



COLUMBIAESC

ENGINEERING STUDENT COUNCIL

Meeting Agenda and Reports
Monday, December 7, 2020

Upcoming Events / Meetings

1. [Event name], [Location], [Date & Time]

For any FB Blasting, please put all links here with your name

- Shomik: CEYA-ESC Alumni Office Hours
 - <https://fb.me/e/27Fo2y4ZB>
 - Is it possible to include this in the newsletter too?
- Katherine: Tree-Lighting Virtual Event
 - <https://fb.me/e/3msAJ1Jak>
 - In keeping with holiday tradition at Columbia, CCSC, ESC, GSSC, and SGA jointly present the Virtual Tree Lighting featuring a cappella groups, messages from the deans, and a pre-recorded video of College Walk being illuminated just like years past. Help us light up Columbia by showing us what lights up your world! Post your photos on Instagram or Facebook with the hashtag [#lightupcolumbia](#) for a chance to win one of fifty \$100 gift-cards!

Discussion Topics

1. 2020-2021 (3 Term) Academic Year Policies - 40 Point Credit Limit & Shortened Winter Break Duration, 7-10 mins (as necessary)
 - a. For the credit limit
 - i. Equity concerns for CC vs SEAS policies (36 → 40 vs 42 → 40)
 - ii. Action items: make a survey to gauge student interest in spreading their classes over the three semesters rather than two semesters, to help our case in advocating for keeping the 42 credit limit
 - b. For the winter break
 - i. Comparison to other Ivy League universities
 - ii. Virtual learning fatigue
 - iii. Even though we might not get a policy implemented, I strongly believe that **we must** collect data on the shortened winter break for future reference. It is important to reflect on students' well being and inform the administration about how policies are received by students. We can either include questions in our 40 point credit limit survey or Lori's mental health survey depending on our meeting with Dean Morrison. It better fits with the mental health survey; however, if the administration is willing to have a

- discussion about it, we need data asap so it might be better to include it the 40 point credit limit survey and rename it to something similar to “Survey for 2020-2021 (3 Term) Academic Year Policies”.
- iv. Action items: survey with questions to understand students’ needs and concerns on this
2. Transfer Students Representative Constitutional Amendment, 7 mins (as necessary)
 - a. [Link to the document.](#)
 - b. Including a new Transfer Students at-large representative position on Council.
 - i. Responsibilities / role:
 1. The new member will voice the transfer students’ concerns and report findings to the Council.
 2. It will liaise across the several offices and with the respective at-large positions mentioned in the proposal.
 3. Evaluate the credit validation process and ensure that new Transfer Students have appropriate help and resources for generating the best conditions for their academic growth and well-being.
 - ii. Changes in the numbers of committee members:
 1. The Student Life Committee and Policy Committee can now have either 3 or 4 members.
 2. If a committee has 3 then the other must have 4.
 - c. Action item: we voted to entertain this, a google form will be sent for council voting

Position Updates

1. Student Body President: Estevan Mesa
 - a. COI last Wednesday, presented on use of proctoring services and general examination formats/accommodations; conversations to continue moving forward
 - b. Will be working with members in the policy committee on the academic year survey (40 credit limit, student feedback for spring semester, etc.)
 - c. USL, SVR, Alice!, and Multicultural Affairs are putting together an Anti-Racism training on Friday January 8th from noon-2:00PM ET, specifically tailored to councils and governing boards, please register for the event here: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/club-refuel-anti-racism-workshop-for-councils-gbs-fall-2020-tickets-128761510143>
 - d. Newsletter content? Include here! https://docs.google.com/document/d/1MB_Hf3nJ6GM4YdJZBxEDlydTEzcGDd0LNEm67kwaf5Y/edit?usp=sharing
2. VP Policy: Ahmet Karadeniz
 - a. Discussion
 - i. 40 Point Credit Limit
 - ii. Shortened Winter Break Duration
 - b. Note for Lori and the Mental Health Survey: I had concerns brought up to me by a number of students about how **they feel** like the workload has increased during

the virtual learning environment (relative to a normal school year) and how **they feel** more fatigued. We could add questions to your survey addressing these points to see whether they are shared by the majority of the students and have some data before sharing these concerns with the administration.

