

Bowdoin Student Government

BOWDOIN COLLEGE

Meeting of the **Bowdoin Student Government**

27 Feb. 2008

- I. **Call to Order** at 8:35 p.m.
- II. **Roll Call:** Nicole Willey, Liza Cohen, and Amir Abdullah are absent.
- III. **President's Welcome:** Dustin welcomes everyone to BSG. This will be a short meeting because Dustin decided that they will launch the Constitutional Amendments next week. They will make sure that the amendments get to the constituents by the end of the week. We will decide whether or not to vote next week. We are doing funding things largely, so this meeting could be done in under an hour. We will discuss housing and a potential event.
- IV. **Approval of the Minutes:** Dustin asks everyone to take a look at the minutes. Approval passes unanimously.
- V. **Public Comment Time:** Grant introduces himself and Karl as officers from the class of 2011. They are here about SafeRide and one of the Amendments. He asks about SafeRide and if there were developments. Dooley says that he almost peed his pants at the SafeRide meeting because there were a lot of important people there. The administration is not entirely happy with the way SafeRide is functioning. It will take longer than we thought to extend SR to Cook's Corner.

Grant suggests to aim for the week we get back. He says to aim for once-a-week rides to Cook's Corner in a cycle during the evening. It would cost \$461 to do this for the rest of the semester from Moulton to Cook's Corner. They can't do it on the weekend because there are already two vans on weekends. Sunday wouldn't be great because a lot of stores aren't open.

They also looked at Amendment 11 about restructuring class officers. They agree that the roles need to be redefined. They don't think that adding chairs is the best solution. Everyone's job is already to plan, as class officers. He thinks that Programming Chair would put an unfair burden on one member, because planning is everyone's job. Karl says that people didn't know what to tell him when he was coming into this, but they think that there should be an Advertising Chair. That might be beneficial. Grant suggest these roles: President, VP, Treasurer, PR officer, 2 BSG reps, and more literature to focus each of the positions.
- VI. **Old Business**
 - a. **Hales Report Follow-Up:** John talks about the Hales Report. There was follow-up in Committees. They aren't quite ready to address Constitutional changes tonight. They are looking at moving freshman elections and are proposing the

- removal of the requirements for BSG President for a vote. They are not looking at removing the senior vote because they respectfully disagree on this point. More will come next week in Committee Meetings.
- b. **Television Stations:** Dooley asks everyone to turn to the TV station document. He has been talking to Communications, IT, and the people who do the stations. After talking to the officer team, they came to some conclusions. The bill outlines what they want to do. They will not add College Sports TV, so they would not drop SciFi. BBC America costs extra, but Mitch Davis is picking up the tab because it is justifiably educational. Versus is being added as well, a sports channel. They will be working to find alternative funding for future years. They are also looking into partial funding for newspaper.
- Justin asks what we are bootin'. They are listed in the document.
 - Kyle says that friends are talking about Fox Soccer Channel. It scored well, but it's not realistic, because of the money factor (it is a super-super channel).
 - James asks how much we have left. John indicates that we have a budget report.
 - Sam K asks if there is long-term talk about the cable network in general. Dooley says that they have talked about it. They could do it over the summer. They may want to upgrade to digital, but the concern is that students who bring TV's wouldn't be able to hook up. If we vote tonight, the channels will be changed over break.
 - Sam D says that we might want to float this around school.
 - Sam K asks if the channel numbers would be swapped one-to-one. Dooley doesn't know, but he could look into it.
 - Greg thinks we should do it sooner rather than later to take advantage of it.
 - Rutledge wants to talk to the knitting club about the removal of Women's Entertainment channel. Rutledge moves to vote tonight. Seeing 2/3.
 - Will doesn't want buyer's regret. Dooley asks what the plan to float this would be. It was already decided as a survey. The campus isn't really responsive.
 - Those in favor of the bill: All except (opposed) Bryce and Will; Dooley abstains because he has a conflict of interest.
- c. **The Block Party:** Dan introduces the block party. Lupe is not and was never coming. The conclusion is that the thing that is exciting about this event is the potluck. That's what made it different than the typical music-and-alcohol-on-the-quad thing. The plan now is to give 6 multicultural groups \$500 each to cater or cook food to have at the event. They are also looking to get alcohol related to the food. For example, there would be saki with sushi, or margaritas with the LASO table. Dan says that they think this is cool because what was exciting about the Red Cup Affair was that it wasn't necessarily chem.-free, but that the centerpiece wouldn't be alcohol. This will be the week after Ivies. There are two bands and DJ Darrel. It will be outside. The Student Affairs Committee thinks that this could be good. It will be a BSG event.
- Kyle quotes something about the hard alcohol policy. He thinks that the college sanctioning serving alcohol would make that the central part of the event—it

