

**College Council
Minutes October 7,
2020
ZOOM (remote)**

Attendees: Larry Cushnie, Jane Harness, Thomas Green, Marianna Asaturova, Benjamin Johnson, Bowie Hichens, Haris Mujahid, Jaime Flajole, Kathie Pham, Ruzeda Fields

Guests: Kerr Calder-Sudthisa, Isha Janha, Patrice Davis

Secretary: Christa Zinke

Begin: 2:30pm

End: 4pm

1. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

- Welcoming new members and appreciating returning colleagues

2. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- June 15, 2020 (Done through online survey)

3. REGULAR BUSINESS

- Establishing meeting structure and norms for the year
 - Starting each meeting with Representative Reports
 - Being respectful of everyone's time and the agenda
- Updates
 - Sensitive Location signage to support undocumented students
 - Mac will be on-campus posting signs in the next few weeks.
 - Prayer Space on-campus
 - Cascade Hall has one prayer space, working to secure funds to make the space more private and add a second space on campus. The new fitness center will also have a dedicated prayer space in the future.
 - Ballot box
 - Ballot box has been installed in the front of campus in time for this year's election. Please encourage people to use the box to show that it is needed in future elections. The hope is to have events at the box during elections to promote voting.
 - District Council
 - This is an on-going endeavor in response to the District's Strategic Budget committee and make a shared governance structure that provides checks and balances to District. Larry is working with North and Central's College Councils to form this council.
 - Ben: What were the major tension points with the strategic task force and what ended up happening?
 - Larry: I was brought in late, as the co-chair of College Council. I advocated that there needs to be an equity in terms of cuts, in terms of looking at the staff who are in most need in terms

of hours and pay rates. At South, President and the cabinet volunteer to take paycuts and District basically said that it was up to District to make these decision.

- Haris: This task force, is going against the task force something that is allowed – is there a clause mentioned in their contracts that allow this. Also, will this council be associated with the budget task force?
 - Larry: The Budget task force is outside of the union contracts, though there were union representatives there. It is not a chartered body, it is something that has been done in the past, but it is not granted any decision making power. The District council would act in the same manner as college council, a large group of district-wide representation that works in a united way.
 - Larry: I would feedback on what the District Council should look like, how it is populated, what agenda items should be included etc.
- Transportation Task Force
 - This was casually being run through College Council but has moved to be more official. One of the discussions in concert with the closure of West Seattle Bridge and more discussion regarding bus routes and other transportation options to get to campus. South is the largest employer in West Seattle. This is an opportunity to really push and make sure that we are prioritized on behalf of our students who need the transportation options.
- 16th Ave Pedestrian Crossing and Signage
 - The city decided not to invest funds to make safer. Instead, South is going to create signs and post them in that corridor to post. Traffic is now being re-routed to 16th Ave due to the closure of the West Seattle bridge.

4 NEW BUSINESS

- BIPOC Committee outreach and support
 - Larry has been working with BIPOC to set up a listening session in order to support their work and amplify their message. This will be an on-going focus throughout the academic year. Our BIPOC faculty, staff, and students are already over-stretched, so we want to put systems in place where when issues arise we can be ready to act and be responsive.
 - Ruzeda: There will be a BIPOC forum on the 14th and Nikkita Oliver will be there as a guest speaker.
- Gender Inclusive Bathrooms
 - The only gender inclusive bathroom on campus is by the President's office and people need permission to use it. This is an issue for our faculty, staff, and students. It may be as easy as changing a few signs on campus bathrooms to be gender inclusive.
 - Establishing statement of support/demand
 - Larry: Two main places to convert bathrooms to gender inclusive bathrooms: JMB, NE corner by the bookstore. Bathrooms between Pastry and Rainier Hall that were used by the pastry program that could easily be converted.
 - Jaime: There's one in the Tech building that is a one-stall bathroom by the Prof-Tech dean offices.

