Tuesday September 30, 2008

SGA Senate Meeting Minutes

I. Call to order: 7:05

II. Roll Call
   a. Missing/Tardy: 19
   b. Quorum Met

III. Minutes
   a. September 23rd, 2008 passed 45-1

IV. Announcements
   a. Wednesday October 1st Campus Climate Open Forum: Discussion on the gender climate on campus.
      i. CC205 at 7pm
   b. Thursday October 2nd Financial Crises Discussion with Smith College Economics Professors: 4:30 in Wright Hall, Weinstein Auditorium Dean Mahoney
   c. Gillett House Party: Lets Get Physical ➔ 80’s theme
   d. Introduce:
      i. Molly from Gillett House, thinks senate should help make Smith more sustainable and environmentally friendly!
      ii. Caroline from Gillett, thinks Senate should bring traditions back!

V. Charter Presentations
   a. Smith College V-Day
      i. Want to host annually the V-Day Celebration
      ii. End violence against women locally and nationally
      iii. Perform Vagina Monologues according to Eve Ensler’s standards
      iv. Donate proceeds to local charity that fits the organization’s goals, chosen yearly
         1. Want to do outreach to men and women’s community groups
      v. Membership open to the Smith community
      vi. Funds will be appropriated through ORC and private fundraising
      vii. Contact Trenda Loftin (tloftin@smith.edu) with questions!
   b. The Shapely Notes
      i. A cappella group based around American folk and traditional world music:
         1. Musical range based off of a group from New England,
         2. Eastern European, Georgian, Corsican, a lot of world music.
      ii. Membership open to all 5 College students
      iii. No auditions to get into group, but auditions for voice placement
      iv. Officers are fluid, multiple musical leaders
      v. Funding would come from member dues
      vi. Goals: performing in concerts, invite guest teachers and musicians, and recording an album in the future
      vii. Has not held a general interest meeting, has not put together a list of interested people, or sent out an email
      viii. Contact Sarah Galper (sgalper@smith.edu) with questions!

VI. Presentation of the College by Rae-Ann Butera
   a. The Board of Trustees
      i. Who are they? Alumnae, past SGA Presidents sit on Board for two years, donors, people involved in higher education nominated, then chosen through an elections committee.
      ii. What do they do? President Christ reports to them on the college. Help decide curriculum, make choices for the future including: new buildings, student body size, long term planning. They meet in person 4 times a year, 3 of which happen on campus.
   b. The President of the College
      i. Who is the President? President Carol T. Christ
      ii. Typical tenure of President? Range in time from 18 months to 30+ years depending on the needs of the college.
iii. Who are the senior staff members? The President’s “cabinet” includes the Provost Bourque, Dean Mahoney, College General Counsel, VP for Business and Finance
iv. What do they do? They run the college on a day-to-day, week-to-week, month-to-month basis.
c. The Provost & Dean of the Faculty
   i. Who is she? Dean Bourque
   ii. What does she do? The Provost is second in command at Smith College, the executive President. She’s the faculty’s version of Dean Mahoney. Supervisor of faculty – oversees faculty searches, compensation issues, faculty development, etc.
d. The Dean of the College
   i. Who is she? Dean Mahoney
   ii. What does she do? She deals with anything that has to do with students that are non-curricular. Deals with student life outside of class. Many offices fall under her: student affairs, wellness, housing, Judicial Board, multicultural affairs, etc.
e. We have a connection point through the SGA, but all students have a connection point to the college staff

VII. Senate Goals
a. Bringing Back Smith Traditions
   i. Raise awareness
   ii. Promoting tolerance
b. Parking Issues
c. House Conditions
   i. Lighting in living rooms and personal rooms
   ii. Hand soap in the bathroom
d. 24 Hour Study space
e. Half Price Laundry and Free Printing
f. Building Updates
   i. Making the campus disability friendly
   ii. Elevators inspections passed due
   iii. More wheelchair friendly ramps
g. Gym Hours
h. Alumnae Network
   i. Locked out until you graduate
   ii. More One Card machines
j. Relevance of All-Women Education
   i. Election 2008 dialogue
k. Cultural Awareness
   i. Awareness/Respect/Acceptance of differences rather than tolerance
l. Dining Issues
   i. Earlier breakfast
   ii. Cereal available at all meals
m. Voting Awareness
n. Transportation
   i. PVTA hours
   ii. Shuttles to Holyoke Mall
   iii. Shuttles to Boston
o. 5-College Connections
p. Sustainability
q. Respect of Minority Perspectives

VIII. Senate Guest List
a. Fully booked this semester

IX. Rumor Mill/ Closing thoughts and opinions
X. Adjournment  8:57

Emily Nogowski will be speaking next week. Discuss this weeks charters with your house!