

School of Theology Student Association

6 October, 2010 Meeting Minutes

Board Attendees: Insung Ko, Dan Kim, Soren Hessler, Debbie Brubaker

Number of Student Attendees: 11

Faculty Present: Sam Johnson

1) Constitution Updates:

- a. Students and board discuss progress on constitutional revisions for STHSA
- b. Goal to have the basic structure/outline/language of new constitution ready for review from students at next week's meeting

- i. Basic Changes will include:

- 1. Every student present at meetings will have an equal vote in all decisions made
 - 2. "One voice, one vote"
 - 3. Get rid of voting rights for student group leaders and board only – an attempt to balance power and facilitate decision making
 - 4. Any decisions made will need approval from majority of students present at that meeting in addition to a majority approval from the student leadership board (executive board and elected student representatives)

- ii. Discussion: Soren discusses the issue of quorum; main reason for changes. As it stands, quorum (the minimum attendees to constitute official vote and meeting) requires majority of executive board, elected representatives, and majority of student leaders. In the past it has been extremely difficult to establish quorum. This prohibits efficient and responsible decision making. We are trying to the best of our ability to remain within the guidelines of the old constitution, but need to come up with a more equitable way of decision making

- iii. Goal today: to declare old constitution "null and void" so that we can move forward with establishing a new constitution

- iv. However, we need to work from the framework of the old constitution to move towards this goal

- v. What are the student groups present today?

- 1. CAUSE: Alex Froom
 - 2. Chapel Liturgical Dance Group – N/A
 - 3. Doctoral Student Association: Barb
 - 4. Faces of Peace: Blake Huggins
 - 5. Scarlet and Citron: Katie Cole
 - 6. Theology: N/A
 - 7. Theology and the Arts: N/A
 - 8. Sacred Worth: Mimi Mills
 - 9. UCC: N/A
 - 10. Wesleyan: Jeff Rickman
 - 11. Day Trippers: Molly Nason

- vi. These are the student groups that have officially submitted budgets to STHSA and are applying for registration with the university
- c. Quorum is officially established (with the notification that student group leaders have not been elected as of this meeting)
- d. **Soren moves to declare the existing constitution “null and void”; moves to establish the following voting rules in the interim**
 - i. **“one voice, one vote” – all students who are paying student fees have a vote at STHSA meetings**
 - ii. **approval of motions during meetings will require majority of students at the meeting to approve in addition to a majority approval from the executive board**
- e. Discussion: Students discuss timeline for establishing new constitution; decision to table discussion of this timeline till later in meeting; need to conduct business; Affirmation of intent to require majority of executive board for approval of motions
- f. Barb seconds Soren’s motion
- g. **Vote taken: motion is passed unanimously by executive board and student leaders present at meeting; the existing constitution is now “null and void”**

2) Student Budgets:

- a. Day Trippers Budget: presented by Molly Nason
 - i. Total budget: \$1250 – five trips through academic year; budget will include costs for transportation and food for overnight trips
 - ii. Discussion: need for all programming to be done through SAO; including and especially insurance waivers; Soren assures group that provided waivers are filed appropriately; Boston University will insure and support student travel, provided there is no evidence of criminal negligence on the part of the student group or STHSA, we are insured through SAO under the waivers.
 - iii. Additional discussion: Concern over our total budget
 - 1. Current, approximate total budget is \$47,000 with an anticipated addition of \$17,000; Student lunches will require anywhere from \$20,000-\$30,000 of this budget
 - iv. **Jen motions to approve Day Trippers Budget at \$1250, Katie seconds**
 - v. **Majority of both exec and students present approve**
 - vi. Jeff Rickman – abstains
- b. CAUSE Budget: presented by Alex Froom
 - i. Total requested budget of \$1700 – budget to cover admission of CAUSE students to two conferences/events (a Catholic Social Justice convocation; and a Justice Conference in Oregon); \$500 of this budget to supporting relationship with DSNI (transportation, education forums, partnership with organic farming); \$200 of this budget for food/snacks, \$100 for publicity, \$100 for speakers

- ii. Soren requests that monies for conferences be requested from STHSA and taken out of the requested budget for CAUSE; STHSA will be establishing fund for student conference attendance
 - iii. **CAUSE representative approves – Revision of budget to \$1200**
 - iv. **Motion to approve this budget from Jen and Soren; Majority of students and exec board approve; zero abstain**
- c. Scarlet and Citron Budget: presented by Katie Cole
 - i. Total Requested budget: \$1850 - \$500 of this for shared meals throughout year, \$1000 for graduation celebration for dual degree students; \$350 for dual degree merchandise
 - ii. Discussion: Can STHSA absorb costs of dual degree merchandise into STHSA plans to purchase sustainable merchandise for students?
 - iii. **Katie approves revision of budget to \$1500 with the understanding that STHSA will facilitate the purchase of merchandise for Scarlet and Citron**
 - iv. **Motion to approve \$1500 for Scarlet and Citron by Soren; Alex seconds; All voting approve; zero objections**
- d. Sacred Worth Budget: presented by Mimi Mills
 - i. Total Requested budget: \$2000 – half of budget to go to dinners/discussions/meetings (food, performance costs, location costs); half of budget to be applied for half-day conference to be hosted alongside CPT
 - ii. Discussion: Soren – reminder that all meetings funded through the university must be held in a public forum; they do not necessarily need to be on campus, and they do not necessarily have to be open to other BU students; but the cannot be held in private venue (an individual's private home); Mimi affirms this requirement; Jeff notes hesitancy and wishes to table motion; Soren affirms that his concerns are only about the venue for these events
 - iii. **Jen motions to approve budget of \$2000, Debbie seconds; majority of executive and students present; zero objections; Meredith abstains**
- e. Faces of Peace Budget: presented by Blake Huggins
 - i. Total Requested budget of \$1200 - 200 for food and publicity, 100 for film viewing, 300 dollars to facilitate meetings and food with outside groups, 200 for conference costs, 400 for outside speaker
 - ii. Blake revises budget to \$1000 considering STHSA's commitment to fund student participation in conferences
 - iii. **Soren moves to approve budget of \$1000 for Faces of Peace, Meredith seconds, no discussion, all approve, no objections**
- f. Wesleyan Student Group Budget: presented by Jeff Rickman

- i. Total Requested budget of \$10,000 - Money to go for food and costs of monthly meetings, presentations/lectures (2 guests per semester); forums on social justice, 2 larger service projects (1 per semester); detailed budget can be retrieved from Jeff Rickman or anyone on STHSA executive board
- ii. Discussion: Jeff acknowledges that this is a large portion of STHSA yearly budget, but believes that the functions and role of this student group could potentially be very influential and important at STH; Jeff states that it was his understanding that STHSA wanted student groups to spend and plan large agendas; Debbie and other students note hesitancy to approve such a large budget; Debbie notes the importance of encouraging student groups to be more active in community (which will require money) but also the importance of responsibly managing this money so that next year's class will have the benefit of a surplus of funds.
- iii. **Soren moves to give Jeff \$1000 to start; move to revisit Wesleyan Students budget next week – Mimi seconds – vote taken; majority of students present and executive board approve; zero objections, Debbie abstains from vote**

3) Conference Funding:

- a. Dan acknowledges two requests for \$100 each for conference attendance (one from Debbie Brubaker, the other unnamed); Dan notes that conference registration has been confirmed
- b. **Dan moves to approve both for a total of \$200**
 - i. **All approve, Debbie abstains**

4) Move to table all remaining business to next week; out of time – all approve; meeting is adjourned