

CIIS Student Alliance Meeting
Tuesday, January 31, 2006

MINUTES

1. Introductions

2. Mission & Goals of Student Alliance (SA)

Communications Coordinator Mary Fries described SA's history and purpose as a forum to explore common student problems and give voice to student concerns. As the deliberative body that spends student fees, the SA has helped CIIS students attend conferences and give workshops, as well as fund social and informational events, among other things. Currently SA receives nearly \$25,000 in revenue per academic year, and the balance as of 1/31/06 is \$47,327. In order to strengthen and revitalize SA, last year funds went to three part-time positions, making up the SA's Coordinating Committee. They are Indu Prasad, Mary Fries, and Sergio Rodriguez-Castillo.

Student Affairs Manager Kim D'Arcy reported on current projects and past accomplishments: The SA website will launch in May, many action teams were formed to provide input on particular issues to the larger student alliance body, there were lots of events including a Thanksgiving gathering, town hall meeting on safety, book-swap, campus info sessions, end-of-semester celebration and a screening of "One." SA also funded the Vagina Monologues to be performed Friday, February 10 (2 shows 6:00 and 8:30 PM, tickets \$9 at the Café, all profits to charity). SA is also holding a contest to create a new logo.

3. Student Input

Many students expressed concern about the proposal process, as a lot of time was spent in the last meeting considering proposals. There were simple misunderstandings but also information that did not get out, and the general sense of the meeting was that it is very important for the SA to get a set of guidelines over what SA funds and how money is divided up, both among categories (social, educational, funding workshops, sending students to conferences) and among the programs within CIIS. Indu proposed to look at past SA expenditures and bring to the next meeting a summary of categories upon which discussion can begin. The next proposal deadline is **Wednesday, February 22nd**, so if you want to have your say on how student funds are spent, come to the next SA meeting on Wednesday, February 15, 12-1:30PM (Location TBA, the front-door greeter will know), or send an email to [studentalliance 'at' ciis.edu](mailto:studentalliance@ciis.edu).

4. New Projects

Kim reviewed SA expenditures from August 2005 to the present: \$14,000 was spent on student proposals, coordinating committee salaries, meals for meetings, social events, health insurance research, and the rooftop garden. Regarding the

garden, the engineers and landlords have settled their issue over permitting and construction should continue this semester. She emphasized the necessity of setting funding priorities at the next meeting.

Simmy Makhijani (Student Representative to the Board of Trustees) proposed that SA consider spending funds on an emergency fund for students who have medical, family or other emergencies that could end or interrupt their studies. Showing a commitment from the SA towards such a fund could also help raise issues of finances and privilege to a wider audience. Contact Simmy at smakhijani@ciis.edu if interested in this issue.

Rebecca Haralabatos reported on health insurance plans: The afore publicized Plan B may be available in the Fall due to a partnership with the University of San Francisco. The SA will decide next meeting on whether to continue to retain Rebecca's excellent research work on this issue.

Any questions or comments? Contact the coordinating committee at studentalliance@ciis.edu.

Student Alliance Meetings for Spring 2006

Wednesday, February 15, 12-1:30 PM

Wednesday, March 1, 6:15-7:30 PM

Tuesday, March 14, 12-1:30 PM

Wednesday, April 5, 12-1:30 PM

Tuesday, April 18, 6:15-7:30 PM

Tuesday, April 25, 6:15-7:30 PM

All meeting space locations to be announced. The front-door greeter will always know.

Proposal Deadlines – Have an idea that will change the course of humanity? Submit a proposal for funding by:

Wednesday, February 22nd (to be voted on at the March 1 meeting), and
Monday, April 10 (to be voted on at the April 18 meeting).

Proposals must be received by 5:00PM in the Student Alliance Mailbox on the 4th Floor. Email for a proposal form, or stop by Kim D'Arcy's office, Room 401.

Upcoming Events:

Vagina Monologues - Friday, February 10th
Featuring CIIS Students, Staff and Faculty
6:00PM and 8:00PM Namaste Hall

Guided Tour of Asian Art Museum – Thursday, March 9th
12:30 - 1:15 pm

Lunch Reception for Delegation of
Students from Japan – Friday, March 3rd
Co-Presented with the President's Office and Student Affairs
11:45- 2:45 Namaste Hall

Multiversity – Sunday, April 2nd
CIIS Conference Featuring CIIS Students as Presenters
Co-Presented with Student Affairs and the Library
10:00AM – 6:30PM Mission Campus

Expression Session – Friday, April 7th
Combination Open Mic/Talent Show for Entire CIIS Community
Co-presented with Student Affairs
7:00 – 10:00 Namaste Hall

End-of-the Semester Celebration –
Thursday April 27
Theme and Details to be Determined
7:00 – 11:00 Namaste Hall