

VASSAR STUDENT ASSOCIATION

Council Agenda for March 2, 2014

Time: 7:00pm

Location: College Center 223

“When we speak we are afraid our words will not be heard or welcomed. But when we are silent, we are still afraid.
So it is better to speak.” – Audre Lorde

1 Call to Order

Start: 7pm

2 Attendance.....Operations

Proxies- 2017, Raymond

3 Consent Agenda

- a. Chess Club (Pre Org) (\$98.29/\$98.29)
- b. ViCE/SoundSystem (Capital).....(\$1260/\$1260; \$240/\$240)
- c. Fem Alliance (Discretionary)..... (\$1200/\$1800)
- d. Improv (Speakers)..... (\$400/\$4000)
- e. Slow Food (Conference)..... (\$495/\$495)
- f. Britomartis (Discretionary).....\$520
- g. VPI.....\$1500
- h. Minutes from 2/23/14

4 Forum with Eve Dunbar, Acting Dean of the College(45 min)

Eve Dunbar- I was asked to here by he VSA. [These] are what I like to call, process notes from last December’s group dialogue. This was a dialogue that was kind of shared by counseling services and I think VSA [also had a part in the planning of it]. [It] came on the heels of I think a campus climate meltdown. In a sense, there were a lot of students feeling concerned about safety, processing biased ____... decided to hold a forum in order to process those feelings. This document came at the end of the session. I think about 70-80 people participated. Students, faculty, everyone was asked to put down on a card some concerns they had, and then we broke those concerns into categories. Here are the categories... and bulleted points. I’ve taken this to... deans and directories to look over the categories and concerns to discuss [whether they’ve already addressed concerns]. There might be concerns [that can be] addressed in a low to no cost [way]. [I am here] to see if there are questions ____... dialogue, concerns.

President -the whole idea behind this was to give students a voice. The college office has taken this and wants to take action. If there are things that are important... want to add some things onto this list, now is the chance.

Dunbar - I just wanted to highlight under the change resources, the gender-neutral bathrooms in every building. [It] is in process and I don’t know if Danny wants to talk

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about it. ___[there is a] restorative justice model for dialogue and micro-aggressions model. That one’s being processed. The small, intimate conversations with professors, students, administration... Under “etc.” I think CIE is working on this, working on student dialogue.

Main – under the section “etc.”, could you speak to the last bullet point?

Dunbar – I didn’t write the card. That’s just a desire among many people.

President – I noticed one of the things is increased Metcalf ___ I was wondering if you could speak to that.

Dunbar - I think this is a tough one. In terms of progress, [we were] able to secure permanent lines for two counselors, so there are a total of 5 permanent ones, [or at least will be] by the fall. I have a request for a post doc. I’m not sure how well that will fair in the variety but I think there’s real progress made with making permanent positions.

TAs –what are your personal goals for this semester?

Dunbar - to keep the wheels on the bus... I’m interested in personally supporting the bystander intervention training... SAVP, Elizabeth Schrock in particular. We’re looking to bring in the bystander training, I’m forgetting the official name; hopefully that will happen in late April early May. That’s something I’m really invested in. I think again, I’m deeply invested in campus climate issues and creating spaces for dialogue. I will be holding this Friday a small focus dialogue. Afterwards, in the spring, probably in April, I’ll have a call to the general student body to see what people are thinking about their experience at Vassar.

2015 – from what I understand, you’ve worked in the dean of the faculty office and...

Coming from that background, I imagine you have fresh eyes. I was wondering if you saw anything in particular... [Do you have] advice for us in how you see the college now, now that you’re overseeing so many groups of people?

Dunbar - in the 6-8 weeks that I’ve been working, a revelation [that I has been presented to me] is... I was a house fellow for a few years, so I thought I knew the reality of student lives. [Students’ lives] are richer than the classroom. But going to the dean of the college side, [I see] the kind of wide range of experiences that students have from interpersonal to institutional. [They] have ben laid bare for me.

