SGA Campus Council Minutes  
Wednesday, February 22nd  
JRC 209, 8PM

DISCLAIMER: Please note that the minutes are a paraphrased report of Campus Council proceedings.

Start: 8:01PM

Statement by Presiding Officer Sara Watson on Campus Council decorum

ROLL CALL
ABSENT- Delegate Leuba, Delegate Sun, Delegate Al-Adsani, ACESS Director Mirzakhail, Delegate Mohr, Delegate Queathem, Delegate Kricfalusi

Electronic Clicker Training
● Administered by Senator Li

Public Comment & Announcements
● Senator Sachdev  
  ○ There is a big election next week for SGA. There is a panel of the candidates this Thursday as well.  
    ■ I encourage you all to vote and spread the word
● Delegate Gold  
  ○ Tomorrow there will be a debate 9pm in ARH 102.  
    ■ Topic: "Is using violence against fascism justified?"
● Delegate Marko-Franks  
  ○ Active Minds has a new meeting time at 6pm on Wednesdays. Location: TBD  
  ○ The current topic is mental health  
  ○ Treasurer White met with us and we invite any other candidates or SGA members to do so as well
● Green Fund Committee Co-Chair Zdechlik- Noyce 1302 is the new meeting place for Green Fund
● Services Coordinator Kyaruzi- The Bone Marrow Registry was a success. You can still join even though the drive is done. If you want the exact link, it's in an all-campus email sent out recently by [services]
● Senator Sachdev- Saturday, February 25th, we are holding SRC Social Hour
● Treasurer White  
  ○ I would like to clear up a few things about Block Party. As Treasurer, I am not against block party. I support the event, it is great for bringing communities together. I have even bought the food for the event last year. However, in the past, the event has not been during times that all students could go
○ I have been working with Thomas Marsha to schedule this event at a time when everyone can attend
○ He will be going to ACE committee this coming Monday and I recommended that he get in touch with Michael Sims as well
○ Block Party is happening and will be 12 - 2pm on Friday

Upcoming events
● ACE Chair Jones- Frank is at 10pm
● Treasurer White- Executive Election panel this Thursday
● ACE Chair Handal- SOL Shabbat is Friday
● Presiding Officer Watson- Sexual Assault Awareness Week is next week, keep an eye out for the programming
● Student Strike March 1st held by RISE and Occupy 8th
● NCAA Regionals Diving tournament. On Friday & Saturday. Treasurer White is the only Grinnellian participating
● Services Coordinator KyaruZi- is trying to meet with one member of all student activist groups to discuss the voicebox. Please reach out to her at [services] if interested.

Approval of the Minutes
Motion by ACE Chair Handal
● Seconded by ACE Chair Jones

ACE Budgets

ACE Chair Handal
● Thank you to all of our Senators who have been diligently attending committee
● We would like to see more diversity in our committee, so spread the word about ACE

SPC Budgets
● Services Coordinator KyaruZi- We are currently funding things only through Spring Break, and asking groups to come back as needed
● VPSA Dann- What is the Extreme Society?
  ○ Services Coordinator KyaruZi- They are a group that does various activities like kayaking, hiking etc.
● Hameed Weaver- Who is running the beatbox club?
  ○ Services Coordinator KyaruZi- Ghoni. I can get you his email if you like.

Services Budgets
● Services Coordinator KyaruZi- These budgets are only being funded through Spring Break, and students who need more funding are asked to come back

Approval of Laika Lewis as JROC Chair
● Senator Sheikh- This is a position that is appointed by the Cabinet, to check the Cabinet?
- **Assistant Treasurer Steckel**: It's not that simple. You all are charged with approving and discussing our appointment.
- **Administrative Coordinator Owusu**: Also keep in mind that this role is not just for checking the Cabinet, but for all aspects of SGA

Motion for previous question by **Senator Sachdev**
- Seconded by **Senator Li**

![Approval of Laika Lewis as JROC Chair](image)

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Vote: 14-2-3, passed

Discussion Topic: Relocation of CRSSJ

● Delegate Iyer - Opening comments
  ○ This is not a space just for religious practices. It is a community center.
  ○ It is important to note that student group activities will be unaffected. The prayer garage space will be kept after the changes and serve the same functions
  ○ The people who are affected are those who need spaces for prayer
  ○ Our options
    ■ Convert the sunroom in a nearby house into a Hindu prayer space
    ○ This would cut into existing office space
    ■ Convert one of the pre existing rooms and split it between Hindu and Muslim prayer spaces
    ○ It is very small and cannot properly accommodate student needs
    ■ A third option, which is extremely demeaning. There is a tiny bathroom, that they are planning on converting along with surrounding hallway space into a prayer space.
  ○ Someone suggested that they make a space in the basement of the CRSSJ as well.
  ○ What students want right now, at the very least, is to maintain as much space that they have had so far
  ○ The nearest prayer space and mosque is an hour away
  ○ The prayer garage is going to be used as a prayer space for Muslim and Hindu students, as well as a space for eastern religions, support groups, meditation, etc. It is not enough space to support the amount of programming

