**Creighton Students Union Committee Meeting**

**Monday, September 16, 2019 | 5:15 pm | Hixon-Lied G-04**

**Agenda**

**Present:** Donna Shahbazi, Jessie Lee, Caitlin Mills, Colin Lakeman, Katie Kelsey, Mackenzie Allen, Gabby Baker, Michael Galeski, Henry Glynn, Maximo Guerrero, Ayushi Kaul, Michael Linngren, Claire Nachtwey, Abigail Neddo, Huda Mian, Raeef Rahman, Jordan Rivard, Ashley Schutt, William Suh, Binyam Ware, Sukhman Virdi, Lauren Williams, Claire Finken, Emily Leight, Lauren Tuch, Shannon Campbell, Danny Poulos, Bradly Pfiefer, Arianna Dalamaggas, Rachel Head, Sydney Borys, Federico Facciolo, Ashley Wynne, Kellie Frost, Charles Altfillisch, Andrew Lane, Samuel Smith, Jolee Espinosa, Adhm Asfan, Brittney Kessel

**Not Present:** Khalilah Davis, Karli Sugar, Madison Harper

1. **Opening Ceremonies**
   1. Call to order (5:15)
   2. Invocation
   3. Roll call
   4. Approval of Minutes

Motion to Approve- Williams

Second- Raeef

Approved 36-0-0

1. **Open Discussion**
2. **Old Business**
3. **New Business** 
   * 1. Referendum #19-01

Thank you for all reading the legislation. We will briefly go through some highlights. There are different levels to how we internalize this problem. I learned that the IPPC says we do not want to cross 1.5 degrees of carbon. To stay under this we only have a little left to go. We can only burn 20% of what is left of the total reserves of the world’s fossil fuel industries to stay under this. Obviously, going over this amount would not affect everyone equally. The poorest countries will be the most impacted. We are trying to take steps in the ways that we can which starts with Creighton. As a Jesuit University, the USCCB has socially responsible investing guidelines, They give guidelines in what is divested in. We follow 5 out of the 6 which is protecting the environment. Father Hendrickson acknowledges Pope Francis’ call and that we should be a leader in climate change, and we think divestment is a perfect way to do that. We should spearhead the movement and be on the right side of history. We could be the second to divest. Together our voices are very powerful and there is broad student support. This movement has had momentum around the world. This is an issue that Creighton students care about and has broad support. This is an issue of our generation and Creighton’s decision to act will effect this. There is a financial reasons to divest as well. The stocks are based on the reserves which cannot all be burned if we do not want to go over this 1.5 degrees of carbon. These are the three main rebuttals against divestment. Can we make more difference by being a shareholder in advocacy? The issue is burning fossil fuels is the core industries of these companies. We do not have the power as a share-holder to advocate that strongly, but we can do it by removing our dollar. Secondly, people say divestment is a symbolic act. Yes it is a symbolic act and a strong one. If fossil fuel industries were not worried about climate changes they would not be investing millions in campaigns saying climate change does not exist. Lastly, the risk for academic scholarships if we divested. We truly believe it would be a risk to not divest. Our position is not extreme at all. We want full divestment by 2050 when we are carbon neutral. It seems fitting to also stop investing in fossil fuels when we stop using them. These are our opinions and we are open to discussion on them.

Motion to forgo the reading- Rivard

Second- Linngren

36-0-0 Approved

Motion for discussion - Linngren

Second Allen

Approved 18-0-12

Dalamaggas- I admire what you guys have done. What has kept other Jesuit university for not divesting?

Answer- I am not sure I am not in those board rooms. If I had to make a hypothesis it would be because we have a lot of large donors who may not be happy with this. They may be in the oil and gas industries and would retract their donations. We have met with father Hendrickson and talked about this issue. His opinion is he would not be worried about this affecting donors

Linngren- you mention the risk of scholarships being an issue. Do you make any recommendation where the 10 million should go?

Answer- No we do not. Possibly renewable energy. The strategy of other schools is in the long term it will probably make us gains.

Guerrrero- If we were to divest, do you have a list of new donors that would donate if other donors backed out?

Answer- no that is not the most public information. But some donors have backed out because of our practices.

Poulus- Do you know when the new neutrality date will be released?

Answer- In may the announced we would know before we returned to school but that did not happen.

Pfiefer- It was a well written document. The scholarship money would not be a major issue from what I have seen

Lane- 2 percent in the next 5 years. Why are we not pushing 10 percent in the next 5 years.

