Present: Augusta Gronquist, Ellen Kim, Najwa Alsheikh, Meghna Purkayastha, Tamra Bates, Frances Black, Idia Irele, Elizabeth Yun, Prina Patel, Corynn Stoltenberg Catherine Aguilar, Shreeya Rajanarayana, Nikita Bhargava

Tardy:

Regrets: Ellina Nektalova, Leslie Hillsamer, Dawn Ginnetti, Diana Li, Nahee Kwak

I. Call to order
   A. Augusta Gronquist calls the meeting to order at 7:03PM

II. Minutes
   A. Stand as they are

III. Committee updates
   A. Catherine Aguilar-presented SGA restructuring. Senate seemed on board and understood the logistical amendments to the current structure. Class presidents came and presented their positions
   B. Ellen Kim-No updates
   C. Shreeya Rajanarayana- Voting moved online because quorum was not met
   D. Najwa Alsheikh- Planning for Earth Week, cabinet members were on Divestment panel or attended. The event went well, there were over 100 people there
   E. Corynn- Najwa and Gussie came to Ada class cabinet to present the restructuring
   F. Elizabeth Yun-NO updates
   G. Prina Patel- planning junior and first year spa night on April 19th.
   H. Frances Black- working with the Global Studies Center to plan a workshop for going abroad. The committee of academic planning will be showing students where they see staffing going. They will be showing students where the college is headed.
I. Idia Irele- new training for SJE reps was held, no other updates

J. Augusta Gronquist- asking people for feedback regarding the restructuring. So far have only received one response from Senate, Cabinet, HPA, and class cabinets. People are starting to talk about this restructure in government classes. Hoping to talk about the restructure during house tea

IV. Dean Ohotnicky: Master Plan of the College

A. Dean OHotnicky is here to talk about the Space Reduction Plan-in relation to the Parson’s issue and the eradication of the house. Here to present the timeline of events

1. Conversation started prior to Feb 2010 because facilities had hired a consultant, Bruner Cott from Boston. They were asked to come in and do an overview of space to see how efficiently Smith College was using its space.

2. Fall of 2009- Smith college experienced budgeting issues because the housing market was crashing. 20 million dollar reduction was needed. 5% of Smith College (150,000 sq feet) needed to be reduced

3. The plan focused on reducing buildings on the perimeter of campus. The long term planning process intended to focus on what kind of housing does Smith have, and what kind of housing does Smith need?
   a) Students wanted more Freedman type housing options on campus
   b) Board of Trustees reviewed and approved Space reduction plan
      (1) Close Dawes, Bedford Terrace, and Parson/Parsons annex, Gables, Freedmans
      (2) Hoped to close smaller houses first, and close Parsons last so that it would be closed in May 2014
   c) Lots of change happened at Smith during this time
      (1) 97% retention rate at Smith now
      (2) reduced size of Ada class
      (3) accepted more international students
      (4) more accepted students for the class of 2017
   d) Now there was a significant larger population at Smith, so space reduction would be more difficult

4. Rented Gaywith to accommodate more students
a) This presented a challenge for house community
b) far from campus

5. Each year the administration has attempted to have conversations with the house leaderships of those houses that would be phased out.
   a) How is the house community going to be archived?
   b) It is a sad thing to see a house be broken down
   c) How can we maintain the history of these spaces?

