Finance Committee Minutes

Thursday, March 5th, 2015
6:30pm to 6:58pm

Present: Laura Lubben, Greta Stacy, Vy Nguyen, Samantha Page

Tardy:

Regrets: Aisha Amin, Jenny Jiang

Call to Order 6:30pm

Funding Requests 6:31pm

1. Student 1 requests $1965
   a. We do not know how much money we have to spend
   b. What parts can we fund?
   c. Registration + flight -- get there and get in = $755
   d. Greta moves, Vy seconds, passes 4-0-0

2. Student 2 requests $546
   a. Tabled because request does not add up
   b. Greta moves, Vy seconds, passes 4-0-0

3. Student 3 requests $614
   a. Funded over $5000 in the last 12 months
   b. Policy for spreading funds to more students -- limit funds to 2 conferences in 4 years, 1 in one year
   c. Greta moves to fund $0, Laura seconds, passes 4-0-0

4. Student 4 requests $425
   a. Fees, accommodations, gas
   b. Greta moves, Laura seconds, passes 4-0-0

5. Student 5 requests $2258 from Sawyer fund
   a. ORC only funds $200 b/c new org
   b. Greta moves to fund $2058, Laura seconds, passes 4-0-0

Adjournment 6:58pm
SGA Cabinet Minutes

Thursday, March 5th, 2015
7:00pm to 7:55pm

Present: Greta Stacy, Laura Lubben, Vy Nguyen, Marianna Januario, Julia Collins, Samantha Page, Yoo Eun Kim, Andrea Lahlum, Molly Grover, Nancy Chen, Colgan Powell, Lindsay Roth, Avery Lussier

Tardy: Charlye Barfield

Regrets: Aisha Amin, Milanes Morejon, Jenny Jiang

Call to Order 7:00pm

Approve Minutes 7:01pm

Laura moves to approve the minutes, Colgan seconds, passes 11-0-1

Committee Updates 7:03pm

Greta: How can we help Marianna with publicity for elections?
  ● Elections registration will be extended for open positions, through next week
  ● Banner in CC by ENA
  ● Post on Facebooks to have people run
  ● Email Aisha to get on Facebook
  ● Talk people up - personal connections
  ● Encourage

Greta: How can we help Kathy with her call for student proposal for strategic planning?
  ● 1000 character proposals - super short
  ● Hot chocolate event -- work on issues in groups/teams
  ● Have administrators come to talk about what they want/need -- workshopping event?
  ● Maybe reach out to senators/Adas -- students already thinking about these things
  ● Send email to student body/org presidents -- facilitate discussion on specific issues, resend original email with forward

Colgan: 5 college SGA dinner
  ● Looking at seating arrangements for Davis
  ● Schedule of events: music, socializing
  ● 5-7 PM

Colgan wants more money for a speaker during Earth Week -- apply to Sawyer Fund first, and in general
Andrea going to Senate to talk about JB positions

Marianna -- changing bylaws to prevent people using privilege of office to campaign for next office
   Also, constitution change ballot goes out on Monday

Prepare for BOT Closed Meeting 7:23pm

● Information on SSAS funding currently available on campus
● At Admissions Conference Room -- Small space
● Tables in circles -- split into smaller groups to talk after presentation--give students more of a chance to speak with more trustees
● We can talk about what we know -- student experiences
● Adding 5 College org access + stipends for student teaching
● Not proposing solutions - bring a need to the attention of the trustees; Smith is growing and these resources can’t meet the growing need
● Think about how inclusive our financial aid packets are -- including these grants in financial aid?
   ○ Tedious process to go through every semester

Prepare for BOT Open Meeting 7:46pm

● Probably going on until 9:30 or 9:45
● 9-10 trustees, 10 tables set up with table topic tents
● 1 trustee and cabinet member (at least) at every table
● Help students and trustees communicate with each other - we have our own meeting, let this be a time for students to talk, aid in communication
● Worried about respect at discourse tonight -- our role is to bridge the gap, trusted by both parties involved
   ○ I hope that these conversations involve listening and understanding the position of the other person -- share experiences about Smith
   ○ Keeping an open mind and giving others benefit of the doubt when talking about really difficult issues

Adjournment 7:58pm

Committee Updates:

Greta Stacy:
-- How can we help Marianna with publicity for elections?
-- How can we help advertise the President's call for proposals?
-- I met with Donna Lisker this week and we discussed the BOT meetings.
-- I went and looked at the meeting space for tomorrow with Audrey Smith. It is very small... the plan will be to start with the chairs all in a circle and then move quickly into small groups for conversations after opening remarks.

