

COMMISSION ON STUDENT AFFAIRS

September 15, 2011

3:30 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Brush Mountain Room – Squires Student Center

Present: Shaimaa Abdallah (also proxy for Shree Narayanan), Matt Banfield, Sandy Bass, Lauren Beecher, Tom Brown, Sue Buyrn, Tyler Campbell, Naomi Dam, Corbin DiMeglio, Rick Ferraro, Monika Gibson, Jacob Grohs, Atieh Haghdoost, Ceseley Haynes, (designee for Julia Bradley), Zack Helmtoller, Monica Hunter, Rawlin Jefferson, Mary Ann Lewis, Cheyenne Marshall, Chris McDonough, Kelley McKew, Michelle McLeese, Margaret McQuain, Nikki Roy, Caroline Sapyta, Tom Schelegel, Katelin Shugart-Schmidt, Frank Shushok, Guy Sims, Ed Spencer, Jay Tucker, John Waters, Alex Walker, Emily Wilkinson

Absent: Erlan Guzman, Cheyenne Marshall, Margaret McQuain, Robert Sebek

Guests: Jaime Joslin, Justin Camputaro

I. Call to Order

Mr. Bass called the meeting to order at 3:32 p.m., explaining that this is an Orientation meeting.

II. Adoption of Agenda

A motion was made to adopt the agenda from the April 21, 2011 CSA meeting. The motion was seconded and the April 21 agenda was adopted.

III. Welcome from Chair

Mr. Bass introduced himself as the Chair and Ms. Sue Buyrn as Vice Chair for Fall Semester and Mr. Rawlin Jefferson as Vice Chair as Co-Chair for Spring Semester and then defined the role, expectations, and goals for the membership.

a. Role

To relate information back to respective organizations. Ms. Rogers will send out the meeting minutes and Ms. Buyrn will be sending out a newsletter. He asked that members attend all meetings, but if there is a conflict, one should send a proxy, who is usually a Vice President or other member of one's student organization.

b. Expectations

Be on time to all meetings, which begin at 3:30 p.m.

c. Goals

Mr. Bass would like to have a goal of making this Commission more fun, engaging, and more of a positive experience, and at the same time maintaining professionalism.

IV. Icebreaker – Introduction of Each Commission Member

Mr. Bass led an icebreaker which included members stating their name, year in school, position, organization they represent, and a description of the organization as well as topics that they would like covered at CSA during the year. Mr. Bass compiled a list of suggested topics which were voted on, that he would be forwarding to the commission members following the meeting.

V. Guest Speaker(s)/Presenter(s)

A. Dr. Edward Spencer, Vice President for Student Affairs, gave an overview of of CSA and the University Governance System. He distributed a handout to give a basic introduction to University administration and governance, noting that CSA is the only Commission where a student can serve as chair. As noted in earlier discussion, he clarified that the reason we need to come to grips with CSA membership is because we are the largest commission with 38 members. What has happened over the years is more and more organizations have become Chartered Student Organizations and although it does not say that Chartered Student Organizations must become members of CSA, that is basically what has happened, so we have set ourselves to where the commission will continue to grow and grow as more organizations become chartered. We need to rethink this and consider another way to determine CSA membership. There are a couple of proposals under discussion about this that will be brought before the Commission this year.

B. Old Business – None

C. New Business

- Prioritize issues for CSA Topics
- Mr. Bass asked for nominations for a CSA member to sit on CEOD for Fall Semester. Those nominated were: Tom Schlegel, Zack Helmtoller, and Caroline Sapyta. Following presentations by the nominees and some discussion, a motion was made and seconded to end discussion. The motion carried. Then a motion was made and seconded to vote, and was carried. The nominees were asked to leave the room while the vote was taken. By majority vote, Caroline Sapyta was selected as the CSA representative to the CEOD for Fall Semester 2011.

D. Announcements

- Dr. Spencer reminded the group that they are invited to have brunch with the Board of Visitors on November 6 and that they need RSVP. This is a great opportunity to interact with the Board members.
- Dr. Spencer handed out information on an awards program to recognize students who exemplify the five Division of Student Affairs Aspirations for

Student Learning. Nominations will open on September 23 and student awardees will be selected by September 30. Nominations can be submitted on-line via the Aspirations for Student Learning website:

www.dssa.vt.edu/aspirations/aspire. Students who are nominated but not chosen as one of the five to be recognized will remain in the nomination pool to be reviewed again for the next recognition cycle (five cycles per year).

- Dr. Spencer announced that the “VP is In” sessions will be continued this year in cooperation with SGA and GSA. The first one will be next Thursday, September 22, at 3:30 p.m., in the SGA Office. All are encouraged to attend.
- The Grand Opening of the East Ambler Johnston Honors Residential College is September 16, at 2:30 p.m. Everyone is welcome to attend.
- On September 22 there will be a Town Gown Committee meeting at 6pm at East Ambler Johnston. All are welcome to attend.
- The BSA Homecoming Concert will be held on October 16, 7:30 p.m., in Burruss Hall Auditorium featuring Michael Posner and Travis Porter.
- Flu Shots will be available October 4, in McComas Gym. The cost is \$23.
- GSA is hosting the Graduate Professional School Fair on Monday, September 26, 11:30 a.m. – 3:00 p.m., in Squires.
- Women in Leadership will be sponsoring a Fireside Chat in Hillcrest Hall on September 22, 6:00 p.m., in Hillcrest.
- Tickets for Bill Cosby will go on sale September 16 for his show on October 20, 2011, 7:30 p.m., in Burruss Hall Auditorium.

E. Adjournment – The meeting was adjourned at 5:57 p.m.