3. VP Student Life: Katherine Liu
 - a. Tree Lighting this Wednesday @8pm
 - b. SEAS Apparel Design Hackathon
 - i. Got some amazing designs to review and select!
 - ii. Two designs: face mask and t-shirt
 - iii. Setting up first-come-first-serve merch sign-ups for next week
4. VP Finance: Sophia Sagandy
 - a. Project grants application opening
5. VP Communications: Adheli Gonzalez
 - a. Please fill out your section of the Semester report ASAP if you haven't done so.
 - i. I will be distributing it very soon
6. University Senator: Joe Hier
 - a. IT Committee:
 - i. Making sure people's preferred names are used by tech systems at Columbia
 - ii. Bringing up the SSOL crash
 - b. SAC:
 - i. Setting up subcommittee meetings
7. Class of 2021: Kalisa Ndamage, Bret Silverstein, Ashley Rosenberg, Ethan Thayumanavan, Zhuoli Zhang
 - a. SEAS Senior Night - December 16
 - i. Working on ordering martini shakers for Senior Night event next week
 - ii. Will be sending out list of ingredients to make cocktail for event
 - b. Yearbook editor in chief interviews this week
 - c. Big SEAS Energy hats will ship soon!
8. Class of 2022: Naomi Kim, Stephanie Guo, Nicholas Mijares, Eugene Fung
 - a. SEAS the Internship Event tomorrow! Four panelists confirmed.
9. Class of 2023: Angel Mancera, Kennedy Salamat, Rommel Nunez, Matthew Wahl
 - a. Held our Skribbl / Among Us Game Night!
 - b. Met with Tom McManus and Emma Williams to discuss collaboration with the CEAA and AR in the following semester (~ 3 or 4 events coming!).
10. Class of 2024: Malik Javaid, Jarom Miller, Suheyyla Tozan, Steven Gutterman
 - a. Speed Friending last week was a success!
 - b. We are having our end of semester celebration this Friday, same timings as speed friending, 10 AM and 8 PM
 - c. NSOP meetings have started between CCSC and administration, we will be joining those meetings in the future
11. Technology Representative: Vish Rao

- a. Met with Maneesha Aggarwal from CUIT, and here's some of what we talked about:
 - i. Zoom pro accounts weren't given to students because Columbia is planning on transitioning to "ring central" which will replace zoom.
 - ii. Regarding zoom meeting security, they can't make it authorized users only by default since that would change it for everyone at columbia who might not want that. She recommended manually enabling this or just using the waiting room feature
 - iii. For privacy concerns regarding proctorio, she said that they are aware of the complaints. She said that they vetted the data proctorio was allowed to collect and use before making a deal with them.
- 12. Racial Diversity and Inclusivity Representative: Elias Tzoc-Pacheco
 - a. Meeting with the SEAS Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Commission this Friday to discuss related issues facing the student body
 - b. Reached out to faculty with Athena Tsu, Gender & Sexuality Representative, to implement a lecture within Art of Engineering related to engineering and its intersection with identity and design
 - i. Still holding meetings regarding this
- 13. First Gen and Low Income Representative: Martha Escobedo
 - a. Got the list of [approved items](#) for the resource fund, everyone should have access!
 - b. CCSC met with the Food Pantry to discuss winter break and the spring semester
 - i. Greatest request is publicity!
 - ii. For spring: perishable foods
- 14. Gender Identity and Sexuality Representative: Athena Tsu
 - a.
- 15. Disability and Accessibility Issues Representative: Dilara Zaimoglu
 - a.
- 16. Academic Affairs Representative: James Wang
 - a. Discussed with Dean Brovman about course complaints and Proctorio
 - b. Seeking for uniform proctor/exam policy between CC and SEAS
- 17. Student Groups Representative: Theo Mack
 - a.
- 18. Sustainability Representative: Justin Paik
 - a.
- 19. Professional Development Representative: Shomik Ghose
 - a. Alumni Office Hours (12/7-12/18)
 - b. "Nontraditional Careers with a SEAS major" panel (early next year)
- 20. Campus Affairs Representative: Sergio Butron
 - a.
- 21. International Students Representative: Egem Yorulmaz
 - a.
- 22. Combined Plan 3-2 Representative: Blossom Parris

- a.
- 23. Student Health and Wellness Representative: Lori Luo
 - a. Met with Diego from International Student Advisory Board, went over some data and some ideas on what should be done to help students abroad
 - b. Met with Padma from Alice! Today
 - i. Talked about the survey I'm planning to send out
 - 1. She recommended focusing more on anecdotes as preliminary data gathering to jump start initiatives as Columbia Health is sending out quantitative instrument in the spring
 - 2. Would only get data from quantitative instrument in late Feb
 - ii. Asked if Disability and Accessibility Issues Representative wanted to join the peer ambassador network since Estevan mentioned it in first meeting