MINUTES
For the 6th Meeting of the 33rd Session
03 October 2019
Room 201 9:00pm – Cowles Library

I. Call to Order – 9:03pm
II. Roll Call
III. Approval of Minutes
   A. Motion to Approve by Treasurer Wright
   B. Seconded by Senator VanDrongelen
   C. Motion Carries
IV. Approval of the Agenda
V. Student Body President Report – Nicholas Johnston
   A. Introduction of Guests and Proxies
      a. Wyatt VanDyke, Election Commission Appointee
      b. Lorien MacEnulty, MISFIT
      c. Keegan Fingers, MISFIT
      d. Danielle Green, Drake R;se Up
      e. Abbie Garland, Drake R;se Up
      f. Sarah Herring, Election Commissioner Co-Chair Appointee
      g. Joseph, Drake Comrades
      h. Maddie Ruben, Committee Appointee
      i. Jaime Izaguirre, Drake Comrades
      j. Gabby, Drake Comrades
      k. Drake Comrades Member
      l. Erin Lain, Associate Provost
      m. Tom Bush, Committee Appointee
      n. Andrew Klinke, Parliamentarian Appointee
      o. Ashley DeLarm, Proxy for Senator Tekautz
      p. Mady Nachman, Proxy for Senator Maulsby
      q. Tirfiya Musa, Proxy for Senator Binion
      r. Sol Marburg, Proxy for Senator Cohen
      s. Former Senator Aaron Eisler, Proxy for Senator Blume
   B. President’s Cabinet
      a. The President’s Cabinet met last night. I thought it was extraordinarily productive. We have some cool new ideas moving forward with the President’s Cabinet. We talked a lot about the conversations we built upon in last year’s President’s Cabinet, which I was a part of as Student Body Treasurer. Talking a lot about what the culture is here on campus as far as programming goes and students meeting late, how late students meet. We also talked about potentially looking into a recommendation that religious holidays that are not with the Christian calendar are potentially observed by blocking off those dates from being able to reserve for – not for student activities. We are hoping to maybe have that as a groundwork to talk to the administration and faculty senate about ways they can collaborate on that as well. More conversations to come, we meet once a month. We’re hoping to get some really good proposals. It’s my goal this year on the President’s Cabinet to get some really tangible things done, not just talk about issues but take actions as well. I think we have a really great group, everyone it seemed to me was really on board with what we discussed. I’m excited.
   C. Appointments
      a. I think I’ve got all my appointments done. Senator Reichardt and I worked together to nominate our BSC representative; I have nominated my three representatives to the Admissions, Financial Aid, and Retention Committee on the Faculty Senate. I said I would leave one spot open for a first-year senator candidate and I did follow through on that promise, so Alyssa Brouillet will be serving on that committee along with Maggie Golshani and Genesis Buckhalton, so those three individuals will be serving on that committee. That’s all the appointments I think I have to do. If I discover I have more I will let you know how those go.
   D. Parliamentary Procedure
      a. We do have a longer agenda tonight, so we may run into our 11:30 deadline for stopping the meeting. Just a reminder, if we get to 11:30 PM, I will stop the meeting, I will entertain a motion to extend the meeting. We
VII. Speakers

A. Associate Provost, Equity & Inclusion | Erin Lain | Campus Climate Assessment

1. Good evening, I think most of you probably heard me speak at the opening meeting for all of the student org presidents and vice presidents, so some of this will be a refresher. I’m here to talk about the campus climate assessment that we’re going to be conducting this fall. Starting November 5th, we’re going to put out a survey to all faculty, staff, and students to ask about your experiences as far as the social climate and how inclusive you feel our campus is and the challenges you face. We conducted this type of survey five years ago. In 2014, we did the last campus climate assessment survey and we found out a lot of things, not surprising things but things that helped us create change and motivated us to do a whole host of things. Some of the things that came from the campus climate survey were the creation of Bulldog Foundations and Equity Action Partners and Student Equity Action Partners. My position was created, there’s been some policies on the faculty staff side as far as maternity and paternity leave. So lots of good things have come out the data that we collected in the first campus climate survey. But, last time we did it, all of you were not students yet. All of those folks have graduated now. We’ve had a lot of change on campus so it’s time to do it again; five years later it’s time to reassess and see where we’re at. What I need from you is as you start to see things come out, encourage your friends, your circle of influence to take the survey. There will also be a call for volunteers on October 17th when we kick off this project. There will be an opportunity if you are interested to register to volunteer, you’ll get a t-shirt so that’s cool and also a fancy laptop sticker, I know you love those. A volunteer will canvas around campus, we’ll have pop up stations where people can do the survey, so you can be helping people, handing out cupcakes and incentives to get people to take the survey and also answer any questions they have about the survey. You can be looking for that volunteer opportunity. Other than that, I just wanted to put that on your radar and let you know. Again, the survey will be released November 5th, it will be open for three weeks. Starting October 17th, the campus will really gear up and start talking about this quite a bit.

1. Jaime: It’s from my understanding that trans people were not counted in the last survey, I don’t know if that’s true or not but that’s what I was told?
a. On the survey there were sections where you can identify all sorts of information about your identity. Faculty, staff, and students could identify as trans, however, that sample size was so small that it wasn’t counted in the percentages on our website. In a survey of vulnerable populations, if there’s not enough people in a group that meet a certain threshold, we don’t report that data individually. We might do it in aggregate. For example, I think I am the only biracial person in the Provost’s Office reporting to the Provost, so if I identify that I am biracial and I’m in the Provost’s Office, they’ll figure out how I answered. A similar concept applied there. So, people were asked about their gender identity, all sorts of information about their social identities, but if the group was smaller than a certain amount; I think the group was five or less; then those results weren’t reported for that certain group. My guess is that this time around, that will probably change, but we’ll see.

2. Senator Blume: How long is the survey? How long will it take?
   a. It’s about 20 minutes. It’s pretty extensive, it will ask all sorts of questions about when you’ve experienced inclusion and when you’ve experienced exclusion, and that can be in terms of bullying, harassment, not being asked to participate, those types of things. Lots of different questions about that.

3. Former Senator Eisler: Where is the survey available?
   a. It will be online. We will print copies particularly for some groups on campus who do not have mobile devices or computers readily accessible. We will also have the survey translated into Spanish as well, so there will be a couple of different options.

4. Senator Johnson: Thank you for being here and answering our questions so well. I know it’s a lot of data to sift through after everything is done, but do you have a timeline of when you’d expect everything to be recorded?
   a. The plan is the survey will be open the whole month of November, it will close right before Thanksgiving break. We’re working with a research team at ISU that’s going to help us analyze the data one for just credibility, to get an outside perspective looking at the data and telling us how we should be viewing the data. They’re going to be working on that analysis throughout spring semester. There may be some preliminary results that come out late spring semesters but we’re planning a series of two town halls and several smaller group discussions in fall of 2020 to talk about next steps. The whole campus will engage in the process of creating a strategic plan around the data that we collect.

5. Senator Johnson: Will that be similar to the town hall last semester?
   a. Similar to that, but more participation. Less of just me standing up and talking, more of all of us, not just students but faculty and staff, talking about what the data says and what we should be doing.

6. Senator Binion: Is faculty going to encourage students to take the survey by mentioning it in class and stuff?
   a. All of the dean’s will be reaching out to faculty at their faculty meetings encouraging them to at least take a minute to talk about the survey. I doubt many faculty will give you time to take the survey, but there should be a lot of promotion going on during classes. Thank you for asking.

7. VPSL Roach: Thank you for being here. How has the survey evolved or changed since it was first administered five years ago?
   a. Five years ago, we actually hired a consultant group to help with the survey. They’ve done the campus climate survey at Iowa State, University of Iowa and other places. When we did that five years ago, through our contract we gained rights to the survey instrument itself. This summer, there’s been a team of students, faculty, and staff; including your previous senate president, looking at and agonizing over every question on the survey. We really took a critical eye to it and asked if it was information that we needed to collect and if it wasn’t, we took it out. There are some sections that we are adding in; one section that we created is about hidden or invisible labor. I’m not sure you’re familiar with that concept, but a lot of times if you’re a part of a marginalized identity or an underrepresented identity, you spend a lot of time and energy either representing your group or helping others within your group or other groups. That’s a concept that we are asking a lot more questions about. Since last time around, some things have changed politically, so we’re asking a lot more questions about the political climate on campus. Last time there was a few questions but not to the extent that we
want to survey people about now. There will be more questions on that. There’s a couple of other pockets of questions but mostly the survey, I would say 80% of the survey stayed the same, 20% is new or changed.

