



CHAPMAN UNIVERSITY
SENATE MEETING AGENDA
Friday, March 3rd, 2023

I. Call to Order - 1:05 PM

a. Roll Call

- i. Absent: Mac Francini, Nicole Drew, Lauren Bramlett

b. Approval of Minutes

- i. Motion: Cintya Felix
 1. Second: Amanda Dornsife
 - a. Unanimous

c. Approval of Agenda

- i. Motion: Sydney Pfeifer-Picard
 1. Second: Misty Vu
 - a. Unanimous

d. Welcome Guests

II. Public Forum

- a. None

III. Committee Reports

- a. Allocations
 - i. Tiffany Le: reviewed 20 requests, tabled 4, denied 3, approved 10, and have 3 before senate.
- b. University & Academic Affairs
 - i. Daniella Benabou: we have updates for Open Forum
- c. Diversity Affairs
 - i. Riya Belani: Reviewed DEI training at Retreat and went over new potential initiatives.
- d. Community Outreach



CHAPMAN UNIVERSITY
SENATE MEETING AGENDA
Friday, March 3rd, 2023

- i. Cristina Inboden: been talking to the Hub OC about distributions and will be sending out a link after senate for signups.
- e. Executive Council
 - i. Elyse Crimmins: PR this week is really important and on the slack all the flyers are there. Please post them everywhere even your personal accounts and encourage the clubs you're in to vote as well.
 - ii. Anya Nguyenkhoa: tonight at 5 the ballot for the constitutional election is open, Monday 11-2 is our event with UPB for "Drop A Vote", and Monday the Presidential election opens
- f. External Committee Updates

IV. Old Business

- a. None

V. New Business

a. Spring 2023 Budget Proposal

- i. Whitney Gassmann Mennes: The spring enrollment numbers are in and the following are the biggest changes in the budget: the addition of \$25,000 in the Student organization line, a small reduction in co-sponsorship in \$5000, a small reduction of \$1500 in meal cards as Dean Price has noticed this resource not being used, eliminating our capital line and the graduate testing fund as it is now apart of the academic line, adding \$4000 to the elections budget, reduction in the internal development line, as well as eliminating the office operations line as we have not needed to use this since we no longer print all of our checks and this heavily paid for ink and toner, and finally the \$2000 addition of a passport fund.
- ii. Alexis Reekie: After speaking with the Global Studies office, we found a great way for SGA to help students going abroad. Passports cost about \$130 and students already have to pay seat holding fees of \$400-500 and we want to help supplement some additional costs. This would mean adding a new line of about



CHAPMAN UNIVERSITY
SENATE MEETING AGENDA

Friday, March 3rd, 2023

\$2000 to provide up to \$130 per student covering passport fees. Students would just need to provide proof of enrollment in a study abroad program where a passport is required. It's great to be able to partner with the Global Office, help students with financial barriers, and provide tangible support. Also to add clarity on the meal cards line, this is something the Dean of Students office has been picking up and funding.

- iii. Whitney Gassmann Mennes: Remember that this is a living document and none of these amounts are set in stone, we are able to change amounts and reallocate balances later as we see them.
- iv. Mo Hijazi: For the next senate, will some of the lines like USA Today and the NYTs be discussed in the future if they want to keep them?
- v. Whitney Gassmann Mennes: Those things have already been paid out for a year and those are yearly contracts. But that is all based on the next Senate.
 - 1. Motion to approve the Spring 2023 Budget Proposal: Mo Hijazi
 - a. Second: Daniella Benabou
 - i. Unanimous

b. Iranian Student Cultural Organization (ISCO) Funding Request

- i. Tiffany Le: ISCO is requesting \$1634.80 for their event. Allocations has recommended to fund this in full.
- ii. Representative: This is for our event for Persian New Year coming up. It is a super important cultural event for students Persians on campus and we are asking for funding for Sodexo food and some decor. We invite the Chapman Community and some members family and friends to build a community for Iranians around Chapman and Orange County.
- iii. Mo Hijazi: from the budget sheet, Shirini is also food, is that being bought through sodexo? Is that allowed since it's over \$250?
- iv. Representative: It's being bought from a small local business and it's under \$250. Sodexo has already given approval and since they were not able to provide this for us.



