



Emergency Senate Meeting
Friday, November 22nd, 2019
Student Life Pavilion, Room 312

1. Call to Order
 - a. Call to order at 5:47 pm
2. Roll Call (3 min)
 - a. Roll call at 5:49 pm
3. Vote to approve/deny finance committee approval of the college readership program
 - a. Carolina
 - i. Reminder to address the Chair before speaking
 - ii. Priority will be given to senators who have not spoken during the meeting
 - iii. Reminder to speak loudly - there are no microphones today
 - iv. There were no updates on other schools (i.e. Dean of Business School) contributing to the payment of the CRP
 - v. The floor is open for discussion
 - b. George - The Wall Street Journal is the journal finance committee chose, if you would like to choose another journal (New York Times) that is an option
 - c. Angelo - Have more students signed the petitions regarding the CRP?
 - i. Response - Not that I am aware
 - d. Maya R. - I would like to suggest The Economist Journal over The Wall Street Journal, it is less biased than either The Wall Street Journal or The New York Times
 - e. Krystal - I spoke to about 20 students (many within the business school) and the conversation always started with me explaining what

the CRP was, these students were not aware of the free alternative at the Copley library, it was unanimous that there were better alternatives to using the \$13,000

- f. Jake - The cost if this were to be given to the students would be upwards of \$50,000
 - i. Response - I am not sure how many students would pay for a subscription given that they already have free access. All you have to do is log onto Copley library
- g. Andrew - We need to determine if most students are going to utilize the subscription regularly. I think most people are just trying to keep up with the readings for class. As it was already pointed out we have access via the Copley website. This money could benefit a larger number of students.
- h. Justin - I think access to relevant information should be universal and should not be determined by how free or not free a student may be. "For example, if I have five minutes before class ...I wouldn't have time to access articles through the Copley database but I would using the Wall Street Journal access provided by the CRP".
- i. Krystal - A lot of this conversation is making it seem that if we don't fund the CRP suddenly the news goes away and students will be ignorant. There are many different sources to news, not funding this program will not decrease students' ability to access the news. It might take a little longer to access it, but the news isn't going anywhere. If people want to access it they will.
- j. Mary-Logan - "I feel like many things have already been said, but I just want to restate them":
 - i. Yes, students can take longer to find their news, but ASG should fund that because we are the student government.
 - ii. People don't understand how to use the Copley Library access. We haven't done a good job of telling people about the CRP and maybe there's a lack of communication among the students for what this program is.

- iii. This is such a big problem and that's why we're here trying to figure it out, this is what students want and I feel like were fighting against what the student body wants.
- iv. Additionally, we're throwing out all of these things that the money can go to but it's too much. Why weren't these things spoken about before the college readership program.
- k. Marion - A student reached out to me, they used to use the college readership program, but have thought of alternative ways that the money could be better used for:
 - i. Subscriptions for the nonprofit times
 - ii. More design accounts for students or more computers available with design account accessibility (example: creative cloud)
 - iii. More free classes like design, excel, yoga classes
 - iv. Aims solely at commuters
 - v. Travel conference stipends
 - vi. Free certification classes
 - 1. Example: emergency management trainings
 - vii. The question that needs to be asked is what can reach more students than the Wall Street Journal reaches now?
- l. Mary-Logan - If we deny the approval of the CRP is there a way to know/decide what that money will go to at this meeting?
 - i. Response - George - No, it is most likely too late in the semester to put funds from finance committee towards anything else this semester. Most likely if there were initiatives brought up for this semester it would come from your senate initiative funds
- m. Angelo - We are a liberal arts college so I don't see why we would fund a business journal. In addition, there are many different ways to access the news other than through the CRP access.
- n. Maya R. - Use funds to instead fund grammarly for the entire student body. The entire student body could benefit from this when writing essays.
- o. Fanisee - I move to deny the Finance Committee's decision to approve the funds of the College Readership Program

