MINUTES
COMMISSION ON STUDENT AFFAIRS
January 24, 2002
Room 150/152
Squires Student Center
3:30-5:30 p.m.


Absent: Ed Boone, Kimberlee Fulcher, Grant Hill, Gunnar Lucko, Joe Merola, Kerry Redican, Jennie Reilly, Melissa Slovinsky

Guests: Brendan Anderson, Susan Urquhart

I. Call to Order
Mr. Ryan Hartman, Chair, called the meeting to order and welcomed the commission to the first meeting of spring semester.

II. Adoption of Agenda
The agenda was adopted as written.

III. Old Business

IV. New Business
A. Undergraduate BOV Representative Selection Process

Dr. Ed Spencer discussed the commission’s role in the selection process for Undergraduate Representative to the Board of Visitors and distributed the application packets for the eight individuals who applied this year. The commission is responsible for reviewing and rating the applications, interviewing the top six candidates, and choosing three candidates to interview with the Board of Visitors Selection Committee on March 17. Dr. Spencer explained that since there are only eight applicants this year, the commission has the choice of interviewing all eight or interviewing six, as in previous years. The commission decided to interview all eight candidates at the February 21 commission meeting.

B. USA Today Readership Program

Ms. Susan Urquhart and Mr. Brendan Anderson from USA TODAY, attended the meeting to discuss The Collegiate Readership Program, a program that distributes a variety of newspapers to college campuses each morning. The newspaper displays are located in residence halls, dining halls, student unions, and other convenient locations. Each college or university chooses the specific papers that are delivered, and students may pick up any of the available papers. Over 160 schools are now participating in the program. The costs for the program vary, depending on how many different papers are delivered each day.
and the total number of papers delivered. The costs are covered in different ways by different schools. Some schools choose to increase tuition and/or fees, while others choose to cover the costs by soliciting funds from development offices, parent associations, student organizations, and student government associations. The readership program is provided at no cost during a four-week pilot program, and the university is under no obligation to sign up if interest is low. They gave an estimate of $52,000 per semester for 2000 newspapers per day or $26,000 per semester for 1000 newspapers per day. More information about the program is available at their website: www.usatodaycollege.com.

The commission discussed whether there would be enough interest in the program and possible funding sources if we do find enough interest. Dr. Cross indicated that his office will pledge $10,000 for the program, and asked others to decide how much they could contribute if we decide to participate in the program. The student organizations will need to decide quickly if they are willing to contribute to the program—the deadline for Student Budget Board requests is February 11. Mr. Hartman asked the student organizations to discuss this with their groups and report back to the commission at the February 7 meeting.

C. CSA Spring Orientation

Mr. Ryan Hartman asked the commission members to introduce themselves since several new members were present. He discussed various issues the commission has focused on this year, and gave updates on those that have been covered. He asked the commission to divide into groups and choose issues they would like to cover by the end of spring semester. Each group presented their issues to the commission. Mr. Hartman will compile the issues into a list and email it to commission members.

V. Announcements

Dr. Ed Spencer announced that the housing application process that took place on January 23, 2002, had to be voided due to a system overload. The new housing application process will begin at 8:00 a.m. on February 4 and continue through 5:00 p.m. on February 8. All students who enter the process during this time period will be entered into the application pool and will later receive a random lottery number, which will determine their place on the housing list. Additional information is available on their website at www.rdp.vt.edu.

Ms. Kim Mitchell announced that the final mandatory funding workshop for organizations applying for Student Budget Board funds would take place on January 31 at 5:00 p.m. in 219 Squires. Applications for SBB funding are due at 5:00 p.m. on February 11. Ms. Susan Anderson announced that they are working on the Annual Take Back the Night events. Groups interested in having their name listed on the back of the program as a sponsor should let her know.

Ms. Linda Sikhammountry announced the AASU concert, 2nd Serving of R.I.C.E. (Rising International Community Edu-tainment), at 7:00 p.m. on January 26 in Burruss Auditorium. The concert will feature Mixed Emotions, MSG, Killah B’s, Trish Trang, and Eliot Chang.

Mr. Myron McClees announced the annual Martin Luther King Day celebration would be taking place on January 24 at 7:00 p.m., Haymarket Theatre of Squires Student Center.
Ms. Vashonta Roach announced that the Black Student Alliance would host “Mahalia,” a gospel musical play based on the life of Mahalia Jackson, at 7:00 p.m. on January 29 in Burruss Auditorium.

Ms. Nicki Cantrell announced that applications for Omicron Delta Kappa, the National Leadership Honor Society, are available in 319 Squires. Applications and additional information are also available on the ODK website: http://fbox.vt.edu/org/odk/ODKApp.htm. The deadline for applying is February 15, 2002.

Mr. Chris DeMay announced that the annual Midwinters Dance would be taking place at 9:00 p.m. on February 1 and 2 in Commonwealth Ballroom of Squires.

Mr. Brian Montgomery announced that the Student Government Association and the German Club would be sponsoring the 3rd Annual Henry J. Dekker Student Organization Leadership Conference on February 16 from 9:00 a.m. — 1:00 p.m. Further information and on-line registration is available at http://www.vtgc.net/leadership.

**VI. Adjournment**

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 4:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Donna Sanzenbach
Recording Secretary