Academics – social justice requirement... what would you want for it to look like_____

Dunbar – [that is a] tough question. I think it depends on when you ask me. When I was a co-chair of CIE, this was probably three years ago, we were given a proposal that entailed

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specific courses that all students would take. And that to me did not seem like the right model. Personally I don't think a single course taught by 1-2-4 etc. faculty members would be one I want to see. I would want it to be diverse for the student body, so students would have a suite of courses they would like to choose from. They're all going to be different... I would like to see one that would allow people to sort of pick and choose. The data from registrar... about 90 percent of our students take classes that if we were to have a requirement, they would have fulfilled it. Which suggests to me [that we should look into] a different way to talk about the work students do, acknowledge the work that students are already invested in. That's my ideal. We develop a discourse that encourages others. I think it may mean something. What does it look like in reality? I'm not sure. It would have to go through the faculty. What would that look like coming out of the faculty? I'm not sure. But since the data suggest that the vast majority is meeting the “requirement” we might look at it in sort of more social ways.

Socos – I wanted to talk more about the Metcalf funding. I'm just very hesitant to, based on what we have... I want to acknowledge it... we're not really making it better. On all college day, it showed up on our mural as things students' wants and needs. I just want to know, there are few things VSA all want to get behind, if we can make this a priority.

Dunbar – I'm not sure if you need to do anything. I think the VSA has made it clear that it wants this. You can keep being vocal, and I'll keep pushing this. I could lie to you, but I'm not a person that says that's going to happen. I'm going to say something that's something I'm invested in. I hear you.

Pres – we do appreciate your work.

THs – I'm just curious to know if there are other conversations that the administration is having with respect to the contextualization of space. I'm a proxy, so I don't know the context as well for the letter. From the res life perspective, the way we are trained is that Metcalf is sort of the last ___ it becomes sort of this wide reaching threshold. It feels almost as if it's a bureaucratic channel more so than a resource for long term anything. I guess my biggest concern is that, fundamentally, how do you understand Metcalf as a space and its ultimate role. From my perspective, the more fundamental ___ is, what should Vassar provide, how does that relate to the college?

Dunbar – I feel like the question is kind of leading

THs - how do you understand Metcalf as a space and where do you see its functions?

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Dunbar – again, Wendy would probably give a better answer, but what I can tell, the way Metcalf counseling services... it really appears to me to be a resource for students first and foremost about stress... on campus to get the care they need to get through whatever. That would be the primary resource. I’m not sure it’s meant to be the soul site of counseling for any individual throughout the four years. Probably one might need to, if they have the resources, to find their own longer-term counselor. I see it as a site where you can get the help you need for that moment with the hope of moving into – where one can get a weekly care, frequency they need. We’re not a full service counseling center. I’m not sure if many institutions have those.

THs—what then is the goal in funding more resources? To increase access I guess?

Pres – from my experience, I find that it’s kind of an essential ___ then figuring out a strategy moving forward. Sometimes it’s academic stress with family then learning how to manage that stress... figuring out what better resources available. Recognizing it’s a needed short-term resource, there are a lot of students that call and can’t get appointments because they’re so overbooked. This is an incredibly used resource on campus. If a student is told they have to wait... that’s not the [way it should] function.

Jewett- underneath ___ a more crucial ways for show ____ how does that look like?

Dunbar – I don’t know who wrote this, it was all anonymous. This is the one I kind of highlighted. It seems a lot of under-change resources... that’s the way I’m interpreting this. I can’t tell if it’s that people want to be able to report their peers, if they feel there’s been a micro-aggression and that seems... ___ On the other hand.... the vagueness of it. I don’t know if anyone else has any insight, but what was it about it that’s interesting?

Jewett- it sounded like to me [it was referring to] Say Anything.

Dunbar- my sense is that I hope it’s not just like an official Say Anything, in that it’s really addressing ___...I may be wrong. I wasn’t the writer of the card.

SL – it kind of seems like they’re asking for a Say Anything that applies responsibility. It seems like what they’re asking for is to be accountable to ___[something]___.

Dunbar – I don’t know what that would look like.

2017- ____ what work administration feels taken under consideration orientation... optional...

Dunbar – I think that the two categories here that kind of ___ me institutionally, orientation and [making it] mandatory. These are two things. There’s a lot of desire in the

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group to make things mandatory, yet there’s something about the institution that resists mandatory [things]. I think that as an institutional problem, I don’t know how to deal with that. Orientation that needs to be and has been - ___ I don’t know if you can get that right. I think the first year orientation is open to feedback. You need a group of people that is going to be flexible and assess what works from year to year. And I think there’s a lot of attention. I think that part hearing what the students are wanting, and needing with the orientations. I don’t know how you create a mandatory orientation without saying this is mandatory. And even then, I don’t know how you I want to use the word police, but how you penalize people who don’t do it? How do you make students come, or what makes for suitable penalties?

