



WESLEYAN STUDENT ASSEMBLY

Meeting of the 41st General Assembly
March 1, 2020

Meeting called to order at 6:00 PM.

Agenda

- Item 1. Attendance
- Item 2. Fight Song
- Item 3. Approval of [Last Meeting's Minutes](#)
- Item 4. Discussion with President Michael Roth
 - a. Nigel: Thank you for coming in today, President Roth, I'd like to open up by talking about Wesleyan's future now that we're nearing the end of the 2019-2020 academic year. In regards to strategic planning, what is your planning looking like for the next 10 years given that we've reached 2020?
 - b. Roth: That's what we hope to solidify in the coming years. We have three axes- one is energizing the educational experience of the students, and enhance Wesleyan's recognition and do the first two in a sustainable and economic way. There are a few interesting questions - we are committed to improving the campus facilities to make it more sustainable in terms of energy and pedagogically friendly for faculty. But this will require lots of resources so we need to think about that. On the academic side, should we accelerate the work we've done in increasing interdisciplinary colleges? For example, we have introduced the College of education studies, the 5th one that I've done in my term. It's good to get faculty and departments into these programs, but you don't know what's going to happen. COE is much more experimental, as well as CEAS and integrated sciences, and they are a great platform for experimentation that traditional departments are not open to. I want to test that with students and faculty. Faculty and student ratio- that was an important and expensive aspect that we wanted to improve so that students can do independent projects with faculty supervision. Not all faculty are in favor of that, but I am in favor of. Additionally, setting the discount rate- which is 36%- as part of the budget. Percentage-wise, I want it to go up, and set it as a target for low-income students. Should we add more opportunities for middle-income students? This is not uncontroversial, but figuring out how best to get there is what we're working on. How to increase the budget of the financial aid is an important next step we must consider.
 - c. Huzaifa: On your strategic planning slide show shown at the end of the meeting, I saw that carbon neutrality was something you were considering. Considering the presentation by the WSA and the fact that our peer institutions and many other parts of the countries including presidential candidates are working on achieving carbon neutrality and the worse plan currently is carbon neutrality by 2050, what do you think it means that Wesleyan is behind?
 - d. Roth: Are we gonna do it by not having students from outside New England? That would be a huge step towards carbon neutrality? How can we stay Wesleyan and have carbon neutrality and pay for it? Even if I got rid of my own salary for ten years, we wouldn't be able to reach it. So how to make the strongest steps towards carbon neutrality - in this case, the replacement of energy infrastructure ?? Wesleyan is actually moving in that direction as an institution. So we could say, alright, take a 100 million dollars out of the endowment. But that means endowment support for financial aid goes down. I don't think carbon neutrality at Wesleyan would actually make a

difference in climate change; it's only a symbolic act, whereas financial aid actually changes things for people.

- e. Rose: In relation to the question about carbon neutrality, you say we're moving towards Carbon Neutrality and I work in the sustainability office so I see a lot of that but the way you talk about it kind of feels disingenuous because half of our direct holdings are in fossil fuels - is there a step that Wesleyan could take and for WesDivest to do?
- f. Roth: Where'd you get the data?
- g. Rose: Well, I looked at a list and added it up from the data I have. It was hard for me to get that information though, since there's some legal issues with the transparency of that information.
- h. Roth: We don't invest in companies, we invest in managers. Ten years ago, it was 12% and now it's 6%. So even ten years ago it wasn't 50%. So we'll have an announcement about that before spring break.
- i. Rose: We do have direct holdings right? Can you explain the difference between direct and indirect?
- j. Roth: So individuals often buy stocks. If you want to invest in Exxon for example, you buy a stock there. Wes doesn't do that, it hires a manager who invests usually in private companies but also in publicly traded companies. So we'll invest in Jane Smith and she'll pick stocks in the agricultural space, or in manufacturing. What Wesleyan decided to do 8 months ago was to no longer look for managers in the oil and gas space. To me that was a good indication that we could move the board in that direction. We used to have trustees who would say let's invest 5% in oil and gas and thanks to activism from students we don't want to do that anymore. And we'll have an announcement in the coming days. But it'll come from the Board, not from me.
- k. Zhaoyu: So here is a quick question asking about Wesleyan's international financial aid policy. Advocate Wesleyan claims it is an advocate of global education, but we international students, particularly from Asia, do not receive much financial aid. Is there a way that we can improve the situation of international students who are in financial need?
- l. Roth: Well, Wesleyan only accepts international students who we can give need-based financial aid too. We have the Freeman Scholarship which used to give merit based scholarships, but still the percentage of financial aid students who are international are much lower than those domestically. I think that, unfortunately, it will be a while before we can do this until we are need-blind domestically. (Unintelligible)
- m. Zhaoyu: Could you expand work study to international students?
- n. Roth: No it is a federal work study program, and I think it is a governmental program.
- o. Shirmal: I'm an international student on financial aid and a Freeman scholar and I get term time work study as financial aid.
- p. Roth: Yeah, so there are international students who have jobs at Wesleyan. I was thinking of work study as governmental support. But yet there again I do think that as the university gets a clear sense of what the need is, we will get there, but for now we need to have donors who raise money for those scholarships to meet international student need.
- q. Zhaoyu: Does the university have a more substantial plan to meet that goal?
- r. Roth: By raising money from international donors, yeah.
- s. Katelin: There was a campus-wide email that went out a few weeks ago about Workforce, the new clock-in and clock-out app. It said in the email that this app Wesleyan would help Wesleyan get on top of labor regulations. Is this implying that standards are not currently being met?
- t. Roth: We are in compliance with labor law standards.
- u. Katelin: Then why insinuate that the school is not?
- v. Roth: I wasn't insinuating that, we have to be up to new labor regulations
- w. George: How can you justify refusing to hire back 5 of the ten workers that Wesleyan fired

