

CIIS Student Alliance Meeting
Tuesday, April 25, 2006

MINUTES

1. BRIEF BUDGET REPORT

- While the exact details of the Student Alliance budget still have yet to be worked out, there is some question about whether or not SA will be able to hire coordinators next year.
- The Rooftop Garden funds, Emergency Relief Fund, and some of the funds granted for student proposals have not been taken out of the account.
- The budget will be worked out and the situation evaluated this summer.

2. PLANS FOR SUMMER

- Student Alliance will meet once a month over the summer. The Coordinating Committee will announce the dates.
- There will be one proposal deadline at the end of the summer.
- The following tasks were identified:
 - i. Clearly articulating SA spending for the year and establishing a **budget**.
 - ii. Getting a handle on the progress of the **Rooftop Garden**.
 - iii. Deciding the Student Alliance **positions** for next year, and how to fill them.
 - iv. Completing the **Funding Guidelines**.

3. END OF SEMESTER PARTY

- Masks have been picked up by Mary Fries and Michael Danzansky.
- Compostable cups and plates will be bought from the café.
- The ceremony will be run by Michael and Elizabeth Husserl.
- Michael will buy snacks. We will also use the leftover candy from the film screening. Mary will contact Richard Buggs to see if there are any beverages available.
- Glue Guns are still needed to borrow for the night, and help decorating would also be appreciated

4. PROPOSAL FUNDING GRIEVANCE

- A student who had applied for \$1,500 and been granted \$250 in the last round of proposals shared a grievance with the process by which Student Alliance granted larger sums of money earlier in the year, and less as we ran out of money toward the end.
- The grievance brought into light the bigger issue of SA's need to establish a procedure for addressing complaints.
- One student suggested creating a database of alternate sources for funding.
- The student who brought this issue to the attention of SA suggested that instead of having the proposal review process allocated to a smaller group (the Proposal Action Team), SA should discuss each proposal individually in the bigger meetings as it has in the past, and that the budget should be more transparent to the student body throughout the year.

5. FINANCIAL AID

- In response to student concerns about the Financial Aid Office, the Blair and Sergio will be meeting the Dean of Students and the Financial Aid Officer to present data that they have collected about problematic student experiences with the Financial Aid Department.
- A student suggested bringing a list of recommendations as well.