2015- penalty wise, this is specific, but if this is supposed to be ___ perhaps then you should have a lower draw number if you choose not to engage in things.

Royal - is there any place ... make it optional like the online course?

Pres. - free food, but having more fun parts of orientation maybe?

Dunbar - I’ve never been through orientation here.

Pres - they say BBQ at one point and I think I remember a tropical dance? But I don’t know, I think, I just watched an episode of Parks and Rec. They brought together a youth council to brainstorm [some things]. I think bringing students together to talk about what they would like maybe honestly getting a group of freshmen in one room and asking what are things that would be fun.

SL - orientation committee has pretty much finalized... ___ I sat in on [a meeting]; it doesn’t seem like a lot of things have changed. I would ___ more than just the representatives that are there. Also, just is there more initiative. I think this is a perfect conversation for orientation committee. There’s not much we can say about it here. I’m saying these conversations happen earlier in the year. But we do have an opportunity because they’ve asked the VSA... hosting... It would be a good way of introducing more _____it’s really overwhelming....

THs - having been through thrice in some capacity it seems like the only thing that drives it is novelty of space and people around you. By ___ of you not knowing anybody or anything, you’re motivated to find something. That’s just my thought. On this list, in the under-change resources, what do you think about ___? We house team _____. I guess my question

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is have there been conversations with administration about proposed changes to reslife house team structure and if you have personally any stance?

Dunbar – I would love to know what, which parts people are displeased with because this is _____. I’m not a student on the campus, so if you could help clarify for me what it is...

THs – from my own personal perspective, I think relationship of physical appearance with space and ____ students associate relationship on what almost _____ under funding _____ and ability to respond to damages in the interior. If it’s already broken... respect space.. cyclical relationship of a built environment and student perspective in student experience. Relationship to space and house, and in turn relationship to students there. Each house has its own culture. I think some of those ideas and notions of house pride are beginning with the space. Not to suggest those ideas are problematic...

Royal – It would be interesting to have part of orientation, to discuss what its like having a roommate and making compromises. Its difficult sharing personal space and a lot of people don’t know how to deal with that. As a person who had to switch roommates, I found it frustrating... I wanted to talk to [people] but if there had been any proactive program, more realistically what that should look like... There are a lot of things that don’t come up until they come up...

Dunbar- [are you] suggesting training for stu fells or new students?

Royal – maybe just kind of like more involvement in the roommate.

Pres - also as a senior, issues in senior housing. So, some sort of thing that’s repeated for seniors might solve a lot of problems. As I envision it, it would be a panel of other students kind of giving examples of successful ways they’ve gotten over problems or how they’ve had house meetings. Seeing successful examples of how people are doing it before you.

Dunbar - and there has been no panel like this at any point in time? {Response- no}

Joss – so, in terms of res life, I think it’d be beneficial if res life were more responsive and more respectful of people’s genders and what they feel comfortable with in terms of rooming. I know someone that had a super horrible freshman year roommate ended up leaving... They kept emailing reslife. Of which those emails kept getting ignored. And then having to go through it again, so that maybe.

Josh – in terms of res life, _____, there’s no mutual communication, only one way. Where if I have concern, I talk to someone and then it somehow gets placed into another structure.

There’s no ticket system....personal issues or housing issues. Secondly- issue of honesty with

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res life... to say it hasn't been very clear. I feel like I could relate more with what res life is trying to say if it were more honest with what the situation is. Even something as simple as a bill at end of the year [saying this is] how much you pay. I asked for that... there's just a lot of ____ communication and just being honest with the way things are being done.

Pres – I'm going to ask we move away from that. Maybe I can invite Louis Inoa some time.

2015 - after this semester, I'm curious where your future lies in college...

Dunbar – I'm going back downstairs, associate to faculty.

2015 - is it possible you might end up in the dean of college position?

Dunbar - I feel like I'm on a bad first date. I don't know if I want any kids. I don't know...

