

# VASSAR STUDENT ASSOCIATION

## Council Agenda for Oct. 10, 2010

Time: 7:00pm

Location: College Center 223

"Always forgive your enemies; nothing annoys them so much."

—Oscar Wilde

1 Call to Order

-The meeting was called to order at 7:02 p.m.

2 Attendance ..... Operations

-All here

-Guests: Bret Ingerman- CIS

Lane Lesanele- Vassar Debate

Alex Koren- Vassar Debate

Ethan Madare- Vassar Debate

Tom Enering- Vassar Debate

Matthew Brock- Misc

Caitlin Clevenger- Misc

Aashim Usgaonker- Misc

Angelo Aiuto- Misc

Molly Turpin- Misc

Sharon Onga- getting to know VSA

3 Consent Agenda

a. Allocation of \$60 to VIS from New Organizations Fund

-Allocation passed with a unanimous vote.

4 Forum: Bret Ingerman; Vice President for Computing and Information Services

- Mr. Ingerman attended in order to answer any tech questions the council had and to outline the major highlights of this year in the tech department.

He clarified why Vassar is switching over to the secure wireless network; it is basically just a lot more secure for students. Insecure networks can be hacked into with the right software and anything a student submits over the internet can be seen.

Students will have to go to control panel and make a new password to activate the new secure network. Concerns should be addressed to the help desk although one predicted concern is that some apple devices have had problems. Students will have to sign onto this network once a semester.

The big events this fall have been: the opening of the Zimbra calendar; they've decided to stick with Zimbra because it's simple and accessible, although it won't work with the new blackberry. They have also taken out the room phones in resident halls and replaced them with hall phones which are reportedly working well. Cloisters move to 24 hour room, and they're looking for feedback on

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how it's working. Phishing attempts keep happening; negative repercussions include many companies refusing to take mail from Vassar due to high amounts of spam mail.

Students are the largest group on campus, but heard from the least. New group of students has been formed to bounce ideas off of and get feedback; it will meet twice a semester.

- Academics: Update on decision not to have a cell tower? – The smokestack was shedding bricks and the idea was to get it fixed up and add a cell tower, but in the course of the past five years, cell coverage has significantly improved, with 2 new towers built in Poughkeepsie. There is no proof that cell towers are damaging, but using cell phones close to the head is significantly more dangerous. The consensus has been to not install new tower, but they want to conduct a survey to see what kind of cell coverage students get.

-Lathrop: library doesn't get good service.

-Activities: updates on illegal downloading? -it has not gone down this year, but it hasn't gone up either. There's not much more they can do. If you get caught, a copyright violation fee of \$25 is sent home to parents.

- Concerns were brought up about the 24 hour space not having enough seating from the THs, Lathrop, and 2011. Academics offered to help on that. New cone speaker system hopefully coming out.

-V-print: trying to get new swipe less machines where proximity to machine is the only thing needed.

-Socos: where can we put one?

5 SARC Report..... Nick Dressler

6 Executive Board Reports

a. Activities: Meet me in Poughkeepsie went really well, transportation went smoothly. Next project is looking at alcohol use in the mug; the idea is to remove alcohol use in the mug. Currently Airmark monitors when we can use the mug, scheduling meetings to talk to people about the new idea. 1266 students registered for Meet me in Poughkeepsie, total trip count=31.

b. Finance: paid for lots of Meet me in Poughkeepsie; we're in good financial health

7 BHP Report ..... BHP

Lathrop and Main are the co-chairs for BHP committee and they've been working on student life and reinforcing safe drinking habits.

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- Lathrop: B&G meeting was held to introduce house presidents to people in charge, brought up concerns for dorms, follow up meeting in November. They are working on a system where they leave behind a receipt showing what they've done, and they'll leave a report to show how they'll deal with student requests.
- 2011: worried that changes aren't taking place because last April a letter was crafted and changes were promised that never came through.
- Lathrop: will work on pushing it through and making sure that it gets done.
- 8 Allocation of \$3,000 to Hip Hop 101 from Speakers, Lecturers Fund..... Finance
  - The additions made were moving it to the community fund and inviting kids to come to the show from Poughkeepsie.
  - Student Life- Does the allocation come out of speakers and lecturers? -Yes.
  - Finance made a move to allocate: finance abstains, all else in favor.
- 9 Allocation of \$1,100 to Debate Team from Conference Fund..... Finance
  - Moving it to discretionary fund.
  - 2013: was approached by the debate team and encourages everyone to support this allocation
  - 2014: They need money and if the VSA doesn't give it to them, they have to supplement it and in the future. The concern is that only more affluent student will be able to attend conferences.
  - Finance encourages debate team to fundraise and also to be clear about what they need the money for.
  - Debate member: we are hosting this conference and teams from all over the Eastern Seaboard are coming. Registration closes on Wednesday, so still not sure who's coming, but will have final registration by then.
  - Operations: great idea to host a big event because we rarely do that.
  - Lathrop: great academic activity for campus.
  - Finance: We currently have \$57,211 in the discretionary fund.
  - All voted in favor.
- 10 Allocation of \$500 to ViCE Film League from Council Discretionary..... Finance
  - Event to take people to see the opening of the next Harry Potter movie.
  - Finance: doesn't feel like it's appropriate to provide funding for transport
  - Strong: the movie is no longer going to be 3D, so VSA would be spending less.
  - Operations: motion to table this allocation until next meeting.

