Illinois Wesleyan University
Student Senate
Executive Board
February 2005 Report
Student Senate Vice President

February 2005 Report

Kami Irvin

Although February is a short month I feel that it has been twice as busy! This month I have been busy with vice presidential duties as well as ensuring that each commissioner is prepared for his or her upcoming events. I have met with Senate and University committees throughout the month.

The CSAO Search Committee met to discuss the on-campus interview process that final candidates will complete. This included a discussion of the candidate’s interaction with students, faculty, and staff (especially Student Affairs staff). A final decision has not been made; however, it is probable that each candidate will make a short presentation and will meet with various campus groups later that day or the following day to answer questions and learn about the University. Committee members also have started reviewing applications submitted by potential candidates. We will be meeting several times in early March to narrow the candidate pool.

The All-University Speakers Committee brought Edward S. Walker to speak at Founder’s Day Convocation on February 9, 2005. The committee has also identified first, second, and third choices for speakers at President’s Convocation in Fall 2005. Speaker nominations are accepted all year at the committee’s webpage <http://www.iwu.edu/iwunews/President/speakers.html>.

The winter Board of Trustees Meetings were held on February 7th and 8th. I attended both the Campus Life subcommittee meeting and the General meeting of the Board. In the Campus Life meeting results of the Core Survey on alcohol use at IWU were presented. This report shows a divide in the amount and severity of alcohol use. A sizeable portion of the student population is ranked as low to moderate in alcohol use. However, there is a percentage of students who report an extremely high level of alcohol use. IWU as a whole is average or slightly below the national average for college alcohol use. Other topics such as admissions, tuition, budget, and promotion/tenure were also addressed at these meetings.
I met with a representative from School Datebooks to discuss the student planner for 2005-2006. Later in the month Senate signed a contract with School Datebooks to print the student planner for next year. I have also met with Darcy Greder and Tina Gleason to discuss the University calendars that will appear in the planner. The Survey/Calendar committee has met and will be meeting again in early March to discuss the cover, layout, and advertisements.
Student Senate President

February 2005 Report

Kevin Maliszewski

Student Senate Vice-President Kami Irvin and I attended the February Board of Trustees meeting, as well as the campus life sub committee meeting. At the meeting, I reported on the student perception of the campus climate touching on such topics as upcoming senate events, the office of student activities, IWU athletic teams and Greek life. I also reported that students were quite upset about how May term registration went as well as class options for the spring semester. The committee spent a great deal of time discussing Alcohol abuse among students and were interested in ways that students could address this issue as well as future actions that the University will be looking into.

The following appointments were made:

Off Campus Senators: Jessica Lothman, Ashley Whittington, Trevor Sierra, Joe Jasinski

Academic Appeals: Hannah Giunta, Todd Kumler, Shannon O’Rourke

Curriculum Council: Jessica Lothman, Hannah Giunta

Bookstore: Haley Brown

AUJC: Emilee Bocker, Melissa Koeppen, Todd Kumler

Student Life: Kyle Brigham, Haley Brown

TLTR: Joe Jasinski,

Study Abroad: Shannon O’Rourke

Library: Kami Irvin

Faculty Advisor: Dr. Jaggi
It came to my attention this month that the University was in the process of implementing a pay for print system on campus. Student senate held a fruitful discussion and decided the majority of students would not support such an action. After discussing this with Dean Matthews and President Wilson, the issue has been set aside to assure that proper discussion and communication occurs before a decision is implemented.

At a regular meeting of CUPP, I was charged to seek student opinions, particularly seniors, as to receiving a physical diploma upon graduation. This year senior grades will be due before the last day of finals and this creates a conflict for professors who wish to turn in grades on time. I reported back that student’s do not necessarily care for the physical diploma, but do believe student honors should be presented upon graduation.

The issue concerning the way admissions presents the University, particularly May term, was once again brought to senator speakout. I properly communicated this to the administration and will continue to lobby for May term as something students are extremely upset and concerned about.

The strategic planning process is coming along quickly and I am proud to report that the committee will most likely publish the five to six goals and explanations of those goals within the next month.

**Student Senate Treasurer**

February 2005 Report

Todd Kumler

During February, I continued my usual duties of paying Student Senate’s bills and chairing Financial Advisory Board meetings. I also worked diligently to further update and improve my Web site (available at [http://www.iwu.edu/~tkumler/treasurer](http://www.iwu.edu/~tkumler/treasurer)), and the site is now completely finished.

The end of February brought the beginning of Student Senate budgeting for the 2005-2006 school year. Financial Advisory Board is currently holding budgeting hearings, and I’m happy to report that more groups submitted budgets this year (about 65 applications)
than in previous years. Financial Advisory Board will present the proposed budget at the March 20 Senate meeting.

