

COLUMBIA SPECTATOR ARCHIVE

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CCSC discovers lower reserves for 1994-5

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Members of the Columbia College Student Council (CCSC) received an unpleasant surprise last night when Treasurer Yvonne Maldonado, CC '95, informed them that despite the estimated remaining budget for the year of about \$27,000, only \$5,600 was left.

The issue arose because of a proposal by CCSC Vice President Jimmy Hung, CC '95, to give the AIDS Quilt between \$5,000 and 10,000 in assistance.

At their last October meeting, CCSC members were informed that the combination of unspent money from previous years and a repayment of a summer loan by the Union of Student Organizations would increase the budget to approximately \$47,000 for this academic year.

Many council members blamed the Ferris Booth Hall (FBH) Accounting Office for the discrepancy, when Maldonado informed them of the council's fiscal situation.

"It's ludicrous to find out that we have so little money left when we had been thinking that we had \$16,000 to get rid off," said CCSC Community Affairs Representative Bert Galleno, CC '96.

Maldonado attributed the error to unexpected costs for Senior Week as well errors made by the FBH Accounting Office. However, most council members remained dis-

satisfied.

“We should know at any given point how much money we have. We need to keep our own records and look at the things the council spends money on,” said University Senator Emily Juda, CC '95.

Juda added that now that the council knows how much money remains in its budget, it should “cut frivolous spending.”

In other CCSC news, Professor of Speech Lewis Freeman spoke to council members about plans to eliminate the speech department after this year.

“Speech courses are a necessity to some and that the University would think about eliminating something so important for such a small amount of money is ridiculous,” Freeman said.

University administrators have said that annual costs to maintain the program run at approximately \$50,000.

According to Freeman, despite the fact that the program is cost-efficient, the reason why speech courses are easy to target is because they are not part of an individual department.

“I went through the program, and it is truly the best course I have ever taken at Columbia. The University has not supported it to the

extent it could have," said University Senator Chris Glaros, CC '96.

The council voted unanimously on a resolution proposed by Glaros stating "that the CCSC strongly urges the University administration and the Arts and Sciences Planning and Budget Committee to retain, and commit to, the speech program for the benefit of existing and future Columbia students."

In addition to the resolution, Freeman urged students to have their parents call University President George Rupp, the Provost's Office, and Vice President for Arts and Sciences and Dean of Columbia College Steven Marcus.

"They can ignore student calls, but [it] is difficult to ignore parents who are spending about \$25,000 a year," Freeman said.

Council members also heard from Director of Enrollment Services Joe Ienuso.

Ienuso discussed upcoming student identification card changes.

The University is hoping to implement a "One-Card" system by both increasing the functions of the student ID card and making the current functions more reliable and credible.

As part of the new program, four Berkeley Federal Bank and Trust Automatic Teller Machines are scheduled to be installed by

May 4.

Undergraduate House Council (UHC) President Evan Malter, CC '96, expressed concern that if students join Berkeley in order to use their ID's as a bank card, there will be no communication involved in the banking process.

"Banks are no longer going to be destinations," Ienuso said.

"Although Ienuso said that the Credit Union and Berkeley will be working together, it is more likely that they will be competing. Plans with Berkeley ultimately could shut the Union down," Juda said.

Last night's meeting also included the monthly "Gripe Session." CCSC Secretary Daria Ibn-Tamas, CC '96, stated that the housing lottery process needs improvement.

"Numbering and paperwork were both messed-up. The whole point was that there were a lot of complaints and the scheduling of appointments should not have been done during mid-terms," Ibn-Tamas said.

Additional complaints about housing were voiced concerning prices.

A Ruggles' room will cost the same as an East Campus room next year, even though East Campus rooms are considered to be far more luxurious.