

**CIIS Student Alliance Meeting  
Wednesday October 26, 2005**

**MINUTES**

**1. INTRODUCTIONS**

Indulata (Indu) Prasad, SCA, opened the meeting at 6:30p.m. She introduced herself as the Coordinating Committee's Resource Coordinator/Meeting Facilitator, and then introduced the other members of the Coordinating Committee: Outreach Coordinator/Administrative Liaison Sergio Rodriguez-Castillo, ICP, and Communications Coordinator/Web Designer Mary Fries, PCC. Also introduced was Kim D'Arcy, Student Affairs Manager. Then the representative from the Diversity Action Team, Jennifer Pedelaborde, EXA, was introduced (see 4A below). Also introduced was the new Board of Trustees Student Representative, Simmy Makhijani, SCA, who can be reached at [smakhijani 'at' ciis.edu](mailto:smakhijani@ciis.edu). Finally the program reps and other attending students introduced themselves.

**2. CURRENT PROJECTS**

Sergio presented the current projects undertaken or being considered by Student Alliance and the Coordinating Committee. If you are interested in participating in any of these projects, send an email to [studentalliance 'at' ciis.edu](mailto:studentalliance@ciis.edu) or drop a note in the S.A. mailbox (located on the fourth floor of the Main Building with the faculty and staff mailboxes).

- A. Multiversity – As Student Alliance funds many students to attend conferences, the idea was presented of creating a “multiversity” where these students would report back on the conferences they attended, gave papers, etc. In addition, the forum would be open to all students to participate and present at, as well as to those who have recently defended dissertations. The event would happen once or twice a semester.
- A. AURA Project – This would be a monthly forum spotlighting a particular CIIS program. Each month the faculty and/or students of whichever program would put on a presentation of their making to communicate issues, areas of research and interest to the greater CIIS community.
- A. Used Book Sales – Rather than getting all those “book needed” and “selling book” emails through the server, perhaps S.A. could coordinate a used book sale or book exchange at the beginning and/or end of each semester.
- A. Streamlining Proposal Process – The process by which students can request money from S.A. needs to be made very clear. For what can a student request money? Conferences? Only if they are presenting a paper? To teach a class? The S.A. will be setting up a Proposal Action Team to streamline and clarify the process. In the past, if one attended three S.A. meetings you could vote on whether to accept or reject a proposal. Should we keep this format? These are a few of the many questions S.A. needs your help on. In order to process the pending proposals, there will be a meeting on December 1<sup>st</sup> of the Proposal Action Team. Send an email to S.A.
- E. Student Alliance Website – Mary Fries is developing a website that will contain S.A. minutes, a craigslist-like bulletin board for buying, selling, and bartering, information on the proposal process, health insurance info, a student resource guide, and other links. Contact Mary at [mfries 'at' ciis.edu](mailto:mfries@ciis.edu) with suggestions.

- F. Student Alliance Logo Contest – In order to make Student Alliance correspondence stand out, we’re looking for a catchy logo. Proposals are due November 18<sup>th</sup> \* and can be emailed to student alliance or dropped off at the mailbox. The Coordinating Committee considered a \$100 prize for the logo chosen appropriate—discussion ensued about the amount, and there were varying visions: was this an incentive, a perk, or payment for time put-in? Folks had suggested amounts up to \$200, so the question was put to the meeting for a vote: 5 voted for \$100, 9 voted for \$150, and 5 voted for \$200. The amount was therefore set at \$150. Proposal deadline: November 18<sup>th</sup>. (\* The Logo deadline has since been moved to December 1<sup>st</sup>.)
- G. Student Survival Guide – Indu presented the idea of an on-line or printed handbook for students new to the area and school. It could include housing info, local restaurants and other concerns for new students. To participate contact Indu at [iprasad ‘at’ ciis.edu](mailto:iprasad@ciis.edu).
- H. Health Care – Rebecca Haralabatos reported back on the recent health care survey. It appears that for the plan to be at all feasible and affordable, it would need to be a hard-waiver program, meaning every student has to sign up unless already covered. The Health Care group will meet again on November 10<sup>th</sup>, contact Rebecca at [rebeccahara ‘at’ hotmail.com](mailto:rebeccahara@hotmail.com) if interested in participating.

