

This week's Senate was held in Tishman Commons as a town-hall style meeting for the entire campus to discuss Social Life at Wellesley. I have attached the hand-out passed out at the meeting presenting the results of the Social Life Survey. I have also attached the powerpoint presentations about how prospectives are introduced to Wellesley's social life, and about the trends of the open-ended responses to the Social Life Survey. Thanks to all who attended and contributed such great comments! If you have any additional comments about social life, please email them to "Social Life Concerns 2007."

Emily Oxford, College Government President: Hi everyone - We're going to get started. Thanks for coming. I see some important people here tonight: Chief Garbin, Kris Niendorf, Lynne Payson, Kate Durso, Dean Lepore and Dean Goff-Crews, Bridget Beligiovane our Athletic Director, some people from admissions, and more. Thanks for being here! Today will be a little bit different from our usual senates. For one, we're not having Senate in the same place as usual, so please sign in if you're a senator, and we would like your name even if you're not a senator so we can thank you later. We're going to run this meeting with some presentations first and then we're going to open up to questions and discussion in a town hall meeting style. First we're going to have a presentation from the Communications Committee looking at how Wellesley social life is presented to prospective students.

Anna Gerstmeyer, Tower: Hi, I'm Anna. We looked at information online and in books at what prospective students are learning about Wellesley. Most of the quotes are from websites quoted from Wellesley students or counselors. *"The Wellesley weekend diaspora, in which students disappear into Boston's many nooks and crannies..."* (*collegeproowler.com*)

Clare Kim: These are a few quotes about how current Wellesley students feel about going to school. This slide has to do with the variety of activities at Wellesley. 33% thought every night could be different at Wellesley. *"The biggest advantage to social life at Wellesley is that Boston is nearby. Without this option, it would be very difficult to stay on campus and maintain sanity."* (*vault.com*) This pertains to the nightlife at Wellesley. 50 percent thought it was mostly just weekends. 20% thought it was a lot of movie nights. Basically, most of the campus thought Boston was the outlet for partying. 90% partied one to two nights per week. And this is a final quote that sums up the feeling about social life at Wellesley. *"To be honest, most parties on campus suck. There seems to be a choice (socially speaking) between hearing a lecture at 7:00 pm at Pendleton...or going to be groped by drunken frat [boys] at [an on campus] party... Otherwise, my friends and I head off campus for social interactions."* (*College Prowler*)

Victoria Charoonratana, Davis: So now we're going to address participation in campus events. *"There are events for every kind of interest there exists from religious to gay and lesbian. There are, naturally, a number of major national sororities and other types of*

Greek clubs on the campus as well as a number of 'society houses'." (vault.com). "There are infrequent parties on campus. When groups do plan parties, they all happen to fall on the same night.~ This means there may be four parties one night and none for the rest of the night." (studentsreview.com)

I thought that all of these activities are affiliated with a certain organization. The survey showed that 40 percent thought that they go when they can; some said they go when they can. This shows a lot of positive viewpoints about the current events that are available. 40 percent said they were proud to be at Wellesley, 30 percent said they were proud in their hearts. *"It's definitely tougher, but hey it's also why I have such strong friendships with my Wellesley sisters -- one of the best parts about Wellesley is the strong bond between all graduates."* (vault.com)

Anna Gerstmeyer, Tower: A lot of people are disappointed to be at Wellesley. One of the important things that we found is that there is a lot of information about student life on the website, but there is not a social life webpage, which may be because there isn't a good image of social life, it is hard for prospective students to get a positive idea about it. I'm a first-year so through the MyWellesley portal, I got a lot of information about grades and my roommate, but there was no information on social life. There was a lot of information on how close we are to Boston and it's fantastic, but it doesn't mention that it takes so long to get there with traffic. When you do come to visit Wellesley as a prospective, you interact with SARs, and one thing is with the guidelines, is it possible for the SARs to give an accurate representation of Wellesley with the rules about expressing your opinion. There is an underlying message. You aren't allowed to compare Wellesley to other colleges – so you can say that a lot of students go to MIT and Harvard on the weekends, but you can't say that's because there isn't a lot to do on-campus. Also, while you are allowed to talk about your disappointments, they're supposed to be neutral and you can't fully express your dissatisfaction. Everyone comes to Wellesley for the academics, but social life is also important.

