

Order of The Golden Bear

ΕΠΙΣΤΗΜΟΝΟΝ ΔΙΩΣΚΩΣ
ESTABLISHED 1900

Temporary Meeting Location, February 19th, 2019

Items for the good of the Order:

Charles Mills Gayley's birthday is this Friday February 22nd

Items for the good of the University: Inequalities on Campus

The Warden opened the conversation with discussing nuanced examples of inequality on campus ranging from Professor Office Hours to student organization fees.

A fellow started the conversation with the idea that office hours are inaccessible to people with disabilities, as well as international students' inability to understand language on campus.

A fellow brought up an educational barrier between Cal's expectations on the subject compared to what students perceive.

A fellow brought up that there are a lot of unwritten rules to the cultural "game" of Cal. One of these is the differences in approaching office hours and professors.

A fellow brought up that there is a DeCal on campus that teaches students about all of the resources on campus that really helps students understand how to navigate the campus.

A fellow also brought up that RA's are great resources to help new freshman learn about the resources available to them.

A fellow brought up the power of the individual: to look to yourself as an individual to take initiative and find what you are looking for.

A fellow brought up the problem is not only the students, but also lack of training to the faculty members on how to approach students, as it is assumed that faculty know what to do.

A fellow brought up the awesome platform Piazza that has streamlined the process on helping students who are too timid to approach professors or graduate students.

A fellow also brought up that there should be some student etiquette on how to approach office hours.

A fellow brought up that there is an inequality on campus when it comes to the academic support/training that people come in with. The fellow brought up that they knew a peer whose parents proofread all of their papers, and those resources didn't always exist or are advertised on campus.

A fellow brought in that there is an invisible sense of shame on campus when it comes to feeling like their problems will not be heard, and the solution they proposed was creating a voluntary database based on interests and geographic origin so that students could feel more connected on campus.

A fellow brought up that carving your own neighborhood on campus is very difficult because of the inequities on campus.

A fellow brought up the exclusivity of RSO's as a very harsh problem which can be a source of inequity or even racism on campus. A fellow brought up that networking and emotional wellbeing comes a lot from the people around you directly and these clubs.

A fellow brought up the fact that students can also be a part of the solution to carving out neighborhoods on campus, as well as Piazza; however, this service can sometimes be viewed as an inhibitor towards students learning, enabling them to avoid putting themselves out there in favor of remaining anonymous.

A fellow brought up that Piazza can also act as a stepping stone towards greater ability to speak with professors, as well as there are disabilities that people can't always see, and that DSP recognizes mental health as a disability on campus.

A fellow brought up that surrounding businesses should help to supplement work study programs, as well as warned the university towards moving towards UC PATH, as there are a lot of bugs in that system which has prevented people from receiving their pay checks as well as navigating campus without graduating with debt.

A fellow brought up that the database of student information, saying it was a good idea.

A fellow brought up that undocumented students are unable to get stipends to live on, as well as we should bring in more fellows who are directly affected by these things so that we can move forward with more perspectives.

A fellow brought up that the Order itself is maybe a perpetuation of such a thing of finding people who only fit within our three charges.

A fellow brought up that Cal's main goal is to prepare us for the real world after graduation, but the world is much more brutal and maybe these struggles are symptoms of the real world.

