Tuesday March 4, 2008

SGA Senate Meeting Minutes

I. Call to Order 7:07

II. Roll Call
   Met Quorum

III. Minutes
   Passed 38 here; 5 abstentions

IV. Announcements
   a. Campus Climate open forum—diversity issues on campus. CC 103 12-1pm
   b. 3/12 Budget presentation in Weinstein
   c. Rec Council concert announced! Feist and Ingrid Michaelson! Tickets on sale next week $15

V. Parliamentary Procedures Review

VI. Charter
   a. Psyched Club: want to make an org that opens up psych community to entire community (not only juniors and seniors w/ good GPA who join honor’s society Psi Chi—department org); hope to bring in guest speakers or alumni; provide forums for thesis students to present research, etc; the department faculty is very supportive of this. Questions email Shadè Brown at sbrown2@smith.edu
   b. Athletic Association revisions: the vote for president would no longer be an all campus vote but decided upon within org; to run for president a person must have had to be on the board for one year.
   c. Judicial Board bylaw revisions (email Nora with questions—nyim@smith.edu)
      1. Addition of community liaison to board—this person will perform community outreach to make board more transparent, will also walk student through the judicial process, but would no longer sit on student’s hearing in order to avoid a conflict of interest. This board member is also not allowed to speak to the student about the specifics of the case (will not act as the therapy). Total # of board members would change from 16 to 17.
      2. Change to a gender-neutral script
      3. Parents to be notified of student’s violation at the discretion of the board and the dean of students (for the safety of the student).
      4. Chair and Vice Chair only need to have one semester (rather than a full year) of previous board experience.
      5. Student responsible to submit their personal statement before the hearing—if student doesn’t turn it in before specified date it will not be taken into account at the hearing.
      6. Planning on getting in touch with students via email to make sure they hear about complaint in a more efficient manner.
      7. Board members will be removed if they breach confidentiality.
d. Rugby
   Passed 35 Yes; 0 no; 3 abstentions

e. AHASS—does not pass 0 yes; 26 no; 5 abstentions
   1. There are already existing orgs connected with the Art Department—e.g. Art Resources Committee; museum interning program
   2. The art department runs trips often to see exhibits etc.

VII. Kathy Zieja
   a. Email her any time with questions or comments.
   b. Working with college and phys plant to get back to dinning room renovations and finish work (to help aesthetics and flow)
   c. Lamont being done this summer for finishes and roof leaks, etc.
   d. Comstock/Wilder seating to be updated
   e. Composting—at Chase/Duckett and Cutter-Zizkind—problem is we don’t have a farm to bring it to.
   f. We gave out 2,000 sustainable grab and go bags to student body, yet we continue to use excessive #s of brown paper bags
   g. We will source our providers to try and find better containers for food; goal is to continue to be sustainable.
   h. Specialty dinner evenings—need to do more planning.
   i. Student Workers—could there be an incentive of increased pay if you return to work following year?
   j. Nutrition info—not done this year; some of it funding, but also staff member who would’ve helped has been away all year. There is some possible software we could get that would be helpful.
   k. Not enough vegan options—although Northrop Gillett do well.
   l. Student Concerns:
      1. Thursday night candle light dinners—less effort in recent years! Candles very small and linens not used every week.
      2. Morris House—Dining on Green Street lacking? This is a problem especially during lunch on weekdays when Tyler is a madhouse.
      3. Problem with food being taken away or running out way too early (6:45 ish)
      4. Will there be any space for food retail in the new engineering building? So that not all students there need to go to eat at Tyler during day.
      5. Not enough vegan options during tea..

VII. Adjournment 8:54