I know I have a little more time downstairs. I love teaching. I love my own research. The worst thing that can happen to me is that I have to go back to the English department, read the books I love, and teach about them. And I'm really happy with that. I don't know. I'm not being deceptive. I just have no idea what the future holds.

Fin. – I think there's been pressure __ to have house team in programming and I think part of that has to do with ____ positions...

Dunbar – you're saying the house team does double duty?

Fin - I think a strong [aspect] of Vassar is that programing is done by students...

Pres – there's demand for some of them, but in terms of financing, it gets tricky, and it's hard to plan these events. Houses might not want to do that. It's kind of up to them.

Fin – there is value in allowing res life to focus on things; then there are things ____

Pres - thank you so much for coming in. sorry about the first date.

Dunbar - I once did speed dating... Thank you guys so much.

5 Reports

a. Student Life(7 min)

SL - Hello everybody, I have a couple updates. Starting with gender-neutral bathrooms, forum on Wednesday Feb 19th in Rocky. Very consistently talked about. The turn out was acceptable- would've been nice to see more faculty and staff. I understand the timing of it. Students actually gave the most helpful feedback. A lot of things were raised. We're going to be regrouping this week. We're meeting tomorrow as a smaller focus group then more entirely on Tuesday. So the next thing is that Josh Sherman and I are working on getting exec positions on VSA paid... pushed the proposal through out last year. But it was pushed at the

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end of the year then left to die over the summer. It was also not entirely circulated among the ___ and directors. That’s the approach this time. Cappy actually requested that I write a letter to explain why this differs ___ - with the exception being that students on the exec board have an outreach ... so, the intent is to diversify the positions.

TAs – my question was in regards to the bathrooms. Where is the push back coming from? What are the barriers?

SL – the signs are being ordered. In terms of making it in every building, there are some issues. In some buildings if you renovate a bathroom, they’re going to need to renovate the whole building and the college isn’t in the position for that. Urinals taking up space and toilets... The college didn’t write the building codes. From the student perspective, nobody cares. But we have to keep in mind pushback overwhelmingly is coming from the staff. If I was going to say there was any, mostly from the codes, and also a lack of education. So we’re looking on making more forums to talk about why this is a basic need for people and why we need to have an option for everybody. Also stress, we’re not forcing anybody to go into a bathroom they’re not comfortable with. Pushback – antiquated building codes, and staff and faculty, not overwhelmingly, there are some that support this.

Jewett – is there going to be a decision made for the filing this year?

SL – I’m trying to push this letter through this week. Ideally it would be pushed through. I would like for it to be pushed through.

Pres – but if we choose to file and then get elected, that would help us, and explain how it...

Noyes – would this only apply to people on work-study or all exec positions?

SL – the intent is to open up to students who would otherwise be spending time from doing homework towards the position. And I think some people think it makes a conflict. I don’t think they would accept it if ____. We’re making them work-study eligible, so anybody on work-study can receive payment for the hours.

Pres - no one is going to force you to do that. But having that choice would be nice

SL – I sit on the SAVP committee and in the subcommittee, students subcommittee, we’ve been working on a video project to make it more transparently available. We’ve been reaching out to people and basically they’re not

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going to be like bad acting videos. These are really to reach out to students who may not be ready yet to talk to somebody in person and to have more information if they were to join. If you have questions about that, talk to me. There’s still room if anyone is interested. SAVP posters we put up since the last update... thank you all for posting those in your dorms. I was also reached out to, and I talked to the committee, I talked to 2016. Who is working on a bunch of projects... I haven’t met with _____. But my understanding is this is trying to address the racial profiling, rather than security is dealing with... the investigation. This is mostly to find out what students are feeling. We encourage students to go on the security website. If you ever have a bad experience, you can report it. If there is anyway we can better represent them on campus in general.

b. Academics.....(7 min)

Acad. – student centers, two more to go__ CEQ course evaluations are coming out... evaluate the question... new question and faculty actually passed it. Phase 1- they’re looking for focus groups. We’re going to ask for diversity, not just student leaders to evaluate course, effective teaching. The other great thing is that 24-hour space is going to open after spring break, Fridays, Saturday... the reserve desk will not be open.

c. Constituent Concerns.....(7 min)

Pres- I received a bunch of emails about late night at the deece, overwhelmingly positive, almost everyone wants it to continue. There were concerns about student employers about being understaffed but I’m hoping it’ll be remedied in the future. I got 10-20 responses then other people in passing telling game. They were telling me their favorite foods. This weekend was the board of trustees weekend. That was fun. I’m a student observer. When they did ask me to speak, the things I was stressing were Metcalf and we talked about the bookstore moving off campus and how we were going to support that. In addition to approving the budgets, they approved moving the bookstore to the Juliet. Bob is very excited. Otherwise, it wasn’t a very active meeting per se. We just had discussions about general assessment process and academic technology.