through attrition which would cost around \$300,000 per year when, according to public records, you make \$1.3 million per year?

- x. Roth: No one was directly fired.
- y. George: No one was directly fired but the positions were removed after the University agreed to not fire anyone
- z. Roth: Well there are a lot of needs as you see - if I were going to reduce my salary I wouldn't do it for that purpose it would be for scholarships as I have done.
- aa. Sam H.: I know we recently received an email regarding study abroad programs in areas with confirmed cases of the coronavirus, but where do you see the study abroad situation ending up for the fall? Are there plans for students who may have to cancel their study abroad plans?
- bb. Roth: We just brought students back from Bologna and there's a task force meeting a couple times a week to see how we can plan for these contingencies, but the situation is so fluid... you probably have all the information that I have. I don't think we should cancel all study abroad for next year now but everyone who is planning to do that should have contingency plans, more so than usual. We will be talking to depts who require study abroad about this too. We will not send students on university sponsored programs that will be a danger to the health of those students. It's a fluid situation. So we are building scenarios that would probably be useful for someone from Academic Affairs to come to the WSA and tell you all.
- cc. Sam H: Are you in the process of building plans for housing and break, in the chance that fewer students go abroad in the Fall than usual?
- dd. Roth: Yes.
- ee. Nigel: I just want to return to the 2020 and beyond... with PAC being under reconstruction, I was wondering if there were any particular plans that you believe require the most attention out of these few. Is there another spot on campus other than the Science Library or PAC where you would suggest we divert more of our resources?
- ff. Roth: We're finishing the film studies building in the summer, which will be open in the fall. We will be renovating the area around the digital design studio, in the Davison Art Center, and trying to figure out how much renovation we can do, depending on how much money we can raise. We hope the board will approve the building of PAC, a day after graduation. Mike Whaley is getting help from this group and other student groups, to see what we can do about the inconvenience that will be caused by the building. It will take a while. One of the questions that came up over the years is larger social spaces, so Dean Mike is looking for those areas, perhaps the Butterfields area. When they make those choices, hopefully they will include your input and other students' input as they move forward.
- gg. Shirmai: Hi, I am an international student from Hong Kong and I'm aware there is a workforce tackling the Coronavirus. Can you provide us with some updates about what the school is doing and is planning to do?
- hh. Roth: Well, as I said we just brought students back from Bologna and we have a few students in South Korea. Most of what we are doing right now is scenario building, Virus will be all over the United States... We have been considering the possibility of setting up an online course system. We also made efforts to figure out how to isolate people with suspected symptoms. And about faculty and staff who are infected with the virus, we will provide means for them to work from home.
- ii. David Chearo: Looking at spring break, noting that fewer people traveling, we wanted to have resources for students who stay such as increasing the opening of dining places around campus, and the health and safety folks are in touch with the national folks so that coordination with them will allow for prevention, as well as emergency center .

