

UA Executive Meeting  
October 22, 2008  
7:00 pm  
UA Office

1. Noah: Friday. I'm interested in what you guys think and what you think students are thinking about us.
  - 1.1. Vrajesh: I'm thinking you have a good idea about how East Campus feels, but the over-riding vibe I'm getting from several other dorms is that they did not know about it.
  - 1.2. Evan: yeah, a lot of guys just weren't informed about it.
  - 1.3. Students were not all impressed, since some wanted an actual protest versus simply a tool in.
  - 1.4. Vrajesh: freshmen weren't too well informed with what's going on. A lot were asking about what the administration was doing wrong.
  - 1.5. I found it interesting that a lot of parents were also curious as to what was going on. Raised a bit of concern.
  - 1.6. Noah: Karen Nielson, especially, and the administration obviously weren't very happy with what's going on.
  - 1.7. Noah: I'm afraid that it came off as just another EC thing that can be disregarded by most. On Friday, I have a meeting with their six designees and Columbo.
    - a) I've heard lots of concerns about how we should have undergrads on academic council; apparently that's not going to happen.
    - b) It seems that plenty of students don't have enough faith in the UA.
    - c) We as a government would dilute our own political capital if we aggressively pursue the desires of students.
    - d) As soon as they make the push about it being about non-accurate representation, the administration will be able to say its a government problem within the students. We want to avoid that.
    - e) Question: are you going in with any goals?
    - f) Noah: If you walk into a negotiation asking for everything, and then let them know that you'll settle for a swimming pool in East Campus, we may get it. On Thursday I want to say, we've tried this and that, and we have lots of committees waiting to help out, and get from students information regarding their needs in a manner that will coerce the administration to act.
    - g) Vrajesh: there have been suggestions that Save TFP should hold town hall meetings were general ideas.
    - h) Noah: problem with town hall meetings is that we've had them and nobody comes. I'm not sure spending our time and resources on something like that will be worth our time.
    - i) Question: What's your sense on how well students care to discuss things with the UA?
    - j) Noah: they'll have to to get the attention of the Dean and administration. For something really positive to come out of this, we will have to work together.
  - 1.8. In other news, W1: Friday I got an email saying that theres an emergency convening of the task force for student engagement 10am Monday morning. I asked for what they wanted. Not much came out of that meeting. On the dining aspect, basically the entire Blue Ribbon Committee offered a solution to everything, but now the 3-meal-a-day plan isn't coming anymore.
    - a) Mike: the plans for the opening of old Ashdown is non-negotiable at the moment. UA will have little to no influence on the time at which old W1 opens. Clay has almost strictly and personally stated that W1 will not be inhabited until he says so.

1.9. Jason: during your meeting, how did you respond?

a) Noah: I did not say much. Just listened to them state that W1 is moth-balled.

1.10. Vrajesh: On that, do we need to do anything, talk to anyone, or anything? Did it just happen?

a) Mike: Clay won't want to talk about it. I think he will make it a non-issue.

b) Mike: Larry Benedict mentioned that student groups must be united to get things done.

c) Since W1 things are relevant to us and DormConn, we should speak with them to get on the same page and argue the same thing.

- Noah: we can use these recent events to forge some solid links with DormConn.

d) Mike: representatives from Panhel and DormConn haven't been very useful.

## 2. Committee

2.1. Athletics: Met with Julie, we're going to get it done in the Winter, and funding is fine.

a) Noah: Steinbrenner field dedication.

- We'll send out emails through senators.

2.2. PR: Pictures are done.

2.3. IT: Webpage is under improvement.

a) Paul: what about page for each senator?

b) Mike: Not a bad idea.

2.4. Keone: new members.

a) Mailboxes: I'm working on the script as we speak.

2.5. Paul: Enrollment Committee either doesn't need to exist or have a year to do things.

a) Mike: have you spoken to the admin. On how W1 affects this?

b) There was an article about that in the Tech. That Enrollment won't change until W1 is done.

2.6. ElectComm: none.

2.7. Dining

a) Blue Ribbon: next week now; we have extra time to prepare.

b) Not sure about Clay's involvement with this.

c) Mike: Blue Ribbon Dining committee is starting from scratch now.

2.8. Space Planning: reading room is coming along, according to librarians.

a) Would I be able to do something with W1..talking to administration as well since this can be under our jurisdiction?

- Mike: sure, just let DormConn know.

2.9. Sustainability:

a) MIT energy liaison came to a committee meeting.

b) Recycle-mania a step further along, so it should happen.

2.10. CSL: everyone needs to apply to be a PS mentor.

a) Application takes very little time

b) I've received about 10 applications for both mentors and mentees (10 and 10).

c) Mike: might go through dorms to distribute applications.

d) Mike: abbreviate application so that qualified students have time.

