Archive

Academic Year 2011/12

Vice President: Mario Abou Zeid
Treasurer: Joe Eid
Secretary: Huda Nassar (1/2 term)
Hayyan Harb (1/2 term)

Compiled by: Tala Kammourieh
Treasurer - USFC 2013/14
April 2014

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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Meeting #</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Meeting #1</td>
<td>21/12/2011</td>
<td>p.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Meeting #2</td>
<td>23/01/2012</td>
<td>p.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Meeting #3</td>
<td>23/02/2012</td>
<td>p.12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Meeting #4</td>
<td>20/03/2012</td>
<td>p.15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Meeting #5</td>
<td>05/04/2012</td>
<td>p.17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Meeting #6</td>
<td>03/05/2012</td>
<td>p.19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Meeting #7</td>
<td>10/05/2012</td>
<td>p.23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Meeting #8</td>
<td>16/05/2012</td>
<td>p.26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Meeting #9</td>
<td>31/05/2012</td>
<td>p.29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Meeting #...</td>
<td>09/10/2012</td>
<td>p. 32 - Missing</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Minutes Of Meeting 1

Date: December 21, 2011 – 6.30pm
Location: Room 310, West Hall

Agenda
1. USFC Sub Committees Elections (Bylaws, Finance and Public Relations)
2. Setting regular date and time for USFC meetings
3. Reports from the previous USFC cabinet
4. Launching strategic planning for the upcoming year
5. FEA (CES, IEEE, ASME and CHESS) Christmas Dinner proposal/request for funds to cover the printing fees of the event
6. Speakers Corner improvements and suggestions
7. Suggestions for Events by the USFC for 2012
8. Other business

Dr. Tarraf started the meeting by congratulating the new USFC members. He mentioned that Dr. Nizameddin is on a vacation, so he will be chairing the meeting.

Notes from attendees:
- It was mentioned that there has not been anyone representing the senate in the USFC meetings for several years.
- Various people mentioned that they are still not getting email notifications about the USFC meetings time, date and place.
1. **Sub-committees Elections**

   A. Dr. Tarraf announced the need to elect members for the three subcommittees: Public Relations, Finance and Bylaws. Mario distributed papers to all members that thoroughly described the roles, agendas, significance and time commitment required by the members of the subcommittees. Afterwards, elections started:

   I. Public Relations Committee (3 seats):

      a. Call for nominations:
         i. Emile Maamari
         ii. Bilal Nasr
         iii. Hayan Harb

      ☐ It was pointed out that Hayan cannot be on the committee because he is also the Secretary, and the Secretary is automatically on the committee. To which Hayan replied that he is a half-term Secretary and his term begins after six months. When this occurs, Huda will take his place on the committee and he will serve as Secretary.

   **Won by acclamation**

   ☐ After the nominees won by acclamation, Emile spoke about what he would like to accomplish during his mandate. Emile mentioned using social networking websites to better communicate/connect with the student body.

   II. Finance Committee (3 seats):

      a. Call for nominations:
         i. Jean Shalhoub
         ii. Mohamad Dia
         iii. Josianne Salameh

   **Won by acclamation**

   III. Bylaws Committee (2 seats):

      a. Call for nominations:
         i. Mohamad Homayed
         ii. Mark Francis

   **Won by acclamation**
After committee elections, Mario spoke about the work of the committees and emphasized the importance of attendance for all involved in the committees. He stated that he contacted the chairs of the University standing committees that have a USFC member, and reported the complaints of the Chairs about the absence of previous USFC members and inefficiency during the meetings. Mario mentioned that one of the committees took the decision that if the USFC member does not show up for two consecutive meetings with any kind of excuse to the chair, then the chair won't allow that student to be part of the committee for the rest of the mandate.

It was mentioned that there have not been any major changes through the committees and that they need to be more active. It was also pointed out that for the last two years there have been no changes to the by-laws and there is no set criteria for funding through the finance committee.

2. Setting a regular date and time for the USFC meetings
   A. Emile suggested that a doodle account be created in order to schedule meetings but it was unanimously agreed upon that doodle would not be efficient for large groups.
   B. Decision after discussion: We meet every other week on Thursdays at 6:30 p.m.
   C. Mario will be sending an email to inform the members about upcoming meetings. Faculty members will be expected to reply only if not attending and it was recommended that students confirm whether they will or will not be attending.