8. Senator Cohen: What percentage of students or faculty are you hoping to reach?
   a. Last time we had 30% of students, faculty, and staff participate. What we know from social science research is that if we get 30%, we can then extrapolate those responses to the wider campus. The responses that we receive from that survey, we know that’s enough to determine how the entire campus is feeling. This time, we’re hoping for 30% or higher. It would be great to get higher because the higher number of students, faculty and staff that participate, the more accurate our findings are.
   b. Once the data comes out, I would expect that student senate would be one of the first groups to look at the data in the spring probably. Not to take your meeting time, but there might be another time for this body to meet and look through the data and kind of look at the first cuts.

VIII. Unfinished Business
   A. None

IX. New Business
      a. Seconded by Senator Johnson
      b. Dialogue to VPSL Roach
         i. We endured a grueling interview process for the past week. We interviewed probably 20 people. There were multiple applicants for all ex-officio positions except for the clerk position, there was only one applicant and that person withdrew their name from consideration before the process was finished. We don’t have a clerk but that’s okay, we’re going to keep looking. In the meantime, we have three very qualified individuals here and I would encourage you all to get to know them and vote yes.
      c. Questions
         i. None
      d. Dialogue
         i. None
      e. Motion Carries
      a. Seconded by Senator Springsteen
      b. Dialogue to VPSL Roach
         i. If you will turn your motion over on the backside of that, it is the list of all the committee appointments. We had ten to twelve people interview. Some people chose that they wanted to apply for five positions, some only picked one, so we did our best to compromise with those people and give them what they wanted while still filling all of our committees. You will notice that some of the committees look rather sparse, that is okay, we need at least some people appointed by the first of October. I will talk about this a bit later in my report, but we will do more outreach and recruitment for committees. If you are a committee chair and you don’t have a full committee and you would like a full committee, I would encourage you to reach out to people that you know you would work with well as I encouraged you to do in the spring. In the meantime, all of these individuals are wonderful and fully qualified. Please vote yes.
      c. Questions
         i. Senator Trees: Why is this dude on three committees?
            1. He indicated he would be interested in serving on 2 or more on his application. The third one that he is on is the Election Commission which is co-chaired by two people and has an actual committee of people. It may only meet once, it may only meet twice, it may never meet at all. It’s really only in the case of a hearing process, but since that is such a brief period of time, he indicated that he would be okay serving on that as well.
      d. Dialogue
         i. None
      e. Motion Carries
      a. Seconded by Senator Blume
      b. Dialogue to Treasurer Wright
i. If you look on the back of the vision statement motion, you’ll see that $75 is requested for food and there’s also a request for money for food in the next motion. Per the rules and regulations of the SFAC Handbook, we cannot fund food for conferences if it’s not included in the registration fee, so that’s why those have been zeroed out.

ii. Motion to allocate time to speaker
   1. Seconded by VPSL Roach
      a. Hi there, my name is Lorien, I’m one of the members of MISSFIT, which is the particle physics research group on campus. MISSFIT stands for Magneto Ionization Spacecraft Shield for Interplanetary Travel. Essentially what we are endeavoring to do is design a radiation shield that would accompany man missions to Mars. There is a lot of interplanetary radiation that would prove harmful, even fatal, to astronauts on a trip to Mars and back. We’re trying to solve that problem. We’ve made some headway this year, by no means are we anywhere close to solving the problem itself but we’ve narrowed it down to two options in our conceptual design that would really make it easier, they are experimental and theoretical, and those are things we want to present at a conference. Most notably we want to present to the Division of Nuclear Physics Annual Meeting held on October 12-14th, we’ll only be going for the Conference Experience for Undergraduates which goes just from the 13th-14th. That said, I have the majority of my funding paid for, I’m asking kind of on personal grounds. MISSFIT has a grant as a group from NASA, but that grant is only used for the benefit of the person who actually got the grant for us and for materials going to MISSFIT itself; it doesn’t help us with getting to conferences. We sought funding elsewhere, I think we applied as a group to STAR Fund; STAR Fund helps people with major financial qualms, I myself do not. As many, I’m just looking to fill in the gaps. I do have funding from the Conference Experience for Undergrads, they paid for the majority of my flight, they pay for lodging, they pay for 100 out of the $125 of the entrance fee. I’m asking for $25 for the conference fee as well as for money to cover the remainder of our flight.
         i. Senator Klein: Where are you getting the other funding?
             1. The total cost would be the flight to and from DC; since the hotel is right across from the airport, I don’t think I’ll need much for transportation, but that’s debatable. There would be the conference fee itself which is $125 if you got it by the deadline, which I did, so I just need the remaining $25. And then on most occasions it would be lodging as well for the hotel that the conference is staying at. I believe some other members of MISSFIT are requesting money for that lodging itself, but the Conference Experience for Undergraduates paid for that for me specifically.
         ii. Senator Klein: How available are these funds to the rest of the members?
             1. The Conference Experience for Undergraduates is a subset of the Division of Nuclear Physics. We were supposed to apply mid-summer for that funding. They also have reserved funds though because students from all over the country want to go to present their posters or research results. They undergo an application process. I think they resolved the maximum they would allot per university is paying for four students to go, but they for us only gave us the cost for about two and a half students to go. We did ask them for more funding, but they denied that request.
         iii. VPSL Roach: Thank you for being here, it’s nice to see you again. The conference is taking place in about a week and a half. My question is why is it so short notice that you’re in front of senate?
             1. We had tried multiple sources of funding beforehand, there was a portion of time where we were really trying to get it from the NASA grant itself, the NASA grant said no, sorry, we can’t give that to you, we can only give it to the person that acquired the grant. Then we tried with STAR funding, we tried again with the...
CU because they had a second application for it and then finally
after having exhausted all resources, we decided that if the
students who are engaging in MISSFIT could go to senate and ask
for a little bit of funding, that would help us out a lot.

iv. Senator Trees: Do you get class credit?
   1. You can request class credit for engaging in MISSFIT in and of
      itself for a semester; it’s anywhere between one to four credits.
      Most of the time it’s one, but I this semester did not request any.
      I’m just doing this for fun.

v. Senator Trees: How long have you been in MISSFIT?
   1. All four years, since its founding. I think I’m actually the only
      founding member left.

vi. Senator Hutchison: You said the conference is just right across the street
    from the airport, so do you need the $10 for transportation?
   1. That is mainly because I am not familiar with how DC is
      structured. I looked online and they said that they would have
      transport via metro, which would be the cheapest offered as
      opposed to Uber. When I looked at how far away the hotel is from
      the airport, it says it’s across the street, but I think it’s something
      like a twenty-minute drive to get away from the airport. Anyways,
      I thought it might just be easiest to get a metro card. I don’t know
      if I will need it, if you don’t want to give it to me, I’ll figure it out.

vii. Senator Hutchison: How many Drake students total are going?
    1. Seven totals, a lot of them aren’t receiving funding at all.

iii. Those were some great questions, so thank you. I think this is great, that’s $80 invested in students and
    research. Last year through a similar conference we got publicity from Buzz Aldrin, which is pretty
cool. This is definitely great for students and great for Drake.

c. Questions
   i. Senator Klein: What’s your timeline for bringing an allocation to student senate?
      1. Last week, the request was made last week to meet with the groups but one of the request
         people was out of town, so I asked them both if they were okay with just meeting this week
         and then both come to floor at the same time to make things easier. Also, in conversation it
         seemed like they’ve already paid for a lot of the conference, so they didn’t have to pay for
         complete registration fees and stuff like that. That’s something that came up with SFAC last
         year, we don’t really know how much to allocate to people who have requested for other
         places but haven’t been approved or denied yet. I personally appreciate them fronting the cost
         and waiting until they had heard back from other funding options before coming. I think it’s
         very responsible.

   ii. Senator Klein: Hypothetically if a group on Monday were to send in a request, could they come to that
       Thursday senate meeting?
      1. Yes.

   iii. Senator Klein: And groups could ask for reimbursement?
      1. Yes, and that’s what this will be most of.

d. Dialogue
   i. Senator Blume: I think this is really cool research, it’s an opportunity to represent Drake in a really
      awesome way. I appreciate that they sought out other funding sources before coming to senate which
      is really cool. Seeing as they are requesting under $100, I motion to vote by acclamation.

