

Date: 28 Sept 2015

Time: 6.30PM-8.30PM

Venue: Elm Dining Hall Anteroom

Note-Taker: Yongzhi

Presiding Officer: Maria

Attendance: Bing, Zach, Qis, Dave, Yongzhi, Feroz, Tee, Maria, Ami, Jay, Jared

Present: Bing, Zach (left at 7.20pm because of haze-induced illness), Qis, Dave, Yongzhi, Feroz, Tee, Maria, Ami, Jay, Jared

Absent:

Agenda:

- Library
 - Student Body vote on barring all non-yale-nus students from the library
 - Suggested actionables
 - MOTION: This house believes that Yale-NUS students should be given priority for all study spaces in the library.
 - MOTION: This house will book study spaces for students, while overcrowding in the library persists
 - Discussion on meeting with TTY
 - Discussion on Facebook engagement re: library issue
- Admin Liaisons
- Athletics Council
- Arts Council Update
- Card Access Update
- DOS Meeting
- General Assembly
- Security

Summary: Today, the Student Government discussed the results of last week's direct democracy poll on the library and voted on interim policies to mediate the overcrowding situation. The Government also collated a list of concerns about the library and campus security to be presented to Vice President Tan Tai Yong on Friday. The Government also confirmed details about the upcoming

General Assembly which will be about Yale-NUS' identity. The Government also heard updates about the creation of an Arts Council as well as the the current situation on the Athletics Council.

| Agenda | Discussion Points | Action |
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| Library | <p><u>Library</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Uploaded Student Government decisions to student body for vote as per Direct Democracy clause. 2. Two motions saw strong support by student body of the Student Government position. One motion was more controversial - almost met 10% criteria. From the survey: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. This house believes that the entire library space (ground floor and 1st floor) should be prohibited to non-Yale-NUS students. (NUS students will still have book-borrowing rights.) <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. Student body. YES: 50 (51.0%), NO: 39 (39.8%), ABSTAIN: 9 (9.2%) ii. Government (vote, 28 Sep). YES: 1 (9.1%), NO: 8 (72.7%), ABSTAIN: 2 (18.2%). iii. Government (revote, 5 Oct). YES: Jay (with rights), Zach NO: Ami, Bing, Dave, Jared (no with rights), Maria, Qis, Yongzhi ABSTAIN: Feroz, Tee <p>Jay (YES) : there is a greater long-term damage to relations should this library issue persist. Jared (NO) : framing is important - can we minimise damage</p> | To find out the student population for Yale-NUS College. |

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| | <p style="text-align: center;">while first meeting the needs of the community?</p> <p>b. Tee notes that we can consider votes by the student body as a formal petition (if the 10% requirement is met).</p> <p>3. Proposal. Library can have staff stationed at the doors that may warn students against coming in if the library study spaces are full. Alternative of booking classrooms for students.</p> <p>4. Question of whether we will eventually need to block NUS students from the library study spaces. Suggestion of a 'prioritisation' rather than a 'ban'. Note that advocating prioritisation and ban may harm relations with NUS.</p> <p>5. MOTION (passed): This house believes that Yale-NUS students should be given priority for all study spaces in the library.</p> <p>a. YES: Bing, Dave (rights), Feroz (rights), Maria, Jared, Qistina, Tee (rights), Yongzhi, Zach</p> <p>b. NO:</p> <p>c. ABSTAIN: Ami, Jay (rights)</p> <p>d. Tee: abstained previously, question of to what degree does YNC control the NUS-library designated space? But prioritisation is a more achievable goal.</p> <p>e. Dave: if the system is implemented, it must be done in a more friendly manner.</p> <p>f. Feroz: support only insofar as the administrator, rather than the students themselves.</p> <p>g. Jay: wants yes but finds that it is a practical disaster – either it pisses off NUS or it doesn't work anyway.</p> | |
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| | <p>6. We will be tabling votes on subsequent motions after our meeting with Prof. Tan Tai Yong.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Agenda for meeting with Prof. Tan is in the government drive. Dave would like feedback for the presentation. b. This meeting will take place on Friday, 10-10.30am and is open to all student government members. c. Interested and available government representatives: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. Jay, Ami, Tee, Dave, Jared, Bing, Yongzhi <p>Facebook comment thread involvement</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Yongzhi: Does the government stepping in to Facebook conflagrations help or not? My view is that we should only make statements via our Government Facebook page. 2. Bing: Clarification of personal nature of contribution, government should provide information only. 3. Feroz: Unnecessary for government members to step into the angry Facebook thread because government has alternative means of communication, but also endorses and fans the toxicity of the thread. Government members who step in individually is becoming targets. 4. Maria: Everyone should be able to contribute to the threads, but must clarify that they are not speaking in the capacity of Student Government. Government members should not post in their capacity of government members. 5. Dave: Don't appreciate vitriol when being diplomatic, but believes informing the student body is important – both YNC and NUS students. 6. Jared: Information can be posted through the Student Government. Students can post in a personal capacity. 7. Jay: Students can post in a personal capacity so long as they do not purport to represent a Government position. Perception among student body that student government is not sufficiently engaged or non-functional. | |
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| | <p>8. Tee: Early on discussion of Facebook conduct, separation of private sphere and speaking as a government representative.</p> <p>9. Bing: All Government members should be active on Slack in order for better communication, particularly on time-sensitive issues.</p> <p>10. Dave: Approach Comms and any public message can be shared on the Facebook thread.</p> <p>11. Jay: Trolls and unhappy people are different.</p> <p>12. Maria: Respond in a personal capacity, responding as Government goes through Comms.</p> <p>13. Bing, Feroz, Maria: Be clear that you are speaking as yourself.</p> | |
| Admin Liaison | <p><u>Admin Liaison</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Not meeting with TTY individually soon, but will be meeting with Dean Bailyn. Are there any major Academics issues that have cropped up? 2. Already discussed : grading and assessment across the board, common curriculum review, retroactive S/U option, capstone, honours system. 3. Student Advisory Group is attending meetings every few weeks. Guides for Capstone and Honours System will be released shortly. 4. Double majors for DDP students? Specific feedback channels proposed for those entering concurrent degree programmes. | Dave to post on Facebook asking for curriculum feedback |
| Arts Council | <p><u>Arts Council</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Feedback from student on the creation of an Arts Council. Community Living committee has reached out to different Arts organisations. 2. Enthusiastic response from certain organisations. 3. Follow-up is to organise a meeting with interested Arts leaders and Arts faculty. 4. Suggested modelling after Athletics council | Student Organisations will oversee |