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Jewett – I think I saw something on Facebook about the student labor dialogues. I don't know who we can bring this up to without having consequences... clear paths for students by this. Who can we talk to about that?

Pres – Bob, I'm not really sure

Jewett – in a way, one of the things that were on some students [minds] were like why isn't this coming from such... why aren't they sending people to go clear paths for THs? Why is it they're going out of their {referring to workers} ways. I don't know if you read it too, but they're getting, not in trouble, but something on that line [for clearing those paths].

Pres – that's because there are [restrictions] in terms of what people are allowed to do [and be paid for]. If you like I can bring in Bob Walden to speak

Davison – two things that has my constituency super concerned- last week during the blackout Davison was vandalized. My house team and house fellows, we kind of ruled it out, it wasn't a biased incident. It was just someone writing their alias on the quad side entrance. We reported it to security. It's still there, nothing changed. Also, early this semester one of my stu fells was apparently followed into Davison by two men who are clearly not people from Vassar. And apparently we have an issue with one of our back doors where it doesn't lock. Luckily there were people downstairs. We reported it again and... we followed up with it again and nothing was changed again. We have no idea where to go. This is the second time in the year where members from my house don't feel comfortable. And we have tried to get in contact with so many different people and we have no idea what's going on.

SL – I'm sending a more overwhelming sentiment that I'm a little troubled that it doesn't seem like the college considers students as a priority. The first priority is it to clear up areas that would be visual. Pathways, things like that... I'm just a little troubled by that.

Pres – sounds like a roc issue, typically secretary of dorm is supposed to be the liaison... I think putting pressure from house team or going to house advisor [is good]... this is a safety concern for students. I'm not really sure.

Royal – I also think it's a roc issue. I'm not sure if its understaffing. There have been multiple things in my room that don't work... Google doc thing... There've just been generally a lot of things.

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Main – something my house team pointed out or wanted to know more about was the discussions of student space. Upc is a programming space now. And small side of the dc is now late night at the dc and that’s pretty much pop by drunk hungry students. What is the purpose of late night at the dc, and what is the status about the new student space since the bookstore is moving?

Pres – purpose of down c was just a response to what the student space report was, a space to hang out, but also have food options. I think there’s currently a team being formed about what’s happening in the college center. My hope is that one is more about food and the other one is a little quieter. But I think there’s a whole team of people that’s looking at what those needs are.

Main – ...implanting these changes within the next year?

Pres – I’m not sure, but ___ is facilitating that

Socos – interviews for Metcalf positions... there have been 5 candidates. They seem solid, I was interviewing them along with others... a lot of responses were about flexibly, perhaps different timing two of the candidate__ one started initiatives at the university of Oregon.

Pres- last year Metcalf appointed two temp positions for the year because they were looking for another position, and so now they’re trying to hire more permanent positions.

THs -conversations about the roc, speaking from _____ perspective, the entirety is understaffed. Its almost never even been closed to being addressed. I want us to be careful... it’s not necessarily a concern for students, but rather a staffing. For instance, our entire campus has two painters. An institution this size should also have 6. In a addition to that, we also have union limitations.

SL – just to clarify, I’m talking about admin level, not like demonizing ____

Pres – thank you fro sharing, if you have additional things, feel free to email me.

- 6 Students Class Issues Alliance Letter(15 min)

SCIA – opening classroom dialogue advocating for institutional stage to better accommodate the socioeconomic diversity of students. One of our current projects is a smaller, logistical thing, to make textbooks more affordable. Those solutions surround getting course material information sooner. We’re hooping faculty can develop an internal policy to let students know, so students can find alternative more affordable options. The

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information is not as public as it could be. The lack of transparency puts students in a bind where they feel obligated to buy course materials soon, whether they're optional, if you're going to read the whole book. For hard sciences, whether you really need the last edition of the book. So just things like that. I think we saw some progress in our proposal with acting dean of faculty. But something more concrete would be useful.