Jeanne Amy, DOOCA: So we just heard some interesting information from outside sources, which was interesting, but was from sources outside of the college –online and in books. This survey, the CG Social Life Survey, did show some very interesting ideas and results from right now from our students directly. These are specific responses. Remember this is what some of your sisters said, so be kind and respectful of all of the responses.

Malina Swiatek, CPLA Chair: So as Jeanne said, the survey is anonymous, but we don't have to be, so we're Malina, Jeanne, and Natalie. I'm here to talk about the survey methodology. To give you background, our goals were fit to making the survey. We posted the survey to Firstclass conferences. There are several multiple-choice questions and open response section which were not guided; this was meant to start a conversation. This presentation is based on the open-ended responses, not on the answers to the questions, although you have those results in front of you as a handout.

Natalie Ross, Secretary/Treasurer: I want to mention why we thought this survey was important. As cabinet, this year we wanted to look at why it is that people say that the best thing about being at Wellesley is being an alum. This survey went out because a lot of people complain about social life, but there were also a lot of good responses about social life so some people are happy with their current social life at Wellesley and that is important to remember. Throughout the survey open-ended results, we found several different trends, both positive and negative.

Malina Swiatek, CPLA Chair: One of the first positive trends that we picked out was *“My social life is great because I’m surrounded by great, fun people. I also go off campus a lot to participate in activities at other schools.”* This represents some of the themes that it is nice to have some quiet here, and also on campus friends make this place very comfortable, and there are a lot of off campus events.

Jeanne Amy, DOOCA: The second main thing we found was that the Hoop and the Pub played a large role in people’s responses. It’s not just about alcohol. The pub is not just for a drink. *“I think that the only place I have fun on campus is Punch’s Alley, otherwise I go off-campus...From doing homework there or just hanging out with friends and watching a band on weekdays to going to the really well planned parties on weekends, it’s the one guaranteed place to escape the emotional/academic turmoil Wellesley can inflict on the student body.”* I think it was great to see that students supported each other in the different student co-ops on campus. These are different types of social scenes that are provided by these students who work hard in these co-ops.

Natalie Ross, Secretary/Treasurer: The third thing we saw was the society parties and people talking about how the best parties are from the societies, which don’t get enough support. There were several responses mentioning that without the societies, people would feel like they have little to no social life on campus.

Jeanne Amy, DOOCA: There were some negative trends too, 5 in particular. The first was the necessity to party off campus. This relates to Anna’s point about the diaspora of Wellesley students into Boston. The problem is there are a lot of dangers, specifically the danger of drinking off campus. *“I wish we had more stress-relieving activities like dances or larger scale parties on campus. My main qualm is that I feel unsafe drinking in most off-campus situations, but on campus I am always afraid of the repercussions, regardless of whether or not I am legal. I wish there were a healthy attitude towards alcohol without having to completely eliminate it from our campus.”*

People feel there is no choice but to go off-campus, and they don’t feel safe there. Our second trend relates to how difficult it is to bring people here if you don’t want to go off-campus.

Natalie Ross, Secretary/Treasurer: People really felt that it would be better to have more off-campus guests at on-campus events. People want to interact with other people, but not necessarily in large parties with alcohol. A lot of comments were about how there is nothing to do with people from off campus once you bring them here on campus. The biggest thing we saw was not necessarily regarding the administration or student

organizations and their role in social life on campus, but about the problems students have with not supporting each other's abilities to have fun.

Malina Swiatek, CPLA Chair: This topic came up on community recently because there is a problem with having small parties in dorm rooms on campus. Students need to support one another's social life, is what we were told. *"Plenty of fun can be had without alcohol and the college should support that too, but so should other students. Students on this campus do not support one another. When a neighbor is loud, students call the cops on her instead of asking her to quiet down. Why is this? If we knew each other, this wouldn't be such a widespread problem."* It is important that we think about whether students take the degree of quiet on campus too far. What is our role in improving social life with one another?