- i. Valerie seconds
 - ii. Motion is on the floor but can still be discussed if in direct relation to the CRP
- p. Maya De La Torre - I am someone who used the New York Times journal and I personally am against funding the CRP. I think it would make more sense to market access to the CRP before making a final decision on the CRP. It was said earlier tonight that many students are not aware of the free alternative access to the CRP available through Copley.
- q. Greyson -
 - i. This decision was something that was handled by last years finance committee. They gave the decision of choosing which journal to fund (New York Times or Wall Street Journal). It was not a matter of funding it or not but which journal. At that time we were made aware of the free access at Copley and then the decision had to be made whether or not to fund the CRP. I don't think the CRP is an academic program, I think it's a well informed student body program. The Copley library is for academic purposes. Though for what the student body is looking for I don't think the Copley Library is adequate.
 - ii. We were not able to find alternatives for the CRP because it takes time, it takes longer than two weeks.
 - iii. Students want the CRP. We could fund this and everything else that is brought up next semester. Everybody can be happy in this situation
 - 1. Response - we don't have the funds to pay for everything
- r. Chidi - I have questions/comments for Greyson:
 - i. Did you only reach out to the school of business or the college of arts and sciences, etc
 - 1. We reached out to the business school because they're the wide majority of people who use this resource. It's a fifth of campus. The majority of students who use this resource are business students.

2. George - I did reach out to college of arts and sciences and there was no response from them
- ii. UC Berkeley has a similar program that costs \$14,000 and I was wondering why, when we are a smaller school, we pay almost at much?
 1. The deal is terrible. We pay for 8,000 students when we don't have 8,000 students at this school
- s. Brianna - If we deny this request can we right afterward talk about another publication or no??
 - i. Response - We only have information and cost data on the New York Times and the Wall Street Journal
- t. Drew - Someone said that ASG doesn't do their best in marketing. As someone who wasn't involved prior to ASG I think we do our best in terms of putting things out there but what people might forget is that the culture here isn't really the best, people just don't care. If we have 8,000 students going to our school and less than 200 show up what's the point.
- u. Jesse - If we decided to fund the CRP then what would happen is it would still be at least 4 weeks before we could even get access to the subscription. We would already be halfway through the year. We'd basically be paying for something for students who are already graduating, we'd be paying for graduate students and professors. This would go against our bylaws because this would be going to graduate students and professors rather than just undergraduate students. This isn't what the student fee is for. The student fee is for undergraduate students. In addition, we'd be paying for students next year (new students coming in) when this program is meant to be put towards the students who paid the student fee this year.
- v. Yashve - If we fund the CRP or don't fund it there will be backlash from the students. We should make more effort to market the Copley library access and then decide. That would be better than funding something in a rush.
- w. Daniella -

- i. We all want to talk about using the student activity fee for this year and that's right but also if we don't fund this essentially it's going to be put into a pool of excess funding and then waiting. Think about how long it took us to get here to make this decision. The students are asking for this now. They are writing petitions. We need to take into account what students are asking for right now.
 - ii. There is this idea that only the business school uses this resource but I think that's wrong. Justin and I are part of the engineering school and many students have come up to us and told us they used the Wall Street Journal for their research. Many schools can benefit from the CRP
- x. Leslie - This money isn't going to be put into a pool of money and left to sit there. We are actively working everyday to help our constituents. Not everyone will be happy with the decision we make but we are obligated to hear the different perspectives of our constituents. We have to look at the students who want it and the students who don't We need to be considerate of how this will affect everyone else.
- y. George - I want to clarify if the motion is not approved today to fund the wall street journal, it will sit in a pool of cash that is the student activity fee until it is reallocated. It will sit there for about two weeks until it is approved.
 - i. Requests from students who will request funding for the rest of the semester is due next tuesday
- z. Nadia - I got the petition sent to me from my professor right when this started. He didn't explain the situation, he just asked everyone to sign it. When I told him it was \$13,000 he freaked out and changed his mind. Keep in mind that the students signing the petition may not know what the entire situation.
- aa. Danny - Does anyone know how many students actually signed the petition? I have also heard that teachers are sending this around their classrooms. Are students signing petition or is it teachers?

- i. Response
 - 1. Luke - You need to provide your student ID and name on the petition, this is to ensure that only students sign the petition. The most recent petitions I reported on gathered 120 and 250-270 signatures.
 - 2. Jesse - Students aren't the only ones who have ID numbers so ID numbers are not a deterring factor to prevent faculty and staff from signing petitions.
- bb. Justin - There are a lot of brainstormed ideas and initiatives that are great, but these ideas are just ideas, they are not concrete. The CRP is real and ready to be funded. I feel that when these other initiatives are brought up along with the CRP it's giving the idea that the students who are in support of the CRP aren't for other great initiatives like the Lyft program. I believe in every single initiative that has been brought up. If we were to deny this than we would be denying voiced that have been brought up in senate speaking for what they believe in. After this meeting there are three more senate meetings, one of those is going to be an allocation of next semester's budget. If we deny this, we are just going to have to bring it up again next semester. If we approve it here then we can finally focus on everything else. We've spent enough time on this already.
 - i. Response - Carolina - I hear you all on not wanting to pitch initiative against initiative. You all have \$10,000 for these initiatives. The \$13,000 for the digital subscription can be put toward other initiatives to help pay for them.
 - ii. Response - Jake - ASG's total budget is far more than \$13,000. Comparing other initiatives to this is disingenuous when you all would pass \$3,000.00 for food
 - 1. Response - Carolina - I think there may be a misunderstanding of how that 1.2 million is used. We fund centers, we fund TPB, etc.. The pool used for initiatives are primarily those \$10,000.

