

Bowdoin Student Government

Meeting Agenda

10/08/08 - Adams Hall 208

- I. Call to Order
- II. Roll Call
- III. President's Welcome
- IV. Approval of the Minutes
- V. Public Comment Time
- VI. Campus Conversation Follow-up
- VII. New Business
 - a. College Houses Discussion
 - b. Preparation for Randy's Visit
 - c. SAFC Extension
 - d. Snacks in the Library
- VIII. Committee Reports
 - a. BSG Affairs Committee
 - b. Student Activities Funding Committee
 - c. Student Affairs Committee
 - d. Student Organizations Committee
 - e. Academic Affairs Committee
 - f. Facilities Committee
- IX. Member Reports
 - a. Class Representatives
 - b. IHC Representatives
 - c. CSC Representative
 - d. A-Board Representative
 - e. Res-Life Representative
- X. President's Report
- XI. Adjournment

Bowdoin Student Government

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Bowdoin Student Government

BOWDOIN COLLEGE

Meeting of the **Bowdoin Student Government**

1 October 2008

- I. **Call to Order** at 8:34 p.m.
- II. **Roll Call:** Nyle Usmani is absent. Jack and Brandon are running unopposed for BSG class reps. Sophia mentions that Katie Mitchell is here from the Orient. Someone will be here from the Orient every week. Christine from the Activities office is also here.
- III. **President's Welcome:** Sophia is excited to be underway. This meeting is not completely typical. The agenda tonight does follow the general structure of how things will work. We won't spend a lot of time on get-to-know-you games. We also won't meet here regularly. LASO has booked 30 College, but we will let you know in the future.
- IV. **Approval of the Minutes:** Sam moves to approve the minutes. Approval passes unanimously.
- V. **Public Comment Time:** Seeing no public.
- VI. **Committee Reports**
 - a. **BSG Affairs:** John says that he has been organizing elections. Voting for the first-year class starts soon. There is a BSG bulletin board in the Union.
 - b. **SAFC:** Ugo says they are on their 4th meeting. They acquired two new members. There is one class left to fill: freshman class treasurer.
 - c. **Student Affairs:** Carly says that they have been meeting with the director of the Health Center to talk about addressing issues with Dudley Coe. They want to plan an initiative with peer health to neutralize rumors on campus while determining what patterns do exist. There would be a forum to learn about experiences at the Health Center and about what people want. There would then be a forum-style discussion to acknowledge public issues.
 - d. **SOOC:** Hannah has been getting clubs up and running. They held information sessions for leaders.
 - e. **Academic Affairs:** Sam says that they are talking about CDF and waiting for a response from Dean Judd about a committee. Dean Judd wants to visit for a night, so we will be able to ask her questions. We have Campus Conversations coming up, which is something his committee works on. We also have a project to work with trustees to see more contact between them and the students. We organized a way for 5 extra students to attend trustee dinners and to have a joint function in February.

- f. **Facilities:** Mike says that he has several funding bills coming up. The Airport Shuttle is important. That will be finished by the weekend for next week. The shuttle to Freeport, etc. is starting this week, too. The contract just needs to be signed. He has a meeting next week to negotiate newspapers. Don't take newspapers from where they are, because that's how we run out. Sophia says that we get a recycling credit when they collect old newspapers. This knocks down the price. If the leftovers come up short, we owe more. Mike also heard that we will help give out light bulbs tomorrow in the Union. Please sign up for ½ hour shifts.

VII. New Business

a. How BSG works

- i. **How Meetings are Done:** Sophia says that we are doing a brief overview of how BSG works. It will make sense as you start to do it. Expect to get a reminder email the day before the meeting with a note about important things on the agenda. We are not sending the packets out early, like we have in the past. We will typically be somewhere where there are tables. The agenda will list bills that are up, are topics to talk about. It will look much like the one from this week. When we do New or Old Business, we discuss and debate. John will detail how those conversations run. Sophia acts as a moderator.
- ii. **Rules of Order:** John points to pg 11. We won't really go over parliamentary procedure. It is a backbone for how BSG works, and will really come up if there are problems in the manner of debate on the floor. He goes through the list of the rules of order. We vote on bills that are introduced the week after they come up so that you have a change to think about these ideas and be prepared before you vote. This week we will suspend this rule to vote quickly. At ten, we leave. We can vote to continue past 10, or we can table issues. There are automatic time limits on proposals, but if enough people want to continue, discussion can go on. BSG does have a quorum: 2/3 of the group needs to be here to vote. If you will be absent, let Sophia or John know by email. Sophia votes in the case of a tie. All votes are a majority of the people here, not the entire body. The overarching rule is to be respectful. Sophia adds an example: Sam will introduce the Campus Conversations topic, and we will then talk for 5 minutes. Raise your hand to say something, and she will get to you. Sam says that everything makes sense, and that John will solve any incoherencies.