- Ben: Please include Georgetown campus, and potentially the C Bldg, which is our primary event space. This is a gateway for a lot of our community partners to see us promoting this inclusion.
 - Legal considerations
- Digital Voter Registration Drive
 - Ruzeda: Only one student showed up to the drive, but we did record it so that if anybody wants to tune in that is available. A lot of students learned a lot that they did not know. I let them know that there is a brand new ballot box at the front of campus.
 - Larry: Do we have anything set up online to promote student registration before the deadline approaches in a few weeks?
 - Ruzeda: I have been working with the marketing manager to connect with instructors to promote this issue since we have had little success posting on social media.
 - Bowie: We have come to realize that with anything having to do with school, if it is not required students will not attend. Even in-person, you could see that but we were able to incentivize that with food and drink. Being online, it removes all the personality that an event can have. We have come to conclusion that the easiest way is to get instructors on board.
 - Ruzeda: Please give them extra credit when you tell them to come!
 - Ruzeda: Monica Lundberg has reached out to a few faculty to have student government come to their classes and we have only had about 5 faculty who have bitten.
 - Bowie: We have also been considering have a Student Government Canvas page where all students are enrolled in automatically that they may be more likely to look at since faculty are now using Canvas more.
- Budget Sessions for the year
 - Fall – Collect new requests; Winter – Go over campus priorities; Spring – discuss implementation funding
 - Fall Budget Forum: October 27th from 3pm-4:30pm (Zoom)
 - Rosie will give state of the budget union, and then look at what funding looks like going forward. In the past, we were physically scheduling rooms, and doing more. This year it will be run more through the President's office. The role that we take in this is up to us.
 - Larry: I think that we need some clarity between decisions that are being made at various levels (District, South, City etc). I would love to have some testimonials from students, so that we have some clear concept what this means to the people we are here to serve.
 - Haris: It would be nice to have a 15-20 minute agenda item to discuss the budget conversations in our current meetings so that we don't have any extra meetings.
 - Larry: That can be something to keep in mind for the monthly representative reports so that we have something that we can collectively bring to campus leadership – this is how people are feeling, this is what we think needs to be done to best serve our students.
 - Jaime: Like, one of the things I kept seeing is that students could not have FT schedules because we

didn't have classes. Unfortunately, we don't have a way to track how many students we lost because we don't have classes and we need budgets to increase the amount of classes (and generate further revenue).

- Larry: Faculty Coordinator for social sciences. I had been talking with our dean, they said that District allowed us to add more classes at the last minute.
- Jaime: There was a facebook campaign for Running Start and then in order for us to not look horrible, because we had no classes, they added these classes.
- Thomas: When we are all online, do they not realize that by not having classes offered, these students could take classes at LWIT or other courses? For example, I have 12 students on a wait-list and I'm sure if we opened that class it would fill.
- Jaime: One thing that BIPOC brought up is diversifying our classes, for example we have classes on the books that we are not offering like Asian History.
- Collaboration with Labor Education & Research Center on student workers –Larry
 - Adjusting for COVID-19 crisis
 - Coordination with Institutional Research
 - Larry and David: was sent out on October 6th.
 - The intent of the survey is to understand student workers and to work to help students understand their rights as workers. Any
- Establishing Council priorities for 2020-2021
- Continuing considerations
 - Homeless students support
 - Fitness Center update
 - How the fitness center could be a bridge for folks who are in transitional situations. It is important for this committee to be involved in these discussions.
 - Duwamish partnership
 - Opportunities regarding curriculum and being a good community member to connect with them.
 - Public art project in coordination with art faculty
 - Working on public art that is created through curriculum.
 - Thomas: Working to write a grant to create a course in art and activism.
 - Reach out to support voter registration (Student Government, Comms, etc.)

5. ACTION ITEMS

- Be ready for monthly Representative Reports
- Establish date/time for Fall Budget Meeting
- Statement of Support for establishing gender inclusive facilities

UPCOMING MEETINGS:

- November 4, 2020 @ 2:30-4pm