- jj. Roth: We are trying to get up-to-date information, which is a bit difficult to do in the US. We try to get information from CDC and we keep communication with other institutions to have a clear picture of the status quo.
- kk. George: We've talked a bit about Workforce already, as a student worker I'm concerned about Workforce's geofencing abilities which would track me at my job and how the company advertises its ability to reduce the salaries of employees who commit "wage theft" by going on breaks. I was wondering if there would be a similar system for administrators like you, whose salary our tuition pays, just so we can ensure fairness all around?
- ll. Roth: No one has to have geo-fencing at all. Student workers won't have to use their phones, no one will have to have it at all. We are trying to understand the different needs of different employees and different sectors, who want different ways to clock in and out. We want it to be flexible. A student employee may want a different way of logging hours. Some people work from home. I'm not going to be offensive even though your goal was to be offensive - I almost have to laugh. We don't want to know where people are when people are not on break. It's not what we're interested in. Just because a website says it cuts salaries, does not mean we're going to cut salaries. What is being argued is that people are getting paid for not working. So I'm hoping that we can implement this in such a way to reduce the fantasy of people watching them in the bathroom, but have an efficient way to pay the people for the work they do. It's attractive propaganda if you've read a little bit of Foucault but that's not what we're doing.
- mm. Emily: I'm wondering your opinions about the culture of financial literacy on campus and how it affects the student body. I know at other peer institutions which my friends go to that it's more common for students to understand their credit scores or take care of tax information which is very important to them. Some have programs about educating lower income students around those topics, and it appears like there's a divide for richer students on campus who may not have to deal with these issues. So, I was wondering how you view financial literacy at Wes and ways to improve our resources in the area?
- nn. Roth: Yeah. It's a great question, every once in a while someone asks me if we could institute a requirement for basic financial literacy, but we don't have requirements for that. People often say "I can't believe people graduated from college without" insert their favorite thing. Financial literacy or reading Shakespeare or whatever. Offering classes that give people a sense of their personal relationship with the economy without telling them how to run their finances is a difficult thing to do. We used to offer those classes but they didn't fit in with our liberal arts model. The career center offers online courses on financial literacy. I don't know how to get around the problem of richer people knowing how to navigate their finances better. And not just taxes, but also getting jobs and internships and investing. One of the members of the board of trustees said "well yeah we are a for-profit institution" but we aren't a for-profit institution. We have an open curriculum; I'm still an advocate for the open curriculum.
- oo. Rowan: On your last visit to GA, about three and a half months ago, you made a verbal commitment to speak with the head of admissions about undertaking a study or evaluation of the accessibility of Wesleyan for students with intellectual and physical differences with the express intention of improving Wesleyan's accessibility. Have you done this? If not, what is a date by which you can commit to beginning this process? Secondly, as a representative of the student body as well as a member of the community who has conducted research through a lab on campus, I urge you to not keep the Shaklink building. Invest in the future. As you said earlier, go where the puck is gonna be. I believe that it's an expensive, inefficient, and inaccessible as a research and learning space.
- pp. Roth: So in the first one, yes. Right afterwards, in my next meeting with Amin, the Dean of Admissions, definitely embraced the idea that we should have a better audit on the axes that you

have described in your question. Now after this meeting, I will check in on what's going on.

However, Amin is very busy currently dealing with the next cycle of applications. And Shanklin, if the scheme chooses to retain Shanklin, it would not be maintained as a research building but a seminar building, like for the College of the Environment, so that it would not be an impediment as a research building. Some people feel quite strongly about both sides.

- qq. Rowan: I would like to clarify that my use of "inefficient" not only refers to the energy being used, it is also about the space that is allocated.
- rr. Roth: The architecture historian on campus feels that we can keep the outside of the building while reforming the inside, but a lot of trustees feel that we should instead start from scratch. We have 4 months to make this decision and it's being considered.
- ss. Huzaifa: Hi so myself and ten other students met with the associate VP of finance and he discussed workforce and he let us know that geofencing would be implemented, as depts would have the option to implement it, but if they did then students WOULD have to abide by geofencing.
- tt. Roth: No decision has been made. But if a department wants geofencing... I think it allows students to sign in from specific places. But if ALL departments see that as an impediment, we don't have to implement it. In all cases there will be an alternative. If you want geofencing but your colleague doesn't, you can have an alternative.
- uu. Huzaifa: would students be part of this feedback process on geofencing?
- vv. Roth: This is what's happening now. If the most opposition is around geofencing, there's still time to make changes. I've seen the petition, but it says things like "Roth wants to know where custodians piss and shit." Although that's an interesting idea, as a Freudian, it's just misinformation. It may be the case that the thousand people who signed it don't want geofencing. But it's probably not the case. There's always an alternative to it.

