Student Senate Regular Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, February 2, 2010

1. Roll Call at 9:11 p.m.

2. Officer's Reports.
   a. President.
      i. Announced that meetings were currently scheduled for Tuesdays at 9.
      ii. Asked if anyone hadn't received constituency assignments yet.
      1. Form has been created to submit comments on the Senate website that senators receive from constituents.
      iii. January Faculty Committee Report.
          1. Trevor Morrison replacing Elizabeth Scott as Vice Dean.
          2. Harold Koh coming to speak at the Rosenberg Lecture this spring.
          3. CLS will be participating in the Oxford Global Alliance. Faculty exchange portion of program begins first, student exchange will begin next spring when up to five students will have the opportunity to study abroad at Oxford.
          4. Cross-registration with SIPA. Will save a seat for law students in classes, check the curriculum guide.
          5. 3-year joint JD/MBA program was approved by the law school faculty, Proposal is currently being considered by the business school faculty. University Senate review next.
          6. New curricular projects being explored:
             1. Washington D.C. initiative
             2. National Security Initiative
             3. Joint JD-MA in Asian studies
          7. Addressed job placement, Class of 2010 is doing well; employment rate exceeds that of peer schools.
          8. Federal LRAP program. Dean making efforts to incorporate the program with CLS's LRAP program.
          9. Next meeting: February 16th!
          10. Thanked everyone for their participation and input with the Haiti resolution.
   b. Vice President.
      i. Haiti Charity Ball in the works. Will probably be off-campus in late March.
      ii. Next Friday is ice skating. 3-5 PM, at Central Park North rink.
      iii. Open and Notorious begins this semester with Erol and Austin hosting, @ JG lobby.
   c. Treasurer.
      i. Will be discussing the budget later on tonight.
   d. Secretary.
      i. Thanked the budget committee for their hard work this weekend.
   e. Parliamentarian.
      i. Asked for people interested in revising by-laws to contact him.
      ii. Reminded the Recognition Committee to review submissions, meeting Thursday at noon.

3. Committee Reports.
   a. Graduation.
      i. Had first event last Thursday, the Around the World Party, 250+ attendance.
ii. Sweet Treats Date Auction. If anyone knows of volunteers, please contact Ben and Meredith.

iii. Harlem Globetrotter event @ Madison Square Gardens.

b. Housing.
   i. Summer bar housing. Anyone who has been qualified to stay in their housing for this summer has been notified by email.
   ii. Microwave resolution to be discussed later.

c. IT.
   i. New SONI link for the email opt-in, fixing the columns.
   ii. Echo360. Class recording system. Has already been rolled out and available, just need to email IT to set it up with 24 hours notice, with faculty permission. But can also be used by student organizations, for things like panels.
   iii. Internet slowdowns. Currently troubleshooting. Email helpdesk@law.columbia.edu with any Internet problems, IT staff can come to help.

d. University Senate.
   i. Talking about the academic calendar, but doesn't affect law school much.
   ii. Haiti relief. Trying to coordinate efforts by the different schools.
   iii. Kofi Annan will be coming to speak at a leadership forum. Details TBA.

e. Faculty Committees.
   i. Public Interest Committee.
      1. Changes to LRAP program. Helping students maximize their benefits by giving them enough information.
      2. Faculty/Speaker lunch series, want to give more exposure to issues not traditionally discussed.
      3. Pilot/test run for federal internship program. Seminar/internship/supervised research components.
   ii. Journals.
      1. Worked on ways to get audits for the various journals.
   iii. IT.
      1. Passwords. Audit of the school's Internet security coming up.
      2. Discussed blog and wiki use.

   a. Jess thanked the budget committee for meeting 16 hours this weekend!
   b. Gillian presented the budget.
   i. Q&A portion.
      1. Ben asked about the Military Association (CLSMMA) and the funding of their trip to the gun range. Gillian noted that all outdoor activities have the potential for injuries (like with hiking and skiing trips), and all the funding that went to the club was used to fund safety training and classes.
      2. Jess asked how much ended up in the ad hoc fund. Gillian noted that money was taken back from CalSoc for failure to hold events that had been funded by the Senate and so the ad hoc budget was increased to a little over $4000. Noted that there were possible events with big speakers (Sotomayor, former Argentine president) that may be big requests out of the ad hoc fund.
      3. Jean asked about the Gastronomy Society and their funding. Gillian noted that there had been concerns about the availability of the events previously, but those issues seemed to have been resolved.
   ii. Debate portion.
      1. Motion to call the question.
   iii. Vote to approve the budget committee's 2010 spring committee.
      1. Call for consent, no objection. Budget passed!
5. Microwave Resolution.
   a. Sponsor by Ron, presented the issue. Said that his committee had received a lot of feedback about getting a second microwave for Lenfest Café. Proposed for a $250 appropriation to purchase a microwave ($100-150) and a cart/dolly.
   b. Also exploring the option to leave the microwaves out so that students can use them, but the concern is theft. Seeking ways to secure the microwaves to the wall or have cabinets to store them in. Additional funding for security options.
   c. Q&A (5 min).
      i. Khalil asked whether he had considered armed guards to protect the microwave. Ron had said he would take it under consideration.
      ii. Meredith asked whether we needed a second microwave. Ron said that during peak hours, would cause traffic and students wanted a second one.
      iii. Jean asked why there were safety concerns now, given that the café had left it over before. Ron wasn't sure, but would try to have it stay out again.
      iv. Nona asked whether if Senate funds were used to buy it, we could condition it on having the microwave be out all the time. Ron thought it was a good point.
      v. LDP asked whether Ron had looked into inexpensive cable locks. Ron said he would explore that option.
      vi. Ben asked whether he had found a microwave that would withstand heavy use and whether he had approach Student Services to purchase one from Columbia vendors. Ron said he currently had a model in mind. Noted that Student Services was not willing to buy one.
   d. Debate (5 min).
      i. Art proposed an amendment to have the second microwave be left out all the time. Ron said the amendment was friendly. Language was worked out.
      ii. Mia proposed that the language be changed to having the microwave out for 24 hours a day. Ron said it was friendly.
      iii. Jae asked whether it would difficult for groups that want to use the space to move it. Ron said it probably could be moved if an event was held in Lenfest Café.
      iv. Art proposed to change the language to change from just to make "an effort" to make the "Senate intends." Ron said it was friendly.
      v. McCormick proposed to add additional language to have the microwave out for holidays as well. Ron said it was a friendly amendment.
      vi. Erol asked who would be in charge of cleaning the microwave, given lots of smelly foods. Ron said the café staff would probably just wipe down the second microwave when they cleaned the first one.
   e. Vote on the resolution. 35-3 out of 39 present.

   a. No new business.

7. Announcements.
   a. Khalil asked if anyone wanted his extra cigarettes.
   b. Ben asked for 3Ls to volunteer for the Date Auction.
   c. Lauren said that the location for the Valentine's Day party has been finalized. The theme is high school throwback. Facebook invites are going out and will be emailed out by the executive board. Party will be with NYU.

8. Adjournment at 10:07 p.m.