e. Motion Carries

   a. Seconded by Senator Reichardt
   b. Dialogue to Treasurer Wright
      i. Main difference here, you’ll see how much of Lorien’s was actually covered by the grant from the
         conference, that’s the first thing to notice and once again, the food, not being able to fund that if it’s
         not included in the registration costs.
      ii. Motion to allocate time to the speaker
         1. Seconded by Senator Springsteen
a. I’m here on behalf of MISSFIT requesting funding to travel to the Nuclear Physics Conference to present research. Most of what Lorien said applies to me. I did apply for the Conference Experience for Undergrads grant; however, I did not receive any funding from them. I think that’s the only difference between myself and Lorien. I’m also not a founding member, this is my second year.
   i. Senator Reichardt: Hi, thanks for being here. There is a possibility of receiving academic credit, are you receiving any this semester?
      1. I am not.
   ii. Senator Trees: What are you going to do about transportation?
      1. I didn’t do as much digging as Lorien, but given the cost is $10, I’m willing to do that myself.

c. Questions
   i. None

d. Dialogue
   i. None

e. Motion Carries

E. **MOTION SS [191003] – E; [Organizational Approval, Drake R;se Up] – [Senator Klein]**

a. Seconded by Senator Johnson
b. Dialogue to Senator Klein
   i. Get excited, this is the first new new student group that’s coming to us for organizational approval. Let’s have some thoughtful dialogue and ask some good questions.
   ii. Motion to allocate time to our speaker
      1. Seconded by Senator Springsteen

a. My name is Abbie Gartland and I am Drake R;se Up president. It is our one and only suicide prevention team. I’m also Former Senator Abbie Gartland but don’t call me that, that’s not what I’m here for. Who are we? We are Drake R;se Up, we are the suicide prevention team on campus. We got started when I was a sophomore. When I was a sophomore, I wanted to bring suicide prevention and awareness to Drake’s campus. I put on the very first Suicide Prevention Week at Drake in 2018. Last year, we had six of us. This year, we have 53+ members. It is so phenomenal, and it is so so fun to watch this group. We have two student senators on our board, two RHA members, one Active Minds member, people from NAMI, from Please Pass the Love, from the military; we have over 1,000 high schoolers on our team, we have religious representatives from the Jewish community, from all Christian communities, and we’re working on getting more. We work with FSL, the counselling center, VIP, and everybody joins every single day. It is so phenomenal to watch this team. We want to be an RSO because it is our job as students and as humans on campus and in our community to do our best and take our strengths and talents and leadership to help those who can’t help themselves. Really thinking about it, we don’t want to be an RSO, we need to be an RSO. The reason we need to be an RSO is because we need a place for people who have been affected by suicide or who will be affected by suicide to come to us, to be able to get resources, to plan events with us, to know that there’s a place for them on campus and in the community. Also, we need our own budget. That is super why we’re here. We need money to bring in these speakers, to bring in these resources, because they are not free, but we are so willing to spend that money to help our students and all of our community members. Thank you so so much for having us, we are so so honored that you let us come talk in front of you.
   i. Senator Johnson: Thank you for your energy, I love this. Can you speak a little bit about the high school involvement?
      1. We have representatives from all over Des Moines. We were asked to come by NAMI to this event called Stomp Out the Stigma where there is going to be over 1,000 high schoolers there and all the high schoolers are going to come sit on our team. We as a huge team, because power comes in numbers, will be taking that on with our high schoolers as well.
ii. VPSL Roach: How do I submit an Oscar nomination for that proposal you just gave us? That’s a legitimate question. Anyways, thanks so much for being there. The one question I do have for you is that statistically, suicide disproportionately affects men; I notice in your breakdown of members you have a strong majority of women, what are you doing to reach out to men on campus and get them engaged with these resources?

1. Thank you so much for asking that question. I have actually just met with some members of Theta Chi and we are going to be hosting something second semester where Theta Chi is going to lead it and it’s how to do mental health with men specifically. We like to work with women but it is a lot harder for men to come forward so we will be working with Positive MENtality and all those kinds of organizations to work with men. We will start with our fraternities and then build from there.

iii. Treasurer Wright: How did you get the name R:se Up and the significance of the semi-colon?

1. R:se Up is based on the song by Andra Day “Rise Up.” She talks about how I will rise up for you, we will rise up for you. That’s what we’re doing and so that’s where that comes from, that song. The semi-colon, it’s a thing in the suicide prevention and mental health awareness community that the semi-colon in a sentence represents a place where a sentence could’ve ended but it didn’t, so we use that as a symbol for a place where your life could’ve ended but didn’t. We used that at that significance for that.

iv. Treasurer Wright: In the past we’ve been wary about senior led organizations. Do you have a plan about leadership after you’re gone? Obviously, you’re very passionate and Oscar-worthy, but is there a plan for continuation after you graduate?

1. Like I said, we have 50 people currently on our team. Both of my vice presidents are sophomores and then we have people of every age. We have tons of first years, we have seniors, we have juniors, and sophomores, grad students, and then the high schoolers that will come to Drake. It will be sustainable for the rest of our lives.

v. Senator Cohen: Could you speak just a little bit on resources you plan to bring to campus for those who might self-identify as at-risk?

1. We are doing some training sessions on October 19, senate is invited. It’s required, by the way. We’re doing some training sessions, we work with the counseling center a lot, we have the Crisis Observation Center, we just have all of these resources and people that we can direct to different places.

vi. VPSL Roach: You did mention that your org will be needing annual funding in the future, for what do you need annual funding?

1. We need to bring in a speaker every year. Last year we brought in Kevin Hines, so phenomenal, but he cost $6500. He was not cheap but worth every cent. Speakers are not cheap. We need to go get supplies so we can hand out ribbons, we need money for cupcakes when we do Cupcakes with Counselors. Really just a lot of little things but especially the speakers.

vii. Senator Binion: How are you going to provide resources for students of color and the different experiences they have?

1. Thank you so much for asking that question. We do have a Diversity and Equity and Inclusion chair on our board, it’s actually Jaime over there who is our chair. He works with groups of students of color and different religious groups and all that kind of stuff. We know that suicide affects females and males and different races and all of that differently. We have Jaimie, he
works with me a lot on how we can talk about diversity and how suicide affects every different community and how we can try to combat that.

viii. Treasurer Wright: How do you get involved?
1. Anybody can join, if you want to get involved just come talk to me. We have lots of people you can talk to. Everyone is able to join. If you can’t make our meetings on Tuesday, I will meet with you separately; I’m already doing that for like twenty other people. We want you to be involved with this because this is a team effort that we’re doing.

ix. Treasurer Wright: What are you doing outside of Suicide Prevention Week?
1. We do training sessions with our counselling center, so on October 19th that’s our first one with all student leaders, so SAB, UNITY, Student Senate, RHA. We do training sessions; we are doing a Halloween event called “What Mask are you Wearing?” We will have a thing where you can write things you hide behind your mask on the back of it and how we can get the good things on the front of your mask and how we can erase the things on the back of your mask. We do programs like that. We have two Share my Story events; one will be at Mars on Valentine’s Day called Love Yourself and it’s a Spoken Word event. We have one in November that is a Spoken Word event on campus. We’ll just do a million little things and collaborations throughout the year.
   a. Danielle Green: Abbie had asked us to put together a suicide prevention training that can be sustainable, so we’ve done that, it’s about 30 minutes. Pretty soon on our website, organizations can request for us to come train in collaboration with Drake Rlse Up, so that’s another way that this will be sustainable.
      i. Senator Johnson: Is that something you can foresee for residence halls?
      ii. Yes, most definitely.

x. Treasurer Wright: Something we’re pushing a lot for this year is instead of doing several smaller events, just doing fewer, bigger, more impactful and collaborative events. How are you taking that into consideration?
1. We are doing the Share My Story events in collaboration with DU Spoken Word, with the dance team, with every kind of performance group on campus. The training sessions, it’s all student leaders. We are so all about collaboration. Our big thing is power comes in numbers.

