Staff Minutes from February 5, 2003
7pm – Donovan Room

I. Roll Call

Mike Cooper, Nikkie DeSimone, Chris Zegar, Steve Cuppett, Olney Pray, Anthony Bizzaro, Crystal Saverioni, Ryan Melling, Brett Kluskiewicz, Tara Minchin, Brian Marko, Kevin D'Ausilio (excused – exam), Drew Lavenberg, Joe Curigliano, Thom Slaski, Liz Eisenhart, Vera Spina, Lauren Cycak

II. Approval of Minutes

a. No minutes from last meeting

III. Reports

Caucus

a. Southeast – Drew
    i. Thank you Crystal for taking notes, Super secret warm up activity, 2 new presidents – they are really nice people, high aspirations, Caucus canning in which 3 of the 4 campuses participated, other Caucus goal which was to have a Club Involvement Fair, will be doing for the next meeting, broke up into like positions, and nice quotes at the bottom of the agenda
b. 2 Location
    i. a big thing in the Collegian today, good letter by Ben Jordi, Tara took notes for me and I haven't brought them, we discussed the SAF issues at the campus, Lehigh Valley and Berks are under the impression that they do it wrong, went over rules and guidelines, what they are suppose to be doing, had a bitch session, Berks Senate moving along, Harrisburg – Parul putting on student gathering things (random acts of kindness), Lehigh Valley is trying to make their campus non smoking and talking to the surrounding community who was given money; communication to Faculty Senate, a group of people donated $3000, have to get different zoning ordinances to make it non smoking; Joe has the University Policy on smoking, Drew – one way to combat smoking is to call it the Butt Hut

c. Northwest – Brian Marko

Northwest Caucus Report

February 4th 2003

Updates:

The Caucus Information Session issue has been resolved and with President Cooper assurance, the Northwest Caucus will present the information session during the March Council weekend. There was much discussion and the details have been organized and the locations have proceeded with their work.

Collectively as a whole, the Caucus wishes to help investigate on the issues of smoking huts and first-year foreign language placement tests.

Sincerely,

Brian Marko
Northwest Caucus Director
Council of Commonwealth Student Governments

Caucus Info session, well on their way to present, thanks to President Cooper who has assured us time, another thing we mentioned during the meeting, the caucus came to a consensus to work with the Student and Academic Affairs on the smoking issue and a foreign language component to Placement tests; want to make sure students are in the foreign language class they are suppose to, there isn't a concrete test and want to get something standardized for all the locations; Brett – will take the FTCAP portion optional (language portion); Joe – are you still presenting on ANGEL? Yes and would like to talk to you later; Drew – good job dealing with all those issues, and you did a very nice job handling all that

d. Southwest Caucus – Joe Curgiliano

Southwest – CCSG

Southwest Caucus Report

2/5/2003

Well, the Southwest is getting prepared for a lot of upcoming events. Saturday, February 8th is a mini-THON at Fayette. New Ken just held their Mr. PSU contest. All money was donated to THON. McKeesport is hosting their annual Volleyball tournament on Feb 9th, 2003. Beaver is starting the planning for their annual Beaverfest. More details and other events can be found on the Southwest Angel Page.

The next part of my report is concerned with the Caucus Information Sessions. This Saturday three of the four campuses are meeting to go over information and start assembling the show. We were able to find people to present. Every campus has a portion of the demonstration, and will be using PowerPoint. I have stressed that they use all the time allotted, a full half-hour. They broke it down into smaller segments and gave time limits. There is talk about passing out items to the gallery and Council to get them involved. So far the presenters have taken this upon themselves and I believe they will be able to assemble a show that will pertain to students and keep everyone's attention.

Just in closing, I have been able to visit tow campuses so far, McKeesport and New Kensington. I have plans on visiting Fayette this month. I do not think my class schedule will allow me to make a stop by Beaver during their weekly meetings. I will try to stop down for Beaverfest, and celebrate with them. That is all for my report. Any questions, comments, or suggestions, please contact me.

