

December 8, 2008

SG Initiatives (Abbreviated): Fall 2008

- Better Communication with Student Body
  - Forums at the beginning of the year.
    - Forum on Student Life (Attended by Dr. Hatch and Dr. Zick, VP of Student Life)
    - Forum on SAT Policy and Financial Aid ( Attended by Dr. Hatch; Dr. Tiefenthaler, Provost; Dr. Paul Ribisl, Interim Dean of the College; Martha Allman, Director of Admissions)
    - Forum introducing Master Plan (Attended by Dr. Matt Cullinan, VP of Administration)
  - Office Hours
    - This year, Student Government hosts office hours in the Pit and in Benson. Most times they have been at 11 on Tuesday. These sessions have provided SG with great opportunities to get feedback from students about their likes and dislikes.
    - Each exec has weekly office hours as well.
  - Use of broadcast emails to make students aware of important information.
  - We have continued to use constituent e-mail, but we have tried to become more diligent about making sure that each student receives an e-mail from his or her representative.
- Increasing Funds for Student Groups
  - The Student Government Treasurer, Saket Munshaw, submitted a proposal requesting more money for the Student Budget Advisory Committee for allocation to student groups. He reasoned that the increase in the student population should be offset by an increase in the budget for the operation of student organizations in order to assure that all organizations are able to sustain their activities.
- Campus Safety/ Campus Parking
  - The Speaker of the House, Matt Triplett, has started a committee that is looking at the feasibility of having a Safe Walk Program. The Safe Walk Program will consist of male students that will volunteer to walk other students to places on campus if they feel threatened.
  - The Student Trustee, Lauren Hubbard, and SG President, Jermyn Davis, are continuing the discussion about improving campus security with our administration.

- The Physical Planning Committee of Student Government is in discussions with University Police to address a number of issues which include:
  - Campus Shuttles
    - Which is better/ safer: having a preset route or calling the shuttle?
    - Possibly a new route
  - Parking Policies
- Campus Sustainability
  - New Posting Policies
    - The Student Government Committee on Physical Planning is working with WFU Facilities department to formulate ways to minimize paper posting.
  - ZipCar
    - Student Government members worked with other motivated non Student Government Members to formulate a plan for bringing ZipCar, a car rental program, to Wake Forest. A proposal for instituting ZipCar next year has been submitted to our administration. Please fill out the survey on ZipCar to let us know what you think.  
<http://spreadsheets.google.com/viewform?key=pvZhT3CxKHGAwFqR7Y2dwNw>
- Dining Options
  - Worked with Roy Biggers, Aramark District Manager, to bring more dining options to campus. These efforts led to the creation of a campus-wide meal plan program.
  - We are now able to use our Deacon Cards at Papa John's and if that is successful, SG has asked Mr. Biggers to explore options to use our Deacon Cards at Village Tavern and Ishi.
- Revision to Election Guidelines
  - For the 2008-9 academic year, the judiciary committee of Student Government has focused on rewriting the student government constitution so that it better serves both the student body and its student government. The work will ultimately have to be approved in a referendum by the Student Body in the spring. As of now, the judiciary committee has completed the revisions to the election guidelines. These improved guidelines will help make sure that Student Government elections are of the highest quality and integrity.
- Random Acts of Fun
  - James Buckley, Director of Benson Center, created an idea for a program that would help to brighten up students' days. Student Government, along with Student Union, has helped lead this project.
    - Things that we have done:
      - Free donuts

- Free Massages
  - Free Popcorn
- Online Identity Workshop
  - Student Government, Career Services, and Information Technology (IT) combined resources to design an information session useful to anyone applying for special programs, internships, graduate programs and jobs in particular. The workshop focused on what can be found on the internet, with or without privacy settings, and how to project a positive image on the internet.
- Homecoming Bash
  - In response to the strong desire of students for more opportunities to have more social opportunities, Student Government planned the Homecoming Bash. This event was held at the Millenium Center November 7, 2008 from 10:00 p.m. to 2:00 a.m. and was a success as more than 600 students came out to celebrate homecoming.
- Majors on Diplomas
  - Seniors will now have their majors on their diplomas. They will receive a diploma at commencement with just their name and degree and will receive a nicer version with their major listed through the mail.
- Having more dialogue with the administration, SG Speaker of the House, Matt Triplett and SG President, Jermyn Davis, began monthly meetings with Provost Jill Tiefenthaler.
- Worked with Athletics to create an easier and more efficient way for non-Screamin Demon students to enter and attend football games.
- Researched peer institutions to find freshmen roommate matching programs. The campus life committee of Student Government determined that in order to have a more effective system, more questions should be used. The committee has compiled a list of 8-10 questions that should help better guide roommate matching.
- The academic committee of Student Government has begun the planning stages for the creation of a student book of rights. This will be helpful in creating a more uniform policy to guide how academic-related issues will be handled by the university.