



Student Government Association Senate

Senate Agenda 2/2/17

7-9 PM CC 205

Agenda:

- I. Attendance – 7:10 pm
- II. Approval of Minutes – 7:10 pm Zoe Brian (ENA Chair) approves, Cassie Follman ('20 West Quad Senator) seconds – 22-0-5
- III. Greetings To VP – 7:15 pm
- IV. Welcome Back – 7:20 pm
  - A. Dear World – Thank you Senators for participating
  - B. **Katie** (VP): “I’ve started a bullet journal everyone!”
  - C. Go visit Sharon Fagan in the SGA Office.
  - D. The location of Senate meetings this spring will possibly change throughout the semester. A reminder will be sent every Thursday as to where Senate will take place.
- V. Quinta Presentation – 7:30 pm

- A. Presentation by Silvana Saca
- Safe space for international LGBTQ students
  - Number one reason why international students utilize counseling services is because they identify as LGBTQ.
  - It would be better for the club's life if Quinta was recognized as an independent org.
  - Receives funding from ISO.
  - Anonymity is important to Quinta.
  - Meets in the Lewis Global Studies Center

B. Discussion

1. **Emma Stewart** ('19 Parliamentarian): How many people come to meetings?
  - Silvana Saca**: 40 people are registered but a solid 20 attend per meeting.
2. **Traci Williams** (Ada Comstock Vice President): What is the difference between Quinta and PRISM?
  - Silvana Saca**: PRISM is only for people of color; Quinta adds the component of transnationalism.
  - Chantel** (Vice Chair of Quinta): Our main goal is to be chartered because we want more high-key events. The transnational LGBTQ experience is rarely understood.
  - Silvana Saca**: It is a beautiful space to be a part of, and it is an educational space. People can learn what it is like to be queer in other countries.
3. **Zoe Brian** ('17 ENA Chair): Is there diversity in Quinta regarding class years?
  - Silvana Saca**: Yes. It is also growing.
4. **Emma Stewart** ('19 Parliamentarian): Why not just be a recognized org?

**-Silvana Saca:** Separating from ISO would make Quinta more official.

VI. Gavel Awards – 7:45 pm

**Katie Chong** (SGA Vice President): Reference the email. Link the Gavel Awards document in your email signature.

**Katie** (HPA Secretary): Can you nominate more than one person?

**Tamra:** Yes, the applications are due February 10th.

VII. Plan for the Semester – 7:50 pm

1. **Katie** (VP): We have 12 Senate meetings, 4 scheduled speakers, we should get Senators to invite student orgs like Divest or conduct information sessions about the library renovations. We have four open meetings; a huge Open Forum would be great. Afterwards, we could schedule a meeting with Dean Ohotnicky and Dean Lisker to address questions raised during the Open Forum.

**-Katie** (VP): On March 23rd, Seelye 106 there will be a Senate meeting about the endowment and financial aid.

2. **Traci Williams** (Ada Comstock Vice President): Regarding Sam Masinter from the College Council and Community Policy, Is he coming to Senate? Inclusivity in orgs is so important, and goes beyond anti-discrimination to make students feel like they belong.
3. **Sarena Shafner** ('17 Lower Elm Senator): Dean of the Ada and Sophomore Class should come to Senate.
4. **Dorie Klein** ('17 East Quad All Campus Senator): There is a list of Senate projects from last semester that I am curious about us doing further work on.

**-Katie** (VP) : I can sift through that list and get back to y'all. Kevita, a Smith alumnus and Jandon Center employee asked if we would like to create a space to address issues faced by international students now that we are in a different political climate. We can hit up Religious Life, Dean

Caitlin, ISO, etc. to work on this project. Regarding Open Forums, Carrie Lee will begin a Publicity Committee and have access to social media accounts to get the ball rolling.

-Annika, Savannah, Nicole, Cassie are interested in getting involved in PR with Carrie Lee.

5. **Sarena Shafner** ('17 Lower Elm Senator): CEIC - It would be good to have them come speak to Senate about budgeting and financially independent women.

-**Katie** (VP): The senior class rep is going to lead a series about senior stress.

6. **Traci Williams** (Ada Comstock Vice President): Someone from Disability Services could be beneficial to a Senate meeting.

-**Katie** (VP): Tamra, can we reserve your button machine?

