SGA Cabinet Meeting Minutes
February 28, 2013
Campus Center, Room 204
7:00 PM – 9:00 PM

Present: Catherine Aguilar, Dahna Black, Kenzi Green, Elis Lee, Molly Lonigan, Liz Rich, Mac Hamilton, Greta Stacy, Elizabeth Thompson, Kristen Miao, Ana Chkhikvadze, Sabrina Camboulives, Jana Burke

Tardy: Taylore Shaw

Regrets: Gloria Lee, Meghna Purkayastha, Sarah Hussain

Call to Order: 7:00 PM

I. Dean Ohotnicky
   a. Has been active with the Student Affairs Department for 6 years
   b. Main job is to help students move through Smith successfully and graduate with a degree
   c. Foreign Affairs major and Economics minor; attended a small liberal arts college; became an Honor’s Board Manager
   d. In the last six and a half years, most Smith houses have gotten a significant renovations
      i. Have a strong team to help continue to make Smith houses one of the hallmarks of Smith
   e. In the process of a full Cutter and Ziskind renovation for its rooms, dining hall, and windows.
   f. This renovation will take two years.
      i. It’s critical to get students to be able to move into housing starting August 15 so that Smith would not have to rent rooms from Clark School
   g. Reduction plan has led to the stabilization of undergraduate and Ada class, however, housing needs have increased
   h. Will close Parsons and Parsons Annex in June 2015
      i. Hope to build the Freedman Complex to house at least 84 beds; will be placed by Paradise Pond
   j. As more students apply to Smith, Smith will get more selective in the acceptance process rather than building more available housing
   k. Need to have a conversation held regarding Ada housing needs; Becky Shaw will chair this conversation group—what kind of things do we need to look at to make Ada housing a good experience and how can we support Adas that reside on Smith?
      i. Proposal: Have this group, two student representatives, and a faculty member discuss Ada housing needs
   l. Anyone who is interested in attending the Lighting Walk or has feedback, please contact Dean Ohotnicky
      i. The walk takes about two hours
ii. Goal is to be adequately lit

II. Minutes
   a. Liz Thompson moves to pass the minutes
      i. Liz Rich seconds the motion
      ii. 9-0-4

III. Committee and Initiative Updates
   a. Catherine Aguilar, SGA Secretary
      i. Attended the OpEd Project at Mount Holyoke, February 15 from 12-5 PM
         1. 5 core questions in writing an OpEd
         2. Good ideas take a long time to develop; develop faster when you share your ideas with others
         3. Hunches: a feeling or guess based on intuition
         4. Stating one’s personal experience is crucial to enhancing one’s credentials
         5. Basic bone structure of an opEd: LEDE-->News hook-->Evidence-->Acknowledgement/Dismissal--> Conclusion
         6. For those who attended the OpEd Project, make sure to fill out the emailed survey from Ally
   b. Greta Stacy, Elections and Appointments Chair
      i. Special elections are over; new SGA Treasurer, Class of 2014 Treasurer and Vice President elected
      ii. Need to decide how to proceed with open Class of 2014 Secretary position
      iii. Appointed Jen Pekol to the Curriculum Committee
      iv. Will conduct interviews this Saturday for the Library Advisory Committee; there are 28 applicants
      v. Spring Elections Timeline:
         Registration: March 25 - April 5
         Work and Life Workshop: April 2
         Mandatory Meetings: April 8 and 10
         Budgets: April 15 noon
         Campaigning: April 16-21
         Voting: April 22-26
         Announcement: April 26 evening
      vi. If you need to do appointments for the 2013-2014 year, please email Greta Stacy your tentative timeline
      vii. Senate presentations are going well. They had good discussions about communication this week
   c. Liz Rich, Curriculum Committee Chair
      i. Presented the criteria for designating social justice courses at the faculty meeting, working now to come up with a plan for moving forward
ii. Planning an event with the SCC to update students on what has been happening with the social justice proposals, where we are and where we need to go

iii. Appointed Jenn Pekol to the SCC after considering over 30 applicants for the open position

