VASSAR STUDENT ASSOCIATION
Council Agenda for October 27, 2013

Time: 7:00pm
Location: College Center 223

In memory of Nancy Gannett ’49

1 Call to Order
2 Attendance
3 Consent Agenda
   a. Generation – Pre-Org ($50/$35)
   b. VPI – Speakers/Social Consciousness ($0/$505.90)
   c. Phil – Capital ($2100/$2100)
   d. Vass Shakers – Pre-Org ($200/$200)
   e. GAAP – Conference ($0/$900)
   f. Minstrels – Collaboration ($0/$900)
   g. QCVC – Speakers ($1700/$3000)
   h. Davison – Collaboration ($500)
   i. ASA – Capital ($273.54)
   j. VARC – Collaboration ($180)
   k. VSA Finance (Mug System) – Capital ($1500)
   l. Minutes from 10/20/2013
      I change to “E” regarding a gap
      student life, would likes to table “g” – will be sent back to committee
4 Executive Board Reports
   a. Student Life ..............................................................(7 min)
   b. Academics .................................................................(7 min)
5 Forum with EMS .............................................................. EMS Captains (20 min)
Pres. – Could you speak on what EMS does, how we could get in touch with EMS, and any sort of statistics on last night or the year in general?
Kate P., EMS Captain- has 60 active members and is call every night of the school year.
Weekdays 5 - 8. Weekends 24 hours, 5-5. Respond to medical emergencies for students and non-students. We assess, treat, and may send them to hospital or any other resources on campus. Ways to contact - CRC emergency number, patrol are some ways. Regarding last night, 11 calls last night, 5 hospitalizations, and the majority intoxication.
Finance – Thank you for doing what you do. Could you compare this year’s statistics to last years.
Answer (provided by Kate): Last year 12, so around the same. Founder’s day is usually the other high day. It’s not decreasing or increasing.
TH- Do you take calls off campus?
Answer: if they’re not in the campus, CRC will transfer the call.
TAs- What are the training protocols? What is your relationship with off campus resources?
Answer: Multiple criteria including being CPR trained and EMT. We provide training every month. Also provide Sunday training from 1-3 for any member to attend, for any kind of practice situation. For off campus resources, the majority of resources would be AFD, town
EMS. They will transport somebody to the hospital. Mobile life is another one [off campus resource]. For sexual assaults, a whole list of off campus resources. We can get you in contact with counselors.

Davidson- Can you speak more on the protocol for hospitalization?

Answer – If they’re in a life threatening situation, they have to go because they need higher assistance. It depends on the [regarding] trauma. If it’s medical, they’re going to go. [Getting in trouble for] intoxication, I know a lot of kids are worried about. We go through a whole list on whether or not they should go. On other campuses, people have died, or gotten serious conditions from being left alone. There is a criteria [we go through].

Ops- Speaking as EMS assistant captain, we don’t have a desire to send people to the hospital. If we believe that they can stay here safely, we’ll often stay there with them [for up to 40 minutes].

Main – Are there any on campus follow up for the student after hospitalization?

Answer – Yes, our reports go to Baldwin and the Dr. reads them so they can call up. Baldwin will send a follow up email. If it is more serious, it goes higher up (ex. when involving substances).

Noyse – Does Dean Brown follow up as well when it is substance related? When someone has been involved with EMS, do they get written up with security?

Answer – He doesn’t get our reports. There is a confidentiality agreement between Baldwin and EMS. He follows up from security.

Ops- It’s not the same as a write up.

Noyse- do you have a dorm-by-dorm statistic?

Answer- We only have month by month or by year.

___- What is the price of this?

Answer – ambulance rides are free- the hospitalization costs. Bill, around $2000, without insurance covering it.

Finance- Could you speak to how much the percentage of EMS calls are substance related?

Answer- Last spring, around 50%, give or take, were. Halloween and founder’s day will create spikes. It’s a decent percentage.