Joe Curigliano
Southwest Caucus Director

Mike – I sent them a lot of stuff about the IT fee and they can talk to Brett about it; Drew – why is IT fee under academic affairs? Last year, it was pushed to Chris; Brett – a lot of the rules have to deal with academic purposes; Drew – Brett, you seem to be totally under pressure, can you move it to Student Affairs; Thom – what's beaver fest? It started off as a one day celebration of Beaver, as you all know is good, I was the president of Beaver, started to create pride,

Committees

a. Academic Affairs – Brett
    a. Going to fill out the rest of the surverys, going to turn in the sureveys to UTS tomorrow, committee meeting – some of the past committee meetings we talked about

stuff that happened, took a lot of time, had a worksheet for all the campuses to fill out, what happened with FYS surveys and possibly implementing them; promotion of blue books, posted office hours of advisors, I spent 3 ½ hours on Sunday because people did not fill them out correctly; Chris – the progress reports, was there any open sharing of problems? Came out in goal setting discussion, are going to continue on ANGEL, also the last campus that filled it out would be able to see what everyone else wrote

b. Student Affairs – Crystal
    a. Last Monday, met with Nikkie for Housing Meeting, went down through the campuses and had them talk, Ray brought up his million dollar question about why this committee exists, thinks we need to have one goal that pertains to all the campuses, and I said if you guys would talk that would be great, Drew explained to him that that is the kind of committee; Chris – maybe this has changed, if you don't have the problem you have the solution, that's what my guess was; That's what we were trying to get at, there are 3 campuses that are absolutely perfect; a lot of people are talking about the Housing and Food Issues because it is important to them; Drew – did a good job, I am not going to be the cheerleader, it was very frustrating to be in that meeting, you definitely kept your cool; Thom – the people who didn't have comments, they are the naïve/uninformed people at the campuses

Student Affairs Report: Council Weekend

February 5, 2003

This weekend at the meeting we talked about what I have been doing as far as meetings, and discussed with the campuses what I heard from Housing and Food. We talked about the smoking issue more. Dean Disney stated at a meeting that all University buildings are smoke free but each campus has its on right to make stricter rules about smoking on the campus. For the campuses that are interested they can talk with their CEO's about making these rules, and if that is not an option their DSA's. We talked about using SAF to build a gazebo for students but not saying it is a smokers hut. On Saturday we talked about what was going on at each campus and had some input in the problems that they were facing. We also talked about not using ANGEL anymore and making a

link on the CCSG webpage. It was brought up that we need to have a committee goal and talk about issues that pertain to everyone, instead of listening to each campuses issue. The point of the committee is to help students and them voicing their problems and concerns for other student feedback is how the meeting should be run.

c. Governmental Affairs – Anthony
    a. Met with the Budget office, it was ok, I would have looked up the same information at www.budget.psu.edu; went over the Rally and the Budget at the Council meeting; Rally – they are going to contact Pitt Campuses, and they are really excited, Temple and Lincoln are probably not going to join us because they are unorganized, they will be contacting local news media and Vera who saved my pathetic ass, April 7, talked to Bernie Ryan on Monday going to advertise to alumni on Monday; committee page is up;
d. Diversity Affairs – Ryan
    a. Had my first meeting, Liz took wonderful notes, talked about what was going on at the campuses, At Schulykill had a problem with hate literature and also came up at Berks taken care of though, talked about the Diversity Summit, only 10 were represented on Friday and 12 on Saturday, it is wonderful that there was a small group, this is an important committee, decision making – talk about good workshop topics, getting more and more everyday, need to know how we are going to decide what workshops; Mike – had a very good response from the committee; Joe – let the caucus directors know which campuses were not represented; Liz – wanted to bring up something about Berks, there is a person going through judicial affairs for stealing a book, and is now turning into a larger race issue, do some investigating and get back to us as soon as possible; Thom – what do you mean by hate literature? Graffiti in the bathroom, Berks – swastikas on the soccer field, Thom and Ryan work together; Brian – if you have any questions about the judicial aspects let me know
e. THON – Tara

