MEETING MINUTES

RESIDENCE HALL ASSOCIATION

General Assembly Meeting #1

Wednesday March 30, 2016

Towers Multi-Purpose Room

CALL TO ORDER: RHA President Darian Reynolds called the meeting to order at 5:05 pm.

ATTENDANCE: Please view the end of the minutes for General Assembly meeting attendance.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Wednesday March 16, 2016

GUEST SPEAKER: Jeff Mallory, Director of Multicultural Affairs

a. Jeff did an Inclusive Excellence workshop with the General Assembly member. Members put different colored beads (each bead corresponded to a different ethnicity) in a cup based off of their roommate, best friend, childhood hero, favorite movie star, or study buddy. Mallory encouraged students to change the colors in their cup, to broaden their friend groups in order to engage in new experiences.

b. He asked the GA members what their “ideal” cup would be. Mr. Mallory said do not feel guilty about not having a diverse cup but be aware of your personal lens.

c. Jeff then had us to an icebreaker activity where we introduced ourselves, said where we were from, and informed everyone of one aspect of ourselves that you could not tell just by looking at us. This allowed us to open up and now we can look at everyone in a more unique, more personal way.

d. He described inclusive excellence as “the integration of diversity and inclusion is adopted into the institutional pursuit of excellence.” (not a special attempt to include in society).
You don’t want to have to go out of your way for a club, organization, job, etc. It should be part of your main routine.

REPORTS:

Executive Officer Reports

President – Darian D. Reynolds

i. Duquesne Involvement Survey

a. Darian announced that an email was sent out 1-2 days ago for Duquesne Involvement. He encouraged students to fill them out in order for Student Life to get feedback on how students are involved, and how they are spending their time.

ii. RHA Thank Tank

a. Darian told GA members each Hall Council was responsible for two hours of tabling for Thank Tank in the lobby of each lobby (will tentatively happen the week of April 10th from 6-8pm). A Doodle Poll will be sent out in order to see which day work best for each Hall.

   i. Assumption Hall stated that Monday April 11th worked best for them.

iii. Spring Into Finals- April 22nd is Tentative Date from 4-10pm

   a. RHA is responsible for Chinese Auction Baskets so we will be reaching out to different campus organizations and surrounding businesses to donate. All benefits will benefit Disabled Veterans. Darian asked Hall Councils to consider which organizations/businesses they would like to ask to donate.

iv. Duquesne Fest- Sunday June 12th from 8am-1:30pm

   a. Darian announced that Duquesne Fest is an event that prospective students attend over the summer to view what Duquesne offers. He has signed up RHA to participate in the event to represent our organization, Residence Life, and the University. This can be used as a recruitment tool as well. He encouraged those that will be in the area to come table with him and the rest of the Executive Board.

Vice President – Eleanor Duong

i. Homeless Children Awareness Event- Wednesday April 6th at 12:30pm
a. Ella explained purpose of protest art is to raise awareness for homeless children.

ii. Spring Clean Up- Saturday April 16th
a. Ella announced that RHA will be putting together a team for the annual Spring Clean Up. All those interested should sign up via the survey that will come in an email. This counts April towards RHA service hours.

iii. “Float On, Flem”- Saturday 9th
a. Ella explained that this event benefits two students who have passed away who were heavily involved in the Duquesne Football program. Proceeds from this event benefits the American Heart Association, the Ryan Fleming Scholarship Fund, and Suicide Prevention.
b. RHA is sponsoring a food table for this event. We will be selling Hot Dogs and Nachos. We need volunteers to run the RHA table. All those interested should sign up via the survey that will come in an email.
c. This counts towards RHA service hours.

Director of Communications – Gabriella Vaccaro

i. Hall Council Transitions
a. Gigi asked Hall Councils to please email in any flyers, posters, or minutes in order to give examples for the Hall Councils next year. These are to help guide them as they are elected into their positions in the upcoming academic year.

ii. Meeting Schedule for rest of semester
a. There will be one more GA meeting on April 13th in order to get updates on Extra Perk/end of the year programming planning. After that, there will be an end of the year dinner celebration. A Doodle Poll will be sent out in order to see what date best fits with everyone’s schedule.

iii. RHA Survey
a. Gigi informed the GA that an RHA survey will be also emailed in order to get feedback from this year (i.e. what worked, what didn’t work, what you would like to
see changed). This is to see how RHA can improve and grow next year, and see how many GA members will be returning.

iv. SWSG Fundraiser

1. Gigi announced there will be a fundraiser for Strong Women Strong Girls at the Red Ring on Friday, April 1st from 4:30-6:30. All proceeds during those two hours will go to support their chapter.