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| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Facilities allocation b. Cross-collaboration across student groups c. Feedback channel for Arts groups <p>5. Student Organisations has been tasked with the formation of the Arts Council.</p> | |
| Card Access Update | <p><u>Card Access Update</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Access to other colleges' buttery and common lounges will be implemented by tomorrow (Tuesday, 6 Oct). | <p>Government members to go to other butteries and common lounges to try access</p> |
| DOS Meeting | <p><u>DOS Meeting</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Does inter-Dean McAdoo have anything to add? 2. Student government will set aside the last 30 minutes on our next meeting to meet with interim Dean McAdoo and Chris. 3. Jay: we need to ask McAdoo how he will transition into the new Dean | |
| General Assembly | <p><u>General Assembly</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Cendana Dining Hall booked. Student government will host a general assembly on Thursday, 15 October, 7-8.30pm. The tentative venue is Cendana dining hall. 2. We will have food and drinks provided | |

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| Security | <p><u>Security</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Notable breaches of security: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Non-YNC students checking doors b. Non-YNC students in common lounges c. Butteries being used by non-YNC students 2. Ami: These instances might be the guests of YNC students but YNC student cannot be accompanying the guest at all times and therefore are mistaken as strangers 3. Suggestion to have card access for gates and lifts. Community policing: students can take initiative. Government could release statement. 4. MOTION: This house believes that access to residential floors of any college should be by Yale-NUS residential card-access (eg students, Rectors and VRs) in lifts only. (This is non RC-specific.) <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. YES: Bing, Dave, Ami, Feroz, Jared, Jay, Maria, Qis, Tee b. NO: c. ABSTAIN: Yongzhi d. Absent: Zach 5. Jared asks if we are OK with security guards. 6. Contact number for Yale-NUS Security: 6601 3696 <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Students should continue to remain vigilant against suspicious activities/ behaviour. | <p>Jay to list these matters and submit to Dave</p> <p>Community Living to confirm (i) if residential spaces are students-only, and (ii) policy recommendations for TTY & Rectors.</p> |
| Athletics Updates | <p><u>Athletics Updates</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Queries of the role of the athletics department: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Allocation of facilities for athletics teams b. Liaise with NUS for communication and use of facilities when needed | <p>Feroz and Yongzhi to write a report for President Lewis</p> |

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| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> c. Establishing a roster of sports for IFG d. Intra-RC competitions should be organised by the department e. Is there a division of sports among administrators f. Organisational chart; Who reports to Wain? And who does Wain report to? g. Why does fitness centre have a dedicated DF and 3 student associates, while the entire department does not? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Fitness centre may be included under 'health' rather than athletics 2. The athletics department currently has no existing student associate roles who may be able to assist the department. Administration has delegated their roles to students and called them "student volunteers." 3. James called for a meeting with Sports Captains to nominate people for the crafting of the new constitution but no other information is provided | |
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Agenda for our next meeting:

- Update for Constitution Review Committee by Tee

Reminders/ Updates