Senate Minutes: November 27, 2012

A. 7:06 Roll Call
B. 7:10 Oct 23 minutes passed (43-0-4)
C. 7:12 Nov. 13 minutes passed (42-0-5)
D. 7:19 Dining Committee
   1. We want to respond to the students’ needs
   2. They receive feedback from student workers and online
   3. Started with dining committee meetings
      a. Looking for student help with menus (pmahar@smith.edu)
      b. Chapin Sunday dining is a result of this
   4. Met with Nosotras and BSA, they want spicier food
   5. Cutter-Ziskind dining will be renovated this summer
   6. We need dishes back!
      a. They spend between $30,000 and $40,000 on dishes every year
   7. Working on getting Nutella in the dining halls
   8. Dishes leaving the dining hall
      a. Has been talked about in House Council
      b. The people who live in the houses are not the only ones who use the dining halls
      c. Not just the house should be fined
      d. If dishes are left in the public areas that are open to the entire school, the houses will not be fined
   9. If Tupperware was provided, would students use Tupperware?
      a. Maybe - it’s a personality issue
      b. Collapsible tupperware?
      c. Convenience thing - having a portion of the dining hall with paper plates/forks
   10. Increase of dining dollars as an incentive?
       a. Maybe - it wouldn’t work very well for the people who actually don’t take it
   11. Rent out containers?
       a. Maybe - when a new OneCard system goes into effect
   12. How are the bins working?
       a. The bins are starting to work; it was difficult in the beginning but the system has been improving as it is implemented.
   13. If to-go containers are efficient, could we supply to-go containers for free?
   14. Kitchenette duty in Cutter for people to bring back the dishes
   15. Tupperware would be more necessary with special events
   16. Chef and student collaboration
       a. Dining is very interested in this
       b. Through the years, they’ve worked with various groups (i.e. Korean students to make the food more true to their recipes)
   17. Having nutritional values available in the dining hall or on the iPhone app
       a. iPhone app is next step
   18. Gypsy stew
       a. A little offensive - can name be changed?
i. Yes, many dishes if they are realized to be offensive usually are changed
19. Complaint about the coffee - can we get flavor shots?
20. Coffee
   a. Coffee usually isn’t watered down
   b. Not half-caffeinated
   c. Bought from free-trade, kosher, woman-owned company
21. Coffee used in the campus center is different than the coffee served in dining halls
22. Perhaps having a blind coffee taste test during J-term?
23. Too many starchy-frozen foods
24. The food in gluten-free area runs out very quickly
   a. Can the food amount increase?
25. Is it possible to have a coffee machine in the library?
   a. Thinking about renovations, there will be a space for coffee in the newer renovations
26. Some dining halls (Lamont, Chase Duckett) will shut down one of the serving lines after ½ hour - why is this?
   a. Some of the food has run out, want to keep the food hot, etc.
   b. To close one line the goal is to reduce waste
27. Some nights, they will run out of food
28. Many times, there’s nothing open late (11pm, nowhere to get food on campus, especially during finals)
29. Want more varieties of soups
30. A problem with variety around Elm Street
31. Lamont, Chase, Gillet there’s a triangle and students travel between them too much
32. Can there be another dining hall that’s open later?
   a. It would help legitimize it if there was a petition
   b. Can late night dining be in a more centralized location?
      i. It’s in Tyler because it’s close to the science lab, gym and theater
E. Next week, there will be a student activity fee to be put on the ballot
   1. Voting for the student activities fee will be next week on the same voting website
   2. Should start discussing having extra money for printing and copying this year
F. Bearded Ladies Charter Questions
   1. Is it for people who already have the skill, or people who want to learn?
   2. The name is a little concerning to some people
      a. One thing they see is that historically bearded women have been marginalized/”freak” show, since they are claiming it as the name and choosing to celebrate it,
      b. Historically, bearded women have found homes in circuses
      c. Not making fun of it, but embracing the historical aspect of the term and the community found in circuses
   3. How will the meetings be structured?
      a. Meeting time will be training time
         i. As soon as can reserve space, will have different days for different things
   4. Will people have to pay to join the club?
a. No, it’s so that if they want something specific

5. What are the expenses?
   a. Equipment etc.

6. How often would people meet? How would training time be structured?
   a. If you come twice/month, considered an active member
   b. All warm up together, then separate to go to different skills

7. Is the point of the org for people to train together, or is it for a performance?
   a. Main goal is for a performance because training otherwise would be tedious

8. What kind of membership would there be?
   a. 4 or 5 people who have been doing circus and anyone who is interested
   b. There are many people interested in the prospect of circus

9. Safety?
   a. The gym has mats etc. and they will be used all the time
   b. President and VP have been coaches so they’re comfortable spotting and making sure people are safe
   c. Lots of circus in the area, so if uncomfortable, can direct people there

10. Performance venues
    a. Depends on what type of people are interested
       i. Happy doing something informal
       ii. Pick and choose venues carefully - house living rooms may not be the best area to juggle etc.

Bearded Ladies Senate Discussion
1. There are resources in the area says they’ve really looked into this - definitely done their homework
2. Overall, impressed - very responsive to questions, concerns are shared with names and freak shows do have histories in environments, want people to continue speaking about the name
3. The name is very strong and a very good educational point. Don’t forget the history and the education is good for students

Give as much information as possible about why the name is what it is.
4. People like the point of having a home, support, community etc. in the circus
5. This org is a good idea, nothing like this at Smith, lots of interest would be good for Smith
6. Good idea/opportunity to learn about circus
7. Feel comfortable with voting for charter because of the experience of the President/VP
8. Sometimes clubs that are very skill oriented tend to attract people who already have it, want to make sure that it’s open to everybody
9. There are a lot of aspects of performance that isn’t actually performance
10. Vote: 45-0-2 CHARTER PASSED!

Announcements
1. Power and Resistance at Smith - Conversations not being had at Smith
   a. Dec. 3, Neilson Browsing room, 7:30pm
Disability Committee
   a. Disability committee and diversity committee make sure you meet after senate
b. Lili will be meeting with head of disability committee tomorrow, will send out an email and make sure to send her questions (lsiegel@smith.edu)

2. Curriculum committee
   a. Diversity requirement is being considered as being added to Latin Honors

3. Campus Police Committee
   a. Bike kitchen, Dean O, C.P.C. Chair and Earl Brown are meeting to talk about bike safety (tpeterso@smith.edu)

4. Active minds is thinking about hosting a de-stress fest
   a. Sunday, December 9th. 4-7 pm or Tuesday Dec. 11 11am-1pm either in CC103/104
      i. Want as many orgs there as possible to help cosponsor etc.
   b. Have been talking about counseling services
      i. May be taking a role to make the reforms necessary

5. Warm hellos and hot Cocoa
   a. December 4th, 5:30pm-7pm in front of the CC Cafe with Campus Police

6. 28 November 2012 in Davis Ballroom 6pm, hosted by SSJP will be an anti-colonial Thanksgiving to discuss the Palestinian-Israeli conflict

7. A speaker is coming to talk about Central America “Right’s Action” and indigenous people
   i. 6 December, 4:30pm CC205

8. Archives committee -- every spring archives committee does something to give the committee a name - start thinking about it

9. Elections committee - some type of collaboration

10. This weekend is Weekend Vespers
    a. Sunday, JMG, 4pm and 7:30pm
    b. Will be streamed online

11. There will be two more meetings left of Senate this semester. Finals week is totally off!