- b. **Campus Conversations:** Sam mentioned this in his report. It was something that started last Spring. The idea is to bring faculty and staff together to talk about important issues on campus, like advising. We do this when there isn't a Common Hour on Fridays. There is one this Friday in Daggett to talk about issues of class: how is it represented, how does it impact Bowdoin life and academics? His first request is that everyone shows up. It's nice to

have a good showing from BSG. His second request is to bring friends. Some people think that this is an insular body, so reach out to get other perspectives. Also, invite professors. Whether it's advisors, professors from class, or what. They appreciated being invited; they see that BSG does something and that this relationship is important. He also wants to open the floor: What would be helpful to talk about?

- Justin asks if there is a particular goal. Sam says with this one, not especially. It depends on the topic. There was a goal with distribution requirements. Sometimes it is just a dialogue, though. Sophia adds that you could think of it like a focus group.
 - Bryce wonders if there will be numbers of facts to get the conversation going. That could be helpful. Things along the lines of: how many students are on financial aid?
 - Rosha' says that it would be nice to email Steve Joyce to see if he is available for that time. A good question would be if you can really see the class distinctions on campus.
 - Greg wants to talk about work-study, and whether this points to a class differential.
 - Luke wonders about the private/public school divide.
 - Carly wonders about issues with going abroad and how this could be limited.
 - Sophia would add one thing. Think of some staff that you know who could have interesting perspectives.
 - Alicia wonders if there is formal advertisement. Sam says that they will post on the digest. Christine says that they could put it on the weekend "What to Do" list.
 - Rosha' says that Williams College sends out a book to incoming freshman about ways to cut costs.
 - Justin says to be conscientious about whom you invite and that they will interact respectively. Sam says that all students are welcome, but to bring people who will care and who want to be a part of this.
- c. Shuttle Service: Mike says that BSG offers a shuttle service that goes to Freeport, Portland, and Cook's Corner. It costs \$3 round-trip. That's a pretty darn-good deal. BSG doesn't make money off of this. It's a service for students to get where they want to get. We also have the Night Taxi service. You can call Brunswick Taxi on Friday or Saturday nights, and all you need to do is tip the driver. This will also run on Tuesdays from 10-1. This is valuable in terms of transportation and in terms of safety. We have a one-semester contract with Brunswick Taxi and are requesting \$4500. He will be reassessing for next semester depending on how it goes now. Sophia says that we are an Operating Budget organization under SAFC. We have a pool of money that we are already given, which was \$9000 for this service.
- Sam wonders about the name, now that we have the Bowdoin Shuttle. It is open for debate/suggestions.
 - Ian wonders why we are running our own shuttle, if Bowdoin runs two. Mike says that we have always offered this service. Brunswick Taxi is giving us a deal and it is another option for students. Volume-wise, Randy's vans won't be

enough at some points. Ian wonders if there are plans to look into whether or not this is something we need to do. Mike says that the Safe-Ride program from last year is almost identical to the Shuttle this year. They basically swapped in professional drivers. It's not really expanded. Dan says that he called the shuttle the other day and they told him it was a 1 ½ hour wait. It's a good service to have. Carly says that it gets used.

- Justin wants to clarify the times that the shuttle runs. Mike lists the times. The signs are coming...by Monday or Tuesday at the latest.
- Greg wonders if we could get a BSG thing on the student gateway page. Sophia says that we can ask IT.
- There is a motion to vote this week, and the motion is seconded. Those in favor: unanimous. **Those in favor of bill as written: unanimous.**

d. Newspapers: Mike says that everyone has noticed the Collegiate Readership program that puts newspapers in the Union, Thorne, and Moulton. The Times Record delivers, so we can't get rid of that paper. We get the NY Times, The Boston Globe, and USA Today. According to our rep at USA Today, we have one of the most-used programs.

- Justin wants signs not to take the newspapers—red ones. Mike says that he put up a sign in Thorne, but it is not red. Signs will be going up.
- Motion and second to vote tonight: unanimous. **Those in favor: unanimous.**

e. Economy Talk: Ian says that earlier this week, when our economy started to collapse even further, he thought it would be good to get a discussion. Barry Mills already initiated this, so he rescinds the bill. He unrescinds it, wondering if we could cosponsor with Barry.

- Kristen said she was talking to Econ students, and that they were also kicking something around. They should be involved.
- Lindsey asks what we would need money for. Facilities set-up, water, things like that. Ian says that we would take that out, because the President's office will take care of it.
- Greg wonders what angle this would take. Ian says that he doesn't know a lot about the economy, and he would like to know more, because apparently, it's collapsing. It could be about Bowdoin, but that's not really what he's thinking. Ugo says that he has heard the discussion will be two-prong, and include both angles.

There is a brief discussion about introducing bills and sending ideas in.

f. Movie Tickets: Mike says that they also buy movie tickets and sell them back to students at a reduced rate. The tickets are from Regal Cinema. They cost \$5 for students and can be used for any movie and any time. We don't make money on this, but it's a service for students and it's very popular. It would be helpful to push this through tonight.

- Bryce wonders if we could change the amount. Mike moves to amend the bill to \$700. Those in favor of amendment: unanimous.
- Anirudh wonders if this could be advertised in freshman dorms.

