

Commission on Student Affairs
Thursday, April 3, 2014
3:30-5:00 p.m.
Squires Student Center – Brush Mountain Room

Present:

Brent Ashley, Cathye Betzel, Matthew Chan, Claire Childress, Christiana Connolly, Adil Dittmer, Noha ElSherbiny, De’Ashley Spain- designee for Morgan Esters, Jean-Luc Ford, Lauren Surface- designee for Monika Gibson, Kylie Gilbert, Vaishnav Krishnan, Peter Nettekoven, Patty Perillo, Greg Purdy, Caroline Sapta, Lester Schonberger, Robert Sebek, and Erica Wood

Absent:

Shaimaa Abdallah, Maria Andrade, Jacob Grohs, Mary Ann Lewis, Margaret McQuain, Jay Tucker, and Nick Warrington

Guests:

Andrew Higgins (SGA), Bryan Mitchell (SGA), Jaime Joslin (LEC), Elaine Quesenberry (SCA)

I. Call to Order

Ms. Kylie Gilbert, chair, called the meeting to order at 3:34 p.m. welcoming the group to today’s meeting and reviewing the agenda items for discussion.

II. Welcome from Chair

Ms. Gilbert noted that the agenda is again full and a request was made to please raise hand for inclusion on speaker/comment list so as to maintain order.

III. Guest Speakers

There were no guest speakers.

IV. Commissions/Committees Updates

a. Budget Board Working Committee (BBWC) – Lester Schonberger

BBWC members were divided on their approach as to whether CSA representative should sit on Budget Board or a Budget Board member (vice chair) should be a standing attendee at CSA meetings (but would not have a designated CSA membership seat or vote). Both options would require a resolution route through governance. However, a third option (requiring no governance action) was presented in which CSA would incorporate a standing Budget Board agenda item, occurring in some frequency to be determined (but not every meeting), in which an update/report out would be provided. Mr. Adil Dittmer suggested maybe a dual approach of both a CSA member attending

Budget Board meetings and also the vice chair of Budget Board attend CSA meetings (as a guest). Mr. Matt Chan offered additional input on behalf of the BBWC that advisory representation from CSA on Budget Board is necessary because of the oversight role that CSA plays, since Budget Board is an entity underneath CSA. After further discussion, a motion was made to have the Budget Board vice chair attend CSA meetings as a standing agenda item at minimum twice per semester. The BBWC will work with Monica Hunter to create a job description for the Budget Board vice chair to provide additional clarity. With this approved motion, item "C" under New Business was deleted/omitted from the agenda.

V. Old Business

- a. **Added to agenda during meeting: Update re: Policy 1025 – Greg Purdy**
CEOD was voting on Policy 1025 Monday, with full anticipation that the resolution will pass. Assuming it does so, CSA could pass an identical resolution. Both would advance to University Council in duplicate. It is expected that both gender identity and gender expression will be included. Opportunity exists for anyone on University Council to table the resolution (up to 6 weeks). If tabled, it could be delayed until next fall. If amendments are suggested, they will be considered by CEOD. However the final resolution from CEOD reads, CSA will need to determine if they will accept and advance the same resolution or a different, supplemental resolution.
- b. **Added to agenda during meeting: Update Policy 8014 – Greg Purdy**
No action has occurred on Policy 8014 as the dean has been out of town. Policy 8014 is in re: to Extended Campus Student Organizations.
- c. **LGBTQ Constitution Approval – Caroline Sapyta, Matt Pagnotti**
Ms. Caroline Sapyta noted that no changes have been made since first reading. Name change from LGBTQ to Hokie Pride is an independent approval and, with approval, will change throughout the entire document. Mr. Lester Schonberger moved and Mr. Robert Sebek seconded an official vote on the constitution. Mr. Schonberger motioned to approve the amendments "en bloc"; Mr. Adil Dittmer seconded the motion. All but one member present were in favor; Mr. Jean-Luc Ford abstained. The LGBTQ Constitution changes, as presented, were approved. LGBTQ will now be Hokie Pride.
- d. **SGA Constitution – Brent Ashley, Anjelica Smith, Andrew Higgins, Bryan Mitchell**
Mr. Brent Ashley provided a quick review from extended conversation that occurred at the prior CSA meeting. Motivation for requested change is because 5.2% of student organizations are represented on SGA's legislative