would be remembered for that. Dustin says that that remains a red zone. BSG cannot fund the alcohol. It has to be another way.

- Sam D asks why we are giving money, and why these groups aren't going to the SAFC. Dan says that we want this to be a BSG event.
- Rutledge asks about the name of the band. It is Eclectic Collective, not Eclectic College.
- Sophia asks if they have talked to the groups that will cook. Sam S responds that the groups are on board. Sophia mentions cooking facilities. Sam S says that they talked about which groups they wanted to involve. They went to them now with an amount, asked if they would cook or cater, and are waiting to hear from them. Sophia asks what groups agreed to be involved. AfAm, LASO, KASA, African Alliance, Hillel.
- Greg asks if there is any possibility of having the same drinks offered non-alcoholic. Dustin doesn't want to talk about the details. Dan says that it's a great theory.
- Greg asks about opening up to non-multicultural groups. Rutledge thinks this sounds great, but Isa and Sam look appalled. Isa doesn't think that the Orient would be willing to cook. Dan says that the multicultural affairs groups throw awesome events. There hasn't been an event that draws the campus, and this is a great opportunity to get the campus together in a cool new event. BSG could be involved in something really good.
- Hannah agrees that the multicultural groups should be involved, but thinks that other groups should be involved in some way. The Orient could cook burgers because it's American. There need to be more clubs involved. Sam S says that they were talking about the potluck area. If teams are willing to work with the multicultural groups, then that's one way to work that out. If organizations could do events, that could be great.
- Alison thinks that it's great to do something for the community, but that the whole community should be paying for it.
- Lindsey thinks that this is awesome. She thinks that having a tent roped-off would still separate drinkers from non-drinkers. Dustin says that this is a very young concept. They will develop it as it goes forward. What he sees this as is a seed in developing the concept. They have a little over 2 months to figure these things out.
- Sophia thinks that to involve people and build community, they should include as many organizations as possible, and have them all cook food. She could see this being a multicultural club event, and limited to this. With other clubs involved in the ownership of the event, it will improve the scope.
- Rutledge thinks that the College House system should be involved. He thinks that they should hype this up. What about chicken and beer? That's what he wants to talk about in terms of the American tradition. Don't talk to me about Saki. He wants to feel comfortable, not like he's not on his block.
- Jess thinks that chicken and beer makes sense. She wants to say something about money. It would be great to get donations, like from a little box in the union. Involving more clubs in the potluck...it made more sense to ask clubs

