Yale College Council
Council of Representatives Meeting
Monday, December 2, 2013; 10:00 PM
Additional Constitution Meeting

Action Items

1. None.

Attendance

1. Meeting Not Mandatory. Check vote tallies for present members.

Minutes

Please note that the minutes reflect the conversation held during the Council of Representatives meeting, but may not contain every comment and are not intended to reflect exact quotations. Comments in italics are notes to give context to the minutes. The layout of the minutes is the Presentation of the Issue, Presentation of the Discussion, and Recording of the Vote. Unless otherwise noted, the Presentation of the Issue is done by the person whose name is next to the heading for that issue. Comments by representatives or other attendees are preceded by their name (e.g. Jane – comment).

This meeting was not mandatory and was an extra discussion about the YCC Constitution.

• UOC Discussion
  o Danny
    ▪ Right now Yale College Dean’s Office decides how funds are allocated
    ▪ Could be good to have control over how to allocate the funds
    ▪ Or it could spark a yearly public debate about which the student body would not be well educated
    ▪ This discussion will also help determine the role of the Finance Director
  o Kevin – I like the status quo since students may not want Spring Fling
    ▪ Danny – is that right though? If 4,000 students don’t want a big Spring Fling should we still have it?
  o Yonghyun – Would this actually spark debate?
    ▪ Danny – would probably be main platform for Finance Director
  o Leigh – We would be able to change the percentages?
    ▪ Danny – Theoretically yes we could change it with consultation with the Dean’s Office.
    ▪ Leigh – A fluctuating Spring Fling budget could make it hard to plan?
Yale College Council – Council of Representatives Meeting
Sunday, November 17, 2013; Meeting Nine

- Kyle/Danny – still plenty of time for Spring Fling
  - Danny – UOC money does not roll-over
    - Ben – but we use everything anyway
  - Danny – Spring Fling budget generally manages to get up to $200,000
  - Maddie – If Student Activities Fee would be raised, how would it be distributed?
    - Danny – theoretically it would be same percentage.
  - Kevin – I’m very scared about Presidential candidate running on getting rid of Spring Fling. There should be a Spring Fling, every college has one.
  - Leigh – People voting on budget may not look at the full year of where money goes.
  - Ben – Budget allocation feasibly will remain fixed unless there is a recommendation by the council. May be worth considering changing the percentages. Structurally it makes sense for the Finance Director to have power over funds if they are the elected person to deal with money. Would transform Student Organizations Director into management role.
  - Danny – Percentage of students participating in club sports is less than how much we allocate to club sports.
  - Joe – Finance Director should be able to change all the percentages.
  - Maddie – Events Director should be able to carry out their vision and have the resources.
  - Connor – A Finance Director could theoretically do something weird
    - They wouldn’t have unanimous power.
  - Kevin – Looking at club sports as a percentage is the wrong way to look at it since there are many small groups to increase diversity and have great resources.
  - Allison – Status quo protects against abuse of the budget. Council may not serve as an effective check against the Finance Director.
  - Yonghyun – Good compromise may be to have a bracket that you can change it with (around 5-10% change).
    - Danny – too complicated.
  - Danny – Seems that there is not a consensus to change.
  - Leigh – What is the role of the Finance Director now?
    - Danny – it would be the same.
  - Yonghyun – Can we give the Finance Director some authority to change the percentages?
  - Ewurama – Give minimum percentages and then a discretionary bracket so Finance Director can run on.
    - Danny – Everyone would give it to student organizations
    - Ben – Dean’s Office would have to approve it
  - Sara – Maybe we should just reauthorize every few years based on the Constitution. Recommendations presented to the Dean’s Office.
Yale College Council – Council of Representatives Meeting
Sunday, November 17, 2013; Meeting Nine

- Andi – In favor of changing the percentages. The Finance Director should be able to change percentages based on student views on how best to allocate the budget.
  - Danny – YCC never reviews whether or not a traditional event should be done or not. Becomes hard to change without scrutiny.
- Kevin – Finance Director has enough agency to change the YCC budget.
- Leigh – Finance Director could still write a check from YCC to UOC.
- Andrew – Finance Director, as an elected position, should at least have nominal authority over student organization funding. For example, they should need to sign off on student organization funding decisions.

- Referendum
  - Danny – we need to change the referendum since the 50% of the student body voting requirement encourages no votes to not vote instead. Easiest way to fix is just to get rid of 50% requirement.
  - We are getting rid of that requirement.

- Student Organization Director
  - We decided that it should be appointed.

- Board of Advisors
  - Danny – YCC lacks tradition now. Board of Advisors would be helpful forum to get advice.
  - Ewurama – How would those people be decided to be on the Board?
    - Danny/Kyle – Asked by President to serve based on their prior YCC service.

- Anna – why can’t club sports be treated like any other student organization?
  - Ben – UOC has prohibition for paying for services like salaries due to tax complications.