

Commission on Student Affairs

October 2, 2008

3:30-5:30 p.m.

Old Dominion Ballroom
Squires Student Center

Minutes

Present: Linsey Barker, Billy Brubaker, Apollonia Ward for Lauren Davis, Paul Deyerle, Rick Ferraro, Andy Fortin, Lauren Keiser for Monika Gibson, Arlane Gordon-Bray, Bo Hart, Brittany Davis for Destiny Jackson, Brad Klein, Nathan Lavinka, Kathy Lokale for Anna LoMascolo, Emily Mashack, Leon McClinton, Joseph McFadden, Michelle McLeese, Ingrid Ngai, Jamie Howard for Duane Rollins, Karen Eley Sanders, Abby Schoenfeld, Ro Settle, Nicki Cantrell for Guy Sims, Ed Spencer, Johnathan Stein, Lynsey Stuart, Richmond Hwang for Richard Umenoto, Rianka Urbina, Krishna Vummidi

Absent: Virgilio Centeno, Judith Condezo, Ron Daniel, James Freeman, Brian Golden, Ryan Heider, Zenobia Hikes, Monica Hunter, Adeel Khan, Tanya LeRoith, Angie Puryear, Richard Umenoto,

Guests: Sarah Lilly, Erica Swanson, Jeremy Sutherland, Alex Miller, Kirsten Kube, Kim Timpany

I. Call to Order

Ms. Lynsey Stuart, Chair, called the meeting to order at 3.37 p.m.

II. Adoption of Agenda

There was a motion to adopt the agenda as written. The motion was seconded and approved.

III. Guest Speaker

A. Nicki Cantrell, Chair SGA Ad Hoc Committee

This committee was created by CSA to study and evaluate the SGA constitution regarding its elections process and elections appeal process. A final report on their findings was previously emailed to all committee members. The committee made recommendations to SGA for the following:

1. Create an elections committee in the SGA constitution
2. Create an elections code that would clarify all rules and procedures
3. Create an appeals process that addresses internal and external appeals

An overview of other concerns was also suggested regarding the following:

1. Create a "completed by date" in the elections constitution article and in the code.
2. Create a constitutional definition of term of office

3. Create a document to be signed by winning candidates that affirms they will or will not accept the office to which they have been elected.

A question was raised as to whether any changes would be made for the spring elections and it was stated that SGA plans to have students vote on these recommendations then. Nicki encouraged everyone to thoroughly read the emailed report in order to be completely informed as to the committee's findings.

B. Mike O'Brien, Director Governmental Affairs – no show, will reschedule

IV. New Business

A. Revisions to Residence Hall Federation Constitution (1st reading) – Bo Hart

Old and new copies of the constitution were handed out. The last revisions to the constitution were made in 1998. Some of the major changes were: 1) BOD now on the Executive Committee and now has a vote; 2) Director requirements have changed; 3) Working on the bylaws – should be done by next semester; 4) All Executive Officers and Board Members are required to work a specific number of posted RHF office hours as determined in the constitution.

The question was posed as to whether the GLC should have voting rights and it was suggested that the GLC should have one voting representative.

B. Commission on Graduate Studies and Policy – Request for CSA to Review Judicial Procedures for Graduate Students Committee Update

The CSA charge from last spring was to establish, charge, and convene for the 2008-09 academic year a committee composed of key stakeholders to review the student judicial system as it applies to graduate, undergraduate and professional students. The committee, chaired by Dr. Steve Janosik, is comprised of 2 faculty administrators, 3 graduate students, and 3 undergraduate students. This committee must interview key stakeholders working with the judicial process to include: Judicial Affairs staff, Graduate School staff, legal counsel, law enforcement, students and other faculty and administrators. The charge is for this committee to obtain answers to the following question:

- Do peer institutions hold students accountable for non academic misconduct in one system regardless of rank?
- At peer institutions, what is the extent of off campus jurisdiction for non academic violations? Are violations reported and adjudicated by campus judicial systems? How does this compare with current practice at Virginia Tech?
- Do university disciplinary records carry from undergraduate to graduate student status when a student continues at the same university? If so, how does the record impact the student?
- Are graduate and undergraduate students given the same of different sanctions for identical non academic misconduct?

V. Open Forum

A motion was made to commend the SGA ad hoc committee members for their hard work. The motion was seconded and approved. The names of the members were read aloud to the committee and the entire CSA committee applauded them. The members are: Matt Heaton, John Hoffman, Sarah Lilly, Qiongdan Xie, Frances B. Keene, Nicki Cantrell.

VI. Announcements

2008 Women's Health & Wellness Chocolate Festival is Tuesday, October 21, 2008 3-6;30 in the Old Dominion Ballroom, Squires – tickets on sale at the Women's Center, 206 Washington Street, 10/16, 9-11:30 am @ Squires, Info Booth A. \$6 for Students (\$8 at the door) and \$8 for Faculty/Staff/Community (\$10 at the door).

NPHC

VII. Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 4:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Jamie Beaulieu
Recording Secretary