

Student Alliance Meeting Minutes
Thursday, October 04, 2007
3:00 PM room 606

Mission Statement: 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

Attendance: Mary and Erik, Becky Tinsley- EXA, Paula Pulizzi- Drama Therapy and WPWAR, Dan Hayes –ACS, Anna- PCC, Simmy Mahkijani- SCA, Sarwang Parikh - ICP, Shirley Strong- Dean of Students

1) Opening and Introductions

Welcome to Erik Schnabel from SCA, our new Operations Coordinator!

2) Photo shoot for New Website – in Rooftop Garden

3) Volunteer Call

- a. Seeking 2-3 **Program Representatives** from each department and 1-2 **Campus Group Representatives** from each group to attend Student Alliance meetings and form bridges throughout the institute.
- b. **Proposal Action Team:** The PAT meets independently of the Student Alliance meetings, after the Funding Proposal deadline and before the Voting Meeting to review all proposals for funding and make funding recommendations to the Student Alliance for the meeting.
 - This fall the PAT will meet between 10/24 and 11/13.
 - We are looking for four to six volunteers. Dan, Paula and Sarwang expressed interest in being on PAT, Erik will follow up.
- c. **Institute Committee Representatives-** Shirley makes a plea for students on various committees in order to get feedback and provide insight into various roles within CIIS.
 1. Faculty Council - one student needed to sit on the committee that provides insight to faculty, oversees faculty issues, and evaluates faculty. This is an important place for a student voice.
 2. Student Life Committee of the Board of Trustees – two students needed to participate. It meets before the actual meeting to do work for the Trustees meeting. This group then reports on student life issues to the actual Board of Trustees. The Student Rep on the Board of Trustees also serves on this committee. It was described as a great accountability process to get students

involved in one of the most important decision-making bodies of CIIS. We need a minimum of at least 2 people and as many as four people. One person who volunteered is Sarah Noyes. She is a distance-learning student. It will be very key for someone from this program to serve on this committee since there are specific needs from these students.

4) **Student Representative to the Board of Trustees Election Update**

- a. **Nominations** can be made until this Friday 10/5 at 5pm.
- b. **Elections** will be held over the week of 10/8 to 10/12 by paper ballot at the Mission Street Greeter's desk on the first floor and Annie Bremer's office in Fox Plaza.

Simmy, who is the current rep for the Board of Trustees, discusses the responsibilities that she has been involved in during her time in the position. She also discussed some of the ways in which she ran for the position. The position is an official Board member with an actual vote, but is not expected to represent the whole student body but is really key to give voice. Some improvements could be made in order to find a better way to report back to groups and people in the community. Student Emergency Fund was one example of a policy implemented through the Board. Various concerns come up and you are asked to speak to Trustees on these issues. Many Trustees want to hear from students and it is a great opportunity. Always room for change within it as well as the person will bring their own experience to the position. It is a two-year term, not as it has been posted as a one-year term. There are different opinions on whether it should be a 1 or 2-year term. Shirley suggests that it continue as advertised as a one-year term with an option to renew for a 2nd year. This renewal could be decided through Student Alliance. Simmy puts forward that she has learned a lot during her term, especially about how CIIS is run. It gave her more appreciation of CIIS and the work that goes into it. Simmy also offered herself to support the person who is in the role and suggests it will be important to work with Shirley in order to feel strong about being in the position. Shirley discusses about how it's about relationships and can be an interesting way to look at how things work and where power lies. It helps you learn a lot in so many ways. It will also be important to meet with Joe as well. Various students also really offer their support.

As Simmy leaves, Shirley offers praise for her work with the Trustees.

5) **Yoga Planning**

- a. Update from Yoga Coordinator- A little background, CIIS had been without yoga for some time. Funds were provided by SA and Staff Alliance to pay for these classes. One concern has been from feedback

from people about the times yoga it and their not being able to make it. One teacher will continue specifically with support from Staff funds to continue when it is the best time for staff. Now there are 3 chunks of funding for a coordinator and 3 teachers. They received 5 applicants for it. There are now 7 classes throughout the week. Becky is coming back to SA to ask to make adjustments on the funding since it was voted on one way and now needs to be changed. She has also gotten a number of volunteers as well. Becky asks for insight on how to do compensation for the yoga teachers. Some factors in the decision is that one teacher teaches 2 classes and the classes on Mon and Friday seem to be packed to capacity. In fact yoga often has to meet in small rooms since this is all we could get. The question is raised about whether they could structure the pay based on experience? Mary puts forward that there is money for paying a yoga coordinator as well since there is a lot of work going into. The total amount allocated for yoga is \$2000 for the year, so there is a need to shift money over the whole year. Money could be shifted around, possibly from the events line item in the budget since it is not being used. Student Alliance has the final vote on it. Becky suggests the idea of paying three teachers that were hired originally at rate committed to. Shirley also suggests two new spaces, one is 218 and one is 216, as possible future spaces. Becky expresses that all this also involved moving the yoga supplies for each class. Shirley also says that there might be a possibility of one other space as well since we now own the building. The final decision is made that SA is still going to pay three people \$200/per semester each, so if they all stay for the year it will be \$500 total. Becky will still get paid \$200 for semester, \$500 for the year as well to help coordinate it.

b. Yoga Budgeting

6) **Guidelines Revision** – Improving Clarity and Process

- a. Quick Overview of Guidelines and Suggested Revisions
- b. Discussion
- c. Decision

People feel strongly that things are coming along with SA and funding guidelines. A decision is made after discussion that Student Alliance will take out campus groups from the regular proposal process and instead put these groups into a specific separate category for funding with less formal process. Sarwang will speak with POC group about changes. Paula will speak with WPWAR. Erik will talk to [Q@CIIS](#). The concern is raised that not all the campus groups are represented, so efforts should be made to reach out to all groups. The discussion shifts to the number of different places throughout

CIIS where student groups could go to get money if they need it- including Dean of Students office, Student Affairs, President's office, Academic Affairs, and Human Resources. Vote is approved 5 votes for it.

7) **Fall Meetings**

Wednesday, October 24th 11:45 AM -1:45 PM room 606 – **Also the Fall**

Proposal Deadline – Please inform your departments

Tuesday, November 13th 3:00 PM – 5:00 PM room 311 – **Voting Meeting –**

Please read the Funding Guidelines before attending

Thursday, November 29th 11:45 PM – 1:45 PM room 606

8) **Fall Events**

a. Four Fall Expression Sessions (Open Mic Nights) – contact café manager, Patrick Numair, pnumair@ciis.edu, to perform

1. Friday, October 5th – 5:30-8:30 pm in Namaste
2. Saturday, November 3rd – 7-9:30 pm in Namaste
3. Tuesday, December 4th – 7-9:30 pm in Namaste

b. Yoga – co-sponsored with the Staff Association

Mondays: 11:45am-12:45pm in Room 311 - Restorative Yoga with Sharanjit Sandhu

Tuesdays: 8:15-9:15am in Room 311 - Light Hatha Flow with Stephanie Jiroch

And 3:15-4:15pm in Room 307 - Yoga Basics with Jordan Wolfe (in Room 212 on 11/13)

Wednesdays: 9:30-10:30am in Room 311 - Kripalu Yoga with Ripple
And 12-1pm in Namaste - All-levels Kripalu Flow with Johannah Blackman (in Room 307 on 11/14 & 12/5)

Thursdays: 7:15-8:15pm in Room 307 - All-levels Kripalu Flow with Johannah Blackman (No class 11/22)

Fridays: 10-11am in Room 210 - All-levels Kripalu Yoga with Dennis Kiley