

Minutes of the Student Life Committee
February 18, 2004

Present: Kris Bartanen, Cara Evans, Betsy Gast, Kat Griffen, Mark Harpring, Duane Hulbert (chair), Carrie Washburn

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The meeting was called to order at 8:05 AM. Minutes of the February 4, 2004 meeting were approved.

Duane Hulbert began with an overview of what the SLC has accomplished on this year's charges.

Duane will check with Darrell Frost to see if ASUPS would like us to comment on the Student Bill of Rights and Responsibilities this year, as charged. Kris commented that a new ASUPS administration will be inaugurated on March 9.

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Duane reported a conversation with Josh Haberman about the events website blending the ASUPS calendar with the arts and athletic calendars. In the new system, anyone can submit an event, but only a few key people can approve for posting on the website, for example Margaret Thorndill, Josh Haberman, and the ASUPS Director of Public Relations. Discussion followed regarding responsibility for coordinating and maintaining the calendar and how other universities manage this, via students or staff. Kris reported that OIS documentation has been completed and the calendar has been moved to a secure server. The necessary ongoing technological support is in place. Kris said the new tool of the web-calendar would facilitate a partnership between Margaret Thorndill and ASUPS events. Cara Evans said she understood that one of the goals of the new calendar system is that events which conflict could be better coordinated. Carrie Washburn would like to eventually see a daily event log available on email, derived from the master calendar.

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Discussion then followed of SLC's progress on the charge to promote greater responsibility, accountability and civility on campus. Duane reported having heard that the Maroon 5 concert was mellow and Kris reported no problems with crowd control. She described the "risk review" process that takes place when a major concert event is being considered, including evaluating the likely mix of student and public audience, parking needs, set-up and possible crowd issues. She said fraternity/sorority rush went smoothly this year. In terms of concern a year ago about resident student interaction with Security Services, now both Residential Life staff and Security Services personnel respond to students in need and joint training by an outside facilitator was provided for both staffs this year. Kris also said there has been a reduction in incidents of alcohol poisonings this year compared to last.

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Members discussed the intention of the word "civility" in charge #1, considering whether our students are encouraged "how" to debate difficult issues. Mark Harpring has observed active, healthy debate. Duane questioned whether students sometimes are afraid to speak up out of "politeness". Duane will develop a statement reflecting the SLC's commitment to supporting open, stimulating intellectual debate on the UPS campus.

It was decided that we do not have adequate content to warrant meeting in March. Our next meeting will be on April 7, at 8:00 AM. The meeting adjourned shortly before 9:00.

Respectfully submitted,

Betsy Gast