Jeanne Amy, DOOCA: A fourth theme is that people generally found little community in their dorms, which meant they feel like there is little social life. *"It all starts with dorm life: when there is no sense of community in the dorm it is very difficult to feel a strong sense of social life. As a first-year, I have had tremendous difficulty finding people to attend events with. I personally believe it is because I have yet to feel like I'm part of Wellesley's community. I hope this survey shows that I am not the only first-year in this predicament."* When you don't know the people in your dorm, you are more likely to call campus police on people because they're loud. The division between those who are 21 and those who aren't can be increased as well. If you don't feel comfortable in your room partying because of noise concerns, there is a lot of pressure to not party there. And then where do you go?

Natalie Ross, Secretary/Treasurer: The fifth trend is not about the administration, but about people's inability to balance work and academics with social life. *"Any dissatisfaction I might have with Wellesley's social life has less to do with the school's formal offerings and more to do with the fact that everyone is so stressed out all the time, which isn't really conducive to having fun. Balance doesn't seem to be a strength here."* Obviously, there is a lot of academic pressure, and whereas other colleges have a work hard, party hard mentality, but we don't seem to have that here, according to these survey results. Before we open for the town hall meeting, we also have some final thoughts. We hope these will guide how we look at this issue in our open discussion.

Malina Swiatek, CPLA Chair: There were a lot of extreme feelings expressed in the survey. *"I am satisfied with my social life, but it has nothing to do with Wellesley. As soon as class is over on Friday, a few close friends and I get the hell away from here and a lot of times don't come back until Sunday night. It's a dead pit of hell."* This is in contrast to the response *"Wellesley is pretty quiet on the weekends and I love it. It's part of why I chose this school."* There is a love-hate relationship we all feel. Not everything is wrong and not everyone is unhappy, but we need to find a way that everyone can feel better.

Jeanne Amy, DOOCA: Another thing we noticed was that we were focused on alcohol last year, which was productive, but now we've seen with these responses that there is

something else. An absence of fun and excitement and programming is on-campus – there aren't just problems with alcohol. As one response said, *"I visit friends at other schools because even if there isn't a worthwhile party that night, there is the feeling of fun."* There is a lack of a sense of fun here on campus.

Natalie Ross, Secretary/Treasurer: Finally, we want you to think about what social life means to you. For a lot of people, social life is not just partying. An example is *"I define social life as having fun with my friends – seeing a movie, talking, cooking dinner together. There's plenty of that here at Wellesley and I really like it!"*

We encourage people to look at this as we go on because we don't want the people who are happy to be made unhappy. Finally, we thought this was a great quote, *"There could definitely be more large and small scale events. There could also be more creative events put on by the college (like painting and firing pottery) because clubs often can not afford to sponsor such an activity. That being said, I think much of the negativity about the social life here is off-base. No, the social environment is not the same as a co-ed school, but there are still social events on and off campus. Sometimes I think students convince themselves there is a poor social life here and so it becomes true."* This was raised in several people's comments, and we may need to create our own fun and not emulate others. Emily is going to talk about the format of the discussion before we go into it. We want to hear everyone's comments so we can take it all into account as we go forward.

Emily Oxford, CGP: Hi everyone, before we get started I want to introduce myself. I'm Emily Oxford. I would also like to introduce the rest of Cabinet: Shayla, Tiffany, Malina, Jeanne, Elaine, Natalie, Cortni, Yang, and Elizabeth, the parliamentarian. Please try to be brief and line up at the mike. Who wants to start? And before you speak, please introduce yourself and say what class you're in.

Amy Wang, 2009: So Wellesley's problem seems to be because it is an all-women's college, small and suburban. Have you ever thought of introducing the same survey to other schools so we can see what the problem is – is it Wellesley? Or can we isolate one of those factors?