2. Just going forward, this is the time when I will share any thoughts from my committee and clarify anything that I had in my one-on-one meeting. You all have the google form, which is what they submitted before meeting with me, it’s just basic information. I hope you all had a chance to read that before coming here tonight but if you didn’t, read it now, it’s in front of you, as well as their constitution. This is what we ratify if we vote yes tonight. Anything about this group, they have 53 members, and they have rotating meetings and so every week there’s a new type of meeting with their group. Other than that, all the info you need to know is on those pages in front of you.

c. Questions
   i. None

d. Dialogue
   i. Senator Cohen: I’ve talked to Abbie a bit on this before. I can’t think of many things more important to bring to campus and I can’t think of many people better suited to bring it to campus. I know Senator Cohen expressed to me that she’s in favor of this and I personally am as well.
   ii. VPSL Roach: Abbie Gartland is the light of my life; every time I see her she makes me smile. I participated in several suicide prevention week things last year, including Spoken Word. Abbie is
supportive and amazing and a great planner and a great leader, I think that is evident in everything she provided tonight. Drake R;se Up should be an organization. I am fully in favor of this, thank you for everything that we do.

iii. Senator Springsteen: I don’t want to be repetitive, but I am a really big fan of this. I am friends with a lot of people who are a part of this organization, and they just love it, they love Abbie, who wouldn’t love Abbie? I am just so impressed, and I really appreciate how you know when to delegate and I think that is a really good training opportunity for your vice presidents and other officers. Yes, this was your child but seeing so many people getting involved is really inspiring. I know that there is longevity to this organization so I will be voting yes.

iv. VPSA Drake: Last year I collaborated with Abbie for Suicide Prevention Week and it was the best collaboration I’ve had so far, including being the president of SAB. Not saying everyone else was terrible, but she was awesome. Also, there is fifty people, so they need access to EMS and access to reserving rooms. Think about that. That’s a lot of people to try and find a space for.

v. Senator Johnson: People are being really positive, and I want to be positive too. I want to specifically call out your willingness to collaborate with other organizations, specifically reaching out to groups on campus, that’s really cool and something other organizations should strive for.

vi. Senator Maulsby: This is a super hard topic to talk about so the fact that you’re bringing light to it and bringing it to campus is so important and I’m really excited about it.

vii. Senator Johnson: Motion to vote by acclamation.

e. Motion Carries

  a. Seconded by Senator Springsteen
  b. Dialogue to Senator Klein
     i. Again, you have the constitutions in front of you as well as their responses to the Google Form.
     ii. Motion to allocate time to the speakers.
        1. Seconded by Senator Blume
           a. I’m the president of Drake Comrades, everything is in our constitution. We’re anti-capitalist, anti-fascist, trying to make sure people have housing, trying to get free tampons. General interest topics like that. I’ll just let you ask some questions, I’m kind of new.
              i. Senator Trees: When we spoke before, you talked about being a non-lateral organization, how does that work out?
                 1. We’re non-hierarchical, so I may be the president, but in reality, I don’t have any powers of a president because we’re a lateral org. All decisions are made through a group consensus or a direct democratic vote.
              ii. Senator Trees: Secondly, I’m wondering about the closed meetings. Is that still something that you guys are adamant on?
                 1. Our meetings are dedicated to organizing, so like the housing stuff that we do with the Drake Neighborhood, whenever we meet it’s about agenda working, like kind of recognizing what we’re going to be doing and future actions. It is closed to an extent, but some meetings are open when it’s not organizing, so like when we have political organization events. When we’re organizing, we don’t want to be bickering, we just want to plan stuff.

iii. Senator Trees: How are you granted accessed into Drake Comrades?
   1. You just have to be anti-capitalist and anti-fascist.

iv. Senator Trees: Let’s say you do get approved and you would want to be a part of DPAC. If I’m not a leftist, am I still not allowed to come? The not allowing people in is what interests me. That’s kind of what I’m hinging on for myself, I’m just thinking about providing students opportunity. I’m a little perplexed.
   1. I feel like our social events offer a good opportunity for people to come feel how we’re about. We’ll do anarchist and socialist hangouts and reading books together. We’ll be willing to make exceptions to people in DPAC or student senate or whoever
wanted to come for organizational purposes or if someone wanted to speak in front of the group.

v. Senator Trees: You guys were doing the free tampons petition earlier this semester. I signed it and I put my email, and then I got an email from DSA?
   1. I don’t think you got an email from DSA. You probably got an email from us. I tried to make it clear to everyone who signed that you didn’t need to put your email but if you did, we would put you on an email list for Drake Comrades. If you’d like, we can take you off.

vi. Senator Trees: Be that as it may, are you planning on doing more petitions that include email? I’ve heard multiple people say it wasn’t necessarily clear what the email was for and I’m just wondering about in the future.
   1. We can make it clearer.

vii. Senator Springsteen: Thank you for being here. I was reading over this Google Form information and it says there are no requirements for attendance but it’s also a closed meeting. If someone wanted to join halfway through the semester and just show up to a meeting to get a feeling for what it was like, what would that process look like?
   1. I’d encourage them to go to the political education events and meet us. Most people just message us before coming because we don’t post our meeting times in the general Facebook page so anyone that’s joined so far has messaged the Facebook page.

viii. Senator Springsteen: I’m assuming you would want to bring speakers, but do you have a plan for that and what that would look like? Are you considering seeking annual funding?
   1. No, because political orgs can’t receive funding.

ix. Senator Koch: Thank you for being here tonight. I know you talked a little bit about the stuff you’re doing especially within organizing, and maybe it wasn’t as clear but a lot of the work within organizing, like working with Drake Neighborhood Association, especially looking at this body, there are specific roles that some of us play as it relates to the administration or for example, Senator Cohen, not this Senator Cohen but the other Senator Cohen sits on DNA. I know that myself and VPSL Roach are doing stuff with free tampon project as well. Sorry, that first part was a premise to my question. My question is that, do you see your organization working with organizations like student senate to create more activism and real and legitimate change?
   1. Jaime: Yeah, I mean, I think when there’s overlap. We’ve been in talks with NAAACP, been working with them a lot. I think overlap is majorly what decides that. I’ve been working fairly closely with you and in all honesty, the tampon campaign is not my campaign. We are a lateral group but we operate under the DSA model. The DSA model is basically like there’s working groups so you have a chair for the tampon campaign and a chair for housing, and there would be someone elected for that position but again they would hold no powers over anyone else. I think Gabby can speak a little bit to the tampon campaign.

2. Gabby: Yeah, and I just wanted to add on from earlier too about our organizing being closed. Not our entire meeting is closed, we go through an agenda of like events that are coming up and then we have a closed session to talk about organizing and those specific things. But with the tampon campaign, we started organizing in the summer. We did a good amount of petitioning and we are planning to bring a resolution to student senate and faculty senate. VPSL Roach has helped me understand that a lot and has also helped me with the language required and provided
thoughts on what we should be asking. It’s not like we’re closed to every group on campus, we’re not an isolationist organization. We’re kind of figuring it out still. Because of that overlap, I think student senate has been really helpful and I hope we can have the opportunity to collaborate with you more in the future.

x. Senator Reichardt: I just wanted to ask about one particular phrase in your constitution. Within the purpose statement it says you’re hoping to establish revolutionary forces on this campus. Can you share a little bit about what your vision for that is, because I think that phrase might appear a little loaded to some people?

1. I’m not like Miguel Hidalgo out here, I’m not going to start a peasant revolution. I think what we mean by that is that people are understanding that capitalism is an inherently broken system. Not broken in the sense that it’s not working, it’s working perfectly fine the way it intended to. Ultimately, what we mean by revolution is we want people to put their money where their mouth is and be able to create action and protest and build dual power and counter institutions within a capitalist society, so that being like unions. Some people view communist parties or anarchist/socialist groups as a counter to capitalist institutions, so just general things like that.

xi. Senator VanDrongelen: Why do you want to be an RSO and what value will this bring to Drake?

1. Jaime: That’s a good question. We need to book rooms, that’s for sure, so that’s a big part of it. Also, I think it would also be nice to have a little bit more legitimacy and be recognized as a legitimate ideology.

2. Other Drake Comrades Member: I would say a lot of those earlier things about collaborating with other organizations. We think being recognized as a legitimate student organization kind of allows us to assimilate to the broader culture of Drake organizations and kind of facilitate discussion among multiple groups, whether it be the tampon campaign or the tenant rights organizing, we can collaborate with whoever. We can add our voices to this broader Drake mosaic and in that we can kind of fulfill our own obligations and also add our own material gains.

3. Jaime: Our ideology itself adds to Drake’s climate, because yeah, we’re anti-capitalist, but understanding that we’re anti-capitalist because we believe in racial equality, gender equality, and things around those lines.

4. Joseph: I was interested in joining a socialist organization, so I went to a Central Iowa DSA meeting and they kind of serve the greater Des Moines area, but Drake Comrades serves the Drake area. It’s more local, so we’re serving more local area by having this organization exist.

xii. Senator Cohen: Following up on what Senator Trees asked, it sounds like there’s some degree of closed meeting or organizing at some point. I know it says it’s for anti-capitalist, anti-fascist people. Is that who it’s aimed at or who it’s specifically limited to, and if it’s the latter, is that people who self-identify or how is it restricted?

