

Meeting Minutes
Aquinas Scholars Student Board
09/29/16

I. Visitor – Jacob Sevensing

- a) Job opportunity on campus for Scholars
 - i) Trying to increase student news & updates on Alumni relations site
 - (1) Videos, photos, story articles, etc.
 - (2) Seeking help from current students.
 - (a) Need help to spread Alumni content around campus
 - ii) Alumni are dying to know what student life is like now
 - (1) Want to see the magic that UST is living
 - (2) Open for stories from students, such as research projects in classes and success in sports activities.
 - (3) Alumni are really interested in hearing these current stories and not the calls that ask them for money.
 - (4) You could be labeled as anonymous if you wish
 - (5) Get Alumni reengaged around here
 - (6) The Newsroom writes news for the community and not really stuff for Alumni
 - iii) Job Position Info
 - (1) Huge autonomy for your ideas and your own schedule
 - (2) Paid position
 - (3) Given a mentor for your job to make things easier
 - (4) Looking for 6-8 people across many different disciplines
 - (a) Do postings at least every other week

(5) Open for creativity

(a) Writing Samples is key aspect for this

iv) If networking & reaching out is slow, these positions will be on the Student Jobs site

v) Apply right away. Get people lined up by Mid-term break

(1) Appeal to departments that your piece could appear in their website.

b) How do we best communicate this? – emails, flyers at events, talking to classes, social media?

i) Freshmen might find it overwhelming, but they could spread it to others and there could be Freshmen who are enthusiastic

ii) Send an email with all the details, they can personally edit it.

(1) Alumni relations will send us a formal letter about these positions

iii) Will go into classes to address these Job Positions

iv) Post these offers on our Social Media sites.

II. Directors Report

a) Faculty Board members are welcome to attend our student board meetings

i) 1st meeting is Next Thursday; Executive Committee members will be attending

(1) It's usually informational stuff in the 1st meeting

b) Updates

i) If we lower standards to 27 ACT score and 3.7 GPA, we could double the invitations of those who feel underrepresented

(1) Under consideration

(2) Lowering the threshold to invite more people to apply.

- (a) If there's more to potentially invite, hopefully there will be more that will take the action to apply and join the program
 - (b) We are not lowering our standards, but rather increasing our reach into the underrepresented population for invitations
- ii) From now on, those who have ACT score 33 or above will be automatically accepted into the Scholars program.
- (1) Could help push for free textbooks in seminars (Book Scholarships).

III. President

- a) Fall Board Meeting Times
 - i) Do we want one meeting this semester that everyone can attend
- b) Freshmen Banquet – September 21st
 - i) 11 board members in attendance!
- c) Homecoming Events
 - i) Service events
 - ii) Plaza booth – trivia & prizes
 - (1) Other board members invited to attend!
- d) Board attend the 1st pizza with a prof to introduce themselves?
 - i) Do this introduction for the 2nd Pizza with the Prof (October 25th)
 - (1) We have a faculty board meeting next week (October 6th)
- e) Executive Goals – 2016/2017
 - i) Priority registration, scholarships, new lounge, new lounge furniture, a clear and set budget for each chair, end of year banquet, events for all students not just scholars
 - ii) Met with Wendy Wyatt 9/27/16

- (1) Creating a formal request to present – anyone want to join this effort?
 - (a) Email Kaitlin about the process
- iii) Do we want more visibility with our budget?
- f) Lounge
 - i) Responsibility of the freshmen reps, but anything that needs to be taken care of before them? Supplies, temperature, lights, etc.?
 - (1) The issues with the temperature is that it's linked to the whole building
 - (2) The room isn't as open as the other rooms
 - ii) Start a library on our empty bookshelves - borrow books, take and give
 - (1) Board members asked to bring extra books to donate
 - iii) Whiteboard calendar
 - iv) Games
 - (1) Board members asked to bring extra games to donate
 - v) Donate old 2011-2012 t-shirts?
 - (1) Other Ideas
 - (a) Cut them into a quilt or cut them in to pillows
 - (i) Save shirts from previous years
 - (b) Make them into a rug?
 - vi) Cabinet Keys
 - (1) Ask Erica if we can make copy of the keys for the Freshmen Reps.
 - vii) Bring in Snacks
 - (1) Get approval from Erica; chips, pop, nuts, etc.

