Minutes of the CUNY SPS
Student Association Meeting
November 13, 2019.
119 W 31st Room 414
New York, NY 10001


Absentees: Mazette Edwards, Sarah Krusemark.

Special Guest(s): Academic Director of Communication and Media, Elizabeth Alsop.

**************6:38 pm meeting call to session***************

Agenda:

○ I. Discussion with Elizabeth Alsop and Rokshana Ali
  ■ Ideas for engaging faculty and students
○ II. Discussion with Jennifer Grace Lee
  ■ Commencement Finance Breakdown
○ III. Approval for the Minutes of October 2019 Meeting
○ IV. Updates from Anthony Sweeney & Student Affairs
○ V. Upcoming Events
○ VI. Monthly Committee Updates
  ■ Commencement Key Note Speaker Committee
  ■ Commencement Student Speaker Committee
  ■ Special Events Committee
  ■ Accessibility and Inclusion Committee
  ■ Conference/Professional Networking Grant Committee
  ■ Kiosk Committee
  ■ USS Members Update
○ VII. Final thoughts, questions, comments and/or concerns
○ VIII. Adjournment
Notes:

- The Student Association welcomed Elizabeth Aslop to the meeting. Elizabeth introduced 3 initiatives to SPS Student Association for engaging faculty and students:
  - Creation of a showcase of students work
  - Creation of an Open Lab for CUNY SPS Students
  - Plagiarism awareness

- The showcase proposed by Elizabeth may be considered by the Spring 2020 Semester. It should include peer-review workshops. The Student Association will support the workshop. Recommended day for the workshop: Friday, May 8, 2020.

- The Open Lab will be an open digital platform. It will serve as a social network for CUNY SPS students, including alumni.

- Elizabeth shared the faculty is interesting to hear students’ perspectives on dealing with plagiarism. Sarah is researching how to introduce in-person workshops at the beginning of semesters to educate students. SPS Student Association recommended to include a web-based training for plagiarism awareness to new students.

- Jennifer Grace suggested more events during the year calendar. Commencement finance breakdown: $2.00 per student allowed for commencement. $22,846.05 budget for commencement allowed from the Student Association. February meeting the Student Association will schedule in its agenda to discuss and finalize commencement funding. Student Association should bring suggestions.

- Commencement date: May 29th, 2020. Commencement lasts around 6 hours. The event itself takes 2 hours. Volunteers needed for the event. The student speaker will be announced during the Spring Semester.

- Motion to approve the minutes with amendments of the meeting held on 10/22/2019:
  - Call to motion: Lisa
  - Second to motion: Leonard
  - In favor: Unanimous (14 members present)

- Reminder- Special Guest: Dean John Mogulescu will be attending the Student Association meeting on December 11, 2019. Senior Associate Dean for strategy and innovation at CUNY SPS, Tracy Meade, will be attending this meeting. The Student
Association may address suggestions or concerns about school programs during their visit. Great opportunity to introduce the Open Lab initiative.

- Confirmed dates for major events:
  - December 6th: Holiday party. Currently, 86 attendees confirmed.
  - March 27th: Student leadership conference
  - May 8th: Undergraduate Academic Conference hosted by Elizabeth Oslop
  - May 21th: Spring Reception.

- Discussion about the Student Association room. Should be returned to the school or Student Association should keep it but use it.

- Anthony suggested inviting other students to volunteer for major events. Reach out to the larger student population. Good initiative to introduce the student association to other students to participate.

- Look out for the MLK day for an event that qualifies for the NSLS Uber certificate.

- Student fee to be spent accordingly with CUNY policy. Student Association may have a conversation on how to spend the student fee. CUNY guidelines suggest spending not on things but rather on programs.

- Lorne suggested reconsidering how we spend the student fee money; online students do not benefit as much from the student fee money. Maybe online services that we can provide to online students that do not receive any perks or swags. Academic tools to help students to be considered.

- Middle States Accreditation Meeting. Nov. 20th 405 at 6:30 pm. 2 professors will be explaining the accreditation process. They want to hear from the students’ input.

- Student Association Committee updates:
  - Special events committee: Committee is asking for keynote speaker suggestions.
  - Professional networking grant: 1 new application has been received with missing information. It was sent back.
○ Accessibility and inclusion committee: Leonard introduced an initiative for the protocol of emergency awareness. Recommended publicizing more the protocol in the event of an emergency to students, staff, faculty.
○ Kiosk Committee: Douglas is officially managing editor of the Kiosk; De Quency is Editor-Chief. Lisa shared 2 articles from the Kiosk that were published on the “Dateline Cuny” website. Anthony proposed to reach international students to write for the Kiosk their experiences as international students at CUNY SPS.

- USS update:
  ○ USS next meeting will be held on 11/24/2019.
  ○ 1 more position to be fulfill
  ○ Bonaparte is officially an active member of USS
  ○ Bonaparte, Leonard, and Marilyn working in collaboration to develop a survey to send to CUNY SPS students to collect student input.

- Voting to end this meeting:
  ○ Call to motion: Lisa
  ○ Second to motion: De Quency
  ○ In favor: unanimous (14 members present)

**********Meeting adjourned at 8:33 pm.**********