

Plenary

DSC Plenary
 September 24, 2010

Executive Committee

Steering Committee

Constitution and Bylaws

Grants

Health Issues

Media Board

Outreach

Student Services

Present: Thierry Agbotouedo, Colin Ashley, Carolina Barrera Tobon, Jill Belli, Anick Boyd, Susan Brillhart, Jeff Broxmeyer, Joost Burgers, Sharina Cabrera, Gina Campelia, Karyn Collie, Boris Daussà –Pastor, Annie Dell’Aria, Gregory Donovan, David Elliot, Kyle Ferguson, Desiree Fields, Stephanie Fiorenza, Claire Fontaine, Ian Foster, Margaret Galvin, Katie Gill, Claire Golden, Sonia Gonzalez, Nicole Hanson, David Heayn, Ben Hellwege, Wioleta Jaworska, Sarah Jordan, Bijan Kimiagar, Christina Kirkman, Eero Laine, Kimberly Libman, Aramis Lopez, Michael Lubing, Rachel Marcus, Kristin Margelot, Tiwi Marira, Amy Martin, Rishi Mathura, Edwin Mayorga, Leigh McCallen, Steve McFarland, Erica Meltzer, Katherine Mendis, Amanda Mentzer, Valia Mitsou, Keith Miyake, Christina Nadler, Naomi Perley, Anthony Perri, Jeremy Rafal, Astrid Roland, Tatiana Schneider, Jeremy Seideman, Jared Simard, Lindsey Smith, Jordan Stokes, Chris Sula, Suzanne Tamang, Rachel Verni, Megan Welsh, Monique Whitaker, Paige Yellen, Melissa Zavala

Absent: Andrew Bossie, Tami Farber, Ashley Foster, Jesse Goldstein, Heather Griffith, Ben Miller, Chrissy Mitakakis, Jim Rice, Shawn Rice, Jennifer Sloan, Patricia Stapelton, Roz Woll, Mary Wright, alex Zamalin

Chris Sula (CS) calls the meeting to order at 6:28pm

I. Approval of Agenda

Gregory Donovan (GD) motions to approve, Leigh McAllen (LM) seconds. Motion passes.

II. Approval of Minutes of May 14, 2010 5pm

Jill Belli (JB) identifies typos in the student affairs report. GD motions to approve with those emendations, Tony Perri (TP) seconds, motion carries.

III. Approval of DSCE Minutes of May 14, 2010 6pm

A number of names are misspelled. TP motions to approve with those emendations, Suzanne Tamang seconds, motion carries.

IV. Ratification of new Representatives

Jill Belli motions to approve new representatives petitioned for by the Doctoral Program in Chemistry, Annie Del Aria seconds, motion carries.

V. Executive Committee Reports

1. Co-Chair for Student Affair, Eero Laine (EL)

(EL) announces that the Adjunct Project has an online petition for their demands in this round of Professional Staff Congress of CUNY contract demands. He also announces that chartered org rosters are now live on the DSC website. Three new proposed orgs present their constitutions: Food Studies Collective, Thought Club, and the CUNY Americanists.

2. Co-Chair for Communications -Kim Libman (KL)

KL speaks to Outcomes Assessment Committee regarding Middle States. KL asks for somebody from the Sciences to participate. TP volunteers to fill the position.

She announces that the GC housing website is now available and solicitation for residents is beginning.

Bike-parking arrangements are still in discussion with the administration, a straw poll is held to determine support for such a project. The majority of plenary supports pursuing increases in bike-parking for staff and students.

New free yoga/pilates classes for students are a general success. There is some discussion of concern that there is less space and more people in these classes than has been in the previous classes. Concerns are also voices about the need for more evening classes.

KL asks for feedback how to pursue better communication between chartered orgs and DSC representatives and the student body at large. Suggestion for website where one can check off interest in orgs, CS informs the group that this already exists on the DSC website.

KL reports in a meeting she attended with Debbie Bell at PSC CUNY to discuss whitepaper recommending that NYSHIP improvements are included in the current contract demands.

Provost Robinson will be the guest speaker at the October Plenary. KL informs plenary of recent discussions with provost about possibly diversifying funding packages, and about tuition remission in years 6 and 7. Discussion continues and CS calls for a straw poll on:

"I support extending tuition remission to years 6 and 7 for people providing service to CUNY": 60 % strongly agree, 38 people, 22%, 14 people agree, 14%, 9 people neutral, 2%, 1 person disagree, 2%, 1 strongly disagree

KL presents the recent changes to travel and research funding. Concerns are expressed about exclusion of DMA and Clinical doctoral programs, about programs that require fieldwork where students don't present their research until later and my thus run up against the 14 semester deadline, and about deadlines effecting student participation in conferences.

