



**Executive Committee Meeting Minutes
Room SC203 (PDR) March 8, 2017**

Attendees: Amy Callahan, Terry Cargan, Jayne Ducharme, Frank Dushame, Klinbert Garcia, Linda Giampa, Gladys Gomez, Meredith Gunning, Lance Hidy, George Medelinskas, Sheila Pierre, Linda Buckley

Guest: Vice President Bill Heineman,

Chair Amy Callahan called the meeting to order at 2:02 p.m. The minutes of the Feb. 22nd meeting were approved with the correction of the following sentence regarding online courses: "The committee expressed concern regarding increasing the number of students in the online classes from 20 to 25 for the initial offerings, and from 25 up to 32, depending on existing restrictions".

Student Club Budget Cuts: Amy reported that she spoke with Danny Malave twice and reported that he thought the process was better than prior years and wanted to be very transparent. Amy added that these cuts were very detrimental to the clubs, especially Parnassus. Danny replied that he didn't consider Parnassus to be a club. Danny also said that this year's club budget requests were reviewed by the Student Senate Finance Committee, and those students made the decision to make these cuts. The goal was to make the student senate more empowered. The committee thought that the process seemed to be recklessly designed, especially with the ongoing problem of declining student enrollment and retention.

Amy read several letters from the clubs' faculty advisors who said that they cooperated with the guidelines for filling out the budget request form and expressed frustration with the poor communication from the Student Life office.

Discussion with Bill Heineman: Bill arrived later in the meeting and explained that the Student Life office is in transition and took a different approach this year by providing less guidance to the Student Senate, which functions as a governmental board with authority to allocate student club funds. As a result, the senators were not knowledgeable about the cuts they authorized. There is conflicting information about how this process unfolded. Amy argued that the process was worse this year because it failed in its obligation to be a good steward of student clubs. Many Executive Committee members pointed out that these clubs provide a community for greater involvement among students and contributes to a sense of belonging. Bill said many of the committee's concerns should be directed to the senate. The committee pointed out that it is not the Executive Committee's role to oversee the senate, but rather to advise the college administration. The committee also questioned why a pool of funds was being held to allocate to clubs based on club requests throughout the year and suggested restoring the funds to the club budgets since the clubs had already made their requests. Bill said the appeal process is the only recourse to argue for restoring your club budgets. The committee expressed their appreciation for all that Bill does for students and club advisors. The Student Affairs Committee, which has in its charter to serve as liaison to the Student Senate, will discuss the matter with senators at the next Student Affairs Committee meeting.

The Appeal process: Danny said that club advisors could appeal the cuts after Spring break. Amy suggested the deadline should be extended. **UPDATE:** On March 9, Danny Malave sent an email to club advisors apologizing for the process, thanking them for their feedback, and announcing all budget cuts will be reconsidered.

Faculty Job Cuts: Brief discussion regarding a recent email from Lane announcing that 4 full time and one half time faculty positions may be retrenched. Programs will need to "teach out" existing students.

Culinary Arts Program: A \$500K grant, of which 150K would go towards culinary arts equipment, was acquired for the Culinary Arts Program, in addition to Rep. Brian Dempsey's \$1 M fund. There was concern surrounding the number of students who may want to enroll in this program. Lane is hearing from people in the community and the State House that this partnership with Endicott College would be very desirable, especially for the development of downtown Haverhill. The committee was reminded by one member that in the past the Ophthalmology program was similarly desired, but is no longer in effect due to low enrollment. Some members of the committee expressed support for the new Culinary Arts program.

With no further issues, the meeting was adjourned at 4:05 p.m. Please note that the next meeting is scheduled for **Mar. 29, 2017**