2017- Are students responsible for transportation back?

Answer: They can call CRC, but Vassar does not provide a car back. We can call them a taxi.

2016- What happens if someone can’t pay for the hospitalization bill?

Answer - I know if they contact John Craig or Dr. B, but that doesn’t fall under my jurisdiction.

Op.- All Vassar students are supposed to have health insurance.

At large- speaks of Vassar brothers and Baldwin.

Raymond- How do we compare to other colleges in terms of intoxication statistics?

Answer- no comparison could be provided.
Raymond - What days are higher?
Answer - Last year it was Halloween and Founder’s day. For this year, if there’s another on campus event, that may be another one.
TAs- How many people make up EMS? What can we do as student leaders to decrease calls or if anything increase student calls (when they need to)?
Answer- we have about 60 active members. We get an increase of people (for being on call) as people get more into the school year and hear more about EMS. For how to decrease calls- it is about education on how to have a good time and not go overboard. You can encourage friends to look after friends and make sure students don’t get to that point. We can come in to talk to a dorm if you’re more interested in that. I think it’s important to spread the message that we don’t get people in trouble.
At large – Talking to Renee is a good resource.
Jewett- Do you know if parents are contacted? What has to happen in order for parents to be contacted?
Answer- for somebody who is not legally an adult, then parents can be contacted by the hospital. Legally, they are not adults and cannot sign some things. If they’re above 18, they (parents) don’t need to be. As EMS, we never contact parents. From that stand point, the hospital can call if you’re under age or if you’re in a life-threatening situation (even if you’re older).
Noyse – Could you talk more about the Good Samaritan policy.
Answer – You, patient, or whoever calls, doesn’t get in trouble for substances. We don’t want you to worry that you’re drinking under age and that you’ll get in trouble
Noyse- How does the incident report tie in?
Ops – An incident report is not a write up. It’s more about documenting something happened on campus but that doesn’t tie into the student conduct system. If you make an EMS call, you’re not going to get a write up. You will not get in trouble, nor will any one else. If your name is on the report, you won’t get trouble – it’s just information.
Terry – any time a security documents something, it’s not necessary. A write up. It means something happened. If underage drinking is a part of the situation, it will get noted. Security is documenting the incident. When it goes through the student conduct system, what happens is that yes there was a violation of the conduct, but the person is under the Good Samaritan policy. [Can’t use this as an excuse for] bad conduct. The only thing you’re not found responsible for is alcohol and drug related incidences.
Noyse – Can they ask that they be taken off the record?
Terry - There is precedent of situations. There will be no disciplinary action. That doesn’t necessarily mean you will not have a meeting to talk to someone about it. If it happens multiple
times, it can lead to a failure to comply. If after meetings with Renee or DB and a repeat happens, yes they’re not responsible for the alcohol consumption, but they’re still responsible for not complying.

Pres.- Thank you for coming in. We appreciate you all. Next, exec. reports.

Student life – Deb sent out an email about sexual assault [projects we have been working on].

TAs – What was the gender-neutral bathroom project?

Answer – the people in the committee got back to me about buildings. Gone through a lot of meetings about the bathrooms (Examples, urinals) a lot of meetings and data analyses. We meet with a subcommittee that it dealing with this. I’ve been talking to Judy as well as Mary Ann – ___ planning and academic resources.

Jewett- Is there anything being done where they’re going to send out a survey to the students or will they just do it?

Answer – That’s a conversation I had with Judy. Is there a way to gage what the students want? It’s a little bit more appropriate to make sure that certain students, transgender for example, are having their needs addressed... it is a little more vital than the majority necessarily. A policy that is in place, but not common knowledge (regarding different usages of bathrooms at specific times). Main - not looking to put gender neutral for academic buildings.

