Members Present: Dylan, Chris, Leah, Lynnie, Hannah M, Danny, Carley, Cesar, Arthur, Frannie, Saumya, Alex
Public Portion Guests:

A. Committee Updates
   1. Faculty Outreach
      i. Pizza Professors and the Code: December 1st, hoping to hear back from everyone by Monday or Tuesday of this week.
      ii. Chris: Sent out survey to faculty, 30 responses so far.
      iii. Saumya: Sent another email to honor board and still waiting for a reply.
      iv. Alex: How many faculty are there?
      v. Arthur: Rough estimate of 130
   2. Community Outreach
      i. Carley: There will be a session but we do not have an official date, committee meeting tomorrow.
   3. Abstract Editing
      i. Anna: Abstract editing is a-okay, we were going to have abstract discussion this Wednesday, but postponed to this Wednesday, 16th, 7 pm.
      ii. Leah: We were going to discuss three, released another, one, want to do two and two?

B. Guidelines:
   1. Lynnie: Arthur sent out comments, I wasn’t able to read them. Downloaded them in pages. How do we want to address president’s concerns and concerns that were brought up at plenary.
   2. Leah: Another thing I would say to that, this resolution passed almost unanimously. There were no guidelines appended. There’s something to be said for not trying to change it too much so that it can start working. Arthur, do you want to talk about any productive and relevant concerns? Our feedback does not end with these guidelines, they have to meet with exec board and OMA 3 times a semester.
   3. Arthur: So after thinking about this, want to force different pairs to do confrontation and other mediation
   4. Ethan: What you are referring to, to me, is the first guideline. Work the division of labor to ensure that no conflicts of interest arise. These thoughts are imbedded within the guidelines throughout.
   5. Leah: Another thing about how liaisons work together, asking how class rep work together. Not something that needs to be decided for the future. Main purpose of the pairs is to allow staggered representation. Doesn’t mean each pair will work more closely together. Doesn’t make sense to say one pair vs. the other.
   6. Arthur: Guideline 2, who determines extreme circumstances? Who draws the line?
   7. Anna: I think that the way I was viewing that, we added last Sunday, for me it’s intentionally
left vague so that it could be parties, or it could be one of the mediators or confronters. I think anonymity. Purposefully vague, if other people disagree, feel free to let me know.

8. Arthur: Concern with that is, what happens when two or three groups disagree with what counts as extenuating.

9. Leah: These are all guidelines. To say that we as council know better than these future liaisons is probably false. Can talk as much as we want about what we want to recommend. They’re just going to be so much more qualified. They’re going to be thinking is this extreme in relation to others. Going to be impossible to outline each one.

10. Ethan: The purpose of guidelines are to address concerns of president so he will sign. It is also a way to communicate to future council. We should look at this as, does this adequately address the concerns and communicate concerns to future council.


12. Ethan: let me clarify, if the wording is such that it clearly communicates the idea, we do not need to be as picky as with the constitution.

13. Alex: make a larger point. My first semester on council, a whole meeting about wording of guideline. I was one of the people being annoying. The wording did not matter. We were all trying to say the same thing. I don’t think Ethan was implying the wording doesn’t matter, but essence is more important. Something we really need to consider. We really take too much time and effort on wording. I’m a detail-oriented person. In things in guidelines that are not constitution. That sometimes the essence is more important, our time could be better sent. I can think of a lot of things that are more important now. We wasted an entire meeting in Council. Just to bring some perspective in.

14. Anna: I think this specific guideline is written the way that it is to give options. We added the clause to say please be involved but anonymity is possible.

15. Frannie: I suggested because we could not come to a decision on actual wording. We are implying this idea by being vague and saying extenuating circumstances,

16. Lynnie: For issues of safety, to allow anyone to call that, that there is a threat, it’s a good thing.

17. Chris: Even the constitution is vague. Which is more of an issue than guidelines.

18. Arthur: What authority does liaisons have as a check on Honor Council?

19. Leah: My thought was that the statement implies that them being a check involves them asking exec board if they have considered identity. I do not think it implies anywhere in the resolution that they have more authority than that.

20. Anna: Will they have jurisdiction and access to all cases?

21. Leah: looking at the text, exec board might have case that relates to that. Might anonymously explain the case. Another example to predict how this will play out. Community forum that went poorly, or abstracts, anything feel out of place. Be a check on honor council, consider it more. Does anybody feel like it implies an ability to block council decision?

22. Arthur: yes

23. Leah: Where?

24. Arthur:

25. Anna: is it the word check?

26. Arthur: Yes, but also the scope is undefined.

27. Alex: Even if they were involved in that, it would be a good thing. It is clearly not giving them explicit power. Even if it is read that way, i think it would just be them telling the jury to think about identity.

28. Leah: It doesn’t say that the liaisons are a check on bad decisions, but that they are making sure that council is considering that. For me I think that addresses what you’re saying.

29. Ethan: I want to point out that if this is a conversation that we are going to continue then we need to talk about changing the resolution not the guidelines. If we felt that this gives them too much power, we cannot do anything about that until spring plenary.

30. Lynnie: do people think a guideline is necessary to clarify?

31. Alex: Seems to me that the weight of the room is that most of us understand that the
liaisons do not have direct power over council. And if somebody feels that way they will have to come up with a plenary resolution to fix that.

32. Ethan: If we had agreement about the proper interpretation, it'll just be it's how we've always done it is a good way to shut up 50% of population.

33. Lynnie: Does anyone think we do need a guideline to address the vagueness?

34. Arthur: I think it’s good to create a guideline so that there’s less chance of it being misinterpreted.

35. Anna: I am not morally opposed to creating a guideline, but this does not seem to serve a functional purpose. If we want to make this available for students then we need to move this through.

36. Leah: Just want to say it would be a little weird, written not by honor council, if we said that they don’t have any power of honor council. While I see where you’re coming from, we don’t want to create guidelines in response to every resolution. This resolution is something we need as soon as possible.

37. Hannah: Honor Council is composed of different grades, won’t be that we’re just all gone. Doesn’t have to be in writing. I mean you see it with how all the presidents meet before they leave the white house. Some things are said.

38. Alex: That is what the librarian is for

39. Lynnie: Chris could you speak to how we change the guidelines?

40. Chris: You can change guidelines, create them, remove them, all by consensus.

41. Leah: We have guideline 6. Encourages that. How are people feeling about these guidelines? Want to briefly read that Kim Benston read minutes, and he does understand he's not supposed to rewrite. Had 3 reasons as to why he rewrote. **Reads out reasons** He wanted to add a part saying that OMA would design the training of the liaisons. I personally don’t feel like we need to have a guideline for. Should not be the case. Lynnie and I designed training for council, and I think we knew better than someone not on council. But if anyone disagrees with that.

42. Ethan: For formal mediation positions, it might be worth having training by professionals. I would block a guideline saying that the training has to be done by OMA. Things will get smoothed out, other holes will appear.

43. On Consenting to adopt these multicultural liaison guidelines. 12 consent, 1 stands outside.