



Council of Olin Representatives

CORE GENERAL ASSEMBLY Meeting
December 05, 2005 6:30 PM

Present:

Tommy Cecil (President), Dan Lindquist (VPSI), Lee Edwards (VPCL), Steven Krumholz (VPFR), Mike Curtis (VPC), Kevin Tostado (2006 Rep), Dean Dieker (2007 Rep), Dan Bufford (2007 Rep), Chris Dellin (2008 Rep), Michael Ducker (2009 Rep), Joe Kendall (2W Rep), Jonathan Raphael (4W Rep), Dan Lin (1E Rep), Nick Hays (3E Rep), Alex Dillon (SAC Chair), Lilly Cho (HB Rep), Carmelle Tsai (SERV Rep), Tiana Veldwisch (RLR)

Tardy/Left Early: Cheryl Inouye (4E Rep), Etosha Cave (2006 Rep), Heather Casper (3W Rep)

Absent: Matt Donahoe (2E Rep), Ryan Hubbard (2008 Rep), Joe Holler (2009 Rep)

Visitors: Liana Austin

Summary: Rick Miller to attend GA this Wednesday at 6:30. CCO finance meeting on 12/14. CORE Digest submission form ready to be used. Snow Ball on Friday! SWE Conference Report out this Thursday, 7PM, AC109. Line items approved: Friendly Fire (New Initiatives), SAC (SAC Funds). ASME given warning for violating communication policy. Area Rep amendment passed – will go into effect next year. Budget process amendment proposed. Small discussion about academic honors.

Agenda

I. Officer Reports

A. President & Review of E-Board Meeting

1. Met with Joanne Kossuth to coordinate efforts for Senior class gift – not intending to set any precedent except that there will be a gift, although we're hoping for 100% participation and hope that can continue.
2. Club list on website updated. Need a mission statement for Disc Club
3. Rick Miller coming on Wednesday at 6:30PM. This is the student body's best means to give formal feedback to the college's president.
4. SAC Snow Ball on Friday – need people to sell tickets at lunch. Let Alex know if you are willing.
5. Did not attend BDE. Frowned upon by GA.

B. VPSI & Ambassador to Wellesley

1. Appointing of student representatives to VP of External Relations and Enrollment and Assistant Dean of Student Life search committees this week.

C. VPCL & Ambassador to Babson

1. CCO has two meetings coming up
 - a. Feedback meeting on Wednesday (12-1PM)
 - b. Budget meeting next Wednesday (12/14 12-2PM)

D. VPFR & Ambassador to Brandeis

1. Will be meeting with Carol, Nick, and Scott to talk about alternate ways for clubs to pay for large purchases (without dipping into their bank accounts)
2. Rollover should be around some time this week! Still having problems with the software - Tricia is manually calculating it.

- E. VPC
 - 1. CORE Digest submission form ready to go
 - 2. Spoke with OSL about placement of bulletin boards in Res Hall, since they aren't positioned in ideal locations. Thinking about how to approach getting them moved.
- II. Additional Reports
 - A. Honor Board Representative
 - 1. Still working on faculty feedback.
 - B. RLR
 - 1. Acquiring condoms to become available to students (vending machine in West Hall 3rd floor laundry room).
 - 2. Whiteboards, markers, and erasers now in East Hall team rooms
 - 3. Looking into using cabinets for club storage/space in res halls
 - C. SAC Chair
 - 1. Snow Ball on Friday!
 - 2. Will be having a video game competition the week after we return from break
 - 3. Will also be hosting a rave in the near future
 - D. SERV Representative
 - 1. Had APL feedback session
 - 2. Started brainstorming SERV week or community service fair
 - 3. Working on a survey to get stats on how much community service is happening
 - E. Committees and Working Groups
 - 1. Constitution Committee (Steve)
 - a. Budget process amendment to be discussed later.
 - 2. Gift Committee (Dean)
 - a. Thank you notes for Steve Hannabury and Rod Crafts delivered
 - 3. Role of Class Reps (Nick)
 - a. Amendment voted on today
 - 4. Information Dissemination (Mike)
 - a. Meeting tomorrow – have collected all information they wanted. Will go over interviews and start the process of figuring out what to do (if anything)
 - 5. Recognition of History (Ryan)
 - a. Will be meeting in the next few days to figure out how to finish off the charge of the committee (since other areas of the college are taking care of this).
 - 6. Club Committee (Lee)
 - a. No report
 - 7. Professional Society Student Chapter Investigations Committee (Lee)
 - a. No report
 - F. Others
 - 1. Christmas CORE study break? Class of 2006 will be doing it, but if other class reps are interested, contact Etosha
 - 2. Check out Olin's class rings at the table at lunch. Send feedback to the class reps. Rings intended to be a community thing, not necessarily a token of graduation.
 - 3. SWE report out from conference on Thursday night at 7PM in AC 109.
- III. Club Admin
 - A. Friendly Fire

