Boston University School of Theology Student Association
Weekly Meeting Minutes
19 October 2010
STH Rm 115
12:30pm - 1:15pm

All Executive and majority of Student Representative board present - Dan, Soren, Debbie Ko, Maya, Andrew, Nori, Nathan

Intro: Dan - Centering Moment

1) Meeting Times: Students discuss the problematic aspects of the current meeting time (Wednesdays 12:30-1:15) and discuss the possibility and potential reasons for moving this time. Issues raised include: concern for first year students, issues for students who commute, no single time during week is open for all students, possible days include Mondays and Tuesdays (particularly because Tuesdays are open for first year students), students discuss possibility of alternating times, concern to have majority of board present (5 of 9=majority of board), concern to keep all meetings open for all students (STHSA commitment to have business open to all students), concern to make agenda public before meetings

Jeff - motion to move meetings to Mondays at 12:00pm, seconded

7 in favor
8 opposed

Debbie - Motion to move to Mondays at 5:00pm, seconded

6 in favor
7 opposed

Reminder that every student present can vote
Re-motion to move meetings to Mondays at 5:00pm, seconded

7 in favor
7 opposed
1 abstains

Poll of officers -

3 in favor
3 opposed
1 abstain (Debbie)

Dan - breaking tie - votes in favor

Motion is approved- meeting has been moved to Mondays at 5pm

Jen - motion to take attendance at next few meetings to see if moving meeting time is successful; Andrew seconds
Approved by majority
2) **Budget for Black Seminarians:** Micah Christian presents - Black Seminarians requesting total of $2000 for year - money to be used for monthly meetings/fellowship; speaker for black history month/service; panel discussion; to purchase stoles for graduating students
   - Soren - Concern that written request originally estimated total at $1500
   - Micah - Original request was revised due to revised costs for stoles and speaker
   - Motion to approve, motion seconded
   
   **Vote:** Majority approves; Soren objects; Budget for $2000 approved

3) **Doctoral Student Group Budget** - leaders Andrew Tripp and Adam Wallis - request given through Nathan Strunk - email request for $5,000 total:
   - TA/RA Printing 500
   - Conference 900
   - AAR/SBL Lunch for attendees 600
   - Colloquia 1200
   - Conference Support 1200
   - Fellowship and Community building 600
   - Incidentals 200
   - Lunch 400
   
   Discussion: Concern about "conference/conference support" funds requested - STHSA has committed to supporting travel for students to professional conferences - need to get more details about budget - may need to revise budget minus these funds

   **Soren moves to table discussion till next Monday, motion seconded - unanimously approved**

4) **Funding for Morning Prayer** - Presented by Jen Q. and Micah C.
   - 6-8 people have been regularly attending morning prayer organized by Micah - requesting funds for brief breakfast afterwards
     - $20/breakfast x 4 (four times per week)
     - $80/week requested until end of semester
     - 6 weeks = total request of $480

   **Soren moves to approve, seconded, motion for $480 is unanimously approved**

Meredith raises discussion of budget for year

Ko - updated budget on website

Soren - requests ballpark figure

Ko - ballpark $44,000 - including all student group funding and community lunch - we've approved $17000 - 11-12 student group budgets; 5-6 requests for sthsa

Jen - community lunch question, what are the estimated costs for the year?

Ko - approx 1000- 1200 per week - total of 20,000 - 30,000
Two main things left to account for - total for community lunch, and graduation celebration - secondary issues of conference funding, student budgets

5) Conference Funding - Andrew Linscott requesting $100 - motion to approve, seconded, all in favor, $100 approved

Nathan Strunk raises issue of how students will need to "contribute to the STH community" after their experiences - Debbie reminds group - commitment to fund students on condition that they submit 1 page reflection on experiences for the blog

Total approved requests for conferences:
Andrew Tripp $250
Jen Quigley $100
Blake Huggins $100
Soren Hessler $100
Debbie Brubaker $100
Andrew Linscott $100

Total - $750

Soren moves to Cap at $5000
Group hesitant to cap conference funds for year
Andrew moves to table it to next week - until we have a clear idea
Jeff - moves to keep it open - no need to cap funds
Jen - want to use these funds to leverage with theCELL committee - to get administration to fund their portion for students
Soren - reminder of motion to table this discussion till next week- majority approved - conference funding tabled until next week

6) Faculty Committee Student Appointments - APPF - Dan went to Faculty committee meeting - presented committee members to Faculty last Friday - they had no problems - they haven't decided if they want student on student review committee - vote will be in November - Dan encouraged faculty to take into account student feedback - sthsa as feedback resource - should hear more about APPF opportunity in few weeks.

7) Constitution - working copy online
Discussion - Soren - Before we approve new constitution - move that board approves key issues - presents RANDA - members of student association must agree to all of these things to remain in compliance with SAO - document that compiles all issues that STHSA must be in compliance with - Complies with all the due diligence requirements of university

Basic Tenets of RANDA:
- acknowledgement of student responsibilities
- use of student advisor for organization
- if we fail to meet our responsibilities, there are financial and civil liabilities
- student hazing prohibition, student groups required to hand this mandate out
- federal laws around student privacy rights/medical records - non disclosure of private information - We must recognize student's right to complete privacy - we can make sure students are in good standing (but cannot disclose information) to be good standing

Soren - move to adopt this document before we move ahead with constitution - officers must approve
  Andrew moves to accept document as presented by Soren - providing signatures obtained from board
  Motion seconded - majority in favor - RANDA document approved

Move to table discussion about constitution till next week - majority approve no objections

8) Student Group Registration Information-
   Soren needs STHSA approval to help facilitate groups as they register with SAO
   Discussion - if student group wishes to be student group registered with SAO - they need to follow process - we as STHSA will not be registering them - but we need to assist them - we don't enter data, but facilitate process - Soren requesting authority to assist

Motion to give Soren authority to facilitate registration of student groups unanimously approved

9) Further issues:
   Move to table all other business to next meeting- approved by majority

Meredith announces - community lunch spots still open - 3 spots open for student groups to sponsor lunch

Meeting adjourned