I. Call to Order

II. Attendance
   Guests: Mandy Choie (Admissions and Financial Aid), Jen Estruth (CCP), Juliana Kiyan (Miscellany News), Walter Padilla (Student Assistant to the President), Katie Paul (Miscellany News), Victor Monterrosa (MECHA), Anita Varma (Miscellany News)

III. Announcements
   A. Founders Day Committee
      The new chairs are Juanita Aguire and Maria Melnik, who ask that all dorm presidents email their constituents and encourage them to serve as representatives to the committee.
   B. Food Committee
      The Vice President explained that representatives to the Food Committee are still needed from certain dorms; students interested in serving on the committee should speak with their house president or contact the VP directly.
   C. Organization Sponsorship
      The OE explained that the issue of groups existing under the umbrella of other organizations must be better addressed. These groups must begin the certification process by January.

IV. Consent Agenda
   A. Approval of Minutes from October 08, 2006
   B. Approval of Minutes from October 22, 2006
   C. Allocation of $300 from Conference Fund to WVKR
      No objections were made, and all items on the consent agenda were approved.

V. Reports
   A. Student Delegation to Committee on Curricular Policies
      Jen Estruth, the Student Representative for the VSA to CCP, updated council on the committee’s activity thus far.
      - CCP’s three meetings this month have all been productive and well attended.
      - Major topics of discussion have been the issue of grade inflation, the debate between Correlates and Majors, and the replacement of SACET.
      - Dean Jackson has been approved to teach an Education 235 class that will meet once per week for two hours.
      - The name of the Geology department has been changed to “The Department of Earth Science and Geography”.
      - Student representatives have been appointed to various subcommittees: the Review Committee, the Calendar Committee, the Quantitative Analysis Committee, and two VSA Ad-Hoc Committees.
B. Student Delegation to Admissions and Financial Aid
Mandy Choie, Student Representative to the Admissions and Financial Aid Committee, described the committee’s work this semester:

- The committee has analyzed data on the Class of 2010, concentrating on the statistics about minority representation. The number of students in each minority group, with the exception of Asian females, appears to have declined from past years.
- Admissions plans to develop outreach programs to improve the diversity of the student body, and is currently brainstorming strategies to increase interest from high school students in the Poughkeepsie community and other urban areas.
- More detailed evaluation of Financial Aid policies will occur at future meetings, though the committee has already agreed that Vassar may need to make some adjustments to keep up with comparable liberal arts colleges.

C. MECHA Conference Fund Report
Victor Monterrosa from addressed council about MECHA’s work this semester and its worthwhile collaborations with Poder Latino.

- The two groups attended a conference at Columbia together recently, where there were great workshops, speakers, and opportunities for networking.
- While in Manhattan, MECHA was able to join a team of activist groups that was marching from Union Square to Times Square, which was also a worthwhile experience.
- The next conference that the organization plans to attend will be held at Yale University.
- MECHA hosted a conference last October and would like to do so again at some point, but Victor explained that planning is challenging.

C. Officer Report
The President announced that he has been working on the idea of forming a joint committee on community. Thus far, he has spoken with Cappy and other members of the administration, and hopes to form something concrete by the end of the semester.

He is also in the process of developing plans for a College Council that will work closely with the administration to tackle issues on campus.

In the coming weeks, the President intends to reach out more to the student body by increasing contact with various orgs and attending a house officer meeting in each residence hall.

