**Student Court of Justice**

Tuesday, February 13, 2018

7:00 PM – Lark Room

Minutes

1. Call to Order
   1. Present: Melville, McCormick, Dunwoody, Garrick, Parsons, Schmidt, Stirling, Pacella, Motschenbacher
   2. Absent: None
   3. Advisor Emily Frazier is also present
2. Additions to and Approval of the Agenda
   1. Approved.
3. Good News
   1. *Parsons*: Two recommendation forms so far. Yay!
4. Reports
   1. *Garrick:* Senate meeting last Sunday went well.
   2. *Melville:* Schmidt will be sworn in at the next Senate meeting.
5. Order of Business:
   1. Student Body Elections
      1. Determine Schedule for Contact Tables
         1. *Melville:* Next three weeks, we need to set aside some time at tables for people to come and ask questions about elections.
         2. *McCormick:* I can help with that not next week, but the week after.
         3. *Melville:* Times that would be good would be between 10am and 2pm. We will also alternate one week on Tuesday and Thursday, and the next week for Monday, Wednesday, Friday.
         4. Scheduling for contact tables took place.
         5. *Melville:* Need to make handouts for tables, also have the petitions for the tables, have an introductory informational quarter sized piece of paper – some intro info for what next steps to take.
      2. Continue Student Organization Presentation Preparation
         1. *Melville:* Pacella gave me a list of organizations to follow up on. Parsons, will you find contact information for the organizations President, VP, and Treasurer for email blast to them.
         2. *Parsons*: Yes. (See review of action items)
         3. *Melville*: I hope to get responses for next meeting, so we can assign presentation days and etc. Does anyone have any ideas to expand on?
         4. *McCormick*: Should bring handouts to meetings so we can give petitions and applications.
      3. Establish Stance on Social Media
         1. *Melville:* In the past years, social media has been a hot button topic. The election code is very vague when it comes to social media, which forces us to create our own position on the rights and wrongs. There is a lack of clarity in the rules, and I have already gotten questions about what the rules exactly mean. The question is – what do we want to do for this year?
         2. *McCormick:* So, if it is in the campaign period, what is considered fair game? Nothing defamatory of course.
         3. *Pacella:* My question is – how seriously are we going to take additional details on Facebook pages, when these things aren’t explicitly expressed in the election code? How would we view an instance where someone has a complaint about someone else that isn’t specified in the election code? They say, how am I suppose to know, it isn’t in the election code?
         4. *Melville:* The purpose of making our stance is to try and decide how exactly we would rule in certain complaint situations. As far as communicating information, that’s what I envisioned our social media page being for. Also, so that we all don’t contradict ourselves.
         5. *Pacella:* I understand the internal policy, but when we express this in public, what is the technical legal standing of that? Can it be treated as an extension of the election code?
         6. *Melville:* I don’t think technically it would be a binding document, or an addendum of the election code. The question boils down to – when campaigning ends and voting begins, what is our stance on posts in that time period?
         7. *McCormick:* (From election code) Pages can stay up 24 hours after campaigning ends.
         8. *Melville:* Can candidates post impartial posts on their personal pages encouraging voting for election (not specific to a candidate)?
         9. *McCormick:* I don’t think it should be allowed, as the posts would inherently be tied to the person posting.
         10. *Dunwoody:* (reads definition of campaign activities and materials found in election code.)
         11. *Melville:* Do we instead prohibit profile pictures after campaigning?
         12. *Dunwoody:* I’m getting that it doesn’t matter for who the candidate is for, it could include any candidate, so I think we cant nitpick – needs to be a yes or no.
         13. *Melville:* To err on the side of caution, do we prohibit neutral posts? Should we allow PR Exec to post neutral post?
         14. *McCormick:* As long as we write it I think PR neutral post would be fine.
         15. *Stirling:* I think it would be fine with having PR doing an impartial post.
         16. *Dunwoody:* Say we do have SG page do the post, having the candidates share/retweet that post is still the same in my mind as them making the post. Still getting very nitpicky. We need to be either a concrete yes or no.
         17. *McCormick:* I feel like sharing/liking posts is the same as making their own.
         18. *Pacella:* I think campaign materials/activities posts only apply to those on campaign teams. So, IMO – Yes to SG post, no to sharing/liking, etc.
         19. *Pacella:* The issue too is that campaigning deadline isn’t entirely defined either. So is it 24 hours from the deadline, or before the deadline?
         20. *Melville:* This is something that we need to establish so that we as a court can agree on it. What are our thoughts?
         21. *Melville:* Last year we said no pages, posts, anything after the deadline.
         22. *McCormick:* For campaign team members, does that include P/VP and Senate teams?
         23. *Melville:* Would apply to both P/VP and Senate “teams”.
         24. *McCormick:* My question is – are Senators considered teams, so can they not use their own social media accounts?
         25. *Garrick:* I don’t think we should be having this discussion, because it is too hard to preemptively figure this situation out. It is hard to figure out how to establish a stance on social media if that situation has not come up yet. It is better to create precedent than to preemptively try and determine opinion.
         26. *Dunwoody:* Agree, I think we need to take a hands-off approach to begin with, and then we need to interpret as it comes up. Need to figure out – are they allowed to post, or are they not allowed to post?
         27. *McCormick:* (Referring back to previous conversation) Are we all in consensus that 15 is referring to point 14?
         28. *All:* Yes.
         29. *McCormick:* What questions have you been asked about elections Jared? (Melville previously mentioned he has already been asked questions about this topic.)
         30. *Melville:* Mostly when do pages have to be taken down, and what is our ability to make a neutral post and their ability to share them. Can SG FB page create a post encouraging people to vote during the voting period? I would like our [Court] page to be able to post something.
         31. *Dunwoody:* For the future, can we put points 14 and 15 together to get rid of confusion? Also, is a neutral post by a campaign team member defined as campaign activities?
         32. *Melville:* Yes, I would say so. I feel as though we’ve answered most questions.
         33. *Garrick:* We could create a running document just for us for everyone to add to.
         34. Discussion ended.
      4. Consider Dos and Don’ts of Social Media During the Elections Document
         1. Agreed that this could be for personal court use, for everyone to go back to look at and everyone to add to.
         2. *Garrick:* For minutes, can we put it into an FAQ format b/c that is easier to understand.
      5. Brainstorm Ideas to Encourage Students to Run for Office
         1. *Melville:* Any ideas for additional ways to publicize the election?
         2. *McCormick:* Facebook ad!
         3. *Parsons:* Monica did contact me about seven different posters that will go up in the Union by the coffee shop contact tables. (description of the posters followed)
         4. *Garrick:* Important to hit student organizations. That is where the most concentrated group of peoples are.
         5. *Pacella:* Agreed, should also make sure we hit smaller organizations.
         6. *Garrick:* Should look at the colleges that have a lower amount of people running in elections in the past.
         7. *Motschenbacher:* Should put up posters/advertise more in those colleges.
         8. *Garrick:* Should reach out to department chairs and faculty senate members.
         9. *McCormick:* Could also send out Listserv emails for specific colleges.
         10. *Dunwoody:* Do we want to select a few of the honor societies, and then diversify into other organizations?
         11. *Garrick:* Smaller orgs also don’t have consistent meeting times.
         12. *Melville:* Parsons, can you curate the student organization list and find the organizations we should present at?
         13. McCormick: For CHP, stay away from nursing students, look for biology clubs etc. Figure out what organizations have larger/more involved meeting groups.
         14. Dunwoody and McCormick will contact their Greek life contacts and disperse information that way.
   2. Consider Court Component in Student Senate Legislative Curriculum
      1. Tabled because of time constraints.
6. Announcements, Comments, and Open Discussion
   1. Congrats to Taylor for her appointment! 😊
   2. *Garrick:* I think we should compile resources for running for office and hand out to smaller student organization Presidents to disperse to their members. Make it easy for them. Make it as accessible to all students as possible. I think the biggest barrier for students running is that they don’t know how.
7. Review of Action Items