-- I've been working back and forth with Mona this week about the open BOT meeting tonight. When we get into the room I need you guys to help facilitate conversations at different tables. It's important that we are using this time to assist students in communicating effectively with the Board members who attend.

**Sam Page:**
The Class of 2017 will host a Talent Showcase in late-March. Sophomores should sign up to perform!

Also, the Classes of 2016 & 2017 are planning an event about studying abroad, with juniors sharing what they learned with sophomores going away next year. It will likely be on Thursday, April 9 from 4:30-5:30.

**Yoo Eun Kim:**
The Class of 2016 is planning numerous events for April. As mentioned above, the Class of 2016 and 2017 Cabinets hope to hold a Study Abroad panel/group discussion event on April 9th at Neilson Browsing Room from 4:30 - 5:30 PM. The Junior Class Cabinet will invite Juniors who want to share their Study Abroad experiences. Moreover, the Junior Class is planning a mid-late April S'mores event and a Milk & Cookies event at the Neilson Browsing Room from 8:00 - 9:30 PM on April 1st. The month of April will be busy, but the Junior Cabinet hopes to end the school year with a bang!

**Lindsay Roth:**
HPA met on Tuesday and we are working on updating our mission statement and thinking about the job of HPA (including thinking about its changing role with the changes to the SGA). Also we are currently working with SJE and Disability Alliance to do programming for Autism Acceptance Month in April. Lastly, we are tabling in the CC right next to the CC cafe for the organization No More which is involved in preventing sexual assault and violence. We will be tabling Wednesday, Thursday and Friday of next week from 11:30-1pm.

**Nancy Chen:**
SJE discussed collaborating with HPA and Disability Alliance and Office of Disability Services for Autism Acceptance Month in April. Two reps will join the working group for this collaboration. The first year survey is currently in the works and will be finalized sometime after Spring Break. We also talked briefly about training for the Committee in the upcoming Fall.

**Andrea Lahlum:**
Judicial Board applications for new members and for chair/vice-chair for the 2015-2016 academic year are live. They are due Friday, March 13th. Can I advertise at Senate next Tuesday? Also, the Code of Conduct review team is meeting next Wednesday, March 11th.

Molly Grover:
The Adas hosted a Wine and Cheese event for professors this week and we had a great turnout with about 75 people total. Work on the Ada Monologues in ongoing-- one noteworthy thing is that I’ll be MCing the show! The 5 College Non-Traditional Student group is gaining momentum. We met with Kevin of 5 College Inc and got suggestions on how to proceed. The Ada Cabinet is putting the final touches on a proposal for updates to the Ada Lounge-- hopefully we’ll bring that next week. Work on an Ada Program 40th Anniversary commemorative poster continues. The Adas are also looking forward to meeting with Trustee Paula Einaudi today to discuss our experiences at Smith.

Laura Lubben:
The ORC is working on bylaw changes and the funding policies to bring before senate by the end of this semester. Bylaw changes will include an outline of all of the funds, their purposes and guidelines for next years’ combined committee.

Colgan Powell:
Sustainability Committee is having a dinner on Tuesday, March 10th from 6-7 in Duckett Dining A & B. This is not a required event, but do encourage your friends who have interests in sustainability or are part of one of the sustainability organizations to attend. There will be dessert from La Fiorentina. There will also be cool squirrel stickers!!! The committee wants to discuss logistics for the SGA 5 College Dinner and request for more funding to be put towards the budget.

Marianna Januario:
Elections will close tomorrow at 4:30. Depending on the spots open, they might reopen for another week. However, I will only be reopening unfilled positions. Elections Extravaganza may not be happening this year as we only have one person currently registered for SGA president. Sam: there is only one person registered for the Class of 2017 cabinet so if you could talk to your current cabinet about who might run for next year.
I am also working on adding a section to the bylaws that inhibits candidates who currently have seats on orgs or the SGA from using that power to help promote their campaigns. Campaigning is something that should be done completely independent of that.

Vy:
Senate passed the Pre-Law Society Charter changes and the B/E Charter. Smith College Marine Sciences and MENA came in to present their charters and will be voted on next week. The Senate Dis/ability committee brought to the floor during open forum the possibility of Senate using its fund to co-sponsor a poet for a Dis/ability event in April. We are waiting to see how much funding the receive first from other sources.