



**DSC Steering Meeting Minutes
3/12/10**

Present: Anick Boyd (AB), Jill Belli (JB), Kyle Ferguson (KF), Eero Laine (EL), Kim Libman (KL), Leigh McCallen (LM), Shawn Rice (SR), Jared Simard (JS), Chris Alen Sula (CS).

Absent: Allyson Foster (AF), Suzanne Tamang (ST).

SR calls meeting to order at 6:26pm.

I. Approval of Agenda

CS motions to remove item VIIa from Agenda; AB seconds; motion approved by unanimous consent. KL motions to approve amended Agenda; CS seconds; motion approved by unanimous consent.

II. Approval of Old Minutes

JS motions to approve Old Minutes; LM seconds; motion approved by unanimous consent.

III. Student Affairs Report (Suzanne Tamang)

In ST's absence, CS reports on Student Affairs.

a. **CO Electronic Rosters:** Chartered orgs electronic rosters are live. For those that provided content, this term we incorporated a blurb and/or web space location for many groups that appear next to the org name on the roster. There will be an official announcement sent to all students this upcoming week.

b. Chartered Orgs:

Special Events: Several chartered orgs are planning special events this semester including: QUNY, Post Colonial Studies Group, CANES, and the Jewish Club. More details will be posted on one of our sites.

New Charters: I have been discussing the new Greek culture club with a student Valia from Computer Science that would like to obtain a DSC charter. Any students interested in helping or participating should let me know.

Dechartering Process: Initiated and ongoing for CUNY Americanists, L'Atelier and Luso-Brazilian Group.

Activity Reports & Constitutions: Chartered organizations should provide their activity reports ASAP. By the end of the spring, organizations are additionally required to provide the most

Plenary

Steering Committee

Constitution and Bylaws

Media Board

Health Issues

Cultural Affairs

Professional Development

recent version of their constitution (preferably electronic for the website). If it exists, groups can contact me to obtain their most recent copy in the CCSA files.

c. **OpenCUNY:** the Prison Studies Group has started a new web space. Will begin a chartered org space with links to all chartered org locations and hope it can be indexed off the main page.

d. **NYSHIP Search Committee:** We identified five applicants to interview and three occurred. Based mainly on his ability to communicate effectively, which is needed for student interaction and between administrative offices (UB/Provost), health insurance and other benefits experience, CUNY experience and enthusiasm to work with, and advocate for doctoral students, Scott Voorhees was offered the position as NYSHIP Coordinator. Several improvements/initiatives he would like to focus on are: problems with NYSHIP enrollment/maintenance in the community colleges, working with Doug Ewing and modes of outreach to off-campus students that may not be as NYSHIP aware or access NYSHIP information.

e. **Bikes in Buildings:** Spoke with Matt Schoengood just before the snowstorm and was informed that there are plans for an indoor bike rack that would be located in the loading dock. Will hopefully be able to provide more details on the timeframe and logistics before plenary.

f. **AP Announcements:** The next Adjunct Project meeting is Friday, March 19th at 4 pm; There will be an open PSC contract talk meeting on Tuesday, April 6th at 12:30pm (GC 9204/05).

IV. **Communications Report (Shawn Rice)**

a. **SPS:** Discussions of SPS continue. Dean Mogulescu wants to meet with DSC Executive Committee.

b. **Writing Center:** Writing Center plans continue. President Kelly suggested that we plan more for the vision/goals of the proposed center rather than the nuts and bolts of its operation. Shawn will circulate more information to the Steering Committee and will convene another meeting of the group soon.

c. **Tax Prep Workshops:** Tax Prep workshops have started. The first session was well attended and informative. The workshop was videotaped and will be posted online soon. Another four sessions are scheduled. EL suggests we ask Steven Goldberg to sign a "Model Release" form before posting the video online.

d. **DSC Elections:** All but 8 programs have submitted nominations for the DSC elections. 158 people are nominated (including for off-campus programs – we will be resuscitating the outreach efforts to off-campus programs and this will help to continue this trend).

e. **Petition to Create DSC Seats for Additional Programs:** Two programs (Psychology: Neuroscience and Psychology: Forensic) are petitioning to create DSC seats this semester.

