ExComm Minutes 11-30-10

In attendance: Michael Dijak, Brett Cline, Luke Freeland, Isaac Robinson, Kyle Olmstead, John Nolan, Amanda Shetler, Taylor Mason, Bridget Han

Dijak: we had three grant applications, two had to be denied because they were not applied for correctly; they must be applied for in the semester in which they are receiving funding. Will have a meeting with SLG tomorrow about their application

Nolan: subcommittees are meeting again next week, started working with Green Tower Sustainability, nonprofit org that helps plan green events and connects you with other companies interested in helping with sustainability. Next semester considering putting stickers that say “Landfill” on trashcans; program that has been implemented at WashU and SLU
Robinson: is there a timeline for the local foods position?
Nolan: from what he hears, it will probably be Irker or the person who initiated the grassroots environmentalism course
Robinson: how long is it funded?
Nolan: only for two years

Schutter: please send me minutes/attendance

Hague: please send committee meeting times; wants to get in touch with committees to help them meet goals for next semester
Nolan: Environmental Affairs only meets in subcommittees now, could call meeting next week if necessary

Shetler: here on behalf of OAF. They’re trying to create a drop box for future OAF meetings. Is here to ask what things are important to include; so far she has budgets, reasoning for major budget changes or other major decisions, and the collegiate readership fee. Any other ideas?
Cline: would add end of the year reports
Dijak: is this for this year or the future
Shetler: the future; so what documents senate has that will be important for OAF in the future
Robinson: will be adding information from this year
Shetler: just trying to have all information in one spot
Robinson: agrees rationale is important in addition to the budget
Dijak: is the rationale going to become a part of the resolution process?
Robinson: we have kind of already done that with resolutions over $500
Dijak: thought resolutions would be rationale enough
Robinson: yes, but we’d include resolutions in there or what we think is best; judgment call for future senators
Dijak: is there a reason this hasn’t been done in the past? Aren’t the files there somewhere?
Robinson: unfortunately, no
Dijak: thinks we should have a system
Han: has all paper copies for budget this year
Robinson: with resolutions we already have electronic copies, could scan money motions
Dijak: could do drop box, keep copies for ourselves and have a staff person have a cd copy that we could access if needed

Robinson: did not meet with Paino today, cancelled. The employee benefits committee needs a name, set up the same way as a resolution; lays out current policy of university as well as mission and timeline.
Nolan: why is current marriage policy included?
Robinson: to show that even though state only recognizes married couples, insurance policy is not necessarily based on this
Dijak: asked President Paino about benefits, brought up that this will never happen unless all the other schools in Missouri do this
Robinson: knows that board of governors would not pass this, especially with overwhelming republican government;
Hague: say the day comes that the day comes that this can happen; if we have it readily available it might help
Robinson: a lot of things we do don’t happen like safe rides and smoking ban; doing what students ask us to do no matter whether it will go somewhere
Freeland: BOG asks what students want, gets some heads turned, would show them a lot if we do this for five years
Hague: doesn’t think our student body will be hurt by being the first to take a stance on an issue like this
Nolan: so what is this committee going to do?
Robinson: the legwork; find out what other universities in Missouri and bordering us have policies like this; working through the process; not asking committee to advocate or rewrite policy, just do homework; let us know this work is going to be done
Nolan: do you think this work whenever this happens, are they going to look at what this committee did, or are they going to just redo it all
Robinson: only has authority to create ad hoc committee which will end when our term ends or if he terminates it; similar to sustainability fee homework
Blankers: is going to give us information that we need to support or not support a resolution that will come out of this committee; will affect our decision on this issue now
Nolan: as long as you’re not putting money into it, have fun
Dijak: thinks that if this is an attempt at public relations, the resolution we were going to pass was a feel good resolution and was all for that; but when you create this committee you are using human capital for a committee that isn’t going to do anything and nothing is going to come out of it
Hague: thinks we get the same symbolic meaning as first resolutions and secondly part of the problem with the last resolution was that it was too fluffy; now the argument is that it isn’t going to get anything done but this lays groundwork for something getting done in the future
Nolan: what groundwork are you talking about?
Hague: research for the implementation of the policy
Nolan: you think research will get done in the few weeks they are going to exist
Robinson: played around the date several times, looking for opinions
Nolan: if we change it to later, it makes it look like we’re not just throwing this out but we’re trying to get this done
Hague: likes april but elections are april 4-6th, if they give us to april 1st then new term will come in
Nolan: thinks march 1st is better
Freeland: as far as manpower goes, is there someone willing to do this?
Robinson: going to ask Tina and Prism, not use all senate resources
Blankers: the Sunday we get back from spring break is march 13th, technically if you look at any resolution we pass really don’t do anything they just state student opinion on something and BOG looks at it. Our resolution about smoking ban didn’t institute smoking ban.
Dijak: but this time you are asking people to spend three months on this
Robinson: we did spend a lot of time to work on smoking resolution
Nolan: recommends putting more than people from Prism on the committee so there is less bias