Intro) Dan – Welcome – reminder one vote for each student

1) Graduation Celebration –
   a. Traditionally held on last day of classes (a Thursday)
   b. STHSA (Soren) has reserved Trustees Ballroom for that Friday evening
      (Thursday was unavailable, Friday will encourage greater participation)
   c. Questions remain:
      i. What are general thoughts about retaining this venue?
      ii. Will STHSA be covering the costs of a meal (catered through Ballroom) or will we be asking students to assist?
   d. Discussion:
      i. Jen – What are all of our expected costs?
      ii. Soren – Our total costs will be negotiable but $30 per person is on the low-end, catering in the ballroom is done separately from university, we can go super formal or less, depending on what we want, costs are minimal for space, we need to pay only for clean-up and food
      iii. Maya – Who is graduation celebration traditionally for?
      iv. Soren – To celebrate the graduating class, but whole STH student body (and extended friends/family) are welcome
      v. Nory – Where has it been held traditionally? Anna Shaw center also offering an event – just want to make sure not on same date/space
      vi. Soren – Past years it has been held in Oxnam room, or faculty dining space
      vii. Andrew – What we spend should be contingent on our remaining budget – How much do we have left for the year?
      viii. Ko/Jen/Soren – We have about $30,000 left, we are expecting another deposit from BU Student Association (which will be 70 to 85% of what we received in the fall) – Our remaining expenses include several community lunch costs
      ix. Jeff – the concern is how much money we want to spend on this, shouldn’t we be considering how to be frugal?
      x. Jen – the problem is that at other sites the cost is about same, and the quality of the experience goes down – we want to stay on campus in order to ensure accessibility and for legal reasons
      xi. Debbie – If we looked at another venue that could provide a similar-quality experience (like a restaurant or bar) the costs would be considerably higher
      xii. Andrew – When would we have to order food by?
xiii. Soren – Space is reserved for the 6th of May. We need to have food order ready at least a month in advance
xiv. Nory – Anna Shaw centers also host food
 xv. Soren – this is the only day that we’ve available to reserve the room – we need to ascertain whether this is the right venue we want and then discuss dates with Shaw center
xvi. Andrew – Friday night is good
xvii. Jen – need creative ways to offset costs?
xviii. Andrew – attendance? what if we asked non-graduating students to sponsor event
xix. Soren – tickets - we need price quotes and to manage space and to set up tickets
xx. Soren – approx $5,000
xxi. Jeff – what about thinking about off campus
   1. Students discuss pros/cons of off-campus spaces
   2. There are many problems – but give two weeks for Jeff to look into other spaces to see if comparable space available
xxii. Jen – we have talked about sponsoring a cocktail bar for Scarlet and Citron – we cover costs of bartender – cash bar for students
xxiii. Soren – asking for a consensus - in the trustee ballroom?
xxiv. Jen- motion to revisit this in two weeks – in the next two weeks we will get prices for Ballroom costs and look into additional/alternative possibilities, Soren in charge of this – seconded – all in favor – no objections - motion passes

2) Prayer Group Funding – presented by Micah – Request for funding for prayer meetings in morning to provide food/breakfast, total of $960 – held in Meulder Chapel - revised to $1000
   a. Motion for $1000, seconded – all in favor, approved

3) Yoga – presented by Debbie – Request for $990 to fund yoga for semester – 11 weeks at $90 a session – we have moved time to encourage more students to participate
   a. Motion to approve $990 for yoga – seconded, all in favor, no opposed, Debbie abstains – motion passed

4) Other Updates
   a. Jen update on Faculty Search Committee – interviewing has begun - next six weeks will be open lecture 5-6 pm on Wednesday – student feedback forms will be available – open positions include pastoral theology, psychology, homiletics – homiletics people will also be preaching in chapel –
   b. Nathan – candidates will also participate in conversation with students on Thursday mornings at 11
   c. info will be emailed to students – updated on website
d. Soren – ATS committee – town hall meetings are going to be held to assess student feedback on student government – one to be held two weeks from tonight – as well as a survey – will update as info becomes available