2. Response - Marion - I want to clarify something the \$3,000 used for food for senate is not money that is being taken away from something else. That money is from my budget from money remaining from two events that have already occurred and had excess funds. That money was reallocated within my budget, it did not come from anywhere else except the money that was allocated to me. That money towards food promotes two things:
 - a. Brings people to senate
 - b. Ensures the health of senators
 - c. This was not a quick decision. I consulted numerous advisors before making this decision.

cc. Andrew -

- i. I think one of the things we need to remember as members of ASG is the school's mission as a changemaker campus. That does not include paying \$13,000 for a newspaper. My understanding of that mission is making change for people who have been historically marginalized
 1. LGBTQ - we had a hate crime
 2. Food insecurity
 3. Accessibility issues
- ii. We have not had an opportunity to discuss these things because we've been discussing the same issues for weeks

dd. Krystal - This issue has become very polarized, we are only hearing the same side. This argument is confirmation bias. We are only for information that is going to support one thing. No one comes to my office hours I had to go up to people on my own to ask them what they think of the CRP. Even people who used the CRP daily understood that this fund could serve a greater population on this campus. I have heard over and over again that the Wall Street Journal is necessary for research. The Copley Library is used strictly for research purposes.

- ee. Mary-Logan - At this point I feel like were all saying the same things over and over again. Have we honestly passed anything that has been above \$5000? This is our time to make a decision for students. This has been a recurring issue because it's what the students want. It's too important not to talk about and not to talk about what the students want.
- ff. Alana - As a first year student, I am more than comfortable not using the CRP because we were taught how to use it from the beginning. We were taught how to use the copley library and all of its functions.
- gg. Nadia - Someone said that all the students want this and have been asking for it but I don't think that's true. They're not here. I don't think enough students care enough for someone to say that all the students are asking for this.
- hh. Jesse - I was someone who was on the finance committee last year and the decisions you make on that committee are not as black and white as people think they are. It's really easy to assume that the decisions being made are being made at a really rapid pace and they're not. It's difficult when people are coming from centers asking for money and you know that you can't give them anything. You have to ask why students who are paying so much money are having to cover the cost of something that should already be covered. You're trying to give money to things that are a priority. You have to decide which things within those centers will receive priority over the other. It's not easy. You have to go line by line through every single thing to ensure you're being as fair as possible.
- ii. Angelo - I move to limit this debate to five minutes
 - i. Seconded
 - ii. Motion passes
- jj. Rhonda -
 - i. By voting on not funding the CRP we are banking on the fact that what our initiatives are and the things we're trying to pass are better than the CRP.

- ii. Why are we paying nearly the same amount as UC Berkeley when we have maybe $\frac{1}{3}$ of the student body they have? If we were able to continue discussion with Wall Street Journal and find a cheaper option that is something we can work on in the future.
- kk. George/Madeline - You can suggest a lower amount for the CRP but it would have to go back to the finance committee where it would be voted on and then be brought back to the senate.
- ll. Jake - Another senator brought up a program that UC Berkeley had and I think it would be prudent to discuss a lower price with the Wall Street Journal. Then there would be leftover money to go to all these other great programs.
- mm. Eniya -
 - i. We have reached our allotted time for this discussion
 - ii. I suggest we make this a roll call vote so that we can hear everyone's opinion clearly
- nn. Carolina - The motion on the floor is to deny the Wall Street Journal funding. When your name is called you will either vote yes to not fund it or not to fund it.
- oo. Eniya - Moves to make this a roll call vote
 - i. Seconded
 - ii. Motion passes
- pp. Finance committee was to approve the digital
 - i. If you vote yes you vote to not fund the CRP
 - ii. No funds the CRP
 - iii. Senate has voted that the college readership program will not be funded