

Augsburg Day Student Government Agenda

November 5, 2014  
Oren Gateway Center 100 6:10 PM

Members present: Banna Kidane, Vincent Henry, Vision Bagonza, Ahmed Musallam, Mohamed Safi, Cuong Nguyen, Christine Tang, Adrian Lowe, Winnie Godi, Liban Elmi, Marissa Stewart, Ashley Parent, Emily James, Nancy Lor, Hannah Thiry, Julian Kritz, Cristian Baca-Perez, Nattacia Bailey, Elise Hinderliter, Danny Polaschek, Thomas Kukowski, Reies Romero, Amber Nguyen, Heath Anderson, Lyle Nyberg.

Members absent: Michael LeRoy

Advisors present: Joanne Reeck, Michael Grewe

1. Call to Order 6:11 pm

* Favorite non-alcoholic beverage of choice

1. Roll Call
2. Share Puppy

Elise Hinderliter🡪Vincent Henry

1. Adoption of the Agenda
2. Soapbox
3. Approval of Previous Minutes

🡪 added in vote count for chartering of the Outdoor Activities club which was not included.

1. Unfinished Business
2. New Business
3. Announcements
   1. President:
   * President Pribbenow is coming next week. Prepare questions for him. He also has advise on effective resolutions. Do your homework by researching lots of facts.
   * Is in conversation with Amy Gort regarding having the semester evaluations made public.
     1. Appointment of Resolutions Committee Chair

Banna moved to appoint Julian Kritz as the chair of the Resolutions committee. This is due to his ability to articulate his views. Seconded by Cristian.

Vote: 15 for, 0 against, 1 abstained. Congratulations Julian.

* + 1. Commissioning appeals committee.

Banna appointed these individuals to be in the committee: Cheemoua Vang (AASA), Shiela Meh (ABO), Joe Vital (AISA), Lyton Guallpa-Naulla (ALAS), Brad St. Aubin (ASAC), Jens Pinther (ECHO) Chau Nguyen (ISO), Cody Cameron (KAUG), Mary Cornelius (Murphey Square), Muna Mohamed (MSA), Nabil Shuna (PASU), Duina Hernandez (QPA), Nate Roisen (SPS), Anika Clark (Tri-Beta).

Seconded by Cuong.

Discussion:

Hannah: Will they be trained?

The chartering committee will give background information and call upon them when needed. The committee will also provide basic training as needed.

Lyle: They are required to form an unbiased group, correct?

We don’t expect them to all be there at once, for scheduling reasons, but we hope for insight and a variety of perspectives?

Julian: is there going to be a type of quorum for this group?

It will be 5.

Ahmed: Will the president appoint these people every year?

Yes, by the end of the first week of school.

Hannah: They aren’t allowed to participate in decisions regarding their own group, right?

Correct.

Lyle: Moved to divide Brad St. Aubin from this group to be discussed separately. Seconded by Marissa.

Went on to explain that this is because this individual has shown obvious bias via social media towards the SSI group when the ADSG denied them chartering the first time they applied.

Discussion:

Ahmed: If we are going to separate this individual based on him expressing his views, we are neglecting them despite their freedom to have their own opinion.

Also, Brad was not representing the student government when he said these words.

Vote: 7 for, 1 abstained, 9 against. Motion failed.

Previous discussion:

Julian: Are all groups represented?

Yes, all commissioned groups are represented.

Lyle: Using the logic that everyone has a bias, if we have knowledge that one holds strong bias in a particular view, we should rather choose an individual who doesn’t have such a strong record.

Mohamed: What media did he use?

Facebook

Mohamed moved to have anyone be able to answer any question posed to them. This motion was re-worded by Vincent.

Mohamed moved to have everyone speak two more time. Seconded by Lyle.

Vote: 12 for, 3 against, 2 abstained. Motion passed.

Continued discussion:

Lyle shared the quote by Brad.

Liban: we should encourage opposing views. Abraham Lincoln was a good president he had people that believed the opposite of him, so they could come together and take the good out of everyone's beliefs.