VI. Disciplinary Action – Forum for Political Philosophy
The OrgEx made a motion to freeze the budget of FPP through the Org Review process, since it has been inactive this semester and has no contact information. He plans to wait approximately a week before dealing with the de-certification issue, and will work with the SARC office to obtain whatever relevant information possible before taking further action. All were in favor, and the motion passed.
VII. Disciplinary Action - Yafeyfiyah

The OrgEx made a motion to freeze the budget of Yafeyfiyah through the Org Review process, since they it also appears to have been inactive recently. Lathrop and 2009 announced that they believed the group, or a version thereof, may still be performing. The OrgEx asked that any council members with means of getting in touch with Yafeyfiyah pass along any available contact information.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Vote to Freeze the Budget of Yafeyfiyah:</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Abstentions: Town Students. (1)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Not in Favor: Noyes, Raymond, Cushing, Main, FinEx, TH, Davison, 2009, Lathrop (9).</td>
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<tr>
<td>Result: Motion did not pass.</td>
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VIII. Disciplinary Action Bylaw Change

The VP presented an amendment to the Disciplinary Action Bylaws, to be approved at the next meeting. Joss believed the bylaws should state that committees may request additional time to complete their reports; AcEx responded that asserting this in the bylaws is unnecessary, since it is part of fairly standard procedure. The CRC may be making adjustments to the amendment over the following week.

X. Discussion on VSA Structure

Since the Student Government Conference in D.C., the Exec Board has begun to evaluate the VSA and observed various issues with its current structure. Council discussed potential issues with and changes to the VSA:

- Joss felt that, with the way that council is currently structured, larger dorms like Joss and Main are at risk for under representation. While he wouldn’t support a student senate, he suggested that the VSA consider expanding the size of its council.

- The President explained that, according to the ACE survey, many students believe that the number of elected positions on campus is slightly “overwhelming”. Strong suggested that committees might be formed too frequently, since many seem to overlap with one another.

- TS expressed concern that simply “having council representatives for X number of people” distances students from the government, and would cause the VSA to become even more “esoteric”. Lathrop agreed, stating that the current system is the most “efficient” means of connecting students to the administration.

- The Organization Executive explained that his position is quickly becoming too demanding for one student; at many comparable colleges, his duties are shared between members of a committee, which is a concept that Vassar should perhaps explore. The OrgEx also identified the issue that council currently functions as a massive programming body, but does few other things it could accomplish on campus.
2009 brought up the notion that each student essentially has two votes: one through their class and one through their living situation. 2010 felt that this system was somewhat strange, and found it interesting that he was the only member of council that does not represent another individual on council.

- Raymond questioned whether house presidents should take time away from directly serving their dorms to work on additional committees.
- Jewett suggested that dorm vice presidents should take on more social-programming responsibilities if house presidents need to spend greater time on committees.
- Noyes recommended that council explore the role of dorm freshmen representatives, and consider ways in which this position could be expanded to increase representation. Raymond disagreed, since he believed that “adding more people to council” could be dangerous.

**IX. Open Discussion**

- 2007 announced that 210 days remained until graduation
- Raymond expressed frustration over the new neon Computer Center sign.
- Noyes announced that it plans to host a fireside chat at 7pm on Wednesday, November 1st, entitled, “Getting Along With the Greek Gods”. The dorm will also be having a toga party on November 10th in UpCDC.
- 2007 explained that the Halloween Party will take place on Saturday, November 6th. The Senior Class is trying to encourage pre-sale of tickets at the Retreat and at study breaks.
- Davison held its Community Works Auction this past week and raised over $600.
- SoCo was concerned that the replacement fee for V-Cards is $25. The President explained that the issue will be investigated.
- Raymond encouraged all students to attend the Haunted Hollow Friday from 9pm-1am. 7-9pm will be a time for professors and families to attend.
- TAs announced that “Trick or Treating in the TAs” will be hosted on Halloween from 4:30-5:30pm.
- 2009 expressed his desire to make the Food Committee more accessible, particularly because of widespread discontent over the cost of points.
- The OrgEx thanked council for contributing to the success of Cappy and the Chocolate Factory.
- Strong will be having a free self-defense class for women on Wednesday from 7:30-9:30pm.
- 2010 expressed his belief that the vending machines should accept the V-Card. The President explained that the V-Card machines are quite expensive, but agreed that the issue should be explored.

**X. Adjourn**