

**Student Alliance Meeting Minutes**  
**Friday, April 6, 2007**  
**2:00 PM room 214**

- 1) **Meditation and Introductions** (10 min)
  - Attendance – Mary, Nandi, Erik (Anthro), Meg (EXA), Amanda (EXA) and Shirley Strong (Dean of Students)
- 2) **Mission Statement** (60 min)
  - a. **Review** of last meeting's work – Reviewed the draft from the last SA meeting (please see minutes).
  - b. **Discussion** – Discussion ensued about the draft of the Mission Statement. Nandi asked about the focus and the intention of Student Alliance, which she thought would help in constructing and fine tuning the mission statement. Erik suggested that each department also elect representatives to serve on SA and the various student groups. Nandi brought up how important it will be to look at SA historically and currently in order to vision for the future. A student who was not able to attend today's meeting sent an email with his feedback regarding the mission statement and suggested a briefer, more essential statement. Shirley thought it would be important to include a historical component of SA and then a statement about moving forward as we are at a real crossroads and SA wants to support the work that is unfolding. The current role of student alliance includes: funding, communications, sponsoring events and working with students to help them actualize institute ideals. We talked about “voices” and what this means in the context of student “voices”. What does it mean to have a “voice” or to represent a “voice” or “voices”.
    - Meg introduced the idea of a more cohesive partnership between Student Alliance and UNITE! as both groups are participating in taking on more student leadership at CIIS. Shirley spoke about how synergy and integration is very important as these student groups move forward, and that SA holds the purse strings while UNITE is pushing certain processes forward in the school. Mary shared her thoughts about UNITE participating in the proposal process, budgeting for UNITE as a possible way to integrate and create alliance between these two student groups. What kind of framework would SA and UNITE need to have for funding, is it possible for SA to allocate some funding towards this?
  - c. **Revision** – This is the Mission Statement drafted from today's Student Alliance meeting –  
**Student Alliance is a student run organization that facilitates communication, sponsors events and allocates funding to help students and student groups actualize the seven institute ideals. Listening to student voices, we build alliances, cultivate student**

**leadership and advocate for social change and transformation of existing power structures.**

### 3) **Summer Planning**

- a. Meetings
  - i. Let's plan four meetings over the summer. Bring possible availability to the next SA meeting on 4/17.
  - ii. Before the first summer meeting, there will be a preliminary meeting to revise the proposal guidelines in order to dialogue about them at the first summer meeting. Revision of the individual guidelines will take place along with drafting guidelines for community proposals. Work on these documents will be placed on the SA list serve for feedback.
  - iii. Meeting #2 will instate guidelines and voting on proposals will take place at Meeting #3.
  - iv. Will talk on 4/17 about bringing UNITE into alliance with SA.
- b. Hiring – A brief discussion about hiring ensued.

Mary is graduating (but will still work through the summer) and SA's current practice is to open all positions for application toward the end of the summer. Those in attendance discussed opening up Mary's position since she is leaving and maintaining the Operations Coordinator position as Nandi will not be graduating. Group talked about how in a company hiring process, a position opens up when an employee leaves, not opening up all of the positions. Discussion about this and past hiring processes ensued. Will discuss this further on 4/17.

### **Spring Event Announcements**

- a. **Spring Meeting Dates:**

Tuesday, April 17 from 6:30pm to 8:30pm in room 606  
(Future Planning: Budget)
- b. **Professional Development Workshops:**

Excel - Tuesday, April 17 at 6:15 PM in room 311
- c. **Turkish Movie Nights: "My Father and My Son"**

introduced by Arzu Ozatalay  
on Tuesday, April 10 from 6pm to 9pm in Namaste
- d. **Yoga**

Mondays from 11:45 AM to 12:45 PM in Namaste Hall  
Thursdays from 9:30 AM to 10:30 AM in room 207
- e. **End of Year Dinner and Teaching with Kali Ma**

Thursday, April 26<sup>th</sup>  
Free Dinner 5:00-7:00 PM - Cafe  
Teaching 7:00-9:00 PM – Namaste Hall