- who have already done events in which they cook food. Including more clubs would mean requesting more funds.
- Will says that he's speaking through Nicole. They are trying to sort out the funding. They have weeks and are ahead of schedule. The fact that it is so far in advance makes this plausible. The details can be sorted out. BSG has almost \$7,000, which is unheard of. They should work on having solid programming. We are talking about finite details now, which we don't need to address.
 - Sam D asks about the date: Friday, May 2. Gala is Saturday.
 - Sam K wants to know if other groups would get funding from BSG as well.
 - Carly has a problem including other groups. It will become a lot less organized. Giving a few groups money gives them a lot of power, which ensures that they will come forward and do what they need to do.
 - Sophia agrees but still thinks that other groups should be active and involved. The structure that this event takes will change as we talk about money and what groups will be there.
 - Dooley says details, details.
 - Rutledge says that as soon as there is a concrete idea, they should advertise the heck out of it. Everyone will black out on Ivies, and he doesn't want them to wake up and forget about the Block Party.
 - Greg says that if it's a BSG event, they should make sure to invite everyone from the community if they want to participate. He thinks we should table. Isa says that we aren't excluding any group. In order to book and settle everything, they need the money to get going. Burnett offered to barbecue. That's great, but they want to set up the central block.
 - Jess says that the money is allocated to the multicultural groups because they need to cook or cater. She doesn't think other groups need \$500 each to throw a Frisbee.
 - Alison thinks that we should table the proposal. Sam S doesn't think that we should table because other groups will be involved.
 - Those in favor of tabling: Rutledge, Sophia, Sara, Greg, Ben, Justin, Alison, Sam D, Hannah, Kyle; Opposed: too many. We will vote tonight.
 - Dustin explains that this is the revised block party bill, after Dan has had his way with it. It's still the same general idea, and following the 2-week rule, we vote tonight.
 - Dan says that we are voting tonight on a concept (Sam D says a \$3500 concept). Dan says that money isn't an issue. This will be a big event. It is a great concept. It has involvement on many levels.
 - Kyle asks if this would be guaranteeing 3500 dollars. Kyle thinks that we should table. Dustin says that we could rescind the money. Sam S says that they have contacted these people. The differences in this from last week are the time and the concert aspect. They are looking at 3 varied performances instead of one very costly one. These numbers didn't come out of nowhere.
 - Justin asks what the urgency is in getting it tonight, if the event is so far away. Dan says that Isa and Sam S have been working on it for two weeks. If we vote

- yes, we are saying that the BSG is behind this. That way, we can tell these groups that we do want this to happen.
- Sam K says that we have the money. It's there. We can get money if necessary later. If this turns into a hedonistic pleasure dome, it could change...
 - Sophia supports this event. She thinks most people feel the same way. She doesn't want to put a fixed dollar amount until they see more details fleshed out. They could commit without a dollar figure.
 - Will says that this is more fleshed out than events that SAFC funds on a two-week basis. They have debated this for two weeks, which is, again, what SAFC would have done. They have time to keep planning. Dan says that Isa and Sam S have fleshed out everything. The number includes tables, lighting, DJs, security, etc. So much planning has already been done. He doesn't know why we're still debating this. Dustin says it's because we are the BSG.
 - James asked if there will be voting on this later, with more details. Could we make that a provision?
 - John says that this will be run out of Dan's Committee. Anyone can go to those meetings. We will get updates. If we don't like anything, we can vote on the decisions that are made within the committee. It doesn't make sense for 26 people to party-plan. That would be crazy.
 - Kyle proposes \$1500 with the stipulation to re-address later. He makes this a motion and adds that we'll reconsider later.
 - Kata thinks that this is ridiculous. Why doesn't someone motion to allocate up to \$3500 if money is the problem.
 - Dooley is really upset with what's going on. Clearly no one looks at anything before they show up here. We come here and debate things that should've been talked about earlier. Let's trust ourselves and think about doing some programming. We have money.
 - Dan H seconds. This is ridiculous. There is money to spend and burn.
 - Those in favor of changing the number: Kyle
 - Bill as written on floor. Those in favor: unanimous. Sigh.

VII. New Business

- a. Naming of Discussions with Faculty: Sam D says that the lunch forums need a name. He got some great emails. The three ideas that they like are Bowdoin Buzz, Campus Conversations, and Campus Connections. A near-riot breaks out, as Rutledge has some objections to the proposed names. Dustin calls the meeting to order. He says that this [the meeting, the process, etc.] has to be better. This was a professional group at the retreat. What happened? It has to stop. This meeting has unnecessarily passed the one-hour mark without doing much of anything. Sam D will say the names. Bowdoin Buzz gets 4 votes; Campus Conversation gets 8; Campus Connections gets 3. The one this week is about faculty/student interaction. A lot of this will inevitably be about advising. The last one went really well. Students and professors really liked it. These could really legitimize our voice.

