



## Colorado College Student Government Association

### MEETING MINUTES/ORDER OF BUSINESS

March 11th, 2021

Full Council

Block 6 Week 2

Held Over Video Conference due to COVID-19

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- I. Call to Order:
    - Meeting started at 5:00 MST
  - II. Roll call:

Absent: Fran, Gaby

Guests: Deksyos Damtew, Chandler Witt, Bennet Okun, Kevin Caruana, Will Foster
  - III. Distribution of minutes
    - Meeting minutes from March 5th, 2021 have been approved as distributed
  - IV. La'aus Conversation-- 9th Block Bar: Kevin Caruana, Will Foster
    - Kevin: We want to discuss the potential for a space in La'aus for a student-run bar. We have been meeting with lots of CC departments about this concerning the legal issues, liability around alcohol, and COVID. We are here to get SGA's initial concerns or questions?
    - Kevin: Been working with the owner of La'aus-- he's given us the space and his liquor license. We would want to make a covid-safe way for students to get some in-person interaction. We want it to be more than a bar-- looking into live music, and the potential for club events to be there.
    - Brooke: Can students under 21 hang out?
    - Kevin: Yes, it will be based on the color of the wristband and checked on state-issued ID and gold card. This would be a pilot run for the bar that will come with Robson arena.
    - James: I think a number of students have fake id's -- how do you work around that?

- Kevin: We will also be checking gold-cards. This will only be open to CC students and potentially staff and faculty.
- Laila: Is it staffed by students and do you need a license to serve alcohol?
- Kevin: Yes it will be staffed by students and all staff will be TIPS certified (which isn't even required by Colorado state law)
- Sally: Would the CC community include alum?
- Kevin: Still in the process of figuring things like that so we are open to ideas
- Sophie: What is the timeline for this project?
- Kevin: As fast as possible-- the beginning of 7th block?
- Laila: Who will profits go to?
- Kevin: We are working on getting all profits to go to CC Mutual Aid.
- Anusha: I love the idea, is this a Colorado College thing? CC is the authority here?
- Kevin: La'aus's property is leased by CC-- the owner isn't looking for a profit here. A few years ago, this used to be a thing
- Lilly: Would you do any drink caps or anything?
- Kevin: The wrist bands would help with that-- every time a student buys a drink they will get a mark on the wristband and with the TIPS training we can help prevent that.
- Will: We are definitely trying to make this more of a community opportunity than all about drinking
- Fargol: How would you make sure that students under 21 would give drinks to students under age?
- Will: Our system is that we will have 2-3 staff to monitor the situation. We can't say it won't happen but we can say that a student underage will not be able to hold a drink and sip
- Brooke: How will you be hiring bar-tenders? I don't know if I feel comfortable having all CC students handing me a drink
- Will: It will not be a light hiring process and we will be very rigorous on who we choose
- Kevin: The hours of operation we are thinking of are Friday - Saturday before dinner and for a bit after
- Will: And potential a weekday too
- Anusha: With La'aus is closed, will there be an opportunity for food? I know Winter Ball also struggles with under 21 people drinking alcohol-- do you know how they handle it? Will there be opportunities for groups to sign up ?
- Will: We are working on hiring a vegan chef during operating hours. We are in a more closed and smaller space than Winter Ball and the last time this was a thing there wasn't an issue. We are still in the works with it and communicating with students so a signup sheet is a great idea

- Elliot: How did your meeting with campus safety go?
- Kevin: It went well. Working with them for capacity and it's an ongoing conversation. They are really receptive and it has all been extremely positive
- Kevin: There is a question about bartenders being over 21 in the chat -- in Colorado, the law is over 18 but we may do 21 but we are still figuring it out right now. We just want this to be fun and safe and inclusive
- Ade: How much drinks will cost?
- Kevin: I think 3-5, 5-10\$.
- Will: We are trying to make it as affordable as it can
- Follow on Instagram @9thblock\_cc and email with questions: [k\\_caruana@coloradocollege.edu](mailto:k_caruana@coloradocollege.edu), [w\\_foster@coloradocollege.edu](mailto:w_foster@coloradocollege.edu)

V. Inclusion Discussion on Self Wellbeing:

- Anusha: Yesterday during Executive Council, we all talked about how exhausted the student body is, and now it's been a whole year of COVID. I am just looking for where we can find spaces-- does anyone have thoughts and I just want to check in on how you all are doing? How can we support the CC community with all of this?
- Elliot: Student mental health and well being is definitely a concern of the board of trustees
- Anusha: Sophie suggested that there is a sense of pride for CC students to be never stopping and always going-- one way we thought of push out that we support students in these times and normalizing the fact we are not doing well
- Sophie: We could have fewer and shorter meetings in general and model a slower work so that classes are not extending into block breaks and work with faculty and consider the pace they assign work
- Lilly in the chat: I've added this to my email signature: I'm trying to slow down and work deep, please be understanding if I take more time to answer your email or am unable to attend your meeting. Please feel free to copy this and add it to your own signature, if you also want to try and slow down
- Sally: Could we perhaps petition the school for spring break?
- Sakina: It's not really a reality to do that
- Al in chat: I think the spring break issue did have student input on whether or not it should be canceled
- Maddi: What about mental health days for 7th and 8th blocks?
- Ade in the chat: Conversely, I rarely take a day off even when professors offer it. I think it would be cool for it to be a school wide thing? Is that a possibility/what you were thinking Maddi?
- Anusha: Some professors let students take a day off without any reason -- I think normalizing more students feeling okay to take days and to focus on intentionality and not just speed. Maybe a day we boycott and take a break as a student body

