SGA Cabinet Agenda
Thursday, October 17, 2013
Campus Center 204
7:00pm- 8:43pm

Present: Augusta Gronquist, Catherine Aguilar, Meghna Purkayastha, Elizabeth Yun, Frances Black, Ellina Nektalova, Shreeya Rajanarayanan, Jennifer Pekol, Ellen Kim, Nahee Kwak, Ceci Gonzalez, Prina Patel, Dawn Ginnetti, Diana Li, Najwa Alsheikh, Leslie Hillsamer

Tardy: None

Regrets: Nancy Chen

Call to order: 7:00PM

I. Minutes
   A. Frances Black moves to pass the minutes, Ellina Nektalova seconds the motion, motion passes 12-0-3

II. Welcome to our newest members
    A. Najwa Alsheikh- Sustainability Chair
    B. Diana Li-Class of 2017 President

III. Introductions

IV. Cabinet conduct
    A. Absences (Two a semester, and you are obligated to email cabinet members with committee updates)
    B. Respect- raise hands, don’t talk over anybody, computers away, silence your phones, be on time
    C. Read over materials before the meeting-funding, minutes
        1. Leaving the room with conflict of interest for funding requests or if a stressful situation has arisen
    D. Support cabinet members

V. Cabinet contracts
    A. New contracts signed

VI. Funding requests
A. Gussie Gronquist and Elizabeth Yun explained the funding request rules/procedure to the newly elected cabinet members

B. Regarding a specific funding request—Organization A asked for a certain amount of money, but they have been turned down because the money that they have asked for exceeds the maximum amount provided by SGA/ORC
   1. Frances Black moves to fund organization A $0, Dawn Ginnetti seconds the motion, motion passes 13-0-2

VII. Board of Trustees discussion
     A. Overview of Meeting
        1. Lunch meeting in Mary Maples Dunn 12-1pm tomorrow (in Pierce Hall)
        2. Dress codes: business casual, wear nametags
        3. Make sure you mix yourselves amongst the Board of Trustee members
        4. Tomorrow’s Board of Trustees will represent the Committee of Campus Life (a smaller group of the Board of Trustees)
        5. This meeting will be an “informal” formal meeting
           a) No agenda
     B. Overview of each topic
        1. Praxis/Global funding
        2. Alumni Association
        3. Campaign
     C. Point people for each topic assignment
        1. Praxis/Global funding— Prina Patel, Ellina Nektalova, Frances Black, Meghna Purkayastha
        3. Campaign— Board of Trustees topic
     D. Key talking points for each topic
        1. Praxis/Lazarus Center?Global Engagement
           a) Relocating funding for students that do not use Praxis to students that may have more of a need for it
           b) Should not be applying local rates for praxis funding for international students. International students are penalized and
domestic students do not.

c) Struggles with funding for food and property rent
   (1) Amount given doesn’t seem enough
   (2) Gussie Gronquist responds by mentioning that the Praxis budget has increased slightly already ($2200 to $2400), and increasing it even more may be a problem for the Praxis budget. We must think of alternative ways as to where the Praxis internship will be held.

d) The internship search process
   (1) Was it difficult? Did you apply for funding after? Was it easy to find an internship? Was the internship found through the Lazarus Center?
   (2) Lazarus Center-Not helpful because the center did not check up on individual internships. It would be easy to get away with not doing work, and receiving money to move abroad. There should be a better way in documenting the internship work that shows the growth of the student during that time

2. Alumni Association
   a) Ada network success-Where are Ada alumni, and what have they been doing with life after Smith?
   b) Difficult to use the Alumni Directory as a traditional student
      (1) Website is not updated and there is no easily available contact information
      (2) Emails have been known to bounce back frequently
   c) Alumni Mentor Program
      (1) Students who are interested in alumni or medalists should be able to access the network of alumni
      (2) Alumni should be available to take on a mentee
      (3) There should be a database that already exists—but can we try to connect alumni to subject departments (ie East Asian Studies)
      (4) There is a core group of alumni that already exist who are
affiliated with the Admissions office—they seem like a good resource

(5) Organizing events for Seniors and Alumni—networking

(6) Alumni Association should be more accessible—seems to be a cloud of mystery. Don’t know the process of how to connect with an Alumni

(7) Alumni should not be connected with the Lazarus Center

(a) Therefore there seems to be a need for a formalized way to connect the Alumni and student body

(b) Student Ambassador Program in the works—a part of the senior class. The student would be the ambassador for the entire year and meet the alumni house and travel with the alumnee. The program is being head by Jennifer (?)

(i) Cost is an issue

(ii) Could Alumnae be connected with a student when a certain conference is held?