3. Reports from previous USFC Cabinet
   A. Problem: No Archiving System
   B. Plan for activating the USFC website (the PR committee will work on this)
      I. Dr. Khalil and Mario brought up the notion that the USFC website should be more easily accessible, i.e. a direct icon to the USFC website on the AUB homepage.
   C. There was no presentation of reports from the previous cabinet or from any member from the Student Affairs Office (SAO)

4. Strategic Planning for the upcoming year
   A. Mario presented the idea of the strategic planning that is needed in the USFC, and that was never done before, especially on the operational and executive level, in order to organize the USFC work. Dr. Hajj pointed out
that this work can be more efficiently done in a sub-committee. Mario
mentioned that an initial plan will be drafted by the newly created sub-
committee in order to streamline the efficiency of the USFC members
during a retreat taken to finalize the strategic plan for the year.

- The following USFC members volunteered to be on the Strategic Planning sub-
  committee:
  - Emile Maamari
  - Lara Eid
  - Joe Eid
  - Jean Chalhoub
  - Mohammed Homayyed
  - Hayyan Harb
  - Bilal Nasr
  - Huda Nassar
  - Mario Abou Zeid
- We are going to have the retreat on the first week of the Spring Semester
  (Rough date: Saturday, February 18, 2012 at AUB).

* Hayan Harb, Ghassan Nassar and Mohamad Dia left at 7:11 p.m.

5. Request for funds for the FEA Christmas Dinner (1500$)
   A. Representatives from FEA were invited to come and present to USFC via
      email about the Christmas Dinner. None showed up.
   B. Discussion followed in order to determine whether or not the USFC
      should vote on accepting or denying the request to fund the FEA
      Christmas dinner. The discussion began by multiple members inquiring
      about the funds the USFC has at its disposal and how those funds are
      held by AUB. It was concluded that the finance committee needs to
      follow up on ascertaining the official USFC budget in order to create a
      clear system by which the USFC will fund future proposals. A motion
      was put forth to postpone voting until the next meeting.
      - Vote to postpone funding of FEA dinner for the next meeting:
        - In favor: 15
        - Against: -
        - Abstain: 3
      - Decision: Item postponed for the next meeting

6. Speaker’s Corner
A. USFC members traded ideas on how to efficiently maximize the use of Speaker’s Corner in a strategic way to reach all faculties and students.
   I. First, having a clear theme under which a number of issues will be discussed will aid in keeping the discussions structured.
   II. The speaker corner should be taken to different faculties on campus and not be centralized on the West Hall.
   III. The importance of an outdoor setting was emphasized.
   IV. It was suggested that the PR committee would consider the use of social networking sites (Facebook, Twitter, Youtube, etc.) to popularize the Speaker’s Corner as well as make it widely available.
   V. On the technical level we agreed to bring accurate offers for speakers, cables, transmitters receivers, to be able link the faculties all over campus so whenever the Speaker corner event is taking place in one faculty it will be broadcasted and heard and seen in other faculties.
   (PR committee to work on this)
   VI. It was suggested that the USFC buy its own camera because the A/V crew from the media department were inconsistent in coverage.

7. **Suggestions for Events by the USFC for 2012**
   A. The poor sanitary conditions and poor maintenance of the toilets in OSB and Jafet Library specifically were brought up. It was also mentioned that many of the toilets are not functioning.
   B. The un-cleanliness of the cafeteria was also discussed. It was said that several students were poisoned from the cafeteria so far. Complaints were mentioned about the sanitation of the cafeteria, quantity and quality of food.

8. **Other Business**
   A. Parking
   I. AUB students pay the highest tuition in Lebanon and there are not nearly enough parking slots. He mentioned that the price to park in the OSB parking lot rose from 2000 L.L. to 7000 L.L. per day.
   II. It was said that there was a petition signed while the OSB building was in construction to allow for graduate Engineering students to park there. It was accepted but all students were allowed to use the parking slots.
   III. The need of the 100’s of nurses to also be able to park, who are under-paid and over-worked was mentioned.
Meeting ended at 8 p.m.

*Original minutes taken by Huda Nassar, USFC Secretary
*Revised by Mark Francis
Minutes: USFC Meeting 2

Date: January 23, 2012 – 6.30pm
Location: Room 310, West Hall

Meeting was called to order at 6 pm.

Dr. Talal Nezameddine announced that USFC faculty members do not need to confirm attendance. Excused/Unexcused absences apply only to student members. All USFC correspondence needs to be done via official USFC email.

