

**Student Alliance Meeting Minutes**  
**Tuesday, February 20, 2008**  
**3:30 PM room 218**

**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.

**1) Opening and Introductions**

**In attendance:** Erik Schnabel SCA (Operations Coordinator, facilitating), Rand Christiansen PCC, Adam Shemper ICP, Sarwang Parikh ICP, Sonya Brewer SOM, Bisola Marignay SCA, Mary Fries (Student Affairs Manager, taking minutes), Shirley Strong (Dean of Students)

**2) Announcements**

- a. **New Communication Coordinator** – Welcome Maitri Gopalakrishna!
- b. **Yoga Coordinator** – Johannah Blackman – Classes every day of the week. See below for times.
- c. **Multiversity** – CIIS's In-House Conference – Learn about studies in other departments at this integral event from Tuesday, March 26<sup>th</sup> to Friday, March 29<sup>th</sup>.
- d. **Student Multipurpose Space** – Room 218 has been outfitted by Student Alliance for continued use as a quiet study space and now also as a place for campus groups to meet. A reservation sign-up sheet is in room 401.
- e. **Call for Student Alliance Representatives** – 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. Please email [studentalliance@ciis.edu](mailto:studentalliance@ciis.edu), if interested.
- f. **Funding Proposal Deadline** – Spring Funding Proposals are due on March 12<sup>th</sup> by 5pm. Student Alliance will be hosting a Proposal Workshop to help students prepare on March 4<sup>th</sup> from 6-8pm.

**3) Group-Project Funding Requests:**

- a. **Big Mind/Heart** – Adam Shemper
  1. Adam is hoping to invite Diane Hamilton to CIIS to do a Big Mind/Heart workshop. He described her work as a gestalt and voice-dialog practice of psychology and spirituality. He has not negotiated a fee with Diane yet and comes to Student Alliance for funding support with fliers. He's hoping for a one-day, 6-hour

introductory workshop, though he also mentioned that the workshop could be done in a 3-hour format.

2. Erik offered that Student Alliance could print fliers for him and mentioned that the group would need a detailed budget as well as more specific plans for the date, time, location, and volunteers, etc. in order to consider funding the whole event.

**b. Cosmology of Love Conference – Rand Christiansen**

1. Rand would like to coordinate an in-house Cosmology of Love conference at CIIS. He has already booked two rooms for Friday, April 18<sup>th</sup>: room 216 in the morning and Namaste in the afternoon. There is a three-person planning committee, and promotional plans include large posters designed by a PCC student, fliers with descriptions of the speakers both posted and given to professors, and email announcements in March and April. The event will be co-hosted by PCC and ACS, has 9 confirmed presenters, and will include poetry readings and rituals. It will be free to CIIS students, and refreshments will include cookies and tea. DVDs will be made for students and the library.
2. Rand's presentation included a detailed budget with a total of \$2,095, the majority of which covers the travel expenses of proposed keynote speaker Gus Jaccaci (the originator of the concept of Cosmology of Love) and his wife. PCC might be able to contribute \$100 to put on the event.
3. Erik suggested that SA could cover printing and A/V could cover video-taping, but expressed concern about the size of the amount requested and about flying out the keynote speaker's wife, who will have less of an influence on the conference.
4. Rand responded that Gus is hoping to bring his wife with him as they are working on a joint project called Communiversity.
5. Shirley suggested looking to grants, especially from the Fetzer Institute, and working with the CIIS Development and Alumni Offices.
6. Rand also mentioned that Gus has a separate presentation about a futuristic Thomas Jefferson reflecting back on our times and that perhaps Public Programs would be interested in helping to sponsor his visit on a second night.
7. Sonya motioned to fund \$975. Erik motioned for \$1000.
8. Rand felt uncertain about whether or not they would be able to get Gus out here with the lesser amount.

