A Resolution to Increase Collaboration Between the Executive and Legislative Branches

Both Representative Council and the Council of Colleges and Schools (CCS) serve as funding boards whose members are elected members of the Legislative Council but these boards have broad authority to execute action other than funding student groups. However, in the recent past, these boards have been focused almost solely on student group funding.

This resolution comes as a result of the realization during the 81st Legislative Session that Representative Council and CCS meetings are comfortable settings for members to interact with the students that come before the boards. Additionally, the dialogue when
CUSG executive staff has come before the boards has been extremely collaborative and productive for both the legislator-members and the executive staff member.

Attendance of executive staff at Representative Council and CCS meeting has thus far been the result of the initiative of the executive staff members or at the request of the Representative Council Speaker and the CCS Chair. While the current Speaker and Chair wish to continue this collaboration, they recognize that future Representative Council and CCS members would benefit from this practice of having executive staff members present at their weekly meetings.

Resolution Summary

Whereas, Representative Council and CCS are boards that have much more authority than just to fund student groups;

Whereas, Representative Council and CCS meetings provide an informal and collaborative setting for legislators to discuss ideas and have questions answered;

Whereas, Representative Council and CCS members have the ability to craft legislation, discuss ratifications, and discuss upcoming Legislative Council agendas and could have this discussion aided by collaboration with executive staff;

Whereas, collaboration between the executive branch and the legislative branch can be beneficial for legislators, staff members, the entire CU Student Government and in turn, the student body as a whole;

Whereas, the current Representative Council Speaker, the current CCS chair, and the current CUSG Chief of Staff wish the practice of executive staff presentation at Representative Council and CCS meetings to continue past the 82nd Legislative Session.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the University of Colorado Student Government that:

Section 1: The Representative Council Speaker and Chair of the Council of Colleges and Schools should confer at the beginning of each legislative session with the CUSG chief of staff to schedule executive staff presentations at Representative Council and CCS meetings.

Section 2: The Representative Council Speaker and the Council of Colleges and Schools Chair for the 82nd session should undertake a revision of their board’s by-laws to include the recommendation that every weekly meeting should add an item to their agendas for a CUSG executive staff member to present at that meeting.
**Section 3:** Legislative Council calls on the Tri-Executives to add a provision to the Executive by-laws to conform to the proposed by-law additions mentioned in Section 2.

**Section 4:** The by-law additions mentioned in Sections 2 and 3 should include the purpose of the executive staff visit which should be to update the legislators on the projects on which they are working, ideas they have for legislation, and to answer the questions of the Representatives and Senators.

**Section 5:** The by-law additions should also include that every executive staff member should attend both a Representative Council meeting and a CCS meeting at least once every legislative session.

**Section 6:** Legislative Council calls on future Tri-Executives to place this meeting requirement into the job descriptions of every executive staff position.

**Section 7:** This resolution shall take effect upon passage by the Legislative Council and upon either obtaining the signature of two Tri-Executives or the lapse of six days without action by the Tri-Executives.

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**Vote Count:**

2/12/2015  Amended to replace all “shall” with “should”  Acclamation  
2/12/2015  Passed on First Reading  Acclamation  
2/15/2015  Passed on Second Reading  Acclamation  

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Rachel Leonard  
Legislative Council President  

Juedon Kebede  
President of Student Affairs  

Lora Roberts  
President of Internal Affairs  

Chelsea Canada  
President of External Affairs