Present: Sheila Kim, Nahee Kwak, Adriana Chalas, Catherine Aguilar, Mackenzie Green, Jeanju Choi, Mohini Banerjee, Cait Kirby, Eve Hunter, Raquel Paulino, Caitlin Jordan, Briana Parker

Tardy: Catherine Leung, Pauline Musa, Ali Zipparo, Jessica Kaplan

Regrets: Elis Lee

Call to Order: 7:00 PM

I. Provost Marilyn Schuster
   A. Biography
      i. Came to Smith College in 1971
      ii. Taught in the French Department
      iii. Started the Study of Women and Gender Department
          a) Celebrating its 30-year anniversary next year
      iv. Has been Provost since Fall 2009
          a) Works on hiring faculty
          b) Places focus on curricular development, interdisciplinary studies and global education
             • Concentrations
             • Global Engagement Seminars- Costa Rica, Jerusalem, Greece
             • Incorporating Global Engagement Seminars into courses and the curriculum
   B. History as Provost
      i. Came during the middle of budget reductions, which affected all areas of the school, except for financial aid
      ii. Faculty reduction plan
          a) Done through retirements and resignation
          b) Retirement agreements
          c) Face retirement plan – how to renew faculty, as size decreases
      iii. Curricular initiatives
          a) Solidifying budget changes
          b) Providing students who want to study languages intensively with resources to finish studies at Smith
          c) Funding language-intensive programs with preference to non-European languages
          d) Have increased that fund
   C. Concentrations
      i. 8 concentrations with 5 more being developed
      ii. Concentrations in development
           a) Community Engagement and Social Change
              • Developed from a course offered last Spring
           b) Women's Education
              • Both in the United States and internationally
              • Would focus on needs of literacy of women and education worldwide
           c) Global Financial Institutions
• Developing in collaboration with Women and Financial Independence
d) Public Policy
• In need of renewal partly because the Five-College Certificate was created
• Within Public Policy, there may be a focus on urban policy being worked on by Sam Intrator (Urban Education Program)
• Has been primarily focused on the United States, but does not have to be limited to that
• Picker Program in Washington would be incorporated

iii. Food Studies concentration has been approved
iv. Leadership has been incorporated into all of the concentrations, rather than being its own specific concentration
v. Would like interdisciplinary minors to become concentrations
   a) Contemplating it becoming Middle East Studies concentration

vi. Global Studies Center
   a) Serves as an umbrella for many concentrations
   b) Concentration of Buddhist studies and New Europe
   c) “Becoming Foreign” is a course that would help students studying abroad to understand what it means to be foreign in another culture as well as showing students what it means to be foreign in Massachusetts.
   • First half would include everybody
   • Second half would split off based on location of study

D. Curriculum Updates
i. Curricular initiatives only work when faculty initiates them
   a) Originates from the demands of students
   b) Students should let professors or Provost know of possible concentrations, like Journalism (which was not pitched)

ii. Arabic program
   a) Five full-time faculty
   b) Offered by the Five-College program
   c) Elementary Arabic is offered on all of the campuses
   d) The program has made it seamless for students to follow their course of study from campus to campus

iii. Five-College resources should be used thoughtfully for studies
   a) There is no plan to grow programs like the Picker program in Washington or Smithsonian program
   b) Global Engagement Seminars are a way to try new methods of providing studies
   c) Both Global Engagement Seminars and concentrations are used to incorporate experience and reflection, bringing together the study

E. Extracurricular Experiences
i. Internships
   a) Concentrations are a way of getting course credit for internships
   b) Internships are a part of the Global Engagement Seminar
   c) Special Studies with professors serve as a way of doing an internship and getting credit for them