Academics – the point of the letter is to ____

Pres – ____ think we meet with people on this list on a regular basis and we've talked to all of them, but I think having it in writing is a way of showing this is something we all support.

Fin – motion to vote, All in favor, motion (to approve the letter) passes

7 Joint Committee Reps Amendment.....Operations (10 min)

2014 – regarding students we sent to joint committees, all of the exec boards that they rep...____ the student delegation. This amendment tightens up how many people we actually need on those committees. And builds in a little more oversight. To report to certain VPs. I think that's a lot of it. Any questions?

Pres – one of my concerns is that I think even though the reporting changes, that it makes a priority for the VPs. So I think there needs to be more language, not necessarily in here, but in our policies. This is a problem with the amendment... we need to go a step further. We talked about last week, how a concern was to have extra reps; it might be too many people and we kind of talked about how maybe they'd just be called in once a month, or be on a subcommittee. It maybe more beneficial to serve as members of committee... It says at the discretion, but I don't know.

Ops – so I think this is meant to be ____ I think primarily for the purpose, it's more than a policy...

Pres - I'm worried about [this] from a vp perspective.

Ops – I agree...____

Fin -vote on it, motion passes

8 Board of Elections and Appointments AmendmentOperations (10 min)

Ops – this is something we talked about last week. We've been working on it all year. This is a large number of ____, which is very acing on ops. Additionally there's a disconnect with people who should be in charge of elections and ____ this essentially __ that by taking board of elections, making it a little more independent and also _____ elected members. It will be a good way of keeping more distance between VSA... A concern last week was about the idea

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of... we looked at the second page of the amendment. The policy would be that the board of elections would present a recommendation at the council meeting. It will be a consent agenda item. Board of elections co-chairs will ___ their recommendations. [For] applications, I always have the names removed. Follow up process, if the VSA council consents, then should any member of council object, then the item will become a regular agenda item and a majority vote will be necessary to...___ that it the biggest change.

TAs- can you explain who else served on this council and what role of VP for ops is?

Ops- supervisor role, serve as a second co-chair, but there will be a co-chair elected at large. Additionally there will be two members elected from each class year... who will serve.

Finally, in order to address the fact that different appointments require... who will sit, rotate based on the type of it. For example, if it’s regarding Socos, we’d have two seniors there.

2015 - ... about the timeline, but I really don’t...having the VP for ops... the reason seniors on council is that they can’t run for another position- conflict of interest. So, I guess, I maybe... ___ it makes a lot more sense to have someone who can’t run.

Ops – that was discussed and has been addressed. Basically the idea is that if you have a conflict of interest, you’re not allowed to participate in that election process. Which will at times diminish the number of people serving on committee, but it will be a fairly large committee. Should the vp for ops be a candidate even though they wouldn’t obtain___.

2015 - ___

Pres - the only concern I have, I agree that I like having this consented to rather than voting, our documents don’t actually say fund apps are on the consent agenda. I’m not really sure whether this should all be here.

Ops - even if we were to strike ___, we would still have a clear enough policy. ___ amendment concerning board of elections concerning to strike 14 sub B, subsections 1-3.

2015 - is it possible we could table this until after spring break?

Ops – because this involves electing 7 new people, publicity is a major problem. I would like to see us do this earlier. If there are major substantive problems, I’d be happy to change them in committee. But if they’re small, I’d like to solve them now.

Pres – motion to approve this amendment with the specific instructions mentioned. All in favor, motion passes.

9 Vacancies Amendment.....Operations (10 min)

Please note: the meeting location prevented the note-taker from being able to fully hear each statement.

VASSAR STUDENT ASSOCIATION

Council Agenda for March 2, 2014

Time: 7:00pm

Location: College Center 223

“When we speak we are afraid our words will not be heard or welcomed. But when we are silent, we are still afraid.
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Shawn [currently proxying 2017] – this amendment is identical to the one presented last week. It is basically laying out the procedure we already followed that we technically weren't allowed to.