5) Safe Sanctuary Funding – presented by Andrew K. – requesting funding for Safe Sanctuary materials – Safe Sanctuary is Methodist training to ensure safety of adults and children in church space – prevent abuse in the church - presently no conversation about this in STH community - Andrew is interested in purchasing these materials on behalf of STHSA so they are available to community – also interested in hosting an informal/unofficial training session so people are aware of content
   a. Total of $100 – for materials and refreshments for training
   b. Jen – Do you need certification to train?
   c. Andrew – certification is complicated this would be an “awareness” training, no one would be officially certified, that needs to be done in their local conferences, but at least they would be aware of the official policies so they can prevent any unsafe activities before they can be officially certified
   d. Students discuss where to house this material?
   e. Andrew – idea to keep this with STHSA as informational resource
   f. Jeff – needs to motion to purchase, then we can talk about where to house it

g. **Motion to approve $100 for Safe Sanctuary materials without stipulations about where this needs to be housed, seconded, approved, Andrew and Debbie abstain**

   h. Debbie – it is really important that people understand that this is an informational resource, and not formal training, otherwise BU/STH can be held liable if students leave here thinking they are officially trained when they aren’t – Andrew should provide a consent form if he intends to provide informational meeting on this – also feel that this should be something that happens in discussion with STH Contextual Ed department
   i. Soren – agrees, offers to draft consent form for this
   j. Jeff – motion to have someone check on space that we've talked about securing in the 6th floor
   k. Soren – Unfortunately, we will probably not be able to secure that space until after the school year, problems with administration, just moving slowly, in the interim – we need to have STHSA locker or some space to house these types of items

   l. **Jeff – motion to approve Soren to get locker/combination and take care of this issue, seconded, approved, Soren abstains**

6) Conference Funding –
   a. Dan introduces: We need to nail this down – catalyst was Meredith’s proposal – which was $100 for Meredith and Monica to go to DCOM interview – question of whether this falls into realm of conference funding?
   b. Issue of setting a precedent for professional development that does not include a teaching/learning component; i.e. a job interview
c. Debbie reminds attendees – at last meeting, someone raised the question of Michael Brown’s attendance at denominationally required conference – which STHSA approved
d. Maya explains Michael Brown’s requirement with Christian Science – it is called “association” – it is a required re-training once a year, similar to a continual education, there is an instruction/educational component here
e. Jeff – As much as it would be nice to have DCOMs fit into conference funding, truthfully, this new request does not assist ‘academic’ community in the same way that conference funding was intended
f. Andrew – agreed – this new request does not fall into the same category
g. Soren – Meredith’s request raises an important issue with regards to how this school supports professional development, and it is something STHSA needs to be thinking about in the future, as we are all in favor of supporting professional development – but this new request, while of course related to professional development, does not contain the same instructional/education component
h. Jen – Agreed, what is important in Meredith’s case is its attention to the ways the school (does/does not) supports other means of professional development, especially for ministerial candidates
i. Jen – motions to deny funding for Meredith and Monica’s request
j. Nory – is there any way that we can provide half the request?
k. Andrew – Can we assist in fees or something?
l. Soren – After we get this sorted out, we can talk about how to support interviews or other aspects of non-academic professional development, but we need to talk about this separately – it is a separate issue from conference funding
m. Debbie – The contextual/continuing education office should be, ideally helping to support these requests – there are other avenues for ministerial candidates to receive support for these requests – conference funding has been, or needs to be, explicitly reserved for students who are interested in attending academic or educational conferences
n. Jen – officially motions to deny Meredith and Monica’s requests because conference funding is to support professional development at conferences where there is teaching/learning component, but it explicitly not intended for interviewing or for certification purposes for professional development, motion is seconded
   i. 1 opposed – Nory
   ii. 1 abstaining – Maya
   iii. All others in favor
   iv. Motion passes

o. Jeff – why are we funding personal, individual advances – why are people turning to this organization for personal professional development – arguably academic conferences assist professional development, but the way we have conceived of them is that they add something to the life of the STH community
p. Dan – this brings up a good question of how effective we have been with regards to bringing this back to the community

q. Debbie – absolutely, this has been stated in our conference funding decisions since the beginning – although we haven’t received any abstracts/reflections from recipients – largely because STHSA has not actively attempted to retrieve them – you could empower me to collect reflections from past recipients

r. Jen – what about a ‘science fair’ type thing – in lieu of a reflection – we could all be here to answer questions – have some type of event

s. Jeff – motion to make Debbie responsible for collecting responses – seconded, all in favor, Debbie abstains

t. Jeff – motions to ask Debbie and Jen to have power to set up a ‘fair’ of all people who went to conferences – will report back if they need funds for food, all in favor – motion passed

u. Other conference funding requests are brought up

v. Jen – we only have $700 dollars left

w. Jeff – Administration has matched $4,000, they have agreed to fund student conference requests with this money

x. Debbie – this brings up an important aspect that we have failed to nail down in our past discussions – namely, the issue of “per student” or “per budget” – we have secured matching funds – but we never have specified whether this is ‘per student’ or ‘per budget’ – our original conversations initially assumed we would be asking them to match per student but then issues of retroactive payment, equality, and such have not been discussed – I noted this on the website and in the emails I set out regarding conference funding – can we be explicit about this now?

