

October 3, 2022

Role Call complete [8:03]

Dean Cambell Foster: It is very exciting for me to be here today. Not only for being able to have face time with you. This is why I do my work. to have an opportunity to think about the student experience. Some of the best time in my previous career has been advising student government. I have been enlightened by various conversations I have had with Dhruv before. I see my role to elevate your opportunities and interest. I would love to have an opportunity to talk to you guys.

Dean B: I am the advisor. I can help you navigate this complicated landscape that is BU. What I don't do is answer to the university. I will challenge you to think about your proposals. I have lived on campus for 22 years. I have advised this school for the past 15 years

[8:06]

President Kapadia: I want to delegate my time to the chair so we can get into the first presentation.

[8:07]

President Kapadia + Chair Dworkin

CD: Today we will present this as a rough draft and get your guy's opinions.

PK: I know during our last senate meeting we talked about the CSF. As I mentioned last time, the CSF is a fee charged to all students – that fund forms a 2.2 million dollar fund. This year the SAO has added an additional 500,000 into the fund. That should put the fund into 2.7 million. That fund is not completely controlled by students. This is where the entire fund is allocated for the entire year. These percentages are set by the academic year. These percentages add up to harder allocations as they are adjusted allocations for the post-budget consideration of other elements of funding.

What we are proposing is a constitutional revision that will obligate the senate to pass an updated recommendation of the CSF to the DSO. Those percentages on the slide have not been changed in various years. For that reason we believe the senate should be the institution to provide an updated recommendation on a yearly basis. There will be some constraints, such as weeks of welcome, SPLASH, and others to ensure we do not infringe on those elements of the budget.

CD: this falls under the new committee, Finance Committee. This committee will work with every University college.

PK: This is a timeline where we show how we want to pass this piece of legislation. We will vote on this amendment on the 10th of october.

CD: We have included the draft of the resolution.
With that we will enter a 5 minute discussion period.

[8:13]

Senator Shamsi: Could you go back please to show what the subcommittee will have.

One issue I see is that Residence Halls are not formed until the second semester. Since they are not formed until late, how will you place RH members in this role?

HD: Any RA is eligible for the position.

PK: I would say that we would speak to the building director; I know we won't have one representative for every RAH, since we will try to group by region.

Senator Shamsi: Why that division?

PK: we want to focus on a few voices

Senator Perkins: What are your thoughts on including hall councils versus overall council committee

PK: I am unsure what you mean.

Senator Shamsi: Each building now uses Residence Hall associations. Each board then has an overboard that is composed of one representative of the six neighborhoods.

Senator Lee: Do you guys know how you will include club sports into this funding allocation?

PK: This is open to people applying on their own. So it will be on a volunteer basis

Senator Lee: How will we be sure that...

[8:19]

Senator Perkins: Motion to Extend by 10 min

Senator Kulda: Second

Senator Perkins: I would like to figure out the resolution for the residence halls? I would like to ask... realizing that the student input is limited, what level of input transparency can we expect? How will that transparency look? How will that look to inform our collective constituency?

Dean Cambell Foster: We have stats on how each group is speaking about their funds. We can share that information with you so that you can come to your conclusions on those funds.

Senator Lee: How can we be sure we can inform people on these new funds?

PK: It falls on senate committees to help advise and promote the formation of this new budget. We believe having one joint meeting would be the easiest way to go about it.

Also is it clear what we are proposing? Do you guys understand what power we are giving to the senate?

Jacob Aznavoorian: How do we expect to gauge a representative voice outside of student government to properly allocate these funds. Effectively the student government is controlling the money.

CD: We said the committee needs to be formed by the start of the second semester. It's months of meetings where representatives talk to their constituents and then ultimately we will present this to you guys. The premise of your role is to talk to people outside of student government.

PK: Your allegiance to the senate is to your constituency, not to senate.

Senator Shamsi: How can we be sure that the Dean of Students would take our expectations seriously.

Dean Cambell Foster: We did not feel comfortable making any changes before asking students. With the way this framework is being made, we are looking at the student government to give us aditionality in how to make these allocations.

[8:27]

Senator Jackson: I have a question about the subcommittee; is there a numerical limit?

