Minutes for Meeting Held on Tuesday, September 16, 2014

In Attendance:

Sam Needham (‘15)

Kaci Norman (‘16)

Lauren DeLano (‘16)

Nico Romeijn-Stout (‘15)

Brandon Powell (‘17)

Meghan Louiza Wagner (‘16)

Ben Daggett ‘(16)

Lambert Rahming (‘16)

Soren Hessler (Doctoral)

James Lance (’15)

Maggie Gann (’15)

Kevin Vetiac (’16)

**Prayer:** Sam Needham

**Introduction** of all students in attendance. See above list of all who attended the meeting.

**Student Body Wide Communication**

We have been unable to send an email to the entire student body. We are working on getting that fixed, but our goal is send an email out informing the student body of election information by the end of Tuesday, September 16, 2014. (We successfully sent out an email to the student body on Wednesday, September 17, 2014.)

Those in attendance at the meeting did not feel that sufficient announcements and communication had been made. We need to send out an email indicating that the positions are open: both faculty committee positions and student representative positions for STHSA. These faculty committee positions include: Academic Programs, Policies, & Fellowships (MTS and MDiv); Community & Spiritual Life (MTS and MDiv); Contextual Education & Lifelong Learning (MTS and MDiv); Omnibus Search Committee (Masters and Doctoral); Library Committee (Masters and Doctoral). The student representative positions include: New Student/First Year Rep, Non-MDiv Rep, MDiv Rep, International Student Rep, Doctoral Rep.

Soren moves to allow for nominations through this Friday for faculty appointments and representatives. Conclude nominations by this Friday, with the provision that an email was sent today. An announcement of the results would be made next week. James Seconded the motion.

All in favor, none opposed.

**Faculty Committees**

At the next meeting, we will nominate the people STHSA wants to nominate for faculty committees. Nominations will be compiled from 9.14.14 to 9.22.14. STHSA nominates a list of people and Dean Stone then approves of the list or does not approve.

Introduction of Some of the STH Organizations

Scholar’s Circle: Lauren Hickey

* Working with MTS club – group to provide resources, open to all students at STH, and GDRS
* Sense of collegiality with STH, GDRS
* People interested in academic careers don’t get the same resources as students interested in pastoral ministry
* First meeting is Thursday, September 16 at 7:00-8:30 in the Oxnam room.

MTS Club: James Lance

* Recent meet and greet
* Meetings will be open, not sure of date and time – MTS students who have problems or things they want brought to the club, PhD panel which has 3 faculty/staff that do a Q&A on how to apply for PhD’s, scores you need, how to approach application process

ABS: Kevin Vetiac

* Provide support and fellowship for the black community here at STH
* If you would like to participate, open to all students at STH
* Still working on a regular meeting time, but each month there will be open activities
* Visiting different black churches in the area – starting this Sunday

Doctoral Student Association: Soren Hessler

* TAs/RAs also work directly with DSA

Wesleyan Students Association: Sam Needham

* Programming throughout the year
* Thursday night at 7 pm – Love Feast

Community Life Office: Lambert

* Diversity training and cultural competency
* Clubs: find an important point that needs to be shared, speak on different matters
* A month dedicated to each group
* Mentor program: Structure and intentionality
  + Starting on Wednesday, Sept. 17th at Community lunch

STH Community Life Partnerships – to facilitate community lunches – combination of STHSA and Community Life

* Lambert: President
* Kaci: Treasurer
* VP: Sam Needham
* Secretary: Lauren DeLano
* Sam explains the STH Community Life Partnerships

Kaci: Treasurer and logistics

* Allocate funds to student groups, $800/year
* Offset costs with extra money when groups
* What events are you planning on doing, what do you need these funds for?
* **Sept. 30th turn in budget allocations**
* How much money will be spent on community lunch? We receive money from Dean Lightsey’s office
  + Lambert’s office pays for lunch. Each student group is responsible to find the food and make sure the pay order is accepted by that vendor.
  + Did Ashley leave a list of who provided lunches last year?
  + All student groups need to let Lambert know about when their group is going to
* Student groups – under STH according to SAO
  + Association for Black Seminarians
  + Korean Theological Students Association
  + Sacred Worth
  + STH Doctoral Student Association
  + ThECOlogy
  + Raices Latina – STH Hispanic/Latino Student Association
  + STH Community Life Partnership
  + MTS Student Association
  + Southern Fried Theologians??
  + Wesley Student Assoc.???

Other Business

* Theology House and First Years
  + Theo House Program Coordinator: Kevin Vetiac
    - Wants to offer a way for Theology House to give back to STH community
    - Co-sponsor something with STHSA or a club at STHSA
  + How do we get to know first year students? A welcome event?
    - The mentor program mentioned previously might be a helpful tool.
      * How do new students get to know organizations at school?
      * No one is interested in being in clubs, unclear and don’t feel like they want to be a part of it
      * Next week: club sign-ups
    - Short summary of all registered clubs
    - Hard to communicate in STH in general – flyers on tables, announcements at community lunch – too many
* Constituent Concerns
  + B22: people smoking outside of classroom, smoke comes in through windows and noise – advocate putting trees in or something, noise abatement because of new law school entrance
  + What forum do I take this request to?
    - STHSA Officers should talk to the Deans about this issue.
  + James Lance: knowing when community center is open for community
    - Stewardship class that takes up community center – Valentina keeps scheduling list, can Lambert talk to Valentina about placing a schedule outside of the community center each week
    - Lambert will get a schedule weekly from Valentina to post on the door so that students know when the Community Center is available to eat lunch, study, etc.
  + Non-alcoholic events: many off campus events feature alcohol
    - Think about programs and activities that don’t involve activities
    - Not organized by sanctioned bodies at school of theology
    - Promote a culture of options where people can avail themselves of company and activity that they like
    - People not participating in events
* Motion to adjourn by James. Seconded by Lauren H.