



General Session Minutes

October 24, 2022 | RH 306 | 7:00pm

OPEN:

7:00 PM - Open (PARLIAMENTARIAN)

- Approval of Agenda for 10.24.22 **approved**
- Approval of minutes from [10.10.22](#) **approved**

NEW BUSINESS:

1. [Diversity Equity and Inclusion Report 2021](#)

- a. Sent out to the TC Community Juneteenth of 2022
- b. Feedback
- c. Amelia Jones: Noticed the theme of initiatives geared towards admin, but not proactive when it comes to students. How can we support DEI within the student body?
- d. Gabby Lamanno: Application of some of these main issues. We do all of this research but have seen little to nothing. How will this be applicable at TC?
- e. Marion: Would like to get a fresh perspective about what DEI needs we have.
- f. Tina Lee: I agree with Senator Lamanno. Lack of recommendations. Very bare minimum. There have been no proactive steps. Eboard was thinking about doing a townhall and senate can mediate and have faculty come as well. Lack of representation is an issue when it comes to students.
- g. Krystina Heidelberg: Basics are being barely covered. We need action steps and long-term planning. We are getting “here are some facts” but no steps when it comes to what we can and should achieve.
- h. Marion Bakhoya: How often do we think we should be updating the college? What does it look like?
- i. Neha Pant: Today is Diwali but we didn’t get any announcements from administration like we do for other holidays. There has to be a level of advocacy from the students.
- j. Gabby Lamanno: In undergrad I had a class about these items in this pamphlet. Maybe as a first year, it’s a requirement for students to take a class on DEI.
- k. Michael Mickenzie: Opportunity to provide a report that is inclusive of the many suggestions presented tonight. Meet the administration halfway by giving concise research based reports that are also inclusive of some of our feedback so that they have something they can touch and feel. UNTil that can happen, the target will be missed.
- l. Tina Lee: What was the purpose of the report? We know the student body is predominantly white but what are we going to do about it?
- m. Vikas Tatad: The administration should be mindful of the inclusion of caste as a protection category for representation purposes.
- n. Marion Bakhoya: Motion to delegate this to the DEI committee. Seconded. DEI chair approves

2. MST Candidate Nomination

- a. 2 minutes for Candidate introduction

- i. [Paul Chioariu](#)
 - ii. [Daniel Hiterer](#)
 - b. [Voting form](#) Complete by: 9pm
 - c. Candidates will be notified of the Senate's decision 24 hours after voting has taken place. 10/25 at 9:00 pm.
3. EPSA Student Senator Nomination
- a. Carrrie Mannino
 - b. She will be joining the senate during our next meeting.
4. Legislation First Reading SR- [Neha Pant](#) [Gabby Lamanno](#)
- a. [Resolution More Degrees Equal more Pay - Google Docs](#)
 - b. First Reading (5 Minutes)
 - c. Q and A (10 Minutes)
 - i. [Cameron Arnzen](#) Is there a payscale for all positions at CU or affiliate schools?
 - GL: Not everything is transparent, discussion based model and is made in the application and interview process. 18-25, depends on what you are fulfilling. Less structure than work-study positions
 - ii. Marion Bakhoya: How are we defining “students”?
 - GL: Students that are enrolled in the program and receiving credits
 - MB: Is that defined in the legislation?
 - NP: No
 - GL: Not sure where to put it in the document
 - iii. Krystina Heidelberg: Exclusive to GAs, TAs?
 - GL: Anyone enrolled in TC across all positions, should be all roles.
 - JS: Everyone taking a class or people who matriculated into a program?
 - Denise: There is a lot of work the college has to do to define who is a true student and a true employee. When it comes to wages, it is a good point but I don't know if this needs to limit your legislation
 - MB: For faculty, do they go through the faculty executive committee? What about students?
 - DB: FWS positions, Administrative Fellows (AF), Research Assistants (RAs), Graduate Assistants (GAs), Course Assistants (CAs), Doctoral Research Fellows (DRFs)
 - a. Interim positions (multiple titles associated with the pay code) are where students or others (non-students) can be appointed to hourly positions (below part-time hour requirements) and harder to account for
 - GL: We will clarify what students are in this resolution.
 - NP: Will clarify who is a student regardless of credit.
 - iv. [Cameron Arnzen](#) Have you considered the basic trade off with higher wages versus the number of positions?
 - GL: Thinking about it as, given our current economy, you can't efficiently live on \$16 an hour. Everyone employed would more likely understand. A lot of federal work study jobs but it would benefit the people working those jobs

