



“As a Wildcat...I promise to fulfill my commitments and remain accountable to others.”

I. Call to Order

7:02

II. Approval of Minutes

Approved

III. Committee Reports:

a. Academic & Student Affairs- Chair Alex Cochran

Hey everybody, we don't have much. I'm going to get in contact with my committee later tonight. We are trying to continue as normal as possible. We are looking into options of how to get students money in times of need. We're looking for ways to be responsible with that.

b. Appropriations & Revenue- Chair Kelly Mattingly

So a lot of the events and conferences that organizations have applied for funding for are no longer happening; however, there are a few that need general funding grants. We're creating a form on BBNvolved for organizations that have already made expenses for events.

c. Operations & Evaluations- Chair Kamryn Stewart

We are continuing to work through legislation. Hopefully at our committee meeting next week well finish it up.

IV. Orders of The Day:

VII. Presidential Privilege

Michael said he met with senate exec yesterday for the best way for us to move forward and maintain our jobs and duties giving our circumstances. We talked through a pretty robust list of ways to move forward as an organization and senate. If you have concerns or questions, this document Jack sent to everyone is what senate exec approved. The first thing the senate exec committee is going to act in place of the senate for any of the routine actions that we would call upon. It is mostly funding. The background rationale is that the university senate is functioning in this way. The attorney general has open meeting laws. Efficient records need to be kept.

During an official meeting if any participant loses connection, we would have to completely suspend our meeting and wait for them to get back in time. To avoid people getting moved on technology, senate exec will vote, all senators and members are still welcome though. Below that, that does not attain at all to constitution will all work. Kammy and O&E will come out with a few dates for two days in a row where we can talk about the constitution and debate. We are building in that extra time because technology will probably have glitches. Their committee will come up with dates. For constitutional legislation meetings it will be important for everyone to review the motions before the meeting because there will be so much to work through and approve. Kammy will send it out. Committee meetings will still be held at their same times. It is so important that everyone tunes into them. We still have things to vote on and things to approve. Those meetings will be recorded, and the voting function will be used. All event and SSPs and A&R funding will be suspended for the rest of the semester. A form will be sent out to folks who have outstanding refunds. Every Wednesday from here on out, he will still create a space to present changes that are happening week by week. Every Wednesday, even if it not a full senate week, he will be on. Since we are online, the links for these meetings will be communicated to the student body. Senate exec is still happening like normal. Our work is still continuing. If you have questions, please ask.

Edward asked that the meeting link should be made available. He can't find it on BBNvolved; where will it be?

Michael said he will meet with the communications team and they will figure out a place to put it and communicate with students.

Dean was wondering because obviously people can't come to meetings anymore, what are we doing to remain transparent through all of this?

Michael said that by publishing the link to these meetings is how we will be doing that.

Dean also mentioned that he knows that he said that the routine senate approvals are going to go through senate exec now. Do we have anywhere what constitutes what a senate exec routine procedure is.

The only things he thinks is funding and SSPs.

Maya said nominations to the supreme court may also be an exception to that.

Michael said when Courtney is sworn in she will have some of those, but the body will not have to approve any more.

Gabby asked about the presidential privilege every week.

Michael said it will not be mandatory. It will be just like this meeting. He is open to feedback. He was thinking of doing it after committee meeting.

Nicole asked about the pass/fail changes.

Michael said he will get to that stuff after he answers these operations questions.

Kayla Woodson asked if her senate project is a wash or what she should do, since her org can't have their event. If there's a unique need an org has, Kelly's committee will deal with it.

Kayla asked if he knows of anything she could find for them or should she let it go.

Michael said if he was in her shoes, he would ask them to wait until next semester. There are a lot of students who have needs right now and that's how they're spending a lot of resources.

Michael said they set up an emergency operations center, it is set up in The 90. There are multiple work streams. The streams are attempting to fulfill student's needs. There are academic and non-academic. It's a pretty holistic approach to student support. Learnanywhere has been set up and is a central hub for student resources during this time. We need to make sure that we are being responsible and an example. Practice social distancing and self-isolation if needed. Dr. Newman sent out information about the virus and what to do. If you need to be out somewhere, go, but be responsible. Not everyone needs to self-quarantine, just if you possibly may have come in contact. The provost sent out an email that outlines where students should reach out if they have technology needs. This is important because if you hear of students reporting consistent technology needs, that is something he needs to know and can share on. Students were asked to leave their dorms if possible. To prevent the dorms and campus from turning into a peetree dish. There was an appeal process for students who needed to stay on campus. They processed their application and found a safe space for them to reside. They put students in individual suites. They are using Blazer and Jewell halls. Campus is not closed. There are still students on campus. There is going to be a process on refunds. They will be for housing and dining

Arianna asked since graduate students are staying and Champs is far. Does he know what the thought process was. Why they're using north campus

They set up a housing committee. The rationale was that the dorms in central campus were low capacity, so if the need got larger what would they do. There are kitchens in Uflats. It is a bit of a haul, but the north campus dining option is still open. The availability of the suite style rooms was in Blazer and Jewell.

