

**Commission on Student Affairs**

Thursday, October 11<sup>th</sup>, 2012

3:30-5:00 p.m.

Brush Mountain Room – Squires Student Center

**Present:** Shaimaa Abdallah, Chris Atkins, Tyler Campbell, Claire Childress, Dustin Dorph, Jessica Estariz, Monika Gibson, Kylie Gilbert, Michael Goodwin, Jacob Grohs, Robyn Jones, Megan O’Neill for Mary Ann Lewis, Kristen McCall, Kareim Oliphant, Nick Onopa, Patty Perillo, Carolyn Sapyta, Jay Tucker

**Absent:** Cathy Betzel, Erlan Guzman, Lauren Heming, Hamdy Mahmoud, Elaine Mathis, Margaret McQuain (with notice), Robert Sebek, Ryan Smith

**Guests:** Lester Schonberger, Guy Sims, Justin Camputaro

**I. Call to Order**

Mr. Chris Atkins, Chair, called the meeting to order at 3:35 p.m. and welcomed all of those in attendance.

**II. Guest Speakers - None**

**III. Icebreaker - Show and Tell**

Ms. Caroline Sapyta, Ms. Kiley Gilbert, and Ms. Rhonda Rogers did the “Show and Tell” presentations.

**IV. Committee Reports - None**

**V. Old Business**

- a. Student Forums – Flyers were distributed announcing two scheduled student forums to be held on October 23, 6:00 p.m., in 304 Johnston Student Center and November 29, 7:00 p.m., in 304 Johnston Student Center. This will be an opportunity for the Vice President for Student Affairs to hear directly from students and for students to put a face to CSA.

- b. CSA members were reminded about the November 5, 8:00 a.m. – 9:00 a.m. breakfast, with the BOV Student Affairs and Athletics Committee. The breakfast will be held at Turner Place in the Origami restaurant. There is still space for five more students. If you are interested, e-mail Rhonda Rogers by October 19 ([rogersr@vt.edu](mailto:rogersr@vt.edu)).
  
- c. CSA Survey for Student/Constituent Opinions

Dr. Perillo led a discussion and distributed a document that included the purpose of the survey, with a series of questions from the group from the previous meeting. She also included questions on the back of the document that were raised previously to be considered for future surveys. She reiterated that the intent was to really encourage those seated on CSA to reach back to their constituents to find out about organization issues, needs, policies, and resources. After taking a few minutes to read over the document, there was discussion on the intended outcome and questions. The following decisions were made:

- Keep initial survey concise and do a follow-up survey after hearing from student organizations and leaders
- Questions need to be qualitative
- Questions were reviewed and selected for round one to include (draft conceptual topics):
  - Name of organization
  - Organizational Purpose
  - Goals for 2012-2013
  - What's working well?
  - What's not working well? And, how do you recommend it be fixed?
- Following the survey, Dr. Perillo and Ms. Rogers will compile the information.
- We should consider using VT Survey, or something similar, as an instrument to get the survey implemented.
- A suggestion was made to use Gobbler Connect as a way to get the survey out for those groups who have a large constituency. (Justin Camputaro later joined the meeting to explain Gobbler Connect and how it works. He also

noted that VT Survey is a much more comprehensive survey.)

- Dr. Perillo will work with Martha Glass to finalize the survey and they will send the actual link to use with constituents.
  - Deadline for submission will be November 9
- d. Consultant Visit – The announcement was made that a consultant will be visiting to work with CSA and SGA on November 3, 9:00 am. – 5:00 p.m. and all members of CSA are invited to attend; lunch will be provided. More detailed information and location will be sent under separate cover.

## **VI. New Business**

- a. Robert's Rules of Order- Quick Lesson- Chris Atkins

Mr. Atkins reviewed Robert's Rules of Order, specifically how motions are handled including: no member can speak twice until all members have had the opportunity to speak once; all remarks are always addressed to the chair to avoid anyone being offended; and, agendas are recommendations and additions can be made.

- b. Nick Onopa noted that the Advisory Committee that he Chairs as the Undergraduate Representative to the Board of Visitors will be focusing on two areas this year:

- Academic Integrity Statement (an honors statement)
- The New Student Center

The Academic Integrity Statement will be the focus for this semester.

- c. New/ Listed Agenda Items for Next Meeting-  
Recommendations from Commission Members

Discussed items that were brought up at the last meeting and chose the following topics for the October 25th meeting:

- Dining Services and Food Disposal
- Dining Receipts

- Non-traditional student dining

A suggestion was made that if folks are unavailable to discuss the dining issues, the next agenda could be traffic and transportation. Mr. Atkins will be contacting Ted Faulkner, Director of Dining Services, to request his attendance.

## **VII. Announcements**

- There will be a Breast Cancer Awareness speaker at the Graduate Life Center on Wednesday, October 17, at 5:30 p.m.
- Show and Tell – Jay Tucker, Jessica Estarez, Tyler Campbell, and Claire Childress will be the presenters at the October 25 meeting.
- The Class of 2014 Ring Premier will be held on Thursday, October 18, in Burruss Hall, with fireworks to follow on the Drillfield.
- Career Services is hosting a Dining Etiquette meal on October 24 and spots are still available for those who might be interested.
- SGA Happenings: Project Green Challenge, 30 days of Blacksburg, Debate Screenings with VTU (a student mock political debate), and Extreme Makeover – October 15 – 17.
- October 15 will be the last day to recommend a common book for the class of 2015. This can be done on the VT survey link on the scholar homepage. The book must be interdisciplinary and research focused to allow for a facilitated conversation.

**VIII. Adjournment** – The meeting adjourned at 4:36 p.m.