1. Other Drake Comrades Member: Really, we just require people to behave in good faith. A lot of people may not understand exactly what it means to be anti-capitalist. What we’re really looking for is people who engage with our mission with the intent of furthering it. If you have somebody who is a landlord in our campaign organizing tenants, that would be kind of poisoning the
well. Whether you consider yourself an anti-fascist, anti-capitalist, as opposed to a centrist, as long as you’re engaging with our goals and mission in good faith, that’s what we’re looking for, as opposed to meeting a very technical definition. Within that leftist space, all of us are different types of leftists. We have different ideologies in our space, so we’re mostly just looking to people who are committed to our ideals.

2. Jaime: It’s similar to DSA. DSA (Democratic Socialists of America) does not restrict people from joining the group and often liberals do join the group because they agree with our mission more than they do other left leaning groups.

xiii. Senator Trees: What’s the point of the Facebook page if you don’t disperse information?
1. We’ve had two meetings so far and one time we posted a meeting and the other time we didn’t. Either way, no one was just halfway interested and no one who wasn’t at the first meeting came to the second meeting, so it didn’t make a difference. The Facebook shares articles that are written about us, it shared both the Times-Delphic and the Des Moines Register article. It shares what we’re doing with our campaigns, like our housing campaign and or tampon campaign. Also, it’s just an update on social events plus what outside groups in Des Moines are doing. We share a lot of Central DSA’s events. We shared something about the climate strike organized by Des Moines Sunrise Movement.

xiv. Senator Trees: How much DSA involvement is there within your organization?
1. We’re not involved with DSA. There’s a lot of overlap between our missions obviously because we’re both leftist.

xv. Senator Trees: Do you foresee getting more involved in the future?
1. No, we voted on it already and we don’t want to incorporate into DSA.

xvi. Senator Trees: Generally, what types of topics make a particular session of a meeting be closed? Can you give some general examples? Why not just text afterwards?
1. It’s kind of what distinguishes what’s capable of being done in like an email vs a meeting. I don’t know if you have any familiarity with organizing. Let’s say you’re organizing a forum for a presidential candidate. We have portions where we talk about general information, like who is coming and how many candidates will be there, but when we get into the meetings that are closed, then we talk about logistics, so just stuff that no one needs to know and quite honestly no one probably wants to know. It’s just a matter of doing closed business.

xvii. Treasurer Wright: You have a Venmo account. What bank account does your Venmo go to?
1. That is hooked up to my own until I get a business account.

xviii. Treasurer Wright: I have a question about the TD article published calling Ryan Arnold a problem. Would you like to elaborate on that?
1. I didn’t call Ryan Arnold a problem specifically. I called him a talking head of the university and I stick behind what I said if I’m being honest. That was kind of elaborating further on the viewpoint of our group. Ryan Arnold represents the university and the university is a private corporation. That’s just a reality. Ryan Arnold and I and the group have ideological disagreements about housing and development and how that works under capitalism.
xix. Senator Binion: In terms of your organization, will your first official event be an informational opportunity for the public?
   1. I can speak to our political education social event chair and see what he thinks about it. I think that’s definitely a good idea to be honest, one that I didn’t think of. I really liked the thing that NAACP did with their vision board event. They essentially just did a vision board where they cut stuff out of magazines and pasted it onto a little poster. It seemed kind of fun.

xx. VPSL Roach: Were you aware that having a private bank account associated with your organization is not allowed?
   1. I did not.

xxi. VPSL Roach: What is your plan for correcting that course of action?
   1. I’ll just delete that account.

xxii. VPSL Roach: My next few questions have to do with your preamble and vision statement because I think I’m a little confused. I’m a political science student so a lot of the word’s you guys are using to define yourself have a very heavy weight of meaning. You used words like anarchists, leftist, anti-capitalist, socialist, anti-fascist, and then you also say, “building counter institutions grounded in direct democracy.” I know that you probably know this, but a lot of words seem to contradict each other. I’m going to elaborate. Anarchist and socialist inherently are opposite things. You also say you operate under a set of principles that are about direct democracy, which are again, in direct opposition to some of these other words that you’re using. Why is your purpose so self-contradictory? How can you expect yourselves to operate under something that doesn’t seem to make a lot of sense?
   1. The struggle of most leftist groups it that there are different factions of ideologies competing in a leftist space. Anarchists and Marxist Leninists don’t agree because Marxist Leninists believe you can bring about socialism through the state, whereas anarchists believe the state must be abolished. Our overarching ideology believes that capitalism and fascism is bad. That’s our bottom line.

xxiii. VPSL Roach: Do you think you can actually function with your inherent disagreement?
   1. Yes, we can. It’s kind of like the same way DSA operates. People may snicker behind each other’s backs, but it still works. Ultimately, we’re all devoted to fighting capitalism, that’s the goal, that triumphs overall.

xxiv. VPSL Roach: Why not just say that instead of using all the other words?
   1. I feel like some people might not know what a leftist is, so our definition is inclusive of everyone who is opposed to capitalism and is socialist.

xxv. VPSA Drake: You said your goal is to fight capitalism, are you planning programs other than knowledge meeting to do that or bring any speakers or different activities for people to understand that and also would that be included for everyone or would that just be people who are connected with Drake Comrades? Not a meeting, but a function where people can come, and someone can talk to them about anti-fascism.
   1. Jaime: As long as there’s no organizing taking place then everyone can come.
   2. Other Drake Comrades Member: That’s contingent on RSO status. Since we started last spring, we’ve had kind of a looser collection of organizers. We haven’t engaged in recruitment but as we go forward, we want to hold more info meetings and have meetings
xxvi. Treasurer Wright: How did you come up with the name Comrades?
   1. Comrade is meant to denote a fellow organizer. It’s obviously Soviet terminology but we just use Comrade because it’s all encompassing.

xxvii. Treasurer Wright: Do you think it’s problematic to use a word that’s associated with human rights violations?
   1. No.

xxviii. Treasurer Wright: On your twitter, you said it feels really good to punch neo-Nazis and other alt right organizations, do you think that’s an appropriate way to engage in civil discourse?
   1. Yes. You can’t have civil discourse with Nazis because they want to kill black people, brown people, and queer people.

xxix. Treasurer Wright: Besides neo-Nazis and the alt right, how will you engage in civil discourse with administrators and other political organizations?
   1. We don’t do debates and stuff like that, we’re organizers. We’re trying to make sure people have housing. We have better things to do than just talk.

xxx. Treasurer Wright: Why won’t you publish your plans to combat gentrification?
   1. Then Drake would know about it. Nothing we’re doing is bad, it’s just if Drake knew what we were doing they would be able to get ahead of it. Like that Des Moines Register article, I told the writer a lot she didn’t know and had I told Drake all of that, then they would have been able to get out ahead of it.

2. Thank you for those questions. In our meeting one on one, they said wanting to reserve rooms is one of the main functions that they cannot do currently. Their focus is more ideological, so they are more of an advocacy-based group. I think those are the only things I need to add.

c. Questions
   i. None

d. Dialogue
   i. Senator Trees: I just want to first thank y’all for answering a million questions, great job with that. I guess I’m just going to say what I was going to say from the beginning because I was thinking about this before. I’ve been saying this since last year, I think student senate’s job is to provide opportunity for students and not take those opportunities away. I understand Drake Comrades is a little touchy, as was Turning Point three years ago, I don’t think it’s like any other group on campus. They mentioned this serves a local area and that spoke to me a lot. There isn’t a space for students who have this ideology on campus to convene. Whether or not some meetings are closed or not, organizations like SAB do marketing meetings after our meetings that aren’t necessarily open to our general members. I think that is something that can be seen in other organizations. I think you guys are new but hopefully you want to work with me and DPAC and start to work to resolve some kinks that we see. It’s hard to come in here when we have so many bylaws and all of these things and everything is negative. I think you are actually providing spaces for students to have dialogue and you are about good causes. I have some issues with some things that have gone down like the Times-Delphic article and the tweets, those are kind of asking for controversy. But I do understand that it’s a big year and Drake Comrades wants to get rolling for the caucuses just like every other political organization wants to get rolling for the caucuses right now. That space doesn’t exist yet and there’s a big platform to take advantage of that.
   I’m voting yeah on this, and I encourage you all to dialogue so you can talk as a group.

   ii. Senator Binion: I’m just relaying the message about the fact that we have a space for Drake Republicans and to be equal, it would make sense to have a student organization like Drake Comrades. I’m going to say Aye.