a. Rules and regs meeting on Friday night, emailing the dancer list later, 3 campuses had dancer changes, question for Nikkie – there are some dancers who are being given unexcused absenses, talk to DSA's and get the excuse from the THON office, I have to redo the floor pass lists, if you have extra time I will need it, Drew – THON overalls will be doing stuff at the King of Prussia Mall, want to know if there are people who want to go down; Nikkie – dancer mail is due before next canning weekend, Lee said we could have it in the week before THON; Drew – would Abington be one of those three campuses who changed their dancers? Do you know?; Drew – leave campuses in his mailbox and he will type them

Departments

a. Programming – Lauren
    i. Want to thank everyone for coming out to ice skating; Marko – good idea, I enjoyed myself
b. Public Relations –
    a. Meeting with Richel this week about alumni stuff, working diligently to help Anthony, I saved his ass, making the Diversity Summit program, the letter today in the Collegian and wrote a response, will fax it tonight; Thom – what letter? Regarding Ben's Letter
c. Councillor
    a. February 26, next dead line, if you have an OCM's please let me know so I can have you take them, called Ben to tell him that he did a good job, appreciated it, got a great letter from Mont Alto, Change of Assignment – got 70 back, need to calculate them, meet with Dr. Jacobs, Wednesday at 9:30 in the office, Mont Alto and Berks for pilot program, most likely that's where we will be going; Joe – seeing as how we were looking for a commuter campus, I can talk to Marlene from Fayette to see if they want us; Bizzaro – Ben called back and was mumbling and angry and called some

girl from the Collegian and he yelled and she cried, he got his revenge

d. IT – Steve Cuppett
    a. OAG updates emailed to him, Caucus directors - start emailing campuses about picture for the slide show, put up Digital Councillor and integrating OAG, if your group wants to do something other than ANGEL email me, power points for Info Session need to be emailed to me the night before; Joe – may I have the burnt CD I paid a dollar for; power point presentations need to be emailed to me the night before or burnt onto a CD that you can afford; Drew – not all the campus links go to the proper website? Send them to me via email

IV. New Business
    a. CLRC
        i. Visitor – Kris Ankarlo wrote the legislation, the best way to approach this would be to have questions about CLRC, I apologize that CLRC did not get off the ground completely at the end of administration; Liz – what's the difference between CRC and CLRC; role of first committee to go over any legislation that was submitted, it was around and then it wasn't, reintroduced under John and Mike D., a lot of stuff happened that year, anyway they reintroduced CRC to go over constitution and look at legislation if people so chose to do it, the difference is the L, give CLRC the power to put it into the constitution, the constitution was set, I know you've had problems with it this year, CRC exhausted its purpose, a lot of legislation was passed and people would forget about it, the president and Council's voice would be lost in the shuffle, CLRC was to have a body to look at legislation on the way in and the way out, if we had passed something after it, insert it into the constitution, Joe – what did you mean by the power to interpret; here's where it gets sticky – a lot of

times legislation gets passed, CCSG does not have checks and balance to interpret the legislation, leaves it up to president and vice president to interpret, too much responsibility for one person to have, representative democracy, the purpose is everyone has consent on what was meant, if the legislation was passed from last meeting it would have been set up to make sure that the committee was set up the way it was suppose to be, it ultimately comes back to Council, can pass a piece of counterlegislation, CLRC is at the expense of Council, it is not an outside functioning body, a few points that are important, first off the legislation brought up by Mike, give CLRC legitimacy to function, anybody in the world can bring up legislation, when you are looking at it you aren't looking at the content you are looking at the format, making sure it does meet the requirement, the Lunchtime legislation is used as political means that they don't want central staff to see, there are campuses that want to bring up legislation and surprise them, when it goes through CLRC gives them a week to talk to their SGA's and administration, Crystal – people don't have to give CLRC legislation, we can say that you are stating your point correctly? Under Robert's Rules when the Chair looks at it, he has the authority to bring it to the table, looking at nit picky thing, spelling and format, make sure it all fits, can rule on the constitutionality of the legislation, Anthony – empowering and interpreting are two things, what safeguard were you thinking, what makes sure that CLRC higher than Council or Central Staff? Council is the end check, provides another outlet to make sure procedure isn't broken, you have to understand that you are at the mercy of council, my suggestion would have been a certain number of members elected by council of central staff, certain