Item 5. Committee Reports

- a. [AAC Report]
- b. [CoCo Report]
- c. [SBC Report]
- d. Rowan: Does the SBC have any comments on the ongoing issue with the WSA finance office and also the frustration among the student groups to get the money transferred to their accounts?
- e. Sam: You're super right that working with the finance office is very difficult: they tend to be inconsistent depending on the student worker that's there. But there's only so much we can do - we usually work with students to help navigate the process
- f. Rowan: I just want to raise the issue toGA that the WSA finance office is especially hard to work with this semester. Given the relationship between SBC and WSA finance office, it would be helpful if SBC could get involved and improve the situation.
- g. Nigel: Why was the martial arts club deferred?
- h. Chelsea: We wanted more information about their request, because they had submitted a similar request earlier in the semester.
- i. Justin R.: That's the whole point about the new administrative assistant, who ended up taking a new job during winter break, so we are looking for a new person. This will hopefully resolve the instances that a new student is in office, and the issue of not constantly having an office staff in the office, as it is currently when Lisa isn't, will be alleviated.
- j. Sam H.: Martial arts club made a nearly identical request to one we approved earlier this semester and we want to know why.
- k. [SLC Report]
- l. Katelin: First thing: Rachel would you potentially come to AAC and talk about what you are going for the transfer students? Another point is still about the "geo-fencing" in the workforce as I

have heard someone from the Argus that we are going to use the card swipe to address the issue?

- m. Huzaifa: Every department will have a different way of implementing this - not sure how this solves the problem of centralizing everyone's processes. When Chris Olt went through this, I wasn't sure about this either. I don't think it's one of their main priorities.
- n. Justin R.: Point of Information: the main thing that makes this different from the current system is there are physically different programs to clock in time- for my two different jobs, they have different ways to clock in and handle pay stubs differently. Thus, being on the same system is definitely important. However, that doesn't take away from the other issues present with the Workforce.
- o. Nigel: Just to clarify, so we won't have a definitive statement about the use of the "geo-fencing" feature in Workforce until April?
- p. Huzaifa: Geofencing has already been set up. Students are going to be using a browser through WesPortal. If your department requires geofencing but you don't have location services on, it will come up as "unknown," which might cause problems.
- q. Rowan: re. Transfer students would be "unlikely to find other transfer students" implies that transfer-students have a desire to connect with other transfer students on campus. I wonder if this assumption by the university is accurate. Does the positive impact of surrounding transfer-student with other people with that shared experience outweigh the isolating effects of putting a group of students together that don't have the day-to-day knowledge of how wesleyan works that could be provided with a more integrated strategy for housing for transfer students.
- r. Chai: I just wanted to address the geo-fencing questions. Adding on to what Huzaifa and Justin said, I also have multiple jobs on campus, and in terms of centralizing it, it's better in terms of for students with multiple jobs on campus. With the current system, it's not clear where the money is coming from, and what department my portion of my money is coming from, which makes it hard to see which department I am missing money from. In terms of geo-fencing, they said something about it being very optional, but students don't have to use their phones. He suggested that there would be a device there, which would make it the same as clock in and clock out, so I don't see what the difference is from the current system. My only concern is what would happen if the supervisor requires you to do geo-fencing and actually clock in and clock out.
- s. Huzaifa: Just to clarify, only some departments would have on-sight clock ins, like Admissions will have iPads. It's up to them.
- t. Justin N.: Chris Olt wants to come in and speak to GA once there are more answers look forward to that in the future.
- u. Rowan: If anyone else has anything for the Pandemic Task Force reach out to me.

