**Minutes of the 1st Regular Meeting of the 1st Session of the 222st Year of the Societies**

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**7:38:50 PM EDT |** President Johnston called the meeting to order.

**7:39:24 PM EDT |** SAA Lim called roll; quorum established.

**7:41:03 PM EDT |**  Senior Di Senator Martin read a passage from “Look Homeward Angel” by Thomas Wolfe.

**7:45:06 PM EDT |** President Johnston provided recognition of guests and alumni.

**Initial Announcements**

**7:47:07 PM EDT |** Senator Yagohbi motioned for Ambassador status; Seconded; Passed.

**7:47:54 PM EDT |** Senator White announced for committee chairs to present budgets.

**8:00:57 PM EDT |** Clerk Gross read the minutes from previous meetings.

**Program**

**8:05:48 PM EDT |** Critic Mountainsmith read the program for the evening. Resolved: Social fraternities and sororities should be abolished at UNC.

**8:08:26 PM EDT |** In a preliminary open chamber vote of8-19-16 the motion would fail.

**8:08:58 PM EDT |** PPT Hawisher spoke in the primary affirmative. The senator made the point that part of morality depends on the intent of the party. He argues that social fraternities and sororities are fundamentally immoral due to their racist and classist selection processes and actions, despite claims to be making attempts towards diversity. This characterization extends to the fraternities or sororities at UNC. The power and privileges of these organizations results directly from their exclusion of racism and classism. The networks of their organizations and their sponsors continue to entrench their protocols so that any criticism or reform is rendered unaffected.

**8:18:18 PM EDT |** Senator Gullati spoke in the primary negation. The senator argued that failures of the past are not sufficient to demand the banning of the organization. To ban the organizations would require that the organizations be innately harmful, and that any other method of remediation would be ineffective. Further, one risk pushing the organization off campus, revoking any right the university has to regulate these organizations. Not banning these organizations means that work can be done to attempt to improve these organizations without burning it all down. Further, to ban these organization would ignore the benefit they provide to student in providing them with a valuable social network at the university. Banning these organizations also would mandate the ban or organizations that are attempting to work against the bad behaviour associated with the greek system by promoting diversity and safety.

**8:28:47 PM EDT |** Senator spoke in the secondary affirmative. The senator argued that first hand experience of Greek life has shown that the organization provide determinantal social standards and in actuality provide little benefit to student. Greek life encourage alcoholism, aggressive sexuality, and cultish behavior (wardrobe, hobbies, and personality). Fraternities also are incredibly exclusive by race and class. The organizations also do very little good for all the harm they do. The senator affirms that he would abolish the state of Massachusetts.

**8:36:28 PM EDT |** Senator Martin spoke in the secondary negation. The senator argued that the behaviors ascribed to Greek life is generally true of young adults. Individuals are going to group with those they want to associate with, there is no inherent way to demand diversity in social groups. Even if the Greek system is imperfect, to abolish these organizations would close opportunities to students. There is also the opportunity to encourage systemic change through the Greek system, instead of throwing the baby out with the bathwater.

**8:45:43 PM EDT |** Senator Martin was fined 25 cents for profanity.

**8:46:14 PM EDT |** Senator Bell spoke in the affirmation. The senator argued that the Roman system that would replace the Greek system would be much more aggressive and expansionist, and would likely build coliseums for blood sport.

**8:49:22 PM EDT |** Senator Ong spoke in the negation. The senator argued that the world is full of intuitions that hold archaic beliefs are prevalent, such as the Catholic church. One might dislike these organizations and may exhibit behavior that requires resolution, but these individuals have the right to organize and assemble in this matter in accordance with their interests and beliefs.  
**8:54:18 PM EDT |** Senator Laird spoke in the affirmation. The senator argued that the central issue of Greek life is the consumption of alcohol.

**8:56:22 PM EDT |** Guest Markson spoke in the negation. The guest argued that while there exist issues concerning substances, sexuality, and exclusivity, the affirmation of the resolution does not solve these problems. It is a lack of creativity on the affirmation side to attempt to ban these organizations without imaging a method for reform.

**9:01:59 PM EDT |** Guest Fremerman spoke in the affirmation. The guest argued that even groups that are found objectionable, those individuals still have a right to assemble even if they hold objectionable ideas at their core. But it is mandated of the University to recognize these groups so they can be regulated, that is fallacious as presented by the negation.

**9:08:14 PM EDT |** President Emeritus Clay spoke in the negation. The PE argued that there are pragmatic reason to maintain the Greek system. Fundraising, scholarship, and diversity are all encouraged through the Greek system. It would be preferable to develop closer ties with the Greek organizations in order to regulate them, and the abolishment of them would not necessarily immediately solve all problems associated with them.