- NP: There is no information right now to even say there are enough positions to the number of students that can apply for these institutional positions. Is there data on the number of jobs and the number of students applying?
- TL: Maybe we look into the board's raises
- GL: As TC, if other affiliate schools are getting paid more than master students, there is an issue. They have less degrees than master students. If we are affiliates, we should have similar rules when it comes to work and pay, especially if other schools are adequately paying their students and we are not
- MB: How do you plan to highlight the fact that we are an affiliate and our endowment isn't as large as the other schools?
- NP: Assistantships are based on the department and there is an awareness of how many funds are available
- GL: Federal work-study, they are not funded by the institution by the federal government, my assumption that the federal government can have that discussion with TC. There is a discrepancy about why TC is structured at \$16 when other institutions can go up to \$20.50. Work study isn't coming from the institution raising money
- Denise: Point of information. Specification of the legislation. More strategic to talk to federal work study and college budget since they are 2 different VPs.
- KH: If wages are raised higher in work study, would it affect their maximum amount per semester?
- GL: You would need to request more money.
- KH: Maybe that's information that we could add into the legislation.
- GL: Something we can include, but that exceeds what we are advocating for right now. Difference between work study and other employees. Once we get adequate wage, there is no point in getting that process written down unless we can't get the increase in wages passed
- MB: Are there any short term goals, or small wins you can identify?
- NP: Increase in wage
- MB: Anything within the next 3 months you can identify that we can accomplish?
- NP: As of now, an acknowledgement that this is something they are working on and including a timeline
- GL: Getting involved in the process and discussion and decision process about pay
- MB: Is this something that's being worked on?
- Denise: Student Employment Committee that was formed last year put together a proposal, and the group did touch on increasing and standardizing wages. The proposal did bring forth a full-time position for someone in TC NEXT to specifically focus on student employment, and just received word today that the position has been filled! Recommend that the Senators working on the legislation connect with Laura Coleman who chaired the committee and will be leading the student employment area in TC NEXT. The Financial Aid Committee, that meets monthly as of this calendar year, has touched

on funding opportunities linked to FWS and employment but focused more on overall funding packages. That committee is being led by Tani Castañeda.

- MB: Is there a student on the committee?
- Denise: Cam and Marion are pushing for more student voices. Once committee feels more secure, the committee will reach out to Cam and Marion to include more students

OLD BUSINESS:

1. Legislation Process Overview - Continuation from 10.24.22

a. Next steps in Legislative Process

- i. Next general session we will have a discussion about this legislation, then we will vote, unless a tabling or something else will occur. Next committee meeting would be important to come to a consensus about the legislation as a committee. If passed, the legislation will go to the president and she will either sign or veto
- ii. MB: We are actively working on getting the legislation in front of the right people to ensure your hard work is being showcased and pushed for

b. Legislation Distribution Process

- i. Keep an eye out for this new process, parliamentarian will send it out to everyone in senate

ANNOUNCEMENTS & UPDATES

Committee Updates

- Academic Affairs
 - There have been discussions on the following topics: Integrative Project (IP) training, transparency and accessibility of advisors, printing services, and TC cross-discipline course registration. The committee will form a more concrete timeline and plan for these ideas.
 - Senator Yin, Senator Liu, and Senator Lee signed up as a sponsor for the Resolution.
- Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion
 - We planning to send out a survey to identify the needs of students and the most pressing issues that they would like to have us address
 - We have set some goals to work around spreading awareness about the various facets of Title IX.
 - The committee is working on a few more things that we will share once we have something more concrete.
- Student Experience

- Currently seeking student experiences with the course registration process, both with the tech system *and* how class spots are prioritized (i.e. when students who have required courses aren't able to enroll in said courses because they've been filled by students taking the course as an elective)
- Additionally, we're discussing student safety and how TC safety resources are 1) communicated and 2) delivered. Senator Chow will begin attending Campus Safety Advisory Committee (CSAC) meetings. We're looking for two more students to attend these meetings alongside Senator Chow, please contact me or her if you are interested!
- University Policy & Rules
 - Provided feedback on Ethical statements.
- Grounds and Resources
 - N/A
- Social Chair updates
 - Congratulations to our new social chairs - Yuchen Liu & Mana Uppili

Executive Board Announcements and Updates

- President:
 - Met with President Bailey and Provost Baldwin
 - [Agenda October 20, 2022](#)
- Vice President:
 - Committee Chair Meetings will start this week! Denise Boneta & I have sent invites.
- Parliamentarian:
 - Committee Attendance, please refer to Mandatory [attendance sheet](#) in binders
 - Please use the student-senate@tc.columbia.edu and senate-parliamentarian@tc.columbia.edu for any matters regarding attendance and legislation.
 - If you are confused about legislation, attendance or the constitution please feel free to reach out for a quick chat or email.
- Treasurer:
 - Nov 14th - 2nd Annual Student Mixer 1-3pm
 - Committees- please put together some of the work that you've been working on. Want students to know what we are discussing and how we operate
 - Working on merch! In the process of finalizing the order. Going with windbreaker jackets, water bottles, and wristbands
- Communications Officer:
 - Please fill out the [Instagram spotlight google form](#) ASAP!
 - [Website](#) has been updated (s/o to Krista!)
 - Call for content: if you have any pictures for the senate instagram (selfies during session or with other senators, during office hours, committee meetings, etc.) please send them to me (alj2153@tc.columbia.edu)

- Office hour flyers: If you would like your flyer for office hours to be hung up on the senate bulletin board, please give me a hard copy (can also be left in my office- Building 528, Suite 155)
 - Tip: Use a QR code and make sure to have the OASID statement visible on the flyer: *Individuals with disabilities are encouraged to contact OASID as early as possible to request reasonable accommodations. Email: oasid@tc.edu. Phone: 212-678-3689. Video Phone: 212-678-3854.*
- University Senator:
 - TC/CU Collaborative Committee → We met this weekend to discuss potential projects that students at TC would like to participate in. Some of these projects include ongoing advocacy initiatives at CU. Meetings will be monthly. Attendance is not mandatory to participate in the committee.
 - First open meeting will be on Wed, Nov 9th at 6-8pm ET over zoom.

Other Announcements

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CLOSE

8:30 PM - Adjournment (PARLIAMENTARIAN)

- Motion: Gabby Lamano
- Seconded
- Adjourned at 8:18 pm