



Carolina Union Board of Directors
Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, November 19, 2014

Attendees

PRESENT:

Gabe Chess	President of the Carolina Union
Keegan McBride	Campus Y
Jacob Hinton	CUAB – Union President Appointment
Ellen McDermott	Carolina Union Employee Forum
Tommy Koonce	Faculty Member Appointment
Harold Woodard	Faculty Member Appointment
Kyle Reeves	Sub for GPSF President
Crystal King	Carolina Union Director
Justin McNabb	GPSF
Kyle Villemain	Sub for Student Body President
McKenzie Folan	Executive Branch
Megan Johnson	Assistant Director, Marketing and Design
Robert Kunstman	Sr. Assoc. Director for Student Life and Leadership
Shamira Lukomwa	Muslim Students Association
Scott Hudson	Carolina Union Senior Assoc. Director, Operations
Jeffrey Birdsong	Associate Director of Business and Finance
Marissa Rose	Student Congress Appointee
Nicolas Hanna	At-Large Student

ABSENT:

Taylor Bates	President of the Residence Hall Association
Ivy Hardy	Speaker of Student Congress
Wendell Gilland (Business)	Faculty Member Appointment
Antonio Serrato-Capuchina	GPSF Appointment
Priyanka Mehta	Greek Alliance Council
Olivia Branscum	WXYC
Jake Bernstein	CUAB appointment
Lindsey Wallace	GPSF

PRESENTERS:

Jacob Hinton	CUAB – Union President Appointment (On behalf of Carolina Veterans Organization)
	Carolina Veterans Organization
	Carolina Veterans Organization

Call to Order

President Gabe Chess called the Union Board of Directors Meeting to order at 5:30 pm.

Approval of the Minutes

President Gabe Chess moved to approve the October 29, 2014 meeting minutes that were sent out to the board members for review. With no corrections to the minutes, the motion was seconded and the October 29, 2014 minutes were approved with no additional changes.

Old Business

Position Split between CUAB President and Chair for Board of Directors

President Gabe Chess welcomed the Board to the meeting. He then directed the attention of the Board to the continued discussion of the potential role split of the CUAB president into two positions. He began by examining the two documents given to the Board for the CUAB president and the chair for the Board (Documents Attached). President Gabe highlighted the following key items of discussion provided in the documents:

1. Position descriptions for both the CUAB President and the Chair for the Board of Directors. President Gabe indicated that the descriptions are fairly accurate based on what his current role is. The descriptions include the purpose, values, summary of qualifications, characteristics, attributes, and skills to be learned by the two roles.
2. The documents include an approximate timeline for the application period and for the start of the position.
3. Structure for selection: President Gabe suggests that there should be a selection committee of people who were more involved with CUAB for the role of the CUAB President as opposed to selection by the entire Board.
4. For the Chair for the Board of Directors: President Gabe highlights the role's responsibility to represent the Union including outreach and obtaining feedback from around campus. In addition, the Chair for the Board should preside over the monthly meetings and work closely with CUAB and the Union.

President Gabe then asked for feedback from the Board on these discussion items.

Feedback given from the Board:

(Marissa Rose/McKenzie Folan) A discussion was opened up to clarify the difference between the positions. In addition, President Gabe answered questions regarding the timeline and stipends received – both roles will receive the same stipend; the timelines will overlap (applications open in December or January, similar to current timeline); and the Board will still have an active role in selecting BoD Chair

Kyle Villemain suggested that the BoD was more representative of campus body, but CUAB is more familiar with what the position entails. This should be kept in mind when creating the selection committee for the positions. In addition, Kyle points out that there

is a lack of understanding from the rest of campus about what CUAB does. President Gabe responded that this is the reason why community outreach and receiving feedback will be a large part of the new position.

(Mckenzie Folan/Marissa Rose) Suggested adding a BoD member to the selection committee and brought up question as to how the selection committee will be selected. President Gabe responded that these points are to be determined, but the selection committee will not exclude considering potential interested persons from applying for the position. He also indicated that if a BoD member would sit on the committee, they would need to be very familiar with how CUAB works.

Kyle Reeves questioned whether graduate students would continue to serve as CUAB advisors, and President Gabe responded that this would not change.

(Tommy Koonce/Marissa Rose/Harold Woodard) Questioned how representational this position would be and cautioned awareness of student code violations. President Gabe agreed and suggested a two day session of interviews which the Board would be involved in as a full, representational body. Marissa Rose suggested having the selection committee narrow down the field while a forum/floor vote made the final selection. Tommy Koonce and Harold Woodard agreed that the committee should give advice whether or not candidates would be invited to interview.

