Date: October 9th, 2020

**Attendance:** Matthew Toy, Julia Nicolescu, Brian Huang, Sophia Anderson, Sarah Vanasse, Alexis Henrikson, Tyler Greenwood, Madison Holley, Marina Angelopoulos, Nimra Shabbir, Cory Sachs, Carlos Gregory, Anna Trancozo, Hayley Baglogh, Gwyneth Sultan, Matthew Giarratana, Lani Waggoner, Ippolit Matjucha, Emily Stein

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

**Excused:** Sandeep Alampalli, Nathan Oommen

**Special Guests:** Dean Fran’Cee

**President** (Toy):
- Middle States thank you
  - Great showing, thank you all so much for attending and taking it seriously.
- Presence demo next week
  - Online platform for Student Affairs but they want to test it out to see how it works and if it is worth it for our campus.
  - Next forum meeting it will be tested out to see if it works for our clubs and orgs!
- Check in - Support/Assistance
  - Forum is here as a support system don’t feel bad reaching out
- Introductions for new members
  - Congrats to our new first year reps!!! So excited to have you.
- Dean of Students Fran’Cee Brown-McClure is here.
  - FBM: Hello everyone! Student Affairs is my area of expertise, and I value your input in that area. I come to you to hear from you as the representative voice of the student body. I depend on you for that information.
  - Open it up to questions in any capacity
  - MH: Question about the CDTA and shuttles not running with frequency. Many students have financial restraints that prevent them from paying for transit. Students feel constrained to go to places they need to go off campus.
  - FBM: Our largest shuttle is being used to transport to Washington Sq. That bus can usually seat 40 but now can only seat 12.
    - Staffing is also a big constraint, as well as a concern: if we do shuttles to Walmart who’s to say we can’t run shuttles anywhere else? School is not comfortable making that choice.
    - Lowering the risk of transmission of disease by bringing people together in things like the shuttle.
If there is a question about making food accessible is there a conversation we can have about making a WalMart delivery service with reduced fees for Union Students- maybe Forum can fund some of those costs?

Sam’s Club, Market 32 and Hannaford have delivery options but maybe we can set up a program with them.

- MA: Could you tell everyone quickly about the COVID panel that is happening?
- FBM: we did have 2 new positive cases last week that did put a few students in quarantine.
  - I decided to go ahead and put a webinar together to give the whole campus information about this: testing, quarantine rules, DoH rules etc.
  - First wave of positives happened during initial testing.
    - Our numbers of quarantine were way lower then because since people had just arrived they were not interacting with others.
  - Every single day there is a chance that the department of health could make an entire in-person class quarantine.
- LW: First-years rely a lot on the CDTA bikes around campus. Heard that the bikes may not be for public use soon. Is that true?
- FBM: As far as I know, I am not aware that the bikes are going to be out of service.
- TG: In the past we had the U-Bike system available to us, but the suspension of the availability of the city bikes will be discussed today. We suspended the contract with the buses but did not discuss if the bikes are a separate entity.
- MG: Plan for winter term?
- FBM: You will know between the 16th- 19th. First we think about the calendar, do we delay our start? Keep everyone virtual? We need to have answers to all these things and where people are going to live.
  - We had a great fall but we don’t want to let go of any of our restrictions because of that.
- MA: Do more students want to come back for winter?
- FBM: Definitely. Some could not come back, but many are planning to be here for winter.
- SV: question about the dashboard, is it everyone in quarantine or just people in the hotel?
- FBM: If you are on campus this term and in quarantine you are included on the dashboard even if you are not in a hotel.
- BH: How often does the dashboard get updated and who updates that?
- FBM: the dashboard is updated at 5pm every single day, if there are positives today, there would not be updates to the dashboard for that until tomorrow.
  - It automatically updates at 5pm, we can go in and make manual changes when we need to.
- AH: When will we know the plan about spring term and spring break?
- FBM: We will know at the same time as winter term updates.
  - If you want to be here for winter does not mean you have to be here for spring.
- SA: Could you go over the process of what occurs if you test positive while in quarantine?
**FBM:** We are going to look at who you were around 48 hours prior to getting your test. If you were already in quarantine 48 hours before that positive then we are not contact tracing.

