

Senate Agenda
November 27, 2006
Academic Council Room- 4th Green Hall
6:00 PM

I. Roll Call

II. Old Business

- A. Cortni Jones – Student Bursar: Lecture Funding #3 Allocations (3 min, 2 min?s)
- B. Shayla Adams - MAC: CWDI Constitutional Changes (3 min, 2 min?s)

III. New Business

- A. Yang Qiu – CGVP: SOAC Constitutional Changes (5 min, 5 min?s)
- B. Emily Oxford - CGP: CG Constitutional Changes (5 min, 5 min?s)

IV. Open Discussion

- A. Lynne Payson, Campus Center Manager, and Robin Miller, Student Rep to Campus Center Advisory Board: Campus Center (10 min, 10 min?s)

IV. Dean's Corner: Kris Niendorf, Director of Residential and Student Life (5 min, 10 min?s)

V. Beyond the Bubble: Malina Swiatek – CPLA Chair. (8 min)

VI. Adjourn

Estimated Time: 1 hour 30 minutes

Emily Oxford, College Government President (CGP): We have quorum – yes! Thanks for coming – we have a lot of constitutional business so if we didn't have quorum we'd have to have a really long senate in the future. I wanted to announce that SLAM was very successful and I wanted to thank everyone who helped. We made over \$2,500 dollars including President Walsh's matching donations so thanks for helping. Now we'll go to Old Business with Cortni Jones, our Student Bursar.

Cortni Jones, Student Bursar: I am here to have you vote on the process for Lecture Funding Number 3. The two remaining deadlines for Lecture Funding are February 11 and March 6. There is no retroactive funding for events and you can only apply for lecture funding once per event. A total of \$13,269.88 was given out and that was less than what we had set aside to give out which is good because it means there will be more money to give out for the next two deadlines. We are here to vote on the process of this funding. Is there a motion or questions?

Malina Swiatek, Committee for Political and Legislative Action (CPLA) Chair: I motion that we approve SOFC's Third Lecture Funding Process.

Emily Oxford, CGP: The motion on the floor is to approve SOFC's Lecture Funding #3 Process. The motion carries. Thank you, Cortni. Next we will have a member of Campus-Wide Diversity Initiative (CWDI) stepping in for Shayla Adams, the Multicultural Affairs Coordinator (MAC).

Kaitlin McGraw, CWDI Publicist: A couple weeks ago CWDI proposed a change to its constitution that would put representatives from cultural organizations on campus on CWDI and this was voted on at your House Councils. Are there any questions?

Sabina Khan, Stone: I move to approve the CWDI Constitutional Changes.

Emily Oxford, CGP: The motion on the floor is to approve the CWDI Constitutional Changes. The motion carries. So next we will be moving to new business with Yang Qiu, our College Government Vice President (CGVP), who will present SOAC Constitutional business.

Yang Qiu, College Government Vice President (CGVP): Once again, I am the chair of SOAC and here with me are Blair Edwards and Jackie Moon, and we are going to present our proposed Constitutional changes. Now for a brief background. As you know, each organization has a constitution that governs that organization. Our constitution is 21 pages long and lays out the principles for SOAC to operate under. Since this fall we have formed a constitutional review subcommittee to see if our constitution as it presently exists is working properly. The committee is headed by Blair Edwards and Jackie Moon. After reviewing the constitution, we have found that it does not account for operational or procedural processes and there is potential for inconsistency in these procedures from year to year so we decided to create a handbook to record SOAC's operational procedures. With this new handbook, we hope to create efficiency and keep procedures consistent from year to year.

Blair Edwards, SOAC: On the handouts, it lists Article 6 of the old constitution. There are pertinent bullet points under that point for Meetings, Constituting Student Organizations, and Placement of Students on Campus Committees.

Jackie Moon, SOAC: We are adding Article G, which will add a “Use of Committee Policy Handbook” section which states two things. First, “SOAC shall conduct its business according to more detailed procedures outlined in the SOAC Policy Handbook.” Second, “Any change in the Handbook shall be passed by the committee by a majority vote with three-fourths of the committee members present.”

Cortni Jones, Student Bursar: I have problems with how this amendment is worded right now. First, I would like these Handbook changes to be presented to Senate even if the changes aren’t passed by Senate. Also, I would like to see the original and the changes publicized in paper and in electronic form. Also, I would like to see more than three-fourths of the committee present so there is more accountability to the larger community. I’m not sure how I feel about this but do *you* feel this is transparent and do you think it is accountable to students at large if the Handbook changes are kept within the committee.