Arianna said she doesn't know anyone who has a dining plan, she was just wondering why they were splitting the residents.

Michael said they looked at the numbers of people on meal plans.

Connor Hicks asked if there has been any conversation for the decrease in quality of education.

Michael said he's seen this conversation and has asked the administrators. As of now, it is not being considered, the focus is more on refunds in dining and housing. At the end of the day, we are still getting the credit, but he understands the quality.

Connor asked about the fees apart from academics, such as the Johnson Center fee.

Michael said he will be asking and voicing these concerns in the upcoming weeks. He went over the academic policy. The withdrawal date and p/f grading change has been extended to May 1. The p/f is for electives and the program faculty are deciding how to apply this to major specifics. Shout out to Bilal and Conner for being great advocates for the students. Freshman and students on probation are allowed to change classes to p/f. Classes taken p/f this semester will not impact your total 4 allotted in university senate rules.

Gabby asked if the p/f option has already been made available. On the learnanywhere website, does it include instructions on how to do this?

Michael said yes he will go over it in a second. Also, advisors will need to help with this option.

Gabby asked if that will state on the learnanywhere website that they need to go to their advisors.

Michael said that he believed the language that is online right now says they need to work with their advisor.

Edward asked how this policy affects graduate professional courses. Graduate student courses are very unique per department.

Michael said we don't have an option that enables an option for p/f for graduate courses. They are looking at an option to accommodate for graduate students. As of now, there will need to be a new policy or a change in current policy. On that, graduate students there are uniquely challenged. Same with professional schools. Their ability is limited to whatever their accreditation or boards decided to allow them to do. If anyone sees any needs or challenges students are facing please reach out. The decisions they make are up to the faculty. I need everyone to be at the top of your game. If you hear of any challenges, I need you to direct them to me. Any concerns or challenges at all. Please be diligent and share anything you hear. That was a lot of word vomit, sorry, does anyone have any questions?

Arianna said the entire education of design majors is studios. I am trying to find a way, because they are an accredited program. How can they ensure that the deans and directors of colleges are getting information out as quickly as possible? The class that she TA's is facing struggles and her students are very stressed.

Michael said that there is an expectation of each professor to update their syllabuses by March 31st. As we work through this and information is collected, information will be shared as quickly as possible.

Edward said that one of the major concerns is that there hasn't been a clear message of what students working in labs are expected to do. He knows the provost said they should direct questions to the directors. Some of the college deans are not answering in adequate time. Can there be a more cohesive message sent out?

Michael said thanks for raising that. There needs to be a central message. He will relay it to folks. Anything anybody else has to ask? He put his phone number and email up there.

VIII. Announcements and Senator's Privilege

Edward said for anyone who has SSPs lingering and is unable to spend it, they need to spend it by next month when new senators are sworn in right?

Kelly said if anyone has any SSPs that don't revolve around events he would love to add it. They have talked about using the funds to help students who have been more affected by Covid-19. SSPs are not a big priority right now.

Bilal said Michael did a great job of explaining what is going on in university senate. He knows that the chemistry dept is allowing p/f. if you are a pre professional student, ask if they will allow classes graded as p/f. Wanted feedback if anyone has classes or friends in classes where professors are allowing students to take their midterm grade as their final grade.

Kammy said "I wish"

Bilal said that was an idea that was floated around and knows of at least one.

Kammy said for O&E, they will still be meeting on Wednesday.

X. Members Privilege

Michael said that they had their safety walk. Claire Marie and her team did an amazing job and everyone was very open to the ideas they brought up. That work will move forward. Projects are also moving along.

Kayla asked if they can still recommend resolutions.

Alex said that is not the top priority

Conner said that a lot of our education experiences are being degraded, but it is important to give our professors some patience. All of the discussions they have been involved in, people have been student minded.

Arianna seconded that. Professors and TA's are trying their best and please try to be patient.

Edward said that there were going to be exec applications. Is there a time frame?

Bilal said the applications will come out this week and it will be open for about two weeks. They know it will be a little bit more difficult to promote it. The time frame is to have interviews in April.

Edward asked about the spring forum, if it is going to be online or will it go digital or be called off?

Alex said they will use a channel to take questions and field some and send them in. This may get more attendance than usual given the probable online aspect.

Arianna said she wanted to go back to exec applications. We have a director of communication for the college of design, every college probably has one. Can we send it to them and they will distribute it to their colleges.

Bilal said yes that's a great idea.

Kammy said she is involved with alumni ambassadors; applications are out now. You get to work at events and it's a good way to network. Hit me up.

Kayla D said SGA scholarships will be coming out///check

Bilal said speaking of awards. February senate February. He went through his entire budget. Check

Jack said thank you all. If you have any questions or concerns, please send them in. Stay safe and wash your hands.

XI. Final Roll Call

IX. Adjournment

8:00