Commission on Student Affairs
October 18, 2007
3:30-5:30 p.m.
Brush Mountain A & B
Squires Student Center

Minutes


Absent: Virgilio Centeno, Curtis Dahn, Michael Dunleavy, Portia Galloway, Zenobia Hikes, John Kane, Gary Kinder, Julie Latterell, Tanya LeRoith, Cristina Lugo, Margaret McQuain, Andy Rivenbark, Stephen Rong, Toni Stroter

Visitors: Ray Plaza

I. Call to Order

Mr. Joe McFadden, Chair, called the meeting to order at 3:32 p.m.

II. Adoption of Agenda

Mr. McFadden called for adoption of the agenda. The agenda was approved as written.

III. Chair Report

Mr. McFadden reported that as a follow-up to the October 4 discussion on how student organization programming can better serve the student body, the Order of the Gavel will take over this matter. The discussion will begin at their October 26 meeting at 3:00 p.m. Anyone with comments for Order of the Gavel should contact Ingrid Ngai at ingai@vt.edu. Mr. McFadden made a procedural announcement. We will use a speakers list at all future meetings, and everyone should raise their name cards to be added to the speakers list. He asked for volunteers to serve as the reporter for CSA for the remainder of the year. Anyone willing to help out with this task should contact him. He also announced that CSA has pledged 320 hours thus far for VT Engage.
IV. Guest Speaker—Ray Plaza

A. **Inclusive Excellence Concept**—Mr. Ray Plaza, Director of Diversity Initiatives in Multicultural Affairs, gave an overview of the Inclusive Excellence Concept, which will be used by Virginia Tech for its diversity and inclusion efforts. The concept consists of four primary elements: 1) focus on student intellectual and social development; 2) purposeful development and utilization of organizational resources to enhance student learning; 3) attention to cultural differences learners bring to the educational experience and that enhance the enterprise; 4) a welcoming community that engages all of its diversity in the service of student and organizational learning. This concept is incorporated in The Inclusive Excellence Model developed by Damon Williams, Joseph Berger and Shederick McClendon. The Inclusive Excellence Model focuses on four main aspects—Access and Equity; Diversity in the Formal and Informal Community; Campus Climate; Student Learning and Development. These four areas help to govern how institutions can develop strategies and indicators for institutional transformation. More information can be found at [www.aacu.org/inclusive_excellence/index.cfm](http://www.aacu.org/inclusive_excellence/index.cfm).

Mr. Plaza announced that Damon Williams will be on campus on November 9 and invited the students to attend a luncheon with him. The luncheon will be held from 12:00-1:15 p.m. at The Inn. Please contact Mr. Plaza at [rp25@vt.edu](mailto:rp25@vt.edu) if interested in attending. Mr. Plaza also announced that the Office of Multicultural Affairs will unveil a website devoted to Inclusive Excellence in the near future.

B. **Update on the Implementation Team for the Task Force on Race and the Institution**—Mr. Plaza provided an overview of the Implementation Team for the Task Force on Race and the Institution, which was formed in August 2007 to examine the recommendations of the task force and develop a timeframe for implementation. The implementation team will meet on a monthly basis and each team member has been assigned to one of the six report areas: Academic Programs, Administrative Infrastructure, Alumni and Community Engagement, Faculty/Staff, Graduate Students, and Undergraduate Students. Team members will make recommendations on how to accomplish the goals in all areas of campus, and they will work with departments to make sure they know how to implement the recommendations. Accountability for the process will fall to the Office of Multicultural Affairs and progress will be monitored for several years.

V. Old Business

A. **Revisions to Student Budget Board Constitution (Second Reading)**—Ms. Monica Hunter presented the SBB Constitution changes for second reading. Ms. Hunter sent a document to the CSA listserv at the beginning of the week that shows the changes made at the request of CSA at first reading on October 4. She briefly outlined the changes. There was a motion to approve the constitution. The motion was seconded and passed.
VI. New Business

A. **Presentation on Health and Wellness Area of Student Affairs**—Dr. Rick Ferraro gave a presentation on the Health and Wellness Area of Student Affairs. He discussed the departments that fall in his area: 1) Schiffert Health Center; 2) Cook Counseling Center; 3) Services for Students with Disabilities; 4) College Alcohol Abuse Prevention Center; 5) Health Education; 6) Recreational Sports; 7) Virginia Tech Rescue Squad. He discussed the working principles of these areas, the services they provide to our students, and some areas they hope to expand in the near future. They face challenges in space and financing. Many of his areas have outgrown their space and need to expand. In addition, they need a permanent home for the office of Services for Students with Disabilities. They are working to meet these challenges in a cost-effective manner that places emphasis on value for the students. A brief question and answer period followed.

VII. Announcements

Ms. Monica Hunter announced that Student Affairs would host Power of 16 at 6:00 p.m. on October 23 in Owens Banquet Hall. She distributed a letter from Kim Timpany that announced the need for student volunteers to host two female and two male students visiting from Monterrey Tec in Mexico. The visitors will be here October 24-28. Anyone interested in serving as a host may contact Ms. Timpany at timpany@vt.edu.

Dr. Guy Sims announced that comedian Aries Spears would perform at 7:00 p.m. that evening in the GLC Auditorium.

Mr. Adeel Khan announced that SGA is holding a voter drive for absentee ballots. Applications may be picked up in the SGA office in Squires.

Ms. Danielle Espino announced that the movie Harry Potter and the Order of the Phoenix would be shown at 8:00 p.m. in Colonial Hall, Squires on October 19 and 20. Lorraine Warren, investigator for the Amityville Horror will speak at 7:00 p.m. on October 22 in Colonial Hall. The musical The Producers will be performed at 7:00 p.m. on October 30 in Burruss Auditorium.

Mr. McFadden announced that the next meeting is scheduled for November 1. The deadline for agenda items is October 26.

VIII. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 4:54 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Donna Sanzenbach
Recording Secretary