

Student Government Minutes

March 11, 2010 (Thursday)

Minutes Pursuant to the Agenda:

(1) Communications Committee Report-Back on Website Development

Amanda Heikkinen presented a slide-show detailing a time-line of the SG website

Steven Beard explained why SG needs an independent website and that we are moving forward with the independent website as originally planned

Bright Limm discussed the rationale for the SG website and showed the body an introductory view of the website on-line. The preliminary website includes: (1) a calendar, (2) a polling function, (3) a forum, and (4) a section titled "CUNY Governance" where minutes and other SG materials will be posted.

(2) Quality of Student Government Meetings

Ebette Fortune discussed the deteriorating quality of SG meetings and the possibility of altering the meeting structure.

The Sub-committee on Governance further discussed the possibility of altering meetings where one meeting (held on week) would include discussion and the other meeting (held the next week) would include voting. The Sub-committee on Governance also mentioned a rotating structure where members will rotate taking notes each session. A proposal related to SG Meetings will be sent to the SG body at large and a vote on whether to change the structure of SG meetings will be made after Spring Break 2010.

(3) Gender Neutral Bathrooms at 2 Court Square

This discussion is postponed until after Spring Break 2010.

(4) Natural Light at 2 Court Square and Natural Light Resolution

The SG body was informed that the final architectural design is due in two (2) weeks. As a result, SG needs to take a position on the issue of natural light in the new building. Specifically, should staff, faculty, students and the administration of CUNY Law all have equal access /equal share in the natural light within the building? A resolution related to this issue is titled "Natural Light Resolution" and was drafted by Patrick Foster. A vote on the Natural Light Resolution was made at the meeting wherein there were **Thirteen (13) YES votes** and **Zero (0) NO votes** and **Zero (0) Abstentions**. The Natural Light Resolution is passed.

(5) 2010-2011 LSA Budget Request

Ebette Fortune informed the SG body that Budget Request forms from the Office of Student Affairs have not yet been received. The SG Committee on Finance needs to finish its budget request and such request needs to be approved by the SG body before it is submitted to LSA. The SG budget for academic year 2010-2011 currently has money being allocated toward: (1) office supplies, (2) SG Retreat, (3) SG website maintenance, (4) technology, (5) co-sponsorship with other student organization, and (6) money to help students attend other school-related meetings (e.g. ABA meetings).

If SG members have other suggestion on how and what money should be allocated toward then please email these suggestions to Ebette Fortune or Bright Limm as soon as possible. The budget requests are due to LSA by and no later than March 23, 2010. There was discussion on the unfairness of this date given that it is after Spring Break 2010 and student groups will not have time to contemplate their budgets. Moreover, this deadline was not sent to students giving them no notice of the impending deadline.

(6) Student Government and Governance Committee Elections

The process for selecting governance committees and re-electing SG reps is to take place between March 15 and April 30, 2010. There were suggestions that a formal process be used wherein students may present themselves and their accomplishments to the student body as a whole.

(7) Graduation and End of Year Party

By default of being on Student Government, SG members are hereby and officially the body responsible for planning and organizing End of the Year and Graduation events. More information related to this will be given.