1. Asking for \$270 from New Initiatives to purchase a dedicated server
 - a. Have \$390 from their CCO budget approved for this purpose, need more money to augment it
 - b. Probably less than \$660, so likely won't spend it all
 - c. Unspent NI money goes back to NI, not to FF.
 - d. Motion passes

B. SAC

1. Asking for \$3,500 for the Snow Ball
 - a. Event cost of about \$15,000. Deposited \$2,500 from OSL, Allocating another \$5,000 from OSL, and have revenue of \$4,000.
 - b. Would have been nice to get more advance notice
 - i. This has a similar effect to a club spending money in advance, even though the money has not technically been spent
 - ii. E-board specifically allocated \$6000 to SAC – it is like a club budget
 - c. Have the money to cover it, but might be nice to split the cost with OSL money
 - d. Question about validity of SAC requiring GA approval for its expenses
 - i. Every other expense from Student Activities Fee needs to be approved by elected representatives
 - e. Motion passes

C. ASME E-mail

1. Motion to give ASME an official “warning”
 - a. If there is another offense, the club would be put on probation until it goes through the process of coming off of probation (appeal and written plan to GA).
 - b. Division called – 13 for, 2 against, 4 abstentions
 - c. Motion passes.
2. ASME member sent out an e-mail to the student body, without getting permission from VPC – in violation of Communication Policy
3. ASME president apologized for not having informed the club member of the policy.
4. First offense.
5. What prevents a student from intentionally sending out multiple e-mails “representing” a club, to put them on probation?
 - a. This particular e-mail was officially on behalf of the club – not really from a “rogue” source
 - b. Honor Code, GA has checks/balances to take care of that.
6. Voice of objection to general rules – this seems kind of silly that no individual student must follow the rules, but clubs must
 - a. Some agreement

IV. Constitution

A. Area Rep Amendment (See Appendix A)

1. Amendment will decrease bureaucracy and help out RLC
 - a. RLR and Area Reps agree that 8 people is likely too much
 - b. Some past RLC members agree as well, though no formal survey was created

- c. Concern that it may be simply cutting down membership in the GA to cut down membership in RLC – RLC can be shrunk by other means
- 2. Smaller, impassioned CORE > larger, less impassioned CORE
- 3. Makes Res Hall Rep a more desirable position – likely to give students a choice for who to elect and adds responsibility to the position, making it more meaningful
- 4. Concern about actual effectiveness of the amendment at actually making the desired changes
- 5. Large sentiment that, if CORE doesn't need the people on the GA, then why should it ask for their time – that time can be better spent on committees or leadership in other organizations
 - a. Passionate students can still attend GA meetings (it has been done), and contribute to CORE otherwise.
- 6. Concern about elimination of the clause that allows the GA to create more Area Reps, based on area size
 - a. Committee was working on the assumption that the new res halls would be about the same size as the current ones
 - b. Value of 50 students seems arbitrary (49/floor in East Hall)
- 7. Floor-based area reps can add more comfort to students (especially freshmen), since the reps would be more accessible
- 8. With two new residence halls, it would create 16 area reps
 - a. Very big – Olin is small and students are already overrepresented (approx 10% of student body on CORE)
 - b. Large GA not necessarily inefficient, but 16 Area Reps would significantly outnumber Class Reps
 - c. This amendment balances that kind of representation
- 9. Motion passes
- 10. Enabling legislation passes
- B. Budget Process Amendment (See Appendix B)
 - 1. General review of amendment.
 - 2. Tabled for 2 weeks

