



## Colorado College Student Government Association

### MEETING MINUTES

March 18th, 2021

Full Council

Block 6 Week 3

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: Mary, Fran, Dore
- III. Distribution of minutes
  - Meeting minutes from March 11th, 2021 have been approved as distributed
- IV. Election Commission:
  - Members: Jane, Fer, Dore, Tom, Ade, Ely (CCSGA Office Manager), Tia Verling (Honor Council Representative), Sakina:
  - Election Commission Vote:
    - Approves: 17
    - Abstaining: 4
    - Opposed: 0
  - Vote on the election commission for the 2021 Executive Council Elections passes
- V. Committee Updates:
  - Paul:
    - Talked to the faculty about student burnout. I talked to the chair of the Faculty Executive Council and notified them of your concerns. The chair will make mention of it at the next meeting.
  - Outreach:
    - You should have gotten your ballot for the upcoming municipal election if you are voting in Colorado

- Towards the end of the semester, we will be working on formalizing our relationship with the CCE. We are going to try and reach out to community-facing student organizations to help them with reintroducing their organization into off-campus work. It is hard to get in touch with these student leaders, however.
  - Sam has suggested building an engaged young alumni community network
  - We are trying to improve the All Campus Committee process-- we want to increase the number of students on committees
  - A lot of ballots have gone to “the other” inbox folder in outlook so maybe if we should send individual emails to each class in order to avoid that in the future.
- Finance:
  - The Canva subscription has been publicized to the campus community. People should email me if they want to use it. We have provided guidelines for using it
    - Got a lot of responses
    - This will be a trial run
  - Met with some staff members concerning the distribution of club funds. We discussed the options to give it to CC mutual aid or our High Impact Partners (through the CCE)-- we would have CC partners and CC clubs “apply” to be approved
    - Going to have another meeting hopefully next block about it
    - This would help us formalize a relationship with the CCE as well!
- Internal Affairs:
  - Elections!
  - Working on getting stipends sent out correctly. Please check out your direct deposit and make sure it’s the correct amount and email me if it's wrong.
- Student Life:
  - Lilly: We are considering getting a club management platform. Hoping to set up a demo soon and a quote for the price
- President:
  - Graduation is most likely in person (at the Switchback stadium and seniors can bring two guests)
    - The only potential issue is local restrictions
  - Working on getting tax help for students
    - H&R Block said no to giving an information session to students but we are hoping to offer something for students going to H&R block.

- There is a service called Spring Tax for international students.
- Fargol: We don't know how to use Spring Tax and one little mistake can cost a lot of money. I reached out asking for help and was not helped at all.
- The frat houses are owned by the college and sorority houses are owned by the sorority. The college is thinking of offering the now empty frat house but the empty sorority house would have to be bought from the national organization.
- A survey will be sent out soon about summer and fall housing plans-- please make sure you and all your friends fill it out.
- We talked ways in which the college could be more helpful about food-- I offered some type of grocery situation but apparently, the school is losing 2 million dollars on food this year
- Inclusion:
  - We wanted to take some time today to acknowledge what happened in Atlanta and around the country. I just want us to be aware of this space and the people around us who are affected. As CCSGA, we have a certain responsibility to support and do our part to support Asian students on and off-campus. We had a conversation that was organized by faculty members that started out with everyone and then it became a safe space for Asian students. There are some things we are responsible for as elected representatives. I want to take some time to engage with it and sit with it -- it is never-ending for Asian, Asian-American, or BIPOC students. Let's take a minute to reflect and sit with this and come up with some actionable things we can do.
  - Sally: I think that if/when we put out a message of solidarity, before that we need to reach out to the students that are affected -- that is also difficult to do to gauge what they need.
  - Fer: I agree -- the situations that have arisen is something we should approach with the consent of others-- this shouldn't be performative but should be influenced by those that have been affected
  - Anusha: I agree-- what came out of inclusion today but there is a certain burden that lies on students affected, to basically talk about the problem and provide the solution -- it is on them to provide everything. How can we engage them? Do we need to host workshops (internally? Around the school?). I want to invite everyone to be open to discomfort. Any other thoughts on some actions we can take.
  - Lilly: Maybe we could do something similar to what we did for Black history month-- may be offering a gift card and supporting Asian owned business