### 3. ACTION TEAMS

These are other areas of interest that are not currently being worked on. If you wish to participate on any of these teams, please email [studentalliance ‘at’ ciis.edu](mailto:studentalliance@ciis.edu) or drop a note at the S.A. mailbox. Descriptions of these groups will be sent via email.

- A. Outreach
- B. Resource
- C. Academic Events
- D. Cultural Events
- E. Budget
- F. Hospitality
- G. Spirituality
- H. Greening of CIIS

### 4. DISCUSSION ITEMS

Other items of concern were brought forward:

- A. Diversity Action Team – Kim D’Arcy explained that the Diversity Action Team (DAT) has been a place that responds when issues around diversity arise that affect the greater community. Jennifer Pedelaborde then explained that DAT was formed in 1991 and charged with creating diversity in classes, faculty, administration, and the student body. They were very successful at first but much work is to be done, please contact Jennifer at [jpedelaborde ‘at’ yahoo.com](mailto:jpedelaborde@yahoo.com) to get involved.
- B. Douglas Mitchell, BAC, spoke about a break-in to a student’s car right outside the Minna building during a Saturday morning class. Some BAC students conducted a rough survey and discovered that such events have happened more than once at Minna, and that many people do not feel safe walking to BART or MUNI after night classes. The issue will be given space on next month’s agenda.
- C. The Coordinating Committee wanted to get a dollar amount that they could authorize without taking a vote of the larger S.A. body. They suggested a \$100

maximum and that all transactions would be completely transparent. By consensus those assembled approved that amount.

**5. PROPOSAL REQUEST**

Heaven Walker, WS, is directing and producing The Vagina Monologues with Namaste Hall as the venue. There will be ticket sales, and 10% of money raised will go to The Comfort Women Project (<http://userwww.sfsu.edu/~soh/comfortwomen.html>). Any other money over costs will also be contributed to charity. Planned date of the production is Friday February 10<sup>th</sup>, 2006 and actors are needed! Men can also get involved! Heaven requested 'sponsorship' to get started, and this was granted by consensus. She will also submit a proposal for monetary support. Contact Heaven at [hvnwalker 'at' yahoo.com](mailto:hvnwalker@yahoo.com) to get involved!

**6. ANNOUNCEMENTS**

A final chance for concerns or ideas not brought up at the meeting:

- A. The Coordinating Committee was asked to report back on a few issues brought up: Is it possible to get @ciis.edu email addresses for all students? And: what is the status of the park on the roof that was announced just before the summer?
- B. It was suggested that some more structure be introduced into the meeting format so that the type-A personalities don't dominate. Another student suggested a simplified Robert Rules of Order.

**7. CONTACT INFORMATION**

To contact the Student Alliance Coordinating Committee, email [studentalliance 'at' ciis.edu](mailto:studentalliance@ciis.edu) or drop a note at the S.A. mailbox on the fourth floor of the Main Building. The Coordinating Committee members can also be reached at:

Resource Coordinator/Meeting Facilitator Indulata Prasad: [iprasad 'at' ciis.edu](mailto:iprasad@ciis.edu)

Outreach Coordinator/Administrative Liaison Sergio Rodriguez-Castillo: [srodriguez-castillo 'at' ciis.edu](mailto:srodriguez-castillo@ciis.edu)

Communications Coordinator/Web Designer Mary Fries: [mfries 'at' ciis.edu](mailto:mfries@ciis.edu).

**8. NEXT MEETING DATE AND ADJOURNMENT**

The next S.A. Meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, November 16 at 6:30 p.m. After this the meeting times will switch around to accommodate more participation. The meeting was adjourned at 8:00 p.m.