Cuong: the whole purpose of having this committee is to have diverse opinions.

Ahmed: In a group, a strong opinion is always useful. I know Brad personally, and I believe he will make rational decisions.

Mike: This concern that was brought up was valid. Joanne and Mike do not invite individuals who voice themselves strongly in the chartering/commissioning of a certain groups during their appeal.

Ahmed: discouraged all the senator sto support this motion.

Lyle moved to return to previous question. Seconded by Cristian.

Vote: 15 for, 0 against, 0 abstained. Motion passed.

Voting for the 15 individuals on the committee (unanimous)

15 for, 0 against, 0 abstained.

* 1. Vice President:
  + We hope to get input on how much the student activity fee for next year should be, especially in light of the decline in funds this year.

Discussion:

Mohamed: We have a greater number of chartered groups this year. Most groups are not getting by with the severe budget cuts, hence, we should definitely increase it.

Reies: Some people aren’t involved with groups and a slight increase may affect some of our students. We should consider that. We also can make great events without necessarily needing money.

Mike: We as the ADSG are required to make a motion to propose the student activity fee for next year regardless.

Nancy: What was your recommendation Banna and Vincent?

We are thinking of an increase of about $20-$30, making the fee $120-$130 groups.

Vincent: When the current student activity fee was passed, we had 15 less chartered groups.

Nancy: how are we going to be transparent enough to let the student body understand why exactly we raised their tuition by $30 dollars?

In contrast to the tuition paid per student, this isn’t a largely substantial increase. This will definitely benefit students who enjoy student groups on campus. Hence this isn’t a shortcoming on our part to recommend this increase.

Liban: is there any way to fix this solution without raising tuition?

No

Julian: Maybe we will make a better and more informed if we talk to our constituents. We are all active and are able to reach more people.

Adrian: would it be possible to consider that commuters aren’t as active in participation? Could they pay less of the activity fee than residents?

This should definitely be considered.

Mike: Advised we look at institutions of similar size and ask the following questions:

How much is your student activity

How many student groups do you have?

How much of the money do you use for the student orgs?

How much of that amount goes to stipends?

Then decipher whether we are ahead or behind the curve, or if we are about average.

Hannah: We really don’t know how much we are going to get next year and how many students we are going to have. Everyone should consider this as they make recommendations.

Cuong: If we get more money, groups might be inclinded to ask for more money on each request, and hence deplete the money at the same rate.

We also get the amount of money that we get based on a prediction of enrollment by admissions.

We should also try to make plans to use our money more conservatively and creatively like Reies suggested.

Liban: $30 bucks may do so much, but this may not actually help make a significant change.

Cristian: as the tuition rises, we not only have less enrollment by incoming students, but we also have a lot of students leave as well. We should also consider this during our decisions.

Danny: If we get more money, we will only need more money the next year and this could become a cycle.

Mohamed: a $15 dollar increase with an enrollment of 2000 student will raise an amount of $30,000. This isn’t a significant amount per student.

Also we should strive to have more inclusion of commuter students.

Ahmed: Increase of up to $15 dollars isn’t significant, but beyond that would be more significant per student. Does this money really impact at least 50% in this school? If it is, then this is a valid increase for a valid cause.

Is in favor in making the increase, we could make a project visible to all students on campus to show how we are using their money.

Cuong: We can’t really assess this and speak for all students in various financial needs.

Nattacia: Is curious to know if an increase in activity fee increases involvement.

For instance with the Augsburg leadership awards, there has been a growth in involvement. But there is no solid answer for that.

Can we have the $15 dollars be an appealable amount like the newspaper fee?

Mike will connect with Nattacia for this answer.

Reies: We really need data from students.

Elise: Maybe through the survey?

Christine: Wouldn’t we be in the same situation as this year if we had

Hannah moved to have everyone speak 2 more times.

Nancy: feels guilty to be making this decision on behalf of people since some people honestly don’t benefit from this fee. This should be up to our constituents.

