

Student Association Meeting Minutes

Nov. 14, 2008

Attendees:

Christi Underdown
Anna Galyon
Sarah Searles
David Green

William Hinton
Christa Cordrey
Sarah Shippy Copeland
Michelle Brannen

Old business:

- David Green reported good attendance (about 10-15 people) and good times for the Halloween post-comps get-together on Market Square.
- The SAA/SLA joint Haunted Hoskins event was very well attended, with about 20 people including many non-SIS people. Laura Starratt gets credit for getting an announcement out on the University calendar.
- SLA held a brown bag event and brought three special librarians to speak with students. Attendance was very low (one student other than the host came), but the conversation was recorded and will be posted for interested parties. The conversation was a lot of fun and the special librarians really seemed to enjoy the event. They were all graduates of UT-SIS.
- Tanya has been collecting membership numbers, and UTK/SLA has 9 members.
- TLA is not holding a resume event this semester because there is not enough time to organize it.
- TLA has 53 members.

New business:

- TLA is organizing a book drive.
- TLA is organizing a tour of the McClung collection, date TBA.
- SLA is planning on organizing a tour of Oak Ridge National Laboratory next semester. The cohort group had one in spring of 2008, which was highly attended and enjoyed.
- ASIST still needs a secretary/treasurer to handle banking on campus. The president is in D.C., so she can't handle the money without help.
- Joel is working on an article about student leadership. Ideas for input include:
 - SAA's work to launch their organization
 - Sarah Searles said that she is meeting with him and is happy to take ideas to him.
 - Sarah S. suggests focusing on the events we organize, services we provide, how student organizations enrich the student experience.
- Discussed problem of low turnout for meetings
 - Students expressed confusion about the importance of student organizations and the function of the meetings.
 - Students said that the orientation information session for the student organizations was not very helpful and was too crowded to interact with the student organization representatives.

- Expressed need for an introduction or information session at the beginning of the semester.
- David Green, who is our faculty liaison, said that he would take our concerns to the faculty and let them know that we would prefer a more interactive arrangement for next year's orientation.
- Michelle suggested putting together a pamphlet that could be used for orientation and other events. It would have information on all of the organizations, but not officer information, so that it can be reused.
- We emphasized how glad we were to see participation from the most recent class of students.
- Discussed need to start recruiting for officers for next year, which depends heavily on getting more people to come to meetings first.
- Discussed alternate meeting times. Sunday was suggested, rejected because it is one of the few days that many people have with family. Before 5 p.m. would be difficult for people with day jobs. Classes meet on all other nights.
- Discussed alternate meeting place.
- A beginning of semester meeting off-campus with food was suggested for encouraging higher attendance. The Longbranch Saloon was suggested for an assembly place with plenty of room. They don't serve food, so Barley's was suggested. Friday Jan. 9 was decided on because it will be the first Friday after classes start.

Minutes taken by Sarah Wright, President, UTK/SLA.