SGA Formal Meeting Minutes  
Sunday, April 7, 2013

The meeting began at 7:03pm.

I. Minutes

Minutes from last week were passed.

II. Executive Board Report

Morgan Lingar: Morgan spoke about a meeting she attended concerning the Center for Teaching and Learning. The discussion included how the Center, whether it is physical space or not, will include both support for teachers and student learning. She also requested that the Presidents’ Council view the Facebook page about issues concerning the now open Gender and Sexual Diversity director position.

Kareem Kalil: Kareem announced that Berol Dewdney will be speaking at Story Time tonight and that senior Jess Pires will be the next Story Time speaker on April 21st. He said that after Jess, there will be one more Story Time which will be chosen based on nominations taken tonight. Kareem spoke about the Multicultural Literacy proposal and what he can accomplish between now and when he graduates from the college, and hoped that an underclassman would pick up the project. Also, he reminded the Presidents’ Council that he and Morgan meet with Jed Wartman and Jim Terhune weekly and Bro monthly in case anyone wants to relay any messages to those administrators.

Monica Davis: Monica reminded the Presidents’ Council that there will be the Civil Discourse Live on Wednesday at 8pm in Lovejoy 100.

Jean-Jacques Ndayisenga: JJ announced that the Outing Club will be at the next informal meeting to give a presentation. The Colby Radio is now playing in Dana, and there is work being done in Foss and Roberts to get the Radio in those dining halls as well. JJ said he has a meeting scheduled with Jed Wartman to discuss potential financial changes with The Echo. His goal is to have the big three spenders to be set up for next year by the end of the semester.

Jack Mauel: Jack had a conversation with one of next year’s SGA co-presidents Wayne Kim about the position of the Residential Life Chair. The conclusions they came up with included having Dorm Presidents sign contracts with their listed duties at the beginning of the year, having bi-weekly rounds for initiating face-to-face connections with dorm constituents, and tailoring the position to be especially communicative with the Physical Plant Department.
Anna Caron: Anna shared her appreciation for the new mentoring pods, and accoladed her pod for committing themselves to pre-formal meeting dinners.

Rachel Jacobs: Rachel had nothing to say.

III. Dean's Report

President Bro Adams introduced Doug Terp chief of financial operations and Dean of Students Jim Terhune. He reiterated the achievement of carbon neutrality, giving accolades to the community including substantial student effort, highlighting the College’s distinction in achieving this milestone. He spoke about the student comprehensive fee increase of 3.25% which is at the lower end of increases compared to similar peer institutions. This increase always includes inflation in the economy, which is calculated on a trailing 12 month average. The remaining increase which is 1.25% pays for faculty and staff salaries, an initiative for financial aid directed primarily at historically underrepresented groups at Colby, new staff and faculty positions, and the bringing online of two major buildings.

Doug Terp gave a presentation concerning key points about finances at Colby. The presentation is attached below. He spoke primarily about a series of initiatives aimed at improving the academic program including increase in staff, aid awards for students of color, building projects, fundraising, and communication. He reiterated much of the aforementioned information Bro provided. The net initiative cost is $8,470,000. Priorities for the budget included restraining the comprehensive fee increase, general merit increases for faculty and staff, financial aid for continuing students, and the initiatives mentioned above. Also, the goal is to hold the non-compensation budget target at 1 percent. He provided pie-chart representations of revenues and expenses and then a list of where Colby stands in fee increases for 2013-14 compared to many of our peer institutions. Doug also showed a chart of the comparison between emissions from the College and what the College would have emitted without changes and investments.

Jack Mauel said that he appreciates the commitment to sustainability and asked whether hybrid vehicles could be purchased in the future. Doug Terp spoke about some complications with hybrids including battery disposal, but stated that when new vehicles are purchased they are always more efficient than the previous vehicle.

