GENERAL ASSEMBLY MEETING
March 20, 2014

The meeting was called to order at 3:00 p.m. by Sonya Dunkin, President.

Roll Call: Roll was taken via sign-in. Fifty members were present for General Assembly meeting.

Prior to the business meeting Karli Creech, Director of Campus Membership and Student Activities with The Higher Education Advocacy, informed the General Assembly of the mission of the Partnership and encouraged the Assembly to become an affiliate member.

Minutes Approved from January 2014

The assembly unanimously approved the January minutes as written.

Officer Reports:

President: Sonya Dunkin
  • April is Sexual Assault Awareness month. Amy Ratliff read the Proclamation provided by the Campus Antiviolence Task Force. Sonya called for a vote to adopt the Proclamation. The vote was unanimously in favor. Beth Howard, a member of the Antiviolence Task Force, was present to witness the vote.

President-elect: Amy Ratliff -- No report

Past-President: Allan Guenther
  • Allan congratulated Sonya for her wonderful leadership as out-going President and wished Amy well with her year as President.

Secretary: Gayle Howell -- No report

Treasurer: John Chambers
  • There were no expenses this past month.

Historian: Randy Mecredy -- No report

Parliamentarian: David Brown -- No report
Committee Reports:

Ad hoc Scholarship: Amy Ratliff
- Amy has been speaking with Advancement about generating funding for the Mark G. Foster Scholarship. We have about two more years to reach the endowment level.

Professional Development: Jana Motes-Patton
- The Committee is working on the Outstanding Professional Award selection process. There were 23 nominees this year. The award ceremony will be held at the May PSA General Assembly meeting.

Staff Life: Jennifer Clark
- The Committee is still working on developing the survey.

Technology and Web: Rachel Frazier & Karen Silliman -- Both absent

Nominations and Elections: Mukesh Voltz & Nancy Holmes
- The nomination and election processes went very smoothly. Three hundred forty-five ballots were cast.
- The following officers were elected: Treasurer, John Chambers; Secretary, Cheryl Rosamond; President-Elect, Jennifer Clark.

Communications: Victoria Corley -- No report

Career Connections: Naomi Powell
- Because of the small number of volunteer mentors this spring the program is being suspended until fall semester.

Service and Outreach: Julie Elmore & Mary Thornton
- The drive to collect supplies for children in Foster Care is still underway. They are collecting crayons, coloring books, children’s books, and stuffed animals for the 3 – 10 year olds. For children ages 11 – 18 years they are collecting disposable cameras, 4” x 6” photo books, small journals, and pens or pencils.
- The Good Samaritan Clinic has asked the PSA to assist them with the collection of lightly worn business attire clothing and accessories. The items are needed by April 7.
- The Committee is still collecting used cell phones for the Women’s Resource Center.

Assembly Operations: David Brown -- No report

Standing Committee Reports
- Campus Master Plan – Tom Land
  - The Committee has a new Chair, who has said that they will meet more frequently and make the meetings more open.
  - The University Planner, Dan Wolf, gave an update at the last meeting.
Bryce patients will be moved out of the current facility around April.

University Rec Center land use was discussed. The new Rec Center will include a 3,000 person storm shelter.

Part of the Jack Warner Parkway is now University property. The Committee discussed decreasing the speed limit on that section of the road.

- Safety and Security – Yolanda Eubanks -- Absent
- Equal Opportunity – Andre Love
  - The next meeting will be on Friday, April 11th and will have a representative from the Faculty Senate present. The groups will discuss opportunities for collaboration and combined efforts and resources in the areas of diversity and inclusion at The University of Alabama.

- Faculty/Staff Benefits – Leslie Guy
  - The Well Bama Rewards Program incentives will be included again this year.
  - The data collected by the childcare / eldercare survey is still being analyzed.
  - HR is promoting a new financial wellness program.

- International Education – Kim Olin-Hammond -- No report
- Libraries – Mary Thornton
  - Proposed budget increase for FY 2015.
  - Potential updates to instructional programs for libraries.
  - Update on withdrawing print holdings.
  - Proposed collaboration between libraries in UA system.

- Parking and Traffic – Naomi Powell -- No report
- Student and Campus Life – Julie Elmore
  - The Committee is talking about bicycle safety issues.
  - Carl Bacon spoke to them about policies related to flyers and posters being put in the display cases in the Ferguson Center once the renovation is complete. He asked the Committee to review the current policies. Julie requested that PSA members email her with feedback.

- Student Health – Valerie Mills -- No report
• Undergraduate Programs – John Chambers -- No report
• University Recreation – Cori Perdue
  o The Rec Center has recorded a record number of card swipes this semester, even with the snow days.
• Information Technology – Kim Smalley -- No report
• Intercollegiate Athletics – Darrell Hargreaves
  o The Committee met with the rowing team coach. The team is very excited about the new facility being built at Manderson Landing.
• Faculty Senate – Kathy Bir
  o The Faculty Senate elected new officers at their last meeting.
  o The Tobacco-Free Campus policy is one of their top priorities.
  o The Officers listened to student testimonials regarding harassment. The faculty members were unsettled by the number of incidents and types of harassment students have faced in the recent elections. This raised concern about current channels for students’ complaints. Since there are numerous and various channels for reporting student harassment, the Senate is not sure if all the complaints are reported to a central department to monitor.
  o Concerns were voiced about the fact that there are no African Americans or other minority students on the Faculty Senate Task Force. Faculty Senators were challenged to identify minority students in their respective areas who are interested in participating on the Task Force.
  o Concerns were raised in regard to the faculty/staff tuition benefit. Current policy allows for 3 credits per semester to be waived. Most language courses are 4 credits.
  o Email systems and capacity were discussed.
  o Several MIS students made a presentation compass program.
  o Concerns about bicyclist and skateboarders on campus were expressed.
• Committee on University Committees – Rachel Frazier -- No report
• OCTA – Karen Silliman -- No report

New Business:
• Mary Thornton represented the PSA at a recent meeting of the Senate Task Force for Excellence in Equality, Inclusion, and Citizenship. The topics covered were:
  o Greek Integration
- Obstacles to change
- No incoming freshman recruitment
- Role of Greek Affairs Office
- Greeks monitoring membership votes during campus elections
- Perceived inequality of resources

  ○ Student Citizenship
  - Issues with campus elections
    - Vague election rules
    - Formal complaint process
    - Formal accountability structure
  - Issues with Election Board
    - More transparency is needed
    - Closed board meetings
    - No published minutes available to the public

  ○ Campus Diversity
  - Chief Diversity Officer at the VP-level
  - Adding gender identity expression to UA’s Nondiscrimination Policy
  - Clearer reporting chain for diversity and inclusion issues

  - Julie Elmore thanked Sonya Duncan for her service as President.
  - Sonya Dunkin presented Amy Ratliff with the gavel.
  - Amy shared brief remarks.

**Announcements:**
- Steering Committee: April 10, 3:00 p.m. CDRC, 2nd floor conference room
- PSA General Meeting: March 20, 3:00 p.m. Graves Hall, room 118

Adjourned at 4:07 p.m.