I. Approval of Minutes from First Meeting (21/12/2011)
   A. Discussion regarding the level of detail necessary
      1. Verbatim quoting unnecessary due to potential inaccuracies
         a. Dr. Imad El-Hajj and Dr. Hanin Abdallah voiced concerns of
            being misquoted/misunderstood
      2. Minutes should reflect key issues and decisions made
      3. Pages should be numbered
      4. Mario Abou Zeid suggested recording meetings in order to know
         who supported what & why
   B. Minutes approved pending amendments

II. USFC Budget
   A. Funds come from Student Activity Fee
   B. Biggest issue is not knowing amount in budget
      1. There has not been a funds shortage in over ten years
      2. Procedures by which USFC approves/rejects proposals will remain
         inconsistent as long as budget is unknown
C. Excel sheet of financial details requested from Comptroller’s Office by Mario 2 weeks prior to 2nd USFC meeting
   1. Follow-up necessary by Finance committee

D. Funds controlled by Comptroller but managed by Office of Student Affairs
   1. Suggestion to invite an employee from the comptroller office to give a brief explanation

E. Brought to attention that USFC funds do not acquire interest
   1. Better for University if all accounts pooled together and invested – currently how Uni. accounts operate
   2. Things that could be done w/accumulated interest – financial aid, scholarships, more campus activities
   3. If no interest, then why save money?
      a. Alternative option of reducing student activities fee

F. Proposals for furniture and accessories should be addressed to the dean’s office or the department.

G. 16000 $ funded last year for new printers in the Architecture department should be reviewed.

H. An advisor/faculty member from the corresponding department should verify and approve a presented proposal.

I. Whenever, there is an issue delayed in a specific department, USFC is encouraged to send a formal letter to accelerate the process.

III. Funding Request for FEA Christmas Dinner
   A. No longer needed

IV. Van Dyck Student Lounge Furnishings
   A. Proposal cancelled

V. I.A.C. Funding Request for Model United Nations trip to Vancouver and London
   A. London trip scheduled for Feb. 10-12
      1. 10 delegates
         a. Requested $2,017 per delegate
   B. Vancouver trip scheduled for March 11-15
1. 14 delegates
   a. Requested $2500 per delegate

- No funding secured from other sponsors
- Proposal put forth by Mohammad Homayed to fund $500 per delegate
- Vote on proposal
  o For – 8
  o Against – 6
  o Abstain – 2

Proposal failed due to lack of majority in favor

VI. Funding Request for FEA Boat Competition set for April
    A. Will be voted on at later meeting

VII. Funding Request for CaseIT 2021 Case Competition in Vancouver
     A. 3 team members
     B. Requesting 20% of total costs from USFC - $2,825 combined for all 3 members

- 80% funding secured from Dean of OSB
- Proposal put forth by Mario Abou Zeid for full funding
- Vote on proposal
  o For – 11
  o Against – 2
  o Abstain – 2

Proposal passed for full funding

Meeting adjourned at 8:25pm

Mark Francis
Josiane Salameh
Start time: 6:45 p.m.
Place: West Hall room 310

Present Members:
Dr. Nizameddine, Dr. Rbeiz, Dr. Safieddine
M. Abou Zeid, M. Francis, M. Dia, M. Homayed, T. Meihli, W. Darwish

Absent Members:
Dr. El-Khalil, Dr. Bashour, Dr. El-Hajji, Dr. Kamleh, Dr. Isber, Dr. Kassaify
G. Nassar, L. Eid

Agenda:
1- Approval of minutes (Meeting 1 & 2)
2- Funding request of the SME AUB student branch (funding request for FEA RC boat competition)
3- USFC proposal for faculties' communication system
4- General assembly meeting for representatives on Tuesday 28th of February
5- Other business

Item 1: Approval of minutes:
The revised version of the minutes of the first meeting was approved.
The minutes of the second meeting was approved.

Item 2: Funding request of the SME AUB student branch (funding request for FEA RC boat competition):
A. Mario called for the 2 students representing the SME AUB branch to enter the room and present the event they’re requesting the money for.
B. The dean pointed out that they came last meeting and we couldn’t hear for them due to the lack of time, so the item was postponed for today’s meeting.
C. The 2 students started by giving background information about this event. They mentioned that it was done last year and 11 teams from which 7 are from AUB have participated. The event had 150 spectators last year and a committee constituted from specialists in the field was formed to judge the teams. The funding they are asking for is basically the cost of the reservation of the AUB pool and the cost of the prizes. Participants will have to pay a participation fee but this will be the cost of the batteries that they will use since it has to be ensured that everyone uses the same kind of batteries, and thus the organizers will be responsible for buying those.
D. Questions:
1. Prof. Rbeiz asked the students about the value added to such an event, and they answered by saying that it gives dimensions different from that of what books offer; it is a space for students to apply their knowledge.
2. Prof. Rbeiz asked them if they tried to get any sponsorship or donations. They answered by saying that they tried to but they couldn’t. They mentioned the names of the shops they visited to get donations from.
3. Prof. Safieddine asked about the number of teams. The students answered that the number of teams will be about 20.
E. The 2 students left the room, discussion:
1. Mohammed Homayed made a motion to give them all the funding

Discussion:
1. It was pointed out that they should have aimed higher and visited more important shops.
   b. A suggestion was to give them the money after they show us that they have visited other places to seek funding and sponsorships.