V. **Business Report (Chris Alen Sula)**

a. **Room Reservations:** CS requests that if any change to an existing request/reservation (other than a cancellation) is made, don't act on it and simply forward it to him (because he is constitutionally responsible). Discussion about whether the system is sending e-mails to users to when reservations are confirmed, denied, or changed (CS explains that the system only sends an e-mail the first time to users the first time a change is made to a reservation). JB raises concern over the privacy of contact info. for those requesting room reservations.

- b. **Adjunct Project:** The Executive Committee met with both Adjunct Project coordinators and offered them reappointment (as discussed previously with SC). Clarification is needed as to how the two co-coordinator positions work structurally. There will be in-take interviews with all four current/past coordinators (Carl Lindskoog, Jesse Goldstein, Renee McGarry, Alison Powell), and amendments to AP bylaw will be presented from the floor at March Plenary. We hope to offer summer stipends to the coordinators to put together a knowledge base about the positions for future co-coordinators.
- c. **Spring Party:** The DSC Spring Party is March 26th (after the next Plenary). The Steering Committee signs up for various duties.
- d. **Petition service:** Discussion about whether should extend our online voting service to students to use for advocacy interests (just as we offer – but don't control – the system to GC programs to run their own program elections).
- e. **Sustainability Group:** There is a (currently private) group on the CUNY Academic Commons (<http://commons.gc.cuny.edu/>): interested people are welcome to join (send request to CS). Discussion of list of demands to Restaurant Associates for improved services.

VI. USS Report (Ally Foster)

AF absent; no report given.

VII. UFS Report (Anick Boyd)

AB attended last UFS meeting (though she is still not officially recognized and has no voice/vote), and the pilot study (the Faculty Experience Survey) was presented. AB will circulate it to the Steering Committee. CS wants to create and disseminate information about the role of graduate assistants (and their representation in CUNY) to students, and JB wants to include TRS (Teachings Retirement System – the CUNY Pension Plan) issues – they will work on this project together.

VIII. New Business

- a. **Changes in CUNY Tuitions Assessment:** KL discusses the state budget issues and the proposed changes to CUNY & SUNY's financial management; CS motions that the DSC Steering Committee resolves to oppose the transfer of tuition assessment to CUNY and SUNY trustees with resolution to be drafted for consideration to USS (we will consult Corey Provost, president of USS); SR seconds; motion approved by unanimous consent
- b. **Budget Proposal 2010/11:** CS presents budget proposal (which is the same as the one presented at last SC meeting); CS proposes an emendation to strike Travel & Research, Nurse Practitioner, and Writing Center lines until we have further discussion about the extent to which these services are satisfying the concerns of our constituency; the updated total is \$567,845 with a balance of ~\$140,000. CS motions to recommend this budget (with the emendation discussed) to plenary; JS seconds; motion approved by unanimous consent.
- c. **Contact Info. Privacy for Room Reservations:** JB raises concern about the fact that phone numbers (for those students making room reservation requests) are publicly available on the Internet. She motions that phone numbers be kept private (and that this apply retroactively to previous requests);

AB seconds; the motion passes with 8 in favor, 0 against, 1 abstention (CS, who thinks it will slow down work-flow).

IX. Committee Reports

- a. **Media Board:** SR nothing to report.
- b. **Health Issues:** KL reports on the upcoming Wellness Festival as well as the utilization statistics for Student Health Services that she received from Bob Hatcher. The committee continues to work on a white paper presenting the results of the NYSHIP survey.

X. Announcements

JB announces that new pointers/wireless mice (procured by the Student Tech Fee committee) are available for students to check-out; there are also upcoming Mango Webinars (Tuesday, 3/16 and Wednesday, 3/31: 2-3pm), so interested students should participate in them to decide if this language software is suitable for GC students' needs (discussion of the pros & cons of Mango and Rosetta Stone ensues).

XI. Adjournment

CS motions to adjourn meeting; KF seconds; motion approved by unanimous consent.

Meeting adjourned at 8:54pm.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Jill Belli.