Academics- Peer advising is on the 5th. Emails – primarily targeted towards freshmen and sophomores. Maybe ask class reps etc. to send blurbs about it. Brewer house cup points! Also, class of 16 and 17 I’m hoping you’ll also tell your class council to advertise the thing. This past week student life myself and Noyse were in dean of studies finding. Should talk to professor (works via nominations) and suggest they apply for it. Student course evaluations- new questions, now you can write comments along with ranking. Talks about doing it online. Will be presented to committee of curricular policies. Cog Sci is program (also major) proposal to turn it into a department. More to do with hiring than it does with students. (to Academics – paragraph in email)

2017- heard grading possibly changed.

Academics – not that they want to change the processes, but they are aware grading is not an equitable process. Trying to address this. They’re trying to make it more equitable – ex. Maybe in transcript add class average grade. It’s an option they’re considering very seriously.

Jewett- it’s probably not going to go into effect without any of our times here. It is moving very slowly. Not anything soon.

Academics- not that that makes it any less important, it’s just a time consuming project.
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a. Ops- South East Asian Students alliance has been active for five semesters now. They provided the activities committee for certification. Great leadership meetings, some events, collaborated with other orgs, for these reasons it is recommendation to certify this org. Motion to certify SEASA

TAs- speaking as vp of SEASA, after our meeting with ac. Committees, what I felt was that we’ve never felt this much support from Act. Committee. I want to applaud you guys. **Motion passes***

Finance – reminder to apply for budget.

Pres.- thanks the people who committed to this.

7 Appointment of Davison Vice President .......................................................... Operations (10 min)

a. We had originally two applicants, one of them was a freshman and therefore ineligible. Today, we had a convo with the ops committee the candidate the Dave. pres. And after the interview process it is the recommendation from the ops committee that we extend the app process until Thursday of this week. Due to the break and due to the limited time at which this app was publicized, not that many people might have known. Small amount of apps recieved.

Point of order by 2016- aren’t we supposed to get apps with agenda?

Pres.- up to discretion of ops. It seems strange to me that we can bring this to the council and be make decisions.

Ops- part of the ongoing convo is that our process is flawed. Part of the problem that we had was that we made improvements. Ex. More people can come to the meetings, so more people now talk. I would actually encourage people to talk. But yes there are flaws. I look forward to working through these flaws… Move to declare vp president application to reopen. Applications due Thursday, Halloween, potential appointment for Nov. 3rd. **motion passes**

8 Appointment of Jewett Vice President............................................................. Operations (10 min)

a. We had 4 candidates for vp, one was a freshman and it was the decision of the ops, even though we could have suspended bylaws and considered him, both the house team was also uncomfortable with having another freshman. It would be unfair to appoint the one who didn’t follow the rules. Left us with 3 great candidates we recommend Maya Horowitz. She came in very prepared, she seemed to have a good understanding of vp, and was very organized. Motion to appoint Maya Horowitz to be vp. Motion passes.

9 Appointment of Jewett Secretary ................................................................. Operations (10 min)

a. We had 3 applicants one of whom was a freshman, same as my previous comments on freshman applications. One rescinded their application. Left us with Thomas Gormizo.
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It was clear he was enthusiastic about the position and he had a lot of good ideas. Move to appoint Thomas G to be the Jewett house team secretary. Motion passes.

10 Appointment of Founder’s Day Co-Chairs.................................................................Operations (10 min)

There were four candidates. We originally saying we were going to pick two. But we were wowed by three of them and decided we were going to have three. Carolina Gustafson (strong house press), she came in excited about looking at founder’s day and alternative wellness things that can be done. Wanted to have them be things that people are excited about. She had lots of ideas and enthusiasm – dinosaurs as a potential theme. Motion to appoint Carolina Gustafson as first Founder’s Day Co-chair. Motion passes. The next person that we recommend is Alex Losurver (questionable spelling of mine, note-taker, also including other last names) – senior, has served in every single founder’s day committee of her time. Has a ton of experience and ideas. She felt she could give guidance and wisdom from that experience for the event. She was really excited about merchandise theme etc. and tying in these events – as dinosaur as possible. So, I move to appoint Alex Losurfer (sp) and the second FDC. Motion passes. One of the others, Sosan Park, sophomore. She came in with a bunch of fantastic ideas, enthusiasm. One of the big ideas she had was having orgs, collaborating, having them do some sort of activity, so there’s another ave. of programming that’s not just what’s happening on the hill.