(8) Alumni could be connected by state/country—have that option on the website

(a) The problem is that some states have low participation. We should work on expanding the network. This would help prospective students as well

VIII. C-100 discussion - Leslie Hillsamer

A. C100 Lean in Campaign—supports women leadership, support the campaign through media (photos) that would show Smith is an active member

B. There is not a linear approach—this can happen at all different points in life

C. Call Zach and he is very interested in Smith students to be a part of this

D. Conference calling—brings in real life connection of leaders around the world

E. Who is interested, is cabinet interested in being a part of this?

1. We should organize a group of students at Smith to discuss these
questions/issues

2. Does an organization have to be chartered for this purpose

F. This campaign is big in the 5 College area—the campaign is all the more pertinent

G. Commitment involvement
   1. Yes/no?
   2. We could reserve a space in a classroom so that a group of people can listen in the academic conference call and come up with a group formed list of questions
   3. Leslie Hillsamer has agreed to be the Smith representative

H. Frances Black brings up the issue that the campaign is led by and for a specific group of people that does not acknowledge a huge group of women that may not represent women from all backgrounds/class. This campaign is only looking at “elite” institutions—(controversial). Why wasn’t this campaign opened to community colleges?
   1. Should the Smith College SGA Cabinet make a stamp on this campaign?
   2. However this provides great access to a resource and opportunity for Smith students

I. So far only Smith SGA Cabinet has been contacted to be involved with the campaign. People are unaware where this campaign email came from. Is Smith already directly involved with this?

J. We should contact the campaign committee with these concerns and wait to see a response
   1. “Elite” program, etc.

K. Conclusion—No stamp from the Smith SGA Cabinet, but green light for Leslie Hillsamer to take on the campaign as a Smith student to be apart of the Steering Committee

IX. Seven Sisters - Meghna

   A. Ellina Nektalova, Ellen Kim, Leslie Hillsamer, Prina Patel, Ceci Gonzalez, Meghna Purkayastha, Gussie Gronquist, Shreeya Rajanarayanan, Diana Li, (plus two senators) have so far confirmed

   B. Questions for Senate Application—Will hold elections in Senate
      1. Why do you want to go to this conference?
2. What will you bring back to Senate/Smith College?

X. Updates/Board of Trustees visit

A. Jennifer Pekol- This week an Ada Vice President was elected for the Ada Class Cabinet. Good feedback from the Student Demands list

B. Dawn Ginnetti- Had a good conversation with Tamra Bates

C. Shreeya Rajanarayanan- Reviewed funding requests and Dawn Ginnetti is coming to next week’s meeting. Date has been set for budget hearings circa November 15

D. Nahee Kwak-Newly elected cabinet information is unknown. Senior stools have been finalized-working in collaboration with Catherine Aguilar. Trying to get ORC to fund the stools

E. Ellina Nektalova- New secretary elected for Honor Board

F. Elizabeth Yun- Quiet week for the treasurer

G. Ellen Kim- T-shirt contest is coming to an end! Beginning to plan a next event-panel discussion regarding advice from other class years

H. Leslie Hillsamer- Elections are over! SGA election-482 people voted from the entire student body. Overall from all classes, low numbers for voters. Not sure why this disconnect existed. Everyone should join EnA on the Social Network

I. Frances Black-Talked about Board of Trustees meeting. Meeting with the provost on Monday. Presentation with the diversity planning meeting went well

J. Prina Patel-Full cabinet has been elected finally! Working on a resume building event. Still working on a bonfire-hoping to collaborate with the first year class

K. Ceci Gonzalez-HPA didn’t meet this week due to fall break. Spirit week is going well.

L. Catherine Aguilar- Senate did not meet this Tuesday because of fall break. Senate shirts were ordered but Custom Ink did not do a complete job. Invited Anna Vargas to come to Senate to discuss speaking up and sharing opinions-and why it is important. President McCartney is coming to Senate November 5.

M. Diana Li-Excited to come to meet with her new cabinet! Hoping to meet with Meghna to discuss new roles.

N. Meghna Purkayastha- organized Seven Sisters Conference

O. Gussie Gronquist-

1. Student Party tomorrow! Cabinet members-Show up for your shifts! Invite
your committee to sign up for shifts. Party tomorrow from 8-12pm.
Inauguration on Saturday from 3-5pm and a reception after. Inauguration themed cookies!

2. The student diversity group met with Dean Mahoney. Brought up some issues regarding the fact that SGA does not get any training during orientation. We should be equipped to talk/address certain issues on campus. Also discussed student demands.

3. Reminder meet at 11:45am SGA office

XI. Adjournment
   A. Frances Black moves to adjourn the meeting at 8:43pm