

Pursuant to your recent decision in regard to my behavior at last week's General Assembly (GA) I would like to ask each of you to place yourself in my position and ask yourself how you would have conducted yourself in my stead. In order to achieve this somewhat difficult task I would like to provide you with the following background.

Prior False Charges of Harassment

Several weeks before last week's GA meeting I was expelled from the Inn based on a phony charge of harassment. The chairperson of the Executive Committee (EC) responsible for my expulsion was Terene Salvano. My own roommate, Clark Schlosser, who was a witness at the summons in which my expulsion was decided stated clearly before the EC that neither my speech, nor behavior toward Jeremy was antagonistic. In short, I was not harassing anyone.

Several months before I was expelled I had been placed on probation for an entire month based on a story made up by Joshua Tritt. This story was subsequent to another story made up by Joshua Tritt at a summons prior to the one in which I placed on probation. Although there was no witness for the first summons, Joe, your current colleague on the EC, was a witness to the second summons. At the first summons Joshua Tritt threatened me with physical violence before the committee. I believe Michelle was present at that meeting and can testify to the authenticity of my claim. Please ask Joe about the integrity of Joshua Tritt's testimony at the second summons.

During the subsequent one month probation period I was told to keep a distance from Joshua Tritt, and that I would be terminated, if I did not comply. Several days before Joshua departed from the Inn -- apparently, because he could not get along with Derrick, his roommate -- Mr. Tritt pushed me twice in Goldie's presence. I am certain that Goldie will bear witness to this fact. I do recall mentioning Mr. Tritt's behavior toward me to Michelle. The chairperson of the second summons was Gene, the current Head of Security. The same person who bore false testimony against me at last week's summons and downplayed, though acknowledging, the role of other house members in the raucous.

My Return and Achievements on the EC

Initially I was invited to return by the Executive Committee. This decision appears to have been strongly influenced by a trip that I had made to Catholic Community Services during the week of my eviction. Although I was happy to be received by the committee, I was reluctant to return to the Inn without the support of the house. So, I made the restoration of my previous work schedule that I had spent nearly six months to establish a pre-condition for my return. As no guarantee was given, it was decided that the decision for my return would go before the house. I was received by the house with an overwhelming majority. In gratitude I volunteered to sit on the very committee that was responsible for my termination.

It was not easy, for Terene. Salvano and Jeanette Seaman-Braun were dead set against my presence on the committee. At one point Ms. Salvano told the entire committee that she had no respect for me and could offer no solution for my continued presence. These statements were made while both Sandra and Michelle were presence. Per was also on board at the time.

While on the committee I managed to achieve the following:

- 1) Conduct a filing party consisting of Ms. Salvano, Ms. Seaman-Braun, Per, and myself. During this *party* we filed a two-inch thick stack of paperwork that had been neglected for the previous several months by previous EC members.
- 2) Clean both the EC box and the top drawer of the 4th floor filing cabinet of their clutter and brought Per up to speed about how to maintain the cabinet in good order.
- 3) Got the EC to accept the new rule that department heads and their assistants would have priority at all summons in which they were filing incident reports against member who were negligent in meeting their shift requirements.
- 4) Got the entire GA to agree on a procedure that would satisfy Jason's noise complaint vis-à-vis those who use the Smoking Hut for loud, late-night discussions.
- 5) Negotiated a difficult Room Change Request for Joe, Per, Jeff Pierce, and Jeff Strand.

All of the above was accomplished while Ms. Salvano and Ms. Seaman-Braun were seated on the EC.

During this several week period Steven Caro and I requested a Room Change Request, and we were denied. The reason given by Ms Seaman-Braun, the presiding officer on the EC when the decision was made, was a history of trouble with past roommates. How this conclusion was reached I can only imagine. You might wish to consult with Tracy, as she was present at the meeting. The truth of my history with past roommates is provided in the attached document that was submitted with my appeal. Steven and I are now roommates, and he does, to my chagrin, snore.

