

## **Formal Meeting Minutes**

USG Senate Meeting

Lewis Library Bowl 120

Sunday, November 19th, 2017 7:30pm

### **President's Report**

President Jemison presented the President's Report to begin the Senate meeting. During the Trustee meeting held recently, the following matters were discussed:

- USG Senate and Class Government Union
- USG Appearance, Engagement, Collaboration
- TigerApps program
- Movie Screenings
- 1st Gen Support and Empowerment
- Inter-Campus Collaboration
- Pop-Up Social Engagement Events
- USG Demographic Data Collection
- Attention to Campus Climate
- University Support Center Liaisons

During a meeting with Dean Dunne, USG involvement in the Morrison Hall dedication and USG elections support from ODUS was discussed.

### **Resolution Regarding Sexual Harassment Case**

U-Councilor Pooja Patel presented a resolution regarding the sexual harassment case involving Professor Sergio Verdu. The resolution specifically calls for the University to elevate its disciplinary actions against Verdu. Recently, a graduate student came forward with allegations of sexual harassment against her thesis advisor, Professor Verdu. He was found responsible for violating the University's policy on Sex Discrimination and Sexual Misconduct. The University mandated that Professor Verdu undergo an 8-hour training. While the full extent of Professor Verdu's punishments have not been released by the University, it is known what punishments haven't been implemented. For example, he hasn't been terminated and his office hasn't been relocated.

### **CPUC Update**

U-Councilor Marcus presented an update from the CPUC. During the CPUC meeting, the following questions were discussed:

- Q1: Given that those are the lowest paid are the least likely to live within a walking distance of the University, is there a plan in place that the new parking plan for the 2019-2020 transportation plan that will take into account the needs of the commuting staff to campus on a daily basis/the requirement for staff to pay for parking?
- Q2: From Diego – In the past Princeton hosted students from crisis zones like Hurricane Katrina another Universities are taking in students from PR. Is the U considering taking students in from PR?

Some other matters discussed during the meeting include the Campus Iconography Committee, which looks for opportunities for the U to be more diverse, inclusive, and welcoming environment for all University members, the Committee on Naming, and the Princeton Histories Fund.

### **Puerto Rico Resolution**

U-Councilor Negron-Reichard drafted a resolution pertaining to the situation in Puerto Rico in the aftermath of Hurricane Maria. More specifically, the resolution consists of policies that the Senate encourages the University to adopt as well as a call for the University to engage in direct relief efforts for Puerto Rico and the US Virgin Islands.

The resolution calls for the University to enact the following policies:

- (1) The Undergraduate Financial Aid Office adopts a proactive approach in reaching out to undergraduates who have been adversely affected by natural disasters.
- (2) The Office of Financial Aid streamlines the application for emergency tuition assistance.
- (3) The Vice President of Campus Life directs the relevant staff to routinely update their student information directory in order to reduce the Office's response time in a crisis scenario.
- (4) The residential college's respective Directors of Student Life (DSLs) include in their initial disaster outreach a comprehensive list of resources that are available to a student whose home has been significantly affected; if the student is to offer a response to the initial contact, the DSL will then reply in a quick and timely manner.
- (5) The Undergraduate Admission Office continues to improve its flexible approach with regard to delaying application deadlines and waiving application fees for applicants from adversely affected regions.
- (6) The University supports students who may not be able to return home by continuing to offer housing and providing subsidized meals during winter or

summer recesses.

### **USLC Confirmation**

USLC Chair Bore presented a new member of the USLC to the Senate for confirmation. Rachel Hazan '21 is a prospective Woody Woo major and is considering pursuing a certificate in Judaic Studies. She is involved in the Daily Prince as a copy editor. As a part of the USLC, she wants to improve general happiness within student life. One initiative that she hopes to take is improving club advertisement and organization.

### **U-Councilor Confirmation**

15 applications were received for one open position as U-Councilor. From the 15 applications, six candidates were interviewed. Preeti Iyer '20 was selected to become a new U-Councilor. Iyer is majoring in Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering. She spoke about the huge difference in a student's experience at Princeton between BSE and AB. She also brought up the lack of opportunities for hands-on entrepreneurship and experiences in STEM if you're not involved in a select few organizations. She hopes to bring a broader entrepreneurial focus on campus. The USG Senate confirmed Preeti Iyer '20 as U-Councilor.

### **Social Committee Update**

Social Committee Chair Liang presented an update from the Social Committee. The update discusses the Jingle Ball Tickets Giveaway + Holiday Art for Charity, Tabling & Publicity, the Website & Music Blog pertaining to the institutional history of Soc Comm events/concerts/shows, the Dean's Date Celebration, and the USG Pre-Holidays Social Event. Sophie Torres '21, was confirmed as a new member of the Social Committee by the USG Senate.

### **Projects Board Update and Confirmation**

Projects Board Chair Fernandez presented two students as new members of the Projects Board. Rachel Hazan '21 is a potential WWS concentrator and a copy editor for "The Prince." She has experience with student government and programming in high school. Zarnab Virk '20 is a Neuroscience concentrator and serves as the PSEC Assistant Program Chair. He is also involved in 1080princeton and MSA. Rachel Hazan '21 and Zarnab Virk '20 were both confirmed as new members of the Projects Board by the Senate.