2. Prof. Safieddine made and alternate motion to give them part of the amount and let them secure the other part.
   a. Prof. Rbeiz asked if we can help them in reserving the AUB pool, since it’s an AUB property.
   b. Voting on this motion:
      - 7 in favor
      - 7 against
      - 2 abstentions
   c. Motion not passed

3. Voting on original motion which is giving them the whole amount:
   - 12 in favor
   - 4 abstentions
Motion passed and the club will be given the whole amount.

**Item 3:** USFC proposal for faculties’ communication system

A. Mario explained the system (Polycom):
   1. We already got 3 bids and this is the best amount we got so far (110,000 $)
   2. It is a system that connects the AUB campus with each other and with the outer world. It is a portable system which can be plugged in at any place and videos about what’s happening in a certain place will be shown on screens all over the AUB campus. (the bid is for 5 screens)
   3. The main benefit that this system has is that it will connect AUB, and students from different faculties will feel that they are more involved in the AUB activities.
   4. This system works on Ethernet, and the CNS was ready to help in implementing this system of course after the approval on it.

B. Discussion:
   1. Prof. Rbeiz asked the question, why are AUB students furnishing AUB? It is going to be a property of AUB and AUB should be responsible for paying for it. He also mentioned that the money we have is worth spending on AUB student activities more than this.
   2. Wael mentioned that if AUB needs it, then they’ll buy it. There’s no need for us to buy it because it’s going to be an AUB property.
   3. Prof. Safieddine pointed out that the amount is way too much. The cost given to the value is a lot; we’re all in the same campus and if we want people to mingle, this is not the solution.
   4. Mark mentioned that AUB is already paying an annual recurring fee when they rent it for many events like graduation ceremony for example.
   5. Wael said that they’re paying it from their money and not from our money which is supposed to be used for student activities.

C. Bilal made a motion to postpone this item to bring more details about it in next meetings:
   - 12 in favor
   - 4 abstentions
Item postponed for a later meeting.

**Item 4:** General Assembly meeting for representatives on Tuesday 28th of February

A. Mark started talking about this assembly saying that it is going to be like a meeting where student representatives and faculty members will be invited to discuss whatever
ideas anyone might have so that the AUB student life will be enhanced. By taking this step, the USFC will show other students that their input is valuable and their ideas will be taken into consideration. Ideas like Bylaws, Funding procedures, Social Media Usage... will be discussed and there is a hope to make this event an annual tradition for all USFC who might come after us.

B. A discussion regarding the date of the retreat has occurred. Wael mentioned that it’s better to give at least one week notice to students so that they fix their schedules accordingly. More than one person have mentioned that this should occur as early as possible since time is moving so fast and we have to be moving as fast as well.

C. A discussion regarding the inclusion of faculty members in attending this general assembly has taken place. Prof. Rbeiz mentioned that it might be better to have this event for students only. Mario mentioned that it’s important to include faculty members as well because they’re part of this committee (University Student FACULTY Committee).

D. A discussion concerning the time of this General Assembly has occurred, and Emile pointed out that he has classes till 6:15, so the suggestion was to have this general assembly on Tuesday the 28th of February at 6:30 p.m.

E. Prof. Safedidine started a motion to do the General Assembly on Tuesday 28th of February at 6:30 p.m.

This item was passed by consent, and Mario will be sending emails to student representatives and faculty members to invite them to this event.

**Item 5:** Other business:
Nothing mentioned here.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:35 p.m.

Minutes taken by Secretary Huda M. Nassar
Minutes of Meeting  
Meeting Number: 4  
Date of Meeting: Thurs. 20/3/2012

Start time: 6:40 p.m.  
Place: West Hall room 310

Present Members:  
Dr. Nizameddine, Dr. Bashour, Dr. El-Hajj, Dr. Kassaify  

Absent Members:  
Dr. Farjallah, Dr. El-Khalil, Dr. Rbeiz, Dr. Kamleh, Dr. Isber  

Agenda:  
1- Approval of minutes (Meeting 3)  
2- Ring ceremony (Ms. Arabia Osseiran is guest)  
3- General Assembly Evaluation  
4- Chabab Loubnan Funding Request  
5- Individual Funding Request - Hisham Tohme  
6- Clubs and Societies USFC funding  
7- Other business

Item 1:  
Approval of Minutes  
Minutes Approved.

