Committee on Student Communication – Meeting minutes
Friday, November 13, 2015, 10:30 a.m., 25 Park Place (1127)

Members Present
Bryce McNeil (Assistant Director for Student Media), Joey Redman (GSTV General Manager), Troi Charity (The Signal Editor-in-Chief), Raven Neely (student, at-large), Stephanie Devine (New South Editor-in-Chief), Jeannie Barrett (ex-officio), Stephen Cavallaro (student, at-large), Boyd Beckwith (Student Center Director)

Members Absent
Hannah Frank (WRAS General Manager), David Armstrong (faculty, at-large), Greg Lisby (faculty, Department of Communication), Undergraduate Representative, Department of Communication (VACANT), Graduate Representative, Department of Communication (VACANT)

Call to order
Meeting was called to order by Boyd Beckwith at 10:32 a.m.

CSC Bylaws
Bryce summarized the changes proposed and reviewed in the previous meetings and handed out the documents both with and without the changes marked up in the margins for proper review.

Jeannie and Boyd raised concerns about the alternate voting student proposal. Jeannie noted that the likelihood of the chair being present at a meeting would be more likely than that of an alternate student. Boyd also worried that the alternate may feel alienated being only called upon to vote when asked rather than being a regular voting member, in addition to recruiting issues. Bryce noted that he would prefer all votes be from students whenever possible but that the likelihood of a tie is generally unlikely to begin with (and had not occurred in his memory). He clarified that non-students only vote on radio station matters as the bylaws currently specify. Jeannie also added that the chair would be more likely to be informed on an issue than an alternate. The committee agreed to amend a draft to revert back to the original tiebreaking rules but agreed to keep the language regarding the new number of student members and the proxy selection process.

Boyd argued that the document should contain two different quorums: eight members for matters in which non-students can vote and six students for all other matters. Raven was curious as to why Jeannie’s position wasn’t listed within membership (and was instead listed ex-officio in a separate paragraph). The committee agreed to move her ex-officio position to the list. The committee agreed to these being amended for the next draft.

Boyd also clarified that all students are technically considered Student Government Association members so the language should be amended to reflect that officers, not members, are excluded from Student Media leadership. Jeannie wanted to be sure that the policy was clear and did not exclude potential leaders in SGA. Bryce agreed but felt like there was not anything in the policy that excluded
SGA officers from applying for any positions, but only holding them due to conflict of interest. Joey agreed and said that the rules also did not exclude such students from volunteering if they so desired.

Boyd inquired about the possibility of an Annual Meeting and worried that it implied that other meetings were open to the public. Bryce clarified that the Annual Meeting was intended for the wider public but agreed that the Annual Meeting is likely more intended for the student body. Jeannie suggested adding wording that showed that all meetings were open to the public but that the Annual Meeting would be marketed to the student body (not “the public”).

The committee agreed to postpone voting on amendments until the next meeting so there would be proper quorum.

Bryce summarized the revisions suggested in this meeting that would be presented for voting in the next meeting:

- III.c would be amended to eliminate the alternate student idea proposed in the prior meeting and to mention the legal position as an ex-officio. The language regarding SGA would be changed from “members” to “officers.”
- IV.a would be corrected to clarify that all meetings are open to the public and the Annual Meeting language would be revised.
- IV.b would be corrected to add a line for the Chair breaking ties and that student voting quorum would be 6/9 and all-members-voting would be 8/13. The overall language on voting rules would be modified.
- IV.c would be corrected to eliminate the second paragraph regarding proxy representation.

Media Group Updates
The Signal – Troi reported that the paper was $8,000 over its Fall goal for advertising sales and past $25,000 in revenue overall. There were two issues left for the Fall semester with advertising requests still coming in. Bryce added that regional contest season was upcoming (Georgia College Press, Southeast Journalism Conference) and he and Troi were working on entries. Also, Emily Lasher received a fourth-place finish in the Associated Collegiate Press contest for Ad Design (in addition to an Honorable Mention for Anna Yang in design and the paper being a Pacemaker finalist).

WRAS – Bryce reported that Ricer would be recording a video/audio session at Cinefest which would be the first for GSTV and WRAS. The station would be looking for new News Director and Concert Coordinators over the break due to graduations.

GSTV - Joey reported that the station was eight days ahead of its schedule for the production of creative programming. Tentatively, two show titles were “Love & War” (Zachary Bankole), “Elevator” (Hannah Sauber) and Sean Evans’ title was yet to be named. The station added wall decals to the office to improve the office branding. The station would debut “Primetime Sportz Talk” in November and had ten students interested in helping on the project.

New South – Stephanie reported that the staff was working on layout for the next issue. The staff would be holding a reading at the Tap Room Coffee in Kirkwood in November. The website attracted 2,500 visitors in the past month, which was five times the amount of visitors from a year prior. Boyd reminded students that the Active Directory calendar is a good promotional tool for events. Raven added that the Public Relations department had contacted her over the summer about promoting Student Media in a locations app and that this would be worth investigating.
Underground – Raven reported that issue 6.1 was at the printer but with revisions, it would likely not be distributed until January. The staff decided to stagger the release into three stages: a reception on December 4th (in conjunction with Spotlight) for the digital release of the issue, a “Welcome Back” event in January including the print release and a call for the next issue, and a digital-extended-release later in the Spring. Raven and Carla would represent Underground at the Tennessee Williams Festival in New Orleans in March 2016.

Digital Media Group – Stephen reported that Nicole Motahari would be the team’s new Social Media Manager and that a logo should be ready by the end of November. The targeted date for the app and website presentation was January. The URL would be dmgatl.com.

The next CSC meeting was scheduled for January 15, 2016 in 25 Park Place, Room 806.

The meeting was adjourned.