Banna: Doesn’t feel like we are cheated them, since we are providing possible engagements for students who go to this institution. This is solely for their benefit.

Also, $30 dollars was a rough estimate. It probably won’t be this exact amount.

Julian: moved to postpone this conversation.

15 for, 0 against, 0 abstained. Motion passed.

Ahmed: Nattacia brought up a good point, that we should have this amount to be appealed.

Point of administration: Tabling: means it will be brought up in the same meeting. Postponing means it will be brought up in the next meeting.

* 1. Finance Committee:
     + $12, 531 chartering budget.
     + $1170 commissioning budget
     + $86.24 travel fund

No recommendations today.

* 1. Chartering and Commissioning Committee:
  2. Students Concerns Committee:
     + Revamped survey. Asking everyone here to participate in advertising this.
     + Student will have 7 days to take it
     + We will be tabling from 10am-2pm, having laptops out to have students take the survey.
     + Everyone should sign up to table for 30 minutes.

Mohamed: would we have the question about the student activity fee on the survey?

Yes

Winnie: is the survey time consuming?

It takes about 5-7 minutes, and is tailored for the two populations of students, commuters and residents.

Banna: Everyone should sign up before the end of the meeting.

* 1. PR Committee:
     + Ahmed: updated the bios on the website. Everyone should be on it.
     + Video is being edited.
  2. Elections Committee:
  3. Constitution Committee:
     + Meeting tomorrow in Auggie’s nest at 6pm. Changes will be sent to Vincent by Tuesday.
  4. Community Service Committee:
     + Meeting tomorrow at 9am.
  5. Senators:
     + Lyle: reported on the committee he is part of as well. Is collecting reports of the various majors.
     + Cristian: is the student representative for the AAC, and reported some details from the last meeting.
       - Hoping to create a science and business major and minor, due to success of music business major and minor. Is aiming to prepare science students for the corporate side of science industry.
       - Nancy: thinks this is a great idea
       - Julian: goes hand in hand with all the fundraising for the CSBR.
     + Julian: looks forward to meeting with anyone who is interested on working on their

SSI is hosting the Israeli Consul to the US 6pm, on Monday in the East Commons.

* + - Hannah: How are we going about the assessment of stipends?

Mike will be emailing all commissioned groups regarding this.

* + - Vincent: where does the reduced amount go?

It goes into next year’s stipend budget.

* + - Mohamed: Will any group be forced to get stipends?

No

* + - Hannah: the honors program is hosting a campus clean up. This will be tomorrow at 7am to about 8 am. Meet in honors lounge.
    - Give to the max day is coming up. Sign up for tabling.
  1. Executive Board:
* Michael L has been sick and that’s why he hasn’t been out.

Julian: should we get together and send him a card.

This will be done. We’ll put the card in the ADSG office.

* Banna: Continue to sign in when you are doing office hours. Make sure you email Banna, Vincent, and Michael LeRoy if you are going to miss a meeting.
* Hannah: If we want to change our office hours, do we just go to open slots?

Make sure to let Michael know. There is a new schedule with all the new members.

* Vision: Tomorrow there is an ISO meeting in OGC 100. It’s something we allocate money too, so please join if able. Its mission is to foster conversations between international and domestic students.
* Reies: Save the Kids is having an event. Tune into KAUG.
* Vincent: Remember to reserve a time to table for give to the max day. Talk to your constituents.
  1. Advisers:
* Commissioning process.
  + Reserve Saturday Feb 28th, will be the day that all these groups will be presenting to the members of the commissioning groups.
  + After that, the committee will evaluate these applications.
  + Emails will be sent out to all participants.
* Mohamed: so they are not presenting in front of the entire senate?
  + Because we are shifting most decisions to committee, the groups will not present in front of the senate.
* Orientation leader application is due Friday at noon. Please consider applying.
* Its Asexuality Awareness week, there is a workshop here in OGC 100 tomorrow.

1. Adjournment. 7:48 pm