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Committee Reports

Executive Committee:

The executive committee is beginning to address the budget of USG for next semester. The committee will be finalizing the budget this week at our meeting and be bringing it for a vote next week at the General Assembly. This week I will begin meeting with representatives from the Case School of Engineering. Please see President Rupe after the meeting to find a mutually convenient time. We will be traveling to CMU over the weekend and will have a full report about what we found at next week's General Assembly. Attendance review was completed last week at the Executive Committee meeting, all members passed; however several members have received notices that they are within one of their limit of absences for the semester. The SEC will be meeting this weekend to begin discussion of the structure and finances of the Student Activities Fee. Have a good week!

Student Life:

The Student Life Committee worked last week to develop a posting policy resolution. We have not yet completed our efforts, and will be focus on this issue during this week's meeting.

- We will be electing a Student Life Monitor for the Student Life Committee. This person will actively seek problems at the university. If you are interested email Myles.
- Please help us make sure that students are safe when crossing the Euclid/Adelbert intersection. Email Adam or Myles if you notice an absence of police coverage.
- Those of you going on the Carnegie Mellon Trip, please come prepared with questions for their student government.

Finance:

Mass Funding

The Finance Committee is continuing to prepare for mass funding. All requests are due this Friday, November 9th at 5:00pm. The following week, all the requests will be entered into our spreadsheet by Finance Committee members. Allocations and recognitions will be decided on Saturday, November 17th from 12:00pm to 5:00pm. Decisions will be sent out that Sunday and comments will be made available that Monday in the USG office. The appeals process will then begin.

Speaker Honorariums

The Committee also tackled to funding policy changes. In response to a number of organizations requesting speaker honorarium co-sponsorships, we decided to change the policy slightly. While the Committee approves of funding speakers, we will limit large speaker allocations to one per organization per semester, either their own or a co-sponsorship.

Gas policy

A large portion of the discussion at Friday's meeting dealt with the policy on travel. It has been USG's policy that gas expenses are not reimbursed for organizations traveling to conferences, tournaments, etc. However, in light of the USG trip to Carnegie Mellon, another look at this policy was necessary.



Since it may be appropriate for USG to reimburse for gas on our visit to Carnegie Mellon, it may also be appropriate in some student organization situations. The Finance Committee strongly felt that the policies for USG internal spending and student organization funding stay consistent. Constructing a concrete policy was difficult, and we will continue the discussion at next week's meeting.

USG Internal Budget

The first draft of the Spring 2008 budget for USG has been completed. The Executive Committee will discuss it at our meeting on Thursday. The budget will be introduced to the General Assembly next week and tabled for one week. After it has been tabled any amendments will be made and the budget voted upon.

Academic Affairs:

The two main activities of the Academic Affairs Committee meeting last week were further discussion about a resolution regarding midterm exams/grade reporting and the start of an evaluation of the accuracy of classroom clocks. In the coming weeks we will present a resolution regarding midterms. If you are aware of classrooms that do not have a clock or where the clock is not accurate, please alert Vice President Poerschke (dave@case.edu).

Public Relations:

No written report.

Information Technology:

No written report.

Treasurer Petrick:

No written report, but...



Letters of Intent:

College of Arts and Sciences

Raksha Kumar:

Dear fellow students, My name is Raksha Kumar, and I am a second year student from Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. I'm studying math and German. I would like the opportunity to represent you in the Undergraduate Student Government. Although I've never held a position in student government, I had a chance to attend a USG meeting this year, and it made me realize how important USG is to our campus. I would love to be a part of USG, and if elected, I would do my best to represent your interests and work towards making our experiences at Case the best they can be. Sincerely, Raksha Kumar

Sarah Park

My name is Sarah Park and I am a member of the graduating class of 2010 and would like to run for the position of representative for College of Arts and Science. I am a psychology major and also studying pre-dentistry. On campus I am a part of Delta Gamma Sorority and also involved in KSA, AAA, and Koinonia. Additionally, I volunteer at Rainbow Babies as well as being in the process of becoming a volunteer tutor at Church of the Covenant.

Freshman year I made the mistake of not running for any positions on campus organizations. I was intimidated, nervous, and thought that I might not be able to dedicate myself to the time commitment. However, I've decided to cast aside those fears and this year become more involved on campus; currently I am also running for a director position at Delta Gamma. Case has now become somewhat of a second home and I want to be able to share that feeling and experience with my peers. As a representative, I know that I would be able to fulfill the three goals of USG well; in high school I was involved in many school organizations such as Key Club, National Honor Society, Model UN, and Vice President of Student Council. Because of past experience, I know how to work well with other students and feel confident that I will be a good liaison to the undergraduate population and the university.

