

DORMCON MEETING – March 22, 2012

Dorm	Representative	Absent
Baker	Michael Plasmeier	
Burton-Conner	Janille Maragh	
East Campus	Leonid Grinberg (proxy)	
MacGregor	Edward Mugica	
Masseh Hall	Christine Sowa (proxy)	
McCormick	Sheila Lee	
New House	Benjamin Shaibu	
Next House	Austin Brinson	y
Random Hall	Alexandra Westbrook	
Senior Haus	Katy Gero	
Simmons Hall	Eli Ross	y
President	Ellen McIsaac	
Vice President	Virginia Nicholson	
Secretary	Deena Wang	
Treasurer	Leonid Grinberg	

1. Funding for Dance Till You Drop

- Jaime – We ask for \$2,000 from DormCon. It's a cross campus event. We've contributed \$3750 so far. The total cost is \$5,500.
- Ducky – Will there be alcohol?
- Jaime - Yes. We will hire bartenders and pay for it separately.
- Christine – How much did DormCon give last year?
- Leonid – Last year it was \$2,000.

It was voted to fund DYTD for \$2,000.

2. LEF funding (or lack thereof)

- Leonid – They sent an email saying: “We're sorry but we don't have that much money.”
- Ellen – We're covering the difference between the numbers. We're waiting to hear from admissions. They were reviewing the requests this week.
- Edward – We should consider asking for CPW funds for DormCon
- Ellen – Three CPWs ago, there was an LEF CPW fund.
- Rachel - It would be easier to fund centrally, but keep the overall amount of money same. Only one or two dorms applied previously, but \$10,000 is too much for us. We give out \$25,000 per quarter. We couldn't justify giving half of that to CPW.
- Ellen – Next year, we're looking for a bulk admissions fund to DormCon. We can discuss with the LEF. What admissions doesn't cover, DormCon will cover.

3. Talking about JudComm

- Carrine – I'm the DormCon JudComm. The position has been defunct for a while, but I'm working on fixing that. I've been talking to Christy Anthony, Head of Citizenship and Discipline. The administration wants JudComm to exist as a midway between

students and the Committee Of Discipline and keep students accountable so they don't have to deal with all the problems that dorms can handle. I met with Random's JudComm. I wanted to see which dorms have functional JudComms and get JudComms back in each dorm. I also want to establish a DormCon JudComm panel of 5-7 people, including the DormCon chair and dorm representatives.

- Carrine – JudComm is the conflict resolution in dorms. The dorm-wide panel would deal with CPW issues, ex. the Baker REX alcohol issue, chalking on the student center. The smaller things like rooming and other issues between residents would be handled by the dorm JudComm.
- Edward – Who's solved these problems in the past?
- Ellen – They didn't get dealt with. In the past, the JudComm didn't get people together. DormCon said there was an alcohol problem, but JudComm did nothing. DormCon's JudComm can act as intermediary. The administration could have escalated it. If DormCon deals with stuff, it's better.
- Carrine – The administration wants an internal system. Christy said they want dorms to hold each other responsible, and if not, then take it into their own hands.
- Michael – Baker is trying to get JudComm set up again. We want to talk to JudComms from other dorms.
- Carrine – That's also my plan. I talked to Random on their system to bring them in. I want to meet with JudComm chairs. Christie could set up JudComm training.
- Question: Does JudComm have discipline ability?
- Ellen – The administration can bestow JudComm with disciplinary abilities.
- Carrine – Christie said you could keep people from graduating. She could give us the power. We haven't discussed the exact consequences.
- Ellen – Not that DormCon will kick people out, but what is the appropriate level of consequences? If things go wrong, DormCon can do something.
- Alex – Maybe the ability to kick people out of dorms?
- Michael – One thing Baker JudComm can do is levy fines from \$25 to \$75. Maybe DormCon JudComm can do that?
- Carrine – I'm meeting with the IFC JudComm even though they're not set up same.
- Ducky – One important difference: dorms don't get to pick their residents. One person can do a stupid thing but you shouldn't punish the whole dorm.
- Carrine – We're working to address these concerns. I wanted to let you know that JudComm is making a comeback. I want to be a resource.
- Ellen – It good for you all too, because it's nice to be able to have students deal with some things.
- Michael – Our housemasters can't fine people. They refer things to us.

Dorms with JudComms: Senior, McCormick, Random, Burton-Conner, Masseh, New, Next. EC gives all duties to the president, and has a hall system.

MacGregor has no JudComm in its constitution.

4. Residence Life Advisors

- Michael – I'm talking with other dorm presidents on RLA uses, best practices, and improvements.

