

Student Life and Development Committee Minutes

Thursday, October 16, 2014

Meeting called to order at 12:02 p.m.

Members Present: Amber Amari, JoAnn Bacon, Jeannie Barrett, Jeff Benson, Elisabeth Burgess, Cheryl Delk-LeGood, Oliver Greene, Ky Hayes, David Jackson, Jr., Jairus Jones, Misty McDonald, Cristina Migles-Schmitt, Brett Reichert, Johnae Roberts, Lionel Scott, Nicholas Smith, Jelena Subotic

Guest: Boyd Beckwith, Daryl Holloman

Action Items

- A. Amber Amari moved that the minutes be accepted as presented. Oliver Greene second the motion. The minutes were unanimously approved.
- B. The Student Organization Charter Subcommittee – Jeff Benson presented the following list of organizations seeking to be chartered:

Bhakti Yoga

The objective of the club is assist the practitioner in using breath and body to foster an awareness of ourselves as individualized beings intimately connected to the unified whole of creation. The club will also discuss modern issues in light of Vedic scriptures and encourage modern thinkers to appreciate and apply ancient ideas. Lastly, the club will encourage all youth to espouse eternal principles as given in the scriptures that would help them devote stable, well-rounded personalities.

Graduate Student Alliance

The Graduate Student Alliance is an interdisciplinary body composed of graduate students from various departments across the university. Our aim is to facilitate communication among graduate students from different disciplines, increase graduate student participation in student and university governance, and to act as a representative body for voicing the collective concerns unique to graduate students directly to the university administration. Representing a diverse set of students, the Graduate Student Alliance seeks to improve the intellectual, financial, and educational experiences available to all graduate students at the university.

Lean In

The primary purpose of Lean In is to provide an organization where any person of any background may come together to unite as one, and to benefit themselves through Lean In, circle meetings, live speakers, online videos tutorial, and other Lean In related activities. Lean In provides an opportunity for members to learn the art of networking, executive leadership skills, confidence and professionalism.

Nu Rho Psi

The purpose of Nu Rho Psi shall be to: (1) encourage professional interest and excellence in scholarship, particularly in neuroscience; (2) award recognition to students who have achieved such excellence in scholarship; (3) advance the discipline of neuroscience; (4) encourage intellectual and social interaction between students, faculty, and professionals in

neuroscience and related fields; (5) promote career development in neuroscience and related fields; (6) increase public awareness of neuroscience and its benefits for the individual and society; and (7) encourage service to the community.

Students for Progressive Transit

The purpose of this organization is to educate and bring awareness to the student body of Georgia State University on the importance of effective transportation in the Atlanta community and in the world.

Volunteers Around the World

Volunteers Around the World (VAW) is an NGO (Non-Governmental Organization) devoted to improving the standard of living for those that live in some of the most poverty stricken communities of the world. Our focus is to provide communities with access to medical treatment, medication, nutritional security, clean water, and health education.

Petition to Re-Establish Charter 2014-15 Academic Year

James Oglethorpe Legal Society

The purposes of the Oglethorpe Legal Society shall be:

- (a) To aid and promote the placement and advancement of the student members of the Oglethorpe Legal Society in the activities of the bar throughout the State of Georgia;
- (b) To further the aims, purposes and ideals of the Oglethorpe Legal Society;
- (c) To promote vibrant discussion of current legal issues in Georgia law among the members of the Society;
- (d) To foster discussion and interchange of ideas relating to the duties, responsibilities and problems of the practice of law throughout the State of Georgia;
- (e) To foster among the members of the Oglethorpe Legal Society the principles of duty and service to the public of the State of Georgia;
- (f) To encourage the interest and participation of the student members of the Oglethorpe Legal Society and the student body of Georgia State University College of law in the activities of the bar;
- (g) To promote the employment of graduates of Georgia State University College of Law throughout all areas the State of Georgia;
- (h) To improve the administration of justice; and
- (i) To advance the science of law.

Nontraditional Student Association

To provide activism, advocacy and coaching for and on behalf of all nontraditional students on campus, leveraging technology for the delivery of educational and organizational benefits so that non-traditional students can adapt to a dynamic academic, business and social environment at Georgia State.

Phi Chi Theta

The purpose of this Fraternity shall be to promote the cause of higher business education and training for all individuals; to foster high ideals for everyone pursuing a career in business; to encourage fraternity and cooperation among people preparing for such

careers; and to stimulate the spirit of sacrifice and unselfish devotion to the attainment of such ends.

Student Leadership Consortium Benefiting Hughes Spalding

The goal of the Student Leadership Consortium is to mobilize the GSU community to benefit Hughes Spalding through fundraising and patient support programs. We provide this opportunity for students to make an impact in the lives of others by becoming philanthropic leaders with real-world fundraising and outreach experience.

Misty McDonald moved to approve the petitions. Lionel Scott second the motion. The petitions to charter were unanimously approved.

Information Items / Discussion

- A. Dr. Darryl Holloman spoke on the following:
- Provided an overview of the Office of the Dean of Students
 - Announced that Bernard McCrary is the new director of Black Student Achievement and Jeffrey Coleman is the new director of the Multicultural Center

 - His mantra is – How do we build a culture of care? He wants to create a balance between a welcoming campus and student advocacy. He wants an environment that is an inclusive, equitable environment and that advocates for students.
 - Things to focus on
 1. How we engage students now?
 2. How are we supporting students?
 3. How do we expand on multicultural on campus?
 4. Challenges? – We do not talk about the diversity of thought
 5. Student Conduct – Safety of campus, how to adjudicate issues.
 - Need to train faculty and students on sexual misconduct policy.
 - The name of the staff members that do student assistants is changing to student advocacy and outreach; as it better describes what they do.
 - Dean on Students is not just for when students are in trouble. He has an open door policy for students and parents.
 - 112 is an off-campus student housing facility that is not under jurisdiction of Georgia State University.
 - Multicultural Center – LGBT community, Hispanic – Latino/a, white males, Asian students, etc
 - Changes to MLK Convocation – Name changed to MLK Commemoration. The program will focus more on the speaker and will only have two awards.
- B. First Amendment- There is difficulty regulating speech on campus, as any actions by campus is considered State action. We can have time, place, and manner restrictions. There are designated areas on campus for free speech. Many concerns were discussed regarding the most recent activity involving free speech in Library Plaza. Concerns were raised regarding the way students were being treated and the noise level that made working difficult. A suggestion was made regarding moving the free speech area to Hurt Park. Further conversations regarding this topic are needed. Key staff members are going to be meeting with the police department to discuss some of the concerns as well. Some helpful ways to help students cope included providing educational materials on using meaningful speech, on what goes on campus and how to cope, and what the campus can and can't do.

- C. Subcommittees to be discussed at next meeting.
- D. Upcoming Meetings – The April meeting has been moved

Elizabeth Burgess noted that if there are any questions or concerns at the meeting(s) please contact her.

Meeting was adjourn at 1:05 p.m.