Yang Qiu, CGVP: If you recall, the constitutional quorum is three-fourths present so we are going with the College Government quorum requirement. I would like everyone to be present, but we are meeting the quorum as followed by CG. I can ask the chair of the committee to stress that everyone has to be there to pass these changes. I also agree that this handbook should be transparent and accessible for everyone because I think it is important for the campus community to know, understand, and have access to SOAC procedures. I think we will publicize changes in the Handbook to Senate. At this time, I will take this feedback back and see if we can incorporate that under this section. Are there any other comments or suggestions for me?

Tiffany Sirc, Chief Justice: I was wondering whether or not the policy book has been written yet, and if it hasn’t been written yet, then why we would be voting on it now and having a gap between voting on something that hasn’t actually been created yet?

Yang Qiu, CGVP: Right now, SOAC is operating under different procedures that aren’t recorded. We are asking to make that change so that we will start recording our procedures that we are already using and put it into a handbook.

Blair Edwards, SOAC: It is essentially recording the procedures that SOAC has already been using and that we have been asking you to vote on throughout the year. We hope the creation of the handbook would make these procedures more accessible to the college community.

Tiffany Sirc, Chief Justice: Redirect: But has the handbook been made?

Yang Qiu, CGVP: Not yet, but once we get approval, we will go ahead and map out what we want to do. We didn’t feel comfortable creating the book until we had the constitutional changes approved.

Sabina Khan, Stone: You said the things that are recorded in the handbook would be the procedures that SOAC already uses. Isn't that already in the constitution?

Yang Qiu, CGVP: Yes those are in the constitution. The procedural things we want to add are the more day to day business, because we do more than approving organizations and interviewing representatives to campus committees. We think that it is important for these day to day procedures are important to be consistent from year to year because it affects outcomes of many things SOAC does.

Siobhan O'Keefe, Beebe: The procedures concerning appointing representatives to campus committees are going to go in the policy book?

Yang Qiu, CGVP: There are two big procedures in our constitutions: the one for constituting new organizations and for making student appointments to campus committees. We aren't changing those procedures, we are just recording our day to day business.

Liz Marlow, Parliamentarian: How have you decided to follow the procedure that you have been following?

Yang Qiu, CGVP: We have been following precedents that are not written down.

Cordelia Chansler, Shafer: It is true that the scoring of an interview is in the constitution, but not other details, correct?

Yang Qiu, CGVP: The constitution lays out the overall guidelines and principles for constituting organizations or making student appointments to campus committees. And the details of these procedures are more trivial and nitty-gritty and shouldn't be in the constitution because the constitution should only contain SOAC's guiding principles.

Blair Edwards, SOAC: I mean when I said that there would be policies you vote on in the handbook, they will just be the written down version of procedures that are already in use by SOAC.

Emily Oxford, CGP: You want to get this amendment to your constitution approved by Senate, and then you will write the handbook. In the meantime, the current policies will still be followed. I am confused because you said that nitty-gritty details do not need to be in the constitution. So if this passes, and then you make the handbook, do you plan on removing the nitty-gritty from the current constitution?

Yang Qiu, CGVP: That is what we are planning on doing.

Cortni Jones, Student Bursar: I would like to see a limit on what kinds of things can be put into this policy handbook because you could call things nitty-gritty that are actually crucial to the functioning of the entire process. For example, at Boston College they don't even publish their policy handbook and no one knows what is in it, I don't want that to happen at Wellesley. What

do you think about putting a limitation on what can and can't be removed from the constitution and what must be passed through House Councils and Senate?

Sabina Khan, Stone: I think the trouble we're having is that when I think of SOAC, all I think of constituting organizations and appointing people to campus committees so I don't really know what you do in your day to day business.

Jackie Moon, SOAC: What we are doing, for example, is for the interview process we rank organizations on a 1 to 7 scale, it is a day-to-day process, and it doesn't need to be in our constitution.

Yang Qiu, CGVP: Basically, take the interview process. The outline for the procedure is required for student representative to campus committee candidates to submit their application and then we conduct interviews, score them, and send them notification. That will stay intact because it is the backbone of the process. But what fluctuates a lot is the scoring guidelines. For example, we have 1 to 7, but from year to year the interpretation for what is a 1 and what is a 7 fluctuates. We are trying to record the day-to-day business and specific details to allow for procedural consistency from year to year.

Sabina Khan, Stone: So basically, it isn't different business, just details of the main processes actually being written down.

Yang Qiu, CGVP: We aren't introducing anything new or changing any processes, but we are just putting down in writing what we already do.

Claire Lin, Pomeroy: What would remain in the constitution that isn't nitty-gritty?

Yang Qiu, CGVP: The big guidelines for the interview process, the application, interview, and scoring. We wouldn't change those at all in the constitution. I think that Cortni's suggestion will help us to clarify what will go into policy handbook and what can't be removed from the constitution.

