

VASSAR STUDENT ASSOCIATION

Council Minutes for April 28, 2013

“But the wild things cried, “Oh please don’t go - we’ll eat you up - we love you so!”
And Max said, “No!”

The wild things roared their terrible roars and gnashed their terrible teeth and rolled their terrible eyes and showed their terrible claws but Max stepped into his private boat and waved goodbye.”

*Maurice Sendak, **Where the Wild Things Are***

1 Call to Order

-The meeting was called to order at 7 p.m.

2 Attendance.....Operations

-All here.

3 Consent Agenda

- a. \$5,000 from Capital to 2013
- b. \$150 Discretionary to UNICEF
- c. \$100 Discretionary to 2014
- d. \$750 Discretionary to Town Houses
- e. \$1000 Discretionary to Jewett
- f. \$60 Preliminary Orgs to ComedyNormative
- g. \$160 Preliminary Orgs to Matthew’s Archers
- h. \$446 from Conference to VARC
- i. \$0 from Conference to VARC
- j. \$0 from Discretionary to Fem Alliance
- k. \$0 from Discretionary to VISA
- l. \$0 from Discretionary to Greens
- m. Minutes from 4/21 meeting

-This passed with all in favor.

-Council took a 15 minutes recess for Finance Committee to discuss a fund allocation.

4 Executive Board Reports

- a. President.....(7 min)

-He talked to Terry Quinn about why the Retreat can’t open longer; it’s not built to handle it. They are forming a committee to talk about the East Room of the DC as an option.

-A search committee is looking for a replacement for the Career Development Office.

All three candidates came to campus this past week. They are meeting this Thursday to pick the director. There will be another search for the Associate Director.

-They are looking for the VP for Finance of the administration. He and Deb sat on the committee.

-Convocation is this Wednesday at 3:30 in the Chapel. The ceremonial passing of the gavel will take place and him and Deb will be speaking.

- b. Operations.....(7 min)

-Everything is going smoothly. She needs paragraph updates from each joint committee.

5 VSA Executive Board Stipend Proposal.....Student Life (15 min)

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-People meeting financial aid requirements would get a stipend for executive board positions. It’s only for financial aid, not everyone on executive board. At the end of the day, it’s up to student employment to decide if people get a stipend; if a student not on financial aid really needs help then they can go to student employment to ask for funds. She wants to make a motion to endorse this proposal. This motion passed with all in favor.

-Thank you to everyone who worked on this.

6 Appointments.....Operations (30 min)

- a. BOE Co-Chair
- b. 2015 Secretary
- c. Davison 2015 Fall Representative
- d. Lathrop 2015 Fall & Spring Representative
- e. Raymond 2015 Fall & Spring Representative
- f. Strong 2015 Spring Representative
- g. Strong 2016 Representative
- h. SoCo Programming Director
- i. Town Students Programming Director
- j. Judicial Board 2014 Representative

-These decisions were made by majority vote of the Operations committee. She didn’t vote.

-BOE chair is Zack Struver; he will be a junior next year. This passed with all in favor.

-Jessica Lin for 2015 Secretary: was a student fellow and a Daisy and a transfer so she has experience and a different perspective. This passed with all in favor except Joss abstained.

-Luke Kachelein for Davison 2015 Fall Representative: He had some great new ideas. Joss and Davison abstained. This passed with the rest in favor.

-Renee Bryant for Lathrop 2015 Rep: She has a lot of previous interest in VSA and interesting idea. Joss, Ferry, and Lathrop abstained. All the rest were in favor.

-They are not voting on Raymond because they made a mistake and didn’t talk about it because two people applied when they thought there was one. They will discuss it tomorrow at 8 p.m. in Operations committee.

-Alana McCraw for Strong 2015 Rep: She was the only applicant. This passed with all in favor, Joss abstained.

-Molly Barth for 2016 Strong Rep: She showed up to her interview and had a strong application. 2016 abstained. All the rest in favor.

-Rob Madden for Soco Programming Director: this passed with all in favor.

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-Emilia Petrarca for Town Students Programming Director: had the most thorough application and concrete ideas. This passed with all in favor.

-Arushi Raina for 2014 Judicial Board: She had experience on Judicial Board and some great concrete ideas. This passed with all in favor.

7 Annual Budgeting.....Finance

-All of Council looked at the annual budgeting stapled onto their agenda. It shows orgs with the most money and with the least. They have 12 minutes to discuss it as a whole. They then have the opportunity to vote on the entire thing as a whole. If they vote no, then they a minimum of 30 minutes to discuss it. After that they will resume into closed Council and then they will open up again for 12 minutes. The first 12 minutes should be used for orgs that might have problems with the budget.