branch; however, that is an incredibly low percentage to say they represent the student body at large. Policy 8012 requires UCOSOs to have a constitution approved by CSA. SGA believes the current bicameral (versus unicameral) structure is inefficient and slows down governance and policy changes. SGA plans to introduce a variety of proposals, each with a timeframe to implement a new structure by “X” date. Dr. Perillo noted that SGAs across the country have made a similar move over the past decade from a 2-body to 1-body entity. Mr. Ashley noted that his own benchmarking efforts confirm the 1-body legislative branch is the “norm.” Mr. Ashley noted that while the number of seats may lessen, the student voice will increase exponentially through outreach efforts they desire to implement. Ms. Gilbert entertained a motion to suspend the rules by Mr. Matt Chan and seconded by Mr. Ashley. Motion carried unanimously. A motion was made by Ms. Erica Wood that SGA’s prior resolution remain unapproved and return to SGA for further/future proposal presentation; Mr. Lester Schonberger seconded the motion. A vote was taken, and with majority vote, the motion passed.

VI. New Business

a. Budget Board Annual Funding Strategy Approval – Lorraine Feury

Ms. Lorraine Feury was in attendance at another meeting so Ms. Monica Hunter presented on her behalf. RSO Budget Board received 189 requests from 116 organizations and a \$362,000 allocation availability, with \$302,000 currently allocated. There is an estimated \$100,000 in carry-over potential for allocation next year. Student Budget Board Funding totaled more than \$712,000. UCOSOs have one week to appeal Budget Board funding once notified. Ms. Hunter requested volunteers from CSA to serve on the Budget board appellate board. Mr. Robert Sebek, Mr. Lester Schonberger, Mr. Adil Dittmer, Mr. Jean-Luc Ford, Mr. Brent Ashley, and Ms. De’Ashley Spain all agreed.

b. Chair Nominations – Kylie Gilbert

Ms. Kylie Gilbert explained the chair nomination and election process as she understands it to be with the chair elected in the final meetings of spring semester. The vice chair is typically elected at an early meeting of fall semester. Nominees are asked to make a professional two minute speech and then each will be asked the same question for response. The nominees are then dismissed so that membership can discuss.

Conversation moved toward the challenges that exist with the CSA chair election process per by-laws and governance structure, so in the interest of time, Ms. Gilbert requested that members send suggestions in writing to her prior to the next meeting (April 17).

Chair nominations were made and accepted/declined as follows:

- Mr. Greg Purdy nominated Ms. Noha ElSherbiny, who accepted but then declined post-meeting.

- Mr. Lester Schonberger nominated himself.
- Mr. Brent Ashley nominated Mr. Greg Purdy; however, he declined the nomination.
- Ms. Erica Wood nominated Mr. Austin Larrowe and Ms. Ashley Francis (the 2014-2015 representatives to the BOV); acceptance of nomination, as well as attendance at the next meeting, is necessary (Mr. Larrowe has since accepted the nomination)
- Mr. Brent Ashley nominated Mr. Adil Dittmer and Ms. De’Ashley Spain—both of whom declined, as well as Mr. Jean-Luc Ford, who accepted.

c. CSA Membership List Amendment – Lester Schonberger

Agenda item deleted/omitted per section “IV.a” above.

d. Governance Proposal – Brent Ashley, Erica Wood, Shaimaa Abdallah, Nick Warrington

Agenda item was tabled to next meeting agenda.

VII. Announcements

A tentative additional meeting will be planned for April 24.

Dr. Perillo held a student forum last night, which Dean Tom Brown led in Dr. Perillo’s absence. A petition was brought forward to administration whereas free speech still exists, but that location/placement of potentially controversial or visually graphic displays be considered so that the entire community feels safe and comfortable. Dr. Perillo will spend time with both the president and the provost to discuss further.

Mr. Lester Schonberger announced that Jewish Cultural Month is underway. A featured event is next week—a concert in Commonwealth with “Real Big Fish.” Fliers are available.

Ms. Carolina Sapyta noted that this is Pride Week and a variety of events are taking place.

VIII. Adjournment

With no further announcements or business, Ms. Kylie Gilbert, chair, entertained a motion to adjourn; Mr. Adil Dittmer motioned and Mr. Lester Schonberger seconded. With a majority supporting the motion, the meeting was adjourned at 5:01 p.m.