- If you are symptomatic then the system will work back from when a student develops systems.
- Let me talk about contact tracing: don’t put yourself in quarantine or contact trace yourself.
- You will be contacted by Student Affairs or the Department of Health if you have been contact traced. It is NOT helpful to say that you are not in contact with anybody.
- It’s jarring to get that call but be honest, the DoH will call you and talk to you and they may release you if it is justified

**BH:** is it possible for someone to get a second test in a week if they felt they were in a risky situation.

**FBM:** you can ask but we don’t encourage it, there is a cost that comes with each test so we don’t want to use them at will.

- We do have rapid tests if someone is symptomatic but that is the only reason we would test someone multiple times a week.

**MT:** Question about faculty and staff quarantining, what is the obligation for them?

**FBM:** It's not a college obligation but it is a public health obligation.

- Human Resources and the DoH ensure that staff are following the rules about isolation and quarantine.

**CL:** Can you talk about what happens if I do input a symptom into the Emocha App?

**FBM:** If you know you have seasonal allergies, do not check down that symptom as it is a normal part of your experience. Don’t check symptoms that you know the cause of.

- Health services are notified when you report the symptom and they will give you a call. They will ask you to explain your symptoms and evaluate you.
- They can clear the badge for you.

**SA:** New question in Emocha about if you are on-campus that day?

**FBM:** I don’t know yet, I will ask the intentions of that question and get back to you.

**SA:** If I have symptoms but have not gone to wicker should I go to class?

**FBM:** NO. If you are not feeling well, stay home!

**MA:** I had a student come up to me and say “I know someone who is having symptoms but she’s coming to practice what do I do?” If you are genuinely concerned what do you do.

**FBM:** you can always reach out to my office and wicker to check on people and make sure they get what they need. It's helpful for people to think as a whole community not individually.

**KO:** Are there ways we can be more compassionate when we talk about our discomfort, or rumors we hear about people testing positive?

**FBM:** People are not obligated to tell you, we need to stop with the witch hunt.
Someone has just tested positive for a very scary disease and it is selfish for their peer to get mad at them.

Any person at any time can catch this disease just walking across campus, it could be any of us at any point. This should not be a social stigma.

Shift our engagement from a place of fear, start from a place of empathy.

Even when you are following the rules you still may end up in quarantine.

MT: Dean Fran’Cee thank you so much for coming and talking openly to us!

Secretary (Osterholtz):
- Union PPGen is hosting an event about WAP that Madison will be on the panel for and we should all come out and support him!

VP Administration (Nicolescu):
- Committee Application Update
  - JN: The selections for the major committees in the spring were made by Committee on Committees
  - A couple weeks ago the CoC sent out some more committee applications for more minor committees.
    - Results are in for which students have been selected for those minor committees.
  - MH: Motion to approve the CoC recommendation for major and minor committees in the 2020-2021 academic year.
  - BH: Seconded
    - In favor: 17 Opposed: 0 Abstain: 1

- CoC Club/Org Request for Approval
  - Did not end up making a vote on this.


Trustees (Huang, Anderson):
- First Year Election Update
  - SA: Welcome to new First Year Reps!!! 47% participation rate in the election.
- Constitution Amendment
  - SA: To recap what is happening: we are writing a constitutional amendment to how we do elections.
    - Proposed rank choice voting options which is particularly good for class elections. 6pm-6pm October 13th-14th.
    - We NEED to have 25% of campus to say yes to this proposal for it to pass. Students have to actively choose to vote in this.
    - As Forum we can take a stance to say we endorse it.
  - BH: Sophia and I will be reaching out to student leaders to get the word out in their clubs and organizations.
    - Keep posting the flyer for the amendment to advertise.
- Board of Trustees meeting
  - BH: first board meeting with the Trustees on October 23rd. We will ask everyone on Forum to give an update on what you have been doing this term with pictures.
    - Try to give as much info as possible on your updates.
  - SA: If you have a “moment of joy” add that, we want to emphasize what is going well this term especially in this time.
    - Please fill it out ASAP!