y. Jeff – we asked them to match funding – in bulk, fund all students for rest of year, at end of year – retroactive and reapportioning not explicitly talked about

z. Debbie – yes, and we also talked about having Dean Newsome attend one of our meetings to nail this down – but that hasn’t happened

aa. Dan – yes, I haven’t heard back about this

bb. Jen – changing my mind about ‘per student’ to ‘per budget’ – our aim this year was just to get administration to match our funds – we need to be able to show that there are an increasing number of students interested in conference funds and that their needs make up/exceed our budgets – we can restate a policy/proposal for funds next year that explicitly request allocations ‘per student’

c. Someone raises issue of how we will handle remaining requests this semester

dd. Soren – we approve requests as we receive – we recommend them to administration for final approval – administration approves and writes check
ee. Debbie – we still need to vote on whether we will spend the rest of our allocated budget or begin to send requests directly to administration

ff. Andrew – in good faith we should spend our money – we promised to spend that money and we should spend it all before we send requests
gg. Jen – unfortunately, because it took so long for the administration to even approve the allocation of $4,000 – for them to even match what we have already spent, they would have to retroactively pay students, which they haven’t approved – think it’s the best thing to do if we start to send requests to them now, so that they understand the need for this money

Soren – Note the time – we have a commitment to 6pm – Can we make a corporate agreement to go beyond time today? – all agree

hh. Dan – what is the protocol to get funds from administration?
ii. Andrew – we vote on it and then recommend – our standards stay the same – we make recommendations – they spend the money
jj. Jen – we could run it by them – we can be polite

kk. Jeff – official motion to approve all conference funding requests by our own guidelines – if they meet our guidelines, we recommend them to administration to fund - if they don’t meet our guidelines we don’t recommend – seconded – all in favor – motion passed

Il. Ko nominates himself to be responsible to hand off requests – all in favor – passed

7) Conference Funding Continued
   a. Three requests continued from last session:
      i. Adam – Choral Conductors Conference $100 – Andrew abstains – all others in favor – motion passed
      ii. Steph Edwards – Mardi Gras conference - $250 – presenting a paper – move to approve – all in favor - approved
      iii. Kelly Hill – CIESC – education conference - $100 motion to approve seconded – all in favor – approved

8) Soren – other business?
   a. Community Lunch Issues
      i. Jen – how much did Clover cost - $1200 – talking about lunch costs – Clover was less than some of our other lunches from Qdoba or catering– we need to make a communal commitment to funding lunches like this – more sustainable with vegetarian/vegan options
      ii. Andrew/Jeff – some complaints
      iii. Soren – this brings up something we discussed last week - we committed to have 12 vegan meals available at every lunch
      iv. Debbie – was this brought up to Meredith? – think there may be push back – it’s a question of who does the ordering of these vegan lunches and who is responsible for making sure they are reserved for vegan students? – great idea but we need to be thinking about whose responsibility it is to implement this?
     v. Soren – we will revise motion – STHSA will order and pay for 12 vegan meals each community lunch for the rest of semester – Soren move that Ko and Sara Beth order meals and place one order with catering for rest of semester – Jen will also approach
organizations on weeks that STHSA is not paying for meal – seconded - all in favor – motion passes

b. Outstanding Email request from Stephanie Riley – asking STH to donate event in support of visit from nun who wrote Dead Man Walking - this sister is visiting BU to promote books and give information on death penalty – GSU 7-10pm (april 12) – there will be a lecture – reading – q&a – email asking us to participate by offering funding – from Stephanie Riley – doctoral student at STHSA
   i. Students discuss request – who is host of event?
   ii. unknown host?
   iii. Who gets the check?
   iv. we are unsure
   v. Jen motions that we email the individual for more information about who is facilitating event – seconded – all in favor – passed

c. Debbie – before we leave, want to remind everyone – we had a long discussion about conference funding – we need, however, to set up a clear, coherent policy for next year – be thinking about this – please refer to emails that I sent out over the week (collection of minutes on this topic) as well as posted on the website – over the next weeks we need to craft official policy statement

Meeting Adjourned