Minutes – Regular Meeting
Harvard Extension Student Association
Friday, February 15, 2008
7:45 P.M.
Grossman Common Room, 51 Brattle Street, Cambridge

Attendance
Carlos De La Rosa, President
Andre Bisasor, Vice President
Anna Weisfeiler, Secretary
Nicki De La Rosa, Events Coordinator
Mark Walton, ALB/AA Liaison
Lawrence Tsang, HGC Rep
Kevin Pasha, At-Large Rep
John Muratori, HGC Rep
Daniel Saks, HGC Rep
Jonas Palencia, Member

I. Call To Order
Call to order at 8:07 pm

II. Approval of Minutes – 4 mins
Motion to approve: minutes from 11-9-07. Moved by AW, seconded by AB.

Discussion: correction by MW on page 2, changing the word Admin to HESA.

Correction is accepted as friendly amendment. Passed unanimously as corrected.

III. Reports and Motions – 40 mins
A. Secretary – Anna Weisfeiler – 5 mins
   i. Motion for Meeting Schedule
      Proposed board meetings are as follows:

      3/2/08
      3/16/08
      4/13/08
      5/11/08

      Meetings will be at 6:30 pm at a location TBD
In addition to this, there will be exec conference calls which will be open but not required.

Moved by AW, seconded by KP, Motion passes.

B. Treasurer – Amy Szczygiel – 5 mins
   i. Report on Funds
   CD presented report. Current state of our cash: Roughly $18,000 spread across 2 accounts, (1) about $4K at Bank of America and (2) the rest is in the Extension School account. Frugal spending in the first term allows for greater spending in the second term.

   MW: Is there a budget planned?

   CD: wW are operating by resolution rather than by a formal budget.

   Motion to accept report. Motion made by MW, seconded by ND. Motion passes.

   Full report is available on HESA website.

C. Events – Nicki De La Rosa – 5 mins
   i. Motion for the Spring Term Events

   Request for money:
   
   • No Feb events b/c no funds were allocated.
   • March 7th – no cost but need some volunteers for the event.
   • April 4th first Friday in Grossman Common Room, request of $150
   • May 2nd first Friday in Grossman Common Room, recognition dinner, request of $350
   • Thesis forum – May 27th -29th - after finals and before graduation. Possible venue - Hilles Cinema. Budget last year was $300, which was tight. This year, requesting $600. Had 50 people each night last year.
   • Graduation formal on May 31st (tentative) looking at the Harvard Club – request is for $3,000. Ticket sales last year raised $1,700, the deans donated $1,000. The rest was covered by HESA.
Graduation brunch – informal brunch during graduation week but not on day of. Requesting approx. $1,200. This is a new event. This can either be an open event or ticketed.

MW: suggested giving more - an additional $1,000 for the Grad brunch. Nicki accepts bringing that total to $2,200.

LT is asking for confirmation of numbers for the Graduate brunch as well as whether graduates would be able to bring family.

With MW’s recommendation, total is $6,300

Motion to approve funds as amended. Moved by AW, seconded MW, motion passes.

D. Student Life – Mark Walton – 10 mins
   i. Motions for Resources

Report on meeting of student life committee:
Recommendations:
- Begin events instead of clubs
- Dependable calendar
- Dismayed at not knowing the status of several organizations.
- Need to have a clear path of funding student initiatives, including how to get funding. This is passed on the Harvard student life guide.
- Clubs are great but sometimes want to have shorter events instead.
- Also, some clubs don’t have very formal structures.

Earmarks in general budget and discretionary fund.

CD: Is there anything that will require an actionable item between now and the next three weeks?

MW: this is a blueprint for the spring.

Motion to amend the by-laws by report presented by MW. Motion made by MW, seconded by AW. Motion passes.
Carlos will post the report online and it will be revisited at the next meeting on 3/2/08

E. President – Carlos De La Rosa – 15 mins
   i. HGC Appointments
      2 appointments will be Kevin Pasha and John Muratori. Appointments approved without objection.

   ii. Dean’s Initiatives – HESLS Town Hall
       Dean Shinagel has three initiatives before FAS
       1. Remove from the diploma the language “Extension Studies” in Latin
       2. Professional masters degree programs (everything not in ALM office), those will be changed – they would be Master’s in professional studies
       3. Change the name of the extension school to “the School of Continuing Studies”

       This is a realignment to make it compatible with other schools, is already in the pipeline and is nearly done.

       There have been student concerns and with little communication with the students.

       Service and Leadership – this needs to be aired out. Under this umbrella, have a town hall meeting with HESA leadership as its guest.

       This allows us to get in the middle of things and re-launch this initiative.

       Solicitation of comments by CD.

       KP: Is there a particular direction to the pipeline? Can

       CD: the degrees would still be in Latin. They would simultaneously. Likely, people currently in programs will be grandfathered in.

       KP: Does prestige change?

       CD: The school sees it to change matching more of what is in the industry. What they are doing is likely correct and is in line with what they are getting.
Is there chance to move this in another direction?

CD: A lot of the discussions focus on “what can we do?”. There will little way to make change but it would have to be a herculean effort. The point of the town hall is not to resolve negative effects. It is more to explain what is going out and air out people’s feelings. It is really to start a discussion.

iii. Scholarships Initiative

Last year there was a $1000 fund dedicated to book scholarships – 10 $100 vouchers.

Would like to be done again and put something together for the next meeting.

Item is tabled until next meeting on 3/2/08

ND: point of information – There is a possibility that not all 10 of the awards given out last year were picked up and therefore there may be some money available to reissue.

iv. HEEC Event Fast Track Authority

CD wants to sit down with HEEC with another HESA board member and get things

CD provides background on the situation.

CD is asking for a cap with some flexibility to negotiate what HESA can pay for.

ND: concerned about the amount of money with a club that has no track record of fiscal responsibility

AB: if they are not able to recoup the costs,

KP: less concerned if it was $300 or $500 but we’re talking $3,000.

ND: per head cost is very high. A reasonable attendance expectation would be 100 people, which puts the cost per head at $50/person
CD: two key questions:
1. How do we work with them to figure something out so that we don’t have to come back to the board? We can tell them to formalize their budget and bring it up at the next meeting. The other possibility is to give a cap and have them work with HEEC and report back to the board at the next meeting. The third option is to do what I originally proposed.

Motion to give authority to the president and the treasurer to allocate up to $1200 to allow for down payment and will re-entertain a motion for further funding at later meetings. Motion made by CD, seconded by JM. Motion passed. AW abstained.

IV. Public Comments – 4 mins
ND: will need assistance with upcoming events and looking for volunteers.

V. Adjournment
Motion to adjourn by LT. Seconded by DS. Passed unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 9:19 pm.

If you have any subject that needs to be addressed by this Governing Board, please email Anna Weisfeiler, Secretary at annaw@post.harvard.edu or Carlos De La Rosa, President at carlos2008@mac.com.