

Steering Committee Meeting November 5, 2010

MINUTES

Plenary

Present: Jill Belli (JB), Anick Boyd (AB), Boris Daussa-Pastor (BD), Kyle Ferguson (KF), Eero Laine (EL), Kim Libman (KL), Leigh McCallen (LM), Shawn Rice (SR), Jared Simard (JS), Chris Sula (CS), Suzanne Tamang (ST)

Executive Committee

Steering Committee

CS, chair, called the meeting to order at 6:07PM

Constitution and Bylaws

I. Approval of Agenda

Grants

SR motioned, EL seconded, to add "Meeting Attendance" to New Business and approve the agenda. The motion was unanimously approved.

Health Issues

II. Approval of Minutes of October 15, 2010

Media Board

CS reports the numbering should be Roman numerals on the Minutes. EL corrects that the task force is new.

Outreach

Student Services

BD motions, SR seconds, to approve the minutes with the changes mentioned. The motion was unanimously approved.

III. Executive Committee Reports

1. Co-Chair for Student Affairs (Eero Laine)

EL reports that chartered organizations will be put forward again at the November Plenary because of two-thirds majority required. EL informs the Steering Committee that the Prison Studies Group is working on a books-to-prison program. SR mentions that perhaps the books can be stored in the library. EL mentions that there is a new page for PSAs on the DSC website and that a few PSAs are already working on submitting constitutions for the next Plenary. EL also adds that CS has made a PSA diagram for distribution explaining the recognition process and a second diagram showing the structure of known student governments at the GC—these are encouraged to be distributed to individual programs.

2. Co-Chair for Communications (Kim Libman)

KL reports the deadlines for advocate articles and publishing deadlines have been posted, and this info has been put out to Chartered Organizations. KL reports that Media Board met and ST was elected as chair. KL reports that a meeting for taking down the wall between 5414 and 5409 is being scheduled. The project may require significant funds and we are probably looking at a 3-5 year project. KL reports that the NYSHIP event will be held in the Spring semester. KL is in discussion with Student Affairs regarding the prospect of having an eye doctor and general doctor come in once a week. Bob Hatcher will be reporting at the December Plenary and we are expecting new utilization statistics for the Nurse Practitioner. PCAD is used well.

Following her report, KL left the meeting.

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

CS first reports that Korean Students Association was discovered to have a bank account. A letter was sent to the chair and he responded very quickly. After an in-person meeting, the chair agreed that the bank account will be closed.

CS reports that there have been several requests by staff to buy movie tickets. CS explains the business nature of our sales. The DSC nets a small loss on every movie ticket if administrative costs are factored in. ST motions, SR seconds, that we expand sales of movie tickets to non-student members of the GC community with ID with a service charge of \$2/ticket contingent on non-violation of terms of purchase with AMC. The motion was unanimously approved.

CS thirdly reports on the PSC contract that was revealed at last night's Delegate Assembly meeting. CS notes that every demand the DSC put forward in our own resolution has been met. CS presents the corresponding numbers in the contract resolution and our own demands: DSC 1 relates to 31c; DSC 2 relates to 22; DSC 3 relates to 3; DSC 4 relates to 24 (parental leave), 30 (bereavement), 32a (sick leave); DSC 5 relates to 31b; DSC 6 relates to 32b and 32c (late pay). CS notes that it is unclear where the contract says "Adjunct" if that applies to GTFs as well. CS notes other contract terms that also seem relevant to us: 28; 11 (pension equity); 31a (NYSHIP); 23 (expansion of tuition remission); 14 (class size); 35 (grievance procedures). CS notes there is no priority in these demands. BD and JB will read through and report back to the meeting whether GTFs are included and where they are not so the Steering Committee can send a follow-up letter to stipulate that the contract include GTFs wherever 'adjunct' is used. It was also noted that at the DA meeting the Adjunct Project had a good turnout and all its members were wearing orange shirts.