President Gabe pointed out that the ideal selection timeline would occur 1-2 weeks before the campus wide elections so that the Union could serve as a home for debates during this time, considering campus wide elections are held mid-February. He also informed the Board that graduate advisors could be involved in the pre-screening process, but not the final BoD meeting. This was confirmed by Tommy Koonce.

(McKenzie Folan/Crystal King) Questioned what was considered a ‘major student leadership’ position that the Chair could not hold. President Gabe clarified that this meant “a position on a student governing body” and *not* “leadership of an organization.” Crystal King asked the Board which positions they would consider not able to be co-held with the BoD chair, and Marissa Rose pointed out that it was important to make it clear to candidates that being on the Board was a prerequisite for the position.

There was a question brought up in regards to why the GPA requirement was different for graduate/undergraduate students. Bobby Kunstman explained the differences in GPA measurement and the academic probation threshold between undergraduate and graduate students. Harold Woodard and Tommy Koonce discussed the different standards in medical and professional schools. Crystal King questioned how best to express these standards in the job description, for example “have to maintain academic good standing” or “in good standing.” Justin questioned whether transcripts would show the information regarding conditions and academic standing that the Board requires.

President Gabe questioned whether the stated is a lower GPA requirement and whether a 3.0 was previously required. Harold Woodard confirmed that Presidents with a 2.5 or lower GPA have existed. A guest (Chancellor's Fellow and recent graduate) was concerned that raising it to a 3.0 might exclude science majors, which met with general agreement.

President Gabe pointed out that these points require further discussion and that the Board is not quite ready to vote on the position split.

Keegan McBride requested clarification on what outreach or action items the position of the Chair of BoD would require. He suggested making clear to applicants and using more specific language than "be present," "be visible," etc. President Gabe agreed and Kyle Villemain pointed out that candidates would need to be people willing to find spaces on campus where they can be involved.

Clarification was brought up that some part of the position will involve being a part of the task forces and committees, and the other part would be putting themselves into spaces to be involved on campus. There was a suggestion that really small things, including introductions and immersing into the student body can really build the community outreach component. For example, the Chair should make announcements about events in the building. Face time is really important; the position should be the face of the BoD at every big event and even give small speeches. The position should be recognized as a peer, PR representative, and leader to the student body.

Involvement was agreed upon among the Board as well as the involvement of the Board as a presence on campus. President Gabe suggested that the Board should be present in spaces as well and be representatives.

President Gabe stated that the position itself is still up for discussion, however a vote from the Board must be held during the next meeting because applications will need to be opened in December.

A question was asked by Harold Woodard regarding the use of the word "chair" to describe the role whereas the term "president" is used for CUAB.

Gabe clarified by explaining that the word "chair" is to describe the person's functional role within the Union, whereas "president" is used to describe a specific role within CUAB. However, he is open to feedback and suggestions for the official title.

A concern was brought up by Tommy Koonce about what the relationship between the two roles would be. It would be beneficial to clearly outline the differences between these two roles and specifically list out required duties within each role in their respective job descriptions.

Could it be that the CUAB President was the one who was more present and handled a lot of the social aspects of the Union? This person could be the contact point for students to go to with concern; whereas the Chair of the BoD could be the one who is more behind the scenes and does a lot of the business work. President Gabe responded by saying that the goal for the Union is to expand past what it currently is, which is CUAB. However, since the Union is not currently there yet, it is hard to envision where and how the Chair of the BoD will fit specifically.

A suggestion was brought up that whoever should be selected for these two positions should be able to work well and closely together to establish a good working relationship with one another.

Ellen brought up how the Chair should be someone who is well-connected with the student employees and be present at trainings and student employee functions.

A question was asked about how CUAB was currently set-up and run. President Gabe responded by outlining that the president picks twelve individuals to be on the board. Each individual is in charge of running a certain committee, specifically themes (i.e. music). They meet and participate in decisions regarding programming and budget and subsequently run their committees to make this all happen.

Another suggestion was brought up about how the timeline of the selection of the two positions should be separated from one another so that the weaknesses and strengths of one role can be identified, which would help shape the type of person that would fulfill the other role.

Crystal asked for the Board's opinion on how far they would like to push back the selection of the Chair. The Board responded that the best time would be between Spring Break and final examination time in the spring.

A follow-up question from Crystal: what was a reasonable length of time to have the application open, considering the projection of the number of applications, based on previous years, was about 2-5. The Board suggested that three and a half weeks for the Chair application because the position is new, so many people would be unsure about what it would entail.

A consideration was raised that the pool from which the CUAB president is pulling from is essentially from the CUAB board, whereas the pool for the Chair of the BoD would be much larger. Therefore, it would be better to have a larger window for the application to be open to attract these sorts of people.