PK: I don't think there should be.

CD: Cabinet Updates [8:28]

Jacob Aznivorian: I have been working on the virtual ID inviitavies. I am gauging interests in this so we can show administration that is something that people are still interested in. We are also going to work on the FAFSA workshop. Accessibility is my 3rd inciviatibevs. I want to make sure each student has access to this. Students don't know they can have those accommodations in class.

Gabriela: This semester we are ruining a mutual aid drive. We are doing a feminine hygiene collection. We are doing a Mayoral Forum. We want to talk to her and understand what she has done in the past year. We want to get HTC there. We are hoping to do a boston Public Transport guide

Ester and Arin: We are done with website edits, but we have round two later in october. We are in the process of rebranding our social media pages. We are also using instagram reels and tik tok. We also talked about using colab posts with the larger BU instagram so we can expand their social media presence.

We bought Popls!

We also created a Coms resource guide!

Dora: Manage applications for senate committees. We had over 100 for senate committees. We ran 3 different government info sessions. We had about 20 people/organizations represent these events. We are gathering feedback to understand what....

Senator Zeda: Motion to increase presenting time by 10 minutes. [8:34]

Many: Second

Dora: We are planning a Latinx/Black mixer. We are also making a cultural showcase for sometime in mid-november to mid-december. We may be creating a monthly newsletter.

Delaney: The goal is to get detergent sheets for students in the Newbery Center. We are also looking at a clothing drive that would be partnered with BU Closet. Sustainability festabile went very well.

Kiara: We had over 450 people show up to the Sophomores at Seaport. We want to have an event that will be held before a hockey game. We are trying to get group tickets for a Celtics and Bruins game. We want to bring people from the ERC. If you want to add events please let us know! We are working with various student groups to plan events.

Navia: Met with Sexual Assault pRevention groups. Went through the It's On Us training, and meeting with the IOU again soon to discuss upcominollabraiton and initiatives and we are also hoping to do a resource guide.

Alex: We are doing a blood drive with Boston College during the beanpot game. We are going to try to do some sort of reveal during those games. We are partnering with a blood center. We are also trying to see if we can have LGBTQ+ people donate something.

We are also trying to work on a harm reduction project. This staffer met with someone from HPP. We are also working with the Labor Working Groups on campus, particularly the Starbucks on Comm Ave. We were able to increase awareness of the demands of Starbucks. Finally, the peer support program from people who may not have access to therapy. The training is done in September.

Alex: Tufts and Brandiese and Berklee have joined BIG. I have wrokred on secual assault climate survary; I want to increase the frequency of these surveys. When I was meeting with NEU sexual assult survay they said there was demand for such a survary. I have been working to get people registered to vote across schools. In academic affairs I have worked to try to get a day off during Voting days to promote civic engagement.

CJK: For the peer counseling thing is there training involved?

Alex: Various focus groups were run for feedback. We got some good feedback. Melisa Paz was enthusiastic about the feedback we got. She used the feedback to incorporate it into the training people got!

[8:45]

Senator Cavazos: What is the FAFSA event?

Jacob: It would be an event that happens once a year. You really only need to fill out the FAFSA once per year. If there is a demand for additional events I can respond to that.

Senator Jackson: Being a newer Senate, can you inform me what you are doing with the Virtual ID

Jacob: The virtual ID is better on your phone rather than as a card. I think it would be a great alternative. U Alabama has a similar system. There are some schools in our league that we should catch up to.

Senator Jackson: Like an app?

Jacob: I talked to a provider last year. They are capable of working with us. It would be a gradual transition.

Senator Werneck: I like the idea of the FAFSA workshop. Have you thought about events that are for students who do not rely on FAFSA

[8:49]

Senator James: Extend time by 5 minutes.

Second: Many

Passed.

[8:50]

Jacob: I know that there are international students who can't qualify for the student aid system. I am not a fan of student loans. I prefer to not go that route. I will look into other routes.

[8:52]

Game Time

[9:24]

Game Conclusion

Alex Brumsfield: I am back! BUGWU is not just BUGWU! So the graduate student body is made up of about 3,000 students who have various roles. At the beginning of September they announced that they were trying to form a workers union. They were working to partner with an international union that covers the salaried lectures on campus. But now, we are going to help with this one.