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- Lathrop: do we have to reserve tickets?
- Terrace apartments opposed, all else in in favor.
- 11 Allocation of \$1,500 to Act Out from Speakers, Lecturers Fund ..... Finance
  - Finance: looks like a great performance
  - Act Out: collaborating with 2 theatre organizations and Indecent Exposure. It will be the 1<sup>st</sup> big all campus event and they want to reach larger part of Vassar community.
  - Lathrop: why big jumps/changes in funding?
  - Finance: fee was negotiable (a little), but the representative from Act Out says that because they are such a small theatre company, we need to provide incentive for them to come. The lowest they could go is \$2200.
  - 2013: how much is left in fund?
  - Finance: you can only use 60% of any given fund each semester. Act Out wants to be safe that they have enough money in case fundraising doesn't earn enough. There is currently \$32,000 and we can raise our allocation to \$1800 according to the bylaws.
  - Main: movement to amend allocation to \$1800.
  - Activities: if we spend 60% this semester then we'll have to say no to many requests for funding next semester; it's important to correlate money with attendance.
  - Act Out Rep: yes they're fundraising, but they prefer to fundraise for causes rather than themselves.
  - THs: worthwhile adding another 300 because we can move money around from different funds if we want to.
  - Academics: talk to people, houses, and other orgs- it's another way of making more money.
  - Joss: supports amendments, good job fundraising for causes.
  - Finance: we need to be aware of how many people are attending and how much money is spent throughout the year, but he's in favor of this amendment.
  - Jewett: worthwhile to email presidents to email constituents to increase attendance.
  - All in favor of amendment, except Main who abstains.
  - Motion to allocate passes, all in favor, except Main who abstains.
- 12 Allocation of \$750 to BAM from Speakers, Lecturers Fund ..... Finance
  - Finance: Gorgia Stint, private voice lessons given by her.
  - Ferry: excited because it's a very different event. Discussion over if it really is a new event.
  - TAs, Lathrop, Davidson opposed, all else in favor.
  - Academics: tell people who are applying for funds to come to council.

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- Activities: we need to drill all people, not just some funds.
- 2014: can we get sent the finance stuff via email? -yes
- 13 Capital and Supplemental Budgeting ..... Finance
  - President: we can't line by line amend; if we don't want something, then we have to deny whole thing, and bring it back next week.
  - Finance: going to start sesquicentennial fund to collaborate with ViCE on party.
  - Lathrop: teams and orgs should apply beforehand instead of asking for money from the supplemental fund all the time.
  - Main: ViCE needs to fundraise more; we give them way more money than to anyone else.
  - Finance: he wasn't in charge of funding last year, so yes, this year they will need to stress initial funding more so that supplemental funding won't need to give so much.
  - Student life: ViCE does do a lot, bringing the speaker this year, big events. We give them \$150,000 per year, so we do need to question them, but questions need basis, we should ask them at the org meetings.
  - THs: Frisbee uniforms why not under capital?
  - Finance: still working out how the money is going to be spent, do uniforms roll over? Still working out the details and capital fund implies 3 yrs.
  - 2011: Governing org requires numbers now, so each player will have the same jersey all 4 years; reason they didn't come was to not look greedy and improve relationship.
  - Finance=motion to approve. Joss and 2012 abstain, THs opposed. All else in favor, motion passes.
- 14 Open Discussion.....Anyone
  - 2011: 224 days till graduation. Meet me in Mahoney went really well, manager said we get 10% off any event we do in future.
  - President: alcohol conversation with administration went well; got some projects started, but hope to continue throughout year. They are working on providing safe environment/alternatives.
  - Activities: In response to the ViCE concerns, they shouldn't be compared to other organizations because they're very unique; we need to ask more questions when ViCE comes. They program 5 times a week.
  - Academics: Meet me in Poughkeepsie, Harvest fest, and meeting today all went well.
  - 2011: alternative activities space being talked about on campus, she's leading it if anyone has suggestions

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- TAs: talking about doing a trick o' treating event the Friday before Halloween so that people don't go too crazy. Ideas=balloons, suggestions welcome
- Lathrop: alternative space full support from house team. Addressing ViCE-small things add up to big money.
- Raymond: tour guides needed for haunted house Friday night 8-11.
- Activities: 2012 mug night a success, harvest fest too! Yay!
- Jewett: on library staff, wants to make it possible to rent movies for more than 1 night.
- Cushing: is there any way to make it possible to look at movies and search database without knowing exactly which one you want.
- THs: wanting to plan some event for after October break.
- 2014= senior/freshmen dinners they're working on that, want to make it a tradition. Student fellow to student fellow group activities. Making a 2014 website with bright colors, going to put funny movies on website so that people go on.
- Operations: there is a way to request website through VSA website.
- Noyes: concerns about departments dropping classes, the ambulance that comes and isn't getting paid.
- Operations- motion to adjourn. All in favor except Joss and 2013.