IV. VP/ Secretary's Report

a) Mentorship Program

i) Can Peter track events in Blackboard?

(1) It'll be usually be individually tracked events

ii) How did tracking mentors & mentees in excel go during events?

(1) Going well

(2) Provide an instruction sheet or side notes to explain the mentor column in future

iii) 22 mentors – two freshmen per mentor, no one opted out!

b) LLC Updates

i) 19 members

ii) Lisa will lead – 2 events planned per month

(1) Semester schedule of events – distribute to LLC

(2) Try more events off campus as well

iii) Create t-shirts for the LLC members – can we use money for this?

(1) We believe so

(2) Possible slogan: “Tommys who live together, learn together”

iv) How do we raise LLC numbers for next year?

(1) Collect “testimonials” and include them on the pamphlets, emails, website?

I. Social

a) How did the debate go?

1) Went wonderful and 50 people showed up

2) Lots of food & very chill; no real debating between Scholars

(1) People did HW and laughed together

b) T shirts?

- 1) Erica is ordering them
- c) Tracking class attendance
 - 1) Go to Dropbox to update because events later in the semester usually have low attendance
- d) Upcoming events
 - 1) October 8th is Apple Orchard
 - (1) Make sure give tickets properly and pay for services in time.
 - (2) Get money to the company right away.
 - (3) Can pay for bus after the event

II. Academic Events

- a) Pizza with the Prof – Dr. Wilkinson – October 6th
- b) Pizza with a Prof – Dr. Orzolek – October 25th
- c) Upcoming Events
 - 1) Any research on other speakers besides professors?
 - (1) Have an Administrator to come in to talk about Sexual Harassment

III. Service

- a) First event – Homecoming events this weekend
 - 1) Only 5 people signed up so far
- b) Scholars wear t-shirts to events
 - 1) Continue to sell old t-shirts or give them away?
 - (1) Yea; even have people wear shirts to represent Scholars Program
- c) Upcoming events
 - 1) Will send invites for St. Marks volunteer events

IV. Webmaster

- a) Were all Freshmen added to Blackboard?
 - 1) Yep, he added them all in
- b) Create instructions for Dropbox – working on video or instructions with screenshots!
 - 1) Haven't really started due to illness
- c) Tracking mentorship points possible?
 - 1) Made one column for them and a point system in a rubric
 - 2) No other scholars should be seeing that

V. Social Media Chair

- a) Met w/ Emily on 9/21
- b) Send event pictures to Emily
- c) Facebook – Tommie Aquinas post through the gmail account? - nixed
 - 1) LLC Facebook Page or class of 2020 Facebook Page? - nixed
 - 2) Cleanup current Facebook page – adding new scholars and deleting old ones
- d) Add folder on Dropbox – usernames & passwords, pictures, instructions, etc.
- e) Include Instagram & Facebook page links in all scholar emails

VI. Publications

- a) September Journal – how many submissions came in?
 - 1) 2 for Sept and 1 for October, & saving one for Dec.
- b) Upcoming Journals

VII. Symposium

- a) Recruit new Symposium chairs for next year early
 - 1) Shadow them to get a perspective

VIII. R&O and Ambassador

- a) First faculty board meeting – 10/6 convo hour JRC 222
- b) Freshmen reps – application deadline Monday, October 3rd
 - 1) So far only one response
 - 2) Date & time for choosing reps?
 - (1) Meet this Sunday (October 2nd)
 - (2) Choose them by next Friday (October 7th)