

MINUTES

Virginia Tech University Council: Commission on Student Affairs (CSA) Minutes

April 6, 2017

The meeting was called to order by Commission vice chair Mr. Chris Saunders at 3:33 p.m.

In attendance

Travis Bauer, Julia Billingsley, Matt Chan, Alicia Cohen, Pat Finn, Amy Hermundstad, Byron Hughes, Alex Hyler, Delk Koolman, Jaclyn Marmol, Ron Mecham, Mairead Novak, Andrew Peck, Brett Netto for Tara Reel, Evan Robohm, Chris Saunders, Angela Simmons, Lauren Surface, Kisha Gresham for Cameron Varano, Meghna Verna, Hannah Whiteman

Absent with notification

Susan Anderson, Matt Chan, Liang Shi

Attending guests

Ginwan Ali, Joe Frazier, Rileigh Huntzinger, Fred Lamb, Tracy Newton, Ahmed Salih, Gina Tamburro

Absent

Ben Calvo Rivera, Aliana Harrison, Meriam Nure, James Orr

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 3/2/17. The motion was seconded and approved with edits.

Committee Reports

Mr. Saunders reported that the Hokie Handbook Review Committee has met and they are looking to create a public opinion survey concerning the Bystander Intervention policy next Wednesday.

Constituency Updates

Ms. Julia Billingsley reported on behalf of the Student Government Association and reported that she would be sending announcements to CSA through email.

Ms. Alex Hyler reported on Graduate Student Assembly (GSA) activities. There will be a breakfast with Dean DePauw and that information will be sent forward electronically. The spring social will be held soon as well. In addition, GSA will be sponsoring a graduate jobs week this upcoming week.

Mr. Delk Koolman reported on behalf of the Board of Visitors student representatives on the Board's action on tuition and fees for 2017-18. There will be an increase of \$378 for in-state tuition and fees and an increase of \$1,039 for out-of-state tuition and fees. The Board of Visitors had concerns about how the university would respond to the \$8.6 million decrease of general funds from the state. While the university worked hard to limit impact to students, this necessitated the tuition and fees increase, which has been approved by the Board.

University Council and Commission Updates

Dr. Angela Simmons gave a report of the University Council activities. The amendment proposed by the Commission on University Support to expand policy on smoking to electronic cigarettes and vaping devices has been approved. In addition, the University Council heard the first reading of the proposed policy change from Academic Support Committee allowing the fall semester to be 71 days, and mandating that Labor Day to be a non-school day.

Mr. Saunders reported that there are no activities at the Commission on Equal Opportunities and Diversity as there were no meetings that were held since the last report.

Mr. Andrew Peck reported that the Academic Support Committee's resolution on University Calendar has been approved by the Commission on Undergraduate Studies and Policies, and have proceeded to the University Council for first reading, as reported previously.

Division of Student Affairs Update

Dr. Simmons gave an update from the Division. The Division has many events and programs planned for the upcoming weeks, including awards ceremonies and banquet that recognizes student excellence. Dr. Simmons encouraged CSA members to support their peers during this awards and banquet season.

Unfinished Business

There was no unfinished business.

New Business

Mr. Fred Lamb, vice chair of the Student Budget Board (SBB), and Ms. Gina Tamburro, Associate Director of Student Engagement and Campus Life and faculty advisor to the SBB, presented the first reading of the appropriations strategy for the 2017-2018 academic year. The brief summary is as follows:

- Implementing new funding workshops online to save costs
- Carryover for unallocated funds this year to go towards various category
- \$2,000 allotted towards implementing Student Organization Training Workshops
- \$5,000 allotted towards implementing University Student Leadership Awards
- \$776,000 for University Chartered Student Organization annual funding requests
- \$447,223 for Registered Student Organization and University Student Life Program funding requests
- As an information time, the number of student organization has increased from ≈750 to ≈850 this year

Ms. Hyler noted that in SBB policy campus-wide election activities are only fundable if they are opened to the entirety of either undergraduate or graduate student body. Because GSA elections are not opened to the whole graduate student body, Ms. Hyler recommends striking language that mentions funding GSA election within the SBB Annual Funding Strategy. Mr. Lamb and Ms. Tamburro also announced that Ms. Eryn Peters, current SBB member representing HokiePRIDE, has been elected as chair of SBB for 2017-18.

Ms. Raleigh Huntzinger, Director of Court of the Homecoming Board (HCB), presented the first reading of the Homecoming Board Constitution amendment, proposing many changes to the operation of the HCB. In addition to the presented amendments, CSA members raised further questions including clarification of the definition of HCB members, voting or otherwise; the role and differences between HCB Directors and HCB Director's Assistants; clarity in how elections are operated within HCB, and other clarifications. CSA members recommended HCB to address some of these concerns at the second reading.

Mr. Saunders presented the Resolution CSA 2016-17A: Resolution on CSA Membership for first reading. This resolution is intended to provide some consistency when evaluating new membership request to CSA by student organizations or communities. The proposed resolution will amend to University Council By-Laws to mandate CSA to formulate a set of membership criteria in-house that is agreed-upon. This set of membership criteria, as proposed, would only apply to new requests for membership. They include:

- a. The organization must be a UCSO or a USLP
- b. The organization must fulfill 2 out of the 3 items below:
 - i. It represents a major constituency/significant minority not currently represented
 - ii. It serves as a major governance body
 - iii. It acts as an umbrella organization

Mr. Ahmed Salih, president of the Muslim Student Union (MSU), and Mr. Joe Frazier, faculty advisor of the MSU, presented Resolution CSA 2016-17B: Resolution to Add Muslim Student Union President to CSA Membership for first reading. Mr. Salih explained that the reason MSU would like to join CSA is so that MSU can continue its mission of advocating on behalf of Virginia Tech's Muslim community and Muslim associated groups on campus, especially pertaining to university policy formation.

Announcements

There were no announcements.

Next Meeting

The next regularly scheduled CSA meeting will be held on April 13, 2017, in the Brush Mountain Room at Squires Student Center.

There being no further business, the motion to adjourn was made at 4:32 p.m. and was passed unanimously.

Recorder: Tracy Newton