Date: September 14th, 2020

Attendance: Matthew Toy, Kathryn Osterholtz, Julia Nicolescu, Nathan Oommen, Brian Huang, Sophia Anderson, Sarah Vanasse, Alexis Henrikson, Tyler Greenwood, Madison Holley, Marina Angelopoulos, Nimra Shabbir, Carlos Gregory, Anna Trancozo, Hayley Baglogh, Gwyneth Sultan, Sandeep Alampali, Matthew Giarratana

Non-voting: Lauren Dougherty, Kathryn Osterholtz, Matthew Guinee, Cate Llewellyn

Excused:

Special Guests: Mary Simeoli, Title IX Coordinator

MT: welcomes everyone to student forum

President (Toy):

- Mary Simeoli Introduction
  - MS: Thanks for giving me the opportunity to talk, Title IX has new policies, we left under one set of state and federal laws and came back to new state and federal laws
    - Suggestions and initiatives
    - Change in 2020 regs August 14th make it complex for colleges to respond to
    - Union will respond to more conduct than DoE says we need to
    - Asking for help from student leaders:
      - Change the relationship between the office and the students
      - Understanding rights and resources
      - Set community expectations
      - Policy means nothing if students don’t engage
      - Creating/hosting/developing programs and developing the message
      - Finding questions that students need answers to
    - Find best way to communicate- titleix@union.edu
    - Committees/ subcommittees to work w/ MS
      - MT: Mary is a great resource for all of us that we will continue to utilize throughout the year

- Overview of Forum/Processes (Powerpoint)
  - MT: Now is going to be presentation on processes and procedure for how we do SF
Slide 1: Preamble and Purpose
Slide 2: Elected Reps- Voting vs. Non-Voting Mems
  - Everyone who is member of Exec Board can vote
  - 12 Class Reps are also voting members
  - After we pass a motion everyone votes, if there is a tie Forum President breaks the tie
  - Non-voting members
Slide 3: SF Committees
  - Committee on Committee
  - Finance Committee
  - Student Affairs Council
Slide 4: Review of Order of Business
Slide 5: Procedures of SF
  - After a topic is brought to the table there is discussion
  - MT monitors and limits conversation to move to motion
  - There can be additional discussion after the vote
  - To vote: everyone raise hand
    - In favor, against, abstain
Slide 6: Follow @unioncollegesf on Instagram
  - Club Expo Debrief - with Nicolescu
    - Huge shoutout to Julia and everyone that stepped up for Club Expo!
  - CDTA Bus
    - MT: Normally every year Union pays for students to ride CDTA each year
    - Due to COVID we need to decide if we want to fund it
      - Buses have had outbreaks in the past of sick people riding
    - Safety is our first priority
    - CG: Question- student forum only or whole community?
    - MT: In the past we have funded all students to take for free
    - TG: I think typical funding is a good move normally as it builds community bridge + sustainability effort. It's logical to choose not to fund as the utility is small and the risk is high. Risk outweighs the utility
    - MH: I agree, we are also dealing with kids coming from high risk parts of the community and could be going into impoverished community that doesn't have resources to prevent against
    - CL: Does Union have shuttles running to WalMart + Target?
    - BH: they are modified schedules but still happening
    - CL: I feel like that is a safer alternative we are still giving students options
    - SV: Maybe we could encourage students to use the ZipCars so we are isolated. This is Schenectady locals home not ours, we do not want to be out endangering the community
    - LD: ZipCar is no longer on our campus, the company came and removed them and the company does not want to renew contract
    - SA: Even so, we should not fund it. We do not want to put the community at risk in that way, we can’t know where students have been.
SanA: There are commuters in the sophomore class should we know if they use CDTA?
SoA: I don't know but all the commuters I know drive.
AH: If we chose not to fund it would it just be for this year?
MT: yes, just for this year
NO: would not funding effect contract for the future
LD: year by year contract- already gave them a heads up and they were fine- would not affect us in the future.
MH: Motion to suspend Forums funding for CDTA for the 20-21 academic year
BH: Seconded
LD: Do you want to do the full year or term by term not know what the spring will be?
MA: it doesn't hurt to go term by term
MH: I agree
MH: I move to amend the motion by changing the time from 20-21 academic year to a term by term basis for the 20-21 academic year.
BH: seconded
In favor: 12 Opposed: 0 Abstaining: 0
MT: Motion passes

- Green Fee
- MT: Usually this would be under Tyler but he had to leave.
- This is money for students to apply to, to benefit sustainability efforts to make our campus greener.
- Students who got it last year are both not on campus so the funds are just here.
  - We could wait until next year but that would be 2 full years after they apply
  - $ COuld be put in a holding account to be used later on or to fund two proposals another year.
    - If we go that route those students would be able to apply again
- SV: Sophia and I think the money should go into the holding account. We would be able to fund two projects
- MT: We would not be able to make a motion to hold it for two projects
- MA: Could someone hypothetically propose a very expensive project
- MT: THe green fee is a typically a very specific amount of money to apply for,
- LD: $25,000
- MT: We woudnt change the amount of money offered but if hypothetically someone had a good project we could discuss
- CL: If we put the money in the holding account and the student comes back, do we have the discretion to just give it to them or do they have to apply again?
MT: IF we chose to make a motion then they have to reapply for the Green Fee
- MT: Would anyone like to make a motion
- SV: Motion to move funding for Green Fee for the 19-20 academic year to a holding account for the 20-21 academic year.
- LD: Are we suspending the project?
MT: The money is used to fund the project so if we move the money we can fund the project
SV: Motion to move funding for Green Fee for the 19-20 academic year to a holding account for the 20-21 academic year and suspend the project. If that student returns for the next academic year they have to reapply for the Green Fee
SA: Seconded
MT: Any other discussion
In favor: 14 Opposed: 0 Abstain: 0

- Committee Assignments
  - MT: Quick reminder to send committee reports
  - I will send email to vote who is on committees JN and NO to get them started
- What goals do we have as a forum? - Spoke over the summer about having goals of going to multicultural events, COC and finance going to different club/org events
  - Potentially having COC and finance encouraged to attend meetings from clubs/orgs they oversee
  - Over next week continue to brainstorm ideas and we will bring to the agenda next week.