Tiffany Sirc, Chief Justice: I move that we table this until we have a proposed draft of the handbook and the constitutional changes that would result from the handbook instead of doing this as a piece-meal process.

Emily Oxford, CGP: The motion is to postpone the vote until we have a proposed draft of the handbook and the constitutional changes that would allow for the creation of this handbook.

Cortni Jones, Student Bursar: I think if we give them to the end of the semester that would be more appropriate than making them create a whole handbook very quickly, something which is very time consuming and is at the present time a work in progress. I would like to set a deadline to come back with some changes to the proposed amendment. I move that SOAC bring back a more finalized and detailed amendment at our next senate on the 4th of December.

Yang Qiu, CGVP: Cortni's motion is for SOAC to take back the suggestions and feedback from today's senate and to amend the proposed changes to the constitution and bring it back to Senate to again ask for approval.

Emily Oxford, CGP: We need to vote on Tiffany's motion first so vote how you feel and how you think. The motion on the floor is to postpone the discussion until SOAC has a draft of a policy book and its foreseen constitutional changes outlined, as well as finalized constitutional change.

Liz Marlow, Parliamentarian: These two motions are mutually exclusive so if Tiffany's passes, we don't vote on Cortni's.

Amy Wang, Beebe: I call a Division of the House.

Emily Oxford, CGP: That vote fails. Now we will vote on Cortni's motion.

Malina Swiatek, CPLA Chair: Point of Parliamentary Procedure: For this motion, anyone can vote for this motion, regardless of how they voted on the last motion?

Liz Marlow, Parliamentarian: Yes.

Cortni Jones, Student Bursar: I will restate the motion: Next week, this time, this place, SOAC will have a proposed, more beautiful and thorough amendment, presented to Senate, the deadline being next Senate.

Emily Oxford, CGP: The motion has already been seconded. They will have an updated proposal for their amendment that takes into mind some of the concerns proposed tonight. The motion carries. I am excited that we are interested and I think it will be great. Next we have Malina Swiatek and she will be presenting changes to the CG Constitution.

Malina Swiatek, CPLA Chair: I am here presenting as a member of Cabinet regarding changes to CG Constitution. I will dance until everyone has a copy in front of them so we accommodate everyone. Now for me, if you look at article 4, section 3, letter K, this is the list of special interest organizations that sit in Senate. The list needs to be fixed. Number 13 was formerly Wellesley Lesbians, Bisexuals, Transgendered, and Friends, but they changed their name to Spectrum. Under Number 16 and Number 17, Democrats and Republicans were voted in and we are adding them in there. Moving down the list, finally under section 9, this is the Election, and we will strike the extra E because we go to Wellesley and we can spell. If you want to spell it differently, I respect that, I am non-partisan. This was introduced last year, and before that the election committee had less structure. The changes we made are on the other side. The problem with this is that the senior members of CG and outgoing cabinet members are redundant because seniors are outgoing, and then we changed it because it read it was necessary that all members of Cabinet should serve on the committee and there are reasons that someone on Cabinet may not want to run. And we wanted to make it so that people could apply for an exception for this, so we added " wording:" she will take her reasons into account and gauge whether she can fully and

effectively serve on the elections committee. Any questions or comments? I wish people would love me more and ask me questions.

Amy Jeffries, Republicans: You mentioned that a student might work on a campaign and not feel comfortable because they are working on that campaign, so shouldn't there be something in the constitutions that prevents that?

Malina Swiatek, CPLA Chair: There already is earlier in the document, but we didn't get all that wording to you. Basically, you have to be Malina and uninvolved, no posting, no campaigning, nothing.

Victoria Charoonaratana, Davis: A lot of times the committee is headed by more than the CG President, so why don't we add the co-chairs for receiving the letter too?

Emily Oxford, CGP: In the constitution, the co-chairs are the CPLA chair and CGP. However, if the junior CPLA chair would not like to serve on the election committee for whatever reason, and so I think the way it stands now allows for more flexibility as far as the cabinet is concerned. There are a lot of other people, non-cabinet members on the committee as well, so if it goes through the CGP, it makes more sense.

Malina Swiatek, CPLA Chair: If there was a person in my role who didn't feel comfortable serving, it would make more sense to submit it to the CGP because the CGP's membership falls under an earlier clause and she can't get out of it so she will be the constant that will always serve on the committee.

Tiffany Sirc, Chief Justice: One of the reasons you mention not wanting to be on the election committee is so you can back someone running. Is it wise to allow Cabinet with the influence they have, to allow them to back someone?