Following the completion of budgeting, I have two main goals. First, I would like to update the Code of Finances as soon as possible to bring this document up to date with the way Financial Advisory Board currently operates. Also, I plan to create an information/policy sheet to help guide groups through the check reimbursement process. Many groups are unaware of Business Office and Student Senate policies for submitting reimbursements, so I would like to clear up much of this confusion through an information sheet.
Communications Commissioner

February 2005 Report

Shannon O’Rourke

The week of February 6th the Senators were assigned to their Senate committees. There have been a few adjustments since then. A few of the empty Senate seats have been filled this month. We are still looking for Senators for Acacia and Interfraternity Council. There is also one seat open for Pfeiffer. I have been in contact with the leaders of these organizations and with the Pfeiffer RD and RCA to try and find people to fill these seats.

I have completed the agendas for the February 6th and February 20th meetings. I have also completed the minutes for both of those meetings, and the February 6th minutes have been posted on the website by Joe Jasinski.

I have continued to clean out the Commissioners’ Office. I had a monthly bulletin board hung in the office and I have kept it updated with Senate events. I have sorted through a few boxes that have not been opened since they were moved to Hansen from the old office in Memorial. They are filled with old Tributaries and First Year Records and will be sent to campus offices and the archives at Ames Library.

My PR committee was chosen, and it is filled with a number of energetic and great Senators. They have helped me distribute flyers for various campus events. I have created flyers for budget applications and budget workshops for Todd Kumler, Blackstock, the new IWU Runners’ Club, Soul Food Dinner, Gender Issues Week, a Med School talk given by IWU Alumnus Ed Harter, IWUPA’s Breaking the Gender Rules panel discussion, and Tri Iota’s t-shirt drive. I also submitted pipeline announcements for Soul Food Dinner and Gender Issue Week’s keynote speaker Elizabeth Birch.
During February, the office of Parliamentarian addressed many issues that were presented to Student Senate regarding the Constitution of our organization.

The Constitutional Revisions committee heard presentations from two Registered Student Organizations regarding their desire to obtain a seat on Student Senate. Alpha Phi Omega was not recommended to Student Senate for a seat by Constitutional Revisions committee. However, the committee voted to recommend that the constitution be amended to include the Feminist Majority Leadership Alliance in Student Senate membership. Senate will vote on this amendment after discussion at the March 20 Student Senate meeting.

At the February 20 meeting, senators nominated professors for the Professor of the Year award. Senators will make final nominations at the March 6 Student Senate meeting, and voting will take place to narrow the field of candidates to the top five professors. After discussing online elections with Curtis Kelch, I was informed that instant run-off voting would not be functioning for Professor of the Year elections. Curtis Kelch will begin working on instant run-off voting this summer, and will likely have that ready by first-year class elections in the fall.

The Resolutions Committee met to draft a resolution regarding Student Senate’s stance on May Term courses. The committee will be meeting to finalize wording and will then present the Resolution to Student Senate for approval.
Entertainment Commission

February 2005 Report

Kyle Brigham

This month has been a very busy one for the Entertainment Commission. We have currently been working on researching and bidding on a performer for the spring performance. Unfortunately, this process is not an easy one as routing and dates are constantly changing, but we are zeroing in and I am confident we will have performer picked within the coming week. Of course, I will make students aware of information as it becomes available.

Also, I have been continuing work on a training manual for the Entertainment Commissioner position. I feel that it is very important that the new EC have a first-hand, student account on event programming. Hopefully, it will include the commonly approached problems and how to solve them, and also the steps to take when programming an event. This is a slow process as I have started from scratch, but it will be complete by the next commission, so I have plenty of time.
The Media Division has had a productive month. These are some of the most substantial developments.

The Argus editorial board had change over at the beginning of this month, and the transition went smoothly. I worked with Emma Weir, the Editor-in-Chief, on budgeting. Staff members are always looking to produce a more professional newspaper, and I think they are planning well for next year.

Titan TV managers are continuing to edit student shows, and they will be aired soon. I am renegotiating the Residential Life Cinema Contract and hope to include television show seasons next year.

Tributaries hosted a very successful undergraduate writing conference. They are already planning for next year. The editorial board is currently working on this semester’s publication.

WESN continues to provide enjoyable listening opportunities for the IWU community. They always welcome student feedback.

Discussions on the yearbook are still taking place. However, the Wesleyana was not presented in my budget for the next fiscal year. I am still researching the possibility of a magazine. All work on past yearbooks remains suspended.

