Date: 10/30/19

Attendance: Simon Bohn, Raya Petrova, Reid Nichols, Ruchi Raval, Brian Huang, Nimra Shabbir, Carlos Piedad, Lauren Smith, Madison Holley, Molly Weiner, Grace Yang, Matthew Toy, Sarah Vanasse, Nathan Oomen, Sophia Anderson, Carlos Gregory, and Matthew Giarratana

Non-voting: Michael Secchiaroli, Imogene Welles, Jana Davis, Lauren Dougherty, and Meghan McVaigh

Excused: Stephan Akichy, Julia Nicolescu, Thomas Walker, Sandeep Alampalli

Guest Speaker: Jenn Jerussi

Interim Director of Fraternity and Sorority Life

- Addressing questions
  - Our vision: We are in no way getting rid of Greek life-our goal is to make sure that our current chapters are up to code and exceeding expectations in terms of things like philanthropy
    - We are not taking any new chapters at the moment
    - We are planning on working with MGC to expand to multicultural students on campus
  - What role does Greek life play in terms of tours and admission?
    - We don’t have much say but Greek life is not a part of the first year experience
    - As we continue to push Greek life forward in a more positive light this will be more reflected
    - In terms of orientation: there is not much said about Greek life. Our goal is not to lie to students about life here on campus. Orientation already is very overall very overwhelming and we do not think that this is the best place to bring this in
    - Amanda works with the RAs to program some additional information and I think we are going to talk about some of the rules and regulations surrounding night life in terms of parties and things like that
  - Are there any plans for Greek life to receive funding from the school
    - No. we are working to find a way to provide financial aid for dues and things like that but every org is very different.
    - We do get a small fund from Reslife for house managers in Greek on campus housing
  - Thoughts on changing recruitment to freshman spring?
    - I am doing research right now to see if this is plausible
    - This will not help with housing since this happens in February
I do agree that sophomore year is already enough of an adjustment and we should try to move to spring term.

I personally think that it would help with conduct of first year students during spring term as well.

This could be an issue though because there would be recruitment twice a year and it is very expensive.

We are trying to look at peer institutions to come with a plan.

(BH): can you talk a little bit about the issue with greeks going abroad having to pay for empty beds?

○ Right now the greek housing needs to have 92% occupancy
○ The college is losing a lot of money on greek life
○ Not filling to occupancy would cause more students to need to be released
○ We have only ever had to bill two chapters for these empty beds and it evens out
    ■ Out chapters have gotten better at planning ahead for this
○ I do not anticipate this policy going anywhere
○ We allow greeks to have spaces is to allow for rituals which requires a private space

(RP): what is an area that you see greek life focusing on over the next one or two years?

○ I will focus on enhancing the groups that we have
    ■ Diversity inclusion and building up training for students so that we can create great student leaders
    ■ On a larger scale the college is focused on trying to market greek life better

(MG): I am a first year and I know nothing about greek life housing.

○ I understand that since first years do attend fraternity parties that we need to work on educating first year students better

(LS): is there something specific you want people to say about greek life on tours?

○ Even just talking about the fact that it was an option is great
○ I know that for a while it wasn’t talked about at all and I think that has already gotten better

Next Thursday during common 10-3 there is a demo for res halls to vote on for mock rooming.

(MW): is there a lot of planning going into general renovation on res halls?

○ In terms of greek life many national offices offer to help to pay for remodelling and that is not something that many of the other houses on campus
○ The current idea is that in the passed was to see if there was enough money to fix small things over the summer but right now they are working on a plan

(MW): Is there going to be a movement to get KA and Sig Phi out of res halls?

○ Down the line I think that there will be. This is more long term and there are no current plans in place
○ If we do move them out this will be in no way be a mechanism to kick out greek life on campus

Jen Jerrucci leaves the conversation.
• (BH): who was Jen’s originally counterpart whos position they absorbed?
  ○ I believe they are actively looking for a replacement
• (RR): if we were to fund philanthropic things or helping them financially for greek life we would have to check the constitution and amendments might need to be made if this is something we want to do.
  ○ We would work on it essentially throughout the year and we would need a ⅔ majority of all students on campus if and when it gets approved by forum voting
  ○ The student body would need to vote in spring elections
• (SB): Keep in mind that we need to be sensitive to the scrutiny on funding because we have quite a large budget as well and perceivably the same could be said about us though we use all of it.
• (BH): bringing things back to minervas, people like to claim that the 20,000 alloted to minervas. However, that is only a few students room and board considering how many programs they put on]
  ○ (SB): we also have received some numbers that minervas have cut down on costs on food by 30%.

President (Bohn):
• I have reached out to all of the heads of administrators on campus on the document we have been working on
  ○ Some smaller general questions we have, I will be meeting with them tomorrow to ask them directly
Meeting with Dining Tomorrow
Update on Wicker Wellness Center Hours
• The reason there is no wicker on the weekends is due to a lack of staff for funding for more staff
  ○ (BH): have they looked into getting more funding?
    ■ (SB): that is definitely something I alluded to but I cannot speak on their behave
    ■ (RR): it is hard to hire these people because it costs a lot of money.
  ○ (MH): they are hiring a multicultural representative though. It seems as if they do have money to hire people
    ■ (RR): that is true but it seems like this hire was also allocated in the budget.
    ■ (SA): why wasn’t wicker open originally on weekends?
      • (RP): I looked into a couple other schools and their health centers are open on weekends
      • (SB): this is not a new issue, I think this has been something that has been asked for years
      • (RR): we are very close to Ellis and urgent care so there is definitely other resources in the area.