Item 2:  
(VOTE 4-1)  
Ring ceremony (Ms. Arabia Osseiran is guest):  
Ms. Arabia Osseiran from the Alumni office presented the Ring Ceremony event. She mentioned that the USFC have funded the whole amount of the rings in 2010, and funded $7 out of 17 $/ring in 2011. Ms. Arabia mentioned that the price per ring will roughly be the same price this year. She also mentioned that last year, 1500 rings were bought and the number of expected graduates this year will also be around this number. A discussion regarding this issue took place and it was ended by a motion made by Bilal Nasr to participate in funding the rings in principle, and an agreement regarding the amount will be established at later stages. All the members were in favor.  
- Emile Maamary walked in at 7:10 p.m.

Item 3:  
General Assembly Evaluation:  
Mario Abou Zeid briefed the attendees out about how did the General Assembly go. He also mentioned that there might be another general assembly soon.

Item 4: (VOTE 4-2)  
Chabab Loubnan Funding Request:  
- Dr. Bana Bashour walked in at 7:35 pm (and voted on this)  
Ghassan Nassar moved to fund the club with amount requested to support their transportation fees. Voting started and all the members were in favor.

Item 5: (VOTE 4-3)  
Individual Funding Request - Hisham Tohme:
Dr. Talal asked the attendees to read the Funding Request presented by Hisham Mohammed. Homayed moved to give him the entire amount requested (878 $). Voting:
- 11 in favor
- 1 abstain
- 0 against

**Item 6:**
Clubs and Societies USFC funding:
Joe Eid explained to the attendees some suggestions that the finance committee might add to the funding requests for clubs and individuals. Some suggestions and recommendations were made from the attendees. The finance committee will be working on finalizing the funding request, and then will bring it back to the USFC to approve it.

**Item 7:**
Other Business:
A discussion regarding the whether the minutes should be attached with the email calling for a meeting or not was discussed. The attendees agreed on that the minutes can be sent as a separate document a day or two before the next meeting. Dr. Imad El Haj gave the secretary a recommendation to make the minutes more concrete and less detailed.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Minutes taken by Secretary Huda M. Nassar
Minutes of Meeting
Meeting Number: 4
Date of Meeting: Thurs. 5/4/2012

Start time: 6:40 p.m.
Place: West Hall room 310

Present Members:
Dr. Nizameddine, Dr. Bashour, Dr. El-Hajj, Dr. El-Khalil, Dr. Kamleh, Dr. Kassaify

Absent Members:
Dr. Farajallah, Dr. Rbeiz, Dr. Isber
E. Maamary, J. Salameh, M. Dla, M. Sbeity, W. Darwish,

Agenda:
1- Minutes Approval
2- Individual Funding Request - Jessica Elias
3- Individual Funding Request - Mohamad Hadi Ali
4- International Affairs Club Participation in Previous Model United Nations Conferences
5- BSS Gala Dinner Funding request
6- Other Business

Item 1:
Approval of Minutes
- Comments were made regarding some ideas mentioned in the minutes like who joined the meeting after it has started and who left the meeting before it was ended.

Item 2:
(VOTE 5-1)
Individual Funding Request - Jessica Elias from PSPA department
They requested an amount of 5991 $
- Dr. El Hajj blamed the financial committee for not yet providing the USFC with detailed criteria upon which the USFC can make a better decision on whether to fund a certain request or not.
- Dr. El Khalil pointed out that AUB should be represented in such events, but the USFC should be funding student activities that reach out to a bigger number of AUB students.
- Dr. Bashour moved to grant them 50% of the amount requested.
- Voting Results:
  9 in favor
  1 against
  7 abstain
- A discussion regarding whether to pass this request or not has taken place. An argument regarding whether to count the abstentions or not has taken place. Reference to the USFC bylaws was made and it was unclear what did the term "present and voting" means. Dr. Nizameddine ended this discussion by stating that the motion has not been passed since it didn't get the majority of the present and voting members, considering abstentions as votes.
- Motion failed

Item 3: (VOTE 5-2)
Individual Funding Request - Mohamad Hadi Ali
Hadi presented the idea of his book to the USFC. The amount he is requesting is 60% of the total amount, i.e. 60% of 2500 $ = 1500 $
Mohammed Homayed mover to give him the full amount requested (1500 $) under 2 conditions:
   a. Approval by the Arabic Department in AUB (a professor in the Department)
   b. All the profit goes to an institution approved by AUB like St. Jude or other such institutions
And mentioning of the USFC on the cover of the book, and this is more of a favor rather than a condition.
- Voting Results:
  9 in favor
  3 against
  5 abstain
Motion was passed.

