Tuesday November 3, 2009

SGA Senate Meeting Minutes

I. Call to Order 7:00 pm

II. Roll Call
   a. Missing/Tardy: 21
   c. Quorum met

III. Passing Minutes
   a. Minutes corrected
   b. Minutes passed

IV. Guest Speaker: Jessica Bacal
   a. Director of the Center for Work and Life
   b. 89.5% of students polled are stressed
   c. 44.6% says Smith encourages them to have balanced lives
   d. There needs to be a balance between wellness, leadership, work, and reflection
   e. Website: www.smith.edu/cwl
   f. Expands views of leadership: art exhibition, research fellowship, etc.
   g. 2 credit course in comparative work-life policy
   h. Workshops that facilitate existing resources on Smith campus
   i. Narratives Project
      i. “Eat, Write, Talk” with Dean Mahoney and Jennifer Walters during J-Term
   j. Partnering with programs existing on Smith Campus
   k. Wants first and second years to take advantage of Smith resources early on.

V. Announcements
   a. Nov 17-19 Debate Team selling t-shirts during the day in the CC.
      i. Three different types of t-shirts: Talk nerdy to me, Everyone loves a cunning linguist, and My girlfriend goes to smith.
      ii. $15 each
   b. Wilson Mission Impossible party November 6th, 10 p.m.-1 a.m.
   c. Gardiner What’s your fetish? party Saturday, November 7th 10 p.m.-1 a.m.
   d. Celebration is Thursday, November 5th at 7:30 on Wilson steps.
   e. Act Now is putting on a talent showcase on December 4th. All funds going to Tanzanian children orphans affected by AIDS. Davis Ballroom 7p.m.-9 p.m. Look out for fliers with the exact time.
   f. T-shirt money needed today or by November 10th at the latest. Eliza has extended office hours from 2-5 pm. Checks to Smith College. It is $9.22 for long sleeved, $8.72 for short sleeved in basic colors, and $9.72 for colored short sleeved.
   g. December 5th in Boston there is a big MASSPirg meeting. Email Emily Mailloux to learn more or to propose a proposal.

VI. Jinny and Eliza’s Presentation
   a. Structure of SGA
i. Student body works together through Senate, Houses and the different committees on campus.

ii. There are a whole bunch of different ways to be involved: HPA, house council, and other organizations.

b. Cabinet

i. Tries to pull everything together and helps all the orgs work together.

ii. Jinny (Pres), Eliza (VP),

iii. As president Jinny is the liaison between the administration, the student body, Smith College, and to Five Colleges.

iv. Being on cabinet there are a lot of small duties to make sure everything is flowing. i.e. walk throughs every week.

v. VP

1. Works with Senate and makes sure the goals are complete.
2. VP needs to be a junior or senior and to have been on senate for a year.

vi. SGA Secretary

1. Takes notes for cabinet meetings, coordinates w/ the other members to keep people in the know. Needs to be a sophomore.

vii. SGA Treasurer

1. Manages all the funding for SGA and other finances.
2. Need to be junior or senior.
3. Run in all campus election in the Spring.
4. Deals with conference funding

viii. Chair of Academic Honor Board

1. Honor Board Secretary becomes chair.
2. Deals with all academic integrity issues.

ix. Curriculum Committee

1. Have to be a Curriculum Committee member and a senior in order to be chair.
2. Elected through the all campus election.
3. Meet with faculty and Provost to discuss where the curriculum is going, role of open curriculum, and other curriculum issues.

x. Diversity Committee Chair

1. Needs to be either a junior or senior.
2. Elected through the all campus election.
4. This year the chair is trying to get all diversity organizations together to plan campus wide events.

xi. Elections and Appointments

1. The chair runs all elections in the spring and in the fall

xii. HPA

1. HPs are elected by individual houses in the spring
2. When all the HPs meet they vote for the chair of the organization.
3. They focus on issues with house community and other house issues

xiii. Judicial board-
1. Prospective members go through an application process and are then appointed by current members.
2. There are 14 to 17 members.
3. The chair needs to have served one semester on the Judicial Board.
4. The chair is appointed by the Dean of the College’s designee and the former Judicial Board chair.
5. Need to be a junior or senior to even serve as a normal member.

xiv. Organization Resource Committee
1. Chair is elected through campus wide election.
2. The chair needs to have served on ORC for 2 years prior to running and needs to be a junior or senior.
3. Any organization that is chartered applies for funding and the chair and the other members decide how to allocate the money.

xv. Ada Comstock Scholars
1. Have a Co-President.
2. The Co-President represents the Adas and relays all their questions and concerns.
3. The Co-President is elected through a campus wide election, but only the Adas can vote.

xvi. Class Presidents
1. All are elected in a campus wide election in the spring except the first year elections, which are in the fall.

VII. Chartering
a. All organizations need to be chartered
b. O.R.C. helps organizations write charters, proofreads the charters, and then sends them to the Senate Parliamentarian.
   i. The Vice-Chair of Chartering (Angela Zhu) specifically helps the organization with their charter.
c. The Senate Parliamentarian presents the charters to the Rules Committee and provides suggestions to the organization through O.R.C.
d. The organization then presents their charter to Senate
   i. Discusses what their organization does
   ii. Discusses the charter in depth
   iii. Senators ask questions about the charter

e. The following week Senate votes on the charter after taking the charter back to their houses and asking for opinions on it.

VIII. MASSPirg
a. A non-partisan student funded and operated group that work on a lot of issues i.e. global warming, education, and the rising costs of textbooks.
b. Receives funding from the Student Activities Fee
c. Works with a lot of congress people and interest groups in Washington.
d. They have their own professional staff lobbyists and lawyers.
e. Recently they have advocated for money in stimulus package for transit, higher education, and energy.
f. Wants to become more involved with student government orgs in the U.S.
g. Asking for Senate involvement with the Special Election voter registration by tabling November 16\textsuperscript{th}-18\textsuperscript{th} during lunch in the basement of the Campus Center
   i. Special Election is to replace the late Senator Kennedy.

h. Optional training this Saturday, November 7\textsuperscript{th} in the Campus Center room 205 from 12-4
   i. Website: [www.masspirg.org](http://www.masspirg.org)

j. Voting on whether to keep MASSPirg on the ballot for student body vote.
   i. Discussion and voting tabled until next meeting

IX. Adjournment