Tuesday March 11, 2008

SGA Senate Meeting Minutes

I. Call to Order 7:00

II. Roll Call
Quorum not met

III. Bidwell--spirit mark committee
   a. Maureen Scanlon and John Bidwell were hired to help develop the spirit mark; here to take us through a series of questions
   b. What is unique about Smith College? Smith students?
      1. College: Power, houses, welcoming, independent, diverse/complex, supportive, outspoken, interesting, creative, smart, non-traditional traditions,
      2. Students: involved, “I know who I am”, vocal, determined, driven, open, liberated, well rounded.
   c. How you feel about Smith needing or wanting a spirit mark that would unify the campus?
      1. We come from all different backgrounds, and could use one defining mark that provides the same sense of unity that we get when we all come here
      2. Would help connect on level other than house community.
   d. What do we think about athletes and athletics here at smith?
      1. Athletes are very confident
      2. They deserve a lot of credit for doing as much work as we do and being so involved.
      3. Represent their teams and smith whenever they go anywhere
      4. They are a very select group, not majority on campus; feel like most people don’t come here for athletics (we are div 3 school)
      5. Athletes are students first
      6. Their commitment is inspiring
      7. As a whole we are not involved in going to games, etc.
      8. Students not involved in sports are more likely to attend variety of cultural events
   e. What are our reactions to the Pioneers?
      1. We imagine Louis and Clark
      2. Not very aggressive
      3. It is not very relevant to the Smith community
      4. We are pioneers in athletics and academics! Examples: First women’s basket ball game and women in the sciences (engineering)
      5. We have never really embraced it—so no one has ever become enthusiastic about it
   f. Email spiritmark@smith.edu with further comments, questions, and concerns.

IV. Minutes

V. Announcements
a. Morrow—sustainability committee; “Earth Hour” March 29th, everyone turn off lights from 8-10pm; Cushing to have house party afterward?
b. RADS (Rape Attack Defense System)—public safety officer trained in this system who can come present at house teas.
c. Email Alita Edelman to order 2010 apparel (red long sleeve shirts, sweats, etc) if you did not get order form in your mailbox.
d. April 6th, 1 pm Helen Hills- Harmonies for Healing concert
e. SGA elections—you can sign up now to run for positions; read more about it at Smith.edu/voting; March 24th 8 pm
f. Tomorrow (March 12th) Rick Meyers presenting Smith College budget at 4:30pm in Weinstein auditorium.
g. Fireside Chat- Tuesday Goldstein Lounge 4:15 pm after spring break. Difficult Conversations w/ President Christ; Kevin Quashie; Mary Maples Dunn.
h. March 27th, 5-6pm, location TBA—meeting with Committees with Academic Priorities (CAP) to give feedback about faculty position cuts, etc.
i. Five college conference—want to improve five college relations; working on reconstructing five college coordinating board. Consensus is not to do the conference until after this board is organized and wait until the conference in the fall. Hampshire is having a party in April that we could all go to.

VI. Charters—tabled until after Spring Break
   a. Psyched Club – tabled
   b. Judicial Board –tabled

VII. Charter Revisions 101
   a. Is there any way senators to see charters a couple days before hand so that we know what kind of questions to ask?
   b. Project for ORC—is there any way we can get an org list in one place with short descriptions of what they do (statements of purpose) so that we can reference it throughout the year.
   c. Could the rules committee put together a comprehensive overview of what the changes in the charters are and what these changes imply, etc.

IX. Adjournment 9:00