Malina Swiatek: I don't think we should be constitutionally prohibited from supporting someone on campus, but we do know about our roles and we can make our own decisions. I think most of us would choose not to be involved with a particular candidate or race, but I don't think it makes sense to outlaw it and silence someone for a certain period of time.

Paola Reyes, Munger: A friendly amendment, the period before the semi-colon, can we take it out?

Malina Swiatek: With the extra E? Gracias.

Jessica Stein, WEED: I was just looking over the organizational senators list and I was wondering why WEED wasn't there?

Malina Swiatek: We hate the environment? No, we will add that and then recycle this paper.

Hannah Heller, Student At Large: Could a junior member of cabinet serve on the election committee if she was not running for the next year? She would be considered outgoing?

Malina Swiatek: Yes. She would be required the way it is worded right now.

Victoria Charoonaratana, Student At Large: Aren't the co-chairs usually decided on beforehand? The CPLA Chair has traditionally been one, but isn't necessarily it, but the co-chairs would be decided on beforehand.

Malina Swiatek: The last clause explicitly states that the CPLA Chair will co-chair. If that happens, a reappointment will be made by CGP if the CPLA Chair doesn't serve, so if we have the letter go out through the CGP, it will make sure that is where the letter is going to.

Emily Oxford: I want to go over the friendly amendments. We are adding WEED as 18, it was an oversight, and we forgot to add it. And we are fixing the spelling of Election next to article 9, and removing the period before the semicolon. You will be voting on this in your groups. You aren't voting on SOAC changes, but you are voting on this. Next we have Lynne Payson and Robin Miller to present about one of my favorite buildings on campus – the Lulu.

Lynne Payson, Campus Center Building Manager: We only have a few minutes and I have a lot to go through. I was thinking about this moment last year and we were announcing about the campus center and we were focused on opening celebration and I was reflecting on what we were thinking about when we were opening up, and now there is no need to repeat that but I want to say it again. We are open 24 hours, we have wireless, and we are open to everyone. Some people have been running around saying there are no quiet hours in the campus center and we are trying to establish that as a building. That is different than other places on campus so we are trying to do that. We want to get feedback in general about how well we are making it a fun place for people to go. As long as everyone is safe, there are no rules – we do what we want and hope that it works. I feel we have a long way to go but we are getting closer to our mission of being a place where people come and hang out. We had hide and seek the other night and we have fun programs. Some highlights I want to focus on – the students activities office that was in Schneider has moved to the Campus Center and through a progression of spaces, has found its home in the campus center offices. And it has been one of the most monumental decisions made in the campus center. Robin will talk about the advisory board but it is a great and evolving board that recommends different policies. We have our new vendor program which went over fairly well first semester. I have talked do the Campus Center Manager about clarifying it better. So those of you representing orgs, if you can get the word out for next semester that would help. We have done things like the vending program, and vending program for students, and posting lack of policy, the College Government has a board now and all these things have come along the way and the best job is that we aren't governed by any rules and we're making things up as we go along and listening to people's needs. Some highlights are Family and Friends' meeting, Claude Steele lecture, Julian Bond Lecture, S'mores night, the SBOG frog, we are evolving our reservation process. I did a rough estimate of events and reservations because last year we weren't booking events at this time but I compared it to the spring. And we are up 15% from the spring for events and meetings in the campus center. We still have a lot of work to do, but if you have questions, you can ask them of me.

Robin Miller, Student Representative to Campus Center Advisory Board: I will read the list of the people serving on the board. My role is to represent everyone at Wellesley and make sure your voices are being heard. And that we are helping the campus center achieve its mission and that not only my personal views are being represented. If you have personal feedback, please email Lynne or me as well. You can look to me for that. And it is fun and there is good food and we have thrilling intelligent conversations and Lynn and I have a salon afterward. And the mission of the board is to make sure we are achieving the mission of the campus center and we want any feedback we can get.

Amy Wang, Beebe: You mentioned the new vendor program, what is that? How does someone sign up, what are details? Is it posted somewhere?

Lynne Payson: It is evolving, but in a nutshell, we bring vendors to campus as part of our program. A vendor is anyone who is selling anything in the East Entry. They can sell anything that they want to sell within reason, most of the time it is jewelry and handbags and most are returning vendors. We schedule them and we want to give money back to orgs. All orgs have to do is sign up and fill out a piece of paper and promote that sales. You can get 15% or up to \$50 of their sales for that day.

Cortni Jones: I was wondering how do the needs of the faculty and staff balance with student concerns for use of space and what do they desire the campus center to be. I was wondering if there is discussion about that? Is it a campus center or more of a student center?