Noyse – thanks Sosan for coming.

Motion to appoint Sosan as 3rd, motion passes.

Ops - application for Noyse junior representative. We are declaring the position open.

Applications will be due on Halloween at Noon. Move to declare the motion of Noyse junior rep. open with the time line of apps due 12:00pm 10/31. Motion passes.

11 Open Discussion – 2014, looked up world record for pizza Belgian man eat pizza in two minutes. He will have eaten 660, 942 pizzas if he ate from now until graduation. Wanted to thank those who helped last night i.e. finance. I had a great time with it and hoped you all did too.

Pres – thank you 2014, I thought Halloween was wonderful. If you have any constructive feedback, I would prefer it in email form (2014 you can cc me). You may notice in agenda, it is not a quote. In her obituary, she asked that donations be sent to VSA. Really involved in clubs, funds committees, and epitome of involved Vassar woman. Wanted to have this woman in memory of her. Will be writing thank you letters to those people. 7 sisters this weekend. I would really like all of you to host at least one person. They can already relate to you on some note. If you would like to come to the conference, I will resend out the sign up sheet. A bunch of students (not in vsa) asked if they could come to the conference. The morning will be for just student gov., but 1 pm and after, it is open to others. So far we have 12 students. If others want
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to come, tell them to email me, so we can prepare. It should be good, I’ll report on it next week. You’re all expected to be there. I’ll send out more info.

Ops – thanks committee and appreciates committee. Thank you so much to everyone who agreed to help out with appointments (both in and out of ops committee). Thank you for showing up. I know that 4 is an overwhelmingly large amount of appointments. ON the other hand, I do want to say to people who weren’t enthusiastic on showing up, part of the responsibility is showing up the meetings. I know everyone’s busy and has school work, just please keep in mind these are important processes and please trying to keep up the committees.

Request, someone correct me (I move to do something is correct, not I motion). Great job to 2014 and Jackie (in the back)

Finance – spread the word, I’ll be off campus Thursday and Friday this week. Extended office hours on Wednesday.

Activities- clarification, an org and pre orgs you need to wait to hear back to know if event is approved or not. Forum for org storage spaces applications due soon. Updated org constitutions and admissions due Nov 8

Jewett – let your constituencies, reminds of ___

2016- the thing I would like to talk about it something I’ve been working on since the beginning of the year. As many people know, cost damages are split in dorm. I would like to propose there’s an equitable cost. Vassar maintains universal card access for all students; this makes our public spaces to our students regardless of which dorm. I think that there are some dorms that receive more damages. We always get disproportionate damages. Ex. Dorm got windows broken. Doesn’t seem fair to me that residents of Main should pay for that, considering that residents did not make this.

2015- dinosaurs should not be the theme. Strong and joss in the spring also have open positions in class council. Potentially, depending on what happens with Noyse, may be an open. Is it possible to get involved in serenading discussions?

2014 – I have erased serenading from my vocab. So I don’t know what you’re talking about. J.k. I know what you’re talking about. Yes, I would love as much feedback as you guys can give. I’m going to be in discussion with admins about Halloween this week. Please tell me soon. I would not like to receive events that do not have to do with the event. Incidents regarding dorm damage for ex. Should be directed to safety security or res life.

Ops – says there’s a contact list.

Terry – I sent out an email to all of council about one on ones. They can be open for the rest of the year. If you’re interested, you always have me to talk with.

2014- extra special thanks to terry and house advisor teams for going above and beyond their duty. Just wanted to be on the record.
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