

Plenary
 Minutes May 15, 2015

The Doctoral Students' Council
 The Graduate School and University Center
 The City University of New York
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Dominique Nisperos (DN) calls the meeting to order at 5:07pm

- I. Approval of Agenda
 1. Stephanie Vella (SV) motions to approve; Liza Shapiro seconds; motion passes unanimously (3)
- II. Approval of Minutes of April 24, 2015
 1. David Nagy motions to approve; Kyla Bender-Baird (KBB) seconds; motion passes unanimously (4)
- III. Executive Committee Reports
 1. Co-Chair for Student Affairs (Amy Martin, ccsa@cunydisc.org)
 - A. Chartered Orgs:
 - i. AM notes that she wrote a post on cunydisc.org to answer end-of-semester questions from chartered org leaders, since they generally ask the same set of questions. If you hear from any chartered org leaders who are trying to sort out roster, active status, or check requests, send them to the website.
 - ii. AM reports that there are 17 active groups out of 47. She will send out one more mass email reminder to all chartered org leaders before the official end of the semester.
 - B. PSAs:
 - i. AM contacted this year's Program Student Association leaders about renewing their DSC recognition. A few programs have already submitted their renewals, and the rest have until the end of June.
 2. Co-Chair for Communications (Dominique Nisperos, ccc@cunydisc.org)
 - A. DN asks that outgoing at-large reps. consider sitting down with incoming program reps to run through their responsibilities and how to process check requests
 - B. DN reports that Co-Chairs met with admin about disability services
 - i. Outreach to disabled students, since the website is so hard to navigate
 - ii. Outreach to faculty about their responsibilities and restrictions via the Provost
 - iii. Bob Campbell in IT is working on language to post student services on Blackboard home pages
 - iv. \$2000 allocated by student tech fee committee for at-home use of software by disabled students has not been used. We got resistance from Sharon Lerner on reaching out to students about this because there might be too much response. DN notes that this is not a good answer.
 - v. The doors in the elevator banks are not easily opened by certain visitors to the building, but when we asked for use of magnetic emergency release latches, Mike Byers in Facilities says we can't have this accommodation because it is above and beyond ADA compliance, and the cost would be too much.
 - C. DN reports on Grad Council:
 - i. Nothing new on the 9th floor build-out, but the land in LIC for the new housing has now been cleared of pollution and is now available for purchase.
 - ii. Experiential learning came down from NY State. We have any easy answer: MA and PhD research is experiential.
 - iii. FOIL seems to apply to those using CUNY networks, even via private devices or emails.
 - iv. FERPA: We have been discussing this with Structure, lawyers, Student Affairs. We are trying to make sure that the CUNY interpretation of this law doesn't infringe on the student right to participate fully on committees.
 - D. DN reports on the Co-Chairs' meeting with Student Affairs:

Plenary

Executive Committee

Steering Committee

Constitution and Bylaws

Grants

Health & Wellness

Outreach

Student Services

USS Advisory Committee

Governance Task Force

Student Tech Fee

- i. Scott Voorhees will be on leave for 6-8 weeks from June 3. Reach out to Elise Perram if you have any questions.
 - ii. Matt Schoengood is hopeful that there will be a quiet reflection/prayer space in the near future.
 - 3. Co-Chair for Business (Jennifer Prince, ccb@cunydisc.org)
 - A. JP reports on receipt submission: May 26th for grants, June 1 for program allocations, June 8 for chartered orgs. No staples! Paste or tape to 8.5x11" sheet of paper. Add node ID number, or org/grant/program and your name.
 - B. DSC has office hours in the summer. We sell movie tickets. We reserve rooms. Check the website for office hours. Contact ccb@cunydisc.org if you need legal services.
 - C. Questions: Rebecca Salois (RS): tell your constituents to make room reservations at least a week in advance, since office hours aren't held every day.
 - 4. USS Delegate (Cecilia Salvi, uss@cunydisc.org)
 - A. CS reports that the Board of Trustees will hold a Public Hearing on 6/22, and their next meeting is 6/29
 - B. School of Professional Studies now has Independent Standing and Degree Authority
 - C. Three resolutions were passed unanimously at USS Plenary
 - i. Resolution on Title IX: research on awareness and attitudes by USS and SPH; administration to review current plans
 - ii. Resolution on CUNY Divest: calling on the BoT to freeze further fossil fuel investments; being 5-year divestment plan
 - iii. Resolution on Rational Tuition: against Rational Tuition, and for tuition freezes
 - D. Met with Treasurer's Office. Reviewed 2012 audit reports
 - i. Audit reports are currently being carried out by Toski and Co. for 2013 and 2014 years.
 - ii. USS did pay for audit report, using USS funds that were transferred from the Research Foundation to the CUNY Treasurer's Office.
 - 5. UFS Liaison (Stephanie Vella, ufs@cunydisc.org)
 - A. SV reported that the last UFS meeting was held on May 3. Elections held for EC next year. Received committee reports for the first time this semester.
 - i. Academic freedom committee proposed documents for next year: 1. faculty using their own course material in the classroom (significant revenue should be reinvested in the school/department); 2. faculty involvement in future university decision related to assessment
 - ii. GC will be hosting an institutional academic repository. Will be the largest in the US.
 - iii. Status of the faculty committee did a review of dept websites and faculty rosters. Forwarded statistics to universities
 - iv. Student Affairs committee had been opposed to the "rational" tuition increases, since they said the university could raise tuition at any time for any amount without it. But there was a note that this raise in tuition had not resulted in new faculty hires
- DN calls for a quorum count on Clickers. Everyone was supposed to click D (5)
- IV. New Business
- 1. New Member Ratification (6)
 - A. KBB motions to ratify 3 new members, passes unanimously
 - i. Theresa Ober, Educational Psychology
 - ii. Jesse Kanter, Physics
 - iii. Alexander Wood, Math
 - 2. Chartering of Student Organizations:

