SGA Cabinet Minutes
14 October 2010
CC 204 5:00 – 7:00 PM


Members Tardy: Janice Estrada, Sarah Dunn

Regrets: Iris González, Roth Empire, Mohini Banerjee

I. Call to Order: 5:03 PM
II. Minutes from last meeting pass; vote is 10-0-0
III. Board of Trustees Presentation
   a. Introduction – Ali Zipparo
      i. New sustainability chair, co-sponsored vigil for victims of LGBT harassment, co-sponsored Float the Vote, Danielle Brian from Project on Governmental Oversight at first Senate meeting, Walkarounds
      ii. What we have planned: Seven Sisters Conference, Fireside Chats, ride to polls, etc.
      iii. Mission Statement of 2010-2011 Student Government Association
   b. Ada Comstock Program – Sarah Dunn
      i. Concern of students (both traditional and non-traditional) on campus about consolidation of Ada Comstock Scholars program
      ii. Benefits of Ada Comstock Scholars program
   c. Accessibility – Elizabeth O’Connor Johnson
      i. Physical access
      ii. Materials and technology to enable students to study
         1. Visual impairment
         2. Non-visual impairment
      iii. Visible barriers, especially in older buildings and sidewalks
      iv. Many houses not accessible fully for visitors
   d. Transparency – Theo Retos
      i. Understand gravity of decisions
      ii. Not asking to be involved all of decision-making processes at all times
      iii. Not asking for full disclosure to whole student body at all times
      iv. Cabinet is appointed/elected republican body of smith
      v. Understand more about Smith than most students
      vi. Take positions seriously
      vii. Handle important sensitive issues all the time
         1. Kat is chair of the Academic Honor Board; outcome affects students’ long term goals in life
2. Angela is chair of Organization Resources Committee and manages ~$500,000 budget
3. Theo is chair of Judicial Board which deals with sensitive issues and confidentiality
   viii. We can be useful to Board of Trustees and Smith administration
e. Conclusion – Sabine Jean
   i. Open the floor for questions
   ii. If you had the opportunity to talk to students right now, what would you say?
IV. Marlowe Dieckmann and Katie Clark
   a. Concerns about tenure and loss of professors
      i. Professors who don’t publish work don’t get tenure
      ii. Curriculum Committee is trying to educate students about this
   b. Adas
      i. Fewer Adas = fewer Pell grants
      ii. Board sees Ada program as essential to mission of college
   c. Transparency of Board of Trustees and what they do
      i. Finances – Advisory Committee on Resource Allocation (Sabine sits on)
      ii. Big picture things
      iii. Final decisions (housing, Adas, etc) voted on by Board
      iv. Board doesn’t draft plans
      v. Fiscal responsibility
d. Global Engagement
   i. Smith Design for Learning
   ii. Need it to be competitive as a school
   iii. Global includes domestic which is why it’s not called international
e. Advice
   i. Don’t stress out too much
   ii. Plan a lot
   iii. Ensure our vision is established, especially before next semester so we can accomplish what we want this year
   iv. Mini-retreat or day get together at some point before beginning of second semester to assess what we’ve done and what we still need to do
   v. Collaborate
V. Announcements
   a. Blog
      i. Send your info to Mac/Angela
   b. Celebrating the Spectrum: LGBTQ Awareness Week
VI. Adjournment 6:54 PM