

Agenda

- Head of House selection process, featuring Katie Fisher, president of BC
- Fire Safety Day updates
- Future of FACs

Roll call: everyone here

Fire Safety Day

Next Saturday (10/20) we'll be having a Fire Safety Day, there will be events on the Dot and in Talbot, there will be food. You should come and talk to CFD and learn things! Is there any feedback from halls on whether they can host the adventure part? 2W: we don't want it. 3W: we emailed, nobody had any feedback. 4W: all our cats and smoke-sensitive people are in Wood, so it would be pretty unfortunate. 3W, please ask people again. If that doesn't work out, Beast/Tetazoo/4E, try starting a conversation with your halls as well. 5th floors can probably talk about it too but that's probably too high.

Head of House search

The way this is hopefully going to work is there's going to be a committee formed by DSL called the HoH Search Committee, chaired by a HoH or an AHoH from another dorm. It will also include a GRT or two (so talk to your GRTs!), Pres and VP of the dorm, and three faculty members. If you have a faculty member who is pro-student and good at advocating for us, feel free to talk to them and ask them to join the committee. There will also be some people from DSL, they're already chosen and assigned. Hopefully we'll be able to finish by the end of the semester, worst case end of IAP. If Sandy gets selected (if!), in Spring we'll also be looking for a new AHoH.

Katie, president of BC, will be here soon, will talk about BC's experience picking a HoH. They only had two people apply, we're probably expecting more, so YMMV.

MedLink announcement

Get flu shots! 10/16 in Stud, 10/18 3-6p in E51. You can also make an appointment at Medical any time. Flu shots are really important! If you have asthma or are a smoker, it's also recommended that you get a pneumococcal vaccine, which you can also do at Medical! If you don't have a PCP, it's super easy to pick one online, and if you can't even do that, Urgent Care will give you one!

PartySafe Training

The new partysafe training is out of pilot, there's going to be a new one that Carrie emailed out about. You should really encourage people to go to it, it's pretty informative and teaches you about how to make decisions on cutting someone off from alcohol or calling for a transport. If you were already partysafe trained at any point, you do not need to get trained again. You need this training to host events with alcohol, and we should have as many people trained as we can.

Check your voter registration!

Even if you're registered to vote, you might need to separately request an absentee ballot, and absentee ballots can be due earlier than you might think. Vote.org will help you figure out these things.

FACs

5E: we want FACs to not be a thing, discuss. They're disorganized, take up a nontrivial amount of money and don't really serve their purpose.

[whoosh, Katie is here! switching back to talking about HoH stuff]

This is Katie! She's the BC president.

The main issue in BC's case was that they only got two applicants, one of which was a professor at Georgia Tech, so they were more or less stuck with the other applicant. Their best advice is to ask professors very proactively to apply for the position. There's a conception among faculty that being an UG HoH is a pain (while G HoH is nice and comes with cool perks). The hardest part is getting people who will actually be good at it to apply. Having your current HoH help you would also be good, especially for getting the new HoH integrated between when they're selected and when they start.

Q: How much does the committee care about the students' opinions? A: They seemed pretty open to students' input, and there are also sympathetic staff (and talking with them outside of meetings was helpful).

Q: Is there any process through which the actual residents can meet the applicants? A: Yeah, we had DSL-funded dinners with residents and the candidates. We also had a student committee interview the candidates.

Q: I was under the impression that the committee just makes the "recommendation". What's up with that? A: Yeah, they make a recommendation to Suzy & Cindy (who are not on the committee). I was told it's uncommon for them not to go with that, but, you know.

It was also pretty helpful to compile a list of quotes and opinions from all the residents to be able to refer to later in the committee.

Q: Does the candidate have to be tenured? A: Yeah. Officially they can't be tenure-track, it's unclear how flexible that is. Someone who's only up for tenure might also not be in the best position to always advocate on the behalf of the students.

Tesla will bump the responsible people on getting the process going.

Back to FACs

FACs are "Friday Afternoon Clubs", which were intended to be sort of dorm-wide study breaks. Every hall is supposed to use \$100 (from EC budget, not the hall's) to buy food and provide it to everyone on a Friday. In order to enforce that, there's also a \$100 fine for halls who have a FAC in any given semester. 2W: we asked people on hall, and most people wanted the fine gone, possibly diverting the funding somewhere else. [For the record, IHOP is not funded by EC budget. Pinkies, do you want funding? Not really, we're self-supported. We don't need money as much as people to show up and cook. ... But Pinkies would also be down to take *some* money.] A lot of people on 1W support the idea of removing the fine.

Concern: it's nice to have a dorm-wide study break, and it's nice to have some incentive (like the fine), since the hardest thing about having a study break is having the people to run

them. Maybe we can reduce the fine to \$50? 5E: We don't think we necessarily need dorm-wide study breaks. If it's too much effort and nobody wants to organize them, then welp.

Surely there are halls that would still do them even if there were optionals? And perhaps we could add some kind of activities, so that it wasn't just grabbing food and leaving.

It'd be cool if we had inter-hall FACs, like where two halls get together. Counterpoint: SocComm tried creating incentives for that around a year ago, and nobody bothered to use them.

There are some FACs where people get decent amounts of decent food, but they also appear to be the minority? Audience disagrees. FACs don't generally have infinite amounts of food, but enough for the first 15-30 minutes. Sometimes the food is also too much of a meme? But this is EC, so it has to be at least a little bit of a meme? Unclear if we want to fund \$1000 of meme food per semester.

What if we halve the frequency of FACs, but double the amounts of money?

5E repeats the point that nobody on their hall wants to do it, and they think they should not be obliged to.

What if we create a positive incentive instead, where your hall gets money for holding a FAC?

People think there should be social events for all of EC that are not parties.

Having people request money from FACs explicitly would be an unnecessary barrier. [SocComm budget is \$2600, which is parties and FACs.] FACs are easier to run than what you'd normally think of when you think of an inter-hall event. But they also don't work that well?

It's not like interhall events don't exist at all, Slugfest does cocoa all the time, 4W+5E does a picnic thing. But those are also different from dorm-wide events. SocComm funding is also, in practice, only used for dorm-wide events.

We could have a semester when FACs aren't required but the funds are still set aside and see what kinds of events people organize.

Tesla: I'm hearing that people want to have dorm-wide events to meet people outside their hall, and people also like FACs because they take low activation energy for hosting. What if we make them less structured, so that you could spend \$100 on just about anything to run a dorm-wide event? E.g. buy \$100 worth of board games. Maybe that would make people more likely to host the event and make people run more exciting events. There isn't even technically a prohibition against spending FAC money on things that aren't food, but there's

also Gamecomm for board games and other comms for all kinds of other stuff that we want to keep. This is starting to look like more complexity again.

2W: we have weekly hall feeds and sometimes people go over budget and then they email the chairs and it works out pretty well and seems low-effort.

So maybe we should just have a pile of money that people can use to run these events?

What if we have specific people who are expected to run FACs? That sounds like a comm, and tbh a lot of our comms are less effective than FACs.

Proposal: remove fine, allow anyone to hold a dorm-wide event for $\leq \$100$, let treasurer approve more than \$100, remove the "Friday 5p" constraint.

OK, next Housecomm we'll have <5 min of discussion and vote on this proposal. Tesla will send out the proposal over email. Email them if you have really strong really important ideas.

Btw, **Fredfest** is 10/20! There are posters and there will be more emails, and you should totally come to Fredfest and it's going to be awesome.