Item 4: (VOTE 6-3)
BSS Gala Dinner Funding request
Nadine Hamdan from the Business Student Society presented a proposal to receive an amount of 10,000 $ to support the BSS Gala Dinner.
- Lara moved to grant them an amount of 10,000 $
- Lara withdrew the motion and moved to give them an amount of 9,000 $.
- A discussion about funding requests took place and Joe took this opportunity to ask the dean to put the item "Funding Requests" on the Agenda of the next meeting.
- Voting Results:
  3 in favor
  4 against
  10 abstain
Motion failed

Meeting was adjourned at 8:40 p.m.

Minutes taken by Secretary Huda M. Nassar
Minutes of Meeting
Meeting Number: 6
Date of Meeting: Thurs. 03/05/2012

Start Time: 6:40 p.m.

Place: West Hall Room 310

Present Members:
Dr. Nizameddine, Dr. Bashour, Dr. El-Hajj, Dr. El-Khalil, Dr. Kamleh
M. Sbeity, T. Mdeihli, W. Darwish.

Absent Members:
Dr. Farjallah, Dr. Kassaify, Dr. Isber, Dr. Rbeiz

Agenda:
1- Approving minutes
2- Cafeteria Sit-in updates
3- Student Charter
4- Gathering to Honor the staff of AUB
5- USFC PROCEDURES FOR FUNDING REQUESTS & Funding Procedures
6- Lebanese Mission Club (LMC) funding request
7- SRC FAFS Funding request
8- FEA SRC AUB Rally Paper’12 Funding Request
9- AUB Toastmasters funding request
10- AUB Eco Marathon team funding request
11- Lebanese Red Cross Youth Division – AUB Funding request
12- CCPS Summer School 2012 - Individual Funding Request Ibrahim Ammar
13- LAHC Funding Request
14- Other Business
Item 1:
Meeting minutes 5 approved pending corrections regarding the word “blamed” and the word “argument”.
Also Mario Abou Zeid requested to minute his reservation on counting the abstentions while voting.

Item 2:
Cafeteria Sit-In
Discussion was raised regarding the prices of the food served by the cafeteria, the quantity and the quality; comparing the catering in NDU and LAU with that in AUB. Moreover, the discussion focused on the conflict of interest with Nabil Shartouni.
As a result, Dr. El Hajj set up an Ad-Hoc committee to follow up with this issue.

Item 3:
Student Charter
The committee discussed the student charter and its impact on students’ life and activism.

Item 4:
Gathering to Honor the staff at AUB
The committee decided to choose a date to be disclosed later concerning this issue.

Item 5:
Funding Procedure:
Joe Eid presented the new funding procedure that the financial committee has worked on. Discussion was raised between the members about the guidelines of the funding procedure.
The committee voted on the new funding procedure with the changes in the guidelines. The vote results were:
In favor: 16
Against: 0
Abstain: 1

Item 6:
LMC Funding Request:
The Lebanese Mission Club requested a fund of 1,920,000 LBP from the USFC where the vote (6-2) was motioned by Dr. Bashour and was seconded by Mohammad Dia and it was unanimously accepted.

Item 7:

FAFS SRC Funding Request:

Since there was no presentation done, voting on this event was delayed.

Item 8:

FEA SRC Rally Paper Funding Request:

J. Eid had the motion to fund them with the amount required of $11,900 and was seconded by M. Kobaisi.

The results of the votes (6-3) were as follows:

In favor: 15
Against: 0
Abstain: 2

Item 9:

Toastmasters AUB Fund Request:

The vote (6-4) was upon the request for $1435 for 5 AUB students.

A motion was raised by Mario and seconded by W. Darwich to fully fund them with the amount required. The vote results were:

In favor: 16
Against: 0
Abstain: 1

We have fully funded the request taking into account that they have requested half the amount of travel expenses after saving money for the hotel and lodging.

Item 10:

LAHC funding request

Wael Darwich made a motion to fund this event with the amount requested which is $3100 and he was seconded by Hayan Harb.
Voting (6-5) finished with all the voting members in favor.

**Note:** After Grad committee was formed from W. Darwich, J. Eid, M. Sobaiti, G. Nassar, Dr. Kossaifi

The meeting was adjourned at 8:40 pm.

The minutes were taken by USFC secretary Hayan Harb.
Minutes of Meeting
Meeting Number: 7
Date of Meeting: Thurs. 10/05/2012

Start Time: 6:40 p.m.

Place: West Hall Room 310

Present Members:

Dr. Nizameddine, Dr. Bashour, Dr. El-Hajj, Dr. El-Khalil, Dr. Isber, Dr. Kassaify.

Absent Members:

Dr. Farjallah, Dr. Kamleh, Dr. Rbeiz
H. Nassar, J. Chalhoub, J. Eid, J. Salameh, M. Dia, M. Sbeity,

Agenda:

1- Approving minutes
2- Ring Ceremony
3- Plagiarism Task Force
4- SRC committee of the FAFS
5- Lebanese Red Cross Youth Division – AUB Funding request
6- FAS and FHS SRCs funding request
7- USFC Leadership Award
8- Proposal on Club and Society Awards
9- Amara Al Sayegh Individual Funding request
10- Other Business
Item 1:

Minutes approved as corrected.