- A. The CUNY Public History Collective (CUNY PHC)
 - i. AM motions, SAJ seconds, passes unanimously
 - B. Religion and the Sacred in Art and Critical Theory Studies (RSACT)
 - i. AM motions, Theodor M 2nds, passes unanimously
 - 3. Budget 2015-2016
 - A. JP motions to approve the budget, RS seconds, passes unanimously
 - 4. Bylaw Changes
 - A. Procedures for DSC Affiliate Review
 - i. KBB motions to approve this bylaw change, SV seconds, passes unanimously
 - B. Removal of Gendered Language
 - i. KBB motions to approve this bylaw change, SAJ seconds, passes unanimously
 - v. Steering Officer Reports
 - 1. Officer for Funding (Rebecca Salois, funding@cunydisc.org)
 - A. RS notes that grant recipients must submit receipts and requests by 5/26
 - B. RS adds that tonight is the last time to sign up to a PSC member in good standing for the fall
 - C. Anick Boyd asks what is required to be a union member; RS notes that adjuncts and GTFs are paying fees, but they aren't represented until they the membership card
 - 2. Officer for Governance & Membership (Kyla Bender-Baird, membership@cunydisc.org)
 - A. Nothing new to report
 - 3. Officer for Health & Wellness (Charlotte Thurston, health@cunydisc.org)
 - A. CT passes around a handout with more information.
 - B. CT announces that finals relief comfort stations will take place on the 19th & 20th of May.
 - C. Free yoga class sponsored by Urban Ed in 5414 on 5/19 at noon.
 - D. Health & Wellness survey forthcoming!
 - E. Please refill safer sex bowls, find a new rep to refill, or request Charlotte to refill
 - F. Met with health insurance admin. Mental health insurance company is changing to Beacon Health Options
 - 4. Officer for Outreach (Gwen Shaw, outreach@cunydisc.org)
 - A. GS notes that she continues to think about international student issues, and will perhaps reach out to recent alumni.
 - B. GS asks members to please remind students about the int'l student survey on the site
 - 5. Officer for Student Life & Services (Ashna Ali, services@cunydisc.org)
 - A. AA notes that the Krav Maga session went well.
 - B. AA reports that meditation sessions are over, but they were well-received.
 - 6. Officer for Technology & Library (Hamad Sindhi, library@cunydisc.org)
 - A. HS reports that the CUNY First FOIL ad-hoc committee met last week. We're doing some research before meeting a DSC lawyer before filing a FOIL request on CUNY First this summer.
 - B. Password reset is now available online for Office 365. You need to set this up online. It doesn't take much time. Graduate Center computer logon is a separate account from your email accounts, so please remember that these passwords may not be the same.
 - C. All @gc.cuny.edu email accounts will be deleted on June 1. Move any emails that you still need.
 - D. Met with Bob Campbell. Discussed paying students who host tech seminars. There is now a system in place to make sure students get paid.
 - E. There is a new library resource for open access repository that is now available to students (creative or scholarly works). The benefit is that Google searches for your work will kick out higher results.

VI. Announcements

1. Member Jonathan Ben-Benjamin defended his dissertation yesterday!

VII. Adjournment

1. DN motions to adjourn, JP seconds, passes unanimously

Meeting ends at 5:50pm

Minutes submitted by Amy Martin