4. USS Delegate (Jill Belli)

JB reports that on 10th of October, Cory Provost was reelected as chair. Vice-Chair for Fiscal Affairs and Vice-Chair for Community Colleges are still pending. JB reports that a CUNY symphony orchestra is in the works and all interested parties are to email JB to become involved. JB also reports that tuition hikes are

coming 2011; there will be an open Board of Trustees meeting on Nov 15th at 4:30PM to discuss, attendance is strongly encouraged. JB reports that the CUNY votes campaign had good turnout. Lastly, JB reports that there will be a SGA summit at LaGuardia Community College on November 19th and people should get involved.

Also, JB notes that there are Merit Scholarships and International & Disabled students scholarships awarded every year from USS. Usually there are 2 awards per campus but these have not been distributed for at least the past two years. A link to the application on the USS website is broken. The Merit Scholarship is for \$1,000.00.

5. UFS Liaison (Anick Boyd)

AB reports that after a letter was sent to Sandi Cooper, the chair of UFS, AB, CS and Sandy Cooper met on Wednesday. Ms. Cooper painted a bleak picture of the University's financial situation and her biggest concern is retrenchment is on the horizon, mostly achieved through eliminating department. CS reports that Lehman faculty fear this may happen as the College transitions from divisions to schools. Ms. Cooper noted that she will request floor rights for Anick at UFS but that to be elected our GTF's must go through their own senior campuses. Our strategy should be to target senior campuses, perhaps Lehman first, and get GTF's elected through these means.

IV. New Business

a. Ad-Hoc Hiring Team for Adjunct Project Coordinator for Organization & Planning

CS reports that Alison Powell, as of Dec 31st, has resigned her position. As a result, we need to hire a new Adjunct Project Coordinator for Organization & Planning for a three semester position. The ad-hoc hiring team will consist of 5 voting members: the Co-Chair for Student Affairs, 1 At-Large Steering Officer, 2 DSC representatives, and 1 DSO member. Those AP coordinators who are already in their position will be non-voting advisors.

For the Steering Officer, EL nominates LM, LM accepts. LM nominates BD, BD declines. For the 2 DSC reps the following preferential order was determined by straw poll: Edwin Mayorga, Patricia Stapleton, Anne Donlon, Colin Ashley, Thierry Agbotouedo. For DSO rep, the preferential order determined by straw poll was Marcos Wasem, Rayya Al Zein, Michael Busch, James Hoff. ST motions, KF seconds, to approve the above representatives for the Ad-Hoc Hiring Committee. The motion was unanimously approved.

EL notes he will convene the first meeting and elect a chair. CS notes that in order to allow enough time for training, the new coordinator should be in place no later than January 1st.

b. Meeting Attendance

CS notes that a two-thirds majority is needed for recognizing PSAs and chartering new organizations. With our current number of seats, that is approximately 56 reps voting Yea. At the last Plenary, at most we only achieved 53 total in attendance and not all voting the same way on any given item.

JS reports on membership as part of the general discussion of meeting attendance. JS reports that based on Article V.3.1 of the DSC constitution a total of 7 DSC members have been automatically removed from their position. Of the 7, 5 are At-Large reps: Ashley Foster, Jim Rice, Alex Zamalin, Jennifer Sloan; Jesse Goldstein; two are program reps: Heather Griffith (Physical Therapy); Mary Wright (Biochemistry). JS concludes his report by informing Steering that 28 DSC reps are in danger of being removed from their positions if absent at the November Plenary. JS notes that the 5 At-Large reps being removed will hopefully be replaced easily because of the long runners-up list from last Spring's election. PT has a runner up as well, but Biochem does not, so a special election may need to be held.

General discussion on how to improve meeting attendance ensues. LM offers up that we appeal to the fact that students wanting to charter organizations can't do so if representatives do not attend. ST suggests that what kind of food we serve be mentioned in the emails. JB reports problems with finding proxies. JS reports that it be reinforced to members that they can also request a proxy, which would allow us to assign one for them if they cannot find someone. Also, as per discussion with CS, JS reports that an idea would be to initiate the At-Large runners-up as default proxy pool for Plenaries, with the added benefit that they will learn the ropes before being called upon. EL recommends "URGENT" be in the email subject line when emails distributed. CS suggests an email should be sent to reps next week informing them of this situation. SR notes that at least the time, date, room be in the subject line of emails.