   iii. Senator Koch: Thank you all for coming. I think the fact that you have so much representation here tonight shows a lot. It has at least five members which I know that Ian knows is the rule, at least five
members. I’m a little bit conflicted because hearing through some of the questions I could definitely feel some of people’s uneasiness or lack of support. I truly see this as our opportunity to approve or deny the organization as a whole. The organization is more than one member. There are some kinks but because of the newness it can be figured out. There are some issues that were included in questioning, but I think those are a lot easier to iron out than it is to deny an entire portion of the student body opportunity to take part in this organization.

iv. Senator Hutchison: One thing I want to comment on, I’m interested in politics but I’m not super educated on it, but I don’t really feel that the fact that the preamble and purpose statement is confusing to some people, I don’t feel like that matters. They are organized, they know what they’re doing, I know Jaime is really educated on all of this stuff. I think it’s really cool that they’re doing this. We have closed meetings after SAB and if they want to do that as an organization, I feel like they can do what they want. I want to hear why people are concerned about it, but I feel like if we’re concerned about having a lot of organizations, having 160 organizations, I feel like the number does not matter, it’s about how we market it to students. There’s no organization like this, I’m cool with adding it.

v. VPSL Roach: I appreciate all the dialogue and thank you again for answering all our questions. I want to express my discomfort with approving a group whose constitution and preamble seems contradictory. I’m using student senate as a frame of reference for us because we have a clear set of principles, we have clear rules and regulations, later tonight we will set a vision statement. As a group, we agree to a set of terms and we agree to a set of principles; I think that’s what makes an effective group. I think it’s worthwhile for students to band under one thing or at least a group of things that fall under the same umbrella and this doesn’t appear to do that for me. That’s where my uneasiness comes in. Also, I would like to remind everyone that we’re not voting on whether or not a group of students can organize and do things and affect change. This group of students is obviously very passionate and has been organizing since the summer. No matter what happens here tonight, I am absolutely positive they are going to continue to do that considering we’re going to keep working together on a menstrual product initiative, regardless of what happens at this table. What we’re voting on tonight is not activism, we are voting on RSO status only. I would like you guys to keep that in mind when you vote.

vi. Senator Cohen: I agree with you. I talked with Jaime before about politics, I 100% he knows what he’s doing, he’s capable and the others are capable of running an organization successfully with that contradictory wording present or not. My worry with that would be for future people. Any sort of documentation on record acts as the backbone for people ten years from now and that’s where I could see confusion arising, just throwing that out there.

vii. VPSA Drake: I think that it’s important for us to really think about approving organizations. I personally have a problem with approving organizations as a body. I don’t know if we should be in charge of that, I feel like we should allow people to be who they are and allow those spaces for people. I also see if we do have 100 or however many and half of them are struggling, I understand why we have it. Also, I personally wouldn’t use student senate as a person to look to because our bylaws have not been updated and are not current, but we do have them, and they are clear. You see how I’m conflicted. Also, just as a point, SAB does not have closed meetings, it’s just no one comes to them. I will just be voting with my gut feeling.

viii. Senator VanDongelen: Speaking to Kiley’s point of voting on the status of RSOs, a couple things: I don’t see a clear reason why you guys want to be an RSO besides the fact of reserving rooms. Nathan makes a good point that Drake students with this ideology don’t have a place to go and I agree with that, I think that there should be a place. However, I don’t see how that can happen when meeting times aren’t posted, or locations aren’t posted. It just seems a little contradictory to me. I don’t say this in that you guys don’t deserve a place, because you do, I just think the way things are going about right now is contradictory to getting RSO status.

ix. Senator Trees: I didn’t think I would be going to bat this hard, but I just want to address a couple of things. One, to Joanna’s point, the only problem is we are faced with approving organizations and whether or not they become real or not, so we have to kind of face it, and in facing this… I have a lot of things I want to address. To your point, Senator Cohen, with this confusing language, but guys, it’s a constitution and we’re like twenty years old, it’s not really that serious. They can edit it like tonight, it’s okay. I don’t think we should really go off of this when I feel like a lot of things organizations do don’t necessarily pertain to the exact definitions of their preamble. Also, people throw around equity and inclusion all the time and have no idea what it means. It’s mainly just for them to reach out and attract more people, because let’s be honest I know these have different actual definitions in academia
but the term socialist is used all the time in our current society to describe things that aren’t inherently socialist, so I think they’re kind of right for doing that. Also I really think they should be an RSO because if we are concerned with “are you going to do this” or “are you going to do that”, maybe meeting as a RSO with DPAC or other orgs, they’re going to have a better chance of not necessarily filing into the norm, but a better chance of working better together. Coming up into this year is going to be crazy; having a good connection with a group like Drake Comrades from a DPAC perspective, being in meetings with all of these different organization leaders, maybe we can negate some tensions that might arise.

x. Senator Springsteen: I’ve been oscillating back and forth, but I just want to say that I wouldn’t have as many problems with the language of the constitution being ambiguous and confusing if it wasn’t a political organization. I really appreciate the construction of space and being that voice for students who don’t feel like they have a voice in the current political organizations, and I think that’s still really valuable. I do think there’s a seat at the table and a place eventually, I would just like to see it worked through a little bit more and constructed beyond a present need of organization. There will always be meaningful organization, but I want the constitution and mission to be adaptable for future groups of students who are in this organization and I don’t necessarily know if that’s present. I want to vote yes but I don’t know if I want to vote yes yet. I really appreciate what you’re doing but I’m just kind of uncomfortable with the ambiguity.

xi. Senator Klein: Just a quick notice, in Article 6 of the constitution, it outlines the process of amendments for their group’s constitution.

xii. VPSL Roach: I know I said let’s use senate as a model, but the reason I said that is because our organization has existed for 33 years now or at least some version has been around since Drake’s been around. Our organization has longevity, we have longevity because our organization has a set statement of principles and we as a body need to make a choice to invest in the longevity of organizations. That’s something that we talked about before. We don’t want an organization to fizzle and die after five years. If something doesn’t have the infrastructure to maintain after the first couple of years, that only adds a number of things that someone else has to deal with in the future. All of us will graduate and leave but it becomes somebody else’s problem. If we want to have a meaningful RSO discussion, longevity is something we really have to consider. We’ve all said at this table, at least in the previous session, that we want new student organizations to be nurtured and assisted by student senate, and I’m getting a vibe that that’s not what this table is dedicated to doing that for this organization and for that reason I’m not comfortable voting yes.

xiii. Senator Bion: To a degree, I do see where you’re coming from, but at the same time, you can have a clear constitution and preamble and bylaws and everything, but any organization can fizzle out if it doesn’t have the support or students that are passionate about it. These students were able to come up with a constitution and a preamble and a purpose for their organization because they are passionate about it, because they feel there are students who don’t have a place to speak their mind about their ideologies. I think that stuff like the infrastructure and constitution and bylaws, those are always things that can be fixed and tweaked and changed, especially for people who are in the organization, they can take all the criticism and advice that we’re giving them and bring it back to their organization and use it constructively. If we say no and completely shut them down, they won’t even have that opportunity. They’ll have to do this all over again, but they’re students, can’t we just let them have this so that they can just keep the ball rolling? They don’t have time and some of them are seniors. At least let them have this foundation so that they can build and improve upon it.

xiv. Senator Hutchison: I think it’s silly to think that senate’s bylaws and vision statement were perfect from the start because we’re literally changing it in the next motion.

xv. Senator Springsteen: I would urge us to keep the comparison of senate to Drake Comrades to the side because I don’t think this is a space to criticize student senate and I don’t necessarily think they are applicable. They are concerns and I don’t disagree with them, but come on, we don’t want to waste their time. With that, with the digression of the chair, motion to allocate time to Senator Trees.