Lynne Payson: The balance of the needs is the same model institution uses. So student activities schedule student orgs, and special events schedule other things, and we don't do classes. we haven't gotten to a point where we have to make any hard decisions, but at this point, we haven't gotten a lot of feedback that faculty staff or students are taking up too much space,. It is a campus center and we have talked about the reservation process on the advisory board, but we acknowledge that at night and on the weekends we see more student programming, and do I anticipate that is increasing 15% in one year, yes. Currently we have an external office that rents space during the summer and right now the campus center isn't a part of that.

Hannah Heller, Hillel: I was wondering if there was discussion about bookability of fireplace room on the second floor. I have been at the coffee place and asked to be quiet and I would like to think that that space is available for chilling not lectures.

Lynne Payson: It wasn't supposed to be reservable, but then everyone wanted it to be reserved, so we have tried to balance that. Currently we are supporting a policy that there are three nights a week that it can be booked, but we are thinking bout it. Should it be a place to hang out or a place for people to perform? I do know that it is more of a place to hang out and perform than a study space. The question of being told to be quite: I was surprised when I got the question about the quiet hours, so when I get questions about people quieting down, we'll never resolve that. A lecture we discourage, we won't say no, but the reality is, a lecture or poetry reading is not a great idea. The Fiddleheads are a great idea because it doesn't matter what else is going on. Sometime people are asked to leave the forum and it may be for an hour and that is okay.

Jeanne Amy, DOOCA: Can we get an ice rink outside on the grassy area?

Lynne Payson: The ice rink is coming, it was supposed to be here last year but the weather did not cooperate. I have been told we will have one as originally intended. There may be some assistance from ice rink manufacturing company.

Sabina Khan, Stone: A lot of orgs that I'm in are confused about custodial policies for Tishman?

Lynne Payson: There are no policies. There are no overtime charges that are affiliated with building being closed. There are no charges and we hope that if you go to one, come see me. The only time that may be a question is if you need an event that is special and there are lots of chairs right after another event and it is hard to do but 99 percent should have no charges. If that isn't the case, let me know. That is why the building was designed that way.

Amy Wang, Beebe: Who do we approach about the convenience store hours?

Lynne Payson: Robin would be the one.

Robin: We had a meeting with the DSAB (Dining Services Advisory Board) and a lot of the members from our advisory board met. And we had a useful dialogue with the board to figure out what our goals as campus center and their goals as DS are and how we are meshing. On the CCAB (Campus Center Advisory Board), we acknowledge that student and faculty needs about wanting food available at certain hours are not being met and we are trying to figure out ways of working with DSAB and the people in charge to make sure we are doing everything we can to make sure people are on staff, who do we talk to, how do we address things. We are talking about it and are in dialogue.

Lynne Payson: And from this standpoint, it is the biggest topic of discussion at our Advisory Board meetings, so definitely send that feedback. The more people tell me, the more useful it can be when I say how many students have approached me. And as soon as possible because we have extensive meetings in the next couple of weeks to discuss this.

Cortni Jones, Student Bursar: What is the average wait time for sandwich and are we getting a Zamboni?

Lynne Payson: A zamboni won't be coming. Zamboni is the big ice thing that makes the ice shiny. It will be run by the AB. As for sandwiches, we have timed it and don't quote me, but they can be 20-24 minutes, and it's not all the time, just during peak periods, but it is not something that is at where it should be. It needs to improve.

Tiffany Sirc , Chief Justice: One of the wonderful things of Schneider was breakfast and I was wondering if you would discuss that?

Lynne Payson: I am not familiar with the building known as Schneider. Just kidding. We offered breakfast this summer and we have asked food services to look into it. It would have not

involved some kind of change with the number of points students have, and all that. It is on the agenda. And I don't think it had a fair chance this summer because of the reduced population.

Emily Oxford: Thank you so much and thank you Robin for coming. Next we have the lovely Kris Niendorf today – Dean Kim is out of town and we are so happy you are here. And if you don't know, she is a big deal; she is the Director of Residential and Student Life on Campus.

