

SPO Minutes
2 September 2003

Meeting called to order at 5:35 pm

OFFICERS PRESENT

Amy Crowther, Heather Jankowski, Jill Baty, Suzanne Vig, Natalie Downs, Rohit Negi, Rob Antequino

OFFICERS ABSENT

Matt Voelker, Nate Allen, Lauren Kerestes

I. OLD BUSINESS (none)

II. NEW BUSINESS

a. ELECTION

Due to the resignation of SPO president Genevieve Borich, an election must be held. The elected person will serve for the current semester only (Fall 2003). SPO is currently seeking nominations, which should be submitted to Vice-president Amy Crowther via email at crowther@uiuc.edu.

b. STUDENT ORIENTATION PACKETS

A letter included in graduate student orientation packets announcing a fall picnic is wrong. SPO as a whole was not planning a picnic. The notice should be disregarded. A fall picnic may be in the works for Homecoming weekend (September 26-28th)

c. INTRODUCTIONS (all officers)

Officers and members introduced themselves. Events and programs sponsored by SPO were introduced and explained for new members.

These included:

- **BROWN BAG LUNCH SERIES**
- **MEMBERSHIP DUES/PIZZA FEES**
 - \$5 per semester
 - Will now be enforced

- FALL PICNIC
 - possibly Homecoming Weekend
- HAPPY HOURS
 - Thursdays at 9pm at designated location
(emails/announcements to be sent prior to each event)
 - A suggestion was made to begin at an earlier hour
- FUNDRAISER
 - New ideas are welcome/encouraged.

d. ROAD TRIP (Natalie Downs)

Votes are now being tallied for the Fall 2003 road trip destination. Possible cities are listed in the current (preliminary) edition of UPWords. Currently Memphis, Tennessee is the top pick. A spring road trip is not expected, due to SPO's focus on the National APA conference in April.

e. UPWORDS (Rohit Negi)

Editor Rohit Negi explained UPWords for new members. One publication is expected per semester. An introductory copy was recently produced and made available to students. Editors now accepting contributions (articles, poetry, etc)

f. OPEN FLOOR

i. FUNDING REQUEST: PPS workshop in
New York City

DURP graduate student Chisaki Muraki is interested in attending this workshop and is seeking funding assistance through SPO for SORF money. Anyone interested is welcome to attend. Registration fee is \$200 for students (regularly \$375). Treasurer Matt Voelker and/or SORF should be consulted for further information. Interested parties may be able to apply to SORF as individuals; this should be investigated further.

Meeting concluded.

Minutes Prepared by Heather Jankowski, Secretary

SPO Meeting Minutes
30 September 2003

Meeting began at 5:30 pm

Nate Allen submitted his resignation as APA representative prior to the meeting.

Lauren Kerestes was absent from the meeting.

All other officers were present.

Nick Karcz, newly-elected president, led the meeting with Amy Crowther, VP.

I. OLD BUSINESS

a. Fall Road Trip: Memphis, TN

- Natalie Downs gave members an update on plans for the upcoming roadtrip (to take place next weekend)
- Planning firms are unavailable to meet with students; participants are on their own for checking out the downtown revitalization.
- Lisa Marie Presley will be in Graceland.
- Stories and pictures about the trip will be published in UPWords.

b. Bar Crawl

- No progress has been made on the planning of this social event; a date still needs to be set.

c. Fall Picnic

- Will be deli-style (because BBQ is too expensive, etc)
- Attendees are asked to bring a dish; sign-up sheet at the meeting

d. SPO T-Shirt Design Contest

- Jill Baty posted signs announcing the contest.
- A \$10 gift certificate to Za's Pizza will be awarded to the contest winner
- Contest forms are available in the TBH mail room.
- Submissions may also be emailed to Jill (baty@uiuc.edu)

e. Curriculum Revamping Issue

- A task force of SPO members will be assembled
- Seniors, first years, and second-year grad students are invited to participate.
- Sign-up sheet available at the meeting, or contact Amy Crowther

II. NEW BUSINESS

a. ARUPLA Open House

- Event to take place in mid-March
- Usually pretty crappy, but volunteers get free t-shirts.
- 12 architecture organizations, a Landscape Architecture organization, and SPO are involved with planning and hosting the event.
- Volunteers are needed
- Ideas on how to make the event more interesting are encouraged!

b. Upper Midwest Planning Conference

- October 23rd-24th in Madison, WI

SPO Meeting Minutes
30 September 2003

- Rob Antequino and Nick Karcz are interested in assembling a group of people to attend. See either for more information.

- c. UPWords
 - Rohit Negi, editor is seeking submissions from students.
 - All forms of expression are encouraged: articles, poems, photographs, etc.
 - Submissions should be made to either Rohit or Natalie Downs within 2 weeks.

- d. Presentation by Mikhail
 - Seeking to help students at the master list of grad student email addresses into their CITES address book.
 - Interested students should contact him after the meeting and he will instruct how to add this to your CITES account
 - Some students expressed concern over how this will be used; not intended to encourage mass emails. Students abusing the use of the list will likely get in trouble by the department.