● Unnamed Student
  ○ A few months ago we had Trump elected as a president and the Muslim community is already feeling that we didn't have space in the country. The administration, assured the students that they would support them through this, but these changes make it feel like the sentiment on the country... the Muslim ban, is coming to the campus
  ○ It feels like the college doesn't support religious diversity

● VPAA Aaronson
  ○ I am deeply connected to the CRSSJ through Chalutzim, and in my role as VPAA on this building project
  ○ There is an over emphasis on the idea of creating a space that is accessible, and it seems to be at the expense of needed student spaces
  ○ I don't have the answer, but it seems that there are politics involved in how the new space is being decided
  ○ Accessibility shouldn't come at the expense of programmatic space
• Senator Schweitzer
  ○ There is 192 signatures on an initiative to create adequate space for Muslim and Hindu prayer spaces

• Senator Sachdev
  ○ The resolution/initiative should be less about needing adequate spaces and more that we need student input in the conversation of how our spaces should look

• VPAA Aaronson
  ○ The CRSSJ has been able to cater to student needs that have been overlooked in other places on campus. If we don’t intentionally preserve those elements in the developments of the CRSSJ, they will be phased out of our campus

• Hameed Weaver
  ○ In 4 years here, I feel like this epitomizes the administration's sentiment towards these religions
  ○ This space is important not just for people who practice, but for other people to learn. It is a valuable learning space for us to become Grinnellians that know ourselves and other people

• Senator Sheikh
  ○ It’s a space for mental health, it’s a social space.
  ○ I don’t understand why they wouldn’t prioritize it

• ACE Chair Handal
  ○ We are all here talking about this topic, which shows the importance. We need to act on this and have this issue shown the respect it deserves

• Senator Bremner
  ○ I want to add to the chorus of the utility of the CRSSJ. It’s a space that serves so many needs.

• Senator Sheikh
  ○ If we make this resolution, I suggest that we don’t request this space, we demand it.

• Delegate Iyer
  ○ I want to reiterate that the counseling aspect will remain and student groups will be unaffected. Prayer spaces are what’s at stake.

• Treasurer White
  ○ Thank you for bringing this to Campus Council. The Cabinet has talked about this, and is in tune with all the discussion tonight
  ○ I am wondering what SGA can do beyond just a resolution
    ■ I have worked with Rick Whitney before and I can definitely bring this topic up with him
    ■ I will be meeting with Budget Planning Committee and I will bring this up. Please send over information so I can effectively bring it up

• Hameed Weaver
  ○ Having a room that is shared between Muslim and Hindu students is problematic. They both need their own space.

• Esther Hwang
I want to compile thoughts from various students, MLC, Counselors, and center ourselves on what we want.

What Deanna has been asking for is money to expand the space that they have. So they can make a space for Muslim & Hindu Students.

- Either that or asking for another house. She has asked multiple times. What she is asking for from us is student pressure. But a petition can only do so much. The next step would be faculty support.

What we are proposing is that students talk to faculty about the following:

- Are you aware that this is happening?
- Are you aware of how important this is to us?
- Are you willing to bring this up during faculty meetings?

There are a lot of ideas going around, but we need direction and organize under Deanna.

When we talk to other groups we need to organize under MSA who are working closely with Deanna.

- **Senator Bremner**
  - What petition should we direct our constituents to?
    - Delegate Iyer- One is a student initiative, the other is a petition directed at Kate Walker. Students can be directed to both.

**Senator Report - CaNaDa**

**Senator Li**- Is the printer that you want to fix a big black one?

- **Senator Tomasic**- Yea, it prints really slowly

**Oral Report LaKerRoJe**

- **Senator Sheikh**- East Campus Senators are working on getting stickers. They are collaborating with the new graphic design group on Campus - G Design
- **Senator Schweitzer**- An idea would be to hand them out at room draw to promote early community building

**Cabinet Report - ACE Co-Chairs**

- **ACE Chair Handal**
  - Come to ACE
  - Read the reports
  - Senators make reports
- **ACE Chair Jones**
  - We have been interviewing for Head of Safety. If you are interested in getting involved, reach out to ACE

**Cabinet Report - Assistant Treasurer**

- I am glad to see Senators being so active!
- If you are interested in being Assistant Treasurer please come see me and Summer.
• If you want to come help out with SGA treasury projects, let me and Summer know as well.

Cabinet Report - Treasurer White
• There was a student initiative to get a campus therapy dog
  ○ We hired dog handlers already
  ○ We were going to have them trained, but the organization that was going to train them, doesn’t allow them to be a paid position. We are currently working through the logistics
• There was also a student initiative for longboard racks, which Rick Whitney agreed to
  ○ Summer will buy them as soon as she has the information on what to buy

Services Coordinator Kyaruzi
• We hired a new Exco Coordinator, his name is Christian Clark.

VPAA Aaronson
• First lunch with Dean Latham happened and it was successful.
• Also had successful office hours with Raynard Kington. Those will casually be happening throughout the semester.

Motion to adjourn by President DeWitt
• Seconded by Senator Tomasic

End 9:31pm