Answer- We think if we take out this 2 percent then we are making a bigger impact as they are the top. We also understand this is a hard and big thing to do. We are trying to present an argument that makes sense financially. It is conservative enough that many can get on board. Hopefully this would start a broader conversation. This would show that some have done it before

Motion to end discussion- Pfiefer

Second- Linngren

Approved 38-0-0

Legisation Approved 37-0-1

* + 1. Constitution changes

When we change are governing docs there is a different process for each.

Motion to forgo reading

Approved 34-2-0

Motion to discuss- Pfiefer

Second- Lane

Pfiefer- With the overall restructuring I think it’s important to look at how are students interact with the university. Currently the ratio is graduate heavy the restructuring would at least have it be only 5 or 6 be graduate students. This drops it to about 22 percent and drops our representation.

Answer- We did have an ad hoc committee that created this and their perception.

Pfiefer- I think this comes out of involvement issues. I get attending is part of your obligation but there is other ways to involved people in a technological era.

Shahbazi- Some of this has been included in our changes. Thanks to Bradly’s point. The goal of the ad hoc committee is to establish who you truly represent.

Cutting down from 48 to 25. IF you cut this down that is less people representing more people. IT is trying to be more who you represent but I feel like it’s more ambiguous.

Shahbazi- We have had low interest in CSU. If you have less people you have more responsibility on these students.

I feel like my experience on CSU was not special. I would just attend and vote. They have to participate. You are representing more people and it becomes more competitive. We want to get thee best of the best

Guerrero- most of these people do double-dip into different categories.

Williams- It puts more weight on the student body to select who they want on the board.

Linngren- I think there is a conversation to be had that this just makes it easier to understand. This makes it easier to know the wants and demands of students.

Poulos- I think it speaks volumes to come back to the organization that cut us out.

Motion to end discussion

Approved 31-1-1

Legislation Failed 10-13-9

* + 1. Bylaw changes

Motion to for go reading 29-0-0

Changes of wording and things we no longer do.

Mills- I have to come up with a budget and we talk about it. It has always been up to my discretion. Most other schools and colleges get a budget based on enrollment. So, looking at my budget I am wondering why I come up with a budget. So im proposing that instead of proposing a budget it is just 22%. We have been cutting back the budget other the years. This is the minimum amount we can get by with. This is my best even collaboration with cabinet and execs.

Something else we thought of was paying for 15000 dollars-worth of bus passes if our budget allows from role-over. These passes are 10 punch cards. Another addition is interdisciplinary funding.

Motion to vote- Allen

Second- Guerrero

Approved 32-0-0

* + 1. P&P changes

1. **Executive Reports:**
   1. President: Ms. Donna Shahbazi
      1. Reusable bags & container distribution

Please tell people we still have reusable bags in our office. Go to swanson 136 if you have a meal plan. We would love for you to pick them up. Also use for green box containers. We are about to do green boxes in Warehem court.

* + 1. Climate strike

Omaha is cutting recycling out of their budget. Be a part of the world movement. Really cool stuff come out if you are for sustainability.

* + 1. Farmers market

It is on Friday from 4-7 in the green space by the green house. Please come.

* + 1. Night Owl initiative

Remember we do have group walking twice every night from the library. They walk to our campus halls.

* + 1. Student Health Clinic concerns

Please see Ari if you have any concerns.

* 1. Executive Vice President: Mr. Jessie Lee
     1. Board of Representatives

We still have 5 vacancies.

* 1. Vice President for Finance: Mr. Colin Lakeman
     1. Funding Requests

Hui ‘O Hawaii- Approved $900

Creighton Dems- Approved $1,380.73

Trailblazers- Approved $4663.50

Intervarsity Christian Fellowship- Approved $1,000

HAPP Assoc- Approved $25.05

* 1. Vice President for Programming: Ms. Caitlin Mills
     1. Homecoming Week (September 15th-21st)

It is homecoming week. Kick-off was Sunday and went really well.

* + 1. Review of Dear World
    2. Upcoming events:
       1. Hamilton: Tuesday September 24th

6 tickets to raffle for Hamilton

* 1. Speaker of the Board: Karli Sugar
     1. Speaker of the Board Application

Karli will have to leave her position after fall break so if you want to do her job please apply and ask me questions.

1. **Student Organization Announcements**
   1. Graduate/Professional School Committee Announcement
   2. Graduate School Report
2. **Announcements**
   1. Advisor’s Update
   2. Upcoming Funded Events
3. **Adjournment** (6:15)