Emily Oxford, CGP: We haven't started expanding the survey – we just started it in January. We did go to Smith College as a cabinet in October and we had conversations with the College Governments of the existing Seven Sisters and I think it is unique here at Wellesley, to be honest. Even when we were at Smith we went to a party in a house and their house party was well attended and people were tied to each other and where they lived manifested itself in their social life. I know Wellesley does have a unique collection of issues that lead to our social life.

Cortni Jones, Student Bursar: I was talking to a professor who said that the day we go co-ed and go to Boston, it will solve all our problems. We can't fix these problems so let's focus on what we can change. There is something about Wellesley that is different and I think that focusing on things that is impossible to change won't necessarily help.

Joan Huang, 2007: I have general comment about balance. I know we are trying to emphasize that at Wellesley, especially with the first years this year, but part of the problem is that we have such an isolationist culture and even more directly, it has to do with the ways students compartmentalize their lives. They make their social life very separate from their academics and at college, academics take precedence. When people say, academics are very important, they push social life aside and are upset with it. So let's be innovative and approach it differently – you can't just make new parties. I think if we try to blend the areas of lives more – encourage social interaction in academics, organizations or sports, it might help.

Aileen Hagerman, 2010: I had a few general questions about large-scale parties. There aren't so many large-scale parties, so what are the financial costs associated with large scale parties and are they restrictive? Why are they if they are?

Jeanne Amy, DOOCA: I can answer this question. The party costs depend on the type of party – such as custodial costs, having beer or kegs at your party, it really depends on how you envision your large-scale parties. There were a few responses on the survey clearly from organizations that can't afford to have a large party if they want to have alcohol, or they couldn't handle extra custodial fees. Yes cost is a huge issue as I see it for other students to plan parties.

Emily Oxford: When we mentioned large scale parties and events in this survey, we were referring to events like the old Tower Court and the old Dyke Ball because they are classic events that have faded away. And they are traditionally very expensive, but like the TZE party that was in Tishman this weekend was like \$600, max and we had beer.

Hanna Heller, 2009: I am an RA in Tower and if Wellesley is where fun comes to die, Tower is where community curls up in the fetal position and doesn't come out of her room. I think it is hard and it is a valid point that if we don't come together as a community, we can't be friends and have a good party culture. My hallway is especially difficult because over half of the hall is seniors and they are on one end, opposite from the first years. If you have any thoughts or can think of a way to bring your hall together, let your RA know because it plagues us all. And yes, it is my job to bring us all together, but there is only so much RAs can do if people don't talk to their neighbors. Get to know your neighbors because that's not the RA's job.

Emily: Back at you, Hannah – what are your biggest challenges as an RA? You mentioned having a lot of seniors on the floor, but what would make your job easier to foster community on your floor?

Hanna: I've had seniors on the floor give parties and they haven't necessarily invited the underclasswomen, but they have asked them nicely not to call campus po and I thought that was nice. I'm not going to lie – they block together on one end of the hall and the other end is for first years, and as a programmer, it's hard to have programs that apply for both.

Rosa Lafer-Sousa, 2009: I'm also an RA and I was sad to see the slide that people don't feel like there is a sense of community in the dorms. I live in Beebe and we have a lot of community and I think it has to do with having a lot of people who live in the same dorm for many years. And with our housing lottery we should revisit the opportunity to stay where you are if you're happy – I know at Smith there is a lot more continuity with the place you live and they have the better sense of social life, so if it starts in the dorms, and it's not working, let's look there at our housing lottery. The idea that some people are stressed and if you see them, you're stressed, is so strong here. And in our living room, we are so quiet, you could hear a pin drop, and in the campus center I shuffle – every one does homework everywhere – something needs to change about that, like you shouldn't lock yourself in your room, but we should revisit making this space more conducive to fun and loudness. Maybe a stereo system with music in the campus center.

Emily: I love you Rosa because this housing lottery issue is something Cabinet has thought about and we are very interested in looking at how it can be reevaluated and it is true – you need to be happy with where you live to have a community. We hope to have some progress with that soon.