VP Campus Life (Vanasse):
- Reusable Utensils
  - Student forum funds a COVID task force that engages the student body during this pandemic.
  - The pandemic has caused a lot of plastic waste so we got 1500 reusable utensil kits to be more sustainable.
  - I need help sorting the utensils for the different dorms, let me know if you are interested in helping.

VP Academics (Henrikson):
- AAC update
  - We will not be approving AAC changes, its just a decision that will be coming from senior staff.
  - Overall consensus is that spring break will be shortened and we will be dispersing wellness days throughout the term. Trying to discourage people from travelling far away to keep our bubble small.

VP Sustainability (Greenwood):
- CDPHP Cycle Program Funding
  - TG: We need to decide if we want to fund students using these bike services for free, students can still use them if we don’t fund them, we would just have to pay out of pocket.
  - MH: I think we need to continue the bike services, in certain locations it is better than a car.
  - SA: The bikes are very user friendly, they also come with hand sanitizer attached to them. Very easy to drop off at other stations as well. I am in support!
  - LW: Most of the bikes the sanitizer was stolen or broken so if we could do some kind of check in on that it would be great.
  - MT: Is the upkeep under CDTA or us?
    - TG: We don’t necessarily have control over the upkeep but we can try to communicate this to the city and see where that goes.
  - MT: How much will it cost for the CDPHP bikes?
    - TG: I have no idea.
    - LD: We approve up to a certain amount of funding, and then it just charges per usage, so we only pay for what we actually use. In the past we used $3,000-$6,000 dollars with busses and bikes. Last year was $6,000
  - AH: Would this be for the year or the term?
    - TG: When we voted on the buses we did it just for the term, it seems like we can change it with the CDTA at will.
LD: Contract wise the financial cap is going to be easier to do it for the year as opposed to 3 separate contracts.
MA: We know what has been done historically but how much money are we working with? Where is the money coming from.
LD: It comes out of student forums budget.
MT: We have $25-28,000. The money has already been allocated for that when creating the budget so the money is set aside for it.
SV: Would it make sense to table this until next week when Nate is here?
MT: Since this is something we typically allocate money to and not vote on I think we can vote now.
MA: Can we just allocate half the cap of what we normally do?
TG: Can we change the cap if the buses come back?
MT: Its easier to just approve the bikes for the entire year and we can revisit in the winter when it comes to CDTA bussing and we can allocate more money.
MH: Motion to approve VP of Sustainability recommendation of a $4000 cap for the CDPHP bike system for the 2020-2021 academic year.
In favor: 15 Opposed: 0 Abstain: 2
UBike Repairs
TG: The U-Bikes were a Green Fee project when they were first implemented and those people have graduated out.
- There is no longer Green Fee money allocated for repairs for these bikes.
- Money has already been spent on them and there is a quote for more repairs.
- There are about 5 that are usable and safe right now.
- Student forum could provide funds for both the mechanic repairs and general maintenance.
  - One has already been spent and needs to be paid and one is potentially there for forum to fund.
  - Or forum could propose to another club to use their funding to take this on.
MH: I think CDPHP bikes are used much more frequently than U-Bikes and we should focus on that initiative right now.
SV: I agree with Madison, with the city bikes you can go more places and dock it anywhere so they are way less limiting.
MT: What about the money that has already been spent? Do we want to fund that and not fund repairs going forward?
SA: By spent does it mean it is allocated to it or we actually legitimately spend money on it.
LD: Forum did not spend the money for it, facilities did under the assumption that there was money saved up for those repairs.
MA: If we have the money we should pay for the invoice and take care of it.
TG: Are you talking about the outstanding money or the plan for the year?
MA: Do we have to decide on both?
LD: This money already spent is to get 5 bikes out that are up and running.
TG: The first invoice was for those parts and repairs, the other quote is to repair the remaining 7.
MA: Motion to approve the outstanding U-Bike repairs bill of $1058.95, for the 5 bikes.
In favor: 15 Opposed: 0 Abstain: 0

