### Living Group Council Meeting Minutes
March 14, 2018, 7:30pm - 9:00pm in W20-400

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Living Group</th>
<th>Representative</th>
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<tr>
<td>Baker</td>
<td>Rachel O'Grady</td>
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<tr>
<td>Burton-Conner</td>
<td>Katie Fisher</td>
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<tr>
<td>East Campus</td>
<td>Tesla Wells</td>
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<tr>
<td>MacGregor</td>
<td>Eleanor Wintersteen</td>
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<td>Maseeh</td>
<td>Darius Bopp</td>
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<tr>
<td>McCormick</td>
<td>Laura Bergemann</td>
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<tr>
<td>New House</td>
<td>Emily Tang</td>
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<td>Next House</td>
<td>Justina Yang (Jessica Tang)</td>
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<td>Random Hall</td>
<td>MJ Porzenheim</td>
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<td>Simmons</td>
<td>Edward Fan</td>
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<td>Interfraternity Council</td>
<td>Arjun Mithal</td>
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<td>Interfraternity Council</td>
<td>Thomas</td>
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<td>Will</td>
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<td>Interfraternity Council</td>
<td>Samuel Ihns</td>
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<td>Living Group Council</td>
<td>Sasha Rickards</td>
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<td>Off Campus</td>
<td>Olivia Brode-Roger</td>
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<td>Panhellenic Association</td>
<td>Meredith Loy</td>
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<td>Panhellenic Association</td>
<td>Kyra Post</td>
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<td>Panhellenic Association</td>
<td>Alyssa Weiss</td>
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1. Attendance & Approval of 49 UAC 9 Minutes 7:35 - 7:40
2. Officer Updates 7:40 - 7:50
3. Committee Updates 7:50 - 7:55
4. Councilor Updates 7:55 - 8:20
   a. Share updates from your communities and get feedback.
5. Budget Amendments 8:20 - 8:35
6. Confidentiality Policy Revisions 8:35 - 8:50

Enclosures
   A. 49 UAC 9 Minutes
   B. Budget Amendments
   C. Confidentiality Policy v3

7:40pm Officer Updates

Sarah
Met with the dining director about meal plan and new dining vendor contract
   - Talked about establishing low cost grocer
   - Dining owns strange electric van, could be a mobile basic grocer
   - Trying to establish grab and go food on campus
   - Dining dollars will only be used on Campus, not Cambridge and Kendall
   - But looking to expand places where we can use Tech Cash
Met with Vice Chancellor Waitz to talk about advising
   - Meeting with department heads has been going slow
   - Talking to Ian about his reorganization (ex. PKG is going to Office of the Vice Chancellor)
Met with David Randall about ideas for the Wellness Hub
   - Will take his idea and talk to people in Mental Health and VPR
   - Also talked about food insecurity, which was a part of 24 hour challenge! We met our goal
   - Over 900 swipes have been donated this year. 50 today, $10,000 donation
   - Talked about how to get housing after taking leave. This issue can be a stressor for students.
   - Sarah wants to hear stories from councillors about how coming back from leave has been
   - Cindy is also behind this issue
Had the final CJAC (Corporation Joint Advisory Committee) meeting
   - Two undergraduate topics in the areas of financial aid and student discipline
   - Both went very well, can’t talk about details
   - We will see how quickly this will be implement
Talked to Committee on Student Life about spaces on campus
   - Specifically talked about how to pub the new Rebecca’s space in Walker
   - Edward: If Bon Appetit gets the contract for next year, they will invest more in future.
   - Tesla: people have heard generally negative things about Rebecca’s so far (i.e. food running out quickly, weird hours, etc)
UA Elections are happening! For UA President / Vice President and Class Council

Tesla: Can we talk about leave policy?
   - Sasha: A lot of people end up in grad housing or ILGs
- Sarah: Housing issues comes from the timeline, not prioritization. The primary issue with getting people back into specific dorms is because first you have interdorm transfers at end of spring, then first years are placed, then after first years are placed students find out whether they are returning in the fall, unless the dorm accurately predicted how many slots to leave open for returners, they can’t guarantee enough placements for students to come back. It’s not possible to have a guarantee, but we can work to have better predictions.
- Emily: Applications are due months in advance. Spring cycles are due November and you hear back January or early February. 99 Bay State has been getting a lot of people who are coming back from leave because they’re taking a lot of people they can’t place otherwise. The time cycle is horrible.
- Katie: For the fall could FYRE be implemented in some way?
- Olivia: They've now changed the leave process where coming back from voluntary leave involves submitting a form, and they just need to process it, but it takes them so long to process it because you get <1 month to find an apartment or get a job. They don't confirm even if you submit the form 6 months in advance, it’s very stressful to not know by the day you are supposed to know if you can come back.
- Tesla: East Campus has really low turn-out for returning students, so talking to David to have something in Talbot or change structure of programming. Also talking about professional development help for people who are on leave.

Alexa
MIT I Messed Up is happening this year!
- I sent an email to you guys about applying to be a speaker, but it would also be nice if you guys sent an email to your constituents.

CPW Breakfast
- We’re holding a student government breakfast the Friday of CPW on the first floor of the stud.

Dining
- We’re going to other college campuses to eat the food there. The visits are happening over spring break, I won’t be able to go but other students might be able to.

Kat
Career Services and Exploration Committee
- We brainstormed different departments and services currently being offered and what gaps there are with regards to student needs. Tomorrow we will be hearing a presentation on the Career Fair history and changes that are being made.