-Sahara noted that last year’s Executive Board for the Ceramics Club didn’t fill out the budgeting form for annual budgeting. She didn’t find out until recently about this and would like to talk about it. There wasn’t communication between the incoming and outgoing Executive Boards.

-Finance: the budgeting period was announced. Then it was open for 9 days and then they had another period. Ceramics received money from the Discretionary Fund this year, but they didn’t use most of their budget. They haven’t been very active as an organization. They should apply to special purpose funds. Sahara is part of the new executive board. Activities noted that he didn’t know who was a leader until recently this year. Sahara explained that they had been working with a clay studio that was volunteer run, but it fell apart and that’s why the org hasn’t been active. She has already established a new relationship with a new studio.

-2013 noted that they have a supplementary fund that was put into Discretionary and that’s what it’s there for. They can apply next year.

-2015 noted that she thinks Council should consider allocating them some money because most other small orgs would get some money.

-2016 thinks that if they go through this they’ll have to talk about this forever and they think it would be better if they just apply in the fall and they can still get money. He thinks the best way to do this would be next year.

-Finance thinks this could be handles with a special purpose fund.

-2013 noted that most of next year’s Council is in here so they will know the situation.

-Council voted yes on the annual budget with all in favor.

8 Open Discussion

-President: It’s been a challenging year, but he’s proud that they’ve gotten a lot done and they’ve worked very collaboratively. They had a member of Council lead a research initiative. They did a lot of restructuring of VSA systems. They had two vice presidents join them halfway through

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the year and they far exceeded any expectations! Amanda had brought a lot towards the Social Conscious Awareness issues. Dallas has made progress with the relationship between VSA and Spectrana and the Alana Center. Finance has been the most dynamic Finance Committee ever. They revamped, put everything online, and really made a lot of progress. He thanked Exec and Council for all of their work this year. He learned a lot and he wishes everyone luck next year. -2013: 27 days until Commencement. This is the last update they’ll get from him so they have to keep track on their own. Convocation is at 3:30 this Wednesday. He will go up and accept the banner for his class from the Alumni Association because they technically become alumni then. The senior week schedule will be sent out this week. It’s ready it just needs to be sent out. This is his second year on Council and he thinks you can get a lot done through the VSA and it’s tough sometimes, but remind yourself why you’re doing it. It’s because you love Vassar he hopes. You can get a lot done while still having fun. Have a tequila shot and just live.

-Jewett made a motion to adopt the amendment dealing with pre orgs. This passed with a majority. 2016 was opposed. Activities: everyone hates that.

-2014: 391 days until graduation. He gives his blessing to next year’s Council and hopes everyone can move beyond petty and trivial arguments. Next week is Founder’s Day. It was real, it was fun. Live fast, Die young, Bad girls do it well -MIA.

-Operations: We have a meeting next week for new Council. During study week they will have a training where they pick committees and talk about goals.

-2016: the last freshman event of the year is on Wednesday. Send blurbs please. He thanked everyone for a great year even though it was hard being the only freshman on Council sometimes. A lot can be accomplished if you try. He’s stoked to see his Class Council showing up for something. Exec did an amazing job!

-TAs thinks it’s untraditionally traditional for seniors to give some closing remarks. This year has been strange and incredible. He’s made a lot of friends. He expects to see his future alumni in the city. A lot of stuff has been done and he thinks they were efficient in many ways. They were a close group and he appreciates that. He learned a lot of skills. For next year’s Council, he felt he spent a lot of time trying to express his views. He figured out that they’re not students first, they’re people. You can take this work seriously and he thinks they should. Student government is not just running events, its actually making a difference, but know it’s not your life and it shouldn’t be. A lot of issues have come up this year about miscommunications, lack of trust and lack of respect. As politicians it’s ok, but as people its damaging. He was humiliated last week because of the Judicial Board hearing. If you have issues, just fucking talk about it!

TAs out.

-Cushing is looking forward to a JYstay JYyolo!

-Main thanked Finance and Academics and he’s really grateful for his experience!

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-2013 thanked us! We’ll miss you and I’m always impressed by the amount of dedication and time VSA puts into a very difficult job that is little appreciated. You deserve to be showered in gold and kisses!

-Joss thanked the other VSA Assistants! He thinks it’s important to note that the student body are people too.

-Raymond had trouble tonight for personal reasons, but BHP was great and she’s happy to be here and she loves everyone and wants to thank everyone.

-Activities made a motion to adjourn. This passed with all in favor.

-This meeting adjourned at 8:08 p.m. We survived!