Res Life Update
• A lot of the questions could not entirely be answered over email
  ○ In terms of the releases, the amount of students that are released is determined by how many people are enrolled. The board of trustees established this college for full room and board.
○ Parking-fire trucks come in and out which affect the amount of parking we are allowed to have.
  ■ (BH): The fact that they make minerva housing staff park during the day is absurd. These five houses (beuth, brezzano, bronner, golub, and wells) share 8 parking spots. That is the specific question I had
  ■ (RR): I think this is an overall issue because even the staff has trouble finding parking.
  ■ (SB): this is also a problem at much colleges and because we are such a small campus it is a luxury we have that we can walk to larger lot
  ■ (LS): who determines who parks where
  ■ (RR): I think it is in conjunction with campus safety and facilities
  ■ (RR): there is also a big push against getting rid of green space.
  ■ (Immy): The construction workers have also made parking space more sparse over the last few years and that shouldn’t be a problem soon

○ Trolly
  ■ In the winter the trolly is not usually running because of funding, and if it something that we wanted to invest in we could
  ■ (BH): a lot of what I wanted to see last year was funding for a trolley from CPH from 7-11 during the months of January to March when the weather is especially cold.
  ■ (GY): my senior project is about the trolley on campus. Because many students do not know where the trolley is, not many students use it and ultimately the funding is cut. There is discussion about moving it from at night to during the day.
  ■ (SA): In terms of timing of when it would be used, It would affect the attendance. In theory, it would be awesome but it would definitely be a great luxury but it would be difficult to ensure attendance

○ (MH): on a different note, Union has a lot of trouble salting sidewalks during the winter and the trolly would help keep students from injuring themselves

Forum Dinner with President Harris
  I am going to send an email out to see if we can have all members invited and not just E board

Secretary (Meghan):
Nothing to report.

VP Administration (Petrova):
Nothing to report.

VP Finance (Nichols):
Nothing to report.

Trustees (Raval, Huang):
VP Campus Life (Shabir):

- Katie used to send out campus events and I have taken that over. I sent out an email about forming a team, I have a full committee except for a first year rep. I am trying to create this team to come up with the best way to handle campus emails.
- I plan to have my next meeting this week
- (MW): the email you sent out last weekend was a campus event email. I thought that there would be more attention paid to it if it was just your name
- (BH): I think the timing could be better too because there are times of the day after everyone has cleared out their emails and people are more likely to see that.

VP Academics (Smith):
Update on Academics and GenEd Reform

- Mark Walker reached out to me on the best way to get student opinions involved in academic reform. Simon or I are going to send out the detail list of the new Academic reform. Please take a look at that.

VP Sustainability (Piedad):

VP Multicultural Affairs (Holley):
Nothing to report.

IFC (Secchiaroli):

Panhel: (Welles):

- The chapters will be running events for the chapter’s family and staff families as out halloween event this year

MGC (N/A):

Minerva (Davis):
Minerva Questions Presentation

- I spoke to Laura about the questions on the docs
- First year program-in the process of being re-evaluated
  - Winter term it will be much more comprehensive in terms of survey the rest of the students and staff about this
  - It was especially important this year because out the bed shortages
- Laura does not seek student forum help at this time
- they are working on varying events to increase attendance
- The first year residents are trying to form a first year board to help with getting more night activities for first years
- Alcohol at events
  - They do not want this to be a party but a way for students to drink responsibility
  - There would need to be a designated ID checker though this is not something they are completely against
- Right now houses can do with the money they are given
- The reorganization of the minervas is still in progress
- There will be a campus wide survey about mineva programming
• We are forming a subcommittee to see how other schools with similar programs are functioning

Class of 2020 (Wiener):
• We will sending an email out to the senior class for fundraising for the senior gift to be held at Biergarten

Class of 2021 (Toy):
Nothing to report

Class of 2022 (Anderson):
Nothing to report

Class of 2023 (--):
Nothing to report

Committee Report (SAC):
• We are still meeting with theme housing for review. Waiting on two of the 7

Advisor’s Report (Dougherty):
• Be sure to make it to the fieldhouse next Thursday for the reslife demo
• Please remember that if we have problems with faculty, we need to be doing this is the most positive and polite manner possible

Old Business:

New Business:
• We got an email that Melissa Kelly is leaving, do we have a say on who her replacement will be?
  ○ (LS): there will likely be a committee as there has been in the past for higher up positions
• (BH): the overwhelming majority of people did not go to the events for the hiring of the dean of diversity and inclusion. We need to have more people here for the next one.

Announcements:
If you’re free this Saturday, come to Shakti Show, bhangra and many other groups are performing. 4pm at Emerson.

(LS): Motion to adjourn
(BH): Seconded
Approved: all