

GSSC Minutes: March 11, 2003

Attending: Katie, Matan, Brennon, Michael, Stephen, Nate, Karma, Josh, Ginny, Justin, Joanna, Pavan, George, Jimmy, Justin

1) Updates

- a) Matan: Barnard meeting update – Debating what Affirmative Action is. They do not want the ROTC survey to come from them as a council. Housing committee update – wondering if there is interest in dorm style housing for GS students.
- b) Stephen: Quarto did not come to the ESC meeting to ask for funding. Lerner6 passed ESC
- c) Karma: Midterm pizza break tomorrow (3/12). Waiting to hear on the game room for April.
- d) Justin: he is on the Bacchanal committee – he sent around the band list.
- e) Ginny: Attended CCE meeting, will send out more information over break.

2) ROTC

- a) Katie: we, as a council have agreed to write a resolution to support ROTC. Eric Chen has tabled the ROTC survey for now because of everything going on with the war in Iraq and the anti-war movement on campus. He is concerned that ROTC will get lumped in with the general anti-war sentiment on campus. While we are a separate council and can do what we want, we should take into account what Eric and the other councils are doing at this point. If we pass this resolution tonight, we are standing on our own.
- b) Josh: Can we pass it with a “do not open until Christmas” date?
- c) Michael: clarifying that we agreed to write a resolution, now we just need to approve the wording.
- d) Katie: need to table until movement gets up and moving again for the resolution to have an impact. We have other issues at hand right now that are more pressing
- e) Michael: If UFA has backed off for now, then we should go with that
- f) Stephen: We are in an interesting climate, but our resolution takes that anti-vibe and turns it around positively. Doesn't think our message changes because of the timing.
- g) Nate: Specific issue with “any and all” clause in resolution. Since this will never happen, we are saying we know you (ROTC) will not do it we don't really support you.
- h) Stephen: Saying that we stipulate that we only support full access. If ROTC does not grant contracts at the end it is out of the realm of our control
- i) Nate: it has to be all aspects, and if *all* aspects include contracts, then our resolution is not helping.
- j) Stephen: we need to take a positive stand. Make ROTC change before they come to Columbia.
- k) Jimmy: The beauty of the resolution is that they could not be here unless they abide by the stipulation. Not about ROTC but about anti-discrimination.
- l) Matan: Lets just discuss the wording, and vote
- m) Karma: supports Katie's view to table for now so we are not confused with pro-war support.
- n) Katie: everyone in room understands nuance of resolution, but people may only hear a soundbite, rather than the entire position of the GSSC
- o) Michael: agrees with Katie
- p) Katie: we can publish who votes which way if that is wanted
- q) Justin: That will inhibit voters
- r) Josh: agrees now is not the time to pass the resolution. supports sitting on it for now.
- s) Brennon: agrees with Josh – if Eric wants to hold off than we should hold off so that we can fight the fight when it is supported and relevant
- t) Stephen: does not want to leave this and then have to vote on releasing it. Can't we “time-release” it? Conditional on Eric coming to council to ask for it.
- u) Nate: last semester he was for tabling this indefinitely. Against passing and sitting on it. We cannot dictate what future councils do.
- v) Josh: If we pass it and sit on it that is a problem
- w) Katie: resolution has to go out while this council is seated

- x) Justin: we should not get hung up on timing. should not be caught up by war issues. We are over discussing this
- y) Jimmy: Really over-thinking this. Does not think this will cause uproar. Disappointed with council, thinks that people are looking for reasons to stop the resolution.
- z) Katie: talked about 2/3 issue with Justin. Not trying to block anything, just giving the council information as she gets it.
- aa) Nate: disappointed by reluctance to debate. we keep getting information, so we continue to debate, nothing wrong with that. Thinks the language is not clear, and so it should be debated.
- bb) Matan: Suggest new language (see final resolution)
- cc) Ginny: Argues against passing it now. If the point is to help Eric, it should be in timing with his push.
- dd) Stephen: suggested language changes
- ee) Nate: Wants names attached to the vote. The council has the right to change its mind, and to revote original issue
- ff) Katie: you should know where you stand at this point.

FLOOR CLOSED

Josh moves to pass resolution but sit on it until Eric Chen wants to use it and vote about timing later.
No second

Stephen moves to pass motion and release. Justin seconds motion

Vote: 6 in favor. 7 opposed. Motion dies

- gg) Jimmy: moves to change wording
- hh) Nate: likes the wording changes Matan drafted but objects to use of passive voice. Wants to table resolution
- ii) Justin: likes passive voice, softens the language. Makes it clear that we are against discriminatory nature of ROTC
- jj) Stephen: willing to talbe. Not ready to release resolution
- kk) Pavan: Thinks the 4th clause makes it clear. We need to resolve issue and pass the resolution
- ll) George: Not happy with the language. Find the policy of ROTC and state it in the resolution
- mm) Michael: as of right now, GSSC does not support ROTC and this resolution says we don't support ROTC unless it changes. This resolution does not help Eric, it hurts his cause
- nn) Pavan: if we are willing to take a stand, we should do it now. Poor governance to continually table it.
- oo) Jimmy: reiterates Pavan's view. Wants to add in non-discriminatory policy from CU
- pp) Nate: Eric wants an endorsement, and this is not an endorsement

FLOOR CLOSED

Matan moves to pass resolution (with footnote) as revised. Justin seconds the motion

Vote: 6 in favor. 4 opposed (Nate, Karma, Ginny). 1 abstention. Passed.

3) Allocations

- a) Peace by Peace: Asking for \$750 from GSSC for event on May 2nd at Riverbank State Park, 9AM – 3PM. They are also looking for volunteers that day. Projected budget: \$9000 to \$11000.
- b) Election committee: Asking for \$365. Trying to increase participation in the number of candidates and the number of voters. They are increasing office hours of the election committee to try to increase interest. Planning raffles and free food at the debates to bring people out.
- c) Columbia Men Against Violence. Asking for \$500. Jimmy running group. Has had a lot of new activity, and weekly discussion group. Group is bringing a speaker on 3/27m, Don McPherson.

4) Affirmative Action

- a) There is a proposal written by cross-council committee. Please read over working and let Katie know if we want any changes to be made to the proposed statement that will go to the Ivy Council.

- i) Stephen: likes what ESC did – they want to give a statement that simply says they are in support of diversity
- ii) Katie: if you have changes, get them to me by the end of the week

5) Lerner 6

- a) The key to the proposal is that the 6th floor of Lerner should not be administrative space. Final proposal is available for review.
- b) Stephen: wants individual schools taken out of the headings. Wants title page alphabetized. This is a team effort, and should be presented that way. Also, thinks it needs a conclusion

Ginny moves not to vote until suggested changes are incorporated. Stephen 2nd's motion.

Vote: 8 in favor; 0 opposed; 2 absentions. Passed.