Rebecca Gold, 2008: I am a TZE member and was on SBOG. I think that part of the reason why people in the last four years have seen the fun on campus decline is because we expected these Wellesley traditions to continue and they haven't. I have been emphasizing the needs for tower court and dyke ball, but I know there are problems with the administration. But I also think there are problems with us not having classes on Lake Day – bring that back. I think having a balance of events – like teas in the dorms, and step-singing if we focused on teaching those songs during orientation- might make more community and make it more fun. To bring people on-campus in a non-party way, an idea would be to have charity events. We have derby days at MIT for TZE with an MIT fraternity and if we had groups on campus to organize something like that with Harvard, MIT, BU etc. it would help you meet people. I think when you came to Wellesley, you knew it wouldn't be a big party atmosphere, but I know we like the idea of balance. And I know SBOG has been encouraging co-sponsorship of groups to address the costs of a large party. I also think it's important to have a calendar that people know how to use for events – because we see table tents, but I never know what is happening, because there are too many tents, and a calendar would be more organized and get more people to go to on-campus event. And music in the dining halls.

Emily Oxford: We agree with you about the calendar. Who wants to click through R25 to see all that? Also, when we were talking about Lake Day, I did research about not having classes on Lake Day, and apparently it is up to the College President to make decisions such as those, and a lot of you will be here next year, so if you want to talk about that, put that on your agenda because we used to not have classes on lake day.

Amy Wang, 2009: This is more of a response to what Hannah asked. I have a fabulous RA and our entire hall hangs out together – her programs are knocking on everyone's door and playing Pictionary in the hall. But the one problem I have with that is what Res Hall says is a good RA, compared to what we think a good RA is. My RA takes the first

years out in her social life, but she puts herself at risk, because if they come home at the same time and make noise, someone could call the police, and she would get in trouble. I would like RAs to feel encouraged.

Margaret Walkup, 2007: I am the general manager of the pub. First of all, thanks for you responses about the pub– they mean so much to us because we work really hard. I wanted to make two quick points. If you’re under 21, you are welcome in the pub. And as far as prices for parties, you can have a party in the pub for completely free as long as it is open to everyone.

Siobhan O’Keefe, 2009: I wanted to say hi to Rosa and thank you because I love Beebe. First on step-singing, I know the alum association has gotten all the a capella groups on campus to record them, put the songs on CDs, and give them to the first years next years, so this is the time to bring back step singing. This is your chance. I think we should have a lake day letter writing campaign to the college president next year. I love this campus center – but we don’t need a campus center we need a student center- with comfy couches, ping pong, pool, foosball, cable TV, with a no homework sign. Something for students, not for the whole community and families with kids. Somewhere just for us.

Cortni Jones: But there are no quiet hours in the campus center.

Siobhan O’Keefe: This is still a center for organizations to do business, there are people in the Ville, this is for the campus, and students need a place just for us to relax.

Melanie Carter, 2007: I have a comment about the lack of large-scale parties on campus – when there are lots of small parties, they are small. I think the old parties were wonderful because everyone was partying and it was so loud and you had to party. And now Ethos and other cultural organization’s parties aren’t very integrated and I would hate to see this trend continue with segregated parties. I also feel this campus is over-lectured – there are too many lectures, and there is so much funding for lectures. But if you want to throw a party, there is nowhere to go. For Ethos, we have funds to do events but other organizations don’t – I want there to be a “Fun Fund” like there is at MIT.

Julia Schroeder, 2009: I just was really struck by the people who talked about being isolated and I think the only other college I have to go on is MIT and they have student lounges by major and department. A lot of discussion was brought about that in regards to Schneider –there could be a tutor, or a no-homework zone, but there should be a loud place for students to study – to collaborate with people and work together in groups.

Emily Oxford: I would encourage everyone to be loud in the campus center – who cares, someone might give you a dirty look, but culture change starts with us, so if we want the campus center to be loud, we have to be loud. I am happy here – this is my happy place- I study in my room or the library. I come here to chill or have a beer at the pub – if you don’t want it to be a study place, don’t study here!

