Committee on Student Communications – Meeting minutes  
Friday, October 10, 2014, 10:30 a.m., VIP Room, Student Center

Members Present  
Boyd Beckwith (Student Center Director), Bryce McNeil (Assistant Director for Student Media), Jeannie Barrett (ex-officio), Warren Turner (GSTV Managing Director), Anna Yang (The Signal Editor-in-Chief), David Armstrong (faculty, at-large), Megan Hodgkiss (Graduate Representative, Department of Communication), Akiem Bailum (student, at-large), Raven Neely (student, at-large), Alayna Fabricius (WRAS General Manager)

Members Absent  
Greg Lisby (faculty, Department of Communication), Undergraduate Representative, Department of Communication (vacant), Graduate Representative, Department of Communication (vacant)

Guests  
Stephanie Devine (sitting in for Jenny Brown, New South Editor-in-Chief)

Call to order  
Meeting was called to order by Boyd Beckwith at 10:44 a.m.

Approval of Minutes  
David moved that the September minutes be accepted with grammar/style corrections, Stephanie seconded. Minutes were approved unanimously. Boyd noted that these minutes would be posted on the Student Media website (http://studentmedia.gsu.edu/).

CSC Bylaws  
Bryce reviewed the revision suggestions for the CSC bylaws, all of which involved the correction of grammar/titles and the reflection of transfer of Student Media from the office of the Dean of Students to the office of the Vice President of Student Affairs. Jeannie noted that all disciplinary matters that are referred to the Dean of Students’ office as per the Student Code of Conduct should be reflected as such in these revisions. Akiem moved that the revisions be accepted, Raven seconded. The revisions were approved unanimously. Bryce noted that the revised bylaws would also be posted on the Student Media website.

SAFC Update  
Boyd noted that he would be updating the Student Activity Fee Committee with a report on how the CSC expended its funds in FY2014 (with a draft memo dispersed to the committee). He opened the floor up for conversation on any possible revisions to the memo.

Raven questioned why the printing for New South was not listed in the memo, to which Bryce noted that as a non-essential service item, it is part of general New South budget (as opposed to The Signal, whose printing is derived from Essential Services). Boyd suggested that the third paragraph of the memo be
changed to refer to the assembly of an emergency meeting in cases where the CSC cannot come to a consensus on how to allocate a budget.

Warren suggested that if the SAFC was looking for any suggestions on how to expend additional funds, that the memo should reference general marketing from which all of the media groups could benefit; Boyd and Akiem concurred. Bryce added that with opportunities such as the COMM fair no longer in play, any money for promotional events or awareness could help fill a void in making students aware of Student Media organizations.

Boyd agreed to proceed with the memo as drafted with the modifications of adding a line on marketing and referencing the assembly of an emergency meeting, if necessary, to decide upon how the CSC divides its funds.

Media Head Updates

The Signal: Anna reported that two Signal students were attending a Georgia Press Association workshop in Macon on ad revenue. Boyd noted that part of putting together a budget proposal for FY2015 will need to involve seeking help for selling advertisements for The Signal.

Anna also reported The Signal’s participation in the homecoming parade (with an accompanying homecoming issue) and that the paper held its first new staff orientation session. The paper also received four nominations for Associated Collegiate Press awards.

WRAS: Alayna reported that the first set of volunteer meetings for the fall semester had concluded. The application window for new DJs was open. Six management members were scheduled to attend the College Media Journal conference in New York City on behalf of the station. They were particularly hoping to receive advice from other stations on how to increase awareness of internet streaming. The staff was also still brainstorming on ideas on transitional content for the 7pm timeslot that follows GPB’s simulcast. The staff was also preparing a pitch for a “multiple choice” styled show or segment designed to promote GSU’s academic departments.

Alayna reported that the staff was still trying hard to spread the word about the HD-2 channel and online streams. They found that at promotional events, they were still dealing with listeners being unaware of how to find the station during the daytime hours. They would be appearing at the Gringo Starr album release and King of Pops event promotion to continue to spread the word about the newer Album 88 outlets.

GSTV: Warren reported that the station was dealing with Livestream issues due to having to split the signal for housing. In addition, with the Technical Supervisor working reduced hours, there were supervision issues on technical matters. The station was expecting to roll out four episodes of Side Effects throughout the semester, produced by Eliot Scrager. Panther Report finished its first episode but News Director Carlyn Pounders was not satisfied with the result. Warren said he thought it would improve and would be a trial-and-error process; possibly with the rollout of mini-segments until the format was perfected.

The staff decided to postpone the casting for Devil Boys From Beyond due to scheduling difficulties but would work on staging and filming Santa vs. The Elves in December, tentatively scheduled for December 7th and 8th.
New South – Stephanie reported that the staff had shipped out over 300 issues of edition 7.2 (contest issue). The staff, for the first time, would working on two issues (8.1 and 8.2) simultaneously, though they would still distribute them separately. They had procured Roger Reeves and Rebecca Makkai as judges. Production Editor Diya Chaudhiri had revamped the website and would add blog posts about the upcoming developments, including the Chris Merkner reading on Thursday on October 16, the first New South reading in the new Troy Moore Library in 25 Park Place.

Raven reported that the submission deadline had arrived for Underground and that she and Production Editor Rachel Pickett were working on a re-design (Jenny helped with advice on this matter). Part of the goal would be a “sisterhood” between New South and Underground, reflected in similar publication dimensions, for example. The staff was also hoping to reduce the white space in the journal to create a more contemporary look. The journal received over 100 submissions, with over 70 artwork submissions. Underground was planning a reading at the Gallery Lounge (December 7, 10 a.m.–2 p.m.).

In additional news, Bryce reported that The Signal staff, particularly Production Editor Maddie Richardson, had assisted in producing a rate card sheet for the Southeast Journalism Conference. Jeannie suggests contacting a University representative so as not to over solicit from potential sponsors/supporters.

The next CSC meeting was scheduled for November 14, 2014 in the VIP room (second floor, University Center).

The meeting was adjourned.