

2-26-15

Absent: Spencer O'hara (not sure if excused or not-ask Brittany), Aimee, Hannah Werling,

Brittany Dardis: We have a new senator in our midst, welcome Rahiwa!

Matt Bell– Last night we met with the Viking Days co-chairs. The pair of applicants are Kaitlin Connor and Sarah Swenson. We were impressed with their interview and I think that they are ready to lead this group.

Elliot Blue: Is there any more discussion?

Alejandro Garcia: I move to nominate Kaitlin Connor and Sarah Swenson for the Viking Days co-chairs for 2015.

Eric VanderLee: I second that motion.

Motion Passes.

Elliot Blue: We have a couple different groups to discuss tonight. The first will be the student group SNUC – Student Networks for Underprivileged Communities. Is there any discussion about this group? They are looking to be approved as a student group.

Zach Serrano: I move to approve SNUC as a student group.

Joel Hermann: I second that motion.

Motion Passes.

Elliot Blue: The next group we will talk about is Nurses Christian Fellowship.

Alejandro Garcia: I don't want to sound like a bad person, but in their constitution, they state they don't discriminate anyone and I know they're not going to do it, but it's like a Christian group. I am not saying that we should approve them, but that caught my attention.

Joel Hermann: I think that if people have a problem with this group, I think that they can feel free to for their own group.

Ryder Reed: There are other nursing groups on campus too that they could join.

Ryder Reed: I move to recognize Nurses Christian Fellowship as a student group.

Matt Bell: I second that motion.

Motion Passes.

Elliot Blue: The next group we will be discussing is the Peace Prize Forum Club.

Joel Hermann: For a brand new group, why are there two seniors as leaders? They leave in the spring.

Dan Schmidtman: I'm guessing they will have the two Peace Scholars from the previous year to serve as the new leadership and so on.

Matt Bell: I think that it's a good group because it is an event and an opportunity that is given every year to the students at Augie, so I think that a group that potentially increases the know about it is probably a good idea.

Alejandro Garcia: And I also talked to Dr. Nesiba and he explained that they're trying to make the availability of the forum wider to the whole campus. I heard that this year was a mess with people signing up and going and things like that.

Eric VanderLee: I move to make the Peace Prize Forum Club a student group on campus.

Alejandro Garcia: I second that motion.

Motion Passes.

Elliot Blue: Now we are going to hop over and do the Election Code and Bylaws.

Dan Schmidtman: I was thinking we could start with the Election Code just because there we the least changes in that document. I know that all of you had the time to read through the election code, did any of you guys see any changes that you didn't agree with of that you want further discussion on? I have my computer hooked up so we can pull them up if we need to but we have already went through them.

Ryder Reed: The emailing the ballot – so you just can't send the link to the ballot, you can still email to campaign.

Matt Bell: All campaigning on social media will be fine, you just cannot directly link the ballot. That will be something I will make sure, if I am not the election commissioner, to put into the speech at the meeting to make sure it is made very clear right off the bat.

Joel Hermann: How did you decide to have that meeting 48 hours in advance? Is that what it was?

Matt Bell: It is 48 hours from the time when the declaration of candidacy forms are due. Usually the forms are due at 5pm on a Wednesday a week and a half before the elections. Campaigning cannot begin until after I have talked to them at this meeting so rules and regulations are clear. I decided to put a 48 hour window on it just in case there were issues with scheduling.

Alejandro Garcia: Can you pull the part up about the international senator?

Matt Bell: They either have to be here on a school or travel visa. They cannot be a citizen of the United States to be an International Senator.

Alejandro Garcia: If someone is from Pakistan, but born in Canada and now lives in the United States and wanted to run for the International Senator, she couldn't because she has American citizenship, but she felt more connected to the international student demographic. That is why I am bringing this up.

Eric VanderLee: As an international student, you can run for any of the positions, right?

Matt Bell: Let's open this discussion up a little more. What do you guys think?

Alejandro Garcia: I wanted to see the exact terms, like what it is defines as.

Dan Schmidtman: In the constitution, it states that an International Senator includes any student who is not a permanent resident and is here on an f-1 of j-1 visa. Although, this is in the constitution which will be reviewed next.

Joel Hermann: Is this something we need to change in the Election Code?

Matt Bell: I can go in and add that, but we will have to wait another week to vote then. How would you like it worded?

Kirsten Titze: If you have the f-1/j-1 criteria in the code, it makes it so even if you identify with as an international student, you can still run for other positions. There are other opportunities for students to run for class senators if they do not meet the criteria for an international senator.

Tony Metzgar: There has to be a line drawn and I think that this line is the best one.

Elliot Blue: We are going to take an informal vote in response to the conversation just discussed. Vote taken to leave the International Senator position stated as is. Vote passes.

Matt Bell: Just to explain what I am going to do: If we go to Fall Elections in the By-Laws, a Clause 6 will be added saying what an International Senator is defined as. Is everyone okay with that decision?

Dan Schmidtman: Now that we have changed that, we are going to go ahead and hold off for a week for another reading period. If you haven't read through it, this gives you another chance to do it so please do that.

Brittany Dardis: Are there any other comments to be made about anything you read or saw?

Dan Schmidtman: Since there are no other thoughts on that, let's move onto the By-Laws. Are there any comments that someone would like to share in regards to the By-Laws? Questions, concerns? Did everyone have a chance to read them?

Tony Metzgar: Can you scroll up? I would like to reread Clause 1. So, for clubs, no uniforms or things like that?

Dan Schmidtman: So uniforms cannot be purchased by a student group because students would take them with them when they go and that allocation of money would not stay with Augustana. It is also stated in further detail later in the Budgetary Stipulations section.

Elliot Blue: Are there any other thoughts on the By-Laws? If you like where everything is at, we can definitely move forward with a vote.

Kat VanGerpen: I move to approve the By-Laws.

Kiri Jacobsen: I second that motion.

Motion Passes.

Elliot Blue: That is everything we have for this meeting. You will have another 1 week reading period with the election code. We will meet again next week Wednesday at our normal time.

Ryder Reed: I move to adjourn this meeting.

Joel Gullickson: I second that motion.

Motion Passes.