role of accountability, Brian – were you for or against the lunchtime legislation? You have to understand that there is still an ability to bring up legislation, sometimes a speaker will bring up a good point, and there is only time for the legislation at that meeting, once the legislation is brought up, 2/3 vote is to provide a check; Joe – 2/3 vote is maybe a bias, lunchtime legislation, if he would have brought it up before hand it would still be put on the table; When Council is talking about it they can decide what they want to do, I know people made uninformed decisions, and I think that when I brought up lunchtime legislation maybe I shouldn't have, adds a check to Central Staff, if I had a personal agenda it would have been found out

ii. Discussion – Brian, the legislation you submitted wasn't passed right, the other two were, elections code and dates were passed; Crystal – can CLRC decide something and bring it back to the group? Mike – Does CLRC mind if I sit in on the meeting? Not at all; Drew – good idea; Nikkie will talk to the committee and they will get back to us; Liz – can we bring it back to Council and tell them? Nikkie – there wasn't enough time because of the Council discussion; Mike – CLRC is going to talk about it and then bring it back to a Staff Meeting and then we will talk about it before our next Council meeting; Drew – can we send it out? yes

b. Council Discussion

i. If anyone has anymore notes and papers that pertains to your session, I need you to give that to me as soon as possible, question of the day, at the last meeting we were going to come together and decide what to do, we need to compile it, if you want debate how its compiled, I was just going to give it to Cuppett or Olney to type up, Ryan – in our group they were reoccurring issues and themes, make sure you type it up; we will take this back to

the exec. meeting and will compile it, will make it into a book form, everything is being saved and nothing is being altered

c. Staff Game
    i. Said that after the next Council meeting we will be discussing what games we will be playing, if not we will start at Gotcha, Joe – personal preference, like gotcha when it is warmer, more fun indoor game; want to start as soon as possible with something, if you have another game see me after the meeting, we will be starting next week, talk to me before Friday and we will start on Wednesday

V. Old Business
a. Council Meeting
    i. Mike – trying to recap, its all one big emotional blur; Crystal – thought the speaker was great, very good choice; Brian – Friday, our get together prior the food was good, there was no structure we weren't talked to, some people left randomly, that was anti staff unity, I think that's something that we did well when we were at Mike's house; Chris – I'll take that into consideration, thank the people who cook who do a wonderful job, Before Council stuff – time to get together and talk, will leave together next time, time to get the game face on, will look into it, time to be together; Lauren – I thought we were suppose to be there at a certain time, weren't we all suppose to be there at a certain time; Chris – I think this meeting went exceptionally well, couple of ground rules, there are certain things that are not acceptable, one being no tardiness, do not be late for meetings EVER, two do not hang out in the back in clusters of central staff, need to patrol and wake people up, that is what you are to be doing, the behavior at the executive table will shape up, if you are late and don't have a good excuse go home, be prepared to be there for the whole day on Saturday, need to speak to Joe

after the meeting; Mike – a lot of you guys got to meet Ken McGraw, thought the meetings went better than ever, was impressed from an alumni standpoint; Marko – I've wanted to mention this from the first meeting, I know we touched on this on Saturday afternoon, especially before we leave I would suggest for Staff's well being we should have a quick report about what's going on after lunch, so we aren't surprised after we come back; Drew – conflict as stated in one of my classes is essential for group growth, my interpretation of our little pow wow after I sensed conflict, I might have had a little to do with it, I want you to know that there is no longer that conflict, I believe that we could do that and that we were mature enough to do it, take a lot of maturity for groups to go through some of the stuff; Mike – another thing, turn off your cell phones, its important that you guys stay in the meeting room, me randomly changing the agenda, I thought more communication or discussion was a good thing, in the end was a good thing, there is going to be unexpected things going on at Council meetings, have to make split decisions, that's the hardest part of my job; Chris – rules and regs before next council meeting