CHAPMAN UNIVERSITY
SENATE MEETING AGENDA

Friday, March 3rd, 2023

1. Motion to Fund the Iranian Student Cultural Organization request in the full amount of \$1634.80: Cintya Felix
 - a. Second: Amanda Dornsife
 - i. Unanimous

c. Nikkei Student Union (NSU) Funding Request

- i. Tiffany Le: They are requesting funding for 95 T-shirts at \$11.50 a piece and this was recommended to be funded in full.
- ii. Representative: we have about 100+ active members and are hoping to get these shirts funded as our big request for the year.
- iii. Sydney Pfeifer-Picard: How often will you be coming in for funding requests as I see that you have come in in the past?
- iv. Representative: We make a t-shirt once per year and do come in every year for this. We wear this out to other events we do on campus or with other NSU's in the area. We might have to expand and ask for more since our club is still currently growing.
- v. Whitney Gassmann Mennes: do you have an amended number for today or would you like to do a separate request in the future?
- vi. Representative: We can do it as a separate request as the prices per shirt will not change until we reach the threshold of 150.

1. Motion to fund the Nikkei Student Union's request for T-shirts in the full amount of \$1177.17: Mo Hijazi
 - a. Second: Cristina Inboden
 - i. Unanimous

d. Inner Peace Club Funding Request

- i. Tiffany Le: The Inner Peace club is requesting \$3,175 for their nature retreat and this has been recommended to fund in partial for the amount of \$2575.
- ii. Representative: This is a 3 day, 2 night retreat and will act as a bonding retreat. We will work on a volunteer project about native plants and are guided through multiple kinds of meditations. There will be about 20 people attending right now.



CHAPMAN UNIVERSITY
SENATE MEETING AGENDA

Friday, March 3rd, 2023

The student prepared meals option is that we would buy our own groceries and use a kitchen at the campsite to use.

- iii. Cintya Felix: have you all considered doing a fundraiser?
- iv. Representative: We wanted to but our executive board thought it might be too big of an endeavor to hold a fundraiser as we already meet twice a week but are planning on doing that in the future.
 - 1. Motion to fund the Inner Peace club's retreat in the partial amount of \$2575: Riya Belani
 - a. Second: Richie Amarillas
 - i. Unanimous

e. Cookies & Community w/ Cristina Funding Request

- i. Cristina Inboden: I wanted to do this initiative to bring the underclassman together and help them find a sense of community. Last semester I did a survey and found that many students feel alone and haven't felt like they've found their place at Chapman yet and don't know where to look. I want to be able to give them resources and know what places to look. I want to focus on this because it is extremely important to mental health to be able to build connections with other people. For the survey questions, I want to gauge the general demographics, what people are already involved in, what people are passionate about, how they're doing mentally and how they can keep this up or improve. After the survey, I want an email list of resources to be sent to them like YOU at Chapman, student engagement coaches, and psychological services. My plan is for this to take place Monday, March 27th Attallah Piazza from 11am-2pm and this will be mainly advertised to underclassmen. I want this funding to be for sodexo cookies and am requesting \$150 for 180 cookies.
- ii. Daniella Benabou: Though this is a great idea this is very similar to the survey UAA committee has been working on and so I'm trying to think of ways you can do something for your constituents but also, this has been something we have been working on for a few weeks now.



CHAPMAN UNIVERSITY
SENATE MEETING AGENDA

Friday, March 3rd, 2023

- iii. Cristina Inboden: I get that, I just want to get something out there for the underclassman as it seems like the biggest issue is involvement and community, which I want to target sooner rather than later. This also is on a smaller scale than the UAA survey you all want to put out.
- iv. Sydney Pfeifer-Picard: Could we table this so you are all able to talk/ look into collaboration to avoid stepping on toes.
- v. Cristina Inboden: I wanted to get this done sooner rather than later as my sports season is about to start. But I am able and happy to amend the content of my survey after talking to Daniella and UAA.
- vi. Rachel Berns: the funding request is only for the cookies, so the specifics of what is on the survey or sent out after can be discussed at a later time.
- vii. Daniella Benabou: I agree that we should fund it, it is different from the UAA survey which we will talk about soon, we should just collaborate and discuss later. Also Health and Wellness will be putting out a survey that is also very similar, just to keep in mind.
 - 1. Motion to fund Cookies & Community w/ Cristina in the full amount of \$150: Sydney Pfeifer-Picard
 - a. Second: Amanda Dornsife
 - i. Unanimous