Item 6. Open Forum

- a. Rowan: Again I just want to bring up, I understand the finance office is lacking an administrator right now, but I think there needs to be an audit on how student workers are trained there.
- b. Nigel: For some context, do you mind explaining what the financial office does in terms of student to student practices? Does the administration get involved with it or is it mostly on a student level?
- c. Rowan: My concerns are with consistency and transparency with regards to the obstacles to obtaining funding from the SBC. It fosters an attitude of distrust with the administration.
- d. Sam B: I fully agree with you and I would like to further discuss with you. .
- e. Huzaifa: There are definitely issues in the WSA Office that the LB is looking into fixing. One of the reasons for the backlog right now is the problems with translating WesNest. There are kinks being worked out. We should be cognizant of the way we talk about people who work directly for us.
- f. Anna: So this is an issue dealing with the structure of the board of trustees. There isn't any representation with staff in the board of trustees, such as public safety, janitors (who have unions),

and I think that's a problem because they don't have any actual representation. Please let me know about your opinions about this issue and we will continue working on it.

- g. Sam B.: I remembered the first thing I was gonna say: this is something the SBC should be acting on - it is not always clear that the SBC and the WSA office are different things. To speak to the WesNest difficulties, there are lots of times where WesNest literally just doesn't do what orgsync can do. There have been some really complex problems with reimbursement that are often with things that are not WesNest related either.
- h. Rowan: I would like to clarify that my comments are on the consistency of the answers from different people and the training that the WSA office have received.
- i. Emily: I'm not sure about the issues you're facing Rowan but there have been a lot of issues we've been talking about with LB and Joanne people have been going to the WSA Office rather than SALD for WesNest training because I am the entity that works with WesNest registration. For questions related to more broad WesNest things that are not just financial stuff they'd be better referred to me. I think there needs to be a better system of organization of referrals for things that aren't just financial components.
- j. Aditi: I think that something that's important to think about the WSA office is that there's only one administrator working there, Lisa, and she is the one who is super overworked. With WesNest, we are having so many issues, and everything is entered manually and mistakes happen, especially with the new process. Hiring a new position will probably help with a lot of these issues; we had Anarelis for a while, but she had to leave, and her leaving made it difficult. Hopefully a lot of these issues will be fixed once we hire someone who will be able to train student workers and work in the office consistently.
- k. Pauline: I talked to Amin who is the VP of Admissions and Financial Aid. I've talked to him about WesFest. Something the wsa might be able to do is have an event at WesFest to talk to prospective students. I want to motion for a 3 minute moderated caucus with 30 second speaking time to get opinions about this WesFest event, especially if LB would be supportive.
- l. [Moderated caucus about a WSA WesFest event]
- m. Nigel: I was going to say that Justin N. and I talked about increasing transparency by being at events. We just have to watch how many people are able to get together for WESFest. But I think it's great.
- n. Katelin: I think it's a really good idea and I think we should do it.
- o. Chai: What kind of events are we envisioning?
- p. Pauline: I think a bunch of us will be there and students can come in and see what we do. Just a bunch of us hanging around and having tea and cookies and fun. Getting to know new students and we can take their ideas if they have them. Just a kind of meet and greet.
- q. Huzaifa: I think it would be really great to do the WSA introduction we do at the start of the semester with the basic slideshow we do because it's a really great overview, and I think that it really is unique for Wesleyan because we have a student assembly that has its own endowment and may make Wesleyan more attractive.
- r. Justin R.: I think an informal one is helpful, but I'm not sure how important it is for incoming students to go, or how many people would want to attend. It might be helpful to have something between then and Orientation, when we are then trying to get people to run for WSA.
- s. Pauline: I want to conclude by saying I'm going to send an email to LB to workshop this more but I just wanted to see if anyone wants to work with me. I think like how club sports does, we should show students the kinds of things we do on campus whether they get involved or not we should show them what we do.
- t. [Moderated caucus closed]
- u. Huzaifa: This was left of the board report, the carbon neutrality resolution that we passed was first

introduced into the campus affairs committee, the trustees got really excited until they heard the price tag and then were less interested. I scheduled a conference call between the March and May meetings that is ... I think our resolution is going to make the physical plant's 2035 plan more palatable. The board of trustees wants a town hall to hear what students think about.

