

Student Alliance Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, March 6, 2007

1) Meditation and Introductions

Our meeting began with a meditation and check-ins. All in attendance felt that this was a great way to begin the meeting.

2) Proposal Applications Discussion and Voting

- a. The Proposal Action Team (PAT) met on March 5th to create recommendations for funding. The agenda for the meeting included guidelines for the meeting. Unfortunately, the guideline of 'confidentiality' has been breached, and one of the students whose proposal was not recommended for funding - though no final decision had been made before today's meeting - was told that their proposal had been rejected. Nandi will follow up to explain the PAT's recommendation and the Student Alliance's decision.
- b. Presentation of PAT Process and Recommendations
 - i. Overview
 1. There were 45 proposals totaling a request of \$18,795. The high number (the highest number of applications before this semester was 12) marks an increase of Student Alliance visibility and activity on campus.
 2. There was \$5,000 to award. The PAT worked thoughtfully and efficiently to prepare their recommendations to SA. Preference was given to students already accepted to present at conferences, as well as to students demonstrating clarity and excellence of application. The seven CIIS ideal's were also strongly influential in recommendation- as well as final decision-making. Also considered was the benefit of the proposal to the CIIS community – either directly, thought interaction with the community, or

indirectly, by representing the school in an outside venue and thereby increasing the recognition and prestige of CIIS academically.

ii. PAT's Recommendations for Funding

1. Nandi read through the 18 applications that were recommended for funding by the PAT and described the reasons for funding, the amount recommended (if it did not match the amount requested) and any notes or concerns.
2. The group voted to fund these 18 proposals recommended for funding by the PAT with a revision to #27 that if the applicant's abstract is not accepted and s/he still wishes to attend the conference, we will fund \$125, the amount allotted in the guidelines for attending a national conference. These 18 proposals (assuming the aforementioned student's abstract is accepted and s/he is funded the full \$250 requested) totaled \$3,555.

iii. PAT's Recommendations Against Funding

Nandi read through the remaining applications that were not recommended for funding and explained the PAT's thought process. Reasons included: lack of clarity regarding timing, location, description, influence of the work, or evidence of claims; the project or event did not appear to be thoroughly planned; the proposal was more personal-growth-oriented than academically-oriented; the event, conference, or workshop happens far enough in the future to be more appropriately included in the summer or even fall proposal applications; the student indicated that they will have graduated before the event or conference (see Ideas for Guidelines Revisions below); the project or event was department- or course-specific and should be funded by the corresponding department; the project or event was campus-group-oriented and the student(s) should

apply through the forthcoming community-oriented guidelines rather than the individual guidelines of this proposal process.

iv. Ideas for Guidelines Revisions

1. Receipts and registration confirmations should be included, if appropriate.
2. Abstract(s) and acceptance letter(s) should be included, if the student claims to be presenting.
3. We need to clarify the distinction between individually-oriented funding applications, community-benefiting applications, and campus group applications.
4. How should we consider applications for CIIS Public Programs?
5. Can students apply for funds to attend, present at, or participate in conferences or events that occur after their personal date of graduation? Their registration fees would still be funding the award money available, but would they be able to present at Multiversity? What kind of guideline would we have for how long after graduation they could receive funding? We should include expected graduation date on the application form.
6. How do we address students who are proposing hosting or creating an event on campus for which a date has not yet been set? The student may be waiting for funding before coordinating the event.
7. How far back do we fund retroactively and what fill we fund retroactively?
8. The SA's funding (or lack thereof) of department- or course-specific projects should be very clearly stated.
9. The guidelines should be carefully inspected for clarity and consistency.

v. Summary of Student Alliance Voting

1. 4 out of the 5 students present voted to accept the PAT's 18 recommendations for funding with two revisions (the revision on #27 noted above in section 2.b.ii.2. and a revision on #9 to allow the student to reapply in the summer proposal process after the guideline has been clarified regarding graduation dates and funding, see section 2.b.iv.5.). The fifth student present had missed a significant portion of the meeting thus far and abstained from voting.
2. 13 proposals were recommended for resubmission in the upcoming summer proposal application process. These students will be told of SA's requests of their application, if appropriate.
3. 6 proposal applicants were recommended to seek SA funds under the forthcoming guidelines for community-oriented projects, and should email the SA Communications Coordinator, Mary Fries (mfries@ciis.edu) at least one week before the next meeting (March 26th) to have their proposal included in the agenda (see more information about this meeting in section 4 below).
4. 3 proposals were pulled by the applicant.
5. 5 proposal applications were rejected for funding.
6. \$3,555 was approved for funding.

3) **Kali Ma – End of the Year Event**

Nandi presented the following End of the Year Event idea to the Student Alliance: a Community Dinner (open to CIIS staff, faculty, and students) and meditation, chanting, and teachings by Kali Ma. This event would take place on April 26th, include sattvic foods and no alcohol, and last about 2.5 hours total. The group approved a \$400 donation to Kali Ma and \$600+ for food. Nandi will lead the coordination of this event.

- 4) **The Next Meeting** – March 26th
- a. Before the next meeting, Mary will coordinate a group to revise the SA proposal guidelines for clarity and inclusively and to develop the community-benefiting guidelines (or group guidelines, as the revision group decides to call them).
 - b. After their meeting and before the SA meeting, Mary will email the guidelines to the SA list server.
 - c. At the next SA meeting, these guidelines will be submitted for approval. If the SA votes to instate these guidelines, applicants who were recommended to seek SA funds by presentation at an SA meeting and have followed through on communicating with the Communications Coordinator will be heard. If the guidelines are not approved, the remainder of the meeting will be used to revise the guidelines, and the applicants will be included directly after the guidelines approval vote that will begin the April 6th meeting.

Event Announcements

1) **Spring Meeting Dates:**

Monday, March 26 from 3pm to 5pm in room 207 (Guidelines)

Friday, April 6 from 2pm to 4pm in room 214 (Budget & Guidelines)

Tuesday, April 17 from 6:30pm to 8:30pm in room 606 (Future Planning)

2) **Professional Development Workshops:**

Academic Writing - Wednesday, March 7 at 6:15 PM in room 207

Starting a Private Practice - Monday, March 12 at 6:15 PM in room 311

Public Speaking - Wednesday, March 28 at 6:15 PM in room 311

Excel - Tuesday, April 17 at 6:15 PM in room 311

3) **Turkish Movie Nights:**

"Hammam" introduced by Yael Habif

on Thursday, March 15 from 6pm to 9pm in room 311

"Sommersault in the Coffin" by Sinem Yilanci

on Thursday, March 29 from 6pm to 9pm in room 311

"The Juggler" introduced by Cigdem Alper

on Tuesday, April 3 from 6pm to 9pm in Namaste

"The Way" introduced by Ipek Sarac

on Thursday, April 5 from 6pm to 9pm in room 311

"My Father and My Son" introduced by Arzu Ozatalay

on Tuesday, April 10 from 6pm to 9pm in Namaste

4) **Yoga**

Mondays from 11:45 AM – 12:45 PM in Namaste Hall

Thursdays from 9:30 AM to 10:30 AM in room 207