Tuesday November 9, 2010

SGA Senate Meeting Minutes

I. Call to Order 7:02 pm

II. Roll Call
   A. Absent: Nadia Belkin, Brooke Gerstein-Salerno, Ariana Ehsan, Zhen Zeng, Louisa Loring, Dahna Black, Galya Metanova, Danielle Clayton, Christina Park, Merric Kallfelz, Kimberly Fong, Jo-Ellen El-Khoury, Katerina Popova, Hannah Woodman, Wendy Liu
   B. Quorum Met

III. Presentation – Archives Committee
   A. The takeover of College Hall was an important event in Smith’s history that lasted from February 24th to March 2nd, 1986.
   B. The college was investing in many companies tied to apartheid in South Africa.
   C. Students became frustrated when the Trustees brushed off their proposals.
   D. About two hundred students were involved in the protests.
   E. President Dunn granted amnesty to all the students involved.
   F. It helped the students gain experience in governmental decisions.
   G. The takeover convinced the Trustees to begin divestment.

IV. Open Floor
   A. Smith Rant can be emailed with questions or comments at smithrant@smith.edu
   B. Concentrations are expanding at Smith and more publicity is required.
      1. Some students expressed concern with the size of the programs.
      2. There were other questions about how the programs are being run.
   C. There will be an upcoming Fireside Chat with President Christ and multiple Deans regarding the new Centers opening in Wright Hall.
   D. There are concerns about smoking on campus.
      1. Emily Nagoski wants to make Smith a smoke-free campus in the near future.
      2. The smoking rules are largely being disregarded.
   E. What is the best way to contact Smithies?
   F. The list of active and inactive student organizations are on the SGA website.
   G. Minutes from the SGA meetings are on the website.

V. Minutes Passed

VI. Piano Charter Passed

VII. Presentation - Chartering
   A. The student activities fee is $258 per year.
   B. The role of Senators includes:
      1. Reading the charter
      2. Hearing from organization representatives
      3. Listening to housemates
   C. Does a new organization fill a void?
   D. Is there enough interest on campus?
   E. Do not consider funding.
      1. That job belongs to ORC.
   F. Questions to ask organization representatives:
1. What will funding be used for?
2. How many people are interested?
3. What will this organization bring to campus?
G. Senators cannot vote on charters that they are involved in.

VIII. Committee Presentations
A. Archives needs input on what you would like to hear about.
B. Dining Committee is working with the Green Team. They will send out a survey sometime next week that incorporates both Senate and Green Team.
C. Athletics:
   1. Come to the Games of the Week and show your support!
   2. Rent-a-rower is happening now. Use the Crew Team to haul away your heavy things!
   3. Intramural dodge ball signups are now.
   4. Please talk to your houses about scheduling conflicts for mandatory class events and team practices.
D. Community:
   1. There was excellent voter turnout at the polls last week.
   2. A former Smith professor died, leaving $1 million dollars to Forbes Library and another $1 million dollars to Look Park.
   3. The Center for the Arts will host a festival of the arts on December 31st.
E. Disability Committee will be conducting polling students soon.
F. Sustainability will focus on better educating students on campus.
G. Difficult Topics on Campus will be sending out emails

IX. Announcements
A. Join NOW Smith CAN in Seelye 110 on Thursday at 4:30.
B. Leading Ladies is performing Urinetown on the 19th and 20th in Davis at 8pm.
C. Seniors 21 and over are invited to Pub Crawl on the 19th at 8pm.
D. Class of 2012 Bowling on the 20th, from 6 to 8.
E. Ping Pong night this Wednesday in Ainsworth from 6:30-10.
F. Pam Stone is presenting in the Campus Center, Monday the 15th from 4:30-5:30.
G. Snacky Snax is starting to provide food this Wednesday.
H. Julia Child Day is next Thursday, the 18th.
I. SEC is presenting Toy Story 3 this Friday at 7:30 and Saturday at 2:30.
J. Gavel Awards are coming on Rally Day
K. Celebration is this Thursday at 8pm in the Quad.
L. We will be ordering Senate T-Shirts soon!