1. Senator Trees: I want everyone to take a step back really quick and realize that these students went to a DSA meeting, a national organization, very present in a lot of people’s lives across the country, and it wasn’t able to offer that to them, so they came back to Drake and decided to organize with fellow peers, and come to senate to be an RSO to fit in with everything that Drake does and feel like they’re accepted on campus. That’s up to us. I think that we’re joking ourselves if we’re going to take that opportunity and those spaces away and especially
this motivation away just because of some things in the constitution. I just think that is not a good argument to make, I understand but I don’t think it pertains to how much this organization means to some of the students that are in it or what they see the future of this organization being and certainly not to the causes that they are standing for, which we are all joking ourselves if we say we don’t believe in, or at least say we believe in. I’m voting yes.

xvi. Treasurer Wright: Some questions on my end that were a little charged, I just think we’re doing ourselves a disservice if we’re not voicing the concerns of a lot of conservative students who aren’t around the table right now. For example, if Turning Point were here or someone else, they’d be getting reamed, so I think it’s fair. I’m all for students of any sort of political background to practice. I think Comrades does a great job of providing that. I’m confident with some kinks worked out, like the bank account, I’m sure that’ll all be taken care of. I think that it’s important to give this organization space to meet and the ability to meet so that way they can post their meeting times online. I think this is just political freedom beyond the bipartisan culture that we have, which I don’t like. I will be voting aye.

xvii. VPSA Drake: I know I said last time I was kind of on the fence, but honestly, I think I will be voting yes on this because one of my points was inclusion and being inclusive to all people. I feel like if I voted no I would be doing a disservice to myself and my own morals. And also, it’s not fair. I know that conservative voices aren’t around this table, but if we say yes to them, conservatives can come and if they have an idea for an organization, they can bring it. If we say yes to them, we have to say yes to the conservatives and then we’ll be equal, and everyone will be happy. We should allow people to not do what they please but allow them to have that space and those rooms. It’s hard to get rooms, and then they’ll be squatting, and then people will get mad, and it will be a bigger issue. If we give them this RSO, we’ll save littler problems and we can fix the issues we have with their constitution later on.

e. Motion Carries

   a. Seconded by Senator Blume
   b. Dialogue to VPSL Roach
      i. I hope some of the language in here sounds familiar. I derived some of the specific words from our retreat when we did our value activity and you wrote down on a sticky note what value was most important to you as an individual. I also took a phrase or two from our oath which also may sound familiar, we just redid it today with Senator Oetzmann inauguration. I spent an entire session of my office hours writing this, I ran on it, I campaigned on it, and I think it’s really important. The vision statement didn’t exist for a couple of years. I think for those of us who were around the table last year, things got a little bit misguided and we could’ve done a lot better as a group of people with a set of guiding principles to help move us forward. I hope that I fulfilled my promise in a way that is appeasing to all of you, and I hope that we can all agree to walk to walk.
   c. Questions
      i. Senator Springsteen: I really appreciate the work you did. Is there a plan for actionable steps or is this just more of a thing where we say these things and hope everyone does it?
         1. That’s a really good question. A statement of principles doesn’t need to have actionable steps in it. You guys all know what your actionable steps are, they are outlined in your rules and regulations for what your duties and responsibilities are. This would be the set of responsibilities and expectations that I would hope you all would choose to operate under. But I don’t think it’s necessary to have any tangible action steps tied to it.
      ii. Treasurer Wright: This went out with the agenda, did you receive any critiques, feedback, criticism after you sent it?
         1. I have not. It was included in the agenda, nobody reached out to me with revisions. I also want to inform you guys that before this was put in the agenda, the week before I sent it in an email to our advisors Kristin and Joe as well as to the exec to see if they had any preliminary revisions. We meet weekly and in our weekly meeting this past Monday, we did discuss a couple revisions and those revisions were implemented.
   d. Dialogue
      i. Senator Trees: It looks great.
      ii. Senator Johnson: I see my word, intentional, I think that’s really cool, so thank you.
iii. Senator Cohen: This seems like something that’s good to kind of base voting. For any organization it’s good to look at this and base what you’re about to do or how you’re about to vote on this and see if it reflects that statement. This is something good to be compared against.

iv. VPSL Roach: I would also like to implement a plan to make this statement public whether that be on a poster or something outside of the office or in the office, just as a constant reminder to all of us to keep ourselves accountable. I would hope as we go through this session, at least until that’s public, that you can flip back to this page in your binder and remember this.

v. Senator Springsteen: Motion to vote by acclamation.

e. Motion Carries

X. Officer Report: Vice President of Student Life – Kiley Roach

A. Appointments

a. Ex-officios and committees, those happened. Thank you, guys, for approving those. One of our appointments Andrew is sitting there, get to know his face, he will be making sure we stick to our parliamentary procedure every week, but I wanted him to really get into the nitty gritty of it and watch how one of our meetings works. If you have questions about committee or ex-officio appointments, I would encourage you to ask. We did interview everybody as we’re supposed to. Let me know if you have questions.

B. Headshots

a. My headshot got rained out, so I rescheduled mine, I hope all of you have either done your headshot or rescheduled it. If you have not, please do that with Ella and make sure those get sent over to our beautiful webmaster, Ashley, right over there, as soon as possible. I think I’ve gotten all the bios so far, thank you Nathan for doing that, last person to submit a bio. We’ll continue to update the website as things happen, so that’s exciting.

C. First-Year Senator Transition

a. Senator Oetzmans and I sat in the office last night talking for a whole hour about all thing’s student senate. We covered literally everything, and I hope it was good. Like I said last week and during the election, I want his transition to be collaborative. All of you guys have experienced what it’s like being at this table, with the exception of our lovely proxies this evening. I would like you to answer his questions as he has them and we’re going to be inclusive and happy and cohesive and awesome. Cool? Cool.

D. Tampons!!

a. I wanted to update you guys on the menstrual product initiative. We had a lot of movement on that this week, I’ve had several meetings, made several phone calls, I’ve been aggregating data, it’s been super fun. The plan as of right now is to figure out exactly how many women’s and gender neutral bathrooms there are on campus, then we will narrow it down to how many of them we want to stock because it would be really, really, really expensive to stock every single one right off the bat. Hopefully what happens, and this is what happens with other universities across the country, student governments will fund it the first year or two, maybe even three, as a pilot program to show university administrators that there is a need and that people need to put their money where their mouth is, we’ll see where that falls in the future as soon as I figure all the numbers out. And then after that, we would resolve to encourage administrators to take up that cost in the future. That’s the model other universities have followed rather successfully so I’m hoping that that works for us too. If you do have questions, I would encourage you to direct them to me, but I am also working with our Health and Safety Senator Koch and two representatives from Drake Comrades that you guys just spoke to. They’ve put in a lot of legwork in gathering people to sign the petition and they’ve contributed a lot of great language for a possible resolution. That’s a really wonderful collaboration that I’m hoping bring forth some good to our campus. It’s also important to remember that the majority of campuses do not provide free menstrual products, like it’s not normal, and I think it would be great if Drake was one of the few that did.

E. Senate Required Events

a. Committee Recruitment Tabling | Oct. 17

1. Like I said earlier, if your committee is small and you want more members, you should definitely sign up for a shift. There will be a link for you to sign up on a google excel sheet. It’ll be the same thing like when we tabled for other stuff, so make sure you fill that out and help us recruit committee members because we want them to be full and functional. That will be in Hubbell.

b. Suicide Prevention Training | Oct. 19

1. That is required, that will be put on by Abbie Gartland with Drake R;se Up in accordance with the counselling center. I think that this is a resource that student leaders should have at their disposal. I understand that this is a soft spot for a lot of people and that it can be a really sensitive issue, if that is the case I’m willing to have a conversation about an excused absence, but I would rather you guys
attend because I think it’s important for student leaders to have those resources. If you disagree with me, that’s fine, let’s talk about it.

c. Sussman Leadership Conference | Oct. 27

1. Our advisor Kristen Economos has been organizing this tirelessly. It’s a great subject this year, the topic is Drake Busy. The sign up is already out there, please sign up You are required to go and I’m going to be talking to Kristin to make sure you are all attending. If you can’t attend, you need to email me just like with everything else.

   a. Senator Johnson: For tabling, it’s under senate required events, are we all required or is it just people heading committees that need to recruit?

      i. All senators are required to attend, all ex-officios are encouraged to attend. We do have to keep the table staffed for two and a half hours. You can’t do that with just the two or three people with smaller committees. Everyone is required to attend; you should all care about having functional committees for your colleagues.

   b. Senator Johnson: What if we know nothing about the committees?

      i. We’ll talk about it. I have descriptions of all of them, basically it’s the at-large senators, Senator Springsteen runs her own inter-senate committee, I can give you a list. DPAC is independent of students joining, but Health and Safety, Community Outreach, Facilities and Technology, University Services, SFAC and the Org Council are all open for student membership and when they’re fully staffed, they can actually do their job. If you have questions about what those do, you can ask the senators, or we can talk.

   c. Senator Tekautz: Just to clarify, ex-officios aren’t required to go to stuff like that?

      i. They aren’t, but it is encouraged. I have no way in my rules and regulations to censure you if you don’t go, so it is totally up to you if you’d like to go. I’ve made it one of my missions this year to make sure that ex-officios feel like they’re part of the team, which is not something that really happened in years past, so I would really encourage you to go.

