

Commission on Student Affairs

Thursday, September 4, 2014

3:30-5:00 p.m.

Squires Student Center – Old Dominion Ballroom

Present:

Susan Anderson, Cathye Betzel, Luke Carroll, CJ Caudill, Matthew Chan, Claire Childress, Alicia Cohen, Rudney Danquah, Joseph Edens, Jean-Luc Ford, Ashley Francis, Lauren Surface-designee for Monika Gibson, Austin Larrowe, Elizabeth Lazor, Mary Ann Lewis, Justin Camputaro-on behalf of Patty Perillo, Greg Purdy, Lester Schonberger, Jamaica Sykes, Ricardo Zalles Reyes

Absent:

Noha Elsherbiny, Andrew George, Ethan Poole, Robert Sebek, Brian Tran, Eric Wetzel

Guests:

Jaime Williams

I. Call to Order

Mr. Lester Schonberger, vice 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. Schonberger advised a gavel will now be used to call the meetings to order. Further, Mr. Joe Edens, chair, is currently in class and will arrive around 4:00pm.

II. Get-to-know-you Activity – Lester Schonberger

Mr. Schonberger stated the commission is making an effort to build relationships with its members. He introduced a get-to-know-you activity and asked the members to break into groups and answer the suggested questions. Then, members were asked to share what they learned from each other.

Following the group activity, round room introductions ensued.

III. Commissions/Committees Updates

Mr. Joe Edens asked the commission to share updates with the group.

Mr. Edens mentioned University Council is seeking ideas for discussion/presentation at future council meetings.

Mr. Matt Chan advised the Commission on Equal Opportunity and Diversity (CEOD) is in need of a representative from CSA.

IV. Presentations

a. Joe Edens – Parliamentary Procedure

Mr. Edens reviewed the Parliamentary Procedure Basics document with the group. The document should be used as a resource to learn and understand basic procedures in order to have an impartial debate and hear each other in an equal and productive way. Highlighted in the discussion were main motions, subsidiary motions, and the motions chart.

Mr. Edens briefed the group on Precedence of Motions and discussed the Steps to Making a Motion. A pseudo scenario was acted out to further the commission's understanding of the motion process.

V. Unfinished Business

There was no unfinished business.

VI. New Business

Mr. Edens briefed the group on the addition of three positions to the commission.

a. Vice Chair Nominations

Mr. Greg Purdy read the duties of the vice chair.

Mr. Matt Chan asked for an explanation of how the vice chair becomes the chair. Mr. Edens advised that process will be discussed during the announcements. Mr. Purdy motioned to proceed to announcements and Mr. Chan seconded.

Mr. Edens explained that he and Mr. Schonberger met earlier in the year with Dr. Perillo and Kim O'Rourke to discuss this process. This year, nominations will be taken for the vice chair to serve the 2014-15 term. If the vice chair is here next spring, he/she will be given the opportunity to become chair for the 2015-16 term. If he/she chooses to become chair, another vice chair will be elected in the spring. As well, the vice chair may remain vice chair for the 2015-16 term if he/she chooses to do so.

Mr. Edens opened the floor to nominations for vice chair.

Ms. Susan Anderson nominated Mr. Lester Schonberger; Mr. Schonberger accepted.

Mr. Greg Purdy nominated Mr. Jean-Luc Ford; Mr. Ford accepted.

Mr. Jean-Luc Ford nominated Mr. Luke Carroll; Mr. Carroll accepted.

b. Parliamentarian Nominations

Mr. Greg Purdy read the duties of the parliamentarian. Mr. Edens added he will bring a copy of Robert's Rules of Orders and stressed the parliamentarian is not expected to know the rules.

Following the reading, Mr. Edens explained the CSA's quorum is 50% plus one and Ex Officios are allowed to vote. The "waterfall" election format will be utilized; meaning any nominee not elected to a position can drop to the next position. Also, nominations will be allowed at the next meeting.

Nominations were opened.

Ms. Jamaica Sykes nominated Ms. Elizabeth Lazor; Ms. Lazor declined.

Mr. Purdy nominated Mr. Matt Chan; Mr. Chan accepted.

Mr. Jean-Luc Ford nominated Mr. Purdy; Mr. Purdy declined.

Mr. Chan motioned to close nominations and Mr. Purdy seconded. Nominations were closed.

c. Secretary Nominations

Mr. Greg Purdy read the duties of the secretary. This position is important because it allows the commission to take ownership and become a resource between the commission and the Vice President for Student Affairs' office.

Mr. Austin Larrowe motioned to open nominations and Mr. Luke Carroll seconded. Nominations were opened.

Mr. Jean-Luc Ford nominated Ms. Jamaica Sykes and she accepted.

Mr. Ricardo Zalles Reyes motioned to close nominations and Mr. Ford seconded. Nominations were closed.

Mr. Edens stated that at the next meeting each candidate will be given the opportunity to provide a 2-minute introductory address to the CSA membership explaining why he/she would be an effective vice chair, parliamentarian, or secretary. Elections will be held following introductory addresses for each position.

VII. Announcements

a. Update on Commission Chair & Vice Chair Elections for AY 15-16

The LGBTQ students welcome reception is today in Owens Banquet Hall.

Ms. Clair Childress announced Resumania will take place during the next two Wednesdays, September 10 and 17, with extended walk-in hours.

Ms. Childress mentioned VT Career Outfitters is underway. Donations are being accepted from faculty, staff, alumni, and others.

Ms. Susan Anderson announced GobblerFest is tomorrow, Friday, September 5.

Mr. Edens encouraged the group to send questions to him.

VIII. Adjournment

With no further announcements or business, Mr. Joe Edens, chair, entertained a motion to adjourn; Mr. Greg Purdy motioned and Mr. Ricardo Zalles Reyes seconded. The meeting was adjourned at 4:45 p.m.