MINUTES
COMMISSION ON STUDENT AFFAIRS
January 30, 2003
Brush Mountain B
Squires Student Center
3:30-5:30 p.m.


ABSENT: Karen DePauw, Grant Hill, Meredith Katz, Megan Elwood Madden, Jerry Niles, Kerry Redican, Christian Rieser, Vashonta Roach, Roberta Snelling, Nick Temple

VISITORS: Angie Ramaroson

I. Call to Order

Mr. Brian Montgomery, Chair, called the meeting to order and announced the agenda items to be covered at the next two meetings: on February 13, the commission will interview six candidates for the position of Undergraduate Student Representative to the Board of Visitors; on February 27, the Vice President for Budget and Financial Management will discuss the proposed budget and tuition for 2003-2004.

II. Adoption of Agenda

The agenda was adopted as written.

III. Minutes from December 5th Meeting

Mr. Montgomery announced that the December 5 minutes have been electronically approved and forwarded to University Council.

IV. Old Business

A. SGA Vision Committee

Mr. Andrew Jayne announced that the SGA Vision Committee has met twice with good attendance and representation from student organizations, and they plan to have one more meeting. They have been discussing the structure of student organizations and possible changes. If they decide to move forward with changing the structure, resolutions will be forthcoming to the commission. Mr. Jayne circulated a copy of the Virginia Business magazine, which featured a cover photo of the “Cut This?” demonstration held during fall semester.

V. New Business
A. Undergraduate Representative to the BOV Selection Process

i. Explanation of Process

Dr. Lanny Cross discussed the commission’s role in selecting the undergraduate representative to the Board of Visitors. The application deadline was January 24, and 13 applications were submitted. The commission is now at the stage of reviewing the applications and selecting six semi-finalists to be interviewed at the February 13 CSA meeting. On February 13, three finalists will be chosen to interview with the Board of Visitors Selection Committee on March 9. The BOV Selection Committee will also interview the three graduate finalists on March 9. One undergraduate and one graduate representative will be recommended for approval by the full Board at the afternoon session on March 10.

ii. Applications distributed today, due back February 5th

iii. Development of Questioning Procedure

Mr. Montgomery explained the current procedure for interviewing the semi-finalists and opened the floor for discussion of the procedures. Following a discussion, the commission voted to make minor changes to the procedures: 1) each candidate will have four minutes (rather than five, as in previous years) to introduce themselves and discuss: their motivation for the job, why they are prepared for the job, what they know about the job, and how this position fits into the university structure; 2) a 30 second summary was added after the question and answer period. The commission discussed the two questions that would be asked of each candidate at the February 13 interviews, and voted to ask the following questions: 1) How would you gather information of issues and concerns from students to present to the Board of Visitors? 2) If you were sitting here now in front of the Board of Visitors and they asked what issues are on the students' minds, other than the budget, how would you answer? For the 30 second summary, the following question will be asked: In 30 seconds or less, could you tell us something we haven’t asked that you would like us to know? During the interviews, Ed Barry will present the first question to each person; Linda Sikhammountry will present the second question; and Jane Warner will present the summary question.

The commission discussed the issue of deliberating on applicants following their interviews, but voted in favor of eliminating deliberations in the meeting and letting their vote be their comment. The commission also discussed appropriate attire for the February 13 meeting, which is more formal than most CSA meetings, and decided to dress in business/professional attire for the interviews.

B. SGA: Student Identity Security Resolution

Mr. Andrew Jayne presented the Student Government Association’s Student
Identity Security Resolution for first reading. The resolution addresses the issue of Social Security numbers being used as default student ID numbers at most university levels. Ms. Brooke Randa will present additional information on the issue at the February 27 CSA meeting. Dr. Lanny Cross pointed out that the university already has a committee working on this issue. Dr. Ed Spencer suggested that we ask Ms. Wanda Dean, University Registrar, and Ms. Jean Smoot, Director of the Hokie Passport Office, to send written information on this topic for the commission’s review before a vote is taken on the resolution.

VIII. Announcements

Ms. Kim Mitchell announced that annual funding requests to the Student Budget Board were due at 5:00 p.m. on January 30.

Ms. Mitchell also announced that the selection process for the Graduate Student Representative to the Board of Visitors is underway. They received five applications this year.

Ms. Brooke Randa distributed a calendar of events, “Setting the PASE!” that was put together by VTU, BSA, and LGBTQ.

Ms. Linda Sikhammadmytry wished everyone a happy Lunar New Year.

Mr. Vivek Mehta announced that he has stepped down as president of RHF, and Ms. Kelly Williams is the new president. He will continue as the RHF designee on the commission and will likely continue as Vice Chair of CSA.

Mr. Montgomery announced that the Midwinters Dance was taking place at 9:00 p.m. on January 31 and February 1 in Commonwealth Ballroom of Squires.

Mr. Sterling Daniel, President of SGA, introduced himself.

IX. Adjournment

Mr. Montgomery adjourned the meeting at 5:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Donna Sanzenbach
Recorder