3. Co-Chair for Business, Chris Alen Sula (CS)

CS reports that the locker lottery is completed. CS will no longer approve any program allocation monies unless he receives and advisory letter from program representatives outlining who has authority to draw on funds where there is more than one representative for the program. CS will send out allocation information this week.

4. USS Delegate, Jill Belli

JB invites contact from plenary about their experiences on other campuses. JB reminds the Plenary that USS represents 425,000 students and plays an important role in CUNY-wide governance.

5. UFS Liaison. Anick Boyd

UFS has not met and so there is nothing yet to report.

VI. New Business

1. Election of DSC Representatives to Media Board (1)

CS opens nominations. KF nominates ST, ST accepts. Will be voted on in blanket vote.

2. Election of DSC delegate to Student Technology Fee Committee (1)

CS opens nominations. Desiree Fields (DF) nominates Keith Miyake (KM), KM declines. JB nominates Jim but informed he is not present. JB nominates CS, CS accepts. CS withdraws. Edwin Mayorga nominates self. KM remains an alternate.

GD motions to elect the above into their respective roles, TP seconds, motion carries.

3. Travel and Research

CS begins discussion on how monies can be used in addition to what is already being provided by the Presidential T&R Program. CS recommends spending \$25,000. CS presents projections of enrollment for next four years and how this potentially affects awards. Previous awards were \$200 and CS proposes authorizing funds for 125 awards at \$200. The following possible options for a DSC funded T & R plan are discussed: A. Conference Attendance, B. Grad student conference and job interviews, C. Both A and B, D. Level 1 only, E. other. JB suggests amendment to A to exclude graduate student conferences. Lee Hachadoorian expresses concern about double-dipping between the Presidential award and DSC award. Jordan Stokes (JS) suggests that we have a category where under EO approval those excluded would have a secondary pool. CS informs that funds cannot be limited as they are to be used on general DSO. LH motions to vote up or down on option C revised as follows, GD seconds.

“Create a supplemental DSC travel award for \$200 awards for conference attendance (excluding grad student conferences) and presentation at graduate student conferences and job interviews.”

The motion fails. JB motions to amend to include language that refers to excluded students. LM moves to vote on new motion, Monique Whittaker seconds. Motion reads “Create a supplemental DSC travel award for \$200 of 25k awards for conference attendance (understood to include all programs excluding grad student conferences) and presentation at graduate student conferences and job interviews.” Motion carries.

4. Graduate Student Contract Demands to PSC CUNY

CS presents a document based off of the Adjunct Project's demands and CUNY Contingents Unite demands. KF suggests adding concern about travel and research funds for GTF's. CS informs this is not in contract. DF motions to approve resolution with emendations, KM seconds, motion carries.

VII. Steering Officer Reports

1. Officer for Funding, Kyle Ferguson

KF has created an OpenCUNY space with weekly announcements of funding opportunities and asks that constituents be informed. KF reports on Grants Committee Meeting. The maximum award is \$600 for this year, but larger amounts may be considered in extraordinary circumstance. Smaller start-up grants

will be \$95. Start-up grants are reviewed on a rolling basis, others are reviewed quarterly. Grant info is available at the DSC website including links for applications. DF requests that suggestions for grant activity be posted. KF announces two goals of the committee: program specific needs assessment per program for T&R and the creation of new grant line for interdisciplinary projects.

2. Officer for Governance & Membership, Jared Simard

JS reports on the Constitution and Bylaws Committee (C&B) meeting held on September 15th . JS shares concerns that have been raised about student representation and governance issues within doctoral programs. He shares a proposed revision to the DSC bylaws that would grant Program student associations (PSAs) legal authority through the DSC. Both have passed in C&B. Bylaw 6.1D and concerns funding for student organizations and Bylaw 8 concerns recognition of program student governments and giving details of the process of recognition of these bodies.

3. Officer for Health Issues, Leigh McCallen

LM announces that there will be a roundtable event for discussing NYSHIP and an anonymous online forum will also be created. LM shares information from her meeting with Dr. Hatcher to discuss last year's Wellness Center satisfaction surveys. Dr. Hatcher requests that issues with the Wellness Center be brought to him directly. LM also asks plenary to email her with concerns.

4. Officer for Outreach (Boris Daussà -Pastor)

BDP announces that the first Outreach Committee meeting will be in October. Goals for the year include outreach to senior campuses, international students, and keeping record of these activities. Asks for suggestions as to what students feel should be addressed. Solicits names for a fifth member to this committee.

5. Officer for Student Life and Services, Shawn Rice

In absentia, CS requests members for committees under this auspice.

6. Officer for Technology and Library, Suzanne Tamang

ST announces that there will be a student tech fee survey asking about needs, priority, and current services. A link to the survey will be emailed.

VIII. Announcements

Tonight's food was purchased at Nanoosh. They will be offering discounts to students.

IX. Adjournment

LM motions to adjourn, KL seconds. Quorum is not achieved, meeting adjourns at 9:21pm.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Anick Boyd