Joyce Chen, 2009: I am on SBOG and the CSA social chair – and we haven't had any social events yet. We are having our cultural show this Saturday but we don't have funds for an after party and we don't want it in Alumnae, so where do we do that if Tishman is booked?

Cortni Jones: To address the party money system, we are changing the SOFC funding process so there will be more flexibility for funding for whatever you want – it won't be solely for a specific lecture. Currently, you **can** apply for a party – we pay for custodial, DJ, mixers, including a lot of the after-parties for cultural shows. Funding is related to things other colleges pay for. SOFC visits other SOFCs at other schools because we want to see how good or bad we are. We went to BC and no orgs get charged for custodial events – if you didn't have to worry about that, it would shave \$500 off the cost of your party. It is interesting that a lot of the costs aren't related to a DJ or something – it wouldn't be that bad, so we are adding flexibility to the budgeting process so it will better and custodial fees shouldn't be such a burden

Krystal Walker, 2008: I feel like the administration is being punched in the face. I do want to say thanks to all the efforts that administration makes. I know when the party ban started, they didn't want to kill fun but protect the school from lawsuits. Building fun on Wellesley starts with you – you have to go out and make your own fun. You can go and dance in the living room with me – I'm not that bad of a dancer. People need to look at themselves when they say there is no fun because you have to get out of your room – it's not that there aren't fun things to do. Invite your guy friends here – they can come hang out and make noise in the Lulu. Lynne does a good job about stressing that the Lulu is a fun place.

Emily Oxford: I want to echo the thank you to the administration – there are a lot of you here and thanks for coming out. Thank you for coming to hear these concerns.

Christina Miller, 2007: I wanted to address the issue of the lack of spontaneity on campus. Everything here is so scheduled and everyone feels like they are scheduled or need to be. If I want to do something with my friends I have to plan it a week in advance even if it is on the weekends. I think the first year you should know how to balance and have good time-management, but you should also learn to do things just for the hell of it.

Victoria Charoonratana 2009: I just had two issues about housing that I had questions about. In my experience, housing is a huge part of how you find your friends first year. I have a friend who alienated herself her first year because of her roommate – has roommate pairing been looked at? Also, have you looked at rooming allocation by class-upper class women tend to be quieter than upper class women, especially in Stone Davis in general, first year doubles are smaller than single seniors, but that might be resolved if we looked at how classes are housed within the residential halls. Have these processes been looked at? I thought the first year roommate survey was really short and I expected it to be more thorough and a lot of situations could arise where there would be problems based on the lack of information.

Kris Niendorf, Director of Housing: The hard part is when we try to match roommates, the more questions we ask, the harder it is to find a match. We try to narrow it down to what matters to us – we don't ask about hobbies, because I don't know if anyone has hobbies anymore, but we ask about music. If we go beyond that, it's too hard to find a match. If you have more questions, let me know, and we'll look at adding them to the survey, but the hard part is that we're matching pieces of paper, and did you really answer the questions or did your parents answer the questions? There are lots of problems with the current system.

Cortni Jones, Student Bursar: Why is there a room freeze for first years? Why can't you move before you unpack everything? People choose to stay in their rooms instead of just moving across campus because it's impossible without a car. If it's just a piece of paper, it's being insulated by other structures around it.

Emily Oxford, College Government President: Has there been any thought to using the MyWellesley portal for roommate selection processes? I don't know how I feel about first years choosing their own roommate, but that might be an idea. And for people that aren't first years, there was the MyWellesley portal online this way and it was a way for incoming students to get to know about each other and learn about Wellesley before arriving on campus.

Carline Phillips, 2010: I feel there is a huge gap between the people who want to party and who want their halls silent and it's hard if you're in the middle. Sometimes I see people on my floor who've never partied so they go off campus and go crazy and lose control. I was wondering if there is a way to have parties on campus as a safe space and have it okay to have parties somewhere in the middle, for people who have never partied before to be comfortable and to learn how to party.

