MINUTES
Commission on Student Affairs
219 Squires Student Center
March 4, 1999
3:30 p.m.

Present: Ms. Madonna Mendoza, Ms. Susan Anderson, Dr. Robert Bates, Ms. Laura Bayless, Mr. Jamaa Bickley-King, Mr. Andrew Bishop, Mr. Sean Blackburn, Ms. Nicki Cantrell, Mr. Matthew Chan, Dr. Lanny Cross, Ms. Lori Crowe, Ms. Judy Fielder, Mr. Joshua King (for Ms. Jennifer Gittes), Dr. Martha Johnson, Mr. Jody Olson, Mr. Daniel Palmer, Dr. Barbara Pendergrass, Mr. Brad Ramsey, Dr. Delores Scott, Dr. Edd Sewell, Dr. Gerard J. Kowalski (for Dr. Edward Spencer), Ms. Roxene Thompson, Mr. Jason Wiker

Absent: Mr. Davis Bailey, Ms. Lara Digan, Ms. Kara Gittes, Mr. Jonathan Harmer, Ms. Alex Iannucci, Dr. Peter Rony, Mr. Ferat Sahin, Mr. Paul Wagner, Dr. Brian Warren

I. Call to Order. Ms. Madonna Mendoza, chair, called the meeting to order at 3:30 p.m.

Ms. Mendoza reported that the minutes of the February 18, 1999 meeting of CSA had been approved electronically.

II. Approval of Agenda. Motion was made and seconded to approve the agenda. Motion was approved by unanimous vote.

III. Committee Reports

A. Judicial Affairs Review Committee: Ms. Laura Bayless reported that the committee met three times and reviewed information from a questionnaire as well as actual statements in Judicial System Constitutions that were available on the WEB. The universities chosen for review were the peer institutions along with selected Virginia schools. While some judicial systems have time limits on the amount of time that can elapse between offense and reporting, most systems do not have a time limit.

The committee does not make a recommendation for changes to the time limit.

B. CSA Membership Ad Hoc Committee: Mr. Sean Blackburn distributed the recommendations and report from the Ad Hoc Committee on Membership to the Commission on Student Affairs. A resolution, Commission on Student Affairs Resolution 1998-99A, Commission Membership, was presented for first reading. The resolution states that membership of the Commission should be changed to reflect greater efficiency and equity. The changes in membership would be to remove the sophomore, junior, and senior class representatives and add one representative from the Class System, remove the Extramural Sports Federation seat, and add the Black Student Alliance, and Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender Alliance. A discussion followed, and the resolution will be presented for second reading at the March 18 CSA meeting.

IV. New Business

A. Ms. Susan Anderson briefed the commission on the "Take Back the Night" event. The purpose of the tenth annual rally and candlelight march is to
bring campus and community members together to protest violence against women and to promote awareness of attitudes, beliefs, and behaviors which perpetuate this violence. Organizers encourage everyone to take an active role in changing our society -- a society in which women have reason to fear being out alone at night. Ms. Anderson also encouraged individuals to wear a purple ribbon tied with a knot for every friend or family member who has been sexually assaulted. These ribbons are available at information tables before Women's Month events and also in the Women's Center during Women's Month. The rally and march will take place Thursday, March 25, 7:30 p.m. on the Drillfield. Ms. Anderson encouraged members to participate and to tell others in their organizations about the program. Anyone interested in obtaining additional information may contact Ms. Anderson at 231-8041 or by email at anderson@math.vt.edu.

B. Mr. Jody Olson read a resolution from the Student Government Association, "Resolution Against Extending Enforcement Hours for Parking Lots Designated Faculty/Staff." This resolution concerns the motion made at a meeting of the Faculty Senate on February 16, 1999, stating that "The Virginia Tech Faculty Senate supports extending enforcement of hours for all or parts of lots designated F/S to 9:00 p.m." The Student Government Association disagrees with the implementation of this proposal and asks that CSA support the resolution. A discussion followed, and the resolution will be presented for second reading at the March 18 meeting.

Mr. Olson then read the second resolution from the Student Government Association, "Code of Conduct Resolution." This resolution deals with future connections between Virginia Tech, its logos and approved collegiate apparel made in sweatshop conditions, and urges Virginia Tech to adopt a Code of Conduct which mandates that companies licensed to use the Virginia Tech logos guarantee that those products are not made under sweatshop conditions. A discussion followed, and the resolution will be presented for second reading at the March 18 meeting.

C. Discussion Regarding University Policies for Student Life

Mr. Jeff Cullen, director of Judicial Affairs, reviewed the recommendations from the University Policies for Student Life Review Committee. He distributed a copy of the recommendations which include changes in Part V.d., Alcoholic Beverages and Other Controlled Substances; Part III.a., Jurisdiction; Section III.f., University Judicial Records; Section III.d., Formal University Judicial Sanctions; and additions to Section V.A., Access to Campus; and Section III.b., Universities Judicial Procedures. After discussion, Mr. Cullen informed the commission that these recommendations will be brought before the Virginia Tech Board of Visitors for approval at their April meeting. He encouraged members to contact him for further discussion and clarification of the changes.

V. Old Business

A. Dr. Landrum Cross distributed a time line and briefed the commission on the process for the position of Undergraduate Student Representative to the Virginia Tech Board of Visitors. The next step in the process will be to tally the scores from the rating forms and notify the six semi-finalists of their selection. A letter will also be sent to the unsuccessful candidates. CSA will interview the six semi-finalists at the April 1
meeting and select three candidates to appear before the selection committee of the Virginia Tech Board of Visitors on Sunday, April 25. The successful candidates (graduate and undergraduate) will then be announced at the board meeting on Monday, April 26.

VI. Announcements

Ms. Lori Crowe announced that Colin Powell will be at Virginia Tech on March 30, in Burruss Hall auditorium.

VII. The meeting adjourned at 5:20 p.m.