Secretary (Osterholtz): Nothing to Report

VP Administration (Nicolescu): Thank Sarah, Nate, Matt for help with Club Expo

VP Finance (Oommen): Lookout for email if on finance committee, quick turnaround for treasurer work

Trustees (Huang, Anderson):
- Amendment Discussion about ranked choice voting
  - BH: Mock election- thank you for filling it out, this is the new strategy we want to use for voting in the upcoming elections: rank choice voting
    - Rank choices on preference, as the pool dwindles it just starts eliminated people from the bottom
    - Redistributes votes based on who is eliminated BH shares screen to show diagram of rank choice
    - Program will automatically eliminate when it does not satisfy majority voting
    - Can have changes to the outcome
    - Makes sense because we do not run for particular position we just run
    - On a large scale it can go through as many as 7 rounds- it will be very accurate
    - Elections committee endorses rank choice voting
    - SA + BH will draft amendment to the constitution
25% of the student body has to vote in the election to amend the constitution
  ● Looking to do it week 4 of fall term

If we do this we need SF to really commit to this and endorse it and get people to vote.
  ● Last school-wide election 44% voted so this is possible

Minor things we should also amend
  ● Change name of MH position

If you want a change let BH know

BH: We need your help to right up language to make it easy to use

AH: Format looked good on computer but we should check on how it looked on phone if it was just as easy

MA: It was easy- only tough thing is that you have to move your finger with the arrow not just click. Tell people to check over it.

BH: I can look into that and see other format options

SA: Nothing to Report

VP Campus Life (Vanasse):
  ● COVID-19 Initiative
    ○ Looking to put together COVID program task force
      ■ Budget proposal: Would like to allocate $100,000 left over from the club budget from last year to meet students' needs on campus.
      ■ Financial measures that will minimize waste, increase safety, and increase positive student experience
      ■ Overseen by VP of campus life
        ● For example may supply each student with reusable utensils
      ■ Similar to Making U Possible task force
        ○ NO: does all programming have to go through forum or can clubs apply to use their funds
        ○ MT: Nothing would change in how clubs operate- if something was brought to forums attention the task force could give funds for that.
        ○ LD: Student forum could focus on larger initiatives to keep campus engaged that is out of the scope of one clubs reach
        ○ AH:Would clubs apply? Or would programming be coming from Committee and forum
          ■ MT: The task force would be the ones who are doing the programming
          ○ AH: Would clubs be able to collaborate with the task force
            ■ SV: I would say yes we want clubs insight
            ■ MT: Clubs receive a budget and we don't want them not to use their budget. It's really more for special events to enhance virtual experience.
            ■ JN: If they do want to reach out it needs to fallx in the same vein of what the task force is trying to accomplish.

○ SA: I motion to approve the student forum COVID-19 program task force which allocated $100,000 from the holding account for the 20-21 academic year.
○ JN: Seconded
In favor: 15 Opposed: 0 Abstain: 0

**VP Academics** (Henrikson): nothing to report

**VP Sustainability** (Greenwood): Absent

**VP Multicultural Affairs** (Holley): nothing to report

**IFC** (Guinee): absent

**Panhel** (Llewellyn): Finished Panhellenic recruitment- virtual bids delivered at 6:30. NME will start tomorrow- bummer you can't see us run to the Nott.

**MGC (TBD):**

**Minerva (TBD):**

**Theme House (TBD):**

**Class of 2021** (Angelopoulos): nothing to report

**Class of 2022** (Gregory): nothing to report

**Class of 2023** (Sultan): nothing to report

**Class of 2024** (TBD):

**Committee Report** (SAC): Absent

**Advisor’s Report** (Dougherty): Awesome job! Way to stick with getting the language right- what is written in the minutes is what we have to follow. As SF you will have a connection with admin- you may become privy to confidential information. Sharing your perspective is so important but keep things confidential. As an advisor I am here as a resource for you to access 24/7.

**Old Business:** nothing to report

**New Business:**

- SA: Special election for class of 2021, 9/13 petition interest form, 13th petition period starts. 5pm 9/17th mandatory campaign meeting. Campaign period is 9/17 at 5pm - September 22nd at 5pm. Election is 9/22 at 5pm- 9/23 at 5pm.
- 9/24 petition interest form, 24th petition period starts. Oct 1st petition ends, Oct 1st 5pm-Oct 6th 5pm is campaign period. October 6th 5pm- October 7th 5pm is the election.
- Not listserv through forum or minerva. You can use a listserv if you are an RA because you can populate those manually. The only listserv that is not illegal are ones that are gained because you have a position and they are automatically generated for you.

**Announcements:**

MA: Motion to Adjourn
BH: Seconnd