EL motions, LM seconds, to initiate a standby proxy program by inviting the next 15 runners up for At-Large Representative to Plenary meetings, by sending announcements and materials to them at the same time as reps and to solicit proxies once 14 or fewer runners-up remain. The motion was unanimously approved.

V. Steering Officer Reports

a. Office for Funding (Kyle Ferguson)

KF reports that 6 awards have been granted so far, totally \$4,244. KF reports that the Psychology Pedagogy Conference didn't list the DSC as sponsor in several publicity materials. The PI was informed of this violation. KF reports that the Grants Committee will consider punitive measures, perhaps a one-year blackout for PI and/or the event. Discussion ensues about the benefit, costs, and type of punitive measure. The following straw poll was taken: a) no sanction, b) PI sanction, c) Event sanction, d) PI & Event

sanction, e) other (with PI understood as the conference organizers). The results of the straw poll were 5 in favor of e), 4 in favor of d) and 1 for b).

KF continues: November 24 is the next grant deadline, and two weeks following that will be the next Grant Committee meeting at which KF will suggest D from the above straw poll.

KF also reports that a short description in newsletter form of awarded events has been written up. He continues to work on the needs assessment study. He will be meeting with Edith DeSoto Gonzalez.

b. Officer for Governance & Membership (Jared Simard)

JB and CS discuss uncertainty over term limits. JS notes C&B will have its next meeting on Nov17th in Rm5489 at 4:00PM.

JS notes there will be up to around ten various clean-up bylaws issues to take care at the 11.17 meeting, one of which JS insists will be a review and rewriting of the Officer for Governance and Membership job description. JS is doing several things not in the description, but that are vital to the DSC's continuing existence and this needs to be accurately reflected in the Bylaws for future officeholders.

c. Officer for Health Issues (Leigh McCallen)

LM reports that the NYSHIP event is coming along and will be held most likely in February. LM reports on her correspondence with Calvin John of AP. LM reports that the survey is almost done. LM reports the next Health Issues meeting will be held before the November Plenary, TBA.

d. Officer for Outreach (Boris Daussa-Pastor)

BD reports the postponed John Jay event will happen this upcoming Tuesday. A different meeting about off-campus programs with reps will be postponed until February. BD reports he has been in contact with Gregory Donovan regarding website issues. A Queens College event will be held on December 6th from 5-6PM. CS mentions to BD that he can sell movie tickets off campus and accept cash, but that BD must stress that cash is being accepted only because it is off campus and that on campus at the GC, check or money order will be the only accepted forms of payment.

e. Officer for Student Life & Services (Shawn Rice)

SR mentions the yoga survey and metrics to evaluate CLRN are in the works. SR also requests that new things to do be sent his way. KF mentions that it should be made clear that conferences will be given priority over yoga etc in regards to room space availability. CS mentions that conferences usually don't happen Mon-Thurs.

JS asks about Writing Center progress. It is determined that SR will write the draft document and run it by Composition and Rhetoric Group and other related parties for input. CS suggests a January 1st deadline for a draft copy and a February 1st deadline for presentation to Steering.

f. Officer for Technology & Library (Suzanne Tamang)

ST will report the results of the Tech Survey publicly on the DSC website. ST reports that Keith Miyaki and Edwin Mayorga did not attend the important Tech Committee meeting. ST will solicit help at Plenary to formalize key points for student needs to present at the next Tech Committee meeting. Among them might be poor reliability of Citrix, upgrades coming, Webfile services via Citrix, weekend service etc.

CS will notify Keith Miyaki and Edwin Mayorga in writing 5 business days before the next Steering meeting of his intent to recall them as representatives to the STF Committee.

Lastly, ST requests that any complaints about IT be sent to her.

VI. Announcements

CS notes that he may have used the wrong clicker to vote during the meeting and that the record should reflect that KL left after her report and all votes made on her clicker from that point forward should be changed to CS's voting record.

BD notes that office work needs to be clarified.

AB and EL report they are working on a local discount program. Their current attempt is with Archive, a local bar. They solicit suggestions for other business deals.

VII. Adjournment

SR motions, KF seconds, to adjourn the meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:07 PM

Respectfully submitted by Jared Simard