

Student Alliance Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, October 11, 2006

1. Introductions and Welcome to Nandi Hetenyi, Our New Student Alliance Operations Coordinator
2. Suggestion from Maite: Movement space for the students at the school. What kinds of studios are available where movement oriented classes could be held? Sarah suggested Cellspace: it is available and close to campus.
3. Maite is interested in being the student representative for the EXA program, first year. Geoffrey Hamilton volunteered to be the representative for the PsyD program. Meg Vanburen and Maitri will be sharing representation from the Drama Therapy program.
4. Announcements
 - a. Proposal Deadline: October 20th: Voting meeting: November 2nd The proposal process is one of the main functions of the SA. We have adequate funds to give out for projects aligned with CIIS vision.
 - b. Two upcoming events – All Souls Celebration: Wednesday, November 1st and the End of the Semester Party: Thursday, November 30th.
5. Action Items
 - a. Proposal Action Team – lead by Nandi
 - Geoffrey
 - Meg
 - Adrian
 - b. Yoga Teacher Hiring Committee
 - Need to hire a yoga teacher, lots of yoga teachers! SA and the Staff Association are contributing \$500 each to fund yoga classes, so we can have two classes a week!
 - Need a coordinator for the Yoga Teacher interviews. Mary will send out a call to the student body.
 - c. Call for Program Representatives (see point 3 above)
 - d. Food Coordinator – Sarah volunteered to be the new Food Coordinator. She will coordinate food for SA meetings and events. Mary will send her an email to have her coordinate with Stephen.
 - e. All Soul's Day Celebration: Coordination and Volunteers.
 - We have a budget for this.
 - November 1, 2006
 - Meg suggested making an altar. Open to helping with alter items.
 - Geoffery will ask his friends if they want to help out with details.
 - An Event Coordinator is still needed for the Celebration.
 - f. Mary will make an announcement looking for helpers for the End of Semester party at the next meeting.
 - g. Photographer/historian – Anyone who takes a lot of pictures of SA events send them to Mary and they will get up on the website.

- h. Outside Event Coordinator – Gregory Alan Isakov wants to do a concert here around Nov. 20th. Would a student be interested in putting that together? No one present volunteered.

6. Updates

- a. Development Programs Update – Sarah Noyes has been researching hosting professional development workshops and classes at CIIS. Student Alliance has voted to spend \$1,800 for 6 classes over the course of the year.
 - Susan Schneider, a CIIS graduate, can do an improv class here. She would need to get a head count and have people register. She would be interested in doing the class in the Fall since she's pregnant.
 - Need to get a date (Sarah) to find a room, put a message on the list serve.
 - Matthew Bronson – 3 Hour class focusing on writer's block and anxiety around writing. Or a class to take a test to see learning. Depending on how many people take the class, perhaps SA could pay for it. Envisioning Leadership using a Medicine Wheel, as well as suggestions around technology workshops. Mathew also suggested Interviewing for Academic Jobs with Kim if she were into it.
 - Sarah will email student list serve about workshops to solicit interest in the student base.
 - Becky had suggested an etiquette classes.
 - An idea of a class on how to start your own workshop
 - An idea of a class on grant-writing
 - Sarah – draft up an email to student list serve listing possible workshop ideas to garner student interest.
- b. Sarah brought some issues from TLD to Dean of Student Shirley Strong, and felt as though things were in action.

7. Thoughts and Ideas

- a. Kundan shared some ideas and questions.
 - Hiring Committee for Student Alliance positions. Has some questions. Feels that the interview process of the Operations Coordinator wasn't done according to the Ethical Standards. He wants to bring this to the SA and Mary in the most transparent manner.
 - o Mary shared about the process that happened after she got hired. They weren't able to get all the students together who offered to be a part of the process. It was getting late in the semester and wanted to go ahead and look for someone. Everyone was invited to be a part of the hiring committee.
 - o Person hired did not work out, put out another call to the student body looking for someone.
 - o Interviews were conducted by the same people in each interviews with the same questions asked. Four people on the hiring committee. Interviewed everyone who applied

to make it fair as possible.

- Feels that the transparency of the issue is not happening in regards to the hiring process and the person who was hired prior. Seems like the process was out of integrity.
- There needs to be more transparency about processes.
- Becky was the coordinator for the current hiring process and possibly Sergio was the coordinator of the past process.
- Kundan is concerned about Mary's participation in the process. He does not understand that process or what happened.
- Shirley – Student Alliance positions are Institute employees, so now we need to know that the hiring process is held up to the Institute standards. That will be the process now going forward. Staff will be involved now for checks and balances for now going forward in the process of hiring these SA positions. She regrets what happened and that it was out of line in the past and is open to suggestions about how to reconcile the past.
- Adrian – principle seems more important than efficacy for the past hiring process. So, in the future, principle will become more important than moving forward to the process.
- We don't know what to do to find a resolution about this issue. Kundan wants the student body to do for this person who's life has been effected by the past hiring process.
- Call an emergency caucus meeting. Shirley said that we should have a meeting where Mary can be there, along with Sergio and the aggrieved student. It would be best for the aggrieved person and the committee members involved can be present. The aggrieved student will be contacted by Shirley and will be asked if she would like to bring the issue to student alliance. If so, then what times would be good for her, recognizing the dilemma of scheduling before the next SA meeting. Asking the aggrieved student if she'd like a more intimate meeting with necessary parties or if it would be a SA meeting.