- Edward – Our RLA is awesome. She helps plan events, put on events, is involved in MacGregor house meetings, mediates issues with members, acts as a liaison between us and the housemasters, and helps GRTs. We have her as a resource. She helped choose new GRTs.
- Ducky – For east campus we have Brian Morrison. I found him open, accessible, and helpful for registering parties, helping to fix registrations, wristband monitoring. He's actively involved in fredfest and is a good person and resource.
- Virginia – For Masseh, we have Becky. We have housemaster's issues, and she's a good liaison between groups. She comes to as many exec meetings as possible. She doesn't do parties so much because we don't have as many.
- Senior house – Brian is the senior house RLA. He makes things happen like mural photography.
- Simmons – We have Brian. We don't have many parties. He helped with Simmons' government and getting students involved, getting things done, organized the government retreat for developing the government, getting more people interested, and different events. He's helping us with the lack of interest.
- Next House has Leslie. She's gone to meetings, is the associate advisor, resolves conflicts.
- Next – I've seen two RLA's. Mark Lowe was the greatest. He did a good job, was tuned into his job, planned events and study breaks, planned events in conjunction with RLAs and house governments. had a procurement card, and was helpful. Julie Rothar is the house director, and it's difficult to have another job. It took a year for her to get involved. She didn't participate in meetings. It's tough to have an RLA with another job.
- Michael – For house masters, it makes a huge difference between having involved professors and not. You can tell the difference.
- Michael – What about procurement cards?
- Virginia – I think that SAO is bullshit. Students front thousands of dollars in money. We have large sums of money in banks, but is there interest?
- Leonid – Fronting money thing is not necessary. You can write RFPs to the food company. You can not front money.
- Ellen – It takes weeks.
- Leonid – There was a big push to speed up the process.
- Michael – How much help was the RLA with large purchases?
- MacGregor – Our current social chair doesn't have lots of money. I don't think he's spent money in two years. The RLA does a lot of purchasing, and helps out with planning. She has spending records and we can use them.
- Next – We buy movies, so she does that. She helpfully picks up food from other cities.
- Ellen – They're useful as institutional knowledge. A lot of times students fail to pass on information during transition times. They have a long term perspective compared to students
- Michael – Any things they could improve on?
- Masseh – Ours is good with funding, but in a head role and doesn't meet often comparatively. I know in Next House, RLAs meet once per month.
- Virginia – Rules for pets regarding RLA, GRT pet issues should be standardized.
- Our RLA is Michelle, who plans dorm events.

- Ellen – Every single RLA in the past four years rolled over. Now they're standardizing training. There used to be a bigger difference between RLA quality. Mel and Mark Lowe had made a real training.
- Edward – Last year, there was an apprenticeship process in which the new RLA works under the older. It has been helpful with many RLAs. If we went to RLAs, they would agree to help whatever we said they needed work on.
- Michael – I think DormCon is best for best practices and to hear things that work. It helps us figure out our direction.
- Next – DormCon has an advisor, also a RLA?
- Yes, it is Brian Morrison.

5. Msc. Announcements

- Michael – Has everyone seen the security report? It's a 27 page document.
- Ellen – It was posted on the news page. The actual report doesn't say scandalous things.
- Is it available?
- Ellen – For the Report on Dorm Security, I was the undergraduate representative for 6 weeks of meetings. The outcome was that we're doing decent job. There were a bunch of things people talk about, like cameras, that are probably not going to go through. Their conclusion was to have individual security plans and no universal security plan. The biggest security deficiency is in grad dorms. A lot have no front desk, have children living there, and are less well lit. No major changes. Next year, there will be some dorm and housemaster talk.
- Katy – Half way through last year, Senior House had phones installed.
- Alex – Most rooms have landlines, to replace cell phones.
- Ellen – RSVP for retreat. We need a headcount.
- Leonid – Can non-presidents bring guests?
- Ellen – I think it's okay. Use discretion. Bring useful people.
- Virginia – I've tried yelling at i3 chairs but they don't take it seriously. A lot of dorms haven't submitted anything, like Simmons and Next House. Next house hasn't been in contact. Simmons sends updates, but I need footage. We're going to send emails. A lot of dorms don't need edits. Bexley has no problems. Yell at your i3 chairs. The deadline was last week. The strong deadline was yesterday.
- Ducky – Just for the record, you're asking for i3 in hosing weeks.
- Virginia – It's not us, it's housing. We tried to take the deadline into account.
- Michael – What about changes to the booklet?
- Virginia – I can ask, but that was due Monday.