Commission on Student Affairs  
Orientation Meeting  
September 20, 2007  
3:30-5:30 p.m.  
Brush Mt. B  
Squires Student Center  

Minutes


Absent:  Virgilio Centeno, Curtis Dahn, Portia Galloway, Frances Keene, Gary Kinder, Julie Latterell, Cristina Lugo, Margaret McQuain, Amanda Olejarski, Andy Rivenbark, Karen Eley Sanders, Robert Sebek

Visitors:  Jessica Grimes, Taylor Powell

I.  Call to Order

Dr. Ed Spencer, Associate Vice President for Student Affairs, serving as chair, called the meeting to order at 3:35 p.m. and welcomed everyone to the first meeting of the year.

II.  Adoption of Agenda

Dr. Spencer called for adoption of the agenda. There was a motion to adopt the agenda as written. The motion was seconded and passed.

III. New Business

a.  Welcome to CSA

Dr. Spencer gave a brief overview of CSA and how it fits into the university’s governance system.

b.  Introductions

Dr. Spencer asked the commission members to introduce themselves.

c.  Discussion of Future Agenda Items

Dr. Spencer opened the floor for a discussion of possible agenda items to be covered this year. The topics include:
- Health and wellness needs of students—the need for more counseling services and clinic space in McComas
- Internal review report and the upcoming review by President’s Office—the need for student representation on the panel
- Parking issues—the need for more ADA spaces on campus, and problems with limited parking in the commuter lots for students
- University accrediting process—Quality Enhancement Process, particularly the first year experience
- Student organization programming—how the organizations can serve the community with quality programming, and with better promotion and marketing to ensure a diverse group of people will attend
- Student organizations—how to make students aware of the organizations and help them feel comfortable joining the organizations
- Undergraduate academic advising—how to ensure consistency across colleges
- Security measures related to 4/16—presentation on the extra measures being taken
- Hokie Camp—presentation of the plans
- VT Engage—presentation on the program
- Memorial event in April—collaboration among groups on campus to plan a large event
- Budget Board—changes related to the RSO Budget Board resolution that was passed by CSA in April and revised SBB Constitution
- Recreational Sports—the need for more space in relation to feedback from students
- Campus Climate—look at ways to continue to be a closer knit community, make sure every person on campus feels welcome
- Student Tuition and Fees—request an overview presentation from the Budget Office earlier in the year so they can discuss the budget situation and the possible impact on students
- Graduate student equality—encourage discussion with graduate students, faculty, and staff in areas like QEP and VT Engage to make sure it's a learning experience for all groups on campus

d. Discussion of Meeting Frequency

Dr. Spencer introduced the topic of how frequently the commission would like to meet. The commission discussed the possibility of meeting once per month but there was no proposal to change the meeting schedule. The commission will continue to meet twice per month.

IV. Old Business

a. Election of Chair and Vice Chair

Dr. Spencer announced that the nominations for chair and vice chair are still open from the April 5 CSA meeting. The nominees from the April 5 meeting are Ryan Smith for chair and Amanda Beringer for vice chair. One nomination was made by e-mail: Curtis Dahn for chair and vice chair. Dr. Spencer opened the floor for further nominations. Joe McFadden was nominated for chair. Jessica Brunson was nominated for vice chair. There being no further nominations, the floor was closed. The candidates for chair and vice chair were asked to introduce themselves and speak about their
qualifications and reasons for wanting to hold the position. They were asked to leave the room while the commission discussed their qualifications. A written vote was taken for each position. Joe McFadden was selected as chair and Jessica Brunson was selected as vice chair.

V. Announcements

Stephen Rong announced the AASU Fall Speaker Series, Magdalen Hsu Li, 7:00 p.m., September 20, GLC Auditorium.

Monica Hunter announced that Homecoming Week starts on September 23. A list of events can be found at: http://www.vthomecoming.org.vt.edu/. She encouraged everyone to participate.

Maureen Lawrence made the following VTU announcements: the movie Evan Almighty, 8:00 p.m., September 21, Colonial Hall, Squires; Laugh Riot, 7:00 p.m., September 25, Burruss Auditorium (now postponed until November 13); The Roots (co-sponsored with BSA), 7:00 p.m., September 26, Burruss Auditorium; Gym Class Heroes, 7:30 p.m., October 4, Burruss Auditorium.

Thomas Hoghahl invited student organizations that haven’t been sending representatives to SGA house meetings to attend their meetings on Tuesdays at 5:30 p.m. in Brush Mountain A, Squires.

Sofiat Abdulrazzaaq announced the NPHC Stepshow, 7:00 p.m., September 28, Burruss Auditorium.

Jessica Brunson announced that other NPHC events are shown on the NPHC and VT event calendars. They are co-sponsoring (with IFC, PhC, and UCFS) "Confronting the Idiot in Your Chapter," a speech by T.J. Sullivan, 7:00 p.m., October 16, Burruss Auditorium.

Mike Dunleavy announced the Class of 2009 Ring Premier on October 2, 7:00 p.m., Burruss Hall.

Heath Carter encouraged students to vote for homecoming king and queen.

Joe McFadden announced that GSA is hosting the Graduate/Professional School Day, 10:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m., October 1, Commonwealth Ballroom, Squires. Over 75 schools from across the country will be participating.

Ed Spencer reminded everyone to bring their name tags and notebooks to each CSA meeting.

VI. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 4:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Donna Sanzenbach
Recording Secretary