Carter Stevens asked the administrators about supporting the funding for Outing Club and Alternative Spring Break trips and asked whether there is a better way to treat those situations. Bro spoke about funding study abroad trips during JanPlan, which is complicated in many ways. The fundamental goal is bring in as many qualified students who otherwise would not be able to come, which he says is a similar problem without a simple answer. Jim Terhune said that all experiences are not created equal, and one of the things that needs to be taken into account is individual benefit. Bro said this brings us right back to the question about why the comprehensive
fee is increasing so quickly. Monica Davis talked about the issues concerning the SGA budget, and whether it will be increased. Jim Terhune spoke about how the comprehensive fee increase is proportional to the increase in SGA budget. Jim said these questions can always be discussed with Jed Warton. Bro said that many people ask whether SGA is adequately funded. Jean-Jacques Ndayisenga spoke about the position of the treasurer and the importance of helping clubs and SGA-supported groups in identifying alternative sources of funding. Kareem Kalil asked if the presentation could be attached to the meeting's minutes and Doug Terp said yes and that he would send the minutes.

Justin Deckert asked about how the prospect of a Center for Teaching and Learning and how it fits in the strategic plan. Bro stated that it is part of the plan, and that there was extensive teacher support for the Center. Lori Kletzer has committed this program to come to fruition in the near future. Doug Terp said that the renovation for the library includes realignment and providing space for the new Center. Over the course of the next year, they hope that this will be flushed out better. Jim Terhune said that Barbara Moore and Joe Atkins are fully integrated in the plan.

Kareem Kalil asked if there is a corresponding push to increase diversity in the faculty in tandem with the increase in student diversity. Bro said that Lori Kletzer is focused on this issue, but each position search does not necessarily lead to diverse applicant pools. Each department is required to present a plan for increasing diversity in position searches.

Matt Mantikas asked if there are any plans in renovations for athletic facilities because many people think that our athletic facilities are not up to par with our peer institutions. Bro said that previous strategic plan currently does not involve athletic facility renovations, but at this point the weight room, field house, and pool area are obviously substandard. He said that they have been fundraising for projects like these, but that a project like this would cost about $50,000. Doug Terp spoke about how expensive projects like these are, and that the College’s current priorities include residence halls, the new science building, and the museum, but that a major project with athletic facilities is likely in the future. Monica Davis talked about priorities with the fitness center and the prospect of a smaller renovation project. Doug Terp said that given the range that is in the process of being accomplished, this is probably not the right timing. However, he said this is certainly a conversation that can and should be held with the Physical Plant Department. Bro said that since the planning of a larger project is so near, it would be throwing money away to make a small adjustment. Connor Clancy asked about what the larger project would look like in terms of the fitness center. Bro said that it would definitely be taken care of. Doug Terp said that a full needs assessment would take place including interviews with staff and students, comparisons to peer institutions, and filtering down information to get a conceptual idea of what is needed.

Morgan Lingar asked if Jim Terhune could update the Presidents’ Council about the search for a new director for the Gender and Sexuality Diversity. He said that Dr. Tasha Bradley is in charge of the search, and that there are many questions about what the position should ideally look like and that within the next few days, she will be identifying community members to help identify
candidates. Monica Davis asked about how the position fits within the Pugh Center. Jim Terhune said that the position has two titles but it is one job. Monica Davis asked to clarify whether the position will be the same as last time. Jim Terhune said that the position title simply states a connection to the Pugh Center.

IV. Community Forum

Wayne Kim, a co-SGA president for 2013-2014 thanked seniors in the Presidents’ Council for their work and said he is looking forward to next year.

V. Old Business

Motion 1: Pasquale Eckert of Alfond proposed that any athlete, musician, actor, club member, or performer found guilty of Residence Hall Vandalism will not be permitted to participate in their next competition, performance, game, or match, whether it is in the current academic year or next academic year. Kylie VanBuren asked if this would have to be recommended to the College Affairs Committee (CAC). Pasquale spoke with Dean Johnston about this and he said that he is specifically for this motion. Rachel Jacobs said that she agrees it should be direct to the CAC. Kylie VanBuren recommended that the motion be amended such that it be recommended to the CAC. Kelly Ling moved to question on the amendment. The amendment passed. Erika Hinman said that she thinks this policy could be effective, but asked how it would be enforced. Pasquale Eckert said that it should be based on the relationship between deans and coaches. Jack Mauel said he does not think that there should not be extra punishment for those more involved in the College. Alexandre Caillot agreed with Jack and said that there is a problem with team sports as it could punish teammates who did not commit anything. Connor Clancy spoke about the policy being similar to alcohol policies being different for different coaches basis. Monica Davis said that it would be difficult with student run organizations to enforce. Marshall Donner said that he agrees with Jack about equality and wondered how far you can take this. Kelly Ling spoke about how some performances are academically based, and that residence hall vandalism policy should be separate from academic life. Tionna Haynes moved to question. The motion failed.