Weatherhead School of Management

Emily Breckenfelder

Hi my name is Emily Breckenfelder and I am a sophomore Accounting Major running for the Weatherhead School of Management Representative to the Undergraduate Student Government for the 2007-2008 academic year. This year I am involved in Model United Nations, Emerging Leaders Program, USG, Greek Life and Ballroom Dance Society. In USG I am serving on the student life and finance committees. Last year I was involved with Mistletoe College Council, the Emerging Leaders Program and Model United Nations. Mistletoe College Council has been involved with events within the residential college, such as study breaks, door decoration competitions and super bowl Sunday snacks as well as Naughty or Nice, a dance open to the entire campus that raised money for breast cancer research. I have run twice for this position: last spring and at the beginning of this year. After my second time running, I decided to become a member-at-large. In this position, I have gained an appreciation for the responsibilities associated with serving on USG. I feel that this opening is an opportunity for me to become more active in USG in general, and general assembly in particular. Thank you for your time.



Jeffrey Colodin

I feel I would be a good fit for WSOM USG Representative because I am a very sociable person, who would be very good at tapping the WSOM students' pulses. I have no problem with just walking up to people between classes and introducing myself, and I'm constantly around the other WSOM students because I spend the majority of my day in PBL. Student government would also be a rewarding experience for me, because on top of my accounting major I am also pre-law. I feel like an insight into a government/judicial process would be crucial in helping me decide whether or not I really want a career in law

Justin Williams

To the USG General Assembly. Please consider this my official letter of intent to run for the open USG position as Representative of the Weatherhead School of Management. With this current opening, this will be the third time I have run for this particular position in the past year. I refer to my campus involvement as my primary qualification for this open position. Currently, I serve as Treasurer for the Case Democrats organization, an at-large member of the USG Finance Committee, as well as a board member of the Academic Integrity Board. I am also involved with the Alpha Kappa Psi and Beta Alpha Psi Professional Business and Accounting Fraternities. I genuinely feel that the entire student body at Case Western Reserve University has a great deal of opportunity to gain from a stronger relationship with the business school. Also, as a business student, I believe the USG organization can benefit from my organizational and discretionary skills I have developed as an Accounting student. If elected as Weatherhead Representative, I promise to further engage the USG organization to meet any challenges the student body may face in the future, and to engage all students in the dialogue that the USG organization develops as student involvement on campus grows. As an elected USG member, it will be my responsibility to not only represent the Weatherhead School in all of its undergraduate endeavors, but also to represent the entire collective of the student body with diligence, constructive deliberation, and awareness of all issues that the university faces in its efforts to continue as a strong academic institution. I sincerely ask for your vote, Justin Williams Class of 2010



General Assembly Resolution R.17-08

Authors: Vice President Poerschke
Committee: Academic Affairs
Presented: 6 November 2007

A Resolution to Limit Academic Responsibility during Fall Break

Whereas, many professors give mid term examinations and schedule paper due dates in the days immediately following Fall Break.

Whereas, there is an ill-conceived expectation that students will use time off for Fall Break to prepare for examinations or write papers.

Whereas, students become increasingly stressed in the weeks leading up to Fall Break and Fall Break is a time for rest, relaxation, and renewal.

Whereas, student services are reduced during Fall Break implying that students will leave campus. This travel often precludes academic work.

Be it resolved by the Undergraduate Student Government, acting in full session:

