Carolina Union Board of Directors
Meeting Minutes
Thursday, April 24, 2014

Attendees

PRESENT:
Carly Mathews  President of the Carolina Union
Jacob Morse  President of the Student Body designee
JoEllen McBride  President of the GPSF designee
Kendall Nicosia-Rusin  President of the Residence Hall Association
Connor Brady  Speaker of Student Congress
Ellen Mcdermott  Carolina Union Employee Forum Appointment
Gabe Chess  CUAB- Union President Appointment
Cora Went  Campus Y
Wendell Gilland (Business)  Faculty Member Appointment
Tammy Lambert  Assistant Director of Student Organizations
Katie Lavoie  GPSF Appointment
Callie Price  Finance and Personnel manager
Scott Hudson  Senior Associate Director of Operations
Amira Shehata  Student Congress Appointment
Marissa (stand in for Darius Latham)  Black Student Movement
Crystal King  Carolina Union Director

ABSENT:
Antonio Serrato-Capuchina  GPSF Appointment
Jake Bernstein  CUAB- Union President Appointment
Katie Savage  Advocates for Carolina
Jacob Hinton  Student Member-at-Large
Hinson Neville  Executive Branch
Lauren Scanlan  Sexuality and Gender Alliance
Tommy Koonce  Faculty Member Appointment
Harold Woodard  Faculty Member Appointment

Call to Order

President Carly Mathews called the Union Board of Directors Meeting to order at 5:30 pm.

Approval of the Minutes

President Carly Mathews moved to approve the March 26, 2014 meeting minutes. The minutes were seconded with no corrections.
Subcommittee Reports

President Gabe: Emphasized how important Board of Directors meetings are. There are many new things that are going to be implemented next year (ex. Bylaws, training session, get to know the Union). Ownership from the Board is expected throughout the year which is why the bylaws are being revised. Changes to bylaws:

Discussions on the day of the meeting will be voted for online if everyone is comfortable.

Membership: A problem for the membership is the lack of continuity.
- There was a suggestion to redistribute the two-years.
- The goal is to create a more active Board – perhaps easily attained through a smaller Board.
- There should also be incentives for the Board members to attend meetings – members need to take it more seriously and have a more of an incentive than just being removed from the Board.
- There is a suggestion to reconsider time of meetings to avoid conflicts with members. Members should expect a big time commitment.
- Crystal suggested re-evaluating the length and frequency of meetings – weekly meetings have been really successful on RHA and CDS.
- There is a suggestion to add two more Board Members to encourage participation.

One goal is to make organizations a larger section of the Union and a larger participation in the Board. If organizations knew more about the Board, they will better utilize the Union’s services.

Question for Section 6B.4: left the committees open ended to give more opportunities for students and for better inclusions. Open forum type – the meetings are open up to the project.

Space allocation is always a controversial topic because everyone wants to save space. Don’t let processes too open-ended – “ultimate discretion of the Board.”

Large efforts vs. small efforts: Going back to continuity – even if there are smaller subcommittees, the full Board should be aware of all decisions and actions of the subcommittees (ex. Financial reports – everyone must understand budgets). The more each subcommittee shares, the better. Everyone should be involved in decisions. In years past, students were extremely engaged in the budget and the Board would like to return to that.

Leaders and organizations should have more opportunities to communicate with the Board.

Outreach committee: there is a survey for student feedback, but no one ever showed up to meetings and there were a lot of cancellations because of it. However, there are programs
like “Coffee with Crystal.” Board members should be responsible for reaching to the students who may not know as much about the Union. Board was never able to mobilize the programs – problems that lead back to membership.

Appointments

- Separate clause for appointments.
- There is an application and the best candidates are selected or appointed.
- Terms are two years, but re-application for the second year is required.
- Appointments are beneficial because there are students who solely want this job/responsibility for the Union.
- Potentially updating the process and selection criteria.
- Appointees have been just as involved as Board members sometimes.

Comments about this year:

Article 2 Section 2: President Gabe is uncomfortable with the cap at two. Now is not the time to cap.

Article 3 Section 1: Insert comment section needs to have comments inserted.

Back to membership: Right now, 3 guaranteed and another grad student to be on the Speaker of Congress making it 4. Grad students are important; GCSF is a great resource for grad students and there isn’t enough representation from grad students.

Renovations: lockers, more space, desks, etc. – work with grad students!

CUAB also doesn’t serve grad students very well. There are spaces that aren’t technically Carolina Union or CUAB that is available for use. There are going to be lots of grad students on campus this summer so it’s a great time to get them involved and to get feedback.

Berry picking in the summer; activities to encourage student participation. Perhaps there should be a trip to the museum. Responses from grad students were really successful due to flyers around campus – post everywhere, get word out.

Composition of the Board: position descriptions should be included to set expectations for time allocations. Participants know when and where meetings are held to exclude people who don’t show up to meetings.

Meeting structure: talk about other committees for 20 minutes, and everyone wanted him to shut up. There was a sense of wasting time at meetings with impertinent information. The Board is a great venue to discuss, but for these meetings, it should be reserved for Board meeting issues.

Use of technology is great. Create posters for events to be projected on TVs!

Areas of the bylaws still under consideration: Board composition, mission statement, committees and membership, the Board in the past has been much more involved in the
daily activities in the Union. The mission is what the Board wants to accomplish and to make decisions to make the Union more students friendly. Crystal says that there are a lot of opportunities, but where the Board wants to go with all that is up to them.

President Gabe suggested that more frequent meetings are necessary.

Training has been set to happen over the weekend all in one day to avoid conflicts with classes.

Space allocations are still being discussed.

Adjournment

Having no other business, President Carly Mathews adjourned the meeting.