**9:12:37 PM EDT |** In an open chambers vote of 9-25-9 the resolution would fail. In a senator's vote of 3-15-3 the motion does fail.

**9:16:08 PM EDT |** Senator Martin is awarded Best Speaker award.

**9:16:39 PM EDT |** Critic Mountainsmith delivered his critique of speakers.

**9:22:51 PM EDT |** President Johnston informed guests of PPMA after business and called for recess.

**Business**

**9:35:37 PM EDT |** President Johnston called the meeting to order from recess.

**9:36:04 PM EDT |** The Societies entered executive session.

**9:56:03 PM EDT |** The Societies exited from executive session.

**9:58:35 PM EDT |** Senator Antoine Lopez was inducted into the Philanthropic Society.

**9:59:13 PM EDT |** Di President Ding and Phi President Smirnoff introduced a DiPhi Challenge: Senators will attempt to construct a valid sentence from saying one word at a time.

Participants: Senator White vs. Senator DeMont.

Participants: Senator Martin vs Senator Hollandsworth

Participants: Senator DiGiacomo vs Senator Kumar

The Dialectic Society is victorious.

**10:06:09 PM EDT |** Report of the Crotchety Old Senators Committee.

**10:06:55 PM EDT |** Report of the Sergeant-At-Arms. The report consisted of notification of chamber requests and maintenance.

**10:08:49 PM EDT |** All items on the consent agenda approved.

**10:09:12 PM EDT |** Critique Mountainsmith presented the pending resolutions for upcoming debates. All resolutions are approved (see below).

**PPMA**

**10:10:23 PM EDT |** Senator Martin spoke about her summer and a Tinder date.

**10:14:32 PM EDT |** Senator White spoke about his depression and his views about mental issues. Motion to extend time as necessary; Seconded; Passed.

**10:23:33 PM EDT |** Phi President Smirnov spoke about what he has learned during his summer. He sp0ke about his work as a software company, and how his work is personally motivating, as opposed just to as a means to an income.

**10:26:20 PM EDT |** Guest Ike spoke about the content of a desk in the chamber, and how there should be an Oprah Winfrey style giveaway.

**10:30:30 PM EDT |** PE Clay spoke about a previous speech he made about humor. He spoke about comedy can make an audience believe that the comedian is making fun of their ideological opponent on either side of an issue simultaneously.

**10:35:43 PM EDT |** SAA Lim read a satirical article about the history of Florida.

**10:40:57 PM EDT |** Guest Collin Miller spoke about how the legislature has decreased the funding of UNC and what is the appropriate use of these funds.

**10:43:33 PM EDT |** Senator DeMont spoke about how his is your friendly neighborhood Spiderman.

**10:53:20 PM EDT |** Clerk Gross spoke about free will.

**10:53:24 PM EDT |** Guest Marshal Rich spoke about his own personal philosophy based on “The Hitchhikers Guide to the Galaxy.”

**10:57:10 PM EDT |** Guest Floyd Wilson spoke giving an introductory speech to the senators of the Societies, detailing his politics, religion, interests, and interest in DiPhi.

**11:04:18 PM EDT |** PPT Hawisher spoke about free will and holding an individual morally accountable.

**Final Announcements**

**11:06:39 PM EDT |** President Johnston announced ExecCom tomorrow at 7:00 p.m.

**11:07:56 PM EDT |** Phi President Smirnov moved that the Phi Societies is the superior society; Seconded; Passed.

**11:08:43 PM EDT |** Critic Mountainsmith announced that the Phi Society is the superior society.

**11:09:28 PM EDT |** Motioned to adjourn; Seconded; Passed; Session ended at 11:09:56 PM EDT.

**Business Agenda**

**Information Items:**

* Report of the Crotchety Old Senator's Committee
* Report of the Sergeant-at-Arms

**Consent Items:**

* Approve a Membership Committee reimbursement request from Senator Hutchings for $12.56 for poster supplies.

**Action Items:**

* Approve the list of resolutions put forth by Programs Committee, namely:
  + Resolved: Put America First: The United States should prioritize the interests of its citizens above all else (September 12th, 2016)
  + Resolved: Performance enhancing drugs ought to be permitted in athletic competition (September 19th, 2016)
  + Resolved: Javert was right to pursue Valjean (September 26th, 2016)
  + Resolved: The Protestant Reformation was a mistake (October 3rd, 2016)

**MINUTES APPROVED SEPTEMBER 12TH, 2016**