

Housecomm 10/8/14 makeshift minutes

Role Call:

1E  
2E x  
3E  
4E  
5E  
1W  
2W  
3W  
4W  
5W

Hall Chair Boards

Steven isn't here to talk about them. We seem to be in favor of him doing this.

Talbot Projects/Talbotcomm (Yo)

Yo is sad that Talbot is underused. EC is about mixing with each other but Talbot is not a very nice place. We could paint the walls, add a ping-pong table, have movie nights, etc. if "a group of people" were "dedicated". We don't want to elect people for this right now. Yo is charged with the Task Force on Talbot because adding comms is hard.

Gender Inclusive Housing Implementation Discussion (Phoebe)

In theory we have this, in practice it's not in effect. Do freshmen know this exists? What do they think it means?

Freshman: "I think it means people can room with whoever you want, regardless of gender."

Q: Do you think it means it's okay if you staple with someone of another gender or that if you are okay with it you could end up with someone with a different gender?

Freshman: "I think it means either."

There may have been some confusion about whether or not freshmen had to staple with a different gender person in order to be placed in a room with someone of a different gender. Most people who indicated that they were okay with gender inclusive housing ended up in singles; no one stapled with a person of a different gender.

There are many ways and scales on which to implement this. What do people actually want out of GIH? Sonja wants to match people based on personality if they opt in (i.e. a box to check that says "I don't want gender considered in my rooming")

The text from the freshman rooming form is read, it was very clear about the purpose and implementation of GIH. Sarah points out that the rooming reps and hall chairs may have been unclear about how this text and, therefore, how much the freshmen knew what they were signing up for, so were hesitant to implement it.

[2E has arrived]

Q: How does housing see this/think this happens?

They haven't prescribed a policy, but GIH is coming to all dorms spring 2015 (i.e. next semester).

So in summary: We still think this is good, we have a long time before its implementation matters and will talk about it again at a bigger housecomm. The big thing that's important is to have the freedom to accommodate anyone who comes in with really strong feelings about gender—if it doesn't affect the rest of how we operate that doesn't really matter.