Kris Niendorf, Director of Residential and Campus Life: My official title is Director of Residential and Campus Life. Most of you don't know, while we searched for Dean Kim, I was intermediate Associate Dean, so I was dean once. Most of you know res life by now because you have been living on campus. That group of 103 people in Res Life are the RAs, HPs, RDs, RMs, Office Coordinator, and myself. There is a long story about RMs but they were RAs and we changed the title because they asked and we are cooperative. We have two this year and Tiffany is once. They are Resident Managers and they are Davis Scholars. Then with the campus life part of my responsibly, I work with Meri and Kate in student activities. I sit on committees on campus, and it is hard to find one I didn't sit on. I sat on eight of Lynne's committees last year, but I'm down to three this year. I chair the alcohol committee and wellness committee for Michelle and I do appeals for the Alcohol and Drug Hearing Board. We have a residential judicial board which hasn't had any cases in a couple of years so we are evaluating if that is necessary and we are assessing that. I feel it might be time to merge. I wanted to talk about midnight breakfast, and to kick off finals on Dec 13, a Wednesday from 10-12:30AM, we are in Bates again and you can get pancakes and protein to help you study. Lay off the caffeine if you can. Religious life is also running listening spaces on Mondays and Wednesdays – Mondays in campus center 3-4 and Wednesdays in different residential halls. And it is a time for spiritual guidance, even if it is just a meditation space. I recommend it. There are drop-in hours for spiritual advising. RA selection is happening. We are doing a series of four information sessions – if you are going to apply, you must go to info sessions. One is this Wednesday, November 29, at 8 in Freeman Hall, and Friday December 1 at 1:00 in Severance. Both are in living rooms, for HPs, RAs, RMs. That is a time to ask questions, get info you need, find out a little more, talk to your RAs and HPs and RMs and find out what they really do. The other announcement is the closing date – we close res hall only once every year. We close Dec. 22 at 5PM until Jan 2nd at noon. It isn't for along time, but it is nice for us. We are open all breaks otherwise. Next thing I want to talk about is sleep. Straw pull – how many people, last night, had 8 hours of sleep or more? 7? 6? 5? 4? 3? 2? 1? 0? Early flights are okay and some people traveled coast to coast and that is tough. Be really careful if you starting the first day back from break with no sleep because you won't make it to the end. That is just the reality. You are going to fall asleep in your classes, with your friends, you will fall asleep. Don't take that the wrong way. So be careful and be conscious of this. Most college students don't get 8 hours. 7 hours is required daily dose from most physicians, so shoot for 7. Give your brain a break. We will start the sleep campaign soon. I'll open up for questions.

Sabina Kahn, Stone: This is a big discussion, but has there been any consideration for RAs on campus?

Kris Niendorf: We have considered this for the past six years, when I started, and we always are considering it. It is a budget issue. At one point prior to my arrival there was money allocated,

and then some students said they didn't want RAs enforcing policies and wanted them to be programmers, and some RAs were part of the that protest, and we have kept it a volunteer program. We always consider it, it is on the table, but it is expensive if you think of it. If we paid them \$3,000 a year, which is half the room rate, that is over a ¼ of a million dollars. I don't know where I would get that money unless from a wealthy alum. If the college wanted to put energy into that, we could restructure.

Cortni Jones: I have always thought that within a division, reallocation is a better idea. Have you considered not having paid RDs but having student head of houses? We saw that at Smith and if that didn't have to be full-time with benefits, there are students who could handle head of house positions, and if they only had a half-load course, it could be possible. Has this reallocation been considered?

Kris: We have done this. And the last proposal I wrote would decrease the number of RDs but that wouldn't make much money because RDs make very little. Another college I worked at had senior resident assistants, and it was smaller with 500 students, so it can work. But we would have to make the student body understand that the resources they have and the qualities they get from current RDs isn't something you can get from a student. To be full-time student, you have to take 3 courses to live on campus but I still don't have enough funds to pay RAs. You see RDs at best work in crisis times and that is when a student can't jump in and do those roles. We have almost 2200 students living on campus, we have as many as mid-sized state institutions that have about as many students on campus. We are middle to high level with students on campus compared across the campus.

Siobhan O'Keefe, Beebe: I have friends who are RAs, and I know it is hard, but do they get any consideration in their financial aid?

Kris Niendorf: To my knowledge, that is not a consideration. I think it is a disadvantage of the thing here. And I wish we could get RAs who do need to.

Cortni Jones: A lot of times you can move work to low-interest loan program if you have problems with your working and activities.

Shaheli Guha, Slater: International students stay on campus during winter break, so thank you for that, but I was wondering if you know which dorm they will be living in this break, and what is the process?

Kris Niendorf: This is the group that gets to stay and a few students that don't have a home to go to. You have to contact Sylvia Hiestand and a list is given to me, and then I look at where students live, and ask the RD if they will be here. It has been on the East Side, and it used to be about 6 students, and there were 45 students last year. It will be determined by where I live and where I have openings because I try to move you into open rooms.

Emily Oxford: I have so many questions. My top two are: what is the job description of an RD and how are they evaluated? Can non-res life students evaluate their RD? I never have had that chance.

Kris Niendorf: RDs are resources for people on campus, they share on-call duties for everyone on campus, they do programming within building, sit on campus-wide and dept committees, supervise RAs, RMs. They are evaluated – you should be getting evaluations around the 1st of the year and you may do them at your first all-house second semester and you do your RA, HP, and RD all at once.

Emily Oxford: I do remember them, but they aren't useful.

