of Education.
5. CEDC: Had a meeting with the Office of International Affairs regarding academic integrity concerns with international students. Will be meeting with Shana to approach what parts of the college need primary focus. Met with the dean to discuss Success Looks Like Me and student advisory board with students from the main and the medical campus.
6. SPA: Met with Dr. Sheila Huss to plan the Honors society monthly meetings. Trying to collaborate with the public administration department. Planning a SPA Day of service event sometime in April. Trying to revive the student advisory council, I went to the masterplan presentation. Met with Chief of Staff Bachman to talk about initiatives for College Council
   1. Public Relations: Talking to Director Cosentino about the Carnival event in April and working on the marketing. Trying to figure out food tickets and other needed items. Goals this semester: put minutes and bills on MyLynx, working on a survival guide for freshman and transfer student next year. Director Consentino is working on the Science fair, you can help with tabling and making messages for the kids coming. The run up show for the carnival is done, signup sheets are coming, and I would like everybody to participate. Reach out to Director Cosentino for questions about the carnival.
   2. Finance & Funding: Last semester spending: $33,586.21, 46.6% of the total budget (72,000). Leaving $38,413.79 (53.4%) for the upcoming semester. Met the smart goal of 45-50% utilization. The $100 legislation passed last semester was a successful experience, learned valuable things that will be implemented this semester. Of the $10,315 that was made available without formal review, $2,908.83 was spent (28.2 % of that budget), spent by 41 groups (39.8% of all student organizations). Will be coming out with new legislation after conversations with the executive team and ex officios. Approved the Asian Student Association request for 3,287, DIncuvator workshop for $2,000. Denied the Women in Business clothing scholarship fundraiser for $12,110 due to concerns with the large amount and the policy from procurement on scholarships. F&F did not meet this week due to quorum, had 2 presentations that were recorded. The senator of the week is Senator Agarwal.
   3. Judicial: Working on onboarding the new member. Created a legislative record to reference bills and resolutions. This semester we will work on the appeals project. I had a meeting with Chief of Staff Bachman to discuss Judicial items for the semester. Working with the Search Committee for the Director of the Counseling Center to schedule final interviews. Will be coming up with new legislation to keep official documents updated.
   4. SACAB: Working on SACAB bylaws, Sigi’s hub in the Tivoli and the SACAB office. Attended the open houses, same format as past open houses. I went to ABOD and gave public comment. I had meetings with Kelsi and Jarrick. Went to the higher education meeting and heard from Janett Griswold.
   5. SSRC: Absent
   6. Ex Officio
7. Opening desk shifts for everyone. At the desk, do not take phone calls and be present. Encourage the body to think about posting agendas for committee meetings and minutes to the public. Jarrick had asked to schedule committee meetings before this space, have meeting times by today. This is a very active position, if you cannot fulfill your duty, ex officio Dew can take your resignation and help you find something that works. Blood drive is next week. The science fair for middle and high school students, great to have SGA presence. Student life is also hosting the Activity fair at the end of the day. Roles officially end at the end of April, think about coming back and running. People can officially declare candidacy February 13th. Master plan has happened, need to democratize that information as much as possible.
8. Ex officio Brown: Need committee times finalized and posted. Update on the Reflection Space: Open, getting badge access for everybody.
9. **General Business from the Floor:**
10. President Combs: Make sure to wear business casual attire on Fridays. Will be working alongside the mental health working group to introduce the mental health fee. If student response is good, it would be implemented starting fall 2025. After April 12th, SGA will move into a transition role from this administration to the next after elections. The official end date is commencement. Multiple General Assembly hearings to attend will reach out to Chris Puckett and Angela Rennick, assistant legal counsel on which hearings they think would be our priority.
11. Representative Valdez: Please volunteer for the science fair. Reiterate the importance of the master plan and its impact on students, professors, buildings, and parking. They told me that they want to replace commuter students with traditional students.
12. Point of clarification by ex officio Dew: An out of state developer said that?
13. Senator Espinoza: The Denver Metro Regional Science and Engineering Fair on February 3rd could be a great opportunity to do mandatory community service.
14. **Adjournment:** Motion to Adjourn by Senator Agarwal, Seconded by Senator Augustyn
15. Adjourned at 2:59 PM