- Sakina: There are parts of this that are tough because students have been going off-campus during breaks as well
- Nova: I think that the freshman class are very confused and are feeling a lot like deer in headlights
- Dore: At least for me it's been exhaustion and burn out but it's also this feeling of being unfulfilled. I want to bring the conversation back to talking to the faculty. It would be great if we could request faculty to give them a break. Does someone have that influence to push it out to faculty?
- Sakina: I will reach out to the admin and our faculty advisor, Paul
- John: I think we should push for a mental health break or two-- there is a lot of burns out
- Nicolette in the chat: I totally get the colleges decision but like I am afraid of what students are going to be through at this point in the year with no break
- Laila: We need more clarity from the school in a way where we can safely gather together-- there is a lot of contradictory statements. Any type of socializing causes anxiety. Some more clarity on what is and what is not allowed would be great.
- Ella: I think we need to push for mental health days-- my professor did it and it was very successful for my class.
- Anusha: Please share concerns and questions into the document I put in the chat
- Elliot: Ideas for faculty for better online learning I would love to hear so that I can share them.
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#### VI. Committee Updates:

- Outreach:
  - Municipal elections are coming up -- it will be mail-in and that means that things need to happen earlier-- we will need people to staff tables
    - James: Yes it will be important to get people registered early
- Student Life:
  - Went to the food advisory committee to talk about the Rastalls issues-- would like to hear any concerns people have on that
    - Dore: People still want Rastall to be open-- it has gotten better but there are still some concerns -- we need more options.
      - Gluten-free, vegetarian (they keep replacing meat with things that don't have portien in them)
    - The next meeting will happen next block and please come and share those concerns. They are pretty receptive
- Inclusion:
  - International students have been really struggling to get support from the college in terms of taxes
    - There is a decline in help for students over the years

- I have been doing Tax workshops for some students but I am wondering if CCGA can push for help in this
  - Sakina: We had conversations with admin for a certain amount of subscriptions for students to H&R block and I will bring it up. Also something we can fund
  - Anusha: I am pretty sure that International Students can't use H&R Block though
  - Sakina: I will look into it and bring it up to admin
- Internal Affairs:
    - Talking about extending government documents-- specifically finance documents
    - Talking about 6th block elections and have been monitoring the campaigns
    - Setting debates for elections
    - Also looking for the 7th block elections for full council,
    - The CCSGA app is essentially done and Internal Affairs has had a look at it-- hoping it will be done by the end of the block.
  - Finance:
    - Talking about finance documents for our bylaws-- hopefully, things will be clearer
    - Amy has reached out and asked if we want to buy a projector screen to host more outdoor events
    - There are a few clubs that missed/didn't get the chance to apply for an operating budget, so we have been in communication with them
    - Fargol contacted me about student employment -- in our last meeting we funded CC employees and we don't have a formalized process for paying student employees
  - President:
    - CARES act funding has been sent out
    - As long as COVID stays low, the admin is still planning an in-person graduation
    - The emergency fund is still going on for internal support
  - Fargol: Touching on the taxes thing-- I don't think we can use H&R block because they fill it out as a US citizen. A lot of first-year international students have been struggling with finding student employment with no jobs and still having to pay taxes
  - Sakina: Ill talk to the admin
  - Anusha: Can International students apply for emergency funds for that?
  - Sakina: If it's framed around covid
  - Fer: That is incredibly inequitable and I think we should focus on that

- Sophie: Mutual aid application is going out tonight and I just want to mention that if you get the money you may have to pay taxes on that.
- Anusha: Anything above your tuition is taxed

#### VII. Open Floor for Comment:

- Deksyos: I am a junior here and I am running for Student Body President and if you all haven't heard there was a controversy about emails that were sent out about Sophie and I's campaign. I want to say that Sophie and I have a good relationship-- but I do want to raise some concerns. The first is the distribution of campus-wide emails needs to be regulated because I do not have access to the same list that Sophie does as VP of Outreach. Second, that I think that some candidates were able to start campaigning earlier and I don't think that is fair. Finally, the fact that the statement is only 300 words does a disservice to the candidates in presenting their platforms. I want to emphasize at the end of the day, none of my concerns are personal -- I love CCSGA. I am excited for whatever happens
- Sophie: I just wanted to clarify that I don't have access to email accounts other people don't -- this is something that all students can do. I do care about the integrity of the elections
- Sally: The 300-word thing -- I do get people's concerns with not having a lot of space-- as a student I think it can get overwhelming. I think candidates should find a way to fit what you need to say in 300 words.
- Fer: I wanted to let you know that our thought process behind the timeline for campaigning is that COVID makes everyone have different schedules and everyone is on their own time. 300 words aren't something that we see as the advertisement of a campaign but rather as a hook. As for the emails being a concern, we will continue that discussion
- Deksyos: Sally, I think you make a great point -- I think another platform where you can say more than 300 words would be great. My main concern is the reach of the platform. I think there are a lot of reasons why you wouldn't want the general student body getting all these emails. I just don't think it's equitable for some students to get their platforms out before others
- Nova: I just wanted to bring up that the insulation of Roberts Rules and I think this is an important discussion and there is internal tension-- I think we should have a conversation about the respect to others
- Nicolette: I was planning on bringing this up in Internal Affairs and just know we have not forgotten about it. As for the campaign issues, please reach out to us if you have any concerns and did put a lot of thought into it.

#### VIII. Adjournment

