Student Government Minutes for Spring Retreat 2014

The meeting on Saturday March 29, 2014 was called to order by Meagan Gibson. Roll was taken by incoming secretary Rachel Ball via members' introduction.

Absent: Tendai Ushendibaba, Miles Smith, Ria Esame, James Jesmer, Daphne Ryan, Bryan Foley
Present: Mitch Moore, Rachel Ball, Bethany Buckner, Stephanie Morgan, Frances Vessels, Makenzie McClure, Stephanie Yost, Sean Rafferty, Kelly Humphreys, Joni Tyree, Beth Hall, Chris Dowell, Tyler Hawkins, Lesley Kuffour, David Tennant, Andrew Cook, Brad Cox

Welcome
• Meagan opened the meeting. All members introduced themselves, their position, where they are from, and a fun fact.

Year in Review (Committees and Programs)
• Survey Committee (Sean Rafferty)- main project was the statistics taken from the surveys members did during office hours. Head of committee believes the report has reached both FSU/Pierpont presidents
• Community Service Committee (Frances Vessels)- trunk-or-treat was a success. Head of committee met often with faculty members and staff to talk about student activities
• Homecoming Committee (Frances Vessels)- made a float
• Student Discount Cards (Frances Vessels)- a good attempt, made a lot of ground work, but not as successful as hoped
• Finance Committee (Chris Dowell)- many requests, never had to decline a request
• Bell Painting Committee (Chris Dowell)- painted the bell twice and made a scarecrow and a pumpkin for the different competitions
• Faculty Senate (Mitch Moore)- previous senator Mitch Moore described in detail the position. Also talked about the previous business presented at a Faculty Senate meeting about the addition of a previous semesters' syllabus on the course catalog and the addition of when the course will next be offered. Some comments about the business stated above were made by Sean Rafferty and Tyler Hawkins.
• FSU/Pierpont Board of Governors- position explained by Sean Rafferty in place of absent Governors
• State Advisory Council- position explained by Sean Rafferty and Meagan Gibson in place of the absent Miles Smith
• Senate summary:
  -Kelly Humphreys: believes most classes worked together versus separate by class. Worked with the Discount Card committee, not enough man power. The Survey Committee could implement excel to better compile data
  -Res Hall Rep (Beth Hall)- position explained. Tried to get a new microwave/ toaster for Prichard. Sometimes had trouble getting things done because of money/ safety issues.
  -Honors Rep (Rachel Ball)- position explained. Any community service ideas presented in either SGA or Honors were brought to the other and the two groups correlated well with this.

Last Year vs This Year
• Discount Card- SGA pushed hard for this. Perhaps not enough people to accomplish the large task at hand. May want to include all SGA members in the future. Trouble finding businesses willing to participate. Became a little unorganized due to how large the task is. Need to change the way members approach the businesses. Get in contact with businesses already on board with this idea to advertise specifically with the Discount Card. Could use big screen in the Falcon Center to advertise? Need to be more prepared this year.
• Movie with a Veteran- over 150 personal care items donated. Had good advertisement on campus, many students showed up. No veterans came, though.
  -Ways to change this? - Contact VA, rotary club, SVO, advertise specifically with them. Fill the
veteran rep position. Gain a better relationship with SVO.
• Other Veteran's Day activities- a walk-athon on the track? 5K? Project a movie in the gym? Have the activity in Veteran Square? Veterans fair? While working on the discount card, maybe get support for a veterans activity, which can also help with advertising
• Retention ideas- possibility of a Fall Feast
• Recognition- active director of PR. Become more multifaceted with news, information, etc. Might help with Welcome Weekend to get our names out there. Help with ice breakers and tours just to get people oriented with who we are.

Advisor’s Report
• Exit worksheets- will be looking at those for ideas about what worked and what didn't work
• Aspirations worksheets

President Elect Expectations for Upcoming Year (Mitch Moore)
• office hours- restarting surveys, tweet about SGA, etc
• Gmail- going to try and use that to stay connected better. Email mitchfsusga@gmail.com with name and email
  -calendar: executive offices will control. Will include committee meetings, faculty senate meetings, community service, etc
  -email Secretary Rachel at rachelfsusga@gmail.com about absences and excuses
• attendance- need to motivate new members to attend
  -new policy: 3 tardies. 2 unexcused absences results in immediate dismissal. Applies to both the meetings and volunteer commitments. Missing a committee meeting, counts as a tardy; excuses for that are to be given to the committee chair.
• Do not be blatantly on your phone or laptop. 3 strikes policy.
• Could we recommend the space next to the office for student organizations to meet?

Previous Issues
• carpooling
• Freddie's Closet- formal clothing closet for students to check out for up to 2 weeks. Where to put it? Fundraise by raffle tickets? Use F# to insure a deposit? Who will check it out?
• International Student Services emergency fund- relief fund for international students, loan up to $500 to be paid back as specified. The money would be from donations, perhaps the Foundation would donate to start up.
• Falcon handler for games and activities
• Finance Committee interim members

Pierpont Elections
• anyone who knows interested Pierpont students, let the Execs know immediately

Upcoming Events
• Congressman McKinley #217 Turley from 2-3pm on Monday, 3-31-14
• Banquet at Muriel's at 6pm on Monday, 3-31-14. Wear business clothes

Closing
• Need 5 volunteers on April 7 to pass out t-shirts for spirit week. Add to agenda for
Thursday.

Motion to adjourn seconded, President Rafferty adjourned the meeting.