-**Tamra**: Yes, just reserve the machine through the OSE.

-**Katie** (VP) : We should come up with a hashtag.

7. **Katie** (VP): Remember last semester when we thought about bringing in women of color senators? We need to start rolling out the letters, communicate with sophomore cabinet. Would anyone like to help formulate a letter? -Annika Jensen and Dorie Klein volunteered.

-**Katie** (VP): Who has not gotten their photo taken by me? We will retake photos next week, so please wear your shirts. Maybe we should get lapel buttons.

-**Savannah Berryman-Moore** ('20 East Quad Senator): Nothing fits on lapel buttons. They're too small.

-**Katie** (VP): What is a lapel?!

-**Katie** (VP): What's up with that Ezekiel bread at Chapin? It has too much fiber.

-**Katie** (VP): Gigi sent an email to me and the Senate Financial Committee.

**-Gigi Litovich** ('17 East Quad All Campus Senator): The mission for the Financial Services Committee needs to be reframed. It was food-focused originally but after the change in political climate, we could help students at risk with laundry expenses and such. It would be helpful to discuss ways to reach students at risk and ask them what they need.

8. **Sarena Shafner** ('17 Lower Elm Senator): The committee recently asked Dean Caitlin about ways to help high need students and students affected by the Executive Order. It would be good to have Dean Caitlin come to Senate to discuss this.

**-Emma Stewart** (Parliamentarian): Janis presented a plan for subsidized printing and laundry to high need students. This plan incorporated getting funds in ways other than increasing tuition.

**-Tamra:** There is no documentation of the proposal. Also, there is a problem with allocating more funding to students than what the college already outlines.

9. **Zoe Brian** ('17 ENA Chair): Is Senate going to send out an email as a statement of support regarding the Executive Order?

**-Katie** (VP): Possibly.

#### VIII. Committee Updates/Conversation On Reframing Financial Services Committee – 8:09 pm

ENA: Nicole Lawler joined the committee.

Sustainability: Now will work with Eco Reps.

Sofia Perotto (West Quad Senator) is now in Health and Wellness and/or ENA.

Katie (Bei) Heald ('18 West Quad Senator) is in Health and Wellness.

#### IX. Open Forum – 8:15

**Katie (Bei) Heald** ('18 West Quad Senator) - Higher Education for Refugees at Smith (community organization in Northampton); Wheaton College made a scholarship for

refugees and recently responded with it after the Executive Order; hopefully SGA will support a similar idea at Smith College, aid will not be taken away from other students

**Traci Williams** (Ada Comstock Vice President) - BSA conference is this weekend; India.Arie will be here Saturday night; the keynote is not for black students only; the tickets are not sold out, so go to the OSE for free tickets; there is conversation amongst some Black students who are asking, "Where are our allies?"; this is a way to show your fellow black students that you are truly and sincerely an ally.

**Emma Stewart** ('19 Parliamentarian) - I've been working on the Counseling Services/Health Services; just had a meeting with Dean Ohotnicky, Pam, and Dwight; I made a folder in the Senate shared folder with a lot of flyers about really great groups and events that will be happening this semester; share maybe one or two of the events with your houses. Second thing, I've worked hard to convince the administration that students have a lot to say about the Schacht Center; a student advisory board will be formed; I am looking for 2-3 Senators to be a part of this and I will reach out to other committees on campus to be involved, or get Cabinet involved.

**-Katie** (VP): I think we should get Senators involved. Dean O wants you involved. These will be lunchtime meetings. Bei Heald and Insia Naqvi are interested. Also, HPA is confused about the role of Health Reps on campus.

**-Sarena Shafner** ('17 Lower Elm Senator): I heard they are trying to reform what Health Reps are doing and getting Health Reps to do more than hand out latex materials.

**-Dorie Klein** ('17 East Quad All Campus Senator): To Emma - I don't really get many emails from the Health and Wellness Center. Do they send emails about events and such?

**-Emma Stewart** ('19 Parliamentarian): I don't know, so I will bring that up.

**-Tamra**: The flyers should come to houses through ACs, is that happening?

**-Emma Stewart** ('19 Parliamentarian): No. To add, there are events that people should be aware of: Engaging Identities, Mindfulness Stress Reduction through the Health and Wellness Center.

X. Area Meetings – 8:30 pm

XI. Meeting Adjourned – 8:46 pm