General body meeting for

President Report:

- Meeting start at 12:57PM

- We are going to have a big announcement first and some discussion and resume

Vice President Report:

- Nothing

Treasurer Report:

- Working on arranging couch delivery.

Secretary Report:

- Nothing

Head librarian Report:

- Nothing

Head AC Report:

- Nothing

Historian:

Committees:

Old business:

New business:

Announcements:

Ilana:

We, the Science Fiction Forum eboard, acknowledge that there has been a problem in recent time of the forum having an unfriendly atmosphere. We have been working this semester to start moving ourselves away from this type of environment and we would like to thank the people who stepped forward for alerting us that clearly we are not working hard enough. From this point on we are going to be pursuing these issues more forcefully, looking into current problems, and coming up with better policies for tackling unsuitable behavior as it arises. That being said, we do not condone any discussion in our Facebook page that is unconstructive, purposely perpetuates a problem without working towards a solution, is said with malicious intent or could be interpreted as bullying, or is rude towards another member or e-board member. We would also like to state that using our complaint form or talking to an e-board member is a more appropriate way to bring any concerns to the e-board's attention and gives us the chance to more effectively address it. It also allows us to handle the issues discretely which is not for the e-board's benefit, but for the benefit of the person complaining and also for the benefit of the person whom the complaint is against, because we would like to give them the chance to reform their unsatisfactory behavior rather than publicly shame them. In addition, we can not take action unless we are told there is a problem. We understand that some of you are shy but unless we know that something is bothering you we can not take action to prevent it. Furthermore we would like to emphasize the importance of formal complaints. Because if the issue does become a serious one we can involve USG and have documentation to show them.

Now to address the second issue of censorship. We fully admit that it was a mistake to delete the original discussion that occurred on Monday off our Facebook page. We are humans, we are young adults, and we make mistakes. Luckily we have now learned from them and are hopefully never going to make them again. But as we mentioned earlier there were some comments that were unhelpful and inappropriate. And after talking to other club advisors and other clubs about how they handle their Facebook pages it was suggested to us that we change the Facebook page settings so that posts have to be approved by several admin before they are posted. But this is your forum, and your Facebook page so we are not going to do anything without your consent.

Lastly we would like to reiterate that we, your e-board, deeply apologize if anyone has been made uncomfortable and implore anyone who has to please speak to us directly, so that we can have specific behaviors to target and people we can talk to. We are going to work harder with our members, you guys, moving forward from this point on to make this club a safe space for everyone. And we hope you can forgive us for taking insufficient action until now.

- Hat Committee

- The Theater Department is getting downsize and the same problem is occurring to Cinema and Culture Studies. So please consider signing the petition

- We are expecting a lot of feedback, so these notes will be delayed until 5/4/17 to allow as much of the e-board as possible to be available to answer any comments and concerns.

Discussion:

- How do you guys feel about letting admins approve what gets posted on facebook, because this will prevent malicious and bullying attempts. We noticed on the threads that a lot of people were using it to target someone else or a group of people. This is not to screw you guys, but to uphold stony brook’s no tolerance policy of cyber bullying, malicious intent, and bullying. This is more of a temporary measure to prevent the same explosion on Monday.

- It is also to give us the chance to tackle problems without allowing them to grow worse.

- Our goal is to have to censor as little as possible.

- Hopefully we find that it is not necessary and can stop doing it because it is just more work for us.

- If any student or alumni has constructive advice about how to go about this as it progresses we will gladly take it.

- Some members are concerned that this will lead to a breakdown of the integrity of our facebook page. People who want to post malicious things won’t care and those who want to post normal things will be deterred from doing so.

- E-board is under school restrictions and has to make sure everything posted fits school guidelines.

- Other clubs run their facebook pages this way and have shown that it can be successful.

- We would make sure it was at least two admins or more are approving any post so that no one eboard member has unlimited executive power.

- They’re not taking total control and they said they want it to be temporary.

- Would it take longer to see posts then?

- There is a risk that things might be a little slower but I know I (Ilana) am always on facebook and so are other members of the e-board so we don’t anticipate any posts not getting approved at worst the same day they are posted.

- If we find that posts are taking too long to get approved we will reorganize ourselves to improve our timing.

- Member concern that if issues are allowed to get out of hand it will go to the school and lead to the club ending.

Alumni input:
"Don't be a dick, words have consequences, The forum has been a safe space even before the word was created and the word ‘safe space’ is a joke until people are actually getting the shit kicked out of them"
"When you're associated with the club you represent something bigger than yourself and you have a responsibility to not damage that legacy".
"The E-board has a duty to protect the integrity of the club that overrides your right to say terrible things to other people, so while deleting the post was by no means the smartest decision, stopping the illegal crap from going up and damaging the club".
“If I saw your shitposting in a public format and was responsible for hiring you for a job you can bet your ass your application would wind up in my 'decline' bin, so use your head."

“The forum has been a place of fun and respect for one another, and in this case the fun part got overboard with what was said. That being said, everyone needs to grow up and take care of things amongst themselves before going to e-board. The fact that this went this far does nothing but polarize the forum as evidenced by everyone jumping and taking sides on the explosion on facebook. The forum is not a safe space where you should feel hindered in what you say, nor is it a free for all where everyone can say whatever with no consequences. IF someone comes to you and says they were offended, apologize and move on, don't be a dick! The members need to police themselves and confront one another on minor transgressions on both sides. Once the e-board becomes involved the school mandates they be draconian in their actions(however unfair and stupid they may be), so your uncomfortable feeling could literally ruin someone's life. Also Don't fan the flames on Facebook, this does nothing but make it worse for the forum and all of you.”

o

§ Vote:

Yay: 9

Nay: 1

Fundraising: 11.21

Allocations: None.

Total:

End time: 1:31PM

Congratulation DJ to becoming the Co Head Librarian and Congrats Reese to becoming the Assistant Head Librarian

Post meeting note from the Eboard: We understand that everyone makes mistakes, even we have made mistakes. And we want you to know we are not interested in persecuting people. That being said the best thing we can do from this point on is to keep a careful eye on how the club is being projected outward towards the public and inward towards our members. We are going to be cautious to correct people’s behavior, including our own. And we hope you can move forward with us and we try our best to make this club a better place for everyone.

We would also like to thank the alumni who came to this meeting and gave their input. We hope that more alumni will continue to involve themselves in club affairs in the future (hopefully under better circumstances).