

DORMCON MINUTES - MAY 12, 2011

Attendance:

Dorm	Representative	Absent
Baker	Brian Luque	
Burton-Conner	Alex Penn	
East Campus	James Douberley	
MacGregor	Mariya Samoylova	
McCormick	Krithika Shanmugasundaram	
New House	TyShaun Wynter	
Next House	Alec Lai	
Random Hall	Rebecca Cox	
Senior Haus	Paula Countouris	
Simmons Hall	Zach Hynes	
Phoenix Group	Virginia Nicholson	
President	Christina Johnson	
Vice President	Meagan Roth	
Secretary	Alicia Singham Goodwin	
Treasurer	Leonid Grinberg	

Topics Discussed:

1. Guest - Jenna from the Living Pink Survey

- Hi! I'm representing G@MIT, and we're working to make a "living pink" survey to let incoming freshmen know how friendly different living groups are to LGBT students.
- Our most recent survey was in 2005, which is a little out of date, so we'd like to update our information.
- Please encourage your constituents to fill out the survey honestly, and please put up the posters that I'm distributing in your dorms.

2. DormCon REX Funding proposals

- Each of the REX chairs from the different dorms sent in their budget request for REX, which were sent out to all of the members of DormCon earlier this week to review.
- Leonid: This funding will come out of next semester's budget.
- Question: How much have we spent on REX in previous semesters? Answer: It varied a lot by year.
- Meagan: It looks like a lot of dorms are asking for a lot of money, but I think that dorms should also carry their weight for a lot of REX and be responsible for spending their own money, not DormCon's.
- Virginia: Dorms with huge reserves should dip into their own reserves for REX if DormCon is also thinking of dipping into its reserves to fund this many events.
- Question: How much do each of the dorms plan on spending for this REX? How much of their budget is expected to come from DormCon?
 - EC will spend 12-15k, and will be tapping into their reserves
 - Baker is asking for about 1/2 of the amount they plan to spend

- BC doesn't have too much in their reserves, so is asking for more from DormCon.
- Next is taking huge hit to their reserves for renovations next year, and so is asking for a little more than half from DormCon.
- Senior Haus currently has a negative balance because Steer Roast reimbursements haven't come in, so they're asking for more than usual from DormCon.
- New House didn't ask for a lot from DormCon.
- Random will spend about \$1,200 on REX, and because of the way that their constitution is written, they can't touch their reserves for REX funding.
- Alec: I think that we should only fund inner-dorm events.
- Rebecca: But then small dorms would get totally screwed.
- Meagan: REX is sensory overload because there is so much going on. Why should we spend a lot of money on that if its already too much.
- Paula: Because a lot of freshmen want to see the dorms. There are more freshmen than we can reasonably host that come by to see Senior Haus during REX, so we need to hold lots of event to spread them out and make it more manageable.
- Suggestion: Since there is a general consensus that the amount asked for is too high, lets vote on an amount we want to spend total, and then scale down each of the requests proportionally from there.
- *There was a unanimous vote to spend a total of \$17,000, giving about 77% of what was requested to each dorm.*

3. FredFest Funding

- RobJ from East Campus came to ask DormCon for \$17,000 for FredFest
- FredFest will be on September 24 at 7:30 p.m. in front of the student center this year.
- FredFest is a big concert that happens at the beginning of every year, but has previously happened in the EC courtyard.
- Last year, there were about 600 people, and hopefully there will be more this year.
- So far, the bands booked are Air Traffic Controller and Mission Hill, both of which have preformed at FredFest in the past.
- FredFest gets to borrow a lot of supplies from WMBR, and the UA also gave them money this year, so they're mostly asking DormCon for funding for actually paying for the bands.
- *The funding request for FredFest was white balloted.*

4. Follow-up on I3 Censorship

- Paula - We're trying to get the i3 chairs from all of the dorms together to talk about our feelings about the i3 process, and then we'll try to have a meeting with Adam Keyes and other administrators to talk about the process.
- James - Today, we want to make a small amendment to the DormCon constitution because it currently says that the i3 coordinator is supposed to lend out cameras and edit the videos, but we'd rather the constitution say something about advocating for the dorms during the i3 editing.
- Lots of i3 coordinators were reportedly not happy about this arrangement this year, but we propose that we change the wording a little bit.
- The problem with removing the housing office thing is that they are paid by
- There is nothing in the constitution about advocating for the dorms in the i3 process.
- Ducky: I was an i3 chair this year. We were asked to cut things, and we did, even though we didn't agree with the cuts. I would have really liked to have someone helping us saying, "No, this is an activity that is legal and okay, I don't know why it needs to be cut". It would have been nice for there to be more than just us advocating for ourselves.

- Decision: We will postpone voting on this amendment until after a committee has met over the summer and discussed the proposed changes with Housing.t
5. Update from UA Restructuring Committee Members (Virginia, Alex, Zach)
 - We've been meeting with the restructuring group, and most recently what we've done is looked at the two proposals written by Vrajesh and Jonte to evaluate how well each proposal dealt with all of the important issues.
 - We'll have one more meeting in the next week or two to talk about how we can improve on the better proposal.
 - In the Fall, we'll go to our constituents to see what they feel are the problems and what they would want to be fixed in the UA.
 - All of the meetings are open, so you're all welcome to come and listen and contribute to our conversations if you're interested.
 6. Officer Vacancies
 - VP of REX:
 - TyShaun is no longer eligible because of his new position in the UA, so Alicia was elected to become the new VP of REX.
 - HAC:
 - Patrick Hulin and Sweet Tea Dorminy were elected to be the new HACs.
 7. REX/Rush
 - Ducky: I've been talking to the VP of the IFC, and to my knowledge, the rex/rush agreement for this year is not happening.
 - James: The Orientation committee meeting yesterday was awful and the IFC and Panhel are really upset about our lack of accountability when it comes to dorms' alcohol policy.
 - Suggestion: Individual dorms should be signing the REX/Rush agreement, not DormCon.
 - Anyone interested in further exploring the REX/Rush agreement should e-mail Ducky (blehnert).