

COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY

SCHOOL OF GENERAL STUDIES GENERAL STUDIES STUDENT COUNCIL

GSSC Minutes February 3, 2004

Members Present: Arash, Josh, Richie, Pavan, Matan, Marguerite, Abigail, Claudia, Chris, Abbey, Won, Justin, Tinishia, Ariel, Scott, Steven and Jimmy.

Rob is absent.

A quorum is established.

Updates

Marguerite – The Talent Show is in the planning stages, and would be conducted as a fundraiser for a GS Scholarship fund. Also planning a billiards event in the game room.

Justin – A group will be approaching the GSSC for funding as SGA has made their funding for this group contingent on approaching the GSSC.

Dominic – We are approaching the senior 100's. There are presentations for the Paris and Berlin programs coming up in the next week. The February 6 First Friday Forums will host Professor Robert Jervis. Please send all money issues my way with the vendors. They should be harassing me not you.

Matan – I attended the town hall meeting about the planned expansion. Today I submitted a GS housing proposal and hope to bring it to a vote. Speaking for Rob – The Sunday Brunch was great and there was plenty of food.

Scott – I was happy to be invited to a Woman in Sports dinner as a thank you for the work I did with the Midnight Mania.

Josh – Participated in the nomination of a new individual for A.L.I.C.E., I was happy that they selected our nominee.

Chris – Met with Michelle Palmer and she is assisting me with the planning of a variety of events this year. I am also in the process of forming various committees to plan out upcoming events.

Abigail – We had a good turn out for the Social Sciences Majors fair. Next week we are having a roundtable discussion with Dean Awn with a focus on the concerns over the core curriculum.

Claudia – Another Resumania is planned for 6-7 P.M.

GSSC Funding Request Forms – Presented by Ariel:

Ariel - I have softened up the language a bit and changed all musts to should or encourage.

Matan – Could you add that they submit to us the advertising email for the event so that we may distribute it to our student body.

Chris – Awesome. The only question I have is technical in nature and maybe Pavan could help, do we need an account number?

Pavan – Yes.

Justin – That could be put in the area of who the group is funded through.

Dom – Could we condense this to two sheets?

Ariel – Yes I can make some adjustments with the font and text.

Richie – Motions to pass the form with the proposed changes.

Josh seconds.

Motion Passes with one abstention.

Women of GS – Presented by Claudia:

On Wednesday April 21, 2004 at 7:00 p.m. we will be hosting a woman of GS alumni event at the Columbia Club at 43 street. The cost will be 18-20 dollars per person. There will not be a dinner served, rather antipasto, soda and wine. I am in the process of designing a formal invitation letter and should have a sample for the council by next week.

Career Night – Presented by Claudia:

I was curious if the GSSC would like to co-sponsor Career Night held by the Alumni Office. I also spoke with Kelly who asked if we would be interested in having an alumni panel come to speak to leaders in GS about student leadership and how to market that on a resume.

Matan – There is something similar to that held by the SDA yearly, maybe we could do a co-event?

Richie – I believe that the GS alumni might be interested in speaking to GS students.

Dominic – We could send this out to the whole GS community and open it to all who feel they are leaders.

African Students Association (ASA) – Presented by Justin:

ASA is a student group that has the mission of educating the Columbia community about issues that are going on in Africa as well as cultural aspects that maybe some are not aware of. This year we are holding an event with the theme of giving back to Africa. We are going to donate the proceeds of this event to assist children in Cote D'Ivoire Africa. We are expecting Mr. Charles Rangel, possibly Jesse Jackson and we have Dr. Dre from Power 105 as a DJ for the event. Others we are working on are David Dinkins and Winton Marsellis. We have CTV that will be filming the event. We are also raffling off an Iceman watch worth \$2000. I have provided a budget and am seeking \$650.00 for the itemized costs that you see in front of you.

Matan – How many GS students do you anticipate attending the event?

Justin – Last year GS had a pretty good presence. This year we are expecting a minimum of 500 guests and are anticipating 1000. Students will have first crack at the tickets at a cost of \$10.

Scott – Two questions: (1) Did you have a similar event last year?

Justin – We had a fashion show last year, however this year we are seeking a more formal event.

Scott – (2) – The them is titled “Giving Back to Africa”, what are we giving back?

Justin – As you know there has been a serious brain drain in many sub0saharan countries. This has affected the economies of the region. We are seeking to provide some money to assist those less fortunate.

Arash, Josh and Pavan – General questions about funding from particular groups, Justin replies to amounts received and amounts hoped for.

Steven – Who gets the travel expenses?

Justin – That is for Charles Rangel.

Arash – I like to see our money going to charity and like this cause.

Josh – Motions to provide the \$650.00 requested.

Steven – Seconds the motion.

10 in favor. 3 Abstentions. Motion Passes.

The Event – presented by Pavan:

I am getting some of my information from third hand sources. What occurred last year was that as a result of some incidents on the Intrepid that might have been alcohol related, The Event was held at the South Street Seaport last year. Due to the change in venue, other costs were incurred. It was the interpretation of the Councils that the Deans offices of the school would provide money for the event and continue to do so.

Dominic – Last year a majority of the mony came from the College and Barnard Deans. The Councils made up the rest. The understanding from the Deans offices was that this was a one time deal. The Deans are providing money this year, but not at the same levels.

Pavan – We are now being asked to help pay for The Event. Our share is \$500.00

Abby – Would this avoid higher ticket prices?

Pavan – It would help, it is also our share of the costs.

Ariel – Do a lot of GS students attend?

Dominic – Last year we had about 25-30, which is a pretty good turnout. The Dean of Students office however will not pay this year as this was just presented to us at the last minute. We have already done our budget for the year, and it has in fact been cut.

Ariel – What draws people to the event if there is no alcohol?

Dominic – It is a good time, there is food there and dancing. Steven was there last year.

Steven – It was a little crowded but it was really good. They had 2 DJ's.

Josh – The last email I received stated the event cost about \$60,000 in total. Is this going to be at the Sout Street Seaport again?

Pavan – Yes, there are some minor changes. However it is a good event and we are not being asked to give a lot, only \$500.00.

Scott – Is this a Columbia wide event?

Pavan – No it is for the undergraduate schools only.

Justin – Just to add a point, this came up last minute to SGA as well and they were not too happy about it.

Richie motions to give \$500.00

Steven seconds the motion.

11 in favor

1 Opposed

2 Abstain

The motion passes.

Relay for Life – Presented by Tinishia:

Tinishia – As you know I am the publicity chair for the American Cancer Societies (ACS) Relay for Life. This event will be raising money for ACS. This is the 20th anniversary of this event and coincides somewhat with the 250th anniversary of Columbia University. NYU held the relay for life and raised \$86, 000. We have to raise more, it is a competition. I would like to form a GSSC team, who is interested? (Names collected).

Boss – Introduced by Tinishia:

Tinishia – BOSS is an SGA club and is sponsoring a health fair for local community woman. Boss is asking the GSSC to sponsor the admission for a few women to come to this event. The ticket price is \$15.00 per person.

Matan – Is this event going to answer health questions about a particular ethnic group?

Tinishia – The fair is designed for African-American women in the community.

Ariel – Will it exclude Hispanic women? If it doesn't I would support funding as the uptown area is made of a very diverse population.

Arash – Before allocating money to Boss I would like to see at least a budget so we are going to table the discussion until we can have one of their representatives come here.

Meeting Adjourned.