- Anusha: I do want to problematize that idea because students don't feel safe going out.
- Lilly: Maybe, DoorDash
- Al: I was also at the open forum. I think a lot of concern is around not feeling safe -- both on and off-campus. The issue is more about going out in public -- but it's necessary for a lot of people's lives. How can we provide opportunities for safe travel etc students who don't feel safe on campus?
- Fer: It's important for us to not slide everything under the covers-- there are several populations on campus that should be protected. This is not new and it's not gonna stop tomorrow and not by a statement of solidarity. Maybe this effort doesn't have to be just on one community on campus.
- Anusha; All of this has one root cause -- white supremacy. I think this has to go across the communities
- Jennifer: I am the chair of the Asian student union-- in the past, we wanted to work on a statement of solidarity and we are looking for a list of resources and information on campus so that it goes beyond just a statement. It is hard to facilitate these conversations so we need help from professors to help us facilitate these conversations. Maybe we can reach across affinity groups and have a campus-wide conversation.
- Ella: Jennifer and I -- I was hoping to work with the affinity groups. I do think a solidarity statement is important and doing work beyond that and seeing this beyond just this. Making sure all the vulnerable populations are being supported in the current political climate. It needs to be constant and not reactionary. Maybe we can work into our bylaws-- it just needs to be more sustainable and not just with the people of CCSGA
- Nova: I think it would be cool if we can reach out to BIPOC people in the springs. I think it would be awesome for more people to hear the discussion from outside members of the community
- Sally: I am thinking about what Al said -- maybe we could offer for people to volunteer to pick up groceries or go with them. As Fer said, this is not something that is easy to fix or change but we could help make it easier.
- Tom: Most of the speakers have mentioned safety and it as a constant theme-- Last year there was a push for students to help bring more safety on campus. If that push is still something, I think we could support that.
- Sophie: I think you are right, Ella, this needs to be more than reactionary. I think the anti-racist implementation plan had a huge gap where it failed to address ways where students and student orgs can help make CC safe. We could initiate the process now-- and I know a lot of candidate running has been interested in-- we can definitely carry it through the summer

- Ella: How come the school doesn't have anti-racist modules like we do for alcohol?
- Sakina: I think that is a great idea. I think the college expects the Butler Center Hour long training is sufficient.
- Sophie: I just don't want us to push this off. Maybe we can put together some type of working group to work on this.
- Anusha: I do want us to take some action. Care requires labor, I want to challenge ourselves because it goes a long way. I think it is important to acknowledge that we have some faculty members that carry a lot of the burden of the school. They ask us though to put pressure on the Administration to provide more support to faculty and to take classes that are not centered around whiteness. I think it's important to show up to events. I do want us to have a conversation on the history of this in some form and some workshop in some structured manner.
- Sakina: I think we can come up with some actionable ideas on what we can do. The statement of solidarity, outreach to students on campus, etc. Anyone want to be on that working committee
- Mika, Fargol, Nicolette, John, Sam, Tom, Sally, Laila, Anusha V, Nova, Ella, Jennifer, Fer

#### VI. Open Floor for Comment:

- Lilly: There are a few avenues on how to pay students for the work they do on campus. I want to hear thoughts on paying students working in the Bemis school of arts and students on all college committees. We are thinking of some way to give back (to all college committees) and more formal for the Bemis school of arts.
  - Fargol: I just want to add that the idea came up from a conversation from Jeremiah at Bemis school of arts. They need employees but the college can't do it. The engagement in Bemis school of art is low and I think student employees will help them stay engaged
- Ade: I wanted to ask the group about our role in having a voice and what we want our presence on social media
- Fer: I think it's important to have some statement of solidarity-- it is something that could be interpreted as performative. I would prioritize the consent of the people we are standing in solidarity
- Ade: In the past, we don't post anything controversial but anti-racist stuff isn't. Would reposting other affinity groups' posts be similar to consent?
- Fer: I think yes-- but to an extent. I think reaching out to people and seeing if they support it. Posting something out ourselves is something we should get a consent

- Nova: I think that's a good idea. I just don't want this to be performative and short term. I want us to have a long term solution
- Ella: So I think sending out our statement and plan of action so we stand accountable. I also think us having a larger anti-racist plan is important. It just seems very stark between the difference we are giving this subject and how we have handled things in the past. We need to have a larger anti-racist implementation plan. I am not trying to take away from this conversation but I think it's important we have a plan for each group.
- Sakina: We as CCSGA should have guidelines on how we respond. We need to make sure that students know we are here for them. I think we should rework our constitution and bylaws to include more anti-racist plans. I will work over block break to look into what we need and work with Jane to change what we need to change.
- Fer: I think adding those revisions and finding what is missing-- this has become more apparent as of recently. As we have discussed expanding the governing documents for finances, DEI, etc.
- Nicolette: I agree with a lot of what has been said. The amount we end up doing relies on the energy of the council but I think it's important to have those systems present constantly. I am going to send out a petition that is going around to keep Dr. Boyco around.
- Lilly: Kind of what Fer was saying about the school documents. I have been reading other schools' documents and bylaws-- we can definitely expand on that and I can share those documents with those interested.

## VII. Adjournment