

Council Meeting Minutes 1/29/11

Agenda:

- Check-In
- Job Jots
- YRUU Involvement in DA
- Elections Conference Ballot Proposals
- Regulations on Drug Use
- Hawaii Fund

Job Jots Check-Ins:

LDC: Four Deans found- Alexa, Mia, Eric and Michael; there's a location (Berkeley) and date (1st- 3rd of April) is set

Dean Bible: Done, thanks to Meg!

SDC: nothing at all. Jeremy should be added since he goes to Palo Alto. Meg should be off of it since she's leaving council. (tabled to after elections)

A Guide to Yelling: Mia did it, maybe, talk to her!

Inside-Out Groups: no response from Lady

New Treasurer: Adam is down, Adam steps into Kalaya's uncompleted two year term, from now until elections con 2012. *Consensus*

DA Activities: Outreach branch (Alexa, Abbie, Adam, and Kathleen) are doing something

Email Laney: Alexa and Emily will email Laney from Davis about DA

YRUU Involvement in District Assembly:

Tom Zolot, a former YRUUer, sent an email to council regarding the High School room at YRUU and how the district intends to make it more structured. Council was posed with the choice of taking this issue into their hands or giving the responsibility to the district. Facing this issue themselves would be a challenge because teenagers, parent and people running DA all have completely different expectations. Council needs to clarify what of this is actually their job. At DA last year the MUUGs room had lots of structure. The kids were not permitted to leave the room without an adult. In fact, one parent wanted to put teens in MUUGs because the youth room was too laid back. Some had the opinion that YRUU stepping in would provide more structure that youth would actually enjoy, but would be satisfactory for parents. In the past, YRUU has put on intergenerational workshops, circle-style workshops and bridging ceremonies. The point was also asserted that it would be tremendously different than anything YRUU has ever done before making it a difficult task. Although it would be challenging, taking on this job would give YRUU a presence at DA that it's never had before. It would allow outreach to Youth who don't know of cons, but were brought to DA by their parents. The idea was put out of adding DA organization to RE Outreach position. This would require that person to go to DA and be willing to put in a large amount of work. Other members of council suggested slowly trying to merge into DA through the leadership that already exists. It was determined that edging in is probably a better tactic as it has gone very well when ran by adults. Problems that occurred last year stemmed off the youth themselves. They would fall asleep in workshops and then head back to the room and just make out. This has now

stained YRUU's reputation, and council must come up with a way to recreate DA with positive structure. The idea was put forth to implement YELLers at DA including a "Touchgroup Leader at Large" or a CABBAGE. They would give a standard orientation and try to emulate the free-time atmosphere at Cons, empowering people to run group activities.

As far as involvement with DA at large, it was suggested to run a workshop allowing questions adults about cons. This has been done in the past and worked out very nicely. It was essentially a mini-con, but instead of doing con activities, the participants asked questions about them. Informing adults about cons greatly improved YRUU's image; it would be a good idea to do this again. Council determined after a long discussion that Youth-run workshops should be individual job jots, not group brainstorming. Alexa and Emily were job jotted to email Laney from Davis to get into details about programming. It was also agreed that there is no need to create a new position on council to handle DA affairs. There's an outreach group on council, and they should have this job. An amendment should be made to Policies and Procedures to officiate this. The phrase "The Outreach Group is responsible for ensuring that outreach activities of some type will occur at DA" will be added to the section of Policies and Procedures which outlines Council's breakdown. *Consensus*

Elections Conference:

Council proceeded to discuss proposals going up for voting at Elections Con and appoint official leaders for the Nominating Committee, Logan and Meg *Consensus*. As far as Bylaw changes, Council wrote up a few. The first delineates GRUUST more accurately than the current description. Proposal: Put the following text on the elections con ballot as the new description for GRUUST editor in the PCD YRUU bylaws: "GRUUST, PCD YRUU's creative media distribution outlet shall be used as a medium in which to share art, media, and other creative ideas between members of the community. GRUUST shall also serve as a way of promoting PCD YRUU events and the greater PCD YRUU community. GRUUST editors shall manage and distribute media and other content related to GRUUST." *Consensus*

Council also sought out to amend the description of Social Action Coordinators to include publication about current events. It was determined that the information about publishing a zine should be placed in Policies and Procedures as a guideline to the future, but not as an official requirement. Proposal: Place the following on the Ballot at elections con under the SAC section: "Social Action Coordinantor(s) shall keep PCD YRUU members aware of Social Action activities and events inside and outside the district by providing regular social action updates to the resource master and by planning social action activities for the summer conference. Social Action Coordinators(s) shall also organize social action activities for the time allotted at all conferences." *Consensus*

The next subject to arise was Drug Use at and before cons. This subject brought about a failed proposal: Change rule number one on official rules of behavior to "Being under the influence of any intoxicating substance not prescribed by a physician is strictly prohibited" and sparked copious amounts of conversation.

Drugs at and Before Cons:

The topic of drug use at and before cons galvanized lots of discussion about various related subjects. Council agreed on the idea that the rules must make it clear that arriving at a conference under the influence is not permitted. Other subjects brought about polarization. It was suggested that the rule should only prohibit drug use without prescription, but the question aroused about how the district would react to the use of medical marijuana at cons.

Some felt that there are enough substitutes for medical marijuana that it doesn't need to be allowed at cons. Others supported it being prohibited for reasons of liability. If it got out that this was allowed, PCD might altogether abolish cons especially since YRUU already experiences difficulties with insurance. It was brought up that this is an extremely complicated situation because people have unnecessary medical marijuana licenses and abuse it. It was suggested that things like this should be evaluated on a case by case basis not by a blanket rule because Cons aim to not exclude people, and that is all a blanket rule would do. If the word the change was written in a vague way that doesn't explicitly say "yes" or "no" council could make exceptions and figure them out as they come up. Proposal: Change rule 1 to say: "PCD YRUU prohibits use of alcohol, and of drugs prohibited by applicable laws; therefore, PCD YRUU prohibits possession and use of these substances at its events, and prohibits attendance at events under the influence of such substances even if the use happens elsewhere. We see this rule from two key perspectives: The spirit of this rule is about ensuring that conferees keep themselves in a clear-headed state to the greatest degree possible, regardless whether the substance is legal or illegal, prescribed or unprescribed. The letter of this rule is about complying with laws and providing a truly safe and healthy environment for young people. PCD YRUU leadership shall ensure that both the spirit and the letter of this rule are implemented with the best interests of the community and the individual in mind." *Consensus*

After this decision was made it was expressed that some members of council felt strange about the entire thing, and that it will certainly come up again and need to get revised. The point was made, however, that this new rule is directly affecting people now and preventing them from attending cons. Council repeated that it would be done case by case, but there was a case all along that was not being addressed. The conversation about this particular case, and anything else on this topic was tabled to the retreat.

Hawaii Fund:

A youth visited the YRUU group, and found that they are indeed very interested in coming to PCD YRUU's WUUKY. There is already a box on the registration form about donating to a fund to pay for travel expenses to benefit youth from Hawaii. It was suggested that someone should send out mass emails to let people know that this is available. It was also suggested that this travel fund simply be combined with the scholarship fund. Ideas were tossed around, but no official decision was reached on the matter of the Hawaii fund. The subject was tabled to the retreat.