VI. New Business

Justin Deckert said that he would send an email to the Presidents’ Council about Learning Differences Awareness Week. He also mentioned the possibility of holding a community forum about the prospect of a Center for Teaching and Learning.

Pasquale Eckert thanked everyone for feedback on the motion.
Pasquale Eckert also said that in the pub, you are not allowed to have drinks in the game area and wishes to look into changing that policy for the weekends.

Jean-Jacques Ndayisenga said that the yearbook budget has decreased significantly and that if enough people purchase the yearbook, there might be a profit for the first time in a long time.

Timothy Gallager noted that the Housing and Facilities Committee contributed to the achievement that you can now enter Diamond from the back by using a Colby Card to unlock the door.

Jack Mauel announced that in 2016 Thanksgiving break will be a full week break, with other changes still to be determined.

Tionna Haynes announced that there is a Presidential Search Committee meeting open to students on Tuesday at 8pm in Ostrove.

Joseph Whitfield moved to adjourn.

The meeting ended at 8:25pm.
Strategic planning effort by board, administration, and campus groups during and immediately following recession.

Decision to use financial capacity – endowment and balance sheet – to make strategic investments in academic, co-curricular, and student life programs.

- **20.5 faculty and academic staff** and 14 other staff positions over 5 years
- Student-of-color goal at least 20 percent of each class; **10 additional SOC aid awards per class**
- **Museum, biomass, and science** building projects; **Roberts Row** renovations and conversion of **Roberts** to residential space; **Miller** renovation
- Fundraising and communications initiatives

Increased **endowment spending** formula, debt-financed construction, new fundraising initiatives, and **net savings of biomass** project

Restrained comprehensive fee increase (1.5 percent real)
Strategic Initiatives Expense, Proposed FY2013-14 Budget

- Faculty Positions, Development (net): $1,461,000
- Green Colby: $253,000
- Academic Support Positions: $570,000
- Museum: $742,000
- Facilities: $939,000
- Financial Aid: $5,705,000

Net Initiatives Cost = $8,470,000
Key elements:

- Restrained comprehensive fee increase
- **General and merit increases for faculty and staff**
  - Special adjustments for faculty and lower paid staff
- Financial aid for continuing students
- **Move forward with key initiatives:**
  - Faculty and staff FTEs (8.50)
  - Museum and storage operating expenses
  - Incremental funding for some initiatives partially implemented in FY2012-13 (e.g., museum staffing, presidential scholars)
  - 4th class with 196 aid awards (**+10 SOC awards**) 

Non-compensation budget target: **1 percent**

- Limited pool of funds to address **very compelling** cases
- Strategic initiatives (Admissions, Communications, Sustainability. Student Affairs)
2013-14 Budget

Revenues
- Student Charges: 73%
- Endowment: 17%
- Gifts: 6%
- Other: 4%

Expenses
- Compensation: 45%
- Other Non-Compensation: 23%
- Renovation Allocation: 6%
- Debt Service: 5%
- Utilities: 2%
- Financial Aid: 19%

$148.1 million
2013-14 Budget: Expenses

- Instruction & Support: 31%
- Financial Aid: 19%
- Institutional Support: 12%
- Student Services: 10%
- Facilities: 19%
- Dining: 4%
- Other: 5%

Total Expenses: $148.1 million
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<th>Institution</th>
<th>Total Student Charges</th>
<th>Increase from 2012/13</th>
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<td>Davidson College</td>
<td>54,683</td>
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