Kris Niendorf: At any time, please email me with any information. I do get feedback about staff at all times. If there are people who do things not to your liking, I would like to know that. I also want to know who does their job well.

Victoria Starrett, Severance: If people are unable to make the meetings this week, can they set something up with you?

Kris: If there are extreme exceptions, contact your current RD.

Amy Jeffries, College Republicans: Siobhan mentioned that students working have a harder time being an RA, and could you make that their work-study?

Kris: I have zero money in my budget so if I had it, I would love to do it but I don't have that now. We are trying to put more money into res halls and I will make that suggestion to the people who handle our budget.

Hannah Heller, Hillel: I am an RA and I just wanted to say that I think that compensation is not as popular idea among RAs who maybe want a bigger budget or more flex points like FYMs. Is there anything we can do to influence the process that makes these decisions?

Kris: I have worked with Dean Kim in the last years and I know there isn't an increase in our budget lines so she is working with me to try and find money to bring back to Res Life when others have to do cuts. We are always talking to try and figure out how to compensate RAs in different ways and we talk about RA Council proposals but it is tricky because we don't want to cut someone else's position. Send me feedback and emails!

Emily Oxford, CGP: Next we have Malina Swiatek with Beyond the Bubble.

Malina Swiatek, CPLA Chair: I am here for Beyond the Bubble.
In International News This Week...

Israeli Troops Leave Gaza in Cease-Fire Deal; Rocket Attacks Continue
By GREG MYRE
NY TIMES

JERUSALEM, Sunday, Nov. 26 — Israel withdrew its troops from the Gaza Strip early Sunday morning as part of a surprise cease-fire agreement reached late Saturday night by Israeli and Palestinian leaders to end five months of fighting.

The agreement also called for Palestinians to stop their own attacks at timeHour6Minute06 a.m. Sunday. But rocket and mortar fire from Gaza continued to strike southern Israel.

“Let’s hope that’s just the problems of the beginning,” The Associated Press quoted an Israeli government spokeswoman, Miri Eisin, as saying. “But if Israel is attacked, we will respond. If there are Palestinian factions that are not part of the cease-fire, it’s hard to see how the cease-fire will hold.”

The accord is the most serious effort to end the fighting in Gaza. However, it is not clear how widely it will be embraced by Palestinian militants. In the past, the Palestinian Authority has been unable or unwilling to control the numerous factions involved in the fighting with Israel.

But after meeting in Gaza with several Palestinian factions involved in firing rockets into Israel, the Palestinian prime minister, Ismail Haniya of Hamas, said Saturday that they had agreed to abide by the cease-fire.

S. Korea Reports New Outbreak Of Avian Flu

Reuters

Sunday, November 26, 2006; A18

SEOUL, Nov. 25 -- South Korea said Saturday that an outbreak of lethal bird flu at a poultry farm was caused by the highly virulent H5N1 strain of the virus, the country's first case in three years.

The Agriculture Ministry said earlier this week it suspected bird flu had killed 6,000 chickens at a farm in the southwest that lies on a path for migratory birds.

"It is the H5N1 strain," a ministry official said.

The ministry ordered the culling of 236,000 birds near the farm in North Cholla province about 100 miles from Seoul, officials said.

Quarantine authorities also banned the shipment of more than 5 million birds from 221 farms within 6 miles of the farm.

There were no reports to suggest local residents or quarantine officials had been infected, another Agriculture Ministry official said.

Supreme Court urged not to intervene in Times case

In National News This Week...

Items compiled from Tribune news services

Published November 26, 2006

WASHINGTON, D.C. -- The Justice Department asked the Supreme Court on Saturday not to prevent a federal prosecutor from examining the telephone records of two reporters at The New

York Times, warning that time is running out in an investigation of leaks about two Islamic charities.

At issue is a Chicago grand jury investigation into information learned by two reporters in 2001 about the government's plan to freeze the assets of two charities suspected of having ties to terrorist groups.

U.S. Atty. Patrick Fitzgerald is seeking to review the telephone records of Judith Miller, who retired from The Times last year, and Philip Shenon. Prosecutors say the reporters asked for comment from both charities in a way that tipped them off to the coming raids.

The case originated in December 2001, when authorities were preparing to raid the offices of the Holy Land Foundation and the Global Relief Foundation.

On Friday, The Times asked Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg to delay Fitzgerald from reviewing the telephone records until the court has an opportunity to decide whether to hear the case.

In State News This Week...

Hub police sweeps get slim results

In high-profile tactic, mainly minor charges

By Suzanne Smalley, Globe Staff | November 26, 2006

Two high-profile Boston Police operations that sent scores of officers sweeping through neighborhoods to stem surging gun violence netted mostly arrests on minor charges, a Globe analysis shows.

