

STUDENTS AFFAIRS COMMITTEE SUMMARY

Friday, December 6, 2013

Dean's Report

While Acting Dean of Students Sam Haynes acknowledged that the College and Student Affairs continues to mourn the sudden passing of Bekki Lee, he reassured committee members that the community is also healing and that the Student Affairs division has been carrying on her work.

A transition team has been put into place which includes, in new roles, Nathalie Rachlin as Vice President of Student Affairs, Sam Haynes as Acting Dean of Students, and Paromita Nag as Interim Director of Residential Life, with the rest of the Student Affairs division remaining unchanged.

Scripps is on the mark to meet the housing numbers this spring. Eight fewer students are going abroad than those returning, and all spaces this spring will be occupied.

The SCORE program review is scheduled for the early spring with the date to be determined.

Student/Trustees Reception

Co-Chair Barbara Bruner shared that the most recent student/trustee reception was well attended and included spirited conversations. Trustees also had positive experiences, and complemented the opportunity to review abbreviated student bios in advance.

Scripps Associated Students (SAS) President's Report: Marta Bean '14

Marta Bean '14 began her report with semester highlights. These included higher student attendance at events, extremely engaged first-year students, an increased use of social media, and stronger visibility. To increase transparency, the breakdown of the SAS budget is now available for review online. An online events calendar and the newly implemented "60 Seconds with SAS" videos have strengthened SAS visibility.

Other accomplishments from the semester included BeHeard Forums on sexual assault, the student union, and body image, as well as a number of successful events including a First Year Secret Buddy Week, "SAS and Sweets," and a screening for the *Lean In* on-campus launch.

Focus Topic: Class on Campus

Issues of class and socio-economic status are being raised on campuses all over the country. Interim VP for Student Affairs Nathalie Rachlin opened the presentation by referencing a recent school newspaper article that went viral, and a recent article in *Forbes* on how issues of class can affect campus climate. Discussions of class and class privilege can be emotional, yet they may be necessary in order to overcome the social stigma attached to these issues. The implications of income and wealth disparities for working class students in educational settings are often profound and manifest in issues of access, choice, and achievement. By examining our practices through a class-based lens, we can develop more complex understandings of diversity and more integrated, inclusive experiences for our students.

Three panelists presented on issues of class: Lyanne Dominguez '13, Anna-Marie Wood '13, and Rose-Cooper Finger '14. Each shared her personal story.

Associate Dean of Students and Director of Academic Resources and Services Sonia De La Torre-Iniguez concluded the presentation with an overview of the First-Generation@Scripps program, designed to provide support to students who are first in their family to attend a four-year college.

Further discussion ensued on issues of class at Scripps, on the campus experience of first-generation students, on that of international students as well as on the possible cross-section of these groups.