

Commission on Student Affairs Minutes
March 18, 2021
3:30 PM
Zoom

Present: Victoria Dashevsky (presiding), Amanda Coleman, Anisha Hari, Ariana Guevara, Awad Abdelhalim, Cam Roberts, Camellia Pastore, Conrad Briles, Danielle Panico, Frank Shushok, Izu Elfaki, Jes Davis, Jessica Nguyen, Kase Poling, Kayla Alward, Lauren Surface, Maruf Hoque, Nathaniel Soss, Sara Wynkoop, Susanna Rinehart, Tim Lin

Absent with Notice: n/a

Absent: Abigail Patterson, Ariana Labat, Grant Bommer, Jennifer Pike, Katherine Franz, Kimberly Smith, Miles Guth, Sabrina Sturgeon, Spencer Hamilton, Steve Matuszak, Tahreem Alam, Tara Frank

Guests: April Myers, Hannah Kuneyl, Heather Wagoner, James Bridgeforth, Kyle Bassett, Riley David

Victoria Dashevsky called the meeting to order at 3:33pm. A quorum was present.

1. Adoption of Agenda

A motion was made and seconded to adopt the agenda. The motion carried.

2. University Council and Commission Updates

a. University Council

No update.

b. Academic Support Committee

No update.

3. Old Business

a. 2nd Reading: Resolution to establish the Graduate Student Budget Board – Kase Poling

Resolution Number: CSA 2020-21D

Resolution Name: Establish Graduate Student Budget Board (GSBB)

Kase Poling presented the Graduate Student Budget Board resolution for second reading and made a motion to approve. The motion was seconded. The Undergraduate Student Senate charge highlighted what they are trying to do with the GSBB, as they feel students should be in charge of disseminating some portion of the student activity fees. They would like to move forward in establishing a trial run over the next few months. After the trial run they will move forward in finalizing the things that worked and revise the things that didn't.

A vote was taken on the motion, and the motion passed.

****Victoria shared that if you are a delegate, or a proxy for someone, then you are a voting member of CSA.**

4. New Business

a. Resolution to approve the establishment of an Undergraduate Student Senate (USS) – Victoria Dashevsky

Resolution CSA 2020-21B

Establishment of an Undergraduate Student Senate (USS)

Victoria Dashevsky presented the resolution for first reading. She shared the reason this has to pass through CSA, is because it then has to go onto University Council, where they will vote to approve the actual creation of the USS.

b. Student Budget Board (SBB) Money Allocation – Victoria Dashevsky & Heather Wagoner

Heather shared that the budget office has requested that CSA and SBB consider giving back a portion of the unspent SBB funds from this AY to help with the massive deficit that the university is facing. Susanna shared this was a chance for CSA to “pay it forward” so to speak, in the year of the COVID pandemic.

Victoria shared that since Student Budget Board is an arm of CSA, do we, as CSA, want to allow SBB to reallocate their overage to Auxiliary Services to help them get out of their deficit. In doing this, CSA would in turn be making a small contribution to reduce the debt of services that will be passed onto future generations

A detailed, lengthy discussion ensued of the pros and cons of whether CSA should/shouldn't reallocate the overage to Auxiliary Services. Because this wasn't resolved, Heather reiterated the need for entertaining a discussion of additional collective ideas, as to what the commission wants to see the overage of funds be used for, so she could then report back to SBB. Heather also explained that if SBB money is not spent in one fiscal year, that it rolls over to the next year.

Discussion was had about other suggestions of areas in which CSA could use the overage of funds to help students. Listed below are some of the suggestions:

- 1) The Student Emergency Fund which is a foundation account (not an option since state funds cannot be used for foundation accounts)
- 2) Dining Services
- 3) Reimbursement of all or part of the student activity fee
- 4) To piggy back off of the reimbursement suggestion, it was shared that an average of \$10 back to each student vs. if they are able to give money and it could collect interest then we could feed a lot more students by saving them money off of their future dining plan. (I am not sure I understand what is being said here so you may want to leave this one off)
- 5) The Dean of Students fund which is a foundation account (not an option since state funds cannot be used for foundation accounts)

A Motion was made and seconded to discuss this at a future meeting after the next Board of Visitors Meeting. This will enable members to have more details, have meetings with their own constituents, and are able to do their own research.

Victoria shared that waiting a week to vote would allow for the final decision of CSA to be well thought out, as well as more effective. Ideas received will be sent out via email, and an electronic vote will be taken on Monday, April 29, 2021. The vote will be for: Do we, as CSA, approve to reallocate the SBB overage to Auxiliary Services; or do we choose to not reallocate the overage of SBB funds, thus allowing it to roll over?

5. Announcement Regarding the APIDA Community

Jessica Nguyen shared that after having discussions with April Myers, Associate Director of Governance Administration, and with Kim O'Rourke, Vice President for Policy and Governance, that the best suggestive course of action is to release a joint statement with the commission on equal opportunity and diversity.

Susanna Rhinehart shared that she took this back to Faculty Senate, and they were unanimously supportive of drafting a statement. She also shared that the Faculty Staff Caucus has written a letter to the editor that will be published in the Sunday's edition of the Roanoke Times.

Sara Wynkoop and Conrad Briles both with SGA, reiterated to Jessica if there was anything she felt SGA could do in support of the APIDA Community, to please reach out to them. Jessica plans to be in touch with them for future, ongoing discussions.

6. Adjournment

There being no further business, a motion was made to adjourn the meeting at 4:38pm.

Next meeting is Thursday, April 1 @ 3:30pm.