

Student Senate Meeting

February 16, 2021 – Zoom

- I. **Call to Order**
 - A. Land Acknowledgement
- II. **Roll Call**
- III. **Approval of Minutes**
 - A. Last meeting's minutes are approved from the last Senate meeting in Interim.
- IV. **Special Orders - 30 minute time limit**
 - A. Senator Chimutsipa from the SOAP working group visited the senate meeting, clarifying that PAC would be its own branch external from the appointed SOAP Model.
 - B. Executive body in SOAP allows for more input and planning farther in advance for programming events.
 - C. Positions have not been planned yet for the model, and will continue to be built as students apply and are hired into these positions.
 - D. **SOAP Documents for Information**
 1. **SOAP OUTLINE:**
https://docs.google.com/document/d/1myle7DBp4O_BqkEnl12R2BE_nH9oTGDMSItpBh8YCsk/edit?usp=sharing
 2. **FAQ SHEET:**
https://docs.google.com/document/d/1oq7GoZdRKvmX9jkT_7_TxzTYaVtYc7KVD-FyWFxdYbY/edit?usp=sharing
 3. **SOAP PRESENTATION:**
<https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/1EKEnCbPS0dSMf84B30MX2LSqXWe-dWWciLJTZNNNoCZs/edit?usp=sharing>

E. Discussion on SOAP

1. Increases work opportunities, SGA can focus more on student government and organization.
2. **How will the SOAP hiring process work?** The previous coordinators will be included in the hiring process with administrative advisors. Incoming coordinators will have an executive team.
3. **How will SOAP work with SGA elections?** The hiring process will not be as difficult as elections. The posting will be at the same time as SGA elections, similar to the PAUSE.
4. **Can students move between different programming branches in SOAP?** Co-coordinators would be able to decide if students can move between after a semester or year.
5. **Who made up this body?** All of the programmers currently and other executive members. General membership of the people within these programming groups would be 30 people under the executives and co-coordinators.
6. **Could you speak to the need for a new model and why this model is less difficult than the current one?** The 4 separate groups would be together, rather than separately. Events would be planned far in advance and would increase communication between co-coordinators--allowing for a breadth of programming, rather than clusters.
7. **What would Student involvement entail? 30 people or more? Would this SOAP model increase student involvement or would it lower the availability to handle these events?** That number would fluctuate

according to the amount of people that would like to be able to participate with how many people coordinators would like. It's flexible.

V. Discussion - 30 minute time limit

A. Revisiting SOAP ~ Chair Mosher

1. Discussion Questions:

- a) What are the Pros and the Cons to consolidating all programming branches?
- b) How will it perpetuate the issues we're seeing in regards to the disconnect between students and SGA?
- c) Does the current hiring structure reflect the interests of the entire student body?
- d) What makes the SOAP model different from the programming structure we already have?

2. Group Discussion:

- a) Appointment of the positions appears undemocratic. Are co-coordinators necessary if the students are able to find a way to collaborate with liaisons between the current programming branches?
- b) SOAP would be complicated with voting, which is why hiring would work better for this model.
 - (1) People may not run due to being put into the spotlight, even though they may have experience and being qualified.
 - (2) Elections are beneficial, because people should feel as though they have a voice.
- c) Will SOAP be 100% student run? Are the paid positions only appointed or are they hired?

- d) What is the main point of the model? What is its primary goal and function?
 - (1) Students would be able to go to one space for getting involved.
 - (2) Good opportunity to rebrand SGA and programming committees.
 - (3) Promotes better and quicker programming, but doesn't solve the issues and separation between students and SGA/programming.
- e) Are we comfortable with co-coordinators being appointed with complete power over programming?

VI. Consent Agenda

A. New Business

- 1. Appointment of Executive Assistant ~ Chair Mosher, Senator Ekunno
 - a) Senator Holtzman proposal for appointment. Senator Ekunno introduced the new proposal for the executive assistant position.
 - b) Appoint Gabbie Holtzman as the new executive assistant vote:
 - (1) 15 votes to approve the motion
 - (2) 0 nays and abstaining

VII. Old Business

A. Reports and Announcements - 2 minute time limit

1. Projects and Capital Funds Subcommittee

- a) No one is currently on the committee, contact Chair Mosher for details.
- b) Students will have the opportunity to present business pitches with the Chief Financial advisor in an "Ole Tank", mimicking the business show

“Shark Tank.” \$10,000 is available for student use upon approval.

2. SOAP Town Hall -- March 2nd, 2021

- a) Make sure to communicate with constituents to increase the amount of student population, voices, and opinions in attendance.
- b) Working on communicating with students on SOAP with Senator Enerson and the Transparency committee.

3. Tech Savvy Senators

- a) Mics will be provided for senators meeting at in-person senate meetings in the future.

4. Chair Mosher is looking for a new parliamentarian to keep time for the senate meetings--30 minute discussions and 2-minute talking limits.

B. The Transparency Subcommittee is creating an interactive environmental timeline for students to understand St. Olaf's history in environmentalism.

C. Subcommittee chairs will have presentations coming up in future meetings. Watch out for an email coming from Senator Ekunno and Chair Mosher letting you know when you will present in the coming weeks.

D. The Gender and Sexuality advisory committee finished pronoun training and will be opening a form with the Taylor Center to request more education on pronouns. Another form will also open up to report misuse or harassment surrounding pronouns, gender, and sexuality. A new organization is also being created to replace the now disbanded GLOW/SAGA.

E. The class of 2024 will be notified of the open first-year senator position by **Senator Nogo and Senator Truong.**

F. Exec Team updates: SGA elections will be coming up soon. Keep that in mind and on your radar. If you enjoy SGA, consider running again or applying for different positions next year. Meredith Enerson is working on “Senate Sundays” as an opportunity to promote transparency and education on the roles of senators and coordinators for future elections.

G. BORSC had a meeting over Interim break with the Board of Regents. Oleville’s limitations have interrupted a future resource from being posted as accessible information to students. Thus, an update will occur in the BORSC newsletter sooner than on Oleville.

H. Advisor Cash on the Quarantine Cup: Opened a survey on how students use Buntrock. How to improve the student commons? One person will win \$100 cage dollars from the Quarantine Cup for participating. Encourage peers to provide their opinions on Buntrock.

VIII. Hill Hype

IX. Good Times

1. Guess That Senator

(1) It was Senator Ekunno!!!

X. Adjournment