

Monday, 10/12/15

Secretary Elected: Anna Wechsler (thanks guys!!)

Updates:

Presidential Updates:

- Please take a look at the agenda! Otherwise, some important points....
- Bring your ideas to Dhruv/Ava for their President Faust/Dean Smith meetings
- Meeting with Jullian/HSA Team for more collaboration woot woot
- Submitted Omni to Apple- waiting for Apple to respond
 - Will have Omni and **Ventfull** (more important at the mo) meetings this week - come to the meetings!!

Committee Updates:

- **SLC:** Al wants to meet the demand of condoms - distributed to student doors directly (door drop every month). If you are interested in helping out, there will be a meeting on **THURSDAY AT 8 PM**
- **SRC:** Not too late to run for Vice-Chair!! Read the updates
- **SIC:** Two awesome neighborhood parties and Blank Party happened this weekend!! S/o to Danny, such a boss.
- **Ed Com:** Great conversation with Savannah about FEP (Freshman Enrichment Program) & great convo with Sue Brown about Academic Bridge program
- **FCC:** read the updates
- **Join a student-faculty committee!** Berkeley is also a boss.
- Everyone is a boss.
- **Rules:** Not sponsoring TEDxHarvardCollege & read updates

Fall Grants Pack 3:

- Important note: 2025 dollars to Bi-Racial Student Gallery, where students are placed together and can have a discussion about how they define race and how the government defines race.

Vote: Passed by unanimous consent

[Blank] Party Funding (Retroactive)

- Approximately 1500 people showed up
- Administration gave \$5000 dollars
- General consensus: awesome party

Vote: Passed by unanimous consent

Sidenote: **Alumni Mixer in Boston!! November 12th perhaps?

FCC Bylaws Amendment

Question & Answer Period:

- The idea is that there shouldn't be a strict guideline as to how much money FCC gets.
- FCC is a committee just like all the others, and so the Council should be voting regarding its money allocation as well.
- Another great way to advertise events and make things accessible.
- Slight opposition: The freshmen understand the interests of their constituents better and have the best judgment.

Pro/Con Debate:

- Con statement: One issue is that for upperclassmen, they have the HoCos; they represent upperclassmen and they have funding from the UC and they can decide their own budget. There is no similar organization for freshmen - FYSC is only for social events. It's slightly unfair to strip FCC of that capability.
- Pro statement: Three rebuttals: FYSC's mission is more in line of what HoCos do. The only requirement for being on FCC is being a UC rep. Also, otherwise, FCC would need its own bank account. Because this is UC money, allocation should go through the UC.
- Con statement: Why the striking of the \$10,000? Historically, the freshman reps have been some of the most active UC members, and we should give the reps a good starting point for the next four years. We should give no less than 10,000 dollars to the FCC and perhaps in future years that could be a problem.
- Pro statement: Building an institutional memory. Leaving it open gives you more flexibility. Also, say the student term bill is cut. It's poor practice in general to constitutionally allot a specific amount of money. That's why there is a budget passed every year.
- Con: As freshmen coming in, they won't know what the budget looks like and they won't know how much money they want to spend. FCC should be able to petition after the budget has been passed. Freshmen should be oriented before they make that decision.

Vote to extend debate period: Passed by hand vote

Eduardo's amendment to the amendment:

Section 67.3. Funding

The Freshman Class Committee shall hold weekly meetings and make the grant applications available to all students and organizations. In its annual budget, the Undergraduate Council shall appropriate funds for the FCC **at an amount of \$10,000, which can be increased by a full council vote.**

Question/Answer:

- Q: Why set a floor? A: This is a way to institutionalize how important the FCC is. Afraid that in the future, it'll be downsized.
- Q: Is it why to institutionalize a set amount? A: In the event of a massive shortfall of money, there could be a constitutional amendment.

- Q: Is it worth it to make a process of amending the constitution? A: Student term bill drop is very unlikely, and FCC uses approximately that amount.

Vote to consider amendment to the amendment: Passed by hand vote

More questions:

- Q: Has FCC ever used \$10,000? A: No, first \$4,000, then \$6,000 then \$8-9000
- Q: Why in principle should the FCC be treated differently? A: The FCC is composed of entirely freshmen, and will only have the voice of one chair to advocate for their needs.
- Q: Is there a number for how much FDO provides? A: The FDO will assist if they see value or merit. It's never a set amount.
- Q: Is it a problem with this institutional memory that already exists, with so many former FCC members already here? A: Were we to amend this, that would only add more force to the institutional memory.

Pro/Con Debate:

- Con: We're not debating how important the FCC is. The question is how we're structuring our constitution. It's really hard to adjust the constitution. And while most people here are supportive, from a constitutional clarity perspective, this could have bad effects. Other committees could try to institutionalize the amount of money they get. Purely from a rules perspective, this is problematic and creates a lot of technical issues. Not about values, it's about creating a mess.
- Pro: Who's more likely to change, the Harvard administration that relies on the UC or the UC, whose ideas change with the wind (or something like that)? That's not why rules are made. Rules are made proactively in case anything happens.
- Con: Not out of the ordinary to consider the possibility that the administration cuts funding. Either way, it still doesn't seem right that this should be constitutionalized when none of the other committees have money budgeted in constitution. It's bad form. HoCo's are important and they receive the same amount of money but they're not in the constitution.
- Q: What is the Freshman Life Fund? A: That has a line through it; it doesn't matter anymore.
- Pro: None

Vote to end debate period: Passed by hand vote

**Vote on amendment to the bylaws amendment: By hand vote, 10-19-0
Amendment fails**

Back to the actual bylaws amendment...

- Point of information: Can the FCC still give money to the FYSC? Does this amendment allow that? A: It would just go through legislation again. The amendment is specifically worded to be more vague.

- Pro: It robs future Councils of the democratic process. The most important thing the UC does is voting on a budget each year. The speaker rejects the notion that there are very political whims in which the FCC could be stripped of money or reduced. This is about the democratic process.
- Point of information: Any validity to the proposition that they can ask for money later? A: Even now, people don't know what they're going to do.
- Con: Having to pass things through UC Gen is less efficient than FCC members simply passing by a hand vote. FCC also is critical in terms of popular opinion of the UC. FYSC has to do social things and doesn't go through UC. Freshmen shouldn't have to rely on the goodwill of other people who aren't freshmen.

Motion to extend debate period by 1 cycle, 1 minute each: 8-16-0

Motion to extend debate period by 1 cycle, 30 seconds each: Passed by hand vote

- Con: FCC needs to be treated differently- the HoCos perform a role that filled by both the FCC and FYSC together.
- Pro: HoCos do submit a budget and we're not robbing the freshmen of the opportunity to express themselves. They will be able to, every year, when the budget is reviewed.

Vote on the actual bylaws amendment: 25-3-1

Passes!!

Meeting adjourned.