Curriculum Council is continuing to address academic issues in the IWU community. We are currently finalizing course schedules and descriptions for next year. Gateway
Colloquium has been discussed at length, and CC is looking at how to incorporate writing into the entire undergraduate curriculum. Suggestions have included re-establishing the freshman seminar program and requiring students to submit electronic portfolios as part of their graduation requirements. CC has also discussed the general education program as a whole and expressed concern over the availability of courses in certain areas. Additionally, they are examining the scheduling process in an attempt to make the student registration process operate smoothly.

Please feel free to contact me with your questions and concerns at anytime.
Student Welfare and Human Relations Commissioner

February 2005 Report

Melissa Koeppen

During the month of February, I mainly focused on fine tuning Gender Issues Week. In addition, I began working on AIDS Awareness Week 2005. Primarily, I looked into ways to make the AIDS Walk a more community involved event and researched and found a keynote speaker. I also dealt with Sodhexo concerns and began meeting with Dave Nicholson. Lastly, I completed my budget for the Student Senate Financial Advisory Board. In addition to my specific SWHR Commission, I attended a University Speakers Committee meeting and the Board of Trustees Dinner.

- Gender Issues Week Events were finalized
  - February 28th Domestic Violence Awareness Speaker
  - March 1st Showing of the movie “Normal”
  - March 2nd Chapel Hour and How do you view Gender? Discussion and Freewrite
    - March 3rd Keynote Speaker, Elizabeth Birch
- Set up meeting date with Dave Nicholson. Every other Wednesday at 5pm in the Dugout
- SWHR Budget finalized
  - Includes AIDS Awareness Week, Alcohol/Drug Awareness Programming, Diversity Programming and Gender Issues Week 2006
- Meet with University Speakers Committee
  - Three top choices for Founders Day Convocation were decided upon.

For Gender Issues Week, I made publicity and attendance at events a major goal. In addition, in the next month I will better establish the Student Service Liaison Committee to address student needs. I am looking into holding some round table discussions and student input sessions that will primarily deal with student concerns. The month of February was one of much planning; the next step will be implementation.
Special Events Commissioner

February 2005 Report

Haley M. Brown

The month of February was dedicated to compilation of events during Spring Family Weekend and further planning of this event. In addition, substantial planning of events for May Term began.

I met with Mike Welsh and Mike Seeborg to review details from last year’s Spring Family Weekend. From these plans we decided to continue with the same arrangements, so plans for the luncheon are set and now only depend on the registration replies we receive. In addition, all events taking place during the weekend were compiled into a pamphlet and taken to printing services for production and to be mailed to families.

Regarding May Term, I met with Darcy Greder, Kevin Clark, Jean Kerr, and Rebekah Zehr. We discussed to May Term calendar, ideas and events each of our respective organizations are planning, etc. The May Term committee held three meetings during the month. We have made a great deal of progress in filling the May Term calendar with events. Events we plan on having include weekend trips to Six Flags-Great America, St. Louis, and Starved Rock, Bash on the Grass, Bingo Night, Second City, and the Mini-Quad-B-Q. Other ideas that we are looking into include Too Much Light Makes the Baby Go Blind, Rock Climbing, Lasertag, Paintball, Carnival Day, Baseball Game on the Quad, Volunteer Day, and Tournaments (Dodgeball, Badminton, Walleyball, etc.) The May Term committee continues to meet regularly and welcomes any suggestions for events during the month of May.
In February Student Senate sponsored the Soul Food Dinner (February 20) with the help of Black Student Union. Thus, nearly all of my attention was necessarily focused on this event and on making sure that everything was in place for a successful dinner. I am happy to report that the Soul Food Dinner went quite well this year. Furthermore, I have begun drafting what I call an “After Action Report” evaluating the success of the Soul Food Dinner. In this report, I will discuss ideas for future dinners as well as obstacles that I faced when planning the event. I hope to create a fair and useful assessment of the event in order to help prepare the next IPC.

I will be presenting my budget for the upcoming school year. Within the budget, I have considered speakers for next year’s Soul Food Dinner. Also, I would like to bring in Operation Truth and Sgt. Matt Eversmann to honor Veterans Day in November. Operation Truth is a non-for profit organization that was started by veterans from Operations Iraqi Freedom and Enduring Freedom. Sgt. Matt Eversmann is currently an ROTC instructor at Johns Hopkins University who fought in the famous Mogadishu battle of Operation Restore Hope as US Army Ranger. You may also identify with his character in Black Hawk Down which was played by Josh Hartnett. This event is still in preliminary planning, but I am hopeful that Operation Truth will be able to visit Illinois Wesleyan University.

As always I am looking for new programming ideas for any current issue or multicultural initiative.