V. Discussion

- A. CORE Table – Wednesday 11-2
 - 1. Ryan 11-12; Nick 12-1; Tiana 1-2
 - 2. Topics: Budget process amendment, Rick Miller's visit, end of semester survey, e-mail policy
- B. President Miller to come on Wednesday (12/7/05), 6:30PM
 - 1. Tommy will spike hair (with Mike's help)
 - 2. Getting notice when big events are happening on campus, especially if it may displace student activities
 - 3. Accreditation
 - 4. President's council – how will Olin act on suggestions?
- C. What else is on your mind?
 - 1. Academic Honors
 - a. How public should it be?
 - i. Hesitation about making it public
 - ii. Worries about competition/comparative grading, academic integrity
 - b. Should we have an honors society?

- i. Tau Beta Pi – one exists at pretty much every other engineering school in the country
- c. Academic motivation might be beneficial to some students to achieve better grades
- d. Olin is an academic institution, but does not recognize academics as much as it recognizes other activities (via publicity, etc...)
 - i. Olin bills itself to create well-roundedness...emphasizes other aspects of a student...might not want students to focus strictly on academics

Motions:

Action	Person	Vote	Text
Motion to amend the Constitution	Nick	Motion and Enabling Legislation Pass	See Appendix A (Residence Hall Representatives)
Motion to amend the Constitution	Steve	Tabled for 2 Weeks	See Appendix B (Budget Process)

Line Items:

Club	Amount	Summary
Friendly Fire	\$270	New Initiatives – Server
SAC	\$3500	SAC Funds – Snow Ball

Meeting adjourned at 8:10PM. Duration: 1hour, 40 minutes.

Approved: SMK, MWC, CMD, NAH, JPK, TEV, DLD, CT, RMH, MRD, LRE, TCC, LSC, CMI, KJT, DCB, HAC, DRL, EC, JSR

Appendix A

Proposed Amendment to the CORE Constitution: Residence Hall Representatives

Executive Summary

With the addition of East Hall and 4 new area reps, the GA has grown larger than ever. In addition, the RLC now has 8 members. In polling the student body, we have found that not many students believe reducing the number of Representatives would change their representation to the GA. As concern has been raised that a large GA might be inefficient, this amendment intends to reduce the number of Representatives, without sacrificing representation.

This amendment proposes that the role of Area Representatives be replaced with Residence Hall Representatives. Each residence hall would elect 2 Residence Hall Representatives to represent their interests on the GA. The RLC would now be made up of the 4 Residence Hall Representatives (2 East Hall, 2 West Hall) and the RLR.

Article I

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Section 2: Membership

All students enrolled in a degree program at Olin College shall be constituents of CORE. Constituents of CORE shall have one vote each in CORE elections and all properly instituted referenda. Members of a Class or residence hall Area shall have one vote each in the corresponding Class or residence hall Area elections.

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Article IV

Section 1: Legislative Powers

All legislative powers of CORE are vested in the General Assembly, which is composed of the Executive Board, the Student Activities Committee Chair, the Residence Life Representative, the Organization to Support, Encourage and Recognize Volunteerism Representative, the Honor Board Representative, the Class Representatives, and the Residence Hall ~~Area~~ Representatives.

