

Commission on Student Affairs

Thursday, February 26, 2015

3:30-5:00 p.m.

Squires Student Center – Brush Mountain Room

Present:

Susan Anderson, Tuna Shankar, Matthew Chan, Austin Dickey, Joseph Edens, Jackie Fisher, Lauren Surface, Austin Larowe, Ethan Poole, Sapna Singh-designee for Brian Tran, Ricardo Zalles Reyes, Alicia Cohen, Jake Tully, Greg Purdy, Erica Bassuk, Daniel Ridenour-designee for Eric Wetzel, Hunter Gresham -designee for Patty Perillo

Absent:

Claire Childress, Rudney Danquah, Ashley Francis, Mary Ann Lewis, Robert Sebek, Cathye Betzel, Noha Elsherbiny, Jean-Luc Ford, Kaleigh Leal

Guests:

Jaime Williams, B.H. Kim, Claire Kelling, Nikki Clemons

I. Call to Order and Approval of the Agenda

Mr. Joseph Edens, chair, called the meeting to order at 3:38 p.m. welcoming the group to today's meeting and reviewing the agenda items for discussion. Mr. Joe Edens asked for a motion to approve the day's agenda and was moved to by Mr. Greg Purdy, seconded by Ms. Susan Anderson, and approved unanimously.

II. Presentations

Womanspace – Take Back the Night Presentation

Claire Kelling and Nikki Clemons, representatives from Womanspace, presented to the commission regarding Take Back the Night, an upcoming event on March 26th that begins at 7:00pm. The event is hosted by Womanspace and a community event to protest sexual violence. The event begins with a rally where personal stories are shared along with music and speakers. The event ends with a candlelight march through campus to raise awareness about gender-based violence. Individuals and organizations are encouraged to participate in the event and asked to spread the word of the event and initiative.

III. Unfinished Business

Student Government Association (SGA) Constitution Revision

Mr. Jake Tully moves to refer constitutional changes back to the Student Government Association to provide clarity on changes and report back to the commission at the March 19th meeting. Motion was seconded and was approved

unanimously. Mr. Matt Chan asked to open discussion on the topic and it was opened without objection. Discussion was held regarding changes to the document that pertain to the composition of the legislation as proposed. Mr. Jake Tully said he will bring feedback from the commission to the Student Government Association for further consideration.

IV. New Business

Residence Hall Federation (RHF) Constitution Revision

Ms. Jackie Fisher presented for a first reading changes to the Residence Hall Federation Constitution. Ms. Fisher remarked that proposed changes to the constitution are largely based on clarifying language and further definition of roles within the organization. Without motions, the changes will be considered during the March 19th meeting for approval.

V. Commissions/Committees Updates

Mr. Matt Chan updated the commission on latest changes to the Curriculum for Liberal Education and debate that occurred at University Council. Discussion concerned the implementation plan for the curricular changes.

VI. Announcements

InclusiveVT is having an event from 3:00 – 5:00pm on Thursday, March 5th, in Owens Banquet Hall.

The University entered into a four year partnership with the Gallup organization. There will be a student body survey distributed from President Sands on Tuesday, March 17th. Results tie into the Gallup-Purdue Index and results will be announced in June.

Virginia Tech received a record number of applicants for the student representative positions for the Board of Visitors. Semi-finalists have been selected and will be coming to CSA at the next meeting to introduce themselves.

Virginia Tech is hosting the VACURH 2016 Conference. At VACURH 2015 this year, Virginia Tech won School of the year, Ken Belcher won Advisor of the Year, Kylie Gilbert won the VACURH Service Award and Jackie Fisher won Student of the year.

VII. Adjournment

With no further announcements or business, Mr. Joe Edens, chair, entertained a motion to adjourn; Mr. Jake Tully motioned and Ms. Tuna Shankar seconded. The meeting was adjourned at 4:53 p.m.