Emily Oxford, College Government President: I think the biggest part of that is that after orientation week, people rush and get wasted at MIT and that sets the tone for unhealthy partying on campus. But I think there is a well-received myth that there is a huge divide – but I would like to hypothesize that we're all in the middle – it's more of a spectrum. We're all over the place, but when you feel that myth approaching, tell yourself it's not the truth and we're all just somewhere in the middle.

Caroline Phillips, 2010: For me, it's a feeling that you should be able to party on your hall, but fun and quiet hours are so strongly divided in my hall.

Lauren Brown, 2009: I guess I want to talk about housing. We said community is a big problem – and I can look at friends that lived in the quad, and the quad is more community based, and her floor was mainly first years, they usually had their doors open, and then sophomore year, they live on the same floor and they have that community still. Can residential life think about having all first year floors? I know it's unique that we mix dorms with class years, but what if there were just first year floors? You can still have other floors mixed, but first year floors would be good.

Cassie Campbell, 2009: I wanted to talk about transportation. Can we extend the last bus on Sundays until later? We don't need curfews, we're adults. And maybe we should think about having a bus to take us to different schools – we have so many schools around us and we can't get to them without a car – if you don't know someone with a car, there is no way to get there. And secondly, the people in the quad, they say such wonderful stories – Beebe has a shirt - and I think that maybe we should have a peer-to-peer evaluation to see what is going great in other dorms and adopt those things in other dorms – so we don't feel jealous of the quad. And also, related to the Wang, I had a couple of friends at the Wang, and campus police got called and we thought it wasn't necessary because we just wanted to hang out and watch TV and play pool. We should have signs that it is okay to talk and not do homework here.

Emily Oxford, CGP: As far as the bus goes, I don't have a magic wand, but the man in charge in of buses is Peter Eastment, there is the transportation conference and SOAC reps that you can send comments, complaints, and ideas to.

Yang Qiu, CGVP: Peter Eastment is the head of housing and transportation. Cassie stole my point about transportation but additionally – there is a need for us to hold transportation accountable. We need to review the system that is in place in order to make improvements. I have had experiences of waiting for three hours after eating out and not being able to catch a bus, because it never showed up. Obviously no one is going to answer the phone from the transportation office on the weekend, but is the administration going to look at that unless we tell them? Also, it was a rainy Friday at 6 and everyone wanted to get off-campus, have dinner, meet up with friends, and two buses came by, they were both full, and no one was allowed to get on. Everyone was waiting in the rain. And by then no one was answering the phone again. I have had those instances personally and many have had the same experiences -getting out of Wellesley is also part of our social life and we need to get off campus sometimes if we have time. If we don't have a chance to get out how can we find a balance?

Dean Michelle Lepore: If Peter were here, he would say to email him when there is a problem. If people have problems, we need to know about them. Please email us with specific problems – date, time, location, everything.

Cortni Jones, Student Bursar: Every Friday, every 6:00 bus.

Joan Huang, 2007: I want to talk about first year roommates. I think part of the college experience is meeting new people and I don't think we should encourage people to choose their own roommates. I am very similar to my roommate in some ways but very different in others and me and my roommate are best friends. Also, I am co-captain of the squash team – when I came here I didn't think about sports. I took a gym class for squash and then tried out for the team and I'm still here. Athletics really creates a balance – I encourage everyone to participate in organized athletics. I have so many friends from the team and from athletics – if you have a chance, take that class or join that club because you never know if it'll be right for you.

Aileen Hagerman, 2010: I wanted to bring up the question about the effect of hall residence on dorms. Has it been discussed to have dorms with specific interests – quiet floors or quiet dorms – or the reverse? It is really important to address those issues.

Emily Oxford, College Government President: I asked Kris Niendorf about this last night – and in the past, they tried, and they only got a few people interested in each one, so I don't know. Never say never, but it has been tried in the past and it didn't work.

