

## Student Life Committee of the University Senate

Minutes, March 11, 2011 meeting

### Attending:

Rev. John P. Stack, OSA  
Nancy Dudak  
Kevin Noller  
Nasser Chour  
Kathy Byrnes  
Paul Pugh  
Paul Lupinacci

Sean Murray, CAT (pres elect)  
Ryan DaPonte, CAT  
Steven Palmer, IHC  
Diane Tamir, MSL  
Sara Buncke, Panhel  
Vince Cifelli, IFC  
Bridget Halligan, SGA  
Allison Webb, SGA  
Bryan Kerns, SGA

1. SGA update on Constitutional change in Student Government: Review of new structure
  - a. 38 elected positions
    - i. SGA president and Vice President
    - ii. Class Councils: 3 class positions for each class
    - iii. University Senate – student senators from each college
    - iv. Organizational representatives – from organizational groups
  - b. Executive Committee: 5 members including SGA president and VP, one class council member, one university member, and one organizational rep member
  - c. Committee structured will fall under three categories; chairs will come from elected group, committees members may apply from general student body
    - i. Commission on Campus Climate
      1. Mission and Social Justice Committee
      2. Intellectual Climate Committee
      3. Athletics Committee
    - ii. Commission on External Relations
      1. Public Relations Committee
      2. Community Affairs Committee
    - iii. Commission on Student Services
      1. Dining Services Committee
      2. Residence Life Committee
  - d. SGA meetings will include all elected members
  - e. SGA is seeking to be more representational, and have more opportunities for meaningful involvement
  - f. Class Councils will engage each class to be more actively involved, to evolve as needed to meet needs/interests/issues
  - g. Ad Hoc committees should also evolve, year to year, based on issues and needs of the student body
  - h. New structure has been voted upon favorably by SGA leadership; Town Hall meeting open to all students was held earlier in week, good conversation and feedback.

2. Motion for the Committee to approve the new SGA Constitution. Motion seconded. All voted YES in favor of the new SGA Constitution.
3. Announcement: opportunity for a group to get involved with Autism Awareness Day, April 1. IFC and Panhel volunteered to take lead. They will be in touch with Kathy Byrnes.
4. Discussion about data related to the University. Suggestion that OPIR come to a future meeting to review some of the Villanova data.
  - a. Discussion on benefits/struggles of living off campus (as Seniors):
    - i. If a student is real involved on campus, it can be nice to “go home” and get off campus
    - ii. As an underclassmen, want to be on campus, it’s how you meet people
    - iii. Juniors who live off campus may feel less connected
  - b. Discussion on some data related to overall satisfaction with your college experience
    - i. 10% not satisfied
    - ii. Student consensus: those with a connection to something/one on campus makes the difference
    - iii. Students would be interested to see if there is a space to comment ... what are the reasons for the dissatisfaction?
    - iv. Discussion on how we can better find a place/connection for everyone on campus
      1. Suggestion: can we have 2 OCs per orientation group --- greater likelihood new student will connect with OC if 2 to choose from; can we have more members in Blue Key since it’s such a popular organization, turn fewer people away?
      2. Suggestion: how can we better spread the word on other ways to get involved, other organizations?
      3. Suggestion: Can Orientation be better prepared to share breadth of available student organization with which to get involved – people know Blue Key and Orientation because they have been exposed to those as an incoming student, but there is so much more to get involved with, so much that isn’t selective.

## 5. UPDATES

- a. SGA focus has been on re-structuring; will have a Town meeting next week with the Book Store as the topic (re: textbooks).
- b. IFC / Panhel: pursuing a Greek-only judicial board, training is next week
- c. CAT: turnover of officers, Ryan is graduating, Sean is new President, Spring concert is April 8.
- d. SGA elections: April 6 – 7, 2011. Information Meetings, March 15, 16
- e. Next week is VSB Week.

kjb 4/11/11