Student Government Association Senate

3/22/16

7-9 pm Campus Center Carroll Room

Attendance - 7:00 pm

Approval of Minutes from 3/8/16 – 7:05 pm

Minutes approved.

Presentation of Social Dance Club Charter – 7:10 pm

- Moving away from traditional gender roles in dance
- There has been a huge surge in social dances, it is a really big community at Umass Amherst
- General interest meeting was in December which 10 people attended. The Facebook group already has 42 members
- Meetings will be weekly with lessons and open practice time
- Every month will have a different dance focus
- Funding is needed to bring in teaching, although students are also welcome to teach
- There is already one teacher who is interested, he taught swing over J-Term
Looking to collaborate with some of the music clubs for live music

Presentation of Quite Contrary Charter – 7:15 pm

- Contra dancing is popular in New England. The Pioneer Valley is the hub of Contra dancing in the country
- The main purpose would be to provide vans for the meetings in Greenfield
- The group would also like to hold a contra dance once a month at Smith
- A member of the group has a family member who is a contra dance caller and has offered to lead contra dances at Smith for free
- The group has talked to the social dance club about the possibility of combining but they decided that their group goals are different enough that they can be two separate clubs.
  - Contra dance is not a dance that is taught, it’s a very community-led type of dance

Update from Andy Cox – 7:20 pm

- Consultants are here to evaluate the patterns of dining on campus
- They have been counting how many students enter and exit dining halls and keeping track of how long they take in order to figure out how much space is required in each dining hall.
- There are several issues with the OneCard swipe system, including faulty technology and level of participation
- They are collecting data to forecast what to prepare and how much
- Strategic planning committee is also looking into other schools’ practices and comparing what we do at Smith
- Dawes gluten free kitchen is expanding to 72 seats next year.
- We actually only have ten swipes on our OneCards per day. The swipes are not unlimited. This rumor is false.
- Andy Cox (Director of Dining Services) is asking staff to self report when they run out of food so that they can have accurate data about food quantities.
• Andy Cox is working on a proposal to have a full-time dietician for students who need advising.
• The opportunity is still open to participate in student focus groups to help inform this process.

Discussion on Inviting Roger Moser – 7:30 pm
• Roger Moser is the Director of Facilities
• HPA has been discussing the question of accessibility and would like to share their ideas with him
• We would like to collaborate with the Office of Disability Services in this initiative
• This is a great opportunity to collaborate with the HPA and improve the cohesion between these two groups.
  ○ Should we have this meeting at 8pm then?
  ○ Idia will reach out to Gigi Litovich about collaborating with the RCSG on this as well

Vote on Senate Election Procedures – 7:40 pm
• We need a new EnA Chair! Who wants to fill this position?
• EnA Bylaw changes have been changed

Committee Updates – 7:50 pm
• Student Life Committee is working with Pam McCartney and Dean Ohotnicky to work on mental health issues.
• Class of 2017 is hosting a panel on mental health and the culture of perfectionism March 29th 4-5pm there will be snacks.
• Student Life Committee met with Marge Litchford to talk about the ‘diversity’ piece of the New Student Orientation
  ○ International students would like specific programming on international student-domestic student relationships
- Outreach committee will be getting area lists for emails!
- They also have very classy faceboard templates
- Outreach Committee will be making a list of responsibilities for each position to distribute to those who are running for positions for next year.

Open Forum – 8:00 pm

- The SGA currently has two Facebook accounts, one for Senate and one for the general SGA. Should these accounts be unified? Yes.

Area Meetings – 8:30 pm