

Student Alliance Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, April 17, 2007
6:30 PM room 606

- 1) **Meditation and Introductions** (10 min)
Mary, Alejandro, Becki, Nandi, Meg and Shirley
- 2) **Overview of Summer Plans** (35 min)
 - a. Discuss Summer Plans (10 min) - Listed on back. What times/days generally work for everybody?
 - People were open in regards to scheduling for the summer.
 - b. Callout for Volunteers: (10 min)
 - i. Guidelines Re-visioning Committee –
 - Alejandro wanted to bring up what the group can think about the guidelines and homework people can do before coming together for the summer to think about the guidelines. How can Student Alliance be revised to bring in more voices to be more representative of the student body. Perhaps SA members can go to each of the meetings and not just sending out an email. He expressed interest in helping out with this.
 - Mary thought a good starting place would be to send out the meeting dates to the student list serve, including even a preliminary meeting about the guidelines.
 - Becky had an idea about the program representatives, which has been very unofficial in the past. Sending the dates to the program coordinator and ask them to send someone to the meetings. Mary shared that she tried to do this but the program directors weren't necessarily complying. Alejandro suggested having multiple ways of reaching out.
 - Shirley shared a couple of thoughts about how difficult it is to get students. It's a commuter school and a graduate school. Seems like the best way to get participation through the groups and not through the administration. If there were more students involved, then we could go to the programs and show them that.
 - Becki asked about elected positions. Student positions that could go on resumes. Talked about creating a structure, esteeming the group or creating titles. What about adding in conferencing for the whole transformative leadership students who aren't able to make it here. There is an AV department and this kind of equipment would come from that.
 - Meg spoke about imagining someone from WPAR as they restructure to take on a role for student alliance. Mary will send an email to all of the group leaders as well and also

send the meeting date list to the general student body.
(students@ciis.edu)

- Nandi talked about what student alliance does and what we are bringing to or promising to students. Discussion ensued about this and the balance between organizing and bringing plans to action
 - ii. Hiring Committee and Hiring Coordinator
 - Becky thought that continuity was essential, and it was discussed that Nandi wants to keep her position. Discussion about last year's hiring process. Meg talked about awareness that students don't feel the same way. Alejandro shared support for Nandi staying in her position and also checking in with other student voices.
 - Shirley talked about how the budget stuff and the proposal stuff is critical in terms with how the position interfaces with the students, like financial aid. Need to have someone with interpersonal abilities and that this is a really unique situation. Should be able to hire sooner so that they can get the training and experience, seeing how it works.
 - Hiring committee earlier, so that it happens between meetings 3 and 4. Switching the proposal process and the hiring committee.
 - iii. Yoga Teacher Hiring Committee and Hiring Coordinator
 - Becky volunteered for hiring the yoga teacher hiring committee and expressed wanting to have a first years student with her so she can pass on the information and the work that she does.
- c. Hiring Plans (15 min)
- i. Nandi is interested in maintaining her position as Operations Coordinator (OC). Last year we reopened the Communications Coordinator (CC) position (which Mary held and was rehired for) as we established the new OC position. There has been significant interest among active SA members in not reopening the OC position and keeping Nandi in place as we find a new CC (Mary will continue through the end of the summer). Let's have another quick discussion to express student thoughts around this idea.
 - ii. Decided that hiring for Mary's position and should announce it as soon as possible. Will continue to dialogue about Nandi's position. Can send out the announcement for the Communications Coordinator. Mary will bounce a draft off of the list server before posting the position. Shirley also talked about checking in with HR, to follow HR guidelines. Becky talked about how she met with L'esa and Gwen prior to the last hiring process to formulate questions, etc. The current Hiring committee should also meet with

HR, particularly to be in integrity with diversity guidelines, etc. We will continue to be in dialogue around the process. And, if we decide to open up the second position, then we'll also post that position after a decision is made.

3) **Budget (45 min)**

a. **Presentation (10 min)** - Nandi

b. **Discussion and Revision of 2007-2008 Budget (35 min)**

i. In the last Student Alliance meeting there was considerable discussion around increasing funding for active and empowering student groups, particularly UNITE which functions as an alliance between People of Color, White People Working Against Racism, Queer at CIIS, and Multipeople.

ii. Where do we stand on funding student groups?

- Nandi presented the current budget. Spring income has not yet been added to the account. \$500 still have yet to be dispersed to Students receiving awards. Only \$370 has been used of the \$2,400 allocated for student groups. The employee category shows a higher than predicted amount because the SA employees missed a number of paychecks at the end of the 2005-2006 fiscal year and these funds were paid out at the beginning of the 2006-2007. Events and outings have been combined into one category. There are a number of questions about items on the 'transaction ledger' that Nandi is in the process of clarifying with the financial authorities. There was some confusion on the Yoga funds, but we achieved clarification.
- We discussed raising the campus groups' allocation. Students were in favor of this. Alejandro expressed concern about how that money is spent.
- Building or initiating the building of a movement space (dance floor, mirrors, barres) was discussed. This has come up before, but there is some question of whether it would be appropriate for students to fund something that the institution should be funding.
- Meg suggested consideration of UNITE!'s unique position as a coalition of student groups in the allocation of funding for student groups.

4) **Yoga Voting (20 min)**

a. The Yoga Hiring Committee has been keeping track of attendance and even taken a survey, and their recommendation is to fund the continuation of Sharanjit's Gentle Yoga class through the summer and into the fall and to find a new second teacher for the fall who has some afternoon/evening availability.

- b. VOTE: If the Staff Association matches our funding, is the Student Alliance willing to fund another \$250 to support CIIS yoga classes over the summer
- Agreed to fund a summer yoga class. There will be yoga discussion at the third meeting. Both of the yoga teachers received good reviews. There is a time conflict with one of the yoga classes.

Announcements

c. **Summer Meetings:** (Dates TBA)

Pre Meeting #1: Preliminary work on re-visioning guidelines (email Mary to participate)

Meeting #1: Discussion New Guidelines Draft

Pre-Meeting #2: Continued discussion over list server

Meeting #2: Final Discussion of and Voting on Guidelines and Planning for Next Year

Pre Meeting #3: P.A.T. Meeting to develop summer funding recommendations based on new guidelines (email Nandi to participate)

Meeting #3: Proposal Voting

Pre-Meeting #4: Hiring Committee meets with and selects new SA coordinator(s)

Meeting #4: Introduction to New Coordinating Committee Member(s) and Planning for Upcoming Semester

d. **Yoga - through Monday May 21st**

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 26th in Namaste Hall

Dinner 5:00-7:00 PM

Teaching 7:00-9:00 PM