- e. Sustainable Design Reading/Discussion Group
 - Grad students Tim Green and Chisaki Muraki are starting a reading/discussion group, in conjunction with the Landscape Architecture department, to discuss issues related to sustainable design and development.
 - They would like the group to meet every 2 to 3 weeks to discuss selected reading material.
 - Funding may be available (??)
 - David Hays, Landscape Architecture professor, may guide the group in the selection of readings.
 - The discussions will possibly begin at the end of October.
 - Spread the word and stay posted for more information!

Dues were collected at the meeting and pizza was served (see log under Budget info).
Meeting concluded at 6:00 pm

Compiled by Heather Jankowski, Secretary

SPO Minutes
28 October 2003

Meeting called to order at 5:45 pm

Pizza ordered from Papa John's arrived nearly a ½ hour late.

OFFICERS PRESENT (all)

Amy Crowther, Lauren Kerestes, Suzanne Vig, Jill Baty, Natalie Downs, Rohit Negi, Heather Jankowski, Matt Voelker, Rob Antequino

OFFICERS ABSENT (none)

I. OLD BUSINESS

a. T-SHIRTS

A sign-up sheet was passed around at the meeting. The DURP POWER design was the winner. Shirts will be green with the design on the front. Each will be \$12.00 and will be ordered soon.

b. UPWORDS

Articles and other submissions must be emailed to Natalie or Rohit by Friday, October 31st

c. CURRICULUM

Amy Crowther and Marisa are involved with the DURP's curriculum revision discussions. They are not involved officially as members of SPO. Students still interested in giving their feedback should contact wither Amy or Marisa. The Department is in the process of rewriting the curriculum requirements for the first year of the graduate program. Changes are expected to go into effect next fall.

II. NEW BUSINESS

a. APA UPDATE

The upcoming meeting in Decatur, IL is free for students and community planners. Students are encouraged to attend. Interested parties should contact Lauren Kerestes, APA rep, for more information about the conference and carpooling/transportation options.

b. ELECTIONS

Nick Karcz, newly elected SPO president resigned earlier today. Due to this unforeseen circumstance, elections for all new officers will be held one month early this year. Nominations for all officer positions will be taken at the next full SPO meeting on Tuesday, November 4th.

Meeting concluded at 5:55 PM.

Minutes Prepared by Heather Jankowski, Secretary

SPO Minutes
11 November 2003

Meeting began at 5:15 pm

OFFICERS PRESENT (all)

Amy Crowther, Suzanne Vig, Natalie Downs, Rohit Negi, Matt Voelker. Heather Jankowski, Jill Baty, and Rob Antequino arrived late.

OFFICERS ABSENT

Lauren Kerestes

I. NEW BUSINESS

a. CIVITAS: PRESENTATION BY PROF. EMILY TALEN

- Emily Talen spoke to students about Civitas, a new community design center at 112 W. Main in Urbana that connects planning students with the community to promote good urbanism.
- A variety of opportunities exist for students involvement:
 - Independent Study: See Prof. Talen next semester
 - Group efforts can also be promoted through the design center.
- Students are encouraged to get involved and to use the space provided. to display/publicize projects and to conduct community meetings.
- The aim is to generate a student interest in the community.
- Possible student projects could include:
 - West Urbana Neighborhood Association: Tension with university and parking
 - Carle Hospital Neighborhood: Crime, possible solutions
 - Capstone Course: Redesign of Lincoln Square Mall
 - Anything promoting urbanism or dealing with planning issues
 - Promoting diversity, small scale projects... etc.
- Students are free to use the space, provided their projects are related to the overall goals (good urbanism) of the center.
- Interested parties should email Emily Talen to coordinate use of the space.

- Civitas will be having a gala event Tuesday, December 9th at 7 pm.
 - All students are welcome
 - Ahmed will be presenting his project for the redesign of Lincoln Square Mall.

b. ESLARP ANNOUNCEMENT

- There will be a work weekend this weekend (November 15-16).
- Students are encouraged to attend and get involved in the ESLARP Program.

c. BAR CRAWL

- SPO's Fall 2003 Bar Crawl was rescheduled for Thursday, November 13th (this week!).
- The bar schedule was read at the meeting. Students should expect an email with the finalized version → it changed! (nobody wanted to go to CO's).
- There is no official uniform for the Bar Crawl. Some may be wearing new DURP shirts (see item g below)... Others will be wearing flashy pants.

- REVISED SCHEDULE:

9:00 KAM'S

9:45 ILLINI INN

10:30 JOE'S

11:15 LEGENDS

12:00 MURPHY'S

12:45 BROTHER'S

d. READING GROUP: TIM GREEN & CHISAKI MURAKI

- The group would like to read pieces from a variety of different viewpoints and to discuss them in an informal setting.
- Tim and Chisaki are open to changes and contributions/suggestions from people interested in participating.

- Papers will be with Glenda Fischer in the office.
- The first meeting will be during the evening of Thursday, December 4th, 2003.
- A potluck dinner sort of meeting was mentioned as a possibility.
- Some faculty members have expressed an interest in participating