VP Multicultural Affairs (Holley):
- Absence of CDTA - Alternatives
  - MH: Presentation about alternatives since we no longer have a contract with the CDTA.
    - Slide 1: Partnership with Instacart and Grocery service app, pros and cons to this service.
      - Pros: Less traffic in reamer, discounts, bigger selection, ensures less students are leaving to get necessities.
      - Cons: economic barriers, rides get cancelled, can’t support small businesses, more useful in winter.
    - Slide 2: Expansion of Trolley Services
      - Pros: Possibly more cost-effective, union controls where students go, free, carefully cleaned and maintained by students and staff.
      - Cons: Taxing on drivers if personnel are not added, longer routes creates longer wait times, only 6 students at a time, schedule is limited.
    - Slide 3: Expansion of Food Option on campus.
      - Pros: Keeps students major needs on campus, helps students save money (return of the deli and expansion of the market), could create a concise calendar of available foods, students don’t have to support a business they are morally opposed to.
      - Cons: limited depending on college budget, very taxing on employees and creates even more waste.
    - MT: E-mail or text Madison feedback on this presentation.

IFC (Guinee): Absent
Panhel: (Llewellyn): Nothing to Report
MGC (TBD):
Minerva (Davis): Nothing to Report
Theme House (TBD):

Class of 2021 (Angelopoulos): Thank you to everyone that is coming to Civic Engagement events, keep going to them.
Class of 2022 (Gregory): Nothing to Report
Class of 2023 (Sultan): Nothing to Report
Class of 2024 (Waggoner): Introductions of all the new first-year reps!

Committee Report (SAC):
- Transfer Student support
● MA: Particularly hard time for transfer students because of reduced social life. Hard for them to feel engaged with the community and don’t have the support that first-years do.
  ▪ Proposal to have class reps send out personalized support emails’
  ▪ Will talk more during class rep meetings.
○ GS: Each President of each class year will get a list of these students.
○ CL: Admin on SAC are looking for specific feedback so reach out with suggestions.
● Student Support Group surrounding COVID
  ○ CL: Wicker has expanded their support group options but there was interest in starting one about the pandemic.
  ▪ Start thinking about specific things you would like to see this do

Advisor’s Report (Dougherty): Welcome and I appreciate you all being here! Very impressed with how seriously you all take this position as student leaders.

CG: Motion to adjourn
SV: Seconded
In favor: 15 Opposed: 0 Abstain: 0

Old Business:
New Business:
Announcements: Committee Nominations

Major Committees
Student Affairs Council (SAC) - Lillian Kurker
Standing of Students - Kaitlyn Connor, Yueyin Su, William Kehoe
Green Fee Governance Committee - Zelda Clegg
Finance Committee - Cameron Dreher, Jurgen Bach, Lindsay Gerrato
Committee on Committees - Samantha Epstein, Kartik Nath, Lori Chen
Academic Affairs Council - Alissa Sangiulio
Writing Board Committee - Emma Cravo

Minor Committees
Sustainability - Grace O’Hara, Bethany Costello, Lauren Stebbins, Corey Rutkin, Sophia Anderson
Study Abroad - Veronica Leitao, Abigail Cardello
Library Liaison - Josephine Landry, Bari Roberts
Dining Services Liaison - Nicole Cornell, Elena Gerrato, Hayley Coakley, Alina Whiteside, Veronica Leitao
Computing and Technology Liaison - Ian Sulley, Daniel Tyebkhan
Commencement/Baccalaureate Committee - Philip Facey, Madelyn Cagnassola, Kaitlyn Piechnik, Dhara Shukla, William Duprey, Colin Langton
Campus Operations/Facilities - Qiyu Zhong, Alina Whiteside
Campus Diversity - Bari Roberts, Tina Tulley
Admissions liaison - Samantha Epstein, Sasha Milsky

Gen Ed Task Force - Lila DeLaite and Jahnæ Morgan
History and Symbols Committee - Zoë Flessas-Finocche and Matthew Giarratana