STHSA Minutes

Tuesday, February 24, 2015

Attendance:

Sam Needham (’15)

Katie Omberg (’16)

Nico Romeijn-Stout (’15)

Meghan Wagner (’16)

Art Gordon (’16)

Anne Hillman (Doctoral)

Karin Wetmore (’16)

Lauren DeLano (’16)

Agenda Items:

* Results from last semester's student body survey on the role of STHSA
  + 14 students filled out surveys
  + Our average score on each question was between 2.5 to 3 (1 being the worst; 5 being the best)
  + How might we improve these areas?
    - STHSA meetings need to be better advertised; need to do a better job of making known what we do and have done
      * What should STHSA be doing as events?
      * It needs to be made more clear what events students want STHSA to create
    - People want STHSA to function as a student group, not just an umbrella group for students
    - Need to work better on issues of diversity and oppression – be a better representative of the diversity we have at STH
    - We can address some of these problems by making the election process be more transparent.
    - A semester forum – each organization has a member present to voice concerns or bring up issues and needs, what events are going to be put on, who can work together?
      * STHSA can fill in the gaps
    - \*\*Mental Health – could be our flagship issue
      * How can STHSA help?
      * What is a healthy level of stress?
      * \*\*A healthy community event
* Recap of STH Town Hall Meeting
* Follow up from conversations about student mental health
  + There is a list on the STH Website under Community Life: <http://www.bu.edu/sth/community/community-life/counseling-related-services/>
  + What about addressing chronic needs in the community related to mental health?
  + Need mandatory training/conversation to de-stigmatize mental health, to educate on mental health
* Information about the upcoming peer editing workshop (Valentina Pride sent out an email about this earlier today)
* Beginning to plan for STHSA elections and officer transitions later this semester
  + Want to move up election process so that there is a longer time that new officers are learning from current officers
  + Longer process of declaring candidates – more politicization and more knowledge of candidates
    - Statements: written statements online
    - All candidates have to meet with officers for the position they are running for
    - People introduce themselves at Community Lunch and a picture provided
    - March 16-21: Nominations
    - March 23-27: meet w/nominees, statements must be turned in
    - March 30-April 3: elections and school can vote
  + Announcements need to be made at Community Lunch this week and next week
* Community and Spiritual Life – Meghan Wagner
  + What needs to be added to orientation?
  + STHSA needs to hold an event the first week of classes – incoming students
    - Pancake breakfast – first day of school or first Thursday of school something like that