f. Constitutional Amendments Proposal

- i. Alexis Reekie: Since our last meeting we have more changes to discuss. For the committee's, instead of there being 4 standing, only 3 and removing community outreach, which can be created as an ad hoc committee. Though this ad hoc committee could be whatever the senate deems necessary as it will be established each academic year. We clarified the line of succession as well and are having the Vice President adopt the speaker of the senate role so that will be absolved. They used to be one position in the past and from then roles were still not fully fleshed out. It also shortens the line of succession and communication between senate and the executive board. The roles of President and Vice President are fairly



CHAPMAN UNIVERSITY
SENATE MEETING AGENDA

Friday, March 3rd, 2023

ambiguous especially in the case if the elect is unable to fulfill their role, to clarify that we propose that the VP will become the President, and the VP will be voted in through special election. We've amended the GPA minimums as well. For Senators, a cumulative 3.25 instead of the current 2.75, and the executive board to be a cumulative 3.5 instead of the current 2.9 and a semester 3.25 instead of a 2.75. We also added clarity class and organization senators. Having two student organization senators instead of just one.

- ii. David Bryant: I also wanted to add that someone on SGA can either be full or part time. This would go into full effect for next academic year but the spring election would reflect the changes if the constitution were to pass.
- iii. Riya Belani: I wanted to ask about the reasoning for increasing the GPA requirements?
- iv. Alexis Reekie: We just wanted to increase them to show the gravity of the importance of the task work, especially the executive committee, the positions are. But we are able to lower them.
- v. Adi Takei: Why is community outreach gone?
- vi. Alexis Reekie: We thought this could be absolved in UAA or be an ad hoc committee.
- vii. Rachel Berns: I think it's also challenging since we want to do so much but SGA is specially to cater to undergraduate students and not divest time or take away from our constituencies.
- viii. Daniella Benabou: I think the GPA is too high and is going to turn people away who want to get involved, especially heavier class loads, or freshman who are adjusting to college.
- ix. Rachel Berns: Is there a reason to separate cumulative and semester GPA? Can we make it one number
- x. David Bryant: It has been that way but we can make it one flat number.
- xi. Adi Takei: I'm still confused about community outreach. Our whole mission, even now working with the HUB OC, is to motivate students to get involved. It



CHAPMAN UNIVERSITY
SENATE MEETING AGENDA

Friday, March 3rd, 2023

feels invalidating to say we aren't focusing on constituencies as we are benefiting the students and the community

- xii. David Bryant: This is not to take away from the work you all have done but it is more important to focus on the other three committees for SGA to be more sustaining. UAA is very broad and it can adopt what a lot of community outreach has been able to do and those relationships can be sustained. UAA can continue the same work just under a different name.
- xiii. Cristina Inboden: I feel like community outreach is inline with our mission and being able to enhance every aspect of the college experience including so I believe we should keep it.
- xiv. David Bryant: One of the most important aspects of SGA is the allocations committee and this year those needs have not been met. One of the goals for only having three committees is to increase the number of senators on allocations and increasing quorum. Having only three senators voting doesn't seem like it is truly representing the senate. All the funding requests should have more input.
- xv. Cristina Inboden: Were allocations needs mostly met in the fall?
- xvi. Tiffany Le: It was more challenging as quorum increases.
- xvii. Elyse Crimmins: I think the biggest issue is that the more committees we have the more people have to be spread thin and it isn't good or fair to have only 2 or 3 voices heard in things like allocations meetings. Having more people reduces the burden of every person having to be there just to pass quorum.
- xviii. David Bryant: I also see the issue if we do end up increasing the amount allocations are able to vote on to say \$2000, only 2 or 3 people voting on this doesn't seem very representative of the senate's voice. Especially as Allocations is the main way SGA is able to help the community.
- xix. Alexis Reekie: A note of the ex officio member, is just to hear more and send direct invitations to members of the Student Athlete Advisory, Panhellenic, and interfraternity council. They are not required to come but extend that invitation if it's wanted. Also for GPA, it seems like we decided on one number and 3.0.



