

Commission on Student Affairs
November 5, 2020
3:30 pm
Zoom

Present: Victoria Dashevsky (presiding), Ariana Guevara, Maruf Hoque, Amanda Coleman, Michelle Kim, Cam Roberts, Anisha Hari, Tim Lin, Susanna Rinehart, Kase Poling, Lauren Surface, Danielle Panico, Frank Shushok, Adil Sageer, Tahreem Alam, Jes Davis, Awad Abdelhalim, Jonathan Falls, Grant Bommer, Jennifer Pike, Tara Frank, Steve Matuszak, Spencer Hamilton, Kayla Alward, Sabrina Sturgeon, Amanda Coleman, Anisha Hari

Absent with Notice: n/a

Absent: Abigail Patterson, Amanda Coleman, Ariana Labat, Jessica Nguyen, Katherine Franz, Nathaniel Soss

Guest: April Myers, James Bridgeforth

Victoria called the meeting to order at 3:30pm A quorum was present.

1. Adoption of Agenda

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

2. Approval of or Announcement of Approval and Posting of Minutes

A motion was made and seconded to approve the September 24, October 8, and October 22 minutes. Victoria noted that these minutes have been voted on electronically and can be publicly accessed on the Governance Information System on the Web (<http://www.governance.vt.edu>).

3. University Council and Commission Updates

a. University Council

- i. Victoria shared that two new majors were approved, along with a Climate Action Resolution approved. She also stated she would be having a meeting regarding Experiential Learning.

b. Commission on Equal Opportunity and Diversity

- i. Victoria shared that CSA no longer has a seat on CEOD, and that the seat was given to another member. She also stated she will have a meeting to get more answers and find out why gave CSA's seat away.

c. Academic Support Committee

- i. No update, as they have not met yet.

4. New Business

A. LASO Constitution

Discussion was had about the big changes made to the LASO Constitution. Major changes include: two presidents, adding constituent organizations, and changing the election process. A note was made that only UCSO constitutions go through CSA, and it was shared that the impeachment section is not worded clearly.

Lastly, it was discussed that the revised document would be sent to the body for clarification with all of the changes highlighted. Ariana will also take the revised constitution to LASO for any suggested edits.

B. Undergraduate Academic Support

Discussion was had regarding the SGA academic support letter to be emailed to Provost Clark. Three of the most significant issues included were: students would like credit/no credit option again; breaks need to be enforced, as in teachers should not be allowed to schedule assignments to be due on those days; and office hours are limited to Eastern Standard Time, thus harming international students.

The University has made it clear they do not want to give another C/NC option. Students should be pushing this strongly, as it needs to be an overall collaborative effort.

It was stated that the letter is long, and was recommended that it possibly be shortened. SGA shared possibly taking the letter to the faculty senate, while CSA members encouraged SGA to move forward with having this conversation. It was shared that CSA can pass a resolution in support of the letter, but they would want to edit the letter prior to passing resolution. CSA members will get a copy of the SGA letter for review.

Lastly it was discussed that CSA push out a SPOT survey for all students.

5. Adjournment

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

Next meeting is Thursday, November 19 @ 3:30pm.