Westmont College Student Association
Meeting Minutes
4-7-2014

Present: David Dry, Ryan Council, Caroline Sunshine, Angela D’Amour, Riley Svikhart, Kyle Phipps, Annaliese Yukawa, Elizabeth Grossman, Nicole Birkholz, Ky Kocur, Mike Deiana, Melissa Caputo, Andrew Boyd, Abby Gritter

Meeting began at 7:18

- Prayer - Nicole

- Funding Proposals
  - NSTEP - $3400 for a benefit concert for urban dance programs
    - $650 for food, water for performers
    - $250 travel for visiting dance groups
    - $500 for “thank-you” gifts
    - $1000 lighting and set-up
    - $200 for advertising
    - $200 to supplement costumes
    - $100 for misc. (tickets, cash box, etc.)
    - $150 for décor
    - $450 for t-shirts for sale
  - Male RAs Brolympics, April 11 - $100 for food
    - Riley motions to fund, Mike seconds, all aye
  - Polo Nationals trip - $3620
    - $2300 for plane tickets, $1320 for hotel
    - Tabled until next week

- Lightning Round
  - Angela - new council possibly to look at UCSB’s Senate meetings
  - Kyle - had Senior Beach BBQ on Saturday
  - Annaliese - Page People’s Choice Awards
  - Nicole - Sophomore cupcake event next Tuesday night (April 15)
  - Ky - Business Managers’ Spring Meeting next week
  - David - Forum for VP candidate later this week
    - Athletic Committee - needs a student rep (Nicole, Annaliese)

- WAC/Budget update
  - Class events would be pared down to unity weekends, Freshman Retreat
  - Sergio + Alumni Office want to partner with junior class for an annual event
Danny suggested $500/class
- Senior Disneyland trip is about $1000
- Senior etiquette dinner: only 50 can attend, didn’t happen this year
Won’t need to fund a new position - simply absorbing clubs responsibilities
- Senator in either VP/Off-campus could fulfill Baccalaureate, etc. roles
- At-large senator: international student? second election? added mid-year?
  - Want competition, interest
  - Fill in the holes in the council

Minutes from 3-31 approved without comment

VP Candidate Update
- Candidate will be here Thursday-Friday for meetings, interviews
- Open Forum for students, April 10, 8:00-8:45
  - Shorten the small meeting, lengthen the all-student meeting
- What would we like to see/hear?
  - Talk a bit about herself, then open up to questions
    - What is her vision for Student Life at Westmont?
    - How does she see Westmont Student Life now?
- Should we link this to Jane at all? Only to give context for the position
- Private, previous meeting will be more casual → make it more formal to give structure to the event?
- Begin with an icebreaker lightning round of questions - Caroline
- Every WCSA member needs to bring one other friend to the meeting

Strategic Planning - email David if you have any further feedback

Planning for the Future: priorities for next year
- Academic Advising - the system is not working
  - Student-on-student advising?
  - Help for freshmen who do not know what they want to do
  - Upperclassmen mentors for first-years beginning summer before freshman year
  - Prepare students who want to go abroad to save the right GEs
- Integration of “minority” populations
  - International students, off-campus students, athletes, etc.
  - Work with Shannon Balram to integrate off-campus
- Office of Life Planning - work with WAC on this as well
  - Advocacy, raising awareness among students
- Connect with alumni
Further existing programs like TASTE, Westmont Connect, etc.
- Re-entry from abroad/global mission of the college
  - How do we have a global mindset while on campus?
- Be intentional about being a voice FOR the students to the administration, and TO the students from the administration
  - We have influence - use it wisely
- Raise awareness of and respect for WCSA
  - Make sure students know what we do and what they can get from us
    - Proposals, information, a voice to administration, events, etc.
  - Work with the Horizon - reporter at meetings? write for the Horizon?
  - Work with SB community - keep tabs on existing needs, opportunities for service
- Office Hours - how are they used effectively? What needs to change?
  - Office hours in the DC, VK, etc. - how to reach more people?
  - Make the organization visible
  - Dorm councils will be one aspect of this, but go beyond
  - Round Table discussions

Back to NSTEP benefit concert funding proposal
- Proceeds to inner city dance ministries - local, Denver, San Francisco (Crossroads)
  - In Murchison Gym, $5 admission
  - Also that day: track & field, WAC Frozen on the lawn, baseball?
    - Afternoon event (1 PM?)
  - Dance for Japan raised $4000 in 2011
  - Masa’s connection in Japan might provide the t-shirts (need money up front)
  - More than a Westmont event - advertise in community, feature other dance groups
  - Is throwing this event the best use of our money?
    - NSTEP prioritizes fundraising for the ministries
  - Most important costs: advertising, host visiting dancers well, lights/setup
  - NSTEP: 20 people
    - Five current participating groups from 4-10 dancers each
  - Bare bones event: $1500-$2000
  - End of the semester - lots of our money has been allocated
    - Clubs are not cleared to fundraise - partner with athletics?