- Derek wonders what the regular price is. \$7 is the corporate rate. The regular price is \$8.25 or something.
- The Freshmen are going nuts with the prospect of these tickets.
- Ugo clarifies that we are really only spending \$200. Greg asks if we keep repurchasing tickets. Yes, that is how it works. We will vote on this again and again.
- Motion to vote tonight: unanimous. **Those in favor of vote with amendment: unanimous.**

g. Polar Bear Nation T-Shirts: Sophia says that Polar Bear Nation is the school spirit body. They hold pep rallies and that. One of their most popular services are the t-shirts with the BSG name on the sleeve. We have given money to this in the past and have been asked for our support again this year. This vote needs to be rushed so that the shirts come before Homecoming. Justin wonders if they are the same shirt. There has been no design so far. Sophia says that we have \$1000 because we weren't asked to support Common Good Day this year. Dooley wonders if PBN is a chartered group. Hannah says that they don't come to request funding. They don't contact the SOOC. Sophia says that Emma Powers is leading it. Motion to vote tonight: unanimous. **Those in favor of bill: unanimous, except for Ugo.**

- h. Committee Assignments: If you are a member of the BSG Assembly, you sit on one of the 5 committees. Sophia will send around little pieces of paper. You will hear blurbs, then you will list which committees you want. Programming Chairs this year will lead an ad-hoc committee to deal with programming. Add this separately if you are interested.
- Sam says that he leads Academic Affairs. They will talk about CDF, advising reform, Campus Conversations, Arabic Instruction...these are things that they worked on last year and will continue to address. They won't do little things like Dooley does, but they interact with faculty and administration about getting changes in place.
 - Mike runs Facilities. He does a lot of little things and a lot of bigger programs. A lot of it is maintaining what they already have. He works with a lot of departments of the college, like IT, Dining, ResLife, Facilities. Last year they lobbied to get the gym open continuously. The big joke is: making your life better on a day-to-day basis.
 - Carly says that student affairs involves a broad list of tasks. It's related to Health and Wellness: the counseling center, wellness classes, athletics, ResLife policy issues, social house issues, J-Board, other student relations (chem.-free divide). Anything that falls into improving student life on campus. Sophia says that this is for idea-generators. Anything that doesn't fit neatly somewhere else goes to Carly.
 - John says that BSG makes BSG work. They write legislation, keep the budget, plan meetings and agendas, make sure committees are talking, address constitution issues. They may poke the J-Board, look at the Community Response Committee, etc.

- Hannah runs Student Orgs. Committee. She works closely with Ugo and over 80 chartered clubs on campus. She helps charter new groups and works with planning events.
- Sophia says that those are the committees, so write your name and 3 choices.

VIII. Member Reports

- a. Class Representatives
 - i. Class of 2009: Ian says that they met a couple nights ago. They will come up with programming ideas this week.
 - ii. Class of 2010: They have a new officer: Brett Davis. They are looking at the budget. Alicia mentions a coffee house, bracelets, and magnets.
 - iii. Class of 2011: They are planning a welcome-back event. They are looking at sweatshirts. Greg says that they want a website and a sophomore-only college house party. Justin says that they are looking at ways to help people through sophomore year.

- b. IHC Representatives: Lindsey says that they are looking ahead to Parent's Weekend and Homecoming. There will be a float contest
 - i. Dan gives an overview of house activities. Many are going apple-picking. Howell has their Indiana Jones party this weekend. Helmreich had poker night. Julia Bond has Sex 101 at Quinby on Thursdays. Burnett has Loose Leaves. Baxter is hanging out and having fun.

- c. A-Board Representatives: Luke mentions the Regurgitator. They couldn't get Racer-X because of scheduling conflicts. Shot through the heart. They have someone coming from the Daily Show.

- d. Athletics Representatives

IX. President's Report: October 25 is the BSG retreat. We will talk about goals for the year and learn each other's names. We will leave around 12:30, but that may change. If you can't be there, contact her or John and have a really good reason. Anyone who is interested in providing ideas for the retreat should let Sophia know. It will most likely be at the Coastal Studies Center. Sophia recently had a meeting about J-Board and their institutional relationship. Dean Lee and Mark Newman will present their report from last year sometime this month. This is also a time to discuss what our relationship with them should be. She is meeting with the Leadership Council this week. They are focusing on ways to support the first-year class council, which is always a struggle.

X. Adjournment at 9:45 p.m.

Bowdoin Student Government

Proposal to Vote

Proposal 0809006

Proposed by: Student Activities Funding Committee

Date: October 8th, 2008

REQUEST FOR AN EXTENSION OF SAFC RENEWAL

Opinion

As per the Student Government Constitution, the Student Activities Funding Committee must present its rules and procedures to the Bowdoin Student Government Assembly each year for approval in order to continue allocating funds. Due to unforeseen circumstances, the SAFC has not yet been able to revise its rules and procedures for this year.

Action Required

The Student Activities Funding Committee requests that it be allowed to continue allocating funding to clubs on campus under last year's rules and procedures until October 29th.