Crystal mentioned the benefits of opening up the application for the Chair position after the elections for student body president takes place in case students who are either campaigning or on a campaigning committee are interested in applying, but are unable to do so because of the commitments of running for student body president. Should the

Board decide to fill the Chair position by mid-March to April, while leaving a window of a month for application to be open, there will not be a large number of applicants until the final week after elections have died down and students have taken time to process what they want to apply for next. Further discussion indicated that the application for student body president is opened and filled, but other applications are subsequently opened for vice-president, treasurer, etc. So, there will always be an application that is open.

The window at which the CUAB President applications are open are done so in a way that whoever is elected for this position can attend strategic conferences and begin networking and learning more about what the job entails before actively filling it. It is essential to avoid opening up the application around midterms and finals for both undergraduates and graduates. This would mean that the application should open no earlier than after Spring Break.

A point was brought up that it would be strategic to open up the application at the same time that all of the big elections are over and the subsequent cabinet board position applications are opened because this is a time that students are actively looking at possible positions to apply for.

Crystal asked about specific things that need to be worked on with the next draft of the job description regarding these two positions. Discussion items included:

- The distinct differences between these two positions should be outlined.
- Distinct responsibilities that each role fulfills – possibly through the visual representation of a Venn diagram or something similar.
- Distinctions should be made, but the two positions should work together as a team
- Application needs to make it clear that they will be working in conjunction with the Carolina Union President

McKenzie brought up a point that the CUAB president should be more focused on CUAB and that CUAB-related issues should be their sole domain. She wants to avoid hostility between the two positions or feelings that one can constantly override the other.

In response, President Gabe compared the President of CUAB to a “vice president” to the Board of Directors Chair – president in regards to CUAB, but advisor/vice president in all other matters – Chairman has final say, which would avoid a power struggle. This led to further concern about the timeline, as the “vice president” would be hired and brought in before the “president.” President Gabe responded by explaining that the CUAB President would be the leader until the Chairman came in, and described the position as having “influence but not power” over non-CUAB matters. A point was made that the BoD would still have a chairman even during the selection process for the new chairman, as President Gabe will continue to serve as chairman through the end of the school year

However, due to continued discussion, no vote was made regarding the matter at this time

Carolina Veterans' Organization Proposal

Proposal: Class of 2000 Lounge should be converted into a lounge / resource center / safe space for veterans on campus. This was previously brought up last semester but was tabled.

Contacted the President and Vice President of the Class of 2000, they have signed off saying that they are willing to work with the Carolina Veterans' Organization to make this change.

Presentation by representative of Carolina Veterans' Organization:

- UNC-Chapel Hill as well as North Carolina as a whole has a large percentage of veterans
- Due to age and experiences in the military, veterans often have difficulty relating with younger, more traditional students
- A dedicated space will help veterans transition from military to college life and create a network of support for them
- A lounge would provide space for peer, social, and academic advising support, career counseling (not currently offered on campus for this demographic), psychological support from CAPS (currently does not offer veteran-specific counseling)
- Presentation of quotes gathered from chapters of Student Veterans of America
- Space would not just be for student veterans but also faculty, staff and alumni

The Board followed up the presentation with questions and discussion:

- Would the space no longer be open to non-veteran students?
 - Transition period – need to create a contract and set a turnover date (probably sometime in the spring), the next 1-2 semesters following that date would serve as a transition period
 - After this period, the lounge would primarily be closed to general students but would host events that are open to the wider student body – ex: leadership development courses
- Who would this group report to – the Chairman, the President?
 - Current leadership of CVO is President + Vice President, but are hoping to create a full time position in one of the Vice Chancellor's offices
 - Would also work with the Military Liaison in the Dean of Students' office
- There was a request for clarification of the peer support/counseling provided in this room and whether the room's configuration would support that
 - Peer support would take place in a group setting, confidential one-on-one counseling/therapy would not take place at this location and space for this would not be necessary
 - Peer support groups will be more approachable, veterans would not have to reach out for documented support/treatment in order to participate

- As an organization, how is the Carolina Veterans' Organization currently using space?
 - This is CVO's first year holding allotted office space, this space is limited and used for planning – not a space where veterans can hang out, it's used for the executive board
 - Larger group meetings currently occur at TOPO or Spanky's or spaces reserved via EMS
- Are spouses/children incorporated into the plan for this space?
 - Yes, they are included, CVO hopes to involve all military-affiliated, dependents, etc. in their future endeavors
- Concern was raised that the lounge would make the feeling of seclusion/being unable to relate to the student body worse and keep them further apart
 - Lounge will provide benefits – help bring more people into the community, encourage participation in events which include traditional students / others in the community
 - Research shows that lounges improve grades, social involvement, and time spent on campus for veterans and that time on campus was not only spent in the lounge
- Suggestion was made to observe the interaction between veterans and general students during the transitional period and see if anxiety is still present within the space
 - Interaction via public events is an important part of the plan for this space
 - Space serves as a bridge between veterans and campus life
- Another benefit as to why this space would be useful is because it would help facilitate veterans to be more actively involved on our campus and to be more present.
 - A lot of the times, veterans come to classes, occasionally use the library facilities, and then go home.
 - This would help to show people that veteran students do exist.
- We have to be careful about how we articulate why this certain group of students (veterans) are allowed to have a space like this, versus other groups on campus (i.e. minority students, first-generation students, etc.)
- A vote on this proposal was not held, but will be held at the beginning of the next board of directors meeting.