VI. Executive Reports
   a. Secretary – send reports for Council and meeting via email
   b. Financial Reports
      i. Commend Joe in filling out check request, Scuppett invitational team leaving at 5am, put in check requests; Joe – did I fill it out correctly? No the form was not filled out correctly, Please I need some money is not a reason; Liz – need Councillor budget
   c. Chief of Staff
      i. You may notice that I am absent from the office during the day, feel free to talk to me anytime, I

talk to Mike and Cuppett frequently, keep the office clean smells like a gym locker, Staff meetings – please if you have something funny to say you can say it, don't blurt it out, I am going to give you guys the same rules I give my 9th graders, if you have something to say please raise your hand, you may notice this happens three to four times per section of the meeting, I like to see you guys have a good time, this is the time for us to do business; Drew – I think they way you have been running the meetings are more strict and I think its going much better

d. Vice President
    i. Housing and Food meeting, Chris Hurley waved his magical wand and got the Nittany Lion Inn, Diversity Summit email went out, response from 2 DSA's in support, about registration forms – at the bottom of the form, we have Jose from Abington and get Jackie Wade, question for Lauren will ask her later tonight; Brian – CLRC meeting this Sunday? Will talk about after the meeting
e. President
    i. We can talk briefly about that can up in ESL, talking about SAF increase for university park, believes that a lot of clubs have gotten lazy, not sure if keeping the $1 increase every year, doesn't want clubs to rely completely on UPAC, know stuff about USG, followed decree from the Supreme Court, they are frozen right now, Supreme Court will review some infractions, everything will be settled, everyone doesn't want to start drama, Chris – did they vote? Supreme Court said that they could have an agenda, not admitting guilt, debate should take place with supreme court, I will be participating in a USG fundraiser for THON, 4 jugs in front of elevators with pictures of Cooper, Rubina, Gary the Preacher, and Jerry Dunn the person with the most money will have to kiss a live pig at THON; congratulate each and everyone of you, wanted to

stir up some stuff, got a lot of emails from most presidents, we've been getting a lot of communication from the presidents, now that they are talking get them to start putting work towards our goals, snaps to each and every one of you; Crystal – one thing when you stated in your opening address, I didn't know anything about it, didn't see anything anywhere or hear it from anyone, why didn't I meet Ken McGraw, I didn't know who he was?

VII. Open Forum
   a. THON
      i. We need to raise money and do it for the kids; Brian – I need to know who's going to DC for the canning weekend, I am going to need a ride down there, my parents have plenty of room and we will do a fun thing on Friday or Saturday night; When is the Color Wars? Wednesday February 12, 2003 at 8pm
   b. Volleyball Tournament at McKeesport
      i. There needs to be a team of at least 6 people, no more than 10, total cost is $100, every person will get a tshirt, for the winners there will be a special tshirt, if you want an easy way ask Joe, starts at 9am, who has a team? Cuppett – are you going down Saturday night? Yeah, my bike is going to be out of commission; Nikkie – were you given any reason to why the trophy was changed to a special tshirt? Trophies are more expensive, and people leave and lose their connections, the athletic director gave got them donated for free; Joe – this was a concern last year, the $100 fee is donated directly to the Four Diamonds Fund
   c. Legal Affairs
      i. Just wanted to keep you up to date, first training session, wasn't too much involved, book out which I will be taking notes on, 5 more and will be getting quizzed, Mike and I discussed it briefly, looks like

nothing concrete will be happening this semester, make up something for next years administration, please regard questions to me, spreading it to the locations immediately will not be going to happen

VIII. Announcements
    a. Stupid Joke of the Week
IX. Adjourn

Submitted by Olney Pray ☺