- b. Questions for Kim Pacelli: Dan says that Kim Pacelli is coming next week. He wants to see what people's thoughts are for good questions or statistics for her to bring. She prepares a document about housing next week. She wants to talk with us before finalizing her decisions. One issue is the physical location of chem.-free housing on campus and whether or not we feel comfortable giving previously chem.-free kids a bump in the lottery.
- Bryce wants to know how many people applied to houses and what the make-up was.
 - Sam K says that lottery statistics from 2006 are available online. A lot of questions can be answered online.
 - Sam D asks if we can find out how many people didn't apply for chem.-free but got stuck there. Dooley doesn't know if there are stats. A lot of it is based off how many people intended to be in the lottery and how many people actually were.
 - Greg wonders about Quiet Dorms. Are these kids just drinking really quietly?
 - Rutledge wonders if they are doing anything about the College House problem? There are some requests that he elaborate on this question. The problem, he says, is that it's not really effective. There's no group instigating creative and successful programs.
 - Will wonders about planned purchases.
 - Jess wants to know about renovating Stowe Inn or Brunswick Apts?
 - James wonders about the new town law that could potentially pass and how that could affect student housing.
 - Rutledge asks if instead of probation, houses could be on coffee-house probation or something. That could be more productive.
 - Greg wonders about improving security. There have been break-ins. Dooley says that there are locks on Brunswick. Other break-ins stem from people not realizing that people sneak in behind them. It's a student issue. People need to be more aware.
 - Jess wonders if College Houses could have a points system. You could get goodie points or points taken away. Lindsey asks what the points would be worth. Jess says that they would be brownie points, like a sticker.
 - Sam K doesn't think that we'll be able to revamp the College House system with Kim. He thinks that we should have a BSG discussion about the houses. Dustin says that yes, with more time we could address this.
 - Bryce is curious about open rooms in freshman dorms.
 - Sam D wants to know about apps for the College Houses.
 - Sophia wonders if a lot of people end up as bad house members because there is bad sophomore housing.
 - Dan H wants to modify it to give only chem.-free first-years a boost.
 - Jess wonders about making all under-21 dorms chem.-free. They technically are.
 - Alison wants to know plans to build or renovate junior/senior living spaces.

- c. Exposure Funding: Rutledge introduces Exposure. Body Image is a problem. They need \$100. The idea is to get broad campus support. Alison says that over 100 students have decided to participate.
Those in favor of voting tonight: unanimous. Those in favor of the bill: unanimous.

VIII. Committee Reports

- a. BSG Affairs Committee: Dustin speaks for John and says that Constitutional reform continues.
- b. SAFC: He also says for Nicole that things are going well.
- c. Student Affairs: Dan says that the assembly already heard everything from him.
- d. SOOC: Will says they are working on the Constitution and van certification. They chartered a club.
- e. Academic Affairs: Sam has an Arabic and C/D/F meeting tomorrow. They are working on distribution requirements. Go to the Friday forum.
- f. Facilities: Dooley says that they are looking at SafeRide and TV Stations.

IX. Member Reports

- a. Class reports:
 - i. 2008: Ben L says that they have lots of senior week planning.
 - ii. 2009: Sophia says that they had a pub night. There were some koozies stolen. She is corrected: Darren left them in 9b.
 - iii. 2010: Bryce says that there is a formal and that they are handing out more sweatpants. Also, he thinks that there was great conversation tonight and he thinks that BSG needs to discuss everything for a really long time. No worries, Bryce, they do.
 - iv. 2011: Hannah says that the formal was a success. Never hire the DJ that they used. Problems.
- b. IHC Representatives: Lindsey says that the committee has been selected. They will publicize it by Monday. There were 218 College House applications.
 - i. Dan H says that Howell has tubing and a slumber party. Ladd gave money to Relay for Life.
 - ii. Sarah says that Mac has the Day Jobs coming. Baxter is hoping to have a performance from a Boston-based rapper. They gave money to Relay for Life.
 - iii. Greg says that Quinby has alumni dinners, St. Pat's Palooza, RitterRama 2, and are looking at creating a house website. Reed is recovering from SoPro.
- c. Community Service: Alison says that the deadline for helping with Pre-O is March 5. She has lists about Community Service Opportunities.
- d. A-Board: James says that there are two Bob Marley shows this Friday. Naughty by Nature is happening.
- e. ResLife: Sam K says that ResLife loves us.

- X. President's Report:** Dustin wants to thank officers and directors, who have been doing a lot of work. Thanks for coming to the retreat. John is in a play next week. Go see it. We do need to talk about things, but we need to talk about them well. We can be here for 5 hours as long as we are having productive dialogue. We owe every idea a full vetting.
- XI. Adjournment** at 9:50 p.m.