Item 7. Presentation of [Resolution 10.41: Calling for Divestment and Enhancing the Powers of the CIR](#)

- a. Huzaifa: First of all, thanks for writing this really important resolution. It really goes a long way for the WSA in keeping commitment to its long standing goals. However, I wanted to express my concerns that this is two separate resolutions in one. First, you are asking the university to divest from the oil investments, but then you are also asking the university to give CIR more information on the investments. So we have to emphasize what CIR powers are before we can encourage them for further divestment. In the resolution, it states that we don't have time for incrementalism with Wesleyan getting rid of fossil fuels, but then you say that you appreciate the gradual changes for change of policy, which are contradictory. I think they shouldn't be entangled into two separate resolutions.
- b. Adam: This did use to be 2 different resolutions put together, we know that these securities exist and we just want to use this to push for divestment with more information in the CIR, and the transparency and divestment aspects don't need to be separated.
- c. Pauline: Is there any precedent for other schools board of trustees identifying all of their holdings to students? Are other schools closed on this too? Does Middlebury have managers as well, is that how they invest their endowment? Was Middlebury able to pull out their investments in one swoop because they didn't have managers? I assume having managers has a more entangled effect.
- d. Shirmai: They have already committed to divest, but the actual action is not being pursued now. In my opinion, even if peer institutions like Middlebury were to pursue their holdings, they would have no knowledge of what managers they are using.
- e. Nigel: Can you repeat what you were saying about Middlebury?
- f. Shirmai: Middlebury's success doesn't translate over to potential Wesleyan success, because their policies aren't the same as ours. On the first question about how students are involved in the investment policy, but I don't think if there is precedent for that I think regardless I would still support this resolution and involve students in this process. We're requesting the holds that we can legally see from institution, and we are requesting for the maximum amount of
- g. Zhaoyu: What kind of leverage does CIR have over the university to ensure that the latter follows CIR's suggestions?
- h. Shirmai: We have more leverage power than most student groups. In the past, you can look at our website, we have managed to pull Wesleyan's money from endowment to community funds and liberty, that's the only one I can remember from the top of my head, and they've also pitched coassets and in the past have introduced a clause for ESG standards when they are considering new standards, when they are adopting. So we have been cooperative in the past with the board of trustees.
- i. Katelin: I sort of agree with Huzaifa about splitting resolutions, and I think there could be a clause for condemning the university for not divesting, and expands the jurisdiction of the CIR. I think that we can do condemning without joining the two resolutions together.
- j. Adam: I don't think they are separate issues, and I want to still put them together.
- k. Sam B: The first thing is still about separating it into two resolutions. I favor splitting the separation of the resolutions.
- l. Huzaifa: If we group these two things together, both of them could fail. We know how Roth feels about divestment, if we group that together with something that can be accomplished, which is enhancing the power for CIR, it can be disregarded. For the future too, we can enhance the powers. For the sake of the resolution by combining divestment and asking more information

about investments, do we want to risk this resolution failing?

- m. Adam: There's nothing preventing the administration from only adopting a part of the resolution. If they choose not to adopt any of it, the LB or any other senator can choose to persist and ask them to consider it or a part of it further.
- n. George: I don't think there's a need to split the resolution - the University just picks and chooses what to abide by from our resolutions anyway. Take the China Campus resolution as an example: the University doesn't usually accept our resolutions wholesale and they're basically just recommendations anyway. So I don't see the utility in splitting the resolution.
- o. Aditi: I have a question about the investment committee. Has anyone ever been to the meeting? Is it possible for you to have a representative at the meeting? Do you have access to information about the investments of the University?
- p. Shirmai: I would assume all, for CIR has full access. That's where they discuss current investments for the endowment.
- q. Aditi: I wonder if the best way of doing this would be just to ask for a spot on the investment committee
- r. Shirmai: I'm sure they will say no. In the past we've asked to have access to certain investments but they've said no.
- s. Justin: Point of information, there are some Board committees we don't sit on because the information is privileged. There are at least four that we legally can't participate in.
- t. Pauline: We should look at what other peer institutions do for pressuring their Boards to divest--that may be the best way to get Admin to agree to this and process we're not putting ourselves at risk
- u. Adam: I think you're right, I'll do some more research on it
- v. Aditi: The most effective way to pressure may be to move this into the preambulatory clause--they already know our stance from previous resolutions might be the best way to get admin to agree to this
- w. Adam: In response to having a person on the committee, as a student rep it doesn't feel like we could do that much and I don't think that having one person on the committee would be as effective as letting the CIR have the information.
- x. Aditi: I think that just having the information that someone sits on the committee would have would be a big benefit, but also I don't sit on the committee so I don't know.