XI. Officer Report: Vice President of Student Activities – Joanna Drake

   A. This weekend is parent’s weekend but if your parents aren’t coming, you can call it Friends Weekend.

   B. Mentalist: Sean Bott | 10.4.19 | 8 PM | Parents Hall

      a. He’s awesome I’ve heard; he has a cool poster that Senator Hutchison made. It’ll be at 8 PM in Parents Hall.

   C. Free Movie Friday | Toy Story 4 | 9 PM | Sussman

      a. We’ll be showing Toy Story 4 at 9 PM in Sussman. There will be the usual snacks and stuff like that. All are welcome, even community members. If someone asks you, we’re not going to turn them away, so they can also come to Free Movie Friday.

   D. Relays Survey: Extending it!

      a. If you haven’t taken it, you can come up to me, I have the link on my phone, you can scan it and that will be your way of having a voice for who we pick for the relays concert.

      i. VPSL Roach: Extending it for how long?

         a. It won’t be more than a month. It will be extended until Wednesday.

XI. Senator Reports

   A. None

XII. Issues

   A. President Johnston

      a. This was the first night that we’ve had a kind of contentious motion going through, I think overall we did really well. Two things I sort of noticed going through. I think as chair, I’ve been a little more lenient than chairs in the past, but I have been noticing a little bit more talking on the sides. It’s getting to the point where it’s a little bit distracting. Please just try to be focusing on what’s going on, that’s why we have sticky notes. It doesn’t quite sit right when we have people speaking on the side. No one’s perfect about it which is why I don’t believe in calling people out on it, I think that’s stupid. It’s been done in the past; I’ve seen student body president’s bang the gavel and call someone out in the middle of a meeting. I don’t think that’s productive. That’s just a general address, I’d ask you to be respectful of that.

      b. Second, this is just an observation I saw, but just be mindful of how we’re using the placards, please. I saw a few times tonight, there would be a time when a speaker would make their point and then immediately a placard would go up and then sometimes the placard would go down after a few seconds. We had a sort of commitment we made two years ago that if you want to raise the placard, allow yourself about 10 seconds before you
physically raise it to make sure your comments are not reactionary or if it’s something new to contribute to the conversation, that way we can make sure we’re being really efficient about that. I have a new appreciation for the parliamentarian’s work, so also for our new parliamentarian, it’s a little frustrating to have to do that more than I need to.

b. Kind of a side note with that, it is proper in parliamentary procedure to address the body as a whole, I know that we’ve been talking a lot about certain senator’s ideas. I think that’s for the most part that’s okay but it would be a little bit more proper if I disagree with something Joe said on the floor, it would be less proper in parliamentary procedure to say “Joe, your point, I don’t really agree with it, here’s why” as opposed to “I heard this point be mentioned, here’s my concerns with that.” It just keeps it a little less personal so we’re not personally attacking people. I don’t think we saw that too much, but it’s something moving forward to keep in mind. In most bodies you have to address your comment to the chair, that’s weird so we don’t do that, but just remember you’re addressing everyone in parliamentary procedure. But overall, a good job I thought.

B. VPSL Roach
a. We came dangerously close to not making quorum tonight. I would encourage you all to revisit the rules and regulations when it comes to the number of proxies you can have at a certain amount of time because I can’t remember off the top of my head, I’ll send it out in the senate this week email. Also, if you have a fun thing you would rather be doing than senate, just remember where your commitments are and remember we have really important official business that we need to do as a body and you need to physically be in your chair for those things to be done and be done well. I hope the absent members will read through the minutes and read that and I will send it out in senate this week and I’ll say it again next week, but I really need you all to commit to being here. I know we are all involved in a lot of different stuff, but if I would have had to cancel on Associate Provost Erin Lain two and a half hours before the meeting, that would have looked really bad. Please, try to limit your absences.

XIII. Announcements/Affirmations

A. VPSA Drake
   a. First of all, I just wanted to say this on behalf of Abbie Gartland, she texted us “Thank you for helping us be lifesavers” hence you all got lifesavers. Connection.

B. Senator Maulsby
   a. I have some affirmations to Senator Maulsby, I’m going to read out the one about myself because I feel like it: Affirmation to Mady Nachtman for being my proxy, you’re lovely and wonderful.
   b. Affirmation to Peyton Maulsby because I’m watching y’all from the livestream right now, everyone say hi, I miss you.
   c. Affirmation to VPSL Roach for her hard work on the vision statement which turned out amazing
   d. Affirmation to President Johnston for dodging a parking ticket while parked in the wrong lot for an hour
   e. Affirmation to Senator Oetzmann, congrats and I’m excited to work with you this year.
   f. Fun Fact of the Week: Frank Buckles, a soldier in World War I, lived for 110 years and died in 2011. When asked about his secret for a long life, he said, “When you start to die, don’t.”

C. Senator Tekautz
   a. I would like to affirm Kyle because he wrote me a three-page script for this meeting, so that was super nice of him.

D. Senator Springsteen
   a. If you didn’t know, October is Domestic Violence Awareness Month. VIP has been tabling, if you didn’t know I’m a VIP, so at the meetings I’ll share a little fact. This week, the costs of domestic violence amount to 37 billion dollars a year just in the US for law enforcement involvement, legal work, medical and mental health treatment, and loss of productivity at companies. So, there is a financial impact to domestic violence as well as an emotional impact, so just something to think about. If you have questions or want to talk, let me know, the VIP hotline is 24/7 as well.

E. Senator Trees
   a. Thank god that that is over because that was so stressful. I do want to bring up one thing that was said during it that just made me laugh so hard. “Ryan Arnold is a problem” is maybe the funniest thing that I’ve ever heard anyone say because that man is so nice, so I just thought that was so funny and I thought I would mention it.
   b. Song of the week, there’s two of them. One is “Bull in the Heather” by Sonic Youth, they would be a Drake Comrade. The second one is “Maria I’m Drunk” By Travis Scott, because if you guys saw last night, Kylie went to Tyga’s studio at like 2 AM and that hit me hard, I’m not going to lie. I watched that Travis Scott documentary like six times and that part where he had his child was really emotional for me and she just went off and changed, so that’s a sad thing.
1. VPSL Roach: Not me. The Jenner.

F. Senator Johnson
   a. Affirmation to my Apple Watch for telling me that my heart rate was 130 for like 15 minutes, I’m not kidding, that’s why I was checking my heart rate so frequently.
   b. Fashion tip of the week because it’s cold as heck outside, layers are super cool. Layer up with a flannel and a hoodie.

G. Senator Klein
   a. Affirmation, SAB Taste of Des Moines was today, whoever did the tunes, it was really great.
   b. General affirmation on the RSO motions, I know you all will probably leave the table with differing opinions or thoughts on it but it was nice for me to see what was a pretty good dialogue, I thought it was substantive so it felt good to see that happen, thank you for that.
   c. Quick Iowa Caucus fun fact: Iowa is so cool because there are a bunch of house parties that candidates do. A couple of us around the table were at one tonight. A house party is basically where a candidate, today it was Amy Klobuchar, was at someone’s house and basically gave her pitch to a room full of supporters. Nowhere else in the world does that happen quite like here. Pretty cool.

H. Treasurer Wright
   a. Spicy Sunday: I went with Senator Brooks Blume to Maria’s Mexican Food. The Diablo burrito, similar to the California with French fries on it. They also have a plethora of sauces, they’ve got anything from takes your breath away, coughing spicy to just a nice party salsa for tortilla chips, which was very mild and very tasty.
   b. All week VPSA Drake has been pestering me for express written permission to distribute sunglasses and I have express written permission right here so I would like to pass that over. *passes said express written permission*
   c. Tweet of the Week, it’s from February 15th from 2016, “Lazy days are the BEST days.” Who said it?
      1. Senator Connor Oetzmann, who on the same day also tweeted “YEA! Hamilton won a Grammy!”
      a. Senator Oetzmann: I’m going to delete that right now.

I. VPSL Roach
   a. I would like to anti-affirm and denounce Senator Brooks Blume’s mutton chops.

J. Senator Reichardt
   a. I am here to firmly firmly strongly affirm Senator Blume’s mutton chops.

K. Treasurer Wright
   a. Affirmation to Advisor Campos for sticking with us through this.

L. Advisor Joe Campos
   a. I would like to affirm flannel, it’s my favorite. This is my second time wearing flannel so far this season and there’s more coming.

XIV. Adjournment – 11:26pm
A. Motion to Adjourn by VPSL Roach
B. Seconded by Senator Springsteen