ii. Praxis
   a) Stipend has been raised
   b) International Praxis is available
   c) Has been available for 15 years
F. Received a grant from the National Science Foundation
   i. Originally proposed as a Smith grant but was received as a Five-College grant
G. Declarations on Transcript
   i. Can do two majors and a concentration, or a major, minor, and concentration on a transcript
   ii. Some minors should become concentrations
   iii. Transcript means more to the student than to anyone else
H. Implementation of course critique system
   i. Student Government Association should emphasize the difference between the old quantitative system and the new qualitative system
      a) The new form will ask questions about the course and the instructor
      b) The entire evaluation will be seen by the instructor, department chair, and Tenure Committee
   ii. It will be used to evaluate the instructor and the course itself
   iii. Letters from students or alumnae that took the classes previously will be solicited on their comments of the class
I. Exercise and Sports Studies courses require a lot of work
   i. It's a one-credit course but gives an excessive amount of work
   ii. That is an issue that needs to be taken up with the instructor
II. Committee Updates
A. Catherine Aguilar – New Class of 2015 President
B. Adriana Chalas
   i. One member of committee is going abroad
C. Caitlin Jordan
   i. Needs to get merchandise organized
   ii. Doing a Trick-or-Tradding with the House Presidents
      a) Campus-wide Halloween
      b) Go to houses for candy
   iii. Still working on Ada Comstock version of Vagina Monologues
      a) Prospective date: April 20th, 2012
D. Mohini Banerjee
   i. October 20, 2011 was “I'm a Senator” Day
      a) Very successful
      b) Have buttons for future years
   ii. Talked with the Center for Community Collaboration
      a) Two members will be visiting Senate on Tuesday
      b) Will talk to Tiertza-Leah Schwartz to figure out a community service project
E. Pauline Musa
   i. House Presidents are working on an all-campus trick-or-treat
   ii. House photos will be coming up soon
   iii. Wednesday, November 2, 2011 is Name Day
F. Sheila Kim
   i. Cabinet is working on merchandise options
   ii. Care Packages forms are now online and will be open soon
G. Mackenzie Green
   i. Had meeting with Dean Mahoney regarding Transgender issues and Gold Key situation from last year
      a) It is not a policy, but rather a practice
      b) Students identifying as male will not be hosting prospective students
ii. Will have meetings on a regular basis, rather than once a semester

H. Jeanju Choi
   i. Spring 2012 budgets are due November 4, 2011
   ii. Two workshops on October 24, 2011 and October 28, 2011
   iii. Need receipts from committees

I. Raquel Paulino – New Student Government Association Treasurer

J. Nahee Kwak
   i. Raffle fundraiser has raised 17 dollars so far
   ii. Not open to anyone but the Class of 2014

K. Catherine Leung
   i. Fall appointments are over
   ii. Working on Spring appointments and getting a list of positions that will need to be filled

L. Cait Kirby
   i. Powderpuff Game is still being organized
   ii. October 22, 2011 Wine and Cheese, Wilson Atrium, 4:30PM-6:00PM
   iii. Care Packages are online will be available tomorrow
   iv. T-shirts for $10.00

M. Briana Parker
   i. Tabled this week and put forms in mailboxes with Hershey's Kisses
   ii. There were a lot of comments on the course critiques
   iii. Will possibly do a Sophian article on course critiques
   iv. Transparency is an issue on campus
   v. Will try to attend House Presidents Association meeting
   vi. Had Policy Review Committee meeting
      a) After sophomore year, possibly submit a plan of future academic study
      b) Will help provide guidance and portfolio
      c) Will be a pilot program for Ada Comstock students and transfer students

N. Ali Zipparo
   i. Mayor proclaimed Food Day
   ii. Had a meeting with those involved with Food Day
   iii. “No Shave November” - effort to save water
   iv. Officers should not be idling cars even when they are sitting in it
      a) Campus Police had the “Safe-tea”
      b) SGA was not involved

III. Minutes
   A. Mohini moves to pass minutes
      i. Cait Kirby seconds the motion
      ii. 11-0-4

IV. Planning for the Semester
   A. Board of Trustees received presentations well
   B. SGA possibly create a report
      i. Will contain fact sheet, research, stimulating topics
      ii. Will provide students with a quick and easy answer and provide resources
      iii. Would be given out every month
      iv. Opposing views
         a) Rather than expanding, the SGA should focus on current projects
         b) SGA needs to work on visibility
         c) SGA can fulfill roles by focusing on what we can do already and integrating roles
into daily lives
d) Possibly unsustainable

V. Seven Sisters' Conference Sign-Up
   A. November 11-13, 2011
   B. 12 people can attend

VI. Yearbook Collaboration
   A. Yearbook needs help with publicizing
   B. Yearbook needs more photos
      i. Ask Class Historians to perform their role
      ii. Add in email to Class to submit photos for yearbook

VII. WOZQ for Food Day
   A. WOZQ DJ for Farmer's Market
   B. November 7, 2011, 12:00PM-1:00PM

VIII. Announcements and Suggestions
   A. Next week's Polo Day
      i. Monday, October 24, 2011
   B. Mendhi Night, October 21, 2011
   C. Five-College dinner at Amherst College, November 7, 2011, 5:30 PM

Adjournment: 9:01 PM