MINUTES
Commission on Student Affairs
321 McBryde Hall
October 15, 1998
3:30 p.m.

Present:  Mr. Clyde Harris, 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. Ryan Ford, Ms. Jennifer Gittes, Ms. Kara Gittes, Mr. Jonathan Harmer, Ms. Alex Iannucci, Dr. Martha Johnson, Ms. Madonna Mendoza, Mr. Jody Olson, Dr. Barbara Pendergrass, Ms. Kristy Robinson, Dr. Peter Rony, Mr. Ferat Sahin, Dr. Edd Sewell, Dr. Edward Spencer, Mr. Paul Wagner

Absent:  Mr. Davis Bailey, Ms. Lauren Esleeck, Dr. Delores Scott, Ms. Roxene Thompson, Dr. Brian Warren

I. Call to Order.  Mr. Clyde Harris, chair, called the meeting to order at 3:30 p.m.

A. Mr. Harris announced that the minutes of the October 1, 1998, CSA meeting had been approved electronically.

II. Approval of Agenda.

Mr. Harris announced that Ms. Valerie Conley from the Institutional Research office would be unable to attend today's meeting, but would attend the next meeting, and therefore Item B would be deleted from the agenda.  Mr. Jody Olson will present a resolution for consideration which deals with the Tech Central building to be erected on campus, and this will be added to the agenda as Item B.

Motion was made and seconded to approve the agenda with corrections.  Motion was approved by unanimous vote.

III. Committee Reports

A. Dr. Edward Spencer reported that the Student Budget Board Appeals Committee has met with two of the four individuals identified as having relevant information connected to the review of the VT Rescue Squad funding question.  They will meet with the other two next week and then will be drafting a report and submitting their recommendations to CSA at a future meeting.

B. Dr. Martha Johnson reported that the committee reviewing judicial affairs as it relates to the due process timeline will be meeting on October 22, 3:00 p.m. in 110 Burruss Hall.

IV. New Business

A. Mr. Scott Hurst, University Architect, presented an overview of the university's master plan.  He gave a historical background presentation on campus planning and how that has formed some of the ideas that are being taken forward with the plan.  The green space will be preserved for open space which includes the Drillfield, Duck Pond, and Stroubles Creek.  The university plans to continue to develop the pedestrian-scale quadrangles and
Mr. Hurst reported that Harper Hall is under construction on the edge of West Campus Drive, and further development in that area will complete the quadrangle there. He presented a slide show which included information about the Innovative Technology building adjoining the Library, keeping open space as long as possible, maintaining reasonable walking distance within the central campus, and the application of landscape guidelines which reinforce the physical structure of the spaces. He reported that 2500 trees, 5000 shrubs, and 40000 perennial bulbs have been planted.

A question and answer session followed Mr. Hurst's presentation. Mr. Harris expressed commission's appreciation to Mr. Hurst for his willingness to brief them on this matter.

B. Mr. Jody Olson distributed a resolution from the Student Government Association concerning the Tech Central building, which is under consideration for construction on campus. After reading the resolution to the commission, Mr. Olson made a motion that, due to time constraints, the first reading be waived and move immediately to second reading. A motion was made, seconded, and approved unanimously to waive first reading.

Mr. Olson stated that basically what the resolution states is that the students are in support of Virginia Tech taking action to prevent the building of this facility, and urged CSA to support the resolution. After discussion of the wording of the resolution, a friendly amendment was made to delete the words "(in Virginia Tech's own words)" in the fourth WHEREAS, to add the word "that" in the fifth WHEREAS after the words "...uses of campus buildings...", and to change the final paragraph to read "...urges the Virginia Tech Administration to use whatever means possible to secure its plans for the development of the property."

A motion was made to accept the changes in the wording of the resolution. Motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

A motion was then made that the Commission on Student Affairs pass the resolution. Motion was seconded and passed unanimously. Mr. Olson will make the recommended changes in the wording of the resolution, and he will present it to University Council for their consideration.

C. Mr. Harris announced that a representative from CSA needs to be appointed to the Academic Support Committee. He asked for nominations, and Ms. Laura Bayless volunteered to serve. Motion was made, seconded, and passed unanimously to appoint Ms. Bayless to serve on the Academic Support Committee.

V. Announcements

A. Mr. Ryan Ford distributed a press release from IFC dealing with the Phi Kappa Sigma alleged incident which states that IFC will move forward with their investigation of the alleged incident upon completion of the criminal investigation.

B. Dr. Lanny Cross distributed information that commission members had requested dealing with data on drinking behaviors on campus.

C. Mr. Sean Blackburn reported that Davis Bailey asked him to report to the
commission that a search committee for a position in the Athletic Department has no students serving. Mr. Bailey will be discussing this at the next CSA meeting, and will ask commission to discuss naming a student to this committee and some of the policies involved. If anyone is interested in this, they should contact Mr. Bailey.

D. Mr. Jody Olson announced that the Student Government Association introduced a resolution at the Blacksburg Transit Committee meeting asking that the Special Purpose Housing route be moved to every fifteen minutes. The Blacksburg Transit Committee has agreed to add a second bus to that route, and starting January 1, 1999, they will be running that route every fifteen minutes from the first bus in the morning until the last bus at night.

E. Ms. Jennifer Gittes announced that the Homecoming Pep Rally will be held Friday evening at 9:00 p.m. and asked that everyone come out and support this event.

F. Mr. Andrew Bishop reported that he wants to get input from all student organizations on various issues. He is sending a letter out to all student organizations which will explain the things he plans to do. He plans to have town meetings and will be inviting about twenty-five organizations per meeting, so that by the end of the year, he will have invited every organization to come to a roundtable discussion on current issues that he feels the board of visitors might be interested in, and allow the organizations to voice their concerns to him as their representative to the board. He asked commission to urge their fellow members to attend one of these meetings.

G. Ms. Jennifer Gittes announced that the Corps of Cadets is having a "Join the Corps for a Day" event, and that letters will be sent from the Corps regarding this.

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

Respectfully submitted,

Betty Eaton
Recording Secretary