Item 2:

Cafeteria Issue – process of Discussion

Additional members were added to the Ad-Hoc committee of the cafeteria issue:

Emile El Maamari, Lara Eid, Bilal Nasr and Hayan Harb.

Item 3:

Red Cross Funding

The red cross asked for a new computer with a scanner and printer. They explained their need for a new computer that is used for the blind substituting the old one which is in a terrible condition.

Dr. Bashour made a motion to fund them with $1500 and it was seconded by M. Abo Zeid.

The vote(7-1) was accepted unanimously.

Item 4:

AREC funding

Rita Feghali asked the committee for a funding worth $4139.73 for the AREC DAY event in Bekaa.

A motion was made by Dr. Isber and seconded by M. Homayed. Vote (7-2) was also unanimously accepted.

Item 5:

FAS and FHS Gala Dinner

Both faculty SRCs asked for a fund of $13000 after pursuing $9000 from sponsors to cover other expenses (Pepsi Co and Municipality Choueifat) taking into consideration that they need $22000 to cover all expenses.

M. Homayed moved to fund this event by the full amount and Mario Abo Zeid seconded his motion. Vote(7-3) ended in the following results:

In Favor : 11

Against: 3
Abstain: 2

The event preliminarily passed since it got more than 2/3 of the votes of the present voting members, BUT Dr. Nizameddine discovered that voting is based on 2/3 of the votes USFC members to pass if it was off-campus.

Discussion was raised between the members to set clear guidelines about voting especially for events off-campus which need 2/3 of the members according to the bylaws.

Mario raised a motion to reconsider the BSS Gala dinner and FAS and FHS Gala dinner to be revoted on (7-4):

In Favor: 12
Against: 2
Abstain: 2

Item 6:

Eco Marathon

The organizers got a total of $22000 from sponsors and needed $11000 more to cover the expenses of 8 students to travel and represent AUB outside Lebanon. A contribution of $5000 was made by their faculty (included in the $11000).

We couldn’t vote on this item since it needs 2/3 of all voting members. It was postponed to the next meeting.

Item 7:

Individual Funding

A Physics student wants to make a research outside AUB in the summer semester and requested a total of $2250. To be voted on in the next meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 8:45 pm.

The minutes were taken by USFC secretary Hayan Harb.
Minutes of Meeting
Meeting Number: 8
Date of Meeting: Thurs. 16/05/2012

Start Time: 6:30 p.m.
Place: West Hall Room 310

Present Members:

Dr. Tarraf, Dr. Bashour, Dr. El-Hajj, Dr. El-Khalil, Dr. Rbeiz, Dr. Isber, Dr. Kassaify.
T. Mdeihli, W. Darwish, E. Maamary, L. Eid, M. Francis, B. El Zoghibi,

Absent Members:

Dr. Farjallah, Dr. Kamleh.

J. Chalhoub

Agenda:

1- Minutes Approval

2- FAFS Gala Dinner Funding Request

3- Ring Ceremony Request

4- Plagiarism and Cheating Task Force

5- Individual Funding

6- Eco-Marathon Request

7- USFC Leadership Award

8- Proposal for Clubs and Societies

Item 1:

Minutes were approved as corrected.

Item 2:

FAFS Gala Dinner Funding Request

Dr. El-Hajj discussed some comments regarding the new funding procedure with the financial committee where the new process was accepted unanimously.
They have requested for $7318 after deducting $13000 from the $20000 without sponsors. It was concurred that if they got some sponsors, the value would be reduced.

Dr. Rbeiz made a motion to fund the three proposals of the Gala Dinners (FAFS, FAS and FAFS, and OSB Gala Dinners) with the requested amount of money considering them as one package, it was seconded by Mario Abou Zeid. The results of vote(8-1) yielded the results:

In favor: 16
Against: 4
Abstain: 0

So the proposals all passed.

Note that Dr. El-Khalil wasn’t in the meeting during this voting and Dr. Isber joined the meeting at 7:30.

**Item 3:**

**Ring Ceremony Request**

Mario Abou Zeid made a motion to charge students with $5 of the ring cost where USFC will pay for the rest. His motion was seconded by Ghassan Nassar.

Vote (8-2) had the following results:

In favor: 19
Against: 1
Abstain: 2

A recommendation was made for the financial committee to reduce the student activity fees.

**Item 4:**

**Plagiarism and Cheating Task Force**

Dr. Bashour described the conflict of plagiarism in AUB and the need for a committee that encounters this issue. She asked to form a committee to further discuss this issue.