Director of Finance – Adam Moskowitz

i. Finance Committee Update

a. Adam announced that all Extra Perks and programs were approved at the last finance meeting. Most of the halls are doing an Extra Perk program right before finals in order to help get the students prepared and give them support.

ii. DPC Appropriations - April 9th at 10:10am

a. Ella and Gigi will present the RHA proposal on April 9th in order to get funding for Siblings’ Weekend and the Haunted Hayride. These events are expected to be very popular, and finances are needed in order to fund them.

Director of Programming – Aniya Hines

*Aniya was absent at this meeting. Adam completed the Director of Programming report*

i. Sexual Assault Awareness Month

a. Denim Day is April 27th. It is a day to raise awareness for sexual assault and rape
b. Adam explained we will be tabling on A-walk and will need volunteers in order to hand out flyers, buttons, etc.

ii. Haunted Hayride- scheduled for October 13th

a. For this event, RHA will be purchasing three busses to shuttle Duquesne students to Haunted Hills Hayride for the annual Haunted Hayride trip.

iii. Sibling’s Weekend- scheduled for October 21st- 23rd

a. Director of Programming Aniya Hines has been working in conjunction with the Director of Freshman Development Adam Wasilko to make improvements to
Sibling’s Weekend in an effort to get more involvement and awareness prior to the event. 2. We expect 50-100 students and siblings to attend.

Advisor Reports

Advisor – Nicholas DuBos: There were no reports given by the RHA Advisor.

Hall Council Reports

Assumption Hall Council
Raymond announced they are planning the Extra Perk. The program will consist of providing ice cream for residents in order to give them some taste of summer.

Brottier Hall Council
Anna announced their donuts and bingo program was very successful. Their Extra Perk has not been set in stone.

Des Places Hall Council
No members from this Hall Council were present in today’s meeting.

Duquesne Towers Hall Council
Ella announced they are having a cookout and Extra Perk coming up. The Extra Perk program will be a breakfast during finals time.

St. Ann Hall Council
Joy announced St. Ann’s is having a carnival on Saturday with games, prizes, and pizza. Their Extra Perk will consist of handing out Rita’s Italian ice in order to help with the stress of finals.

St. Martin Hall Council
Eric announced their Extra Perk, which will be the “Bunny Olympics.” The St. Martin Hall Council is currently figuring out logistics for slip n slid, water balloons, etc.

Vickroy Hall Council
Erica said rather than midnight coffee bar, they will have a breakfast for the residents. She also included that the AC is not working in some Vickroy rooms due to possibly the cooler weather. Erica also announced there are issues with the elevator, however she is discussing the problem with RD of Vickroy today (3/30/16).
OPEN FORUM: There were no talking points for open forum.

REMINDEERS: There were no reminders for this meeting.

ADJOURNMENT: RHA President Darian Reynolds closed the meeting at 6:05 pm.

ATTENDANCE: All members present for this meeting are recorded below.

Executive Board – Darian Reynolds, Eleanor Duong, Gabriella Vaccaro, Adam Moskowitz

Advisor – Nicholas DuBos

Guests – Jeff Mallory

Assumption Hall Council – Timothy Foye, Raymond Arke, Andrew Dougher, Samantha Smith

Brottier Hall Council – Jamal Habboushi, Anna Crotty

Des Places Hall Council – No members were present from this Residence Hall Council.

Duquesne Towers Hall Council – Sarah Gethers, Zachary Neal

St. Ann Hall Council – Joy Williams

St. Martin Hall Council – Alexa Russell, Katie Hudson, Keely Ann Sinni, Eric Chatterjee

Vickroy Hall Council – Zachary DeJames, Erica Judka

These meeting minutes have been approved to be published by:

[Signature]  [Position]  [Date of Approval]