



**Committee on Student Communications – Meeting minutes
Friday, March 11, 2016, 10:30 a.m., 25 Park Place (Room 1127)**

Members Present

Bryce McNeil (Assistant Director for Student Media), Joey Redman (GSTV General Manager), Troi Charity (*The Signal* Editor-in-Chief), Raven Neely (*Underground* Editor-in-Chief), Stephanie Devine (*New South* Editor-in-Chief), Boyd Beckwith (Student Center Director), Hannah Frank (Album 88 General Manager), David Armstrong (faculty, Department of Communication), Josh Russell (faculty at-large), Tammy Huynh (undergraduate student at-large), Kelly Neal (graduate student at-large), Omar Nelson (general student at-large), Stephen Cavallaro (General Manager, Digital Media Group)

Members Absent

Jeannie Barrett (ex-officio)

Call to order

Meeting was called to order by Boyd Beckwith at 10:33 a.m.

FY2017 Budget Presentations

Boyd reminded the Committee that the allotment for the CSC to consider as the Media Fee Council for FY2017 was \$175,041. He also added that a Powerpoint presentation was expected on Friday, April 1st by the Student Activity Fee Committee with a time to be determined.

The leaders presented the detailed version of their proposals for the allotment, totaling \$175,041 (with \$58,995 for Album 88, \$14,200 for Digital Media Group, \$50,372 for GSTV, \$30,820 for *New South*, \$0 for *The Signal*, \$19,000 for *Underground*, with \$1,654 left for the central account). Each of the leaders had consulted with Bryce before the presentation to confirm the details of their presentation.

With the amounts agreed and voted upon in the last meeting, there were no questions about the specifics of the documents presented.

Media Heads Updates

The Signal – Troi reported *The Signal's* Twitter page was now at 2800 followers with 600 for its sports page and 200 for Arts & Living. She and Bryce met with members of *The Collegian* staff from Perimeter College and their advisor, Alice Murray, to discuss the transition to a merged news operation.

The staff was preparing to host and livestream the SGA debates, scheduled for March 29th, 30th, and 31st at the Urban Life Auditorium. The staff prepared headshots and video to promote the debate and were in consultation with Patricia Herndon regarding promotion. Boyd noted that this would be a more competitive debate with multiple candidates for a variety of positions.

Bryce added that the staff had accumulated ten Top 4 rankings in the Southeast Journalism Conference's "Best of the South" contest, including a tie for 2nd in the newspaper category, as well as 19 Top 3

placements in the Georgia College Press Association's "Better Newspapers" awards (including five 1st placements).

Album 88 – Hannah reported that six management members would be travelling to South by Southwest in Austin, Tx. She consulted with each member of management on a panel schedule. Bryce added that the Production Editor may also attend the National Association of Broadcasters convention. The staff recorded a session with Big Brutus and were in the process of editing it. The goal was to develop a specialized YouTube channel for these sessions. The date for WRASFest was pushed back as the staff was trying to find a headline act suitable for the show.

Bryce added that Album 88 Music Director Alayna Fabricius had talked with her Digital Possibilities professor about possibly collating submissions for 7 p.m. audio pieces for the radio station. Hannah was hopeful that this would lead to original content in May/June.

GSTV- Joey reported that the staff set up a new feed for the in-office television so that visitors would see more up-to-date content when visiting the office. He was working in consultation with Bryce, Casey Williams (GSTV Technical Advisor) and David Murkison (Associate Director for Building Administration) on sound dampening in the GSTV studio. The station had now surpassed 150 unique uploads of content. The news team claimed five Top 5 rankings in the SEJC's "Best of the South" contest, including 3rd for Video News Program.

New South – Stephanie reported that the latest edition (9.1) had been released to campus and shipped out to subscribers. The staff was preparing to move to a new office location in 25 Park Place by the end of the month. Josh added that these offices were wired for phone lines and that by the time the move was completed, both *New South* and *Underground* should have dedicated contact numbers. The staff would also host a "submission jam" on March 25th for students interested in learning more about how to edit their work for submission.

The staff was preparing to travel to the Association of Writers and Writing Programs conference in Los Angeles, Ca. They would be collaborating with *Passages North* for a reading event on April 1st during the conference.

Underground – Raven reported that the publicity staff were distributing packages with issues of *Underground*, *New South*, *The Signal* along with Album 88 material to various Presidents, Vice-Presidents and Provosts on campus. The staff met with representatives with the Music department as well to discuss increasing the content for the music genre in the journal. Doug Barthlow from the Communication department is advocating for more film submissions.

The staff continues to recruit volunteers for marketing. On February 16th, the staff had its second release party for the latest issue at Cinefest, including readings of various works from the contributors. The staff was preparing for the Lantern Manifesto event, wherein they would pair students with different creative backgrounds to do a collective work. The pieces would be showcased at Cinefest on March 29th.

The staff received close to 200 submissions for the Spring issue, less than the previous issue but more than the amount submitted to the previous Spring issue. The editors would be responsible for designing the content in this issue for a more collaborative process. The staff is targeting a third issue for the summer but it would depend on a variety of factors, including budget and submissions.

With the new offices, the staff would gain production space in addition to proximity to *New South* and *Five Points* for additional training.

Digital Media Group – Stephen reported that approval was granted to be part of the Apple Developer program so the app should be close to ready. For the time being, the staff would freeze new content creation in light of the resignation of the On Demand Coordinator and a dedicated focus to refining the app and website. The staff acquired a variety of items to improve public recording, including a step-and-repeat display to make the group visible when recording.

Bryce added that the Digital Media General Manager position for 2016-17 would be reposted with a deadline to accommodate interviews following the next CSC meeting.

The next CSC meeting was scheduled for April 8, 2016 in 25 Park Place, Room 1127.

The meeting was adjourned.