The committee’s members will include Ghassan Nassar, Mark Francis, Emile Maamari, Mario Abou Zeid and Dr. Bashour.

**Item 5:**

**Individual Funding Request by Amara Al Sayegh**
This issue was carried on from the previous meeting; a discussion was raised about it and about individual funding limitations and guidelines.

A motion was made by Dr. Isber and seconded by Wael Darwich.

The vote (8-3) resulted in:

In favor: 9
Against: 10
Abstain: 2

The request was rejected.

B. El Zoghbi wasn’t present when voting.

**Item 6:**

Eco-Marathon Request

This issue was carried on from the previous meeting.

A motion was made by M. Homayed to fund the required amount and was seconded by Wael Darwich.

VOTE (8-4): The voting was unanimously accepted.

**Item 7:**

USFC Leadership Award

This award is based on CV’s presented.

A discussion was raised concerning this issue and amendments will be sent by email that discusses the name, procedure to get the award and the number of awards per faculty.

**Item 8:**

Proposal for Clubs and Societies

Huda Nassar presented the proposal where an award will be given for the best performance of the clubs over all the year.

After discussing this topic, suggestions were made for the nominations of the clubs.

The meeting adjourned at 8:30

Minutes were taken by Secretary Hayan Harb.
Minutes of Meeting
Meeting Number: 5
Date of Meeting: Thurs. 31/05/2012

Start Time: 4:00 p.m.
Place: West Hall Room 310

Present Members:

Dr. Nizameddine, Dr. Bashour, Dr. El-Hajj, Dr. El-Khalil, Dr. Isber, Dr. Kamleh, Dr. Kassaify, Dr. Rbeiz, Dr. Tarraf.
Abou Zeid, M. Dia, M. Francis, M. Homayed, M. Sbeity, W. Darwish

Hiba Hamade

Absent Members:

T. Mdeihli.

AGENDA

1. Approval of Minutes
2. Fingerprints
3. Election of USFC speaker (among graduating students)
4. Cafeteria update
5. Other business

Item 1.

Minutes approved as corrected.

Note that Dr. Tarraf suggested making an inventory of the proposals that passed/rejected.
Item 2.

Fingerprints

It is a program that aims to help students by donating money to the office of financial aid. It is a student to student contribution.

A presentation was held and a request to have 2-to-1 dollar contribution from the USFC for each dollar paid by any student, and hence a member of the board of trustees will contribute also.

Note that 107 students have benefited from this financial aid program.

Long discussion was raised about this issue.

A motion was made by M. Homayyed to fund them with 2-to-1 and it was seconded by Dr. Isber.

Vote (8-1):

In favor: 8

Against: 8

Abstain: 5

Lara Eid and Basma Al Zoghbi joined the meeting at 5:46 pm

Note that Dr. El Khalil joined the meeting at 5:15 pm.

Item 3

Election of USFC Speaker (among Graduate Students)

Dr. Nizameddine asked the members to nominate students to be elected to speak in the commencement.

Mohamad Dia was nominated by H. Harb and seconded by W. Darwich

J. Salame nominated herself and she was seconded by Bilal Nasr.

Lara Eid was nominated by Basma Al Zoghbi, and she seconded herself.

Election of the USFC speaker was conducted by the secret ballot.
The election ended with Mohamad Dia coming first by getting the highest number of votes (8-2):

M. Dia: 12
L. Eid: 5
J. Salame: 4
Blanks: 2

Item 4

Cafeteria update

There was an aggressive discussion between the members of the USFC and everyone was defending his point. More than one opinion were obtained in this discussion; Dr. Nizammedine talking on behalf of the University administration regarding this issue and talked about the meetings he and the cafeteria committee had made with Fakra representatives. There was no final solution to this problem as it has many ramifications.

The discussion ended as the meeting had exceeded its time (2 hours) and the discussion was taking aggressive paths. The discussion was mainly held by Mark Francis talking on behalf of the cafeteria committee and Mario Abo Zeld on the other side; each defending his own point of view concerning this issue.

The minute adjourned at 6:35pm.

Minutes taken by Secretary Hayan Harb.
Dear All,

Kindly note that a USFC meeting will be held on **Tuesday, October 9, 2012 @ 6:00 PM** - West Hall - Room 310

**Agenda:**

- Approval of minutes
- 1- Vote on the funding requests presented in the last meeting.
- 2- USFC donation to Financial Aid and allocation of funds
- 3- Seed money for clubs
- 4- Chabab Loubnan Club funding request
- 5- LAHC funding request
- 6- FAFS and FHS SRC funding request

Talal Nizameddin
Dean of Student Affairs