B. Questions

1. Ada housing at Bedford Terrace. Wouldn't the property there be more lucrative?
   a) Because it is a sellable place
   b) And it B Terrace lies on the complete perimeter of campus

2. What happens to 10% of Ada's who will not get housing?
   a) Expand Paradise apartments that will replace the Health center
   b) around August 15th, these spaces will be opened
   c) Transitioning two places on Green street (44 and 54)
      (1) 54 has been used for commuting students in a less organized way
      (2) 44 has been temp undergrad place, but now undergrad numbers are being lowered
      (3) Hoping to make these two houses permanent

3. Will Parson's students be able to stay in their houses until graduation?
   a) NO
   b) They will be given some space in a special lottery

4. The housing contract stating that students are allowed to stay in their house until graduation in case a house receives a notification that they will get shut down
   a) the Dean assures cabinet that the website will be update

5. What conversations have been had with the house leadership of these houses
   a) they are meeting with the Dean

6. Are there any other intentional efforts for those people that perhaps don't feel comfortable with a particular house community that they are now
being forced to choose
  a) There are AMS students who live in Cutter and Ziskind. They may be moved to Parsons just because it is in the process of being phased out
7. When will these houses be torn down? what will happen to the housing. What will happen to the Freidman appartments?
  a) Perhaps some artwork?

V. BOTs discussion
A. Nahee Kwak suggested that other students not a part of cabinet be involved with the Board of Trustees discussion
  1. Dean OHotnicky rejected the idea
  2. Planning to ask other avenues that may listen to this suggestion
  3. Cabinet members seem agreeable to ask other members to come to the Trustees meeting
     a) There are already so many people on cabinet
     b) perhaps initiate an open forum in Senate so that topic ideas can be shared with the cabinet

B. Discussion to talk to Kathy about what the requirements are in choosing a commencement speaker
  1. Are there senior suggestions, yes-but how do they pick these people
  2. There has been no person of color speaker in 12 years at Smith, what kind of message does that send?
  3. How can we encourage student participation
  4. Should we make a formal presentation?
     a) Yes, causes for a more organized structure
  5. Create a school survey-similar to MoHo that would give feedback from students about events that have happened, get empirical data

C. Inspired to propose to change the structure of the meetings with the Board of Trustees(BOT) in general
  1. Instead of a fall meeting, perhaps initiate a fireside chat that could be opened up to the students. Fireside chat or reception could make the BOT more accessible. Gives cabinet pressure to come up with flaws about Smith, and what we can change
2. Would BOT even do it? How will this be organized?

D. Final two topics
   a) Commencement speaker and its problems, and the way that its chosen
   b) Adjusting the set up of BOT meetings are held
   c) Divestment may be addressed in the Fall
      (1) BOT may not be the best board to bring this topic up

D. As a group, how should we come up with a plan to prepare for the meeting
   1. Create an outline on Google Docs
   2. Commencement
      a) Frances Black, Nahee Kwak, Catherine Aguilar
   3. BOT
      a) Meghna Purkayastha, Prina Patel, Elizabeth Yun

VI. Tamra Bates reminds cabinet that they are not allowed access to SGA office when the CC top floor is closed

VII. Break

VIII. Restructure: Revisited
   A. Summary of last nights meeting
      1. Goal for the restructure was to make the structure less top down
      2. A new “Administrative Committee” is to set the agenda for the senate. Rather than being at the top of the chain, the Administrative Committee will be a subcommittee of the Senate. It will be comprise of the same people as the E-board, but the SGA Pres. will chair Senate, and the VP of Governance will chair the Admin Committee, act as Parliamentarian, and be a non-voting member of both Senate and the Admin Committee. The SGA Pres will have voting power in The Admin Committee.
      3. -Honor Board and Judicial Board will meet separately with the SGA pres, and will not be a part of Senate

   B. Having senators look at the structure and saying yes means that it is being approved for the student body to see
   C. Elections and Appointments will write this ballot and keep the wording impartial so that the vote is not swayed
D. Open up a campus wide discussion
E. include the fact that there are 35 positions that are being decreased from the SGA
F. Augusta Gronquist will be sending an on campus Email that provides this link so it gives the opportunity for the student body to respond
G. Official vote: Frances Black moves for a comment period until Tuesday so that this can be presented to Senate, then the student body.

   Motion passes 8-3-0

IX. Adjournment

Announcements:
-BOT meeting is on Friday, March 7th from 4:45-5:45 pm