From October 2005 until June 2006, about 1,250 people were taken into custody, but only about one-third on felony charges, including only 55 on gun charges, the analysis found. At least two-thirds of those arrested faced relatively minor misdemeanor charges including trespassing and driving without a license, according to the analysis.

Police had touted Operation Home Safe and Operation Red Zone as intensive crackdowns to rid streets of violent criminals, including people with outstanding warrants for gun possession and assault with a dangerous weapon, and to make neighborhoods safe for residents. The Police Department was under intense pressure to take action because violent crime was spiking to levels not seen since the mid-1990s and the number of shootings was continuing to rise.

In about 20 sweeps, the streets were filled with police officers on horses, bicycles, and motorcycles; "America's Most Wanted" filmed a segment on the initiative. The operations cut across a broad swath of the city's poorest, most violent, and predominantly minority neighborhoods, from Uphams Corner in Dorchester to Grove Hall in Roxbury.

But with only about 16 percent of the charges involving violent crimes such as assault, rape, and armed robbery, police officials now acknowledge that the sweeps were not as effective as they had hoped and led primarily to arrests for trespassing, drug possession, and other misdemeanors, as opposed to violent or gun crimes. Some suspects were taken into custody just on motor vehicle violations.

The operations cost tens of thousands of dollars in overtime; police were unable to provide more specific figures.

The sweeps also upset some community leaders and residents, damaging the department's already fragile ties with them. "It's never good for relations when you arrest the wrong people," said Christopher Sumner, the executive director of the Boston TenPoint Coalition and formerly an executive director of the Boys and Girls Clubs of Boston. "There were some severe cases of profiling some of the wrong kids."

Police Department spokeswoman Elaine Driscoll said police had probable cause to arrest anyone who was detained.

During the sweeps, officers went into neighborhoods that were besieged by gun violence. Police rounded up people on outstanding warrants and also detained people who drew their attention, some of whom were charged with drinking in public, trespassing, and other minor crimes.

In Local News This Week...

Rt. 16 bridge firm 'officially terminated'
By Barbara Lehmann/ Townsman Staff
Wednesday, November 22, 2006

Work on renovation of the Route 16 bridge in Wellesley Hills may look like it's totally stalled, but progress is being made behind the scenes.

MassHighway representatives have reported that Roads Construction has been "officially terminated" for failure to perform and a letter has gone to the bonding company demanding they designate another contractor, State Rep. Alice Peisch (D-Wellesley) told the selectmen during their meeting with the town's legislative delegation on Monday night.

The new contractor will be named relatively soon, she said. The bonding company has a list of pre-qualified candidates, but MassHighway does have veto power in this process if they feel the bonding contractor's choice is not solid. "The bad news is that we're at the end of the construction season," Peisch said.

Selectman Vincent Juliani asked, "Do you have any idea how much is left to be done?"

"What I have heard is that it is essentially half finished," Peisch said. "I would think the second half shouldn't take as long because we won't have these periods where nothing is happening. Based on my conversations with the people currently at MassHighway, they're very sensitive to the fact that this has dragged out far longer than it was supposed to."

Yang Qiu, CGVP: SOAC is in Room 413 in the Campus Center.

Tiffany Sirc, Chief Justice: Get your Zs.

Cortni Jones, Student Bursar: SOFC will have a meeting in that vicinity for about 20 minutes regarding money. We have two important deadlines. December the 11th by 5PM, all forms for the entire semester are due so it is bigger than your final project. Also, you need to report your fundraiser at this time. That has all been sent out to the treasurers. It is the 11th, not the 12th. And to let you all know, we are going to Tufts tomorrow to do another SOFC spy mission to look at their financial committee. We will have an update probably next week regarding all of our visits.

Malina Swiatek, CPLA Chair: So CPLA this week – we have an event that we have a lot. Anyone? Pizza Lunch! About Nuclear Weapons! 12:30 – 1:30 in PNE Atrium. RSVP by tomorrow. Also, the Capitol Steps are coming on Wednesday, December 6th, 8:00 pm in Alumnae Auditorium. I will be wearing red, white and blue. It will be amazing, free, and fun.

Jeanne Amy, DOOCA: I did find out that Health Services offers the HPV vaccine so keep up with your sexual health.

Liz Marlow, Parliamentarian: Elaine will be posting her announcements to the conference.

Paola Reyes, SPEC Chair: SPEC will be meeting in PNE 127 and we can walk together.

Emily Oxford, CGP: I don't have any announcements other than come to Senate next week – it will be our last senate of the semester. I am excited to see SOAC's new proposal. By general consent, I move we adjourn this meeting.