



Council of Olin Representatives

CORE GENERAL ASSEMBLY Meeting

January 30, 2006 7:00 PM

Present:

Tommy Cecil (President), Dan Lindquist (VPSI), Lee Edwards (VPCL), Steven Krumholz (VPFR), Mike Curtis (VPC), Etosha Cave (2006 Rep), Kevin Tostado (2006 Rep), Dan Bufford (2007 Rep), Dean Dieker (2007 Rep), Chris Dellin (2008 Rep), Ryan Hubbard (2008 Rep), Michael Ducker (2009 Rep), Joe Holler (2009 Rep), Joe Kendall (2W Rep), Heather Casper (3W Rep), Jonathan Raphael (4W Rep), Dan Lin (1E Rep), Matt Donahoe (2E Rep), Nick Hays (3E Rep), Cheryl Inouye (4E Rep), Carmelle Tsai (SERV Rep), Lilly Cho (HB Rep), Tiana Veldwisch (RLR)

Tardy/Left Early:

Absent: Alex Dillon (SAC Chair)

Visitors: Scott McClure, Kristen Dorsey

Summary: Honor Board meetings 6-7 on Thursdays in Crescent Room. Report out from Information Dissemination Survey. Temporary club communication policy approved. Internal Purchasing Card policy approved. Budget process amendment approved. Line items approved: SciFi Club, Trinity Firefighting Robotics Club, SAC. Discussion of highlights from CORE midyear survey. CORE lunch table to be on Mondays 11-2.

Agenda

I. Officer Reports

A. President & Review of E-Board Meeting

1. Met with Rod about rollover. Not much we can do. No new news, trying to make it happen.
2. Lee is #16th ranked Star Wars CCG player in the nation
3. Drafted a letter to President Miller asking for representation on the Board of Trustees Facilities committee
4. President Miller wants to present to the GA the findings of the Huron consultants evaluation of Olin
5. Will try to get Provost Kerns and Dr. M here soon to bring up the topic of grades

B. VPSI & Ambassador to Wellesley

1. Collected data from 88 responses to midyear feedback
2. Will give a brief report out later in the meeting
3. Committee appointments for this semester to be done this week

C. VPCL & Ambassador to Babson

1. Created two packets – one for people thinking of starting a club, and one for new clubs
2. E-board will start looking at charters, and send recommended/required edits prior to approval

D. VPFR & Ambassador to Brandeis

1. Still no rollover. Tommy addressed this.
2. Spring semester budget is ready to go.
3. P-Card policy written and ready for approval

- E. VPC
 - 1. Making progress with IT towards getting CORE website external
 - 2. Looking into moving the plasma screen to a more visible location
 - 3. Talked to Manny about changing homepage for student laptop images to core.olin.edu – will run it by CORE website working group
- II. Additional Reports
 - A. Honor Board Representative
 - 1. HB meeting same time last semester – Thursdays 6-7 in crescent room
 - 2. Holding special elections to replace Suzanne – applications due Wednesday, elections next Wednesday
 - B. RLR
 - 1. East Hall has towel bars!
 - 2. Currently interviewing for the new ADSL (to replace Ellen)
 - 3. R2s working on analyzing data from alcohol norms survey
 - 4. Started dining hall white board idea – send feedback to Tiana
 - 5. R2 subcommittee working on readdressing alcohol policy
 - C. SAC Chair
 - 1. Superbowl party this Sunday
 - 2. Rave party coming up on February 17th
 - D. SERV Representative
 - 1. Transferred money over to New Orleans habitat from SERV Auction
 - E. Committees and Working Groups
 - 1. Constitution Committee (Steve)
 - a. Went over all amendments that we would like to cover for the year
 - b. Divided up preliminary work/amendment writing
 - c. Should come back to GA next week with a couple of amendments
 - 2. Gift Committee (Dean)
 - a. Working on gifts for Ellen Cooney, Katherine O’Keefe, and Bill Knorr
 - 3. Role of Class Reps (Nick)
 - 4. Information Dissemination (Mike)
 - a. Presentation of results from e-mail survey
 - i. Sent a survey to 40 random Olin students (28 responses)
 - ii. Majority of students receive over 30 e-mails per day
 - iii. On average, about 3-5 hours per week spent reading e-mail
 - iv. “major club events” e-mails generally wanted by respondents
 - v. Most students did not agree that there is too much e-mail sent to students@olin.edu
 - b. Have a policy proposal to be voted on (see below)
 - 5. Recognition of History (Ryan)
 - a. Will meet in the next week or so
 - 6. Club Committee (Lee)
 - a. Reviewing club packets that Lee made over break
 - 7. Professional Society Student Chapter Investigations Committee (Lee)
 - a. Will e-mail members of the committee to draft a policy
 - F. Others
- III. Committees