iv. Met last week with Dean Walters, Pamela Nolan Young, Kevin Shea, and Jess Bacal about the student faculty dialogues, moving forward with those plans

v. Presented holding student faculty dialogues in houses in addition to a central space on campus to HPA last night, great reception from them; need to figure out how to engage the co-ops and Ada houses that aren’t represented at HPA

vi. Met with Provost Schuster today, discussed student faculty dialogues and the criteria plan moving forward

vii. CAP Policy met on Tuesday, mostly discussed the social justice course inventory plan going forward and debriefed the faculty meeting, but also agreed on calendar dates for the next 3 academic years

viii. Meeting next week with students involved with undocumented student related work to see how the Curriculum Committee might be able to help them out

d. Kristen Miao, Judicial Board Chair
   i. Community Judicial Board training will take place on March 13, 6.30 - 8.30 PM
   ii. Community JB members include Fletcher Blanchard, Daphne Lamothe, Danielle Ramdath, Jennifer Walters, Becky Shaw, and Lauren Duncan (starting in Fall 2013) in addition to the normal student JB members

e. Sabrina Camboulives, Sustainability Chair
   i. Introducing Majora Carter on Saturday, March 2 for Environmental Justice Teach-In
   ii. Brainstorming new building policies for Smith College by studying other university building policies

f. Taylore Shaw, Class of 2014 President
   i. New Cabinet members: Ifetayo Harvey (VP) and Jisoo Kim (treasurer)
   ii. First (Sunday) Cabinet brunch and meeting 12-2 PM

g. Elizabeth Thompson, House Presidents Association Chair
   i. Spirit Week was supremely successful! Winners were: Washburn, Morrow, and Cutter
   ii. The Hunt is moving along! Reminder, The Hunt will be in the last week of March! Get Ready.
   iii. Getting ready for house elections

h. Jana Burke, Ada Co-Pres
   i. Ada Monologues - 4/13/13 at 7:00 PM
   ii. Ada Wine and Cheese, March 5th 4-6
   iii. Planning Ada Awareness campaign

i. Kenzi Green, SGA Vice President
   i. Dean Mahoney discussed her role on campus, convocation, development, and
other student concerns
ii. SKDC (Smith KPop Dance Crew) presented charter
iii. Squidditch came to discuss problems with gender roles in IQA and encouraged Senators to sign a petition
j. Mac Hamilton, Diversity Committee Chair
i. Set working groups for the semester
   1. Student Demands
   2. House Cohesion
   3. Organization Support
   4. Social Justice Training
   5. Event Planning
   6. Support Systems
   7. Microaggressions
ii. Working to set meeting times for working groups for next week
iii. Working on a Social Justice Month for April
   1. Looking for orgs to work with us on co-sponsoring events for this--let me know if you know of any that would like to participate
iv. Letter to President-Elect McCartney finished; will send next week
v. Next Diversity Committee meeting will be Saturday, March 9 at 3 PM

IV. Discussion & Leadership Awards
   a. Runs through the Office of Engagement
   b. Sarah McGuire sent an informational email regarding nominations
   c. Might want to reconsider the amount recipients get: split evenly amongst 10 awards or just have the sum of money go to 2 awards
   d. Jana motions to give the 2 top prizes $600 each and split the remaining money as $100 amongst the rest of the recipients
      i. Elizabeth Thompson seconds the motion
      ii. 13-0-1

V. Board of Trustees Meeting
   a. Suggested topics:
      i. Social justice and academics (Liz Rich - Liz Thompson presenting)
         1. Will mention the importance of having activists come to campus to speak to students
      ii. Presentation/Report on Orgs/Conference funding (Ana & Elis)
      iii. Presentation on Political Participation on campus - re: Sandra Funke (Kenzi)
      iv. Life after Smith (alumnae mentorship program? Mac & Elis project)

VI. Update on Conference Funding
   a. Need to discuss what a conference is for us
b. If we have quorum, leave for budget requests if we are discussing your conference funding

VII. Budget Requests

Adjournment: 9:00 PM