Anna Gerstmeyer, 2010: Hannah Heller is my resident advisor and she's really good. But one of the huge issues is that the RAs don't get enough money to do funding and programming. I have a floor where there is a wing of seniors and a wing of the freshmen and it's hard to put on stuff when there's no money to do anything. Also, I really hope that somehow we can put something on the website about social life, because I didn't know I was coming to Wellesley until the beginning of August, and I didn't know what the social life would be. I hadn't talked to anyone. I feel like for some students, it is easy if they've been here and done SOC, but for others, it's hard to know what they're getting into.

Paola Reyes, 2009: I agree that our transportation system could be improved. Last year the administration complained there wasn't enough funding to improve the system, but maybe the funding can be redistributed so there can be an online system so people could know when the buses were late – that would be pretty helpful and it might encourage people to get off-campus more.

Cortni Jones, Student Bursar: One really exciting thing – this is the first year departments on campus can budget for the next year – the college is interested in moving money to priorities – so if you make it a priority – they will respond by moving money there. This will be responsive without just rolling money over year to year – this is the time to make changes and it is the first year we're going to make priorities and change budgeting. Would you pay \$2.50 to take the senate bus if you could go to BC? If you pay more, maybe we could get more?

Rosa Lafer-Sousa, 2009: With transportation, I think it's great to contact Peter Eastment, but one thing is that we got the Olin shuttle during the day – and one of the biggest things is that we were working with Olin students. If you have friends at these schools that you want to go to, if you can get the two administrations talking, you can maybe have another school to invest in that system. You'll also have more people who are supporting you in that relationship. And also, I know that student co-ops on campus are in theory student run, but because there was an overwhelming address to how cool The “Hub” is, I don't know what the college can do, but if we can look at how those co-ops need help – they're super cool and appreciated, so how can the administration help them out?

Sarah Gilligan, 2009: I wanted to address physical activity and athletics on campus. Maybe part of the problem is the facilities – we need more ellipticals, treadmills, bikes in the sports center. It is hard to have to wait half an hour or more to get on a machine when you get to the sports center – it makes me not want to go. I know it's great that

recreational aerobics has lessons in Freeman and it was a pain last year to walk to the sports center from the East side. But in general, more funding needs to go to the sports center and facilities.

Emily Oxford, College Government President: I think we've all heard the need for more equipment and facilities, in general. Our new athletic director is fabulous and has been listening to everyone, and she has worked with the Office of Resources to send out a mailing to former athletes, and they are trying to rally the funds to deal with athletics improvements. Another thing as far as hours go at the Sports Center, the hours have been extended this year until spring break and if they are successful, they may be extended for a longer period of time.

Natalie Ross, College Government Secretary/Treasurer: Also, there were several responses in the survey about the desire for intramural sports where you can go and pick up a quick game of something or be involved in a sport without a long-term commitment to it.

Jeanne Amy, DOOCA: I have a few announcements from SBOG! The Decemberists are coming March 29th – tickets are free for Wellesley College students in advance – please email the “Decemberists Ticket Requests” conference and reserve your tickets. Tickets for off-campus students will be \$25 through Ticketmaster or you can buy them on-campus. Also, SBOG is planning many fun things for the rest of the semester, including spring week, which will be announced soon due to some minor complications. There are also a lot of different events – Marathon Monday, an additional spring concert other than the Decemberists, and another party. I don't do this alone, but if the Sboggies could stand, let's give them a round of applause. SBOG has been great this year. And don't forget to email and get your tickets in advance for the Decemberists!

Emily Oxford, College Government President: Before we all leave, I would like to thank Natalie, Malina, and Jeanne for putting together the survey and compiling the final information. Also, Anna, Clare, and Victoria for the research about what prospective students learn about Wellesley – I hope you felt like this was a valuable forum today and thanks for coming – non-Senators and Senators alike! And it is not too late to run for a cabinet position if you are interested!! Statements of intent and candidate contracts will be due Friday – you can contact me, Emily Oxford, or Malina Swiatek if you have questions: we are the chairs of the Elections committee. So thank you for coming – this was really successful!