Michelle's Departure and Ms. Salvano's Pre-GA Coup

Shortly before Michelle went on vacation she told the other members of the committee to stop trying to frustrate my every initiative. Michelle had come to see me in my true light, free of the negative gossip that has prevailed over me ever since my arrival at the Inn. As soon as Michelle left Ms. Salvano and Ms. Seaman-Braun pounced.

Twenty-five minutes before the GA Meeting on May 12, 2019 the EC was assembled. All were present. (Sandra was the sitting staff member; she had not been present when Michelle told the others to stop trying to frustrate my work on the committee.) I was told to leave the room so that Ms. Salvano could speak to Sandra in private before the committee. When I was invited into the room ten minutes later I was told that a vote of No-Confidence would be taken. When I asked on what grounds I was read a list of accusations. I was given no opportunity to defend myself and asked to leave the room

for a second time. When I returned I was told that a 4-4 decision had been reached against me. Whereupon I was promised a copy of the accusations by Ms. Seaman-Braun. To this day I have not received a copy and only vaguely recall what the accusations were. They had been read quickly by Ms. Salvano, and I was given no opportunity to defend myself against any. Tenaya was the acting chairperson had offered no intercession on my behalf.

Why did I allow myself to be rolled over during those heartfelt twenty minutes? The reasons were several. Firstly, it was my first experience with a vote of No-Confidence, and I was not aware of proper procedure. Secondly, Sandra made no objection to the procedure that was followed. Thirdly, the designated, but not effective chairperson, asked me to leave the room on both occasions at Ms. Salvano's insistence. And fourthly, I did not want to be a part of any action that would leave the entire house standing in the hall way past 5:00 PM.

As I was completely unprepared for what had happened, I simply left the Inn and thought about how best to deal with the situation. I decided to wait.

After consulting with other members of the house about the rules and the probable true causes for the vote of No-Confidence, and after learning that Ms. Salvano's term on the EC would end at the next GA meeting, I decided to bring the matter up before the entire house -- the same who had voted me back and whom I had served well during my time on the EC for the past several weeks.

The Quinn Affair

To the extent that I have been hearing negative reports about my handling of Quinn's altercation with his former roommate, and to the extent that my handling of the affair was part of the reason for my current punishment and probation, I would like to address the matter more formally here.

As I have already described Quinn's behavior toward Staff, Security, and myself after the police had left. I would now like to discuss what happened before the police came and what transpired while they were present.

The altercation between Quinn and his roommate broke out just after a conversation between Annaka and me in the 4th Floor library. We had been together for about ten minutes in an effort to satisfy a previous EC decision about formalizing the Orientation procedure for new residents. When we were finished, Annaka left the library, and I remained.

Within the space of 30 seconds to a minute-and-a-half after our separation I heard noise and then my name. Annaka was calling for help. When I arrived where Annaka was standing -- before Quinn's room -- I saw that Quinn's mouth had been bloodied and told Annaka to notify Staff and Security. Whereupon I entered into the room and stood

between Quinn and his roommate. Quinn was in the bathroom, and his roommate was in the entry way between the door and the interior of the room.

Quinn stated that he had been punched while asleep on his bed, and his roommate stated that he had reacted to his having been pushed. Having myself been pushed by Quinn from behind many weeks earlier while waiting in line to sign my name at a GA Meeting I found his roommate's story to be the more likely of the two. In any case, it did not matter whose story was correct, for the matter would be handled before the EC at a later date. Important was that the two be separated, and I asked who would spend the night in the weight room. Quinn refused, and his roommate volunteered. I hailed his roommate for his excellent cooperation.