Continued discussion without CVO presentation:

- There are staff members who check on the Class of 2000 Lounge multiple times throughout the day. At 9PM, the room averages about 10 people studying, and at around noon it averages at 15 students.
- The space is 1,240 square feet, which is comparable to the size of the room that the board of directors meeting is held in (Union 3102).
- A representative from the Class of 2000 was supposed to present at the meeting, however, because he was sick, Crystal spoke on his behalf.
- The requirements for this room being used as a veteran resource center are that:



- It must retain “Class of 2000” in the name of the room.
- Their Class of 2000 plaque must be prominently displayed.
 - Meetings will be held later to more clearly outline what is defined as “prominently displayed.”
- The aesthetics of the room must be updated to fit the aesthetics of the Union (i.e. new furniture).
 - There have been talks about generating funds from the Class of 2000 to support this effort.
- It has to honor that current and future building hours. It cannot have its own hours that are separate from the building itself.
- The use of this room has to fit the Union’s long-term plan.
- There have been other inquiries in the past regarding what the Class of 2000 lounge should be used for, such as a parent center.
- Putting the veteran resource center in a building that is central to the campus would help force the veterans to interact with students. The veteran population on campus has historically been an overlooked group, and this room would help increase their involvement.
- A perspective was given from a student employee at the Union. The Class of 2000 Lounge is primarily used as a quiet study area, however, should the area be repurposed, it would not be a huge detriment for the students to no longer have that area to study in.
- A few questions were brought up regarding the logistics of the room:
 - Should someone stay in there at all times to ensure that nothing is stolen?
 - Should something be stolen, whose responsibility is it?
 - We should also be considering who was denied use of this room previously and for what reasons?
 - Who is also asking to use this space?
 - Was this space publicized as open for other groups or organizations to take over? It would be unfair for other groups and organizations to be unaware that this opportunity was present.
 - Why the Union? There are other buildings on campus that would be more fitting for a veteran resource center, albeit they do not have authorized use for it.
 - An answer given was that this group of students feels very segregated from the rest of campus, so providing them with a space in the Union would not only align with the Union’s goal to welcome all students, but give veterans a sense of inclusion as well.
 - Also taking the Class of 2000 as a whole into consideration, would it be respectful to them for us to give away this space to something that they never originally intended it to be for?
 - Someone voiced a concern that only speaking to approximately five students from the Class of 2000 does not accurately represent the views of the Class of 2000 as a whole. It would be unfair for

only a select few people to make a decision that affects an entire class.

- ❖ The next thing to consider, in this case, would be how difficult it would be to reach out to every student from the Class of 2000 to gather an opinion on whether or not this space should be allocable.
- Crystal mentioned that it is important to look at the language behind when this space was voted on by the Class of 2000.
- President Gabe mentioned that he will be meeting with the Dean of Students regarding this issue, including how the entire campus is working on helping the veteran population feel more included in the student body.

New Business

Archie Copeland Art Collection

- Archie Copeland was the second director of the Union from 1987-1992 and has reached the age of 80.
- In this will, he has gifted the Union his art collection. Specifically, in his will, he listed that he would like to gift his art collection to the Union while he was still alive.
- His art collection has been received and is currently in the building. Crystal will be reaching out to him to schedule a time for the board to meet him and for him to officially gift the Union his collection.
- An event will be held in the art gallery in which his art will be on display. No date has been set yet, however, it is expected to take place during Fall 2015.

Holiday Decorations

- On November 21, the building will be turned into a “Classic Carolina Winter Wonderland”. MADE is in need of help to decorate the building with over 100 snowflakes in the West Lounge amongst other decorations.
- By the time the students come back from Thanksgiving break, there will be a more festive atmosphere in the Union.
- The building will also have white trees with candy canes for students to come by and take off the treat.

Evelyn Dove

- Evelyn Dove was the first African American student body secretary at UNC in 1974. She has reached out to the Union for historical reasons.
- Due to time restraints, Crystal could not talk in-detail about this topic.

Adjournment

Having no other business, President Gabe Chess adjourned the meeting at 7:15 pm.