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Section 8: Residence Hall ~~Area~~ Representatives

~~A. Residence Hall Areas are defined as a residential floor of one of the Olin College residence halls, though should a floor house more than 50 students, a committee shall be formed in the General Assembly to recommend a division of the oversized Residence Hall Area. The General Assembly shall then vote on the recommendation; this change does not require an amendment to the Constitution.~~

A. Residence Hall ~~Area~~ Representatives shall be elected as per the following guidelines:

1. The no-campaigning guidelines in Article III, Section 2.E apply.
2. ~~One~~Two Representatives shall be elected per Olin College residence ~~r~~hall Area.
3. Speeches shall occur at a ~~r~~esidence ~~h~~all ~~Area~~ meeting. This meeting shall occur in early September.
4. Executive Board officers shall run the speeches and elections.
5. Candidates require a nomination and a second to be placed on the ballot.
6. Each candidate appearing on the ballot shall be given an equal opportunity to address the ~~r~~esidence ~~h~~all ~~Area~~ meeting as he or she sees fit.
7. Voting shall occur by secret ballot by the members of that ~~r~~esidence ~~h~~all Area. The voting period shall start at the conclusion of the ~~r~~esidence ~~h~~all Area meeting and end 24 hours later. Voters may choose to cast votes for as many candidates as they feel will excel at the position. The two candidates with the most votes at the end of the voting period shall be the Representatives for that ~~r~~esidence ~~h~~all Area.

B. ~~Each~~ Residence Hall Area Representatives shall:

1. Be the chief ~~spokespeople~~ spokesperson for the ~~r~~esidence ~~h~~all Area and represent its best interests to members of the Olin Community.
2. Serve on CORE committees, as ~~he or she is~~ they are able.
3. Communicate with the ~~Residence Resident~~ Resources for the ~~r~~esidence ~~h~~all Area that ~~he or she~~ they represents.
4. Work with the Office of Student Life on matters of residence life policy, to include:
 - i. Drafting and implementation of room selection procedures
 - ii. Allocation of storage space within the residence hall
 - iii. Policies regarding public safety and security
 - iv. Assisting with the R2 selection process
 - v. Other residence life matters, as determined by the Office of Student Life in concurrence with the General Assembly

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Enabling Legislation

Upon ratification of this amendment, the proposed changes will take effect with the election of the first Residence Hall Representatives in the beginning of September 2006.

Appendix B

Proposed Amendment to the CORE Constitution: Budget Process Executive Summary

This amendment is intended to clarify the currently unclear section of the CORE Constitution on the budget process. The proposed changes reflect more strongly the process that exists to date, instead of the original policy written in the Constitution. Its primary change/clarification is to have CCO simply create an “allocation” during its finances meeting, instead of a “budget” with “line items.” The “allocation” would then be divided into individual line items by the club presidents, which would be approved by E-board or the GA. The amendment also eliminates the E-board’s ability to reject individual allocations, but instead requires approval or rejection of the entire budget. It also requires that a club/organization spend or allocate in line items its entire “allocation” before requesting additional funds from New Initiatives. The amendment is careful to allow the VPCL to define the process according to which the CCO meeting should be run, to allow for some flexibility on that end.

Article VI Funding

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Section 3: Budgeting Process

