

# VASSAR STUDENT ASSOCIATION

## Council Minutes for April 29, 2012

“Unless someone like you cares a whole awful lot, nothing is going to get better. It's not.”  
—Dr. Seuss

### 1 Call to Order

-The meeting was called to order at 9:25 p.m. President welcomed everyone and is so proud of what was done this year and is happy they all got to witness what happened in this room tonight. He wants this Council to feel as proud of their accomplishments as this past year's Council did.

### 2 Attendance.....Operations

-All here.

-They then did introductions:

-Main-Estello, junior, he's excited to work with the new House Team and they had a great spring kick off.

-Strong-Emma, sophomore, excited to see what sophomores do!

-Ferry-excited for the new fresh year.

-Davison-Kayla, excited to make real change on campus and getting to know everyone. -

Raymond-Kat, 2015, excited to continue stuff that got started this year.

-Socos-Sophie, excited to improve things from 2 years ago and figure out her life.

-THs-Carmen, 2013, excited to meet everyone and live in THs.

-TAs-is excited to continue things to come.

-Dan-2014 and 2014, excited to make all of them his friends because his will be abroad.

-Finance-Alex, 2013, is excited for annual budgeting, not actually, he's excited to be a part of VSA.

-Activities-Doug, excited to tear shit up, he's loud and out there and he's going to make people listen to him and like it.

-President-Jason, 2013, excited to make the VSA more known to the rest of campus, something they can work on.

-Operations-Deb, excited to work with everyone.

-Student Life-Michael, feeds off of type A personalities, he feels empowered to create real change in a community he loves and cares about, he's excited to keep going with issues that his predecessor began.

-Academics-Matt, he's pumped for this room and all the fun they're going to have, he wants to get rid of those moments when people feel like there's no way they can pre-register and fulfill their major.

-2013-Vince, he's excited for programming, having fun, not sleeping and loving every moment of it.

-Cushing-Benedict excited for it all.

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- (Missed their name, couldn't see the placard sorry!)-excited to work with house team.
- Allie, 2015, excited about every aspect.
- Sofia, 2015, excited about working with her House Team and since this was her first VSA meeting she's excited to explore all of this.
- Eunice, 2015, excited for diversifying programming.
- Jewett- excited to meeting their House Team and for training.
- Josh, 2014, new programming stuff, alcohol task force, etc.

### 3 Executive Board Reports

#### a. President (7 minutes)

-Exec reports are on the agenda for every meeting. They received a letter from the campus leadership Council which is an org that works on different political issues. They are working on a letter about doubling tuition rates and student loans. They want exec board to sign this. As a body they want to try to become more active in these issues. It'll be sent to President Obama. Their training for the spring will take place on Monday May 7<sup>th</sup>. They will all be coming back early; he'll have more updates on this soon.

#### b. Operations (7 minutes)

-Operations talked about the new white boards to allow at large community members to write their name down and speak up. More things along those lines will be happening this summer.

-2013 asked about the billboard project. Operations explained that they want to get big bulletin boards in the College Center to post updates. Student Life hopes that they can better utilize the space they have.

### 4 Declaration of Open

Positions.....Operations (5 min)

-The Board of Elections needs to fill these positions ideally before the end of this year. The other Board of Elections co-chair can be anyone besides the senior that sits on this Council. It's really important to this campus and it is fun!

### 5 Programming Board

Update.....Activities (10 min)

-VP for sunburns. It's a big push from the VSA to work more with programming. Terry Hanlon and Activities will oversee this and then there will be two co-chairs who head it doing finance and Sarc office stuff. Then anyone else can sit on the board. It will also serve to give more options for programs on campus. The co-chairs will not be able to be

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picked by the end of the year. They've had all kinds of interest from a variety of people, but they need Activities committee to be picked and it's not fully formed yet.

### 6 Resolution Supporting the Diversification of Campus Programming.....Activities (30 min)

-They wanted to pick a resolution they knew they could commit to so they wrote this beautiful thing that says that they want programming to be diversified because of many past conversations. They want to expand depth and breadth, especially between the 10pm-2am time period. They aim for events that aren't all campus dance parties.

-Joss asked how they will diversify programming including other orgs like House Teams and ViCE. He thinks that they shouldn't define themselves too much by this resolution.

-2013 talked about the importance of looking at the ways in which current events try to include everyone and about how tradition isn't always the best thing for this campus.

-Student Life talked about how important this issue is and looking at this with an eye to programming and everything they do.

-2015 thinks that although the resolution says this, they need to be looking at all time frames.

-Academics wanted to note that this kind of effort isn't looking at the same people doing programming better, but getting more people involved and getting various perspectives and opinions involved in this.

-Ferry wanted to comment on the spirit of the resolution. He thinks they should look at the established resources on campus like the Alana center and LGBTQ center. He asked someone to speak directly to the findings of the ATF. Student Life talked about how students use alcohol over two weeks. The data will be made available; they found that most of the drinking was taking place in between these times. There seems to be a correlation between all campus parties and EMS calls. There was a general agreement made that this time period is lacking in general available activities. Operations noted that there will be a memo and results on the website this week. Pre-gaming is directly related to Mug nights and Villard parties.

-This passed with all in favor.

### 7 Open Discussion

-2013: 391 days until commencement. The Junior Class Council just finished bell ringing and switched it up so that they didn't have people waiting in line for 5 hrs. like in the past. They should keep this for next year. They are thinking about Serenading and if it happens it needs to change a lot. They will be bringing back the Serenading Committee and he'll be finding people to sit on this. They don't want a few obnoxious people to ruin the day for everyone.

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- Operations: BOE co-chair applications are due on May 7<sup>th</sup>, 3 pm. She'll be collecting placards at the end of this meeting.
- 2014 wants to tell people to trust your committee and not talk unless it's constructive.
- 2015 is excited for the incoming class. BHP should maybe meet before the end of the year.
- Student Life encouraged everyone to use the summer as a time to find an issue that they are passionate about. Read *Getting Wasted* or a book that talks about an issue they want to be involved with.
- Socos wanted to thank the Junior Class Council for changing bell ringing. She also noted that sitting on Council can be hard, but that she's really excited to work with everyone and she's open to any questions people might have about Council.
- 2013 encouraged people to get involved in their committees this summer.
- Ferry made a motion to adjourn. This passed with all in favor.