

VASSAR STUDENT ASSOCIATION

VSA Council Minutes, Sept. 26, 2010

- 1 Call to Order
 - The meeting was called to order at 7:02 p.m.
 - We welcomed the new town students' representative, Maya Casilda Acevedo.
- 2 AttendanceOperations
 - All here
- 3 Consent Agenda
 - a. Minutes from 9/19/10
 - b. Allocation of \$250 to ViCE from Collaboration Fund
 - c. Allocation of \$400 to TransMission from Conference Fund
 - Main: What is the transmission fund? Finance answered that it will be used to cover the conference.
 - All items were adopted.
- 4 Special Guest: EMS
 - The EMS representative was part of a closed session.
- 5 ViCE Report
 - Recent events went very well such as jazz night, no ViCE, and the trivia event in the Commons, Electric is this week as well as a couple other shows, and ViCE will be collaborating with ferry house on an event in the near future as well.
- 6 Announcements
 - a. Election Results PartyOperations
 - Voting went well, 62 people ran. Thank you to all council members who participated and made it a success. Results will be announced Monday in the retreat at 9 p.m.
 - b. Meet Me In Poughkeepsie Activities
 - Council members please publicize it in emails! 35 events=biggest ever!
 - c. Capital and Supplemental..... Finance
 - Will be up for vote next Sunday
- 7 Executive Board Reports
 - a. Student Life
 - Student life introduced its new committee which is separated into 3 sub-committees. One will be in charge of dining, and one will be for the advisory board. Two members will be participating in the CARES harassment council to help define relationship abuse and address how new policies will affect students.
 - Waiting for CIE, talking about implementation.
 - They are working on making new sub-committees to work on further planning for social gatherings and community events.

-Room entry policy: a policy proposed by the board of house presidents last year. It will soon be adopted as part of regulations policy. It dictates a student's rights if security wants to enter their room. Security is required to ask permission, but if the student refuses them entry they are then in violation of failure to comply. Students may call ex. 5221 in non-emergency situations where security is desired. There are two quality control checks in place.

-Student conduct meeting coming up

-Fall leadership- they are currently sifting through feedback from discussions

-There are conversations taking place with dining and other areas of student life about improvement.

-Lathrop asked if they could send the room entry policy out to their dorms. The president said he would send it to the whole student body.

8 Allocation of \$7,000 to ViCE from Speakers, Lecturers, and Panels Fund

-On November 5th they are trying to get Joseph Gordon Levit to come lecture in Upsi. They need the extra funds for providing him with a stipend, his travel expenses, putting him up in a hotel, and technological equipment for the event. Hiprecord .org is the name of the production company he will be talking about. They think these are important issues he will be discussing and now will be the most financially affordable time to ask him to come.

-This coming Friday- Circus party! A DJ is coming to perform and the goal is to decorate the Villard room to look as much like a circus tent as possible. There will also be cotton candy, popcorn, barefoot monkeys, and a freshman DJ will be opening the show.

-2012 and town students abstain. The rest of the council was in favor of this allocation.

9 Creation of the Community Fund Finance

-The goal is to bring Vassar into Poughkeepsie, scrap 2 clauses, and create a new more comprehensive statement. The new fund will have \$10,000; the 2 separate funds now have \$6,000 and \$4, 000. This was put forward as a rational decision because the hosting fund was not used at all last year. The idea is to have the new fund involve the Hudson valley as much as possible

-Finance made a motion to make article 3, section 9. All were in favor.

-Finance made a motion to strike article 3, section 10. All were in favor.

-Finance made a motion to adopt the new clause. All were in favor.

-Finance made a motion to change language in article 3, section 6. All were in favor.

10 Open Discussion

-Lathrop made a motion to close session. All were in favor.

-Meeting went into closed session.

-Motion to open session was made. Motion passed although opposed were Joss, Strong, and Lathrop.

-Strong: why is it called alternative programming? There should simply be more events.

Older kids shouldn't support drinking.

- Joss: found many four loco bottles, lots of solo cups, beer cans, etc. outside of the Shiva rave. He expressed concern that there's a discrepancy in security coverage between the THs and the dorms; we should get them more involved. Student fellows have a huge influence on kids drinking! But also reach out to peers, it's not only freshmen.
- Town students: we should bring a face to the people cleaning up after students. Focus on drugs as well. Raise awareness that a student might kill someone when they buy alcohol for someone who can't get it themselves. Halloween falls on a weekend this year; one way to perhaps cause less overdrinking could be to have a health inspection of the dorms on that weekend?
- Noyes: Pass along to younger students that it's cool to stay in; it can be part of your lifestyle.
- Activities: More productive to talk about this in small groups; it should be the focus of sub-committee meetings this week.
- Socos: We are relying too much on anecdotal evidence; we need stats and facts to help us find solutions. One idea could be making a video, either the PSAs or a comedy group?
- Activities- We can ask or make one ourselves.
- Academics: The dorm specific stats should be sent out. Each house team should talk to constituents in houses, make movie nights, and other late night events.
- Strong: Has noticed a big change in security; relationship needs to change with them. Try to change image of security as authority; improve relationship somehow.
- Lathrop- More discussion should be had that are open to all class members. Sober nights, inviting cleaning staff to dorm dinners, inviting house fellows to dorm dinners are all ideas to discourage drinking. She brought up the fact that there are many sports teams only parties and how that is encouraging the problem.
- 2011- We need better study breaks!
- Joss- There aren't assigned security personnel to each dorm therefore it's hard to build a connection; there are other people we could be in touch with like the house fellows and cleaners.
- Cushing- already contacted people to set up a meeting with security.
- Main- Where's the proper forum to discuss this and make changes?
- Town Students- Drug free events, games that you play, but without alcohol
- Student Life- Will set up meeting with security next week (people can go to that meeting).
Implementation!!
- President: People have to step up and be present to talk about this issue; thanks council for bringing this issue to the table.
- 2011: 238 days till graduation, met with alumni, Dec 4th =90 days in; they are planning to have a party and talk about the class gift.
- Academics: Motion to adjourn. Opposed: 2013 and Joss
- The meeting was adjourned at 9:09 p.m.