

February 28th, 2007
SAAC Meeting Minutes

12:15 Community Service Project: Habitat for Humanity Campaign (Kate)

- All NEWMAC SAAC will contribute to HFH in some way:
 - Financial contribution OR
 - Building/working on a Habitat house
 - It was suggested that near-by colleges team up.
- SAAC and HFH have national connection (Lynn)
 - DII received publicity through their work with HFH, so DIII will try to promote their connection with HFH as a national campaign.
- There is a lot of cost (supplies, etc.) associated with each volunteer that builds a Habitat house (About 50\$/worker). Because of the cost per/volunteer, raising money is as important as volunteering man-hours.
 - Response from Lynn → After HFH Campaign was suggested in the Fall, a committee was formed which has just released their plans. However, the notice is too late for full participation this year. Next year, Smith can be ON board.
 - Individual teams could participate as opposed to all athletic teams
 - Sister teams working together on Sat/Sun (Fall=Sat//Spring=Sun)
 - Clothing Drive → Tag Sale and use profits for HFH donations

➤ Anyone interested in Relay for Life or Project Coach should speak with Kate.

12:25 Faculty Athlete Mentor Program

- Written description of Faculty-Athlete Mentor Program:
 - Faculty functioning as supporters and advisor of Smith teams. Faculty would help with academic advising of student athletes, would attendance of home games and be invited to team functions.
 - Coaches need to be on board with program and function of mentors.
 - Next step: (to start for next year) Lynn will present idea to coaches.
- Questions:
 - Would teams want to hand pick faculty?
 - Would a blanket letter be the best approach to getting faculty to participate?
 - Would Zimbalist serve as a liaison between faculty and athletics to get program started?
 - Would faculty be invited to the banquet serve as incentive to participate?
 - Teams should choose their top 3 faculty advisors and then approach one at a time
- Question:
 - If goal is to include faculty that is unsupportive, how do we get them to buy in?

- If a faculty member gets attached to a team, then they will talk and it will grow through word of mouth over time. In the beginning, you want supportive people on board.

12:33 Mascot

How does the lack of a physical mascot affect the way people relate to the Pioneer? How should we change the pioneer?

- SAAC has been put in charge of mascot change.
 - Goal: by the end of the year have a new mascot
 - Campus-wide Survey
 - SACC make final vote
- Questions:
 - Is the whole mascot being changed or are we deciding on a physical representation of the pioneer? (Tay)
 - Does the administration want a new mascot? (Kate)
 - Who do we talk to before we begin this process?
- Trudy's group will take control of the Mascot issue.

Note: *Before Smith has the pioneer mascot, they were the Unicorns!*

- Schools adopting modern mascots are moving away from mascots that embody a physical form and are choosing 'concepts' (ex. The Force, Blue, Big Green).

12: 43 Break into Sub-committees