

COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY

SCHOOL OF GENERAL STUDIES
GENERAL STUDIES STUDENT COUNCIL

GSSC Minutes for November 18, 2003

Present: – Arash, Pavan, Richie, Matan, Marguerite, Abigail, Claudia, Steven, Rob, Abbey, Won, Justin, Tinishia, and Scott. A quorum is present.

Update by ACSRI (Advisory Committee on Socially Responsible Investing):

Presented by Dawson Her Many Horses who currently sits on the committee. This committee was established by University Trustees and is one of two committees. The Advisory Committee is a permanent addition to the university. Power resides with Trustees and the committee serves as a recommendation body. It advises the Trustees with regards to its investment holdings on ethical and social issues. A number of concerns discussed recently are prices of aids drugs in Africa, environmental issues and human rights concerns. The report was made available to the GSSC as well as the student body.

There will be an open seat shortly and this seat could go to GS or ESC student. Dawson encourages the GSSC to submit names as his term will be coming to a close shortly.

Updates:

Scott -Midnight Mania Promo events begun. Received complaints about wireless in the GS lounge and he has contacted ACIS, they stated that they are working on it. Arash will follow up w/ Mr. Kasdin who also states they are working on it. Received complaints about E-Books, emailed Library contact, has not received a response as of yet. Scott is recognized by the council for outstanding performance and accomplishments.

Steven- event in lounge last Thursday went well and extends thanks to Claudia and Won who assisted. Having trouble with UFM management. Council advises that if one needs to go to UFM one should consider going to other places, the vender lists are in SDA.

Matan- Student Caucus currently discussing Patriot Act. Current student issues with visas as some visas are not extended on time or denied and the student has to leave the U.S. while still being financially responsible for tuition and fees. Not a uniform rule among schools with regards to issues regarding visas. In regards to diplomas, student caucus moves forward slowly. The Senate is soliciting serious suggestions for recommendations as a Columbia Trustee.

Pavan - Resolution about File Sharing (see minutes for November 11, 2003) adopted with some dissent from Dartmouth. Currently supporting environmental initiative to promote reducing greenhouses gasses and getting environmental reforms passed: seeking consensus on this issue to gain support behind it. Ivy League Leadership conference in

NY. A need for 10-15 names at each schools in February 2004. More information available at www.iles.org. Ivy Core sponsored resolution, Relay for Life, a 24 hours walking marathon seeking to raise 100k for the American Cancer Society.

Marguerite: From Rob- Sunday Brunch December 7th. A karaoke and jazz event is tentatively scheduled for the future, maybe Dec 3rd at the Faculty House. Exploring an initiative to get involved with NY Cares and Letter to Santa programs.

Claudia- Resumania Thursday 12-1 and requests help. CCE sponsoring a winter break workshop.

Tinishia- CCSC main concern is security on campus. Many frat houses have no locks on the doors, no cameras etc. For C250 spelling bee quiz bowl. Put together team. They wrote a letter to get free shuttle bus service on College Walk, hoping it will increase school spirit. Developing plan for a type of Credit Card for student groups to use based on the Ivy Councils model. John Jay is hosting a Thanksgiving Dinner. A committee to incorporate ethnic studies majors is in progress.

Rep-SEAS E-Community in beta stage, roles of SEAS Role of UHC.

Justin-Happy to be here.

WKCR: Laura a Program Director from WKCR (Columbia Radio) states that WKCR currently has a 5 member board with a stipulation that disqualified a GS students from being Station Manager of WKCR as GS funds support ABC not SDA. What they require is a donation to WKCR that is proportional to amend this rule. Issue is unresolved and still being explored.

Dance Marathon: 28 hrs of dancing in Lerner in supports of Elizabeth Glazer Foundation, scheduled for February 2004. Traditionally two dancers from GSSC attend. Volunteers are Abbey and Scott (tentatively).

Meeting adjourned.