

CIIS Student Alliance Meeting  
Wednesday November 16, 2005

MINUTES

1. Updates
  - a. The student Alliance (SA) & Student Affairs Manager, Kim D'Arcy, met with President Joe Subbiondo. The President extended a direct and open line of communication with the SA.
  - b. The President mentioned that there is a delegation of students from Japan coming to visit CIIS in early March. Kim has been working with Joe to create a reception for them.
  
2. Report of the Diversity Action Team sponsored Town Hall Meeting (THM)
  - a. At the THM, Monique presented the results of the People of Color (POC) survey.
  - b. The lingering question is: How can we restructure CIIS programs to improve education of diversity?
  - c. The general concern is that it is not enough to offer a single course in each program; culturally sensitive and inclusive education needs to run throughout each course in each program.
  - d. The Diversity Action Team (DAT) is looking to the Student Alliance for additional ideas and resources.
  - e. The DAT is opening a temporary Diversity Coordinator position. Interested students should hand in their resume by November 18<sup>th</sup>. The position pays \$20/hr for 15/hrs a week.
  - f. Richard Shapiro is developing a diversity survey.
  - g. In an effort to "respect all traditions and spiritualities" CIIS has opened 'floating holidays' to all students and staff.
    - i. The school can't close for every holiday, so it will continue to follow the traditional schedule so we can stay in alignment with the rest of the world.
    - ii. Students can now take a day off from school to celebrate their holidays without any trouble, and are encouraged to briefly share their tradition with their classes.
  - h. Ideas for improving diversity education in the school from the SA meeting:
    - i. Adding a diversity component to class evaluation forms
    - ii. Adding 'awareness months' to the website
  
3. Report on safety
  - a. From next semester on, the BAC classes are going to be held at the main building and will use the faculty and staff parking lot.
  - b. The question was raised: Can other weekend or night students use the back parking lot? The SA will look into this.

- c. Update: Over the weekend the EXA office was broken into. Now IDs and signing in will be required after 6 or 7pm and on weekends.
  - d. The SA is hosting the next Town Hall meeting on Dec. 6 in Room #306 from 11:30 am to 1:00 pm on the issue of 'Safety'.
  - e. The Student Alliance will also be putting together a safety survey. Volunteers are needed for planning and execution of the survey - intended time frame: first week of February
4. Hosting new Students
- a. The SA will host a welcoming party for new students every semester where students learn about the SA and what they can expect from the SA.
  - b. Indu and Kim are working to put together a list of students who are willing to host or pickup new students for the spring semester.
  - c. Dec 5<sup>th</sup> is the deadline for compiling this list.
  - d. Please contact kdarcy 'at' ciis.edu (Student Affairs Manager) or iprasad 'at' ciis.edu (Student Alliance representative) if you can offer one of these services to new students.
  - e. The question was raised as to whether there is any possibility of establishing a fund for desperate students. Each Program Representative (PR) will talk to their program.
5. Action Teams
- a. All groups are open for more people and all have at least a few so far.
  - b. The Action Teams should get together soon and start working.
  - c. The Action Teams will have a space (as requested) to report to the assembly.
  - d. The Resource Action Team and Hospitality teams have started working.
6. Proposals
- a. The Proposal Action Team (PAT) will meet soon to prepare criteria for the proposal process.
  - b. Now is the time to request funds as the PAT will be scheduling review times soon.
  - c. The question was raised: What about conferences that don't fit into the deadline timeframes? The PAT will discuss this matter as they establish the criteria.
  - d. By unanimous vote, the SA authorized the PAT to go through the proposals and come up with recommendations. The SA will still make the final vote.
7. Budget
- a. The SA currently has approximately \$50,400.
  - b. It is important to use this money, so the Student Alliance continues to receive \$10 from each student and the amount isn't reduced to \$5.

- c. The Action Teams should put together estimated budgets so the Budget Team can make an SA budget plan for the year.

#### 8. Logo Contest Update

- a. The contest has been publicized through the CIIS list serve and on flyers around the buildings.
- b. Entries can be black and white or color and should be sent in JPG format to studentalliance 'at' ciis.edu or dropped off in the Student Alliance mailbox on the fourth floor by December 1<sup>st</sup> at 5 PM. All entries should be accompanied by a 50-100 word description of what the logo represents. Complete rules and guidelines are on the flyer.
- c. Between December 1<sup>st</sup> and our December Student Alliance Meeting, the Program Representatives and Coordinating Committee will vote to narrow down the selections to our top 3 choices. At the Student Alliance meeting, all present will vote for the best of the three to be the new Student Alliance logo.
- d. The PR and CC voting instructions will arrive by email.

#### 9. Social Event for the end of this semester:

- a. There have been a few students asking if the Student Alliance is planning an end of semester party.
- b. There is also concern that there is little time available with final projects coming due to put together a well-organized party.
- c. Alternatively, the suggestion of a beginning of spring semester party was proposed via email.
- d. The vote was in favor of an end of semester party on December 14<sup>th</sup> in Namaste Hall from 4:00 pm – 9:30 pm. Patrick is our choice for catering and music. Melissa Lago and the CC will plan the party.
- e. If this plan cannot be worked out, the 'Plan B' is a low-key, mid-week, de-stress gathering during the last week of classes.

#### 10. Journey with Depression

- a. The idea for this presentation was sent to Richard Buggs from the promoter.
- b. The CC decided that SA sponsored events should be initiated by the students not by promoters.
- c. Any student may propose this project if interested.
- d. SA will take no further action on this matter.

#### 11. Thanksgiving Party

- a. Sergio will present this idea on the CIIS student listserve.

#### 12. Next Meeting

- a. The next SA meeting will take place on Thursday December 8<sup>th</sup>.

b. Logo voting will take place on this day.