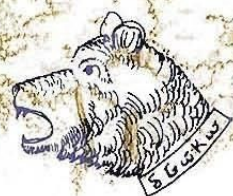


Order of the Golden Bear



The Usual Place, March 7, 2017,

The topic for tonight's discussion was on Cal Athletics.

Fellows began the discussion began with a statement on the time schedule of games. One Fellow said that late games deterred people from attending which leads to a low pass renewal rate. This Fellow also highlighted the death of a football player which was cause for concern for the football program especially for student athletes. Other Fellows added that an increase in advertisements during the games was no longer enjoyable and many in the community do not want to renew passes for this reason. Many Fellows also found that games that end late are not family-friendly and a serious disrespect for the athletes when the stands are empty halfway through the game.

Another Fellow discussed the history of intercollegiate athletics. This Fellow mentioned the transition of management from the students to the University due to the advent of television. Initially athletics funded several student facilities and programs however, as this Fellow shared, there was a push from the University which has led to a deficit.

One Fellow compared how much athletics is subsidized on other campuses with Yale at 29 million, Harvard at 18 million, and Cal at 5 million. This Fellow made the comparison to show that despite a small budget, Cal has some of the best athletics teams.

Another topic of discussion with the use of space. A Fellow mentioned the potential of Memorial Stadium as a concert venue or for other event use. One Fellow added that the stadium is used by

women's soccer, lacrosse, and other teams. According to another Fellow, campus would like to use Memorial stadium more however there is an agreement with the Panoramic Hill Association which puts a cap on events due to noise. This Fellow recalled a soccer game which led to the first ever sold out event. This Fellow added that there is a prospect for renegotiations. Another cause for concern for this Fellow is that not using Memorial stadium leads to athletics using other facilities which causes a strain for other student groups.

Additionally, Fellows discussed the importance of inclusion of student athletes as students. This Fellow added that often there is a perception put on student athletes that make them feel unwelcome in the classroom. This Fellow stressed these are high achieving students. Another Fellow described the relationship between the faculty and student athletes as inflexible. One Fellow discussed the challenges of being a student athlete in the sciences due to the lab schedule conflicting with the athletic schedule. According to this Fellow, this forces many student athletes to change their academic pursuits. This Fellow mentioned the conflicts with Final exams and the academic constriction of professors. Another Fellow added that there is also a disconnect among the student body. This Fellow described that there are issues in the socialization which leads to isolation and often student athletes do not disclose that they are athletes. Fellows agreed that we need to take care of students beyond the sports.

Another point of discussion was equity in sports. A Fellow highlighted that the university has many successful women's teams which receive smaller budgets than some of the less successful men's team receive significantly larger budgets. One Fellow mentioned that folks have started to redirect gifts to other places that are equally deserving and need the funding.

Lastly Fellows suggested for the creation of an alumni association for student athlete to rely on for guidance and support. Other Fellows suggested a change in the game day experience for alumni.