

Student Alliance Meeting
Thursday, March 10 , 2010
12 pm - 2:30 pm
Room 607

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. Welcome/Ice breaker - Lil Milagro Martinez-Cornejo
2. **Social Justice and Community Research Grant**
 - a. Student Alliance provides stipends to enable students to conduct research in areas of Social Justice and undertake community service initiatives in the United States or internationally. Emphasis will be placed on students to work in alliance with local communities to challenge oppressive practices and policies. This could include issues committed to challenging racism, sexism, classism, heterosexism, ableism, or other; global human rights issues; as well as looking at ecological sustainability. Students must develop a comprehensive proposal outlining the research and its commitment to social justice issues and the principles of CIIS.
 - b. If it is a Community Service Initiative, projects must be initiated by a CIIS student in collaboration with a non-profit organization with the explicit support of the community that students will be working with or in direct collaboration with communities. Projects could be local, national or international in their scope. Examples of projects could be working with homeless communities, supporting community services trips with other students to New Orleans to help with rebuilding, or working with refugees. Students must develop a comprehensive proposal that outlines their goals and objectives for the initiative, how it reflects the principles of CIIS and how it will be brought back to the CIIS community.
 - c. The following Students were granted complete approval:
 1. Ashley K.
 2. Crystalle C.
 3. Abby W.
 4. Christina M.
 5. Aya Kasai
 6. Elizabeth P.
 7. Ashley P.
 8. Oren K.
 9. Erin M.

10. Kaiting H.
 11. Heidi H.
 12. Jeannette H.
- d. Other proposals were put under the 'serious consideration' heading. Reasons for 'serious' but not approved funding were: not sufficient information provided, not sufficient or any attention paid to certain demands of the proposal and incomplete proposals – one proposal was lacking a letter of recommendation and another a personal statement.
 - e. **Student Alliance moved to approve the increase in funding available for SJCSR grants to those listed above and moved to make additional information available to those who were put under serious consideration if it was decided by a newly formed Proposal Action Team that they warranted being granted the funding.**
 - f. **It was also decided that there would be a subcommittee formed to review conference, SJCSR grant guidelines. Those members are as follows:**
 1. **Beth, Emiko, Atiba, Jocie, Abbey.**
3. **AWARE Workshop: Awakening Our Hearts: Exploring Authentic Relationships Across Differences:**
 - a. The aim of this workshop is to secure funding for building accountability and awareness around white entitlement and privilege at CIIS.
 - b. **Amount requested: \$500.**
 1. **This amount was granted unanimously.**
 4. **Sean Dorsey Dance at Expanding the Circle Proposal - Retroactive funding.**
 - a. Sean Dorsey Dance performed at the Expanding the Circle conference on Friday, February 26th to an audience of 50 people including CIIS students and alumni, and conference attendees. Dorsey performed and presented video excerpts from his acclaimed show *Uncovered: The Diary Project*, an evening of dances that incorporate text from actual, real-life diaries of transgender and queer people.
 - b. The show was the culmination of a year-and-a-half long community research process in which Dorsey uncovered and researched diaries of transgender and queer people - from the famous to the unknown. *Uncovered* features *Lost/Found*, the story of a transman vicariously living the boyhood he never got to have when he finds a young boy's diary; and *Lou*, a suite of dances based on the lifelong journals of Lou Sullivan (1951-1991), a pioneering transgender activist.
 - c. Sean Dorsey is a choreographer and the Artistic Director of

Fresh Meat Productions. Recognized as the nation's first out transgender modern dance choreographer, Dorsey has won over audiences and accolades from San Francisco to New York with his powerful dances that provide a window into transgender and queer experience. Dorsey seeks to demystify modern dance and to make it not only accessible but relevant to transgender and queer communities. For more information check out the website: www.freshmeatproductions.org

d. **Amount retroactively requested: \$500.**

1. Granted unanimously. There was discussion recognizing that while this shouldn't be an activity that Student Alliance funds as it was a campus wide event, SA is happy to help promote the work of those within the CIIS community that are actively working for social justice and change in the community.

5. **Showcase of Local Musicians - Rodrigo**

- a. This event will be a showcase of local musicians, DJs, artists and performers of the CIIS community as well as a community proposal (see proposal).

b. **Amount requested: \$500.**

1. **This amount was provisionally granted so long as the coordinator of this event gives exact information as to the location, time and number of musicians, artists and performers that will be present. This event also needs to be free or low-cost to CIIS students.**

6. **Arundhati Roy event - Lil Milagro**

- a. This proposal is to seek funding for 33 students to attend this fundraiser for free. The funds from this fundraiser would go towards the International People's Tribunal on Human Rights and Justice in Indian-administered Kashmir who will use the funds for a grant towards the Scholarship and the Arts in Kashmir, which "will aim to support scholarly and artistic endeavors by Kashmiris in Kashmir, as a way to resist the annihilation of political, cultural, artistic, literary, and intellectual Kashmiri life, which is faced by Kashmiris as an effect of being occupied by the State of India." From email sent out to general listserve .
- b. Arundhati Roy's events usually sell out pretty quickly and for relatively expensive rates. As such, I was hoping to purchase 33 \$15 dollar tickets which would amount to \$495 dollars. These tickets would be available to CIIS students who requested them on a first-come first-serve basis. There will be a one ticket limit per person. An email would go out to the

student list-serve and to student groups describing that these will be free tickets available to the student body and will be available upon request by Jeannette “Lil Milagro” Henriquez, the Student Alliance coordinator.

- c. **Amount Requested: \$495**
 - 1. **This amount was granted unanimously. It was also brought up by students that the raffle should happen sooner rather than later as to give students who have not yet purchased a ticket time to do so if they do not win the lottery.**

7. **Update on health-care**

- a. Student Alliance in conjunction with the Dean of Students office has been in conversations with different health-care service providers since the summer in order to offer YOU the best health care plan that we could find. Student Alliance hosted healthcare meetings on campus on two separate occasions in order to gauge student response and student interest in offering an alternative comprehensive healthcare plan for Fall of next year.
- b. **Please note that nothing is set in stone yet and that your voice will be an important factor in whatever decisions are made. Also please note that rates are subject to change as we narrow in on the plan and coverage that we would like to offer students.**
- c. After the town hall healthcare meeting on Wednesday, March 3rd, that was open to all students, Student Alliance and the students present decided to chose one specific Kaiser plan to be offered as optional to students next semester. Please note that this plan is **NOT** mandatory for students but represents simply a different healthcare plan that students can chose for next semester.
- d. A healthcare committee was developed. The following people serve on it: Beth W. & Jocie B.

8. Various logistical and institutional items:

- a. The subcommittees and SA bylaws applicable to their official formation.
 - 1. **It was decided that there would be an official subcommittee on subcommittees formed in order to examine bylaws and the formalization of subcommittees. These members are as follows: Sarah, Lil, Erin M., Jocie, Abby, Samantha**
- b. A student rep to the Faculty Council
- c. The meeting with administration and the strategic plan.
- d. Putting information about the subcommittees on the website.