Virginia Tech University Council: Commission on Student Affairs (CSA) Minutes
October 26, 2017

The meeting was called to order by chair Chris Saunders at 3:32 p.m.

In attendance
Susan Anderson, Jake Gaddis, Sebastian Andrade, Chris Saunders, Mallory Foutch, Seyi Olusina, Billy Lin, Kisha Greer, Alex Hyler, Jaclyn Marmol, Megan Crouch, Isaiah Thompson, Jeremy Hall, Andrew Peck, Angela Simmons, Emily Brents, Sarah Lim, Spencer Jones, Lauren Surface, Brett Netto, Robert Sebek

Absent with notification
Adwoa Baah-Dwomoh

Attending guests
Ted Faulkner, Gina Tamburro, Joe Frazier, Kimberly Williams

Absent
Rex Willis, Ennis Mcrery

Approval of Agenda and Past Minutes

A motion was made and seconded to adopt the agenda. The motion carried. A motion was also made to approve the minutes for the September 14, 2017 meeting electronically. The motion was seconded and approved with edits to be emailed to Chris Saunders.

Presentation

Mr. Chris Saunders introduced Ted Faulker, Director of Dining Services, to present his power point on Dining Services and the quality services that they offer. Mr. Faulker began the presentation stating that there are 42 self-branded concepts and 7 national brands that make up dining service’s restaurant options. Hours of operation are 7 days a week, 19 hours a day (7AM-2AM). Staff of 2,200 (1,600+ student employees). Dining services is the largest employer and department on campus. Mr. Faulker expressed that diversity and variety is paramount within dining services nutritional mission. “We try to provide for nutrition and wellness as well as dietary needs throughout campus”. Sustainability has also come to the forefront of ideas, and the department can divert and compost over 1.1 million pounds of waste in a single year. There is a six (6) acre dining services farm at Kentland Farm that produces 50,000+ pounds of fresh produce including a mobile high tunnel hokie house. One item that you may see soon is Hokie Honey as well as tea’s harvested right from Virginia Tech while being pollenated by the bee’s producing the honey.

What’s New? Extension of West End Market house Sunday-Thursday until 9:00 p.m. (one hour extra). Renovation of JP’s Chop House and the extension of Vegan Offerings, Soy Beans “edamame”, and a mobile high tunnel at the dining services farm at Kentland. Tapingo has been launched department wide – Mobile ordering and payment – Delivery (future) – 3500 transactions in a day. It is causing some unique problems with over-ordering, so they are starting to limit the number of orders during peak
hours. FreedomPay is being set up to make credit card transactions faster, but there is a nation-wide problem with the system, so it cannot be implemented until that has been fixed.

Growth – Additional seating and services in West End Market spring of 2012. Continuous services at D2 from breakfast to lunch. Food Trucks, Grab & Gobble. Student Onboarding, etc.

Future – Dietrick Enclosure and Spirit Plaza with the Board of Visitors approval for September 2017. Request for proposal approved for Fall 2017 on the HTT Building.

- There was a question asked on why there is an upcharge pertaining to items like soymilk and gluten-free items because some are a health and dietary necessity not a preference. Mr. Faulkner expressed that when the cost is passed to the department from the supplier that they unfortunately have to pass along that cost with as little or least upcharge as possible.
- Jake asked about who is in changer of the playlist at Turner and it’s awesome
- The questions was also asked why stations are closing earlier? Was it due to not having enough employees? Mr. Falkner did confirm that answers as being true and they were going to increase the rates, money, meals and merit rates to try and draw more employees.

Division of Student Affairs Update –
- Dr. Heather Wagoner gave the update in Dr. Angela Simmons absence and informed CSA that all applications for VT engage were due December 1.
- This month was also to promote careers in student affairs month with Dr. Perillo.
- Free tutoring will be offered in the CCC.

Constituency Updates:
- Student Government Association update not given by Rex Willis due to absence
- Graduate Student Assembly update by Alex Hyler – Beer and Wine social was great and held at Lane Stadium.
  - A walk and talk with Dr. Dean DuPaul will be offered
  - Students from Washington D.C. had never been to Virginia Tech’s Campus in Blacksburg and GSA sponsored and hosted their visit here. It will be offered again due to the success of this event.
- The Board of Visitors Representatives Seyi Olusina and Brett Netto updated the room on the BOV Meeting and if anyone would like to attend to see the process and understand the functioning of the BOV they should plan to attend next weekend Sunday and Monday.

University Council and Commission Updates:
- University Council
  - Renaming and rebranding to the CIRED (used to be OIRED)
- CEOD – Commission of Equity and Diversity Meeting which allowed each campus caucus to present to the Commission on what they stand for and how they function. They all gave points on their major goals for the year and then how those goals can be supported by CEOD.
New Business

SECL Discussion – Heather Wagoner and Gina Tamburro

There was a discussion pertaining what each distinction of student organization means. Gina outlined what privileges are awarded to UCSOs that are not given to RSOs.

Examples of UCSOs were provided: Asian American Student Union, Black Organizations Council, Black Student Alliance, Council of International Student Organizations, Graduate Student Assembly, Hokie PRIDE, etc.

SECL has spoken with many sister colleges and recognized that their structure(s) was vastly different than Virginia Tech’s. The discussion then turned to how the students viewed Virginia Tech’s student organization system, and what is a more equitable and streamlined way to structure the by-laws to a consensus. There was good discussion on what makes a UCSO a UCSO in the eyes of the students, and it seemed to center on being able to provide a voice for students that needed it. But the meeting had reached its time limit, and the conversation will be picked up another day.

Announcements: N/A

Next Meeting

The next regularly scheduled CSA meeting will be held on November 9, 2017 in the Brush Mountain Room at Squires Student Center.

There being no further business, the motion to adjourn was made at 5:00 p.m. and was passed unanimously.

Recorder: Tracy Newton