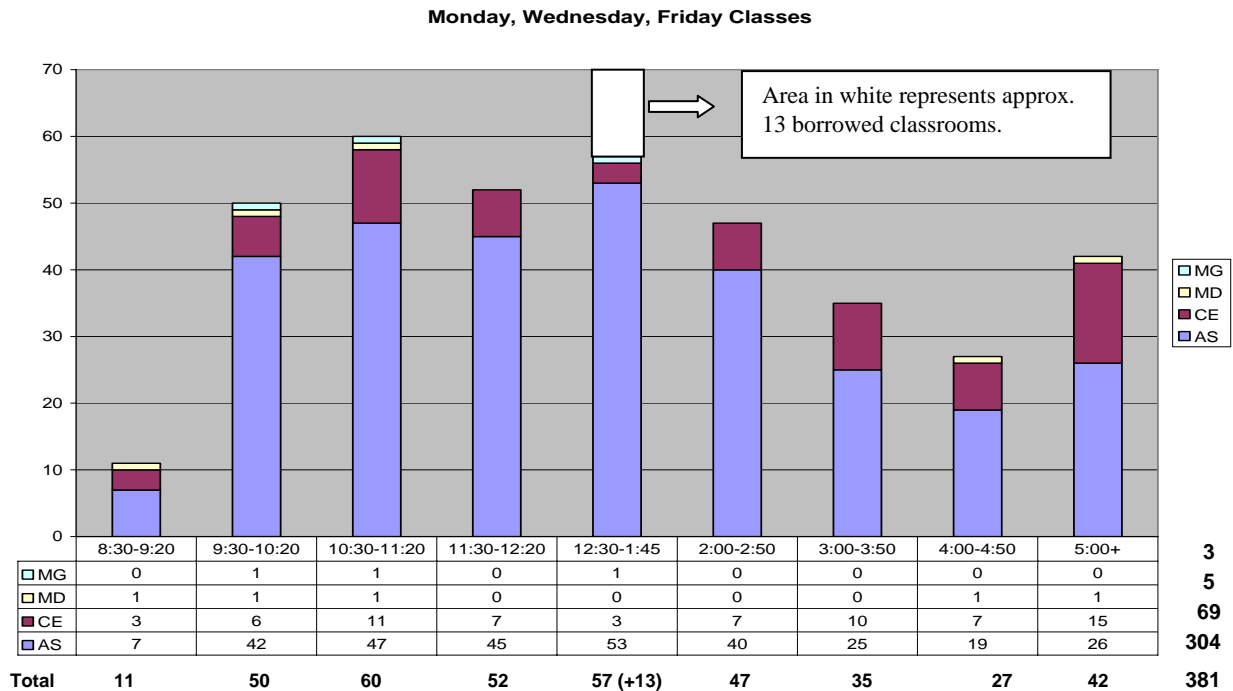
- I. No significant evaluative work should take place in the three days following return to campus after Fall Break.
- II. This resolution should be forwarded in its entirety to:
 - a. Dean Wolcowitz – Dean of Undergraduate Studies
 - b. Provost Goldberg – Interim Provost
 - c. Don Feke – Vice Provost for Undergraduate Education
 - d. Judith-Olsen Fallon – Director, Educational Student Services
 - e. Gary Chottiner – Chair of University Undergraduate Faculty

Information on Classroom Utilization November 4, 2007

- The table to the right provides information on the number and size of capacity of Registrar-controlled classrooms for the 2005-06 academic year. Of the total of 81 classroom in the list, 14 are located in the health sciences complex (utilized by nursing and dentistry) and 67 are located on either north (15 rooms) south campus (52 rooms). Since the 2005-06 academic year, the University has added a few more classrooms to its inventory (e.g., a room in Crawford, two classrooms in the new Mandel building which are available for portions of some days).

Capacity	No. of Rooms
up to 20	18
21-30	16
31-40	16
41-50	12
51-60	4
61-150	12
151+	3

- The graph below shows the classroom utilization pattern in Fall 2005. For the MW 12:30-1:45 slot, 13 courses could not be scheduled into normal classrooms, and borrowed spaces had to be utilized. Borrowed spaces included areas within the dining facilities, temporarily converted hallway space or departmental conference rooms.



- The increased enrollments (undergraduate population up by ~25%) in recent years has not been paralleled by an expansion in the number or size of classrooms. Classrooms with larger seating capacity are now in higher demand.
- For Fall 2007, virtually all classrooms are being utilized at the TR 10:00 - 11:15, TR 1:15-2:30, and MW 12:30-1:45 time slots. Only two or three very small (10 seat) classrooms are not being used at those times. The inventory of classrooms at the MWF 10:30-11:20 time slot are also nearly exhausted.

Options for handling the classroom shortage

- Build new classroom space (not likely to occur in the short term).
- More efficient utilization of the teaching grid. Schedule courses into underutilized time blocks (e.g. MWF 8:30-9:20 or TR 11:30-12:45).
- Establish course enrollment limits based on the availability (and size) of classrooms. (Possible side effect – all students who need to enroll in a particular course may not be able to do so.)