Commission on Student Affairs
November 15, 2007
3:30-5:30 p.m.
Brush Mountain A & B
Squires Student Center

Minutes

Present: Sofiat Abdulrazzaq, Amanda Beringer, Jessica Brunson, Heath Carter, Rick Ferraro, Zenobia Hikes, Monica Hunter, John Kane, Adeel Khan, Gary Kinder, Roshan Kundwani, Maureen Lawrence, Margaret McQuain, Amanda Olejarski, Stephen Rong, Jessica Grimes for Karen Sanders, Robert Sebek, Brennan Shepard, Ray Williams for Guy Sims, Ryan Smith, Ed Spencer

Absent: Virgilio Centeno, Kristin Clarke, Ron Daniel, Michael Dunleavy, Tim Filbert, Portia Galloway, Monika Gibson, Ryan Gleeson, Brian Golden, Frances Keene, Meredyth Kenney, Julie Latterell, Tanya LeRoith, Cristina Lugo, Joseph McFadden, Andy Rivenbark, Toni Stroter, Lynsey Stuart, John Gray Williams

Guests: Angelo Colon, Julia Hopkins

I. Call to Order

Ms. Jessica Brunson, Vice Chair, called the meeting to order at 3:33 p.m.

II. Adoption of Agenda

Ms. Brunson called for adoption of the agenda. There was a motion to adopt the agenda as written. The motion was seconded and approved.

III. Chair Report

A. Upcoming Student Fees Presentation—Ms. Brunson announced that Mr. Tim Hodge, University Budget Director, would attend the November 29 meeting to discuss student fees. In order to address the questions of the commission, he would like to have questions submitted to him prior to the presentation. Ms. Brunson asked that anyone with questions for Mr. Hodge please submit them in writing at the end of the meeting or to e-mail them to her (NPHC-VT@vt.edu) or Mr. Joe McFadden (jwm@vt.edu) prior to the November 29 meeting.

IV. Guest Speaker

A. Presentation on Hokie-Thon—Tabled due to absence of the scheduled presenter.
V. Old Business

VI. New Business

A. BOC Constitutional Changes—Ms. Sofiat Abdulrazaaq presented the changes to the Black Organizations Council Constitution for first reading and outlined the changes. Under Article III—Officers, they have added the following officers: 1) Assistant to the Executive Board (who will sit in for other officers as needed), 2) Media Chair, 3) Historian, and 4) Advisor. *Suggested changes:* clarify that the Advisor is a faculty or staff member and therefore wouldn’t be required to meet the same academic standards as other officers. Also clarify whether the Advisor has voting privileges. It was suggested they add “Executive Board Member, Non Officer” next to Advisor in Article III, Section I-11. Also in Article III, Section IV states that any Virginia Tech student may pursue an office in B.O.C, but Section VI states that candidates running for a position on the B.O.C. Executive Board must be a member of a B.O.C. organization. After discussion it was determined that the two Member-At-Large positions (female and male) on the B.O.C. Council could be held by any Virginia Tech student. The wording should be corrected to clarify this.

The section pertaining to impeachment of Executive Officers has been updated to show that a two-thirds vote of the Executive Board is required for impeachment or removal from office and three formal warnings must be given prior to an impeachment vote. *Suggested change:* clarify the language about impeachment and removal from office. If two thirds vote is needed for impeachment and another two thirds vote later for removal, this should be noted.

They added a section to Duties of Officers that requires officers to attend all B.O.C. functions or appropriate actions will be taken against the accused officer, which may later result in impeachment. Under Clause 6 in this section, Members-At-Large will be the third officers in the line of responsibility for securing room reservations for B.O.C. organizations. Under Clause 7—Assistant to the Executive Board, the assistant shall know the duties of all positions and be ready to fill the positions in the absence of the members. Under Clause 8—Media Chair, the responsibilities are outlined. *Suggested changes:* Executive Board, Executive Committee, and Executive Council are used interchangeably throughout the document. If they are all the same group, make the wording consistent throughout. Numbering for the clauses in this section needs to be corrected. Duties of the Assistant to the Executive Board are unclear. With the current wording it would be possible for the Assistant to be assigned the position of chair should the chair be removed from office, but that is not the intent of the position. It was suggested they add wording to indicate the Assistant will fill duties temporarily at the request of an Executive Board Member. Ms. Abdulrazaaq was asked to make the language about advisors consistent throughout the document, perhaps using the term “university advisor” rather than “faculty advisor.” QCA should be changed to GPA in Clause 9, D.
Ms. Abdulrazaaq concluded by outlining the changes to the Bylaws. There were no further comments from the commission. Second reading will take place on November 29.

B. **Discussion of Day of Remembrance for April 16, 2008**—Mr. Adeel Khan indicated that following April 16, 2007, the SGA Senate and House brought up a resolution calling for April 16, 2008, to be declared a university-sanctioned Day of Remembrance for the university with no meetings, classes, organizational events, or other happenings to be held and that a moment of silence be observed at 9:45 a.m. 1,000 students were surveyed and over 94 percent were in favor. The request is for 2008 only, to be evaluated in future years. Mr. Khan pointed out that the resolution doesn’t need to be passed by CSA or University Council because the Provost has the authority to act on this matter. Mr. Khan said he is willing to discuss this with student or faculty organizations if they would like more information. The commission had a brief discussion about possible remembrance events for the day.

VII. **Announcements**

Ms. Maureen Lawrence announced the Brand New concert at 9:00 p.m., November 29, in Commonwealth Ballroom, Squires. She also encouraged people to check out the new VTU website: [http://www.vtu.org.vt.edu/](http://www.vtu.org.vt.edu/).

Ms. Monica Hunter announced that the final Budget Board Workshop would be held that evening. Any groups that haven’t attended should try to attend.

Mr. Adeel Khan announced the new Hokies United campaign to raise money for the victims of the Southern California wildfires. He encouraged student organizations to hold fundraisers to raise funds that will be combined and presented to the American Red Cross. He also announced that basketball t-shirts are on sale. The theme is Hokies on Fire and the proceeds will also go to the wildfire disaster relief efforts. The shirts are available at the University Bookstore.

VIII. **Adjournment**

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 4:36 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Donna Sanzenbach
Recording Secretary