



Rules and Policies Committee

Minutes

2012-13:6 Friday, February 8th, 2013, 3:00 – 5:00PM, BSC, 1st Floor, Perseus

I. Preliminaries

A. Call to Order

1. Chair of the committee, Devon Graves, called the meeting to order at 3:05 P.M.

B. Quorum Check

Voting members:

- Devon Graves, Attorney General-Chair
- Mary Haynes, Senate President Pro-Tempore, Vice Chair; **Excused Tardy**
- Chris Osuala, President
- Christine Hall, Vice President
- Dylan Devlin, CCHM Senator; **Excused Tardy**
- Stephanie Ferreira, Agriculture Senator
- Tommy Ward, MCC Senator

Advisors:

- Susan Ashe, University Advisor; **Designee:** Jamie Grosser, OSLCC
- Cora Culla, ASI Executive Director; **Designee:** Powell Velasco, ASI Assoc. Executive Director

Liaison:

- Krikor Ketchedijian, Treasurer

Special Guest:

- Salina Nasir, Assistant Attorney General

C. Approval of Minutes

1. As the Chair, Devon approved the minutes from the January 25th, 2013 Rules and Policies Committee meeting because there were no issues or changes that needed to be made.

D. Agenda Changes

1. Devon then asked if there were any agenda changes that anybody needed to make. Since there were no necessary changes, Devon then proceeded to introduce the guests.

E. Introduction of Guests

1. Aisha Razzak, ASI Secretary of Programs and Services
 - i. Aisha was present at this meeting to help assist the committee with any questions they may have while discussing the BEAT Code.

F. Open Forum

1. No comments were made.

II. Action Item

- A. There were no items to take action on during this meeting.

III. Discussion Item

A. ASI BEAT Code

- i. Aisha began this discussion by reading off all of the changes that are to be made to the existing BEAT Code.
- ii. After Aisha finished reading off the proposed changes, Devon asked the committee if they had any questions or comments.
 1. Tommy applauded Aisha on the effort it took to revise the BEAT Code, and also brought up a concern of his.
 - a. In Article I, Tommy felt as if the reference of “campus leader” in Section 1c. was repeated in Section 1j, and perhaps could be “condensed.” He also suggested eliminating Section 1j. in entirety.
 - b. Devon supported Tommy’s opinion by suggesting the potential of combining Sections 1c. and 1j. in Article I.
 2. Secondly, Tommy questioned the change regarding the elimination of OSL Representatives.
 - a. He stated that perhaps rather than eliminating the OSL representative, we advocate for the necessity of a representative.
 - b. Aisha stated that perhaps it could be up to the discretion of the team; if they need a representative, then they can choose to have one.
 - c. In response, Tommy stated that he didn’t think the point of an OSL Representative is to combine OSL and BEAT to have collaborated events, but instead, representatives serve to prevent any clashes from occurring.
 - i. He offered an example: had an OSL Representative been present for this term, then perhaps there would not have conflicts between Lunar New Year and ASI Homecoming events.
 - d. Aisha concluded the discussion by stating, “I personally do not think it is necessary to have an OSL Representative.”
 3. Next, Tommy recommended keeping the Code as general as possible, in case of a restructuring that may occur within ASI.
 4. Tommy also advocated against keeping exact number of hours required for BEAT in the Code.

- a. Aisha responded by stating that the number of hours required have been a part of the application for years, and have always remained the same.
 - b. Christine also disagreed with Tommy, stating that the reference to hours may be beneficial as they serve as guidelines for any applicants.
5. Devon asked Powell whether or not there would still be a director of programming when Barny becomes the director of the BSC.
 - a. Powell did not know the exact answer, but mentioned that Cora is contemplating some sort of structural change within ASI in regards to staff positions.