CHAPMAN UNIVERSITY
SENATE MEETING AGENDA

Friday, March 3rd, 2023

- xx. Riya Belani: For the two student organizations senators, we might run into the problem of what exactly a person's job should be, especially if people have the same constituency.
- xxi. Rachel Berns: I think I'm more in favor of the singular student organization senator as it can be hard for us to find things for them to do and run into problems of redundancy.
- xxii. Riya Belani: I wanted to talk also about what the benefits of removing the speaker of senate position into the VP position are?
- xxiii. Alexis Reekie: in defining the VP role more as specifically internal it helps in communication up from Senate to VP to Exec rather than adding another person in the middle of that. Many of the roles and responsibilities between the two roles have also not been very fleshed out. Reading the documents we haven't seen a clear divide between the roles. I think a lot of the small changes and differences can be highlighted in the executive committee operating documents.
- xxiv. Rachel Berns: I will say there are gaps in the communication and in that way it makes a lot of sense for the VP to be speaker.
- xxv. Anya Nguyenkhoa: If a VP is failing to fulfill their responsibilities and position and that is a concern, the constitution is not where those changes should be highlighted and I think it can be looked at internally.
- xxvi. Elyse Crimmins: Can we have a motion to extend the meeting?
- xxvii. Motion to extend the meeting until 3:15: Daniella Benabou
 - 1. Second: Riya Belani
 - a. 7 approved 4 opposed
- xxviii. Rachel Berns: Moving onto votes, are there any clarifications that anyone needs on the GPA amendment?
 - 1. Motion to Amend cumulative for executive council and senate GPA to 3.0: Daniella Benabou
 - a. Second: Tiffany Le
 - i. Unanimous



CHAPMAN UNIVERSITY
SENATE MEETING AGENDA

Friday, March 3rd, 2023

2. Motion to Amend one student org senator instead of two: Riya Belani
 - a. Second: Amanda Dornsife
 - i. Unanimous
- xxix. David Bryant: Just so everyone knows we then will have 16 senators instead of 17 and we'll reflect that change in the documents as well.
- xxx. Rachel Berns: I know it was mentioned, did we want to change the name of UAA to include anything about community outreach?
- xxxi. Adi Takei: On that note, if community outreach is gone what should we do for the rest of the semester? Also no one else from the rest of committees has come to our events, even if it gets made into an ad hoc committee I just don't think unless it's standing that people will put in the work for the committee to be doing work.
- xxxii. Whitney Gassmann Mennes: These changes will all go into effect next year so you would still fulfill the rest of your events this semester.
- xxxiii. Daniella Benabou: I would include your committee chair transition notes and would meet with the new UAA chair to make sure community outreach is still a focus.
- xxxiv. Alexis Reekie: It is more of a refocus onto internal affairs things that need to be improved for the next year and next senate. Community Outreach has been able to do such great work and this is by no means saying you all haven't, more of a refocus and coming back to the primary goals of each of our positions.
- xxxv. Riya Belani: I don't think we should add this committee back into the constitution because if we split 16 senators into 4 committees rather than just 3 we're able to increase quorum, and we need more people in allocations rather than we have the explicit need to fill another committee.
 1. Motion to add back the Community Outreach Committee to the four standing committees: Cristina Inboden
 - a. Second: Richie Amarillas
 - i. 4 approved 7 opposed



CHAPMAN UNIVERSITY
SENATE MEETING AGENDA
Friday, March 3rd, 2023

- ii. Not added back to the constitution
- 2. Motion to approve the Amended the constitution: Daniella Benabou
 - a. Second: Amanda Dornsife
 - i. 7 approved 4 opposed

MEETING UNABLE TO BE ADJOURNED DUE TO LOSS OF QUORUM