* Parsons – Find contact info for organizations (P, VP, and Treasurer) for email blast about presentation times from Melville. Curate list of organizations by Sunday.
* Pacella – Send Parsons and Garrick list of organization numbers.
* Melville – Work on Stance on Social Media FAQ google doc.
* Dunwoody and McCormick – Reach out to Greek life contacts.
* Melville – Schedule contact tables and send Justices assignment schedule. Create handouts for contact tables.
* Quinn, Jamie, Kacy, Morgan – Inform Jared if you can/cannot be at a contact table at your assigned time.

1. Adjourn
   1. Moved by McCormick, seconded by Dunwoody. Adjourned at 8:11PM

Notes:

**Social Media Stance/Do’s and Don’ts Consensus:** There is a lot of debate and back and forth about the exact details of what we should and should not allow for social media postings. In the end, we agreed that it is too difficult to try and predict and get in writing exactly what we believe should be the case, because that is straying too far into legislating and away from interpreting, and this would not be an official binding document. We agreed that we shall create a google document FAQ where all our thoughts can be recorded into an easy to use document that can be referenced if there are any questions.

**Student Organization Presentation Consensus:** We need to really maximize our focus on which organizations we present at. We should hit a few honor societies, and some larger specific collegiate affiliated ones, such as engineering or marketing clubs. We need to use common sense when curating this group – e.g. do not contact nursing club, as upper level nursing students are going to be too busy to get involved, etc. We also cannot forget about the smaller organizations – So we should also send out an email blast to those organizations with our presentation, and all forms they might need to run for office. Dunwoody and McCormick will also contact their respective Greek life contacts and get our information distributed through those channels, as Greek affiliated students are often more involved on campus.