2.11. SKEP: had first committee meeting; have 11 people on it, so that's awesome.

a) A couple of interesting things: new revision they're doing to the new students information system: around \$50 million. This is for a new WEBSIS student information system.

b) Sucre and I want to solve a student survey process. Recommendation that we not do a Dorm Storm, but UA host an information session about this.

- CUP voting in this in two weeks from today.

c) What days were you thinking of? I was thinking week of November 9-15.

3. Mike: let's go around and hear major projects with deadlines
  - 3.1. Athletics: Do we have date for winter thing, and what about mural.
    - a) We're not doing athletics weekend over whole weekend because there's no time for it. Instead we'll do it on an individual game basis.
    - b) As for mural, the estimate for getting something done is around \$10-20 thousand dollars.
      - This is the mural for the side of Z-Center.
    - c) Noah: do we have infrastructure to broadcast live HD?
      - We're close. The capability is definitely there, (Keith's stuff). I think they may have started getting rid of the equipment recently.
      - They're working through a different company. May cost a few dollars to watch a game or so.
      - They'll set up cameras and such.
      - Plan to have this done between Basketball and Volleyball seasons.
  - 3.2. PR: T-shirt sizes due. I've ordered, so shoot me an email now if you want a shirt.
    - a) Poster is getting done with copy tech tomorrow. Poster should be up in Infinite by next week.
      - Noah: shoot me a proof before they're done.
      - Mike: I'm getting pictures done this week.
    - b) Laminate and Banner?
      - Going to Kinko's tomorrow.
    - c) Weekend 16-22.
      - Senate Retreat is the week prior to that.
  - 3.3. IT: Athena computers in UA office. Can we set a loose deadline on getting athena on these computers?
    - a) Athena: 3 weeks.
    - b) Website: Mike: two things:
      - having a ability to dump things on website, and
      - calendars.
      - Noah: instead of welcome letter on front, I want static events that are going on at MIT. Upcoming events.
      - Mike: content: people having magic folders for information that is directly put onto the website.
        - Already exist.
        - Mike: is this done in AFS or something else? AFS it is.
      - We'll say this will be done in a week, so that Ian can dump minutes on there without letting you know.
      - Downloading list of UA senators—will be done within a week.
      - Mike: hierarchy of lists
        - Evan: requires writing code, so that is more long-term (month(s)).
        - I'm going to go through and add myself to every UA related list.
  - 3.4. Keone: Deadline for me having script done is tonight:
    - a) Script done
    - b) Mailboxes for student groups
    - c) Combos will go out
    - d) Mailbox goes up tonight and I'll send out combinations soon.
  - 3.5. Paul: Enrollment: 2 weeks to get with Columbo.
  - 3.6. ElectComm: getting server out of W91.

- a) Evan: target to have it out by December 1<sup>st</sup>.
- 3.7.Dining: going to do another survey again for dining halls.
  - a) Finally straightening out off campus tech cash thing.
    - Results will be done right before Thanksgiving and distributed by December 1.
- 3.8.Library Stuff: no point in asking students.
  - a) Mike: send email out tonight about bike racks. Actually at a point where students can have a lot of impact.
- 3.9.Sustainability:
  - a) Everything on the email will happen within a week.
  - b) FSILG recycling having trouble but meeting people to fix things.
    - We're trying to get responses from certain individuals.
  - c) CSL: mentorship things. Mentors and mentees pending applications.
- 3.10.Jason/Senate: last year there's an issue with not enough people being on committees, but now there aren't enough seats on committees for senators.
  - a) Is this a widespread phenomenon?
    - Jason: I think so. Only five people presented at the Senate meeting.
    - Mike: not many senators care to be on these committees necessarily. Still open slots.
  - b) Jason: maybe Senators need to have other things to do.
  - c) In terms of # available spaces versus senators without a committee position, whats that statistic?
    - Not sure, we'll poll this next meeting. Or maybe send mail out to senators, asking them for their interest in committees, to see if they actually care.
- 3.11.SKEP: survey out in the field by next week, and be done with that. Survey will be ready by next week's exec meeting. A week after that, I'll let you know CEP thoughts and proposal.
- 4. Mike: I'd like to do one report a year or semester. Maybe five pages on a topic of current interest. This could lead to a newsletter for us.
- 5. Noah: I'm going to be working with Corporation Joint Advisory Committee to figure out what has happened over the past decade, how that has affected people, and how we can apply that now.
  - 5.1.For making presentation to committee in December that will ultimately lead to corporation.
  - 5.2.The reports we right deal with what you have done historically and recently to let people know what you're actually all about.
  - 5.3.Mike: good at keeping institutional history.
  - 5.4.Noah: at end of year, I will hand a hefty binder to my successor to create continuity.
    - a) Make reports similar so that things will continue to happen.