A. Information Dissemination E-mail Policy

1. Recommendation to suspend all CORE restrictions on mass e-mails, with the requirement that it be reevaluated/renewed at the end of the semester
 - a. Semester-long trial period for this semester
 - b. Proposal comes with detailed guidelines for recommended forms of communication, and how to do it
 - c. GA can “cancel” the policy at any time by a simple motion
 - d. Might recommend that clubs [tag] e-mails
 - e. Some reservations/comments
 - i. No information about student support for minor club events (survey was directed towards major club events)
 - ii. People did say that they were receiving too much e-mail prior to the policy restricting club list, perhaps it will return to that state
 - f. This is intended to test whether or not the restriction actually has an important effect on e-mail volume
 - g. Motion to amend description of randomness@olin.edu to include the comment that “students should have no reservations about posting to this list.”
2. Official policy can be found at:
\\fsvs01\core\clubs_and_organizations\policies_and_guidelines
3. Motion passes

IV. Club Admin

A. Club Purchasing Card policy recommendation

1. Policy to be added on to the Purchasing Department’s manual, and recommended to the Purchasing Department
2. Gives VPFR guidelines for use
3. Policy can be found at: \\fsvs01\core\clubs_and_organizations\p-card
4. motion to amend policy to refer to “students” instead of “club presidents” – so that non-presidents and CORE members can use P-Card funding
 - a. Motion passes
5. Goal is to establish trust first, then possibly expand privileges
6. Policy recommendation approved

B. SciFi Club

1. Asking for \$75 approval for movie outing to Serenity (50% subsidy)
2. Tickets were purchased in October, far more than 30 days ago
3. “Completely forgot” to send out a line-item
4. Approved.

C. Trinity Fire Fighting Club

1. Asking for \$60 for robot registration (post-purchase)
2. Registration was the day we returned to Olin for the Spring semester – didn’t have time to send it to the GA
3. Question about consistency for approving full amount, when other registration costs are usually 50%
4. Paying for someone else’s services to enable the club’s activity
5. Perhaps make an exception to the 50% rule for competitions germane to the mission of the club
6. Perhaps sponsorship could help to cover registration costs
7. Motion to reduce approval amount to \$30

- a. “The CCO portion of the student activities fee will generally not fund...more than 50% of...event ticket costs”
- b. Question about intent of the 50% rule for event registration – was it meant for cases like this
- c. Question about individual vs. team reimbursement
 - i. Arguments can seem kind of arbitrary – per robot vs. per individual vs. per team
- d. Changing the rule now might be unfair to clubs who did not get full approval in the past
- e. Motion passes
- 8. \$30 approved.
- D. SAC
 - 1. Asking for \$440 for: blacklight reactive balloons (\$55), glowsticks (\$200), highlighters (\$60), bubble-maker (\$100), bubble juice (\$25)
 - 2. Approved
- V. Constitution
 - A. Budget Amendment (See Appendix A)
 - 1. Tabled from before break
 - 2. Voting today – motion passes
- VI. Discussion
 - A. CORE Midyear Survey
 - 1. General implication that people are being asked for feedback slightly less than they would want
 - 2. Lots of class rep money remaining – suggestions for events presented in comments. People loved the class events that did happen.
 - a. If class rep money is not wisely spent, it may not be allocated next year
 - 3. CORE Table
 - a. Not sure feedback was recorded
 - b. People weren’t talking about CORE much – makes the table awkward
 - c. Created because nobody came to office hours – wanted to get students to start talking about current issues
 - d. Is there a way to keep a running list or notebook of feedback?
 - i. Keep it with the CORE banner
 - ii. Bring notebook to GA meeting, discuss some topics that have had lots of attention
 - e. Hard to relay feedback when it was the opinion of only one individual
 - f. Use a whiteboard/paper for comments on specific issues
 - g. Develop software system to track hot issues – person at CORE table can bring laptop
 - h. Some people seem to be hesitant to sit down if there is a CORE discussion going on
 - i. Perhaps there is a better solution other than CORE table?
 - j. CORE screen saver?
 - k. CORE table incentive – get something for participating in CORE table discussions (Joe H., Tiana, Etosha will write a proposal)
 - B. T-Shirts
 - 1. Send ideas to Donahoe
 - 2. General approval of <3 Core shirt.

C. CORE Table

1. Monday 11AM – 2PM
 - a. 11-12 Dellin; 12-1 – Tiana; 1-2 M. Curtis
2. Topics
 - a. Meta CORE table.

Motions:

Action	Person	Vote	Text
Motion to pass temp. communication policy	Mike	Motion Passes	\\fsvs01\core\clubs_and_organizations\policies_and_guidelines\communication_guidelines
Motion to approve internal P-Card policy	Steve	Motion Passes	\\fsvs01\core\clubs_and_organizations\p-card\CORE_Internal_P-Card_Policy
Motion to amend the Constitution	Steve	Motion passes	See Appendix A (Budget Process)

Line Items:

Club	Amount	Summary
SciFi Club	\$75	Movie outing to Serenity (50% reimbursement)
Trinity Firefighting	\$30	Robot registration (50% reimbursement)
SAC	\$440	Rave Dance

Meeting adjourned at 9:00PM. Duration: 2 hours

Approved: SMK, LRE, MWC, CMD, NAH, TEV

Appendix A

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 Ppresident 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 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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A. Article VII

B. Recognized Clubs and Organizations

1. 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~~resident.
- B. The **president of the** club or organization ~~President~~ shall contact the Vice President of Campus Life with the proposal.

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2. 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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