9. Sarwang seconded the motion to vote on funding \$1000.
  10. Three Students voted to fund the \$1000, which would be directed to funding the keynote presenter with the understanding that if another funding opportunity comes along that will only fund the presenter, Student Alliance funds could then cover the other expenses. One student abstained. Erik and Rand abstained. Mary and Shirley did not vote, as they are staff.
- c. **Vagina Monologues** – Sarwang Parikh on behalf of Paula Pulizzi
1. Paula already received \$225 of funding from Student Alliance to produce the Vagina Monologues, which were a huge success. The publication company misquoted their estimate costing Paula an extra \$267. The group raised \$1800 but would like to offer all of that to San Francisco Women Against Rape.
  2. Sonya motioned to reimburse the funds, with the suggestion that, for future events, printing should be done in-house.
  3. Bisola seconded the motion.
  4. Five students voted for the proposal. Erik abstained. Mary and Shirley did not vote.
- 4) **People of Color Jazz Concert Fundraiser Report**
- a. The concert was fabulous, but unfortunately it occurred on a rainy night, so not too many people came out. The venue was fantastic, and the hotel set up the piano for the event. The group made \$220, paid \$150 to Patrick Numair for the sound, and kept \$50 for their meeting snacks.
  - b. Shirley asked if it would have been better to hold the event at CIIS. Bisola mentioned that the venue cost \$700 (which Public Programs covered because they had accidentally booked POC out of Namaste), and the group agreed that CIIS would be a better venue for Student events.
- 5) **Budget for 2008-2009**
- a. **Presentation**
    1. Student Alliance has been successful in petitioning for a per semester income increase from \$10.50 per student to \$25 per student. This amount comes out of the Registration Fee that is actually going down in total next year.
    2. Erik presented the Student Alliance's plan for budgeting this income next year, including \$400 for campus groups for the year with twice as much for groups with consistent representation, a \$2,500 stipend for a SCT Career Resource Researcher and a \$2,500 stipend for a Webmaster, \$5,000 for Community and Alliance Building Initiatives, and \$2,250 for a Social Justice Research Fund.

b. **Voting for Instatement**

1. Erik motioned to instate the budget.
2. Sarwang seconded the motion.
3. Three students voted to instate the budget. No one abstained or voted against it. Mary and Shirley did not vote.

6) **Thoughts, Comments, and Ideas**

- a. Shirley mentioned that Joe Subbiondo will be attending the next Student Alliance Meeting on the 13<sup>th</sup> of March and said that campus groups should make an extra effort to be sure that they are well represented.
- b. Shirley also suggested creating a requirement that students receiving Student Alliance funds must acknowledge SA support in their publicity. Students agreed.

7) **Spring Events**

- a. **Student Alliance Meetings** – (Note: some of these may be rescheduled)  
Thursday, 3/13 – 12:15-2:15 pm in room 218 – President Joe Subbiondo will be attending; Send representatives!  
Wednesday, 4/2 – 12:15-2:15 pm in room 218 – Proposal Voting Meeting; read Funding Guidelines on saciis.org, if attending  
Thursday, 4/24 – 3:30-5:30 pm in room 218
- b. **Multiversity** Tuesday, March 26<sup>th</sup> through Friday March 29<sup>th</sup>
- c. **Spring Funding Proposal Deadline:** Wednesday, March 12th by 5pm.
- d. **Expression Session Open Mic Nights:** contact café manager, Patrick Numair, pnumair@ciis.edu, to perform  
Friday, March 7<sup>th</sup> – 5-9 pm in Namaste  
Wednesday, April 16<sup>th</sup> – 7-9:30 pm in Namaste  
Tuesday, May 6<sup>th</sup> – 7-9:30 pm in Namaste
- e. **Yoga** – begins Monday, February 4th  
**Restorative Yoga** with Sharanjit Sandhu Mondays 11:45-12:45pm in room 308  
**Short and Sweet Yoga Basics** with Jordan Wolfe Tuesdays 2:00-2:45pm in room 212  
**Kripalu Yoga** with Dennis Kiley Wednesdays 12:00-1:00pm in Namaste  
**Kripalu Flow Yoga** with Johannah Blackman Thursdays 10:00–11:00am in room 216  
**Kripalu Yoga** with Zhao Yi (Ripple) Fridays 10:30-11:30am in room 216