

3-31-2016

## Minutes, Arts & Sciences Executive Committee Meeting, Thursday, March 31, 2016

Arts & Sciences Executive Committee

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**ROLLINS**  
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING  
March 31, 2016  
Agenda

**12:30 in CSS 167**

**Lunch will be served**

- I. Call to order**  
Dexter Boniface
- II. Approval of Minutes from 3-10-16**  
Dexter Boniface
- III. Update from Scott Novak c/o Rollins Coalition for Sustainable Investment**  
**(Attachment #1)**
- IV. Set Agenda for A&S Faculty Meeting April 7**
  - a. Remaining A&S Meetings**
    - i. Thurs., April 7**
    - ii. Thurs., April 21 (CPS: Tues., April 26)**
    - iii. Wed., April 27 (Reading Day/Retirement Toasts)**
  - b. Remaining EC Meetings:**
    - i. Tues., April 12**
  - c. Remaining EC+ Meetings**
    - i. Tues., April 5**
    - ii. Tues., April 12**
    - iii. Tues., April 26**
- V. Committee Reports**  
**(Attachment #2 and #3)**
- VI. Adjournment**



**ROLLINS**  
**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING**  
**March 31, 2016**  
**Minutes**

**PRESENT**

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Dexter Boniface, Emily Russell, Grant Cornwell, Jennifer Cavanaugh, Ashley Kistler, CJ Dunn, Susan Montgomery (PSC), Mario D'Amato (AAC). Guests: Robert Vander Poppen, Scott Novak, and Lisa Tillmann. Excused: Eric Smaw, Derrick Paladino, and Anca Voicu.

**CALL TO ORDER**

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Dexter Boniface called the meeting to order at 12:33 PM.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM 3/10/16**

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EC unanimously approved the minutes from the 3/10/16 meeting.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**Update from Scott Novak c/o Rollins Coalition for Sustainable Investment**

Scott Novak

(Attachment #1)

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The Fossil Fuel Divestment Group received 500 student signatures on the resolution asking for Rollins to divest from the top fossil fuel companies over a period of 2-5 years. SGA gave the resolution almost unanimous support. Scott Novak would like to give a brief presentation at a faculty meeting and ask for their support. EC will discuss the resolution at their April 12<sup>th</sup> meeting and decide whether to endorse the resolution before taking it to the full faculty. Boniface recommends Novak seek out the governing body in CPS to request their endorsement as well.

**Set Agenda for A&S Faculty Meeting April 7<sup>th</sup>**

Dexter Boniface

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EC discussed issues that need to be addressed at the next A&S Faculty meeting including, approval of two sets of minutes, approval of a slate for FEC for fall term only, a motion to abrogate existing bylaws to set up for the transition to the new governance structure, a proposal from the 128 hour committee, the unified honor code, updates on the administrative structure, Jindal arrangement and EC+ transition, and status of the proposed move to 128 hours.

**REPORTS**

**SGA**

CJ Dunn

(Attachment #2)

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SGA elections will be held April 11th – 15<sup>th</sup>. Dylan Bassham and Matthew Cassidy are running for SGA President.

SGA unanimously voted to publically support the continuation of the Student Life Committee (SLC) as a standing governance committee. EC explained that SLC will become an all-college committee that reports to the President so that it's more inclusive.

Concerns arose after Lipsync about one of the performances in particular and its use of phrases from "Straight out of Compton". SGA is engaging in ongoing discussions about out how to educate the student body on cultural appropriation. Kistler recommended contacting the Anthropology Department for assistance.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Dexter Boniface

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Boniface adjourned the meeting at 1:46 PM.

**Faculty Resolution  
Presented by Lisa Tillmann and Barry Allen**

Whereas education at Rollins centers on “global citizenship” and “responsible leadership”;  
whereas Rollins is dedicated to “social responsibility” and “environmental stewardship”;  
whereas the Rollins Coalition for Sustainable Investment has been spearheaded and organized by students who have embodied Rollins’ values of global citizenship, responsible leadership, and social responsibility;  
and whereas with bill 1516.26 the Student Government Association seeks to address environmental stewardship at an institutional level:  
be it resolved that the Arts and Sciences faculty support the Student Government Association-approved resolution Divestment from Fossil Fuels.

