

College Council on Community Policy

Meeting Minutes

February 2, 2018

Members Present: Jennifer Blackburn, Karla Borecky, Susan Dawley, Brent Durbin, Susan Etheredge, Jessica Feinberg, Katya Garcia-Israel, Jonathan Gosnell, Andrea Hutter, Michael Ireland, Elisa Lanzi, Kristina Mereigh, Matthew Motyka, Premila Nair, Francisco Ortiz, Mariana Rivera, Karen Sise, Stacey Steinbach, Rosalie Toupin

The meeting began at 12:10.

1 - Student Wellness – Presentation and discussion lead by Kristina Mereigh, Associate Director Health Services.

- Kristina described her work engaging students across campus.
- The Smith College Wellness Services Office integrates innovative wellness initiatives into students' academic, residential and extracurricular activities.
- Health Education - using a peer to peer system of Community Health Organizers including expanding access to wellness to all students.
- Body Positive – support groups and Outside Presenters
- Feeding the Whole You cooking program for students
- Introduction to the gym (for students who are uncomfortable in gym environment)
- Tobacco cessation support and education
- Alcohol and drug education
- In addition to programs on campus Kristina and students are exploring possibility of working with area high school and middle schools that would benefit both those students and the Smith Health Educators.

2 – Student Government – Presentation and discussion lead by Rosalie Toupin, SGA Secretary

The purpose of the Student Government Association (SGA) is to listen to the student body, to create and maintain relations between the student body and the greater Smith community, and to advocate for student needs.

- The SGA at Smith is fully student run and has over 70 members. The SGA is made up of a Cabinet that is the leadership of the group which meets on a weekly basis, and the Senate which includes a larger group of students.
- The SGA has a number of Committees that are working on specific topics that have been identified as important to the student body.
- Minutes from SGA meetings are generally available on the web for students to review.
- The SGA met with the Smith Board of Trustees last semester and will do so again this winter to share student concerns and ideas.
- The Smith SGA also participates in a meeting with SGAs from the Seven Sister Colleges in order to share and learn from each other. This year the focus was on Social Justice and Equity and the movement to Divest endowments.

- The SGA also manages funds that are available to Chartered Student Organizations.
- The SGA maintains a robust webpage where more details and contact information can be found:
<https://www.smith.edu/sga/index.php>

3 – Brief Library Update – Elisa Lanzi, Director of Digital Strategies and Services (Library)

- Changes continue! Certainly visible while walking on campus. Some construction (as opposed to de-construction) should begin soon. The construction is continuing on track as planned to be complete by the fall of 2020.
- Feedback has been generally positive from library patrons about the interim process to secure library materials. Most materials are available for pick up within 24 hours of the request – many on the same day.
- The Library recently received a Grant from the Mellon Foundation to develop a collaborative, college-wide strategy to promote preservation, discovery and use of campus cultural collections.
- Library administrators do want to know “how are we doing?”

The meeting ended at 1:00

Next meeting March 2, 2018