

## **Commission on Student Affairs**

Thursday, March 27, 2014

3:30-5:00 p.m.

Burruss Hall Room 116

### **Present:**

Maria Andrade, Brent Ashley, Matthew Chan, Claire Childress, Adil Dittmer, Noha ElSherbiny, Morgan Esters, Lauren Surface – designee for Monika Gibson, Kylie Gilbert, Vaishnav Krishnan, Peter Nettekoven, Patty Perillo, Greg Purdy, Caroline Sapyta, Lester Schonberger, Robert Sebek, Erica Wood

### **Absent:**

Shaimaa Abdallah, Cathye Betzel, Christiana Connolly, Jean-Luc Ford, Jacob Grohs, Mary Ann Lewis, Margaret McQuain, Jay Tucker, Nick Warrington

### **Guests:**

Stephen Hensel, Andrew Higgins, Marwa Abdel Latif, Robin Lawson, Bryan Mitchell, Jaime Joslin, Chad Mandala, Christian Matheis, Matt Pagnotti, Laura Rugless, Angela Simmons, Angelica Smith

## **I. Call to Order**

Ms. Kylie Gilbert, chair, called the meeting to order at 3:39 p.m. after allowing additional time for those who may have gone to Squires, the location where meetings are normally held, as this was an add-on meeting.

## **II. Welcome from Chair**

Ms. Gilbert called the meeting to order, welcomed all members and guests, and reviewed the agenda items for discussion.

## **III. Guest Speakers**

### **a. CEOD Legislation – Marwa Abdel Latif, Laura Rugless, and Chad Mandala**

Marwa Abdel Latif, CEOD student representative, thanked the commission for allowing her to attend the meeting and take part in the discussion about Policy 1025. She explained the importance of educating the community and how CSA might assist with this effort.

Laura Rugless, Executive Director for Equity and Access, thanked the commission for allowing her to attend the meeting and explained her involvement with Policy 1025. She distributed several handouts for the commission to review including:

- Policy 1025 Anti-Discrimination and Harassment Prevention Policy
- Executive Order EO-1: Equal Opportunity, enacted January 11, 2014, by Virginia Governor McAuliffe
- Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity: Terminology and Definitions
- General Terminology and Transgender-Specific Terminology

Ms. Rugless discussed potential changes to Policy 1025 as a result of the new Governor's Executive Order; Gender Identity and Gender Expression are the two issues being considered as additions to Policy 1025. Senior leadership at Virginia Tech seems to support Gender Identity primarily due to the fact that it is aligned with the executive order. Her main purpose today was to meet with the commission and gather feedback. If the resolution goes forward, the Commission on Equal Opportunity and Diversity will vote on April 7, 2014, take it to University Council on April 21, 2014, for the first reading, and then back to University Council on May 5, 2014 for the second reading.

Chad Mandala, Residential Learning Coordinator, added that with this change students will feel comfortable on campus being who they are and will go from "survive to thrive". Further, it creates an opportunity for people to be themselves now and in the future.

In addition, discussion led to Virginia Tech and SCHEV peers that support Gender Identity and Gender Expression. Notably, Virginia Tech has fallen behind due to the lack of former support of Gender Identity.

Ms. Gilbert asked the group if anyone was interested in supporting the resolution and writing the legislation. Those interested were Brent Ashley, Adil Dittmer, Noha ElSherbiny, Greg Purdy, Caroline Sapyta, and Erica Wood. Mr. Purdy agreed to be the lead on this project, working with Ms. Rugless and interested CSA members.

#### **IV. Commissions/Committees Updates**

- a. Series 8000/Budget Board Working Committee – Lester Schonberger

Mr. Schonberger met with Monica Hunter, Associate Director of Student Centers and Activities, and discussed two concerns: simplifying the Student Budget Board funding procedures and the possible inclusion of the Budget Board vice chair in CSA meetings in a non-voting capacity.

#### **V. Old Business**

- a. Series 8000/Hokie Handbook Policies (second reading) – Angela Simmons and Jaime Joslin

Ms. Jaime Joslin, Assistant Director of Leadership Development Programs for the Division of Student Affairs, thanked the commission for allowing her to attend the meeting. Ms. Joslin continued with the second reading of all changes for the following policies:

**Policy 8005: University Staff Support for Student Programming Organizations (*proposed title change to University Staff Support for Organizations with Significant University Interest*)**

Mr. Brent Ashley motioned to vote on passing the resolution. Mr. Greg Purdy seconded. The resolution was passed.

**Policy 8011: Establishing and Maintaining a University Student Life Program (USLP) (*Addition of Staff Support Language*)**

Mr. Schonberger motioned to vote on passing the resolution. Mr. Dittmer seconded. The resolution was passed.

**Policy 8012: Establishing and Maintaining a University Chartered Student Organization (UCSO) (*Addition of Staff Support Language*)**

Mr. Lester Schonberger motioned to vote on passing the resolution. Mr. Greg Purdy seconded. The resolution was passed.

**Policy 8014: Establishing and Maintaining an Extended Campus Student Organization (ECSO) (*Addition of Blacksburg Campus Student Budget Board Guidelines*)**

Discussion continued on whether to support this resolution. Supporting the resolution would *absolutely* state that extended campuses cannot get money. Another thought was it may be best to leave the resolution as is, vague and open to interpretation.

Mr. Greg Purdy motioned to table the resolution. Mr. Peter Nettekoven seconded. The resolution was tabled until the April 17, 2014 CSA meeting allowing time for further discussion with Dean Karen DePauw and a satellite office of the Graduate School.

**Policy 8220: Security Requirements for Events Sponsored by Student Organizations (*Clarification of Security Personnel*)**

Mr. Brent Ashley motioned to vote on passing the resolution. Mr. Greg Purdy seconded. The resolution was passed.

Ms. Angela Simmons, Director of Student Conduct for the Division of Student Affairs, thanked the commission for allowing her to attend the meeting. Ms. Simmons continued with the second reading of changes to the Hokie Handbook.

Mr. Greg Purdy motioned to vote on passing the resolution. Mr. Lester Schonberger seconded. The resolution was passed.

## **VI. New Business**

### **a. LGBTA Constitution Changes – Caroline Sapyta and Matt Pagnotti**

Ms. Caroline Sapyta mentioned the LGBTA Constitution had been reviewed and she is proposing changes, with the most notable change being the move to a new organization name of hokiePRIDE. Ms. Sapyta continued with the first reading of changes to the constitution.

Ms. Sapyta will do the second reading at the next CSA meeting on April 3, 2014.

At this time, Ms. Gilbert stated the meeting is scheduled to adjourn at 5:00pm and asked members if they wanted to end the meeting or continue to 5:30pm. By a show of hands, the majority wanted to continue until 5:30pm.

### **b. SGA Constitution – Brent Ashley and Anjelica Smith**

Mr. Brent Ashley stated the committee had reviewed and submitted changes to the SGA Constitution. The main changes are related to governance and membership. Mr. Ashley continued with reading changes to the constitution.

Following the reading, suggestions were made. Of particular note was the changing of gender to gender identity and/or gender expression.

### **c. Governance Structure Proposal – Brent Ashley, Erica Wood, Shaimaa Abdallah, Nick Warrington**

In the interest of time, the Governance Structure Proposal was tabled until next week and members were asked to review in the interim.

## **VII. Announcements**

There were no announcements.

## **VIII. Adjournment**

With no further announcements or business, Ms. Kylie Gilbert, chair, entertained a motion to adjourn; Mr. Adil Dittmer made the motion and Mr. Matt Chan seconded. The meeting was adjourned at 5:31p.m.