I remained in the entry way between Quinn and his roommate while his roommate gathered his things. When security arrived I explained that Quinn's roommate had agreed to spend the night in the weight room and that he was gathering his immediate belongings. Whereupon I entered the room proper where Quinn's roommate was assembling his things. His roommate pointed to a video screen that was blaring loud music and told me that Quinn had been exhibiting strange behavior. Quinn's bed appeared in tact; the interior of the room showed no signs of a scuffle. When Quinn's roommate had finished I accompanied him to the weight room. Just as I was leaving or the weight room with his roommate, Quinn told me that he was going to call the police. I advised him against it, but my advice fell on deaf ears. As he had every right to make the call, I made no further effort to prevent him. As Security and Staff were both present now I went with Quinn's roommate to the weight room, and left Quinn with the others.

The police arrived in two waves. With each wave there were two officers. When the first two arrived, the one went to Quinn's room and the other to the weight room. As I was the only EC member present I remained while the police officer interrogated Quinn's roommate. During the investigation I was twice asked to stand at some distance from the officer, and I did -- each time at a little more distance. The question and answers were reasonable, as the recount of what had happened was the same that I has just heard.

By the time the second wave of officer's arrived I had become concerned about the tone of the investigating officer. I had worked with Quinn's roommate at the front desk and could see that he was being placed on the defensive by the officer. So, when one of the second wave of officers came to the weight room I pulled him aside, and explained to him what I knew about Quinn, his roommate, and the altercation. Whereupon I returned to the library and waited from a distance. Within minutes I understood that they were placing Quinn's roommate under arrest.

While the arrest was taking place I spoke with the officer who had performed the investigation of Quinn's roommate and asked him, if the officer with whom I had spoken had informed him about our conversation. He said, No. When I tried to explain what I knew a second time, I was asked, if I had witnessed the incident. I replied, No, and that was pretty much the end of our conversation. I then accompanied the two officers that

had formed the initial wave in the elevator down to the first floor. While still in the elevator I asked why Quinn was not also under arrest. I was told that he had committed no crime and wondered to myself, whether self-defense was a crime, for this was my understanding of Quinn's roommate's side of the story, and only he was under arrest.

My Conduct at the GA Meeting

Frankly, I feel that I am being blamed for Ms. Salvano's ill-handling of the GA Meeting.

The entire flare-up began with a simple question from me to Ms. Salvano. I asked her plainly and politely when her term ended. Had she been forthright, she would have answered directly. As it was, it took three questions from me to her, and one question from her to me to finally discover what she would not tell everyone at the outset -- that her term ended last Sunday, May 19, 2019. Whereupon we learned that Ms. Salvano had agreed in advance with Sandra that she would continue for another week, or even term, in the event that none of the newly elected EC members would have any experience on the EC.

What Ms. Salvano did not appear to have taken into consideration was that I would run against her.

How someone, as ruse and demonstrative as Ms. Salvano is, could have been unaware of the GA rule regarding the forced resignation of fellow committee members is difficult to believe. And, even if it were true that she were unaware, then why did she refuse my reading of the rule regarding the matter? Why, in effect, was I forced to appeal to Sandra for a proper hearing? This was Ms. Salvano's second important error.

Even after a former resident stood up, made direct reference to Robert's Rules of Order, and suggested thereby that Ms. Salvano did not know how to conduct a meeting. Ms. Salvano made her third important mistake. Rather than discussing my dismissal before the GA, she moved directly to a vote. It was at this point that I walked out of the meeting on my own free will and several others followed. The meeting was quickly adjourned; Ms. Salvano had gotten her way.

My Appeal

That the probationary period against me not be put into effect, that my number of punitive hours be reduced to three, for my having caused distress to those who do not know how to handle their own stress, and that the others who contributed to the distress of same be penalized as I.

Further, I would like to be given the opportunity to redeem myself by running against Ms. Salvano should she decide to run for a third term and no one else run's against her.

Finally, I would like that each of you return to the first paragraph of this appeal and perform as I have requested. Ask yourself, how you would have performed in my stead.

Then decide together as a committee, not what I should not have done, but what I should have done under the circumstances that I was confronted. For, I am of the belief that I had performed the best that I was able under the circumstance with which I was confronted. I remain open for advice and counsel.

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