September 9, 2008

Opening meeting of 2008

Opening introductions.

Program Area Socials:

All representatives need to organize social soon. Ask departments if they have additional funds for socials. Money allocated for socials from NSSC. Make sure to involve professors. Funding amounts will be reallocated this year as student numbers have changed in each program area.

Student Organization meeting: Nicholas student groups are to collaborate efforts and activities. Nicholas student groups meeting will be held in mid-September.

Peer Advising: To take place right before keg on Oct. 24th. Keep lines of communication open between 1st years and 2nd years.

Town hall meeting: Bill Chameides. Thoughts on when to organize meeting with the Dean? Representatives recommended right before Thanksgiving break and suggested another in the spring. Wait for first years to get acquainted before having meeting so that they can ask effective questions.

GPSC: We need a rep. to continue ties with NSSC and GPSC. We need to recruit 1st years. Rep has not yet volunteered.

Orientation: Get in touch with 1st years, inquire how they would like to make it better. Camping trip? Pre-orientation was well received with social activities and extra time to get settled.

Fridge-cleaning: Must be done on Fridays. Volunteer sheet going around.

Weekly Digest: Need volunteer to author the weekly/ bi-monthly update.

Budget: $4,000 were allocated for academic year. $2,500 is left over from last year.

• Where to spend the money:
  o Energy star rated coffeemaker with instant-hot water.
  o We need soap for the kitchen- ecoverte
  o Environmental social event: involve other prof. schools. Talk to Nancy Kelley about event coordinating.
  o Decorate Annex and Hug Commons. Need student photos to decorate. Photo contest.
  o Shuffle ball equipment, volleyball net, badminton. Sports locker.
  o Survey on how we want to spend the extra money
  o Garden, should we have one? Should we have one at Troy Couch? It has been proposed at different points in time to fund students to maintain a garden.

Lunch Series: based on idea that students can learn about different topic areas in one hour.
• Nicholas Institute: Informal presentations and question time. Similar to Energy Lunches. Broad Spectrum. Heather Hosterman is doing scheduling. Topics based on survey monkey results of interests. Mallory Dimmit is coordinating with the Nicholas Institute to make bi-monthly presentations.

Online communication: NSSC could have wiki-site. Unfettered by administration. With calendar and course advice. “Nic-apedia”. Advertisement of activities.

• Brainstorming session on what is going on with IT, student’s interests, concerns. Susan Gerberth Jones willing to collaborate. Katie LaJeunesse will be coordinating with Susan so that she may attend a NSSC meeting and discuss IT.

Nicholas Hall: LEED certification, where to get funding to build the structure? Building has been halted due to lack of funds. Students interested in grant writing. Funding has been extracted from project. It has been proposed that we speak to the Gates’ foundation for the funding of the new building.

Phonathon: Justin is scheduling for next month and will be in touch on details.

Honor Code: 4 new students need to still have the session.

Field Trips: funding could be used for different educational fieldtrips.

Panel Discussion: To be discussed at group collaboration. Groups and students still needing to bring in speakers to enrich the Nicholas School experience.