Princeton USG Senate
Meeting 7
March 28, 2020
9:30PM EST

Introduction
1. **Question and Answer Session (15 minutes)**
2. **President's Report (5 minutes)**
- Met with admissions officers to discuss how student groups can continue to show what they are doing.
- Met with the Executive Committee.
- Aaron Leung launched the Buds at a Distance Program to connect students who did not previously know each other. It is a Google Form that collects responses from students who want to meet other people and provides questions to prompt conversation.
- Sarah Lee and the Housing Committee have released the room draw randomization report. This report performed an independent analysis of room draw to demonstrate its fairness.
- Continuing to address questions from students and referring them to the appropriate sources of information
- Met with members of student government from universities in New Jersey to compile a list of resources.

New Business
1. **Elections Discussion: Lehman Montgomery (10 minutes)**
- Candidate registration will be due on Tuesday
- Have received feedback from students who want an extension of the campaign or voting period to become acclimated with the online format.
- Class Officers should be elected by Reading Period.
- Equity and access for internet access and campaigning via listservs need to be addressed.
- The 48 hour voting period does currently account for students in different time zones, as voting reaches its peak during the first 12 hours—after which the momentum tapers off.
- An extension of the campaign period may not be possible, but an extension of the voting period is feasible.

Suggestions/Concerns from members of Class Government:
- An extension of the voting period could fit within the regular elections timeline.
- Students who may not have easy access to wifi should be considered for maximal voter turnout.

- Some students do not have social media accounts, which means it is harder to campaign to them.

Input from Kate Liu (Parliamentarian):
- The Elections Handbook may have to be amended, which requires two Senate meetings, which would occur on April 4th and April 11th.
- The Elections Handbook specifies that the election cycle can take four weeks, but the specific schedule of those four weeks are up to the discretion of the Elections Manager.

Suggestions from the Senate:
- An extension of the voting period may not result in higher voter turnout, as most of the voting happens earlier during the voting period.
- Extending the campaign or voting period may prolong a stressful time for candidates.
- Limiting the number of emails candidates can send to a listserv
- Limited advertising on social media occurs in every election cycle.
- Hannah Kapoor can work on allocating a section of the newsletter to elections.

Input from Lehman Montgomery (Chief Elections Manager):
- The voting period can be extended 24 hours, so that it begins at noon on Monday and ends at noon on Thursday. This new voting period is 72 hours to account for difficulties voting off-campus.
- ODUS has reached out to spotlight different candidates on different days. This could combat inaccessibility to social media campaign materials.

2. **Debriefing Brainstorming Document and Assigning Roles: Chitra Parikh (20 minutes)**

Updates from Committee leaders:
- Christian Potter (Academics Committee): Meetings will continue over Zoom.
- Claire Wayner (Sustainability Committee): All of the committee's operations are related to on-campus sustainability, so there may not be enough projects to work on at the present.
- Sophie Torres (Social Committee): Met with Lexy Parril and decided to use the same artist for the next Lawn Parties and the surplus budget will go towards other events and enhanced effects for the next Lawn Parties. Research is being done into hiring a comedian to host a virtual show for undergraduates.
- Aaron Leung (Undergraduate Student Life Committee): Meetings will continue over Zoom.

Debriefing Brainstorming Document:
- Students could submit events they see happening virtually via submission to the newsletter to engage the undergraduate community and promote more activities to list compilation.
- Include pets more broadly in the Dogs of Princeton or the Tigers at Home Instagram pages.

Suggestions from the Senate:
- Work with the ODUS Princeton Instagram account to create Instagram Stories to start challenges and produce content to keep students connected.
- Pay for students' subscription to streaming services and increase access to content to keep students occupied.
- Aggregate publicity for student groups to mirror This Side of Princeton at Princeton Preview.
- Princeton Splash

CPUC Discussion
- Attendance at the next CPUC meeting is strongly encouraged.
- The meeting will discuss the University's response to COVID-19 and address student concerns.