Item 8. Presentation of [Resolution 13.41: Amending the SBC Appeals Board Bylaws to Clarify Necessary Powers and Procedures](#)

- a. Sam B.: Three quick things: 1) I don't think it requires an unanimous vote, it's gonna go back to the SBC anyways so it isn't high stakes 2) we should also specify a way to temporarily replace someone when they need to recuse themselves 3) we should specify faulty information as "wrong."
- b. Aditi: I don't think there's a need to mention the CSO decision in the preambulatory clauses because it is very general and it will apply to other appeals from now on. The appeal board appeals form has been going on for a while now. The other thing is, I was wondering about the critical information/assumption thing. How would have this play out in this decision if it was in place for CSO?
- c. Nigel: In terms of faulty and critical information, essentially in the CSO case there was almost a line that needed to be drawn in what actually can impact the case. For example, a student group could vaguely suggest that they were in favor of partial funding and then appeal why they were deferred. Something similar happened in CSO's case and we entered a gray area that wasn't covered by the procedural errors of the Bylaws. We wanted to point out that the skiing aspect in their regard was what created some contention in funding for the project. It was critical in terms of

the hinge of which SBC funding decision was made. Thus, it was not SBC's fault for this lack of explicitly stated preference. However, let's say if any transportation money was vital to get them there but the SBC failed to cover that in their meeting. And because that information was missing, the request was denied. In that case, the SBC missed critical information which they typically rule on, and students should be able to come back and make an appeal. So, I made these changes from thinking about the different scenarios CSO could have gone through from their case.

- d. Ben: I think this could be in ConReview and we will discuss it later.
- e. Sam B.: I just wanted to quickly say thank you for undertaking this--it's definitely an area that needs to be ironed out more and the SBC appreciates your time and energy.
- f. Nigel: You said that you wanted it to not be a majority vote and to include the fact that -
- g. Sam B: Faulty information is wrong, which should be assumed, but just to be explicit on the resolution to be clear.

Item 9. Presentation of [Resolution 14.41: Opposing the Implementation of Workforce Technologies](#)

- a. Rowan: I urge everyone to support this regarding the contents and the lack of transparency in administration this academic semester.
- b. Katelin: I'm going to try to rush this res to pass it tonight.
- c. Jake: For one of the preambulatory clauses, I think there is a grammatical error. As it currently reads, it says that the university is the most significantly impacted by this change, but you actually mean that the workers directly employed by the university is impacted.
- d. Katelin: I want to emphasize that the workers are directly employed by the university, so we can change the clause to: "directly-employed University workers, who will be most significantly impacted by this policy."
- e. Huzaifa: I think that based on what Roth told us today, he has a problem with saying the University will track workers. Maybe we workshop the 3rd clause to maybe say it will "record their location each time they clock in."
- f. Huzaifa: [Introduces a friendly amendment]
- g. Aditi: this is just an idea, considering that Wesleyan inst following labor laws, and this is how they are trying to start. Best case scenario is that the administration stops this app, for the future I think that we should think about how we are going to deal with this labor issue once Workforce is dealt with.
- h. Justin N.: Point of Clarification: it's a mobile browsing tool, and not an app.
- i. Huzaifa: [friendly amendment]
- j. Katelin: That's also a friendly amendment. I think Huzaifa's and Aditi's amendments are friendly.
- k. Justin N: Is the goal of this resolution to directly compromise with students or directly employed workers?
- l. Katelin: I think my fear is that they will not be as willing to compromise with directly employed workers. Yeah we're the student body, but workers are the ones who make the university work, so if there are people who are going to be more negatively impacted we need to pass a resolution for them and the students have more leverage in some ways even though the workers are more unionized. For students it will be a PR disaster for the university, so that's the reason why I'm pursuing this resolution.
- m. Nigel: When we demand the university directly cease the implementation of workforce, are we demanding not using it completely? It seems like geo-fencing might be the only problem it poses, so might it not be an asset in other ways?
- n. Katelin: I don't think geo-fencing is the only challenge in the Workforce. Also if geo-fencing is an issue, more problems come up with it so it would be helpful if we can make a system to address the issue that makes it all easier.
- o. Justin R: I hear what people are saying about trying to negotiate with what we have currently. I'm

unsure about whether or not it makes sense to have a new technology completely.