- A. Within ten class days following the Board of Trustees’ approval of the school budget for the coming academic year, the new Executive Board shall determine the amount of funding it will allot to each of the four expense categories, as outlined in Article VI, Section 2.
- B. The Caucus of Clubs and Organizations, comprised of the ~~P~~resident of every recognized club and organization or his or her designee and chaired by the Vice President of Campus Life, shall meet **before the end of the Spring semester. During this meeting, it shall ~~and~~ assemble an overall Club and Organization Allocation, which consists of each club or organization’s individual allocation for the following academic year. This meeting shall be run according to a process determined by the Vice President of Campus Life and approved by the Executive Board prior to the meeting. ~~Budget for the Fall semester.~~**
- C. The Executive Board shall **then** either accept or reject the entire Club and Organization **Allocation. ~~Budget. If the budget would be accepted with the exception of one or more expenses that are prohibited by Article VI, Section 4, the Executive Board may veto individual expenses and accept the remainder of the budget.~~**
 1. If an Executive Board member holds office in a club or organization requesting funds, he or she must recuse him or herself from the Club and Organization **Allocation Budget** approval process.
 2. If more than two Executive Board members must recuse themselves, the Club and Organization **Budget Allocation** shall be passed to the General Assembly for approval or rejection.
- D. If the Club and Organization **Budget Allocation** is rejected, the Caucus of Clubs and Organizations shall **either meet to revise and ~~and may either~~ resubmit a new Allocation revised budget** to the Executive Board or appeal the veto **before to** the General Assembly, where a two-thirds majority shall be required to pass the **budget Allocation. If the Allocation does not pass, the Caucus of Clubs and Organizations must meet to revise the Allocation and resubmit it to the Executive Board.**
- E. ~~Any member of the Caucus of Clubs and Organizations may appeal rejected line items to the General Assembly where a two-thirds majority shall be required for their approval. After the Club and Organization Allocation is approved, clubs and organizations may submit to the Executive Board individual requests, as line items, from their allocation.~~
 1. **The Executive Board shall then either approve or reject individual line items. Line items that are in violation of CORE or Olin College policy or the Honor Code shall not be approved.**
 2. **If a line item is rejected, a member of the club or organization may either revise and resubmit the line item to the Executive Board, or appeal the veto to the General Assembly, where a two-thirds majority shall be required to pass the line item.**
 3. **If the Executive Board fails to reach consensus, the line item shall be deferred to the General Assembly, where a simple majority shall be required to pass the line item.**
- F. ~~Clubs and organizations may only spend funds for approved budget items.—~~**CORE funds may only be spent on line items that have been approved by the Executive Board or General Assembly.**

- G. **A club or organization may request funding in excess of the amount allocated to it by the Caucus of Clubs and Organizations only after the club or organization has completely spent or allocated in line items its entire initial allocation. Any Such additional requests must come from the New Initiatives Fund, and or modifications** shall be approved by a simple majority vote of the General Assembly.
- H. At the end of the Fall semester or the beginning of the Spring semester, the Caucus of Clubs and Organizations shall meet to ~~reevaluate the budget~~ **revise its allocations. This meeting shall be run according to a process determined by the Vice President of Campus Life and approved by the Executive Board prior to the meeting.** An updated ~~budget~~ **Club and Organization Allocation** shall be submitted to the Executive Board for **approval** ~~review~~, according to the procedures described in Article VI, Section 3-~~C~~.
- I. At any time, CORE may reallocate **to the New Initiatives Fund** unspent club **or organization** funds by a motion of the General Assembly. This motion ~~is shall be~~ automatically postponed for one week, and the **president of the C**club **or organization** ~~President~~ must be notified of the proposed change ~~in its funding, before~~ **prior to** any vote on the motion. Reallocation requires a two-thirds majority vote of the General Assembly.

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**Article VII
Recognized Clubs and Organizations**

Section 1: Recognition

- A. A group of not less than four students shall propose a name and mission for a club or organization and name a ~~P~~president.
- B. The **president of the** club or organization ~~President~~ shall contact the Vice President of Campus Life with the proposal.

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Section 2: Funding

- A. Newly recognized clubs and organizations may request **an initial allocation from the New Initiatives Fund. a budget from the General Assembly. The source of t**This funding ~~is described in Article VI, Section 2.C and~~ shall be made available by a simple majority vote **of the General Assembly.**
- B. Existing recognized clubs and organizations shall be funded as described in Article VI, Section 3.

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