

## COMMISSION ON STUDENT AFFAIRS

February 5, 2009

3:30 p.m. – 5:30 p.m.

Brush Mountain Room

Squires Student Center

### Minutes

- Present:** Linsey Barker, Paul Deyerle, Lauren Keister for Monika Gibson, Hanna Goff, Bo Hart, Monica Hunter, Brad Klein, Nathan Lavinka, Anna LoMascolo, Matthew Zackon for Emily Mashack, Emily Mauger, Katie Greenleaf for Leon McClinton, Bryce Jorgensen for Joseph McFadden, Michelle McLeese, Ingrid Ngai, Camille Waldron, Jessica Grimes for Karen Sanders, Abby Schoenfeld, Roshaan Settle, Guy Sims, Edward Spencer, Kirsten Kube for Rianka Urbina
- Absent:** Tom Brown, Billy Brubaker, Virgilio Centeno, Judith Condezo, Ron Daniel, Lauren Davis, Rick Ferraro, Andy Fortin, James Freeman, Brian Golden, Ryan Heider, Destiny Jackson, Adeel Khan, Tanya Leroith, Emily Mashack, Duane Rollins, Jonathan Stein, Krishna Vummidi
- Guests:** Shivani Handa, Meg Hannan, Rick Johnson, Jenny Lindsey, Elena Dulys-Nusbaum, Andy Sarjahani,

#### I. Call to Order

Ms. Ingrid Ngai, Interim Chair, called the meeting to order at 3:40 p.m.

#### II. Adoption of Agenda

A motion was made to adopt the agenda as written. The motion was seconded and approved.

#### III. Election of a Chair

There was one nomination to fill the position of CSA Chair (due to the resignation of Lynsey Stuart), Ingrid Nagai, Vice Chair. Dr. Spencer opened the floor for other nominations. There being no other nominations, a motion to elect by acclamation was in order. The motion carried.

With the Vice Chair being elected as Chair, a request for nominations from the floor was made to elect a Vice Chair. Michelle McCleese was nominated. With there being no other nominations, a motion to elect by acclamation was in order. The motion carried.

#### IV. Guest Speaker

- A. **Nicki Cantrell, Student Legal Services Budget Request** – Ms. Cantrell made a budget request for level funding for Student Legal Services. She explained that Mr. Phillips, the Legal Services attorney, averages about 950 student clients per year and averages two visits per client. He has mostly landlord/tenant and many alcohol and drug related cases where he advises students. He will go to court on behalf of a student if the case is one that affects all students. With there being no questions, she asked that a second reading be waived due to the fact that budget hearings are beginning and Student Budget Board needs to know the amount going to Student Legal Services because it comes off the top. A motion was made and seconded to waive the second reading. With no discussion or questions, the motion carried and the budget request was approved.
- B. **Rick Johnson, Director of Housing and Dining Services, Sustainability and Dining Services** – Accompanying Mr. Johnson were Jenny Lindsey, Administrative Dietician, Andy Sarjahani, Sustainability Coordinator, and two students, Meg Hannan and Elena Dulys-Nusbaum. Some things that are going on in Dining Services in regards to sustainability were highlighted.
- Composting this semester, working with a group called PME in Riner, VA on a pilot program at our Southgate location. All of our food waste from Southgate is picked up and taken to Riner for composting which is averaging about 3,000 – 4,000 lbs. a week. It is the hope to be able to compost in all of the dining facilities by the end of the year.
  - Opened a new venue: The Farms and Field Project in Owens Food Court which features local, organic, and natural foods. The hope is to be able to eventually feature all local foods. There is going to be a website posting tidbits of information that will expound on what types of food will be available.
  - There is also the hope, sometime in the future, be able to compost disposable “to go” wear.

Jenny Linsey addressed three resolutions:

1. Resolution regarding paper receipts and that we eliminate them: After doing some research, the Bursar’s Office requires that paper receipts be printed. They are looking into what can be done in place of the paper, maybe something on line. The concern is that the company we would have to work with is currently busy working on resolving the problem where the cash registers are slow and we need them to focus on that for now. Mr. Johnson noted that they are in agreement that about 99% of the time, receipts are not necessary and students do not want them, but there are cases where receipts are needed for documentation for proof of purchase. They are looking at ways

that receipts can be printed on demand. In response to a question, this resolution is dealing only with dining services receipts.

2. Resolution regarding a reusable mug program. Ms. Lindsey reported that some issues relate to health and safety issues; others relate to finding an appropriate mug. This has to be a mug that would be easy to fill without presenting any contamination issues. The mug also has to be easy to use, clean, and maintain. Another issue is having people be honorable about the system.
  