- p. Katelin: I guess I'm ok with us discussing making a completely new resolution after spring break.
- q. [Strawpoll to determine if the resolution should be voted on today as is or after spring break with modifications]
- r. [Comfortable voting on resolution today: Y 15 , N - 10, A - 2]
- s. George: I do not like WorkForce, it will always have the ability to implement geofencing and on the website it is explicitly a company to cut wages for workers, it says it all over the website, you should all look at it right now.
- t. Aditi: I'm really conflicted on this too. This is a bad app. You've seen the administration say not use geo-fencing, but use it anyway. But on the other hand, it may be difficult to have the administration to move on this app, because they may or may not have paid for it. I would be in favor of voting this today, but if we should try and make this stop, or knowing that they have paid for it, how to damage control the situation.
- u. Huzaifa: I would like to remind everyone that this resolution with its exact operative clauses has received a thousand signatures from parents, students, and workers. The administration has seen this petition and I think they've seen the pressure that students have been putting and I think we should pass this resolution today so that the administration gets the message that people are united in their opposition to the Workforce.
- v. Katelin: I am also going to say that President Michael Roth was here seeing this as an agenda item so this could potentially be a sign that there is a divide within GA and so may be detrimental to our efforts to push for this resolution.
- w. Justin R.: I looked at the resolution and my question was just related to the title and not the actual substance. I think the substance is important to be voted on today. I think we could be doing a lot of work over spring break. We could organize a town hall, and if we don't vote on it today then we'll lose basically the three weeks we have. I think we should vote today.
- x. George: OPEIU already voted to totally get rid of Workforce. The petition got more votes than a lot of us got - we represent the students. We need to vote now if we are going to get action on this as soon as we need to.
- y. Nigel: Seeing how many students and workers have signed for this, I agree with George that their concerns come first and we should push it forward.
- z. Justin N.: I'm not sure how this will be perceived mainly because the petition that went around had many specific problems with Workforce, but the information on the petition might have been disinformation.
- aa. Katelin: I don't think it is possible for the administration to get accurate information about geo-fencing as we are having at least six different sources. I definitely see the worker problems on this campus and we should stand in solidarity with our peers to help them and get paid.
- bb. Huzaifa: I suggested that Chris Holt said that it would track your location so i suggested that the word track should be changed to record your location.
- cc. Katelin: I don't think there's a lot of difference between track and record location. I think that Michael Roth was incredibly rude to George!!
- dd. George: The administration loves to do this: be sneaky with technicalities. They said with the firing ten custodial workers issue that sparked the five more workers movement "we won't fire them," and then proceeded not to fill petitions as people retired. Now they're telling us it's not geofencing it's just going to find out where you are when you clock into work. They do this all the time and we should just vote now.
- ee. Aditi: Just to highlight, I personally don't think the petition had any misinformation on it and I think President Roth thinks so. We don't know what the website will do, we just know it'll have location access. We just don't know what the application will have access to and what the

university will use. At least until we know that, we have misinformation.

ff. [Closed Meeting]

gg. Huzaifa: I motion to suspend the bylaws to vote on this resolution this week.

hh. [Motion Passes 24-0-0]

ii. Rowan: General objection of the use of the word gyp in GA, it's a racial slur.

jj. Katelin: Okay.

kk. Vote on resolution: [In Favor: 26 No: 0 Abstain: 0]

Item 10. Voting on [Resolution 11.41: Transparency Through Technology](#)

a. Vote on resolution: [In Favor: 26 No: 0 Abstain: 0]

b. Rowan: Point of Information: this is for greater transparency for the WSA, correct?

Item 11. NB&A

a. Pauline: Hi, again I talked to Amin and the biggest thing we can do regardless of doing an event or not is hosting pre-frosh. I am going to email the listserv the email sent out to the whole campus about hosting- you just have to give them a place to stay, you don't really have to do anything for them.

b. Huzaifa: Do not travel internationally for spring break and if you are traveling abroad tell the administration just so they know where students have been.

c. Katelin: What if you're traveling to a country with no Coronavirus cases?

d. Huzaifa: Still tell them

e. Adam: Thank you! Im'm really glad we had quorum at the end of it. Stewardship, please clean up after yourself

f. Emily: Chairs of committees, please hold WSAP elections in committee meetings this week. Senators, know if you want to run!!!

Meeting Adjourned: 9:01 PM

Respectfully Submitted,

Ben Garfield '22

Jake Kwon '21

Chelsea Renae Dixon '22

Emily McEvoy '22

Nigel Hayes '23

Yixin Ma '23