MINUTES
COMMISSION ON STUDENT AFFAIRS
October 21, 1999
Room 219
Squires Student Center
3:30-5:00 p.m.

Present: Mr. Sean Blackburn, Ms. Susan Anderson, Dr. Carolyn Dixon for Dr. Robert Bates, Ms. Laura Bayless, Dr. Lanny Cross, Ms. Kimberly DeGuise, Ms. Lara Digan, Ms. Rachael Emery, Mr. Aaron Hill, Ms. Elaine Humphrey, Dr. Martha Johnson, Mr. Ken Keane, Ms. Marquea King, Mr. Drew Lichtenberger, Ms. Prema Patil for Mr. Steven Lui, Mr. Aaron McClung, Mr. Chittiappa Muthanna, Dr. Barbara Pendergrass, Mr. Brad Ramsey, Dr. Jennie Reilly, Dr. Edd Sewell, Dr. Ed Spencer, Dr. Brian Warren, Ms. Alyssa Williams

Absent: Ms. Erica Burroughs, Dr. JoAnn Emmel, Ms. Jovette Gadson, Mr. Jonathan Harmer, Mr. Darin Oduyoye, Mr. Charlie Rose, Mr. Jeff Sutton

Guests: Dr. Delores Scott

I. Call to Order
A. Comments from the Chair

Mr. Sean Blackburn announced that the October 7, 1999, minutes were approved electronically and forwarded to University Council for approval. Mr. Blackburn has University Council information available to anyone who would like to review it.

Mr. Blackburn announced that Mr. Charlie Rose will be the new representative for LBGTA on CSA.

Mr. Blackburn distributed a statement from the Commission on Research regarding "A Renewed Commitment to Research, Scholarship, and Graduate Education," and asked CSA members to review it for discussion at the next meeting.

II. Approval of Agenda

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

III. New Business
A. Residence Hall Occupancy, Use of Shanks – Edward Spencer

Dr. Edward Spencer distributed handouts regarding on-campus housing for Fall 1999 and discussed the decision-making process for temporary housing assignments during the overcrowding period early in the semester. They have begun the housing plans for next academic year based on the target numbers set by the Enrollment Management Committee. He also discussed the use of Shanks Hall, which will be closed at the end of Fall Semester for renovations beginning in January 2000. Students who
are currently living in Shanks are being reassigned to other buildings, and Shanks will be empty by the end of the semester.

B. Selection Process for Student Representatives to Board of Visitors - Lanny Cross

Dr. Lanny Cross led a discussion regarding the timeline for selecting student representatives to the Board of Visitors. In the past, the new student representatives were presented to the Board at the April meetings. This year the Board meeting schedule has changed, and the spring meetings will take place in March and June. The commission discussed the advantages of presenting the new members in March versus June. It was decided that March will be the best time because students will still be on campus. Dr. Cross will discuss the matter with the Board of Visitors at the November 8 meeting.

Dr. Cross also led a discussion on the possibility of establishing an internship for student representatives to the Board. Student representatives have a considerable amount of work and responsibility. An internship would help document the educational benefits of this position. Some commission members feel that no credit should be given because this is an honorary volunteer position, and students should serve as a service to the university. Others feel it would be helpful because a faculty advisor would help the student be more productive, and an internship would attract more applicants for the positions. Dr. Cross pointed out that an internship would formalize what already exists in the independent study process. We need to decide whether to bring this to the attention of students who apply for the representative positions. Anyone who has further comments should contact Dr. Cross.

C. Annual Funding Schedule for Student Budget Board - Alyssa Williams

Ms. Williams distributed the 2000-2001 funding schedule for the Student Budget Board. The cycle is starting earlier this year and they are requiring all student organization presidents or treasurers to attend a training workshop. Motion was made and seconded to approve the schedule. Motion was approved by unanimous vote.

D. Academic Advising - Delores Scott

Dr. Scott shared the results of the Task Force on Academic Advising. The task force completed its work in August and submitted their report to the Provost in September. They began their work last October by reviewing advising practices at Virginia Tech and other universities. They found that Virginia Tech had no: 1) definition for university-wide advising, 2) philosophy, 3) statement of student responsibility, 4) statement of advisor responsibility, or 5) statement of university responsibility. They developed a framework and a developmental model on advising undergraduate students to address these and other issues. The Task Force’s Progress Report is available on http://ate.cc.vt.edu/PROVOST/ai/TFP_Report.html. The Provost has appointed an Implementation Committee to move forward with the strategies the Task Force recommended. Dr. Scott discussed future training programs and distributed a list of upcoming workshops and teleconferences. The first is a teleconference, "Academic Advising:
IV. Announcements

Mr. Chittiappa Muthanna announced that CISO is hosting a "Dance of Nations" on November 5, 7:30 p.m., Commonwealth Ballroom.

Dr. Barbara Pendergrass distributed a form, "What Would You Say?" and asked CSA members to send their ideas on preventing sexual assault to the Project SAFE staff in the Dean of Student's Office. They are working to provide a safe environment for all students and would like the input of the campus community on how to reshape the culture to prevent sexual assault.

Dr. Brian Warren announced that Schiffert Health Center is sponsoring a campus-wide immunization clinic on Wednesday, October 27, 10:00 a.m.-8:00 p.m., in four different locations on campus: Shultz, Dietrich, Squires, and McComas. Meningitis, Flu, and Hepatitis B immunizations will be available at all locations.

Ms. Prema Patil announced that the AASU cultural exhibition will be held on Saturday, October 23, 6:00 p.m. in Burruss.

Ms. Susan Anderson announced that Amnesty International students and Womanspace will be meeting jointly in November to discuss their impressions from the Sexual Assault Summit. As part of Sexual Assault Awareness Month, the Clothesline Project will be on display on the lawn of the Women's Center from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. on October 26-27. The Speak Out will be on October 27 at 5:30 p.m.

V. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 5:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Donna Sanzenbach
Recording Secretary