**Student Government Association Divestment Resolution**

Approved: 10/14/15

Legislation 1516.26

Resolution: Student Support of Divestment from Fossil Fuels

SPONSOR: Julianna Dubendorff and Filipa Bento

Whereas: The Rollins endowment is partially invested in fossil fuel companies

Whereas: Rollins has the duty to uphold its own mission of “global citizenship and responsible leadership” and “environmental stewardship”

Whereas: Rollins has historically been a leader in environmental sustainability and should strive to continue to be at the forefront of such a movement

Be it Hereby Resolved, The Student Government Association of Rollins College will:

1) Ratify the Student Divestment Resolution, which reads:

Dear Rollins College Board of Trustees,

Rollins College has invested part of its \$300+ million endowment in harmful fossil fuel companies. Because climate change caused by the burning of fossil fuels has become one of the most pressing issues of our time, we believe that Rollins must take leadership on this incredibly urgent, global problem. Thus, we must seriously consider fossil fuel divestment for both moral and economic reasons.

In order to keep warming below 2°C, a target that the United States and nearly every other country on Earth has agreed to, the International Energy Agency calculates that the fossil fuel industry will need to leave approximately 80% of their reserves of coal, oil, and gas unburned. Those reserves may be below ground physically, but they're already above ground economically and factored into the share price of every fossil fuel company. Globally, the value of those reserves is around \$20 trillion, money that will have to be written off when governments finally decide to regulate carbon dioxide as a pollutant. According to the investment bank HSBC, the industry could face a potential devaluation of up to 60% in light of such government actions.

Given this situation, continued investment in fossil fuels would increase our endowment's risk to the carbon bubble's devaluation, a devaluation that must happen if we are to stop climate change from worsening. Refusing to divest would also signal that we, as an institution, believe the fossil fuel industry is a legitimate long-term investment. As an academic institution that has "global citizenship," "responsible leadership," "social responsibility," and "environmental stewardship" as part of our mission, we cannot afford to send such a message.

Therefore, as public pressure to confront climate change builds, we ask that you:

1. Freeze any new investment in fossil fuel companies immediately.
2. Divest within 2 to 5 years from direct ownership and from any commingled funds that include fossil fuel public equities and corporate bonds.
3. Direct at least 1% of previous fossil fuels investments into renewable energy and other socially sustainable funds.

We believe that such actions on behalf of our college will not only be a sound decision for our institution's financial portfolio, but also for the wellbeing of its current and future graduating classes. As students who plan to live on this planet for decades to come, we deserve the opportunity to graduate with a future not defined by climate chaos.

## ATTACHMENT 2

**Karla Knight**

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**From:** Cortlandt Dunn  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 31, 2016 1:10 PM  
**To:** Karla Knight  
**Subject:** SGA Minutes

### SGA Minutes

- Search for the New President and Vice President of Student Government has begun – elections will be held April 11<sup>th</sup> – 15<sup>th</sup> - there are two candidates running for President of Student Government there names are Dylan Bassham and Matthew Cassidy
- Student Government Association unanimously voted in favor of a proclamation to publically support the continuation of the Student Life Committee representation on the faculty committee.
- Working with Career and Life Planning to provide feedback about their services both online and offline. In continual meetings to make an effort to really show this – Student Government is looking to recommend an employer relations individual as someone who can identify potential opportunities with larger companies and alumni and flush some of these out to help more of the Rollins Student Body become employed upon graduation
- Concerns arose after Lipsync about one of the performances in particular and its use of phrases from “Straight out of Compton”. The Student Government Association hosted educational forum on cultural appropriation and what impact it has on the student body. Abby Holern facilitated the meeting and productive conversations were developed from this discussion.

**Finance and Services Committee Report  
Faculty Meeting 4/7/16**

1. **Faculty Salary Study:** Interim Provost Craig McAllaster attended our meeting to give us an update on the Faculty Salary Study. He, along with a group of people from HR and other offices on campus, are working on developing a philosophy of compensation and on identifying the schools that we should use as benchmarks in evaluating our compensation. This conversation will be a part of the strategic planning process next year.
2. **Campus Space Issues:** Committee has discussed concerns about the conditions of facilities and the lack of space on campus with Pat Schoknecht, Jeff Eisenbarth, and the Board. We have worked on a survey that we will send out to faculty about space concerns, aimed at figuring out what space needs aren't being met, both in terms of office space and teaching space. We are concerned that academic events and classes need to be given priority in using campus space.

**Other:** We discussed a policy to extend our current sabbatical program to a full year paid sabbatical. Initial versions of the proposal were not financially viable, so we considered several revisions to it. We felt that we should not make a decision about endorsing the proposal at this time and that if the faculty member felt strongly about it, he should present it next year as part of the strategic planning discussions. We also talked about the presence of unauthorized book buyers on campus, but did not take action as we felt that the campus wide emails distributed recently addressed our concerns.