B. ASI Senate Rules

- i. Devon began by going over the revisions that are to be made to the Senate Rules.
- ii. Devon asked the committee for their opinion on the definition page on page 3.
 1. Tommy brought up the fact that #2, which refers to 'delegates', may not be needed.
 - a. Devon agreed, stating that the document will have to change all references to the term "delegate."
 2. Christine then voiced her opinion and stated that the definition page is necessary, for it provides a guideline for all ASI members that may need assistance with certain terms.
- iii. Devon mentioned that the document should state "his or her" rather than just "his."
- iv. Devon stated that in the section outlining "approval of minutes" it does not mention that the minutes must be approved by chair, yet this has been the common protocol.
- v. He later discussed that rather than reading "acts" in section 3 (Signature of Documents), it should read "bills" in order to maintain consistency.
- vi. Section 6, which discusses the discretion to vote, states that the chair shall vote instead of a tie.
 1. Devon stated that this must be updated, for the President is a full-time voting member of the Senate.
 2. Tommy asked whether or not it was in the by-laws; Devon assured him he would double-check.

- vii. Devon suggested removing specific article references to the by-laws and instead replacing them with general term.
- viii. Devon told the committee that Section 2, which discusses the Oath of Office, is already in the by-laws, and is not needed again in the senate rules.
- ix. Chris suggested specifying “business” days, rather than just days.
- x. Devon suggested that instead of constantly using the term “Vice President” to reference the chair, it should instead use “chair,” in case of the Vice President’s absence.
- xi. As per Section 3, Removal Grounds, Devon stated that the removal grounds for the Senate are the same as they are for Cabinet.
 - 1. Tommy suggested removing this section from the Senate Rules, as it already is in the by-laws.
 - 2. Chris suggested that perhaps it is necessary to keep the section in the Senate Rules because it serves as a much quicker reference than the by-laws.
 - 3. Devon stated that since it is in the Cabinet Rules, then it should be in the Senate Rules as well.
- xii. A discussion ensued regarding Section 4, which discusses approved absences.
 - 1. Devon stated that Section 4b. (Accountability) is not important.
 - 2. Chris discussed that the term “accountability” is not an accurate title for this section. This is because the section does not discuss how to hold one accountable.
- xiii. Dylan pointed out that numbering in the document was flawed. There are two different rules both with the same number.
 - 1. Rule 6 – Records of Senate & Rule 6 – California Open Meeting Law
- xiv. Rule 7, Order and Priority of Business
 - 1. Devon asked Christine whether or not it should mirror Preliminaries
 - a. Christine stated that it should follow Preliminaries.
 - 2. Devon mentioned that we do not have “unfinished business” as part of the order.
- xv. Devon mentioned that he wanted to redefine “Question of Privilege” and “Question of Personal Privilege” in Rule 8.
 - 1. He felt as if the current definition of each in the Senate rules in not clear.

- xvi. In Rule 9, Devon stated that rather than “Budget Committee,” it should read “Finance Committee.”
- xvii. A discussion then ensued regarding the possible addition of “executive committee” in Rule 9.
 - 1. Tommy disagreed, stating that the executive committee is technically already apart of senate.
 - 2. Devon agreed with Tommy, adding that the executive committee doesn’t have their respective set of rules, but rather references the Senate Rules.
- xviii. In Rule 10, Section 3, Tommy recommended changing the name “Regular Meetings.”
- xix. Rule 11, Business and Order
 - 1. Section 1, which addresses the suspension of Robert’s Rule
 - a. Salina asked whether it required a 2/3 vote or a majority vote.
 - b. Devon agreed to double check and specify the difference between 2/3 and majority votes.
 - 2. Mary asked whether or not suspending the rules is “debatable” or not. In the Senate Rules it says that is can be discussed; however, in specific version of the Robert’s Rules of Order, it states that suspension of the rules can neither be debated nor discussed.
 - a. Devon stated that there usually is no discussion following the suspension. He also said that he would double check in the Roberts Rules of Order to verify.
- xx. Rule 15, section 1 mentions standing votes, and Devon suggested changing the terminology to read something else other than “standing.”
- xxi. A discussion ensued regarding the definition of “Quorum.”
- xxii. Devon states that he thinks Rule 16, section 3 (discussing the oath) should be removed; however, the section of confidentially should remain in the Senate Rules.

IV. Information item

- A. There were no information items during this meeting.

V. Adjournment

- A. Next Rules and Policies Committee Meeting Friday, February 8th, 2013, 3:00-5:00PM, BSC, 1st Floor, Perseus
 - i. After Devon informed the Rules and Policies Committee of the next meeting, he adjourned the meeting at 4:15 P.M.

"I hope our wisdom will grow with our power, and teach us, that the less we use our power the greater it will be."

-Thomas Jefferson