

Student Senate Minutes 15 September 2012

Absences:

Public Relations Chair Freeman

Senator David Rojas Martinez

I. Call to Order – VP Steele 8:00 PM

II. Opening Devotion – Senator Richardson

III. Honor Code Task Force Professor Gillman

1. Reporting phase this week, forum next week. Last May, Provost office charged with task force to review Honor Code System. Faculty was displeased with system, task force was formed to do a Strengths Weaknesses Opportunities and Threats (SWOT) when looking at the current honor code system. Last time Honor Code was reviewed was 1990. Look at the system is overdue. Aggressive review, through October gathering information and student group forums. Focus sessions with faculty as well as surveys going out. Task force plans on going over gathered information in November. Meeting Tuesdays and Thursdays in November and December. Student responses to changes anticipated in January, report to be finalized in April. Current status: 6 faculty members on Committee, 4 Student Reps, 3 Chairs looking for one more 2 alumni (former Honor Council Chairs) apart of the process.
2. Big concerns: cases being dropped, high level of inconsistencies, structural flaw is that no back up system exists. Lack of funding, students and faculty do not pay system proper attention. Task force plans on addressing these issues.
3. Honor Code Origin: 1943 in print. Defined: A faculty function delegated to the student body. Document in the early 1980's, revision in the 1990's. Records are not complete. "Will not tolerate other's use of" caused the law school to separate due to feeling that they could not enforce that clause. Graduate school has its own version that differs from undergraduate honor code.
4. Once a part of an organization that had an honor code. 100 schools with a system, less than 50 of these honor societies are run by student body.
5. Intent to unify Valparaiso University's graduate and undergraduate honor code, willing to let law school stand alone.
6. Honor Code Outline discussed. 1/3 of cases turned in by students. Investigators are assigned to the parties involved to collect information about what is going on within 10 days. Chair of honor council then decides whether or not evidence is substantial enough to go forward with case. 6 students and 3 faculty hear case if it is decided a case is necessary. Hear from accused, accuser, character witnesses, then deliberate and vote. 5/9 for acquittal of charges. Guilty 6/9 super majority. Penalty assigned after. Appeals process to a second hearing body of the honors system of others not involved in the initial hearing and decision. Appeal to president after that.
7. Professor Gillman encourage others to participate in Honors Code survey.

IV. Forum of Concerns

V. Approval of Agenda s

VI. Senators Reports

Senator Dolley – Looking more into pet projects. People want meal money to go to one card. Start doing more for student body as a way to get Senates

VII. Advisors' Reports – JJR Master planners September 20th. Master Plan Unveiling. Next 20 years. 11 – 12:15

VIII. Officers' Reports

1. President – Encourage students to come to forum on

2. Voter Registration 9/25... senate partnered with SALT. Encouraging voting in Harre Union Hallway

VP Report – Vice President Steele encouraged sign up for office hours. Senators are expected to attend

next week.

Treasurer – No Report

IX. Committee Reports

A. Exec – meeting Thursday at Chapel Break

B. Admin – meeting Tuesday 6:15

C. Finance – met with President Macy to discuss finance matters. This Friday meeting at 5 to discuss finance for student organization retreat.

D. Screening 1 Senior 2 sophomore 2 at large 1 freshman open seats... apply online. Meeting afterwords

E. Residence – no report

F. Media – 5 seats open, application process online.

X. Old Business – no old business

XI. New Business - none

XII. Postmortem – VP Steele encourages on campus event attendance from members of Senate

XIII. Adjournment 8:25