Strong – motion to vote – All in favor, motion passes.

10 VP for Student Life AmendmentStudent Life (10 min)

SL – so, we talked last week about how the title job title of vp for student life is very vague. This amendment hopes to make it less vague. One of the obligations is to rep the office of campus life of diversity, to consider issues of campus climate.

Fin – move to suspend bylaws

Pres - one of the reasons we don't do that for governing document changes is because they're kind of a big deal and we want to make sure everyone has a change to talk to constituencies.

Ops – ...prefer not to set the precedent of suspending bylaws to rush through things.

THs – question, could you speak to how typically you would act the resource to ___

SL – we removed the house officer training because that's not something that the VP for life does anymore. The reason we left the rest of the section is because while that's not necessarily a very common part of the job description, we don't feel that it's something that it would ____

Jewett – point of clarification on voting to suspend the bylaw, can you clarify that?

Pres – Mike asked if we could suspend bylaws to wait a week to vote on it. Then ops cautioned us that we shouldn't set this as a precedent.

Davison – it came up when were talking about restructuring. If it would be difficult if a candidate who ran as a white cisgender male who would be representing the unique set of issues with students associated with campus diversity. I don't know how much of an issue that would be.

SL – we can't stop anybody from getting a position, but there are certain ____

Pres – ...precaution against making that statement... I don't like the statement... I could also argue you also don't represent the women's center. I guess if you want to get ... we are just going to have to trust that someone who is running is going to be committed. When we say represent we don't mean necessarily represent physically, but be a person who can speak to these issues.

SL – I just want to do something to make it apparent, to if you're not socially conscious ____

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Socos – elections assignments- the purpose of this is to make people aware of what positions are available.

Ops - we meet Sunday...___

Noyes - _____

Pres - recap - alternative point why we should wait, we pass other amendment we passed it especially because we want people to publicize it, in passing it this week rather than ____.

Ops - ____ when you publicize a position ... ____

Pres – motion to suspend the bylaws, if in favor, you want to suspend the laws and you want to vote on it today, if you vote against it, you have to wait until after break... Motion fails.

TAs- for whoever we table this to, section 2 part c, can we remove “groups of students” because then that means individuals can’t come to SL?

11 Open Discussion

2014 – last year’s ran a little bit over 3 hours [Oscars], [if I were to watch it] on repeat from now until graduation, I would have watched it 669 times. With respect tot my job chair of board of elections, 3 weeks prior to filing, we must send publicity plans... elections interest meeting. Posters we put up after break in main ___ housing. All of house presidents will send blurbs to constituencies, one from board of elections... VSA website will be updated, twitter, campaign events... all dorms required to have house team info sessions where people tell about their positions. Debate among exec board... I don’t know what the date is. There will be an email at the beginning of voting period, and one half away through the voting period.

Ops – April (9) 6pm

Chris – why isn’t the UPC open?

Activities – cabaret in Villiard room

SL – I’ve been talking loud, I’m just kind of tired. Also, I really like the structure we have here. It’s hard to coordinate. Especially the note taker... I don’t want us to make us not want to explore other spaces. We knew that UPC wasn’t open certain days. I’d like to think this eliminates sort of the hierarchy problem. But I think there’s still a little bit of a [work to be done].

Pres – I have a little trouble seeing everyone.

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2017 – as someone __ I think...

Royal – spaces... I don't think it'd be the best idea to have a VSA meeting in a dorm. Maybe they don't want to hear a VSA meeting in a dorm going on.

Joss – wherever we move, I just hope that it's not cold.

Strong – I want to preface before I say this with, I did want to update that a subcommittee of activities committees met with __ to discuss incident from a couple weeks ago. Everyone agreed __ can move forward, we as activities committees want to emphasize that we support ___ update let everyone on council know what activities committee is doing.

2015 - Vassar has really bad rumor mill issues

Fin - finance committee has 15 fund apps, so be nice to them.

Aca - ____

2015 - motion to adjourn

TH – With respect to the larger discussion about Metcalf, my only thought is that we should have conversations with the office of res life and talk about how student leaders are ____ in their ____; we have to be thinking about how students are getting there. I guess, depending on issues they're having, I think the way the space is contextualized by student leaders is important.

Motion to adjourn; passed with all in favor.

9:01

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