3. Resolution concerning left-over food. Dining Services is working with Jacob Moyer who got the conversion program going with the Salvation Army. Over the holidays they backed out on their commitment to pick up potentially hazardous food. Since the Salvation Army is out of the picture, we are now looking to an organization "Feed America." In the meantime, we are working with Second Harvest, but they have downsized. Since we do not have many resources to assist with transporting the food out to other destinations, we have to find some sort of funding for Feeding America, containers, ways to transport food, etc. There is a new possibility, a non-profit called Children Feeding Children Ministries, which goes every day to Christiansburg to pick up food from Red Lobster and the Olive Garden, so there are conversations going on with them about picking up food from Blacksburg. They serve 1600 meals a day and want Potentially Hazardous Foods. We do not hold food any longer than 72 hours because we do not have the space to store food in large amounts for long periods of time. In response to a question about the dining halls having alternate hours for people in the community to come into the dining facilities to be served, Mr. Johnson noted that there would be a problems with supervision, security of facilities, access to the University by non-university people, etc. The best way to go about this for Dining Services is that they be the source of the food and the volunteer groups get it going in other places. In the interim, the best thing to do is source reduction.

## **V. New Business**

### **A. Steve Burrell, Deadline Extension for the BOV Representative Applications**

The original deadline for applications for the Undergraduate and Graduate Representatives to the Board of Visitors was January 30 and the applicant pool was unacceptably low. The deadline has been extended to Friday, February 13. Some of the reasons for such a low number of applications being turned in are: not enough "talk" about the positions until it is time to advertise and lateness in

getting the advertisements out (ads should be out in October instead of November/December). There is also a need to have the Selection Committee organized in September so that the word can get out earlier during the academic year. A nomination process was also suggested. Mr. Burrell requested that everyone encourage students to apply. Other ways in which the deadline extension are being advertised is by: listservs, table cards, and the Collegiate Times.

**B. Committee to Select Finalists for Undergraduate Representative to the BOV**

Arlane Gordon-Bray reported that they have four or five students interested in serving on the selection committee for the Undergraduate Representative. If anyone else is interested, they need to contact Ms. Gordon-Bray.

**C. Camille Waldron, Panhellenic Constitution/Vote** – Camille Waldron distributed a revised copy of the Panhellenic Constitution. The changes made were the name change to Panhellenic Association of Virginia Tech, made at the recommendation of the National Panhellenic Council, and the last two articles were switched. There were also some corrections made to spelling errors. This was the second reading. A motion was made and seconded to approve. The motion was adopted.

**D. Shivani Handa, Council of International Student Organizations (CISO) Constitution, First Reading** – Shivani Handa distributed copies of the constitution for the first reading. It was noted that this constitution is 50 years old and she explained how additions and deletions were noted. A request was made to get the constitution and changes available electronically to CSA members before the next meeting.

**VI. Announcements**

February 13, 2009      Deadline for Homecoming Board Applications, Hokie Camp Counselor, University Student Leadership Awards

Dr. Spencer announced that there will be three open forums for students sponsored by the Vice President for Student Affairs, Student Government Association, Association of Concerned Students, and the Undergraduate Representative to the Board of Visitors:

February 18      Sherwood Wilson, Vice President for Administrative Services

March 2      Edward Spencer, Vice President for Student Affairs

April 6      Dr. Mark McNamee, Senior Vice President and Provost

Each forum will be held in the D2 private dining room nearest Payne Hall.

Dr. Spencer announced that since he vacated the Associate Vice President for Student Affairs position, Tom Brown, Dean of Students, will occupy the Associate Vice President's seat on CSA for the remainder of the year until that position is filled. The search is progressing for that position. There were 45 applicants and the Search Committee is in the process of doing phone interviews.

Dr. Sims announced that the search is on for the Director of Student Activities. There are 66 applicants being narrowed down to begin phone interviews.

The Diversity Summit has been rescheduled for February 27 in the Graduate Life Center Multipurpose Room.

### **Upcoming Events**

- February 6 & 7    Role Models – Colonial Hall
- February 11     Build a Bear Project – Williamsburg Room  
                         Speed Dating
- February 19     Acoustic Café - Williamsburg Room
- February 26     Girl Talk – Face Book
- February 10     University Policies for Student Life Open Forum – Colonial Hall
- February 20     Ebony Affairs  
                         GSA Social
- February 26     Elections for Executive Board

### **VII. Adjournment**

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 4:40 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Rhonda M. Rogers  
Recording Secretary

