Nicholas School Student Council (NSSC) Meeting Minutes
8 February 2011

In attendance:
Co-Directors: Barrett Bohnengel, Madeleine Foote
Secretary: Stu Iler
Treasurer: James Hildenbrand
Academic Officer: Rotimi Thomas
Program Area Officer: Sam Baraso
Alumni Representative: Cassidy Travis
Nickipedia/Communications Officer: Leslie Acton
International Student Representatives: Feifei Li, Andrew Lee

• Goals
  o Review of previous goals
  o Desire to increase communication between student groups
    ▪ Cassidy is in the process of updating the groups list
  o Program Area Officer position
    ▪ Effort to reach out to different program areas
    ▪ Mentor/mentee program
    ▪ Events to encourage interaction between first/second years and between the concentrations
    ▪ Ideas for inter-concentration events include:
      • Competition events that highlight concentrations’ differences
      • Events that focus on major topics in various concentrations
      • A night for each concentration to discuss its issues, projects, etc.
  o Nickipedia
    ▪ Desire to increase traffic to the site
    ▪ Addition of class syllabi
    ▪ Addition of course reviews
  o Goal to work collaboratively at meetings without hard lines drawn around positions
  o Creation of a Google Group for NSSC

• Projects
  o Faculty coffee
    ▪ Events to connect students and faculty have been done in the past; suggestion to restart such a program and invite additional faculty members to participate
  o Encouraging use of the book swap in the reading room
    ▪ The book swap might be more successful if it was re-branded in a manner that emphasized its value
  o NSSC Open House
- Idea for a recurring event in Hug Commons where students can express their thoughts and concerns with members of the NSSC in a one-on-one setting
  - Effort to increase interaction with international students
    - Feifei and Andy to brainstorm event ideas to facilitate student mixing
- Earth Day: Thursday, April 21st
  - Last year green groups hosted activities on the lawn
  - Tentatively plan on a 2PM start time for this year’s event
  - A request was put in for $1,500 of GPSC funding; partnering with FOREM; possibility of making a general event
  - Brainstorming of activities: egg toss, three-legged race, relay race, etc.
  - Possibility to work with the Pratt School of Engineering
- Need for another GPSC Representative
  - Madeleine and Barrett already performing this role
  - Sam volunteered as the 3rd representative
- Possibility to coordinate with FOREM on the Friday night event during Admitted Students Visitation Weekend (Friday, April 1 and Saturday, April 2, 2011)
- Issues and ideas from the suggestion box:
  - Desire for additional picnic tables
  - Rental camp chairs (possible to obtain these at The Outpost)
  - Silverware/plates to be provided by the previous NSSC
  - Madeleine to buy cleaning spray and a sponge for the sink area using NSSC funds
    - Vote: Unanimous Yes
- Review of Nicholas School Town Hall Meeting:
  - NSSC to prioritize a select number of initiatives that are possible to pursue
  - Stu to send out notes from the Town Hall Meeting
  - Leslie to add a summary to the top of the NicDig emails
  - Potential to do a Nicholas School-specific face book
  - Discussion of desire for more MEM/PhD interaction
  - Facilitating communication with faculty
- Putting course syllabi up on Nickipedia
  - Suggestion to add a single paragraph description of each course in addition to the course syllabus
  - Reviews and assessments of courses
    - Question of how to make such feedback anonymous
- Idea of creating videos on Nicholas School topics
  - The television in Hug Commons could be used more effectively to distribute information