



**Committee on Student Communication – Meeting Minutes
Friday, November 15, 11:00 a.m., 455 Student Center West**

Members Present

Bryce McNeil (Director, Student Media), Wakesha Henley (Business Coordinator, Student Media), Daniel Varitek (*The Signal* Editor-in-Chief), Anna Sandy (teleconferencing)(*New South* Editor-in-Chief), Cayce Tiedemann (teleconferencing) (*Underground* Editor-in-Chief), Raina Morris (Album 88 General Manager), Alexandria White (NEON General Manager), Jody Brooks (faculty member, College of Arts & Sciences), Mabel Padilla (Undergraduate student at-large), Boyd Beckwith (Senior Director, Student Center)

Members Absent

Jeannie Barrett (ex-officio), Meredith Pruden (Graduate student at-large), Moraima Ivory (faculty member, College of Arts & Sciences)

Call to order

Bryce McNeil called the meeting to order at 11:05 a.m.

Updates on Student Success

Boyd confirmed that Michael Sanseviro was assuming the title of Associate Vice President for Student Engagement & Dean of Students. It was uncertain if he or Allison Calhoun-Brown would be put forth to be included in the Bylaws. Boyd reported that in the future, only a limited number of departments would be authorized to use the Georgia State flame logo.

Spring 2020 Calendar

Bryce advised that, as per CSC prior discussions, that media head interviews for 2020 be moved to late February. The committee agreed to holding meetings on January 17, February 28, March 13 and April 17, remaining at 11 a.m. The committee also agreed that if possible, all media head interviews would be held on February 28. If there were an unusually large number of qualified candidates, the committee would review its options at that time.

Daniel inquired about the budget process for FY21. Bryce reported that the allocation for the Media Fee Council was likely to be provided in December and that the CSC would begin discussing it at the January meeting. Boyd reported that national trends indicate that enrollment at most universities will either stabilize or decline. As such, retention of enrolled students is vital to maintaining Student Media budgets.

Media Head Updates

The Signal- Daniel reported that *The Signal* received several honors at the national College Media Association/Associated Collegiate Press convention in Washington, DC, including a second-place ranking and three Honorable Mentions in the ACP awards and a 1st place ranking, 2nd place ranking and two Honorable Mentions for the Pinnacles (CMA). Daniel, Ada Wood, Ben Colletta and Will Solomons attended the conference on *The Signal's* behalf. The last issue for *The Signal* for the Fall semester was scheduled for after Thanksgiving break. The staff also scheduled an orientation for December that would consist of over 30 students giving them a total of 110 staff writers by the end of the year. Daniel has researched allocating the papers to more high traffic areas by next year.

Album 88- Raina reported that podcast applications would be first made available to the Album 88 staff and then extended to all of Student Media in January 2020. Jody advised her to look at incorporating existing podcasts from the English department for on-air use, including one recently picked up by Oxygen. She suggested that Raina consider specifically partnering with the 3170 creative writing class.

Raina is in the process of submitting artists for consideration for WRASFest contracts. The event was scheduled for March 28, 2020. Three students (Johnny Andia, Joseph Joh and Shira Solomon) attended the College Broadcasters Inc convention in St. Louis, MO, co-presenting with alumni Kathy Kincer on syndicating radio shows.

Neo Network- Alex reported that NeoN also received honors at the CMA/ACP convention in addition to honors at the College Broadcasters Inc convention in St. Louis, MO. The NeoN website was a finalist for an Online Pacemaker. In addition, the staff received a 2nd place ranking in the Pinnacles. In the CBI awards, the station received four rankings in total (one 1st place, two 2nd place and one 4th place).

Reporters from Fox5 were assisting Panther Report News students, including providing tours of the Fox5 office and providing Q&A sessions with professional reporters.

New South- Anna reported that the staff scheduled a reading in December. Many of the existing staff were scheduled to graduate in Spring and she expressed excitement about the new volunteers that would be applying for staff positions. They were working to have the next new issue ready for the Association of Writers and Writing Programs convention in March, with six *New South* students attending.

Underground- Cayce reported that the final issue for Fall contains over 90 pages and that it contains a vast amount of artwork. Boyd advised partnering with Spotlight in the future for an Art Exhibit Showcase to have the student's submissions displayed to a wider audience.

Other Business/Announcements

Daniel wanted to know if the other students were interested in collaborating and devoting a portion of their budget for a Student Media advertising campaign. Boyd suggested using the wall across from the Bookstore, participating in the Student Center Open house on January 28, submitting information via email for incoming students and classroom visits from the Media Heads.

Bryce also reported that it was the license renewal period for WRAS-FM.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:20 p.m. The next meeting was tentatively scheduled for January 17, 2020 at 11:00 a.m. at a location to be determined.