MINUTES

COMMISSION ON STUDENT AFFAIRS
September 14, 2000
Room 219
Squires Student Center
3:30-5:30 p.m.

Present: Ms. Sarah Airey, Ms. Susan Anderson, Ms. Kim Beisecker, Ms. Nicki Cantrell, Ms. Sue Ellen Crocker, Dr. Landrum Cross, Ms. Christina Coukos, Ms. Amy Elliott, Dr. JoAnn Emmel, Ms. Kylie Felps, Mr. David Fowler, Ms. Alexandria Graves, Mr. Jonathan Harmer, Ms. Errin Jeffes, Dr. Janet Johnson, Mr. Stephen Kantz, Ms. Marquea King, Ms. Nique Lannon, Ms. Ashley Marshall, Mr. Rudy Picardo, Mr. Sebastian Rosado, Dr. Kerry Redican, Dr. Jennie Reilly, Ms. Heidi Ryan, Ms. Stephanie Scheer, Mr. Gerald Kowalski for Dr. Edward Spencer, Ms. Emmeline Weber, Ms. Alyssa Williams

Absent: Mr. Michael Napper, Dr. Martha Reifsnider, Mr. Patrick Wachendorf

I. Call to Order
A. Comments from the Chair

Ms. King welcomed the commission to the first regular meeting of the year and announced that a packet had been distributed containing the agenda, updated membership list, and a list of issues and concerns to be discussed this year.

II. Approval of Agenda

The agenda was reviewed by the commission and approved as written.

III. New Business
A. Camping Out for Football Tickets
Dr. Lanny Cross, Vice President for Student Affairs, discussed camping out for football tickets. The last camp out was held in Fall 1996, when there were some problems with behavior, alcohol consumption, and vandalism. A committee consisting of students, staff from the Athletic Department, and staff from the Division of Student Affairs was appointed to study the situation and find a better way to distribute tickets. The committee developed a random ticket distribution policy and camp outs were discontinued (see Commission on Student Affairs meeting minutes for Sept. 4, 1997). Student Affairs officials, Virginia Tech Police, and the Athletic Department met on September 8, 2000, to discuss camp outs and decided to maintain the current policy against camp outs for this year, as well. Dr. Cross answered the commission's questions concerning ticket distribution and suggested that we invite a member of the Athletic Department to a future meeting since there was so much interest in the subject.

B. Appointment of Graduate Student Budget Board Member
Ms. Sharonda Meade introduced herself as a candidate for the Student
Budget Board position. Ms. Meade is a graduate student in Veterinary Medical Sciences. Ms. Nicki Cantrell made a motion to accept Ms. Meade's application by acclamation. The motion was approved unanimously.

C. Implementing Zero-Based Funding for Organizations
Ms. Alyssa Williams, Chair of the Student Budget Board (SBB), discussed the three types of funding programs used to allocate Student Center Fees to eligible student organizations: annual funding, contingency funding, and small grant funding. Annual funding takes place in the spring. Student organizations make requests to the student budget boards for their budget for the entire following fiscal year. Contingency funding is available to organizations that receive annual funding in case of emergencies or unforeseen needs. Small grant funding is recommended to organizations that have limited membership, activities, and programs. The cap for small grants is $1,500 per organization each fiscal year.

Last year after the annual funding process was complete, an evaluation sheet was distributed to organizations that received funding. The biggest concern expressed by organizations was the difficulty in tracking carry-over funding and reallocating it into their budgets for the next year. Therefore, the SBB is proposing a zero-based funding policy, which would put all carry-over funds back into the "pot" for redistribution the following year, thus increasing the amount available for allocation. This past year (1999-2000) there was $159,499 in carry-over funding. The zero-based funding policy would encourage organizations to spend their money and would put more money into the hands of organizations that are using the money. If the zero-based policy were adopted, it would not affect funding allocations until 2002-2003. The SBB is currently revising its policies and procedures, but the Commission on Student Affairs will approve any changes before they are implemented.

IV. Announcements
Dr. Lanny Cross distributed a memo about Fall Convocation on September 20 and invited student leaders to participate in the processional. Anyone interested in participating should contact the UUSA office in Squires by September 18. The University Honors Program will have a post-convocation pizza party in Hillcrest following the event, and students participating in the processional are invited to attend.

Ms. Marquea King discussed the possibility of moving the October 12 commission meeting to 3:00-4:00 p.m. due to a home football game that night. There was also some discussion of moving the meeting to October 10 or canceling it. A decision will be made and announced at the next meeting on September 28.

Ms. Nicki Cantrell asked the student members of the commission to remain after adjournment for a brief meeting with her.

Ms. Sue Ellen Crocker announced that Advising Week 2000 would take place the week of September 18, with a kick-off on the drill field at 10:00 a.m. that day.

V. Adjournment
Ms. Alexandria Graves made a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed and the meeting adjourned at 4:25 p.m.
Respectfully submitted,

Donna Sanzenbach
Recording Secretary