Honors Student Advisory Council

December 2, 2012

In Attendance: Jeremiah, Grace, Lindsey, April, Matthew, Valerie, Stacy, Tina, Jessica, Martin, Courtney

Call to Order: 8pm

The HSAC elections were conducted this past week. Elections Chair Tina Drumhiller reported that 17 individuals voted. The elections results were, in order of the number of votes, 1.) Matthew Carrick, 2.) Ashley Straunch 3.) Heather Currey and 4.) Emily Smola. Tina will approach the top three vote recipients in order to confirm the acceptance of the seat. If any of the winners declines the runner up – Emily – will be contacted. Further, the elections results will be sent out over the listserv. Tina brought up concerns surrounding the ineffectiveness of the listserv in soliciting successful voter turnout. Future suggestions were to post posters announcing the HSAC elections around the house, and to hold an in-person elections polling booth.

The Honors Program has approached the HSAC asking HSAC to make a statement of support for the Honors Programmatic purchase of Full Spectrum lamps. Six lamps were purchased and exist in the house, however the Fiscal Officer for the Department of General Studies has raised concern over the purchase and asked the Honors Program to return the lamps. As the situation stands, Dr. Larson holds that the lamps will remain in the Honors House, however he requests individual students and the HSAC write letters of support.

The HSAC declined to support the Honors Program’s request due to: a lack of information (particularly lamp cost, inter-department politics, no background on why the decision to purchase was made, etc.), a general perception that the addition of six lamps was excessive, and concerns over lack of proper medical understanding of the lamps. However that is not to say that support was not voiced, some students expressed the lamps as thoughtful, beneficial to students and an embellishment upon the lone preexisting lamp. It was requested that while HSAC will decline an outright support that an explanation of the process and logic is passed onto Dr. L to thank him for bringing this issue to us and foster positive future relationship.

The HSAC Constitution underwent review from the HFAC. The HFAC requests the addition of a meeting standard and a final review, otherwise no concerns were voiced. Below is a summary of the adopted changes to the HSAC constitution and bylaws written and approved by the HSAC:

HSAC Constitution

* Article 1 – title is changed to “Purpose”
* Article 1 Section 1 – title is changed to “Statement of Mission, Vision, and Values”
* Article 2 Section 9 – the word “either” was removed
* Article 2 Section 9 – the word “terminates” was altered to “removed from the council”
* Article 2 Section 11 – added language to create a full list of succession, split Section 11 into 2 sections “Succession” and “Vacancies”
* Article 5 Section 3 – added “as well as a standard meeting procedure”
* Article 7 – all sections excepting 7.1.1 were removed to form the HSAC Bylaws now contained as a separate document, Section 7.1.1 becomes Section 1
* Article 7 Section 1 – added “or bylaws”

HSAC Bylaws

* Added Section 2.21 -2.24 providing language about the student representatives designation as a semester or year long status
* Added “Meeting Standards” in before the HSAC Binder – making Meeting Standards Section 5 – all subsequent numbering altered by a factor of one
* Section 6.1.1 changed “HSACB” to “binder”
* Section 8.1 “Quorum” to be Section 5.2

Discover UAF was scheduled for Saturday, December 1st, however it was canceled. As such no news exists to be reported.

This past week Kerrie posted a notice pertaining to kitchen cleanliness. Jeremiah discussed with Kerrie and the issue was of some decaying food and subsequently has been fixed. However, there is now a larger concern over how kitchen cleanliness is handled. There is a series of notes on the refrigerator door detailing some back and forth, however the general conclusion from the notes is that the mess has been cleaned up by persons not making the mess. Two ideas were mentioned – HSAC endorsed signs reminding students to clean up and a more through enforcement of the House Contract.

There is no update for the Excellence in Teaching Luncheon.

 A vote was held to determine if HSAC will host a final meeting next week. The votes was 7/3 in favor of hosting a meeting, however the meeting time will be moved to 7pm as opposed to 8pm.

For homework, all HSAC members will read the HSAC Constitution and ensure that all concerns are addressed.

Adjourned at 9:53 pm.