Mo
Tomorrow we’re having a UA phone bank to promote civic engagement on campus. Chancellor Barnhart sent an email out to undergrads about how we have some undergrads who are DACA recipients.

Met with Sarah Rankin, the Title IX administrator, brainstormed how sexual assault training was done during orientation. One idea is to have peer workshops through peer mentors in certain dorms. Will talk with Don Camilio about this.
- Darius: Don and I talked about a similar thing for bystander training, so this might get included in that.

Talked to Tessa McLain about a small change in how the Committee on Discipline operates. Right now when a case goes to COD the Chair has a first pass at the case, while in reality a faculty member isn’t trained in student conduct, while the Director for Student Conduct is thoroughly trained, so the change in policy would make this a joint decision.
  - Arjun: Is the decision how to proceed with the case?
  - Yes, it could be through a sanctioning panel, a COD hearing if you want to contest the case, etc. Right now the COD Chair has all the power to make that decision.
  - MJ: Why not another faculty member instead of administrators? Giving more power to administrators and less power to faculty wouldn’t be good.
  - There’s more than one faculty member on the COD but not involved in this process. In an ideal world everything would go to multiple people but for these smaller cases its currently on the chair.
  - MJ: We entrust these sorts of positions to scientists at the institution (i.e. Vice Chancellor, Chancellor)
  - Mo: Administrators play a key role but might not get the same amount of recognition.
  - Sasha: Would it be possible to have student oversight into the first pass of decisions?
  - It’s possible if we go through Faculty Governance to change the rules of the COD. Right now minor infractions that don’t involve expulsion are get handled by the Chair.
  - Katie: Are there guidelines for what cases go where?
  - There is precedent for what sorts of cases go where but at the end of the day it’s the Chair’s decision and its irreversible.

**8:20pm Budget Amendments**

Budget amendments were in the email, we are re-allocating unspent money to other committees for things like MIT I Messed Up, CPW Breakfast, Education Dinners, and the Election Commission.

MJ: Is the education dinner recurring?
  - No, and it’s hard because student funding is in flux. This year is a hard year to ask for money because Ian’s office is still being formulating.
  - We also talked to the CoE chairs about moving dinners to be under Ian’s office while still having oversight for it. We’re looking to do it in the future.

Arjun: Do you have a policy for election reimbursements for unopposed candidates?
  - We don’t. We didn’t think about it in the fall. I still think it’s reasonable for people to campaign to engage with constituents. But if that’s something we want to change we can change that.

**Fresh Fund**

The Fresh Fund is UA money but is under the ASA but they don’t have a process for allocating the money. We’re thinking about bringing it back under Finboard because it’s supposed to be for undergraduate groups.

MJ: Some of my constituents were interested in fresh fund money, is there a way to get that money?
  - Talk to the ASA, we’re working with them to create a process.
Vote: 15 in favor, 0 opposed.

8:39pm Confidentiality Policy

Motion to not have this centered and capitalize the S in sitting committee.

My job is the staff these standing committees, who are nominated by the Nominations Committees. While students sit on these committees they get exposed to a lot of data that are sensitive but also relevant to student leaders on campus. Currently there is no formal process for them to share this information, because currently all information is Level 3, which means they can be shared with no-one.

Eleanor: Have they seen this?
- Sarah and Mo have met with Faculty Officers (Chair, Vice-Chair, Secretary).
- They requested the default is for all things to be confidential, instead of being Level 1 and open to anyone. So this is the revision we have proposed to Council
- We are currently sharing this policy with various committee chairs where this policy would be implemented.

Katie: What is the scope of the confidentiality policy?
- This would only apply to standing committees, which are 11-12 committees that include COD, CSL, CAP, CUP, Libraries, etc

Arjun: What is the process for which faculty would release information?
- You write a request to share information to the faculty chair, they can either approve or deny the request.

Sasha: Is there a reason why it needs to be a written request? There seems to be enough content in meetings where a lot of times its by consensus, also is it only for the specific person who made the request for which the level has changed?
- Usually students on the committees know each other and will coordinate. I think it’s important to have things in writing so there is a paper trail so there is no heresy.
- Can the request be verbal but the actual level designation in writing? I think the requests comes outside the context of the meeting.
- Sarah: I agree that when you are sitting in a meeting to say that “I think this should be Level x, can you confirm in writing”.

MJ: For Level 2 confidentiality, you give it to, for example, President of Baker House, what happens when they are the ones who sends it out to everyone, not the person on the committee, who gets disciplined?
- The person on the committee. It’s your decision to share it with that individual, so it’s still your breach of confidentiality.

Olivia: I don’t agree that information is completely confidential. Can we make it Level 2 by default?
- That’s a weird rhetorical situation because you can say you can share with relevant people without saying who those relevant people are. I also think there is no way politically for it to pass unless the default is confidential.
- I’m also more than happy to strike specific examples (e.x. Baker house president)

Alexa: Could a committee designate itself as a lower level, so this doesn’t constrain students.
- Any breach is at the discretion of the chair, so if there’s a common understanding, then it’s an easy conversation to have and the student should feel comfortable sharing anything.

Eleanor: Why does this have to be the policy for every committee? Could we have this as a recommendation but not the default?
Tesla: My understanding is more of having clear standards for rule breaking and consequences. Sarah: It’s setting the standards for a process for sharing information, because right now everything is confidential and there’s no process for changing that.

Sarah: If you have feedback that would be useful in written form, send it to Mo before the next meeting (i.e. grammar and wording). We’ll have another conversation about this next week, when we will hopefully vote on a revised draft.

9:04pm Adjourned