Graduate workers need a living wage. They are making below the pricing of in the city of Boston. International students need additional rights that are deprived due to systemic issues that exist among the immigration process.

They need workload caps as the current cap is not representative of the work they do. They also need a better housing situation.

After the passing of this initiative we would pass this information onto the entire student body. We would also continue to work with the unions to follow up with incentives. We would also have town halls with the student union to answer questions. We would also want to follow through the commitment that the Union would be having. I am going to encourage others in student government to attend these events and show their support.

[9:29]

CD: Any questions?

Senator Lee: Are there any proposed or planned ways where undergraduate students can provide aid to these students?

Alex: Students can't really be the ones who will be held to make this change. What should be done is getting formal recognition by a federal board to make sure that they can fight for the interests of the graduate students.

Senator Shamsi: BU administration has been very anti-union. They once sent an email out to the graduate students talking about how they should not join unions. This is definitely not what one would think a progressive institution would act.

Senator Perkins: What are the action items? How will the text of this statement be decided?

Alex: This will be worked on primarily between myself and the Student Body President. Most of this is through virtual advocacy.

Senator Sullivan: The deans are also aware of this administration. In my experience with my mentor, they are only getting paid 20 hours per week rather than 40.

Senator Sudit: Senate and student council address our issues. Is there a higher power that interprets that rule?

[9:34]

Senator Sullivan: Motion to extend by 5 minutes

Many – Second

Passed.

PK: We focus on undergraduate affairs.

Alex: We also have other obligations beyond just the students. Although the main benefactors are the graduate students, these actions would benefit undergraduate students as well. Considering the role that grad students play in our lives, we need to support their interests.

Senator Sullivan: Is there a graduate student council?

Alex: They have a similar body to student government but they don't really have much of an intertwined community.

[8:38]

Senator Zeda: Motion to enter voting procedure

Many: Second

Motion Passed.

Senator Perkin: Motion to Vote on Senate Resolution 003

Many: Second

Motion Passed.

Vote on SR003

Motion Passed.

[9:44]

SAP Confirmation

Brooke: Hi I am Brooke. I am a first gen transfer student. I hope to work in policy law to fight sexual prevention. I have worked in state governments to combat issues that were related to Sexual assault prevention. I would love the opportunity to take this role.

Senator Deshpante: Motion to enter voting procedure

Senator Kulda: Second

Motion: Passed

Senator Lee: Vote on confirmation

Many: Second

Motion: Passed.

Motion: Passed.

[9:48]

CJK: Happy early birthday to senator adam shamsi. Happy late birthday to Dhruv.

Senator Shamsi: ROC is looking to work on issues pertaining to transfer students. It's something our co-chair really knows a lot about. BU Stu gov underserved that population. The other thing was the fact that the DEI survey we did will be presented at a later time. Please fill out that survey.

Senator Sullivan: Next week we will not meet. On October 12-14 March Plaza at the MHC festival will happen. I also want to thank the E-board and Legislative leadership/

Kelly Guo: Please follow the senate Instagram!

Senator Perl: Do we have to sign up?

Senator Sullivan: We don't need people to sign up, more we want to make sure people are aware of what services are available to them.

Senator Perkin: I am concerned about the lack of a timeline in the speed of a veto. I think it should be defined.

Senator Marrouche: I want to work on an initiative relating to BU dining hall food.

Senator Perkin: I could help you after the meeting.

Senator Lee: I spoke to someone about student testimonials. I totally forgot to get your name so please contact me! I am on the slack so please talk to me. Also I talked to you guys about CGS acclimation. Please talk to me!

First meeting someone talked about BU transportation services and I would love the chance to talk about this.

Senator Jackson: We are looking for someone who can code, specifically in UX design.

CD: We have the senate off next week! In the next two weeks Dhruv and I will write the CSF distribution. Please understand what it is. It's not embarrassing to reach out! Please email Dhruv and I next week! Also, please talk about initiatives! We will start an unmoderated caucus next week. Come prepared for that.

Senator Perkins: Adjourn

Many: Second

Motion: Passed.