

Council on Student Affairs  
Meeting Minutes

Tuesday 3 February 2004  
4-6pm  
33 W. 11<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Room 101

**Members in Attendance:** Don Bowers, Patty Cunningham, Mike Dingeldein, Theresa Early, Ann Farrelly, Kimberly Ferguson, Nidhi Gupta, Bill Hall, Kerry Hodak, Rich Hollingsworth, Janet Laster, Lori Martensen, John Payne, Rebecca Price, Melissa Rocco, Frank Sasso, Tracy Stuck, Joe Tebben

**Members Absent:** Mark Ellis, Kerry Hodak, Elizabeth Marschall

**Guests in Attendance:** Steffani Pealer, Jessica Brinker, Heather McGinnis, Kurt Foriska, Wes Boomgaarden, Jim Bracken, Deb Dunham

**I. Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order at 4:09 pm.

**II. Speakers: Steffani Pealer, Jessica Brinker, Heather McGinnis, Kurt Foriska – Greek Affairs**

A PowerPoint presentation was heard and handouts distributed, which included the PowerPoint slides. Greek Life advises the 58 Greek organizations on campus. The membership numbers for Greek orgs has increased, from 2098 to 2200. There are now 6 chapters that are affiliated with culturally based chapters. Undergrads in the Greek system maintain a GPA of 3.0 (which is above the average for the whole undergrad population).

New initiatives the Greek Life staff are working on include the Greek Life Task Force and the Standards of Excellence initiative. At the time that the Task Force was convened in 1999, the Greek community was decreasing in membership, declining in grades, lacked alumni involvement, and high risk behavior was a concern. An assessment was completed, and the current Standards of Excellence emerged. The Standards of Excellence include academic achievement, alumni involvement, fiscal responsibility, safe housing, responsible behavior, service to the community, diversity education, and responsible recruitment to Greek Letter organizations. One of the exciting things about these standards is that OSU is the first in the country to implement such a program in their Greek communities.

Questions included whether there are currently any Greek organizations comprised of professional students. Currently, no. The focus has been more on social organizations and undergraduate students. However, if a group of professional students are interested in starting a Greek Letter org., they may contact the Office of Student Activities in order to find out how to do so.

Greek organizations must "sign-on" and agree to the Standards of Excellence in order to be recognized by the University. There are currently less than five

organizations that are unrecognized. They are mostly male organizations. Usually, the nationals want University recognition.

Other handouts included "Fraternity and Sorority Data Report 2003-2004", a copy of the Task Force Report, which was sent to Vice President Hall, and "OSU Greek Life Information Fall 2003".

### **Wes Boomgaarden and Jim Bracken – Library Renovation Project**

Mr. Boomgaarden and Mr. Bracken made a PowerPoint presentation, too, and also distributed copies of the slides for review. The main topic of discussion was whether to keep the library stacks tower as part of the renovation of the Main Library (scheme A), or to adopt scheme B, which does not include the stacks tower. A balanced presentation was made as to the advantages and disadvantages of both scheme A and scheme B.

### **III. Approval of Minutes:**

Minutes of the 20 January meeting were not available. Approval was tabled until the next meeting.

### **IV. Reports**

Chair: the report of the Chair was submitted in writing. Members were reminded to let the secretary know of their alternates if they had not already done so. The job description for the technology position in Student Activities is still being finalized. Vijay Sharma is the newest member to CSA as the Regional USG Rep. Both ad hoc committees are underway, and the Issues Committee is working on the CABS issue. If anyone has suggestions for the spring quarter commencement speaker, please forward them to Kerry.

Student Affairs: No report.

Allocations: No report.

IPC: IPC's next meeting is scheduled in two weeks. President Holbrook will be speaking to the group. The social committee is working on a program for Memorial Day. The outreach committee is working on a Q&A session for professional students. On the diversity committee, the groups for Asian students in the Colleges of Medicine and Law are planning some joint programs together.

USG: The State of the University Address is scheduled for Wednesday at 7:30 in the Ohio Union. The Buckeye-thon will take place this weekend. There is a resolution being considered by the Cabinet regarding the Library renovation as well as the issue of where the Library reserves will be located during the renovation. Elections will be held in April.

CGS: Elections will be held in May.

## **V. Old Business**

None.

## **VI. New Business**

- A. Resolution regarding the Stacks Tower of the Main Library. It was a highly charged conversation, with CSA unanimously voting to pass a resolution in favor of scheme A. That resolution reads as follows:

**Resolution in Support of Scheme A for the Library Renovation  
Retaining the Stacks Tower  
Approved 3 February 2004 Council on Student Affairs**

Author: Kerry M. Hodak, Chair Council on Student Affairs

WHEREAS the stacks tower holds substantial historical significance and appeal as part of the Thompson Library and the Oval; and

WHEREAS the stacks tower stands as a landmark that reflects the character of The Ohio State University campus and its traditions and serves as a valuable recruitment tool; and

WHEREAS the cost and construction time of Scheme A is less than that of Scheme B; and

WHEREAS a higher cost project would lead to program offsets that would not be beneficial to members of The Ohio State community; and

WHEREAS the aesthetic value coupled with the time and cost saving makes Scheme A a promising alternative; and

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Council on Student Affairs supports the retention and renovation of the stacks tower; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Council on Student Affairs supports the implementation of Scheme A for the renovation of the Thompson Library.

- B. Location of Reserves During Library Renovation. Tabled due to lack of time.

## **Announcements**

None.