



# Senate Minutes | September 14, 2018

## I. Call to Order

- a. Roll Call:
  - i. Late: Jamie Chang
  - ii. Absent: Corey Snyder, Wil Harris
- b. Approval of Minutes
  - i. Amendment: Alex Ballard
    1. Correction: Matthew Liu – Michael Liu
  - ii. Motion: Alex Ballard
  - iii. Unanimous
- c. Approval of Agenda
  - i. Jackie Palacios: Addition of Yearbook to Old Business
  - ii. Approval: Unanimous
- d. Address Guests

## II. Old Business

- a. Yearbook
  - i. First step in this process will be to recruit and hire a new yearbook editor.
  - ii. Alex Ballard: Is the difference with this new program that there is no staff advisor?
    1. Mitchell Rosenberg: The yearbook will be completely student run, other than the student employment services etc.
  - iii. Jackie Palacios: Will this hiring process commence this year?
    1. Mitchell Rosenberg: Within the next few weeks we will be hiring a yearbook editor, and then work with them to hire the rest of the staff.
  - iv. Jackie Palacios: Who will be paying these new employees, and how?
    1. Mitchell Rosenberg: They will be paid through fellowships similar to how we are paid on SGA, but this next yearbook system will be saving us \$40,000.

## III. Committee Reports

- a. University and Academic Affairs Committee
  - i. Meeting time will be Wednesdays @ 4PM.
    1. Looking to bring forward more events
- b. Diversity Affairs Committee
  - i. Senator Bryant continues to gain student input and has been working to recruit students interested in the Dodge Diversity Panel in order to add them to our facebook group and hopefully eventually have an advisory group in SGA that is specifically dedicated to working on making the dodge diversity panel happen.
    1. Since the group has been created it is Senator Bryant's responsibility to add people to the group and find a meeting time that can work with people's schedules.
  - ii. Senator Palacios has officially created a closed facebook group that will focus on plans to move forward with the dodge diversity panel

1. She also gained more faculty support from Erin Pullin and Dr. Stephanie Takaragawa and is going to connect with them and receive their ideas about what the panel should be
- iii. Senator Palacios is continuing to work on the media campaign focused on highlighting current vegan/vegetarian/gluten free options on campus.
  1. She hopes to gain some senator feedback (and assistance) in planning the event that she hopes to hold on November 1st for National Vegan day and will bring this up at open forum this meeting (9/14)
  2. She will email the president of the Vegan club to gain more of her and her clubs input as well!
- iv. We are still trying to set a solid meeting time for our group. It is difficult because we know that we will have to change meeting times once our new senators are added and I hope that senate stays understanding of these hurdles that Diversity Affairs is trying to navigate.
- v. Once we have the rest of our committee we will be regularly advertising our meetings and encouraging students to come to our meetings and address their concerns about Diversity at Chapman with us.
- c. Community Outreach Committee
  - i. Meeting time will be Wednesdays @ 2PM
    1. Met with Office of Community Relations
    2. Contacting people for Advisory Board
- d. Allocations Committee
  - i. Meeting time will be Mondays @ 10PM
    1. 2 requests funded in full
    2. 2 requests denied
- e. Executive Council
  - i. Arianna Ngnomire: Main concerns have had to do Chapman Grand. We would like for someone to reach out and become a part of what they have already established (i.e. Hall Council, etc.) at Chapman Grand.
- f. Outside Committees

#### **IV. New Business**

- a. University Attendance Policy
  - i. Arianna Ngnomire:
    1. Purpose: Strict attendance policy will prepare you for college, but not for the workforce.
      - a. The attendance policy will allow people to think about education around the world.
    2. Average person rated the attendance policies as a 5.82/10 on fairness levels.
    3. Problem: Individuals class policies are NOT standard.
      - a. Solutions
        - i. Eliminate all attendance policies.
        - ii. Set official attendance that all classes must abide by.
        - iii. Encourage more dialogue regarding attendance.
    4. Proposal: Department Regulation
      - a. Each department is responsible for deciding the attendance policy for every class in their respective department.
      - b. Issues with this proposal: This proposal would come with the enforcement of communication between departments.

5. What needs to be done?
  - a. We should send a survey to all students.
  - b. Reaching out to curriculum advisors.
  - c. Reach out to ACES to determine any relevant studies on the issue.
6. Discussion:
  - a. Do you think a standard attendance policy needs to occur?
    - i. Saba Amid: Is there a set-in stone attendance policy through the university?
      1. Mitchell: There is no set-in stone attendance policy, but there is the recommendation that if there is a 20% or more absence rate to not pass the student.
    - ii. Max Chang: I enjoy having the attendance policy because I do not like being in an environment where I feel no one cares, for example being in a classroom where over half the class is absent.
    - iii. Saba Amid: Without an attendance policy, people will not feel guilty missing class because there is no consequence. This is something to look into.
    - iv. Carolyn Mai: Penalties toward excused absences should be discussed.
    - v. Jackie Palacios: I think that once we get to a certain level in the university we should have a policy installed that gives students of certain majors more cushion, for example a double major from Dodge who is filming their thesis for 2 weeks and misses class.
    - vi. Alex Ballard: We should not go to the extreme of abolishing the attendance policy, but at minimum there should be some sort of departmental standardization.
    - vii. Abby Tan: There should be more leeway when it comes to tardiness.
    - viii. Alex Ballard: A suggestion for data collection: make course evaluations more specific in regard to absence policies. There should also be a conversation in regard to why students feel their time in the classroom is not valuable? We should work on motivating the students' eagerness to attend class.
    - ix. Saba Amid: There is a lack of communication between administration, faculty, and the students. As a student body we need to address the lack of communication.
    - x. Grant Sewell: We should try to switch the students' perception of missing class to be an effect on their grade, to more personal thing. Students should understand this time their time, and education that they are missing out on.

## V. Open Forum

- a. Saba Amid: Do any of the majors have an official peer mentoring program?
  - i. Mitchell Rosenberg: There is no official peer mentoring program through the university.
  - ii. Alex Ballard: There are some mentors for students on academic probation.

- iii. Saba Amid: There would be a lot of merit behind establishing a peer mentoring program. It would be beneficial to have a program that is backed by academic advising. This could be something for colleges to work on. Overall, a more standardized way of mentoring between departments is necessary in my opinion.
  - iv. Alex Ballard: Some departments have student run advising programs or have something similar to an advising program. Maybe we can grow off of this.
  - v. Jackie Palacios: It is hard for departments to create something new for the most part. So, agreeing with Alex, I think maybe starting slow with something they already have established within the departments and growing off of that.
  - vi. Saba Amid: My idea is to make things more official. For example, establishing something through the administration, rather than a student run program.
- b. Jackie Palacios: Message us if you are free or interested in joining Diversity Affairs Committee in order to help us with the responsibilities concerning an event for National Vegan Day on 11/1.

## **VI. Announcements**

- a. SGA-Sodexo Lunch is September 21, 12-1 PM
  - i. All who said they were able to attend, plan on attending unless you have told us otherwise.
- b. SGA new senator training 9/21 3:00 pm - 5:30 pm - Please note the time change
  - i. Committee Chairs will be needed for 30 minutes to present their committees.
- c. SGA retreat 9/22 9:00 am - 5:00 pm BK 404 (George Bush Conference Room)
- d. Please spread the word about elections next week!

## **VII. Adjournment**

- a. Motion: Saba Amid
- b. 2<sup>nd</sup>: Grant Sewell
- c. Unanimous