

OCTOBER 9, 2019
ACADEMIC SENATE
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE EMERGENCY MEETING
C227A

Present: M. Henes, G. Lopez, S. Rose, V. Jaramillo: [arrived at meeting after share outs]

CALL TO ORDER by Senate President M. Henes: 12:55pm

APPROVAL OF MINUTES (10/1): Motion to approve by S. Rose, seconded by G. Lopez.
Approved by unanimous consent.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None

POSSIBLE RESPONSES TO INCIDENT DURING 10/7/19 ACADEMIC SENATE BOARD MEETING
Two-Minute Share Outs:

S. Rose felt multiple frustrations with the interruption of Senate's work and the flowing of the meeting held hostage due to unprofessional conduct witnessed by faculty; staff and student(s). Future attacks cannot be allowed based on Robert's Rules.

G. Lopez felt embarrassed and let down by someone representing her department. During the 10/7 meeting he sent her a nasty and inappropriate text, which "threw her off" for the rest of the meeting. Collegiality is a vital within an environment where our constituents are represented and to move forward with getting the work of the Senate done.

M. Henes provided copies of an email he received from J. Aragon on October 8th, 8AM to G. Lopez and S. Rose for review. M. Henes felt J. J. Aragon's feelings on the Parliamentary item was entirely personal.

M. Henes acknowledged several mistakes during and after parliamentary discussion.

- Five, not two, individuals had expressed an interest in becoming parliamentary.
- After a verbal vote, any Senator may ask for a "show of hands". Not any member can ask for a roll-call vote.
- Robert's Rules can be suspended by a 2/3 majority vote.

M. Henes is planning to have a conversation with PCCFA President, Mark Whitworth. In the Senate Board meeting the PCCFA President must only address the Senate in the capacity as PCCFA President, and must otherwise remain silent. The parliamentarian is to converse quietly with the Senate President.

Discussion about Student Panel

M. Henes review reasons for having a student panel from S. Rose and V. Jaramillo. He decided to cancel the November 4 panel because the students need a comfortable and safe place for this event. The students did not want to be photographed or have their photos placed on social media. He suggested to have a mix of recorded interviews with Questions/Answers in the future.

Instead of proposing an emergency Senate meeting to address the October 7 incident, M. Henes is waiting for a response from J. Aragon to meet with him. L. Hintzman and K. Simon have agreed to be third party presence during the conversation.

Any Senate member can make a motion to censure. This item is not off the table.

It would unnecessary to prepare an information letter on this matter if there is no conversation between M. Henes and J. Aragon.

An education campaign would be appropriate.

Censure is not off the table. It would require having a transcript of the conversations in question.

Email information would educate the Senate on what is allowed to be done.

Senate meeting "Norms" were passed at the last meeting.

A number of times J. Aragon was told he was "out of order." At one point he replied, "I'm out of order and I don't care." An appeal can be made to receiving an Out of Order notice.

The chair/Senate President is the position of authority in this space and if challenged, any member can call this matter out.

The Senate must maintain its rule for Senators to speak no more than two minutes, several times on a matter. J. Aragon takes every opportunity to speak. Gena said she will set the timer for every conversation. S. Rose offered her assistance. M. Henes said three minutes per person are allowed during a debate.

Information

M. Henes to include Section 61 of Robert's Rules.

S. Rose requested inclusion of both the non-member's and expulsion section.

Concerns

J. Aragon is exhibiting a pattern

Gena: how many slaps on wrist are needed. This is a pattern. What she saw was disrespectful on a whole different level. She was embarrassed and angry. She can imagine what other new senators felt. She thinks a slap on wrist, a letter a conversation will not move J. Aragon. He will go on an apology tour but behavior will not change. It is very personal. 1) referenced text. 2) way he treated Matt 3) way he treated the Senate. This was bullying behavior. Shelagh: and attacking Myriam. (he questioned on who was evaluating Miriam's pathways work, stipends, etc.)

Decorum Breaches:

Valerie's name should not have been referenced in discussion of Agenda Item L4.

According to Robert's Rules the Senate President should not be called upon by first name.

Divisions have more latitude in its choice of and making decisions about its senators.

Comments on Censure

A senator can make a motion for censure, followed by debate and a vote.

Censure is non-binding and is an egregious breach.

Censure could be viewed as being too extreme and could possibly give an impression that the Senate is not welcoming of different talking points.

The comments in question from the October 7th Senate meeting was bullying, disrespectful and a full-on attack against Senate President M. Henes, Senate Parliamentarian J. Hanley, Senate Secretary G. Lopez, Senator M. Altounji, Faculty Development Chair Valerie Foster and Associated Students President, D. Shelton.

Discussed Reprimand Possibilities for J. Aragon

Provide notice.

Give a reprimand or place on full-on censure.

A description of unacceptable behavior (by transcript, etc.) should be made public

- If unacceptable behavior is repeated action would be taken.

Additional Comments

The Senate needs to get back on track.

M. Henes expressed concern that any actions taken would be perceived as retribution resulting in the loss of respect of the Senate.

S. Rose recommended M. Henes use his gavel when giving an out of order call.

The Senate needs to be empowered to handle unacceptable behavior.

Senate norms need to be followed and referred to when necessary.

Provide information to the Senate with what is “unacceptable”.

Place J. Aragon on notice, with another outburst resulting in censure.

Consult with Dean of Counseling, Armando Duran.

J. Aragon’s altercation(s) were terrible and uncomfortable.

The Senate needs a professional space to do business.

Censure should only be used when there have been multiple cases.

What happened on October 7 will not be an isolated incident.

M. Henes has received feedback from a number of those present at the 10/7 meeting that he both represented the Senate and handled the situation well.

Possibly provide a transcript of the discussion(s) in question

Provide copies of Robert’s Rules applicable to this situation.

Both G. Lopez and M. Henes will review and fine-tune the draft minutes.

Security may be needed if a Senate meeting offender does not leave when asked to by the President.

M. Henes will consider talking to campus police to have an “officer” in the area and ready to be called if a future security incident arises.

This matter will be placed on the October 21, 2019 Senate Board agenda.

The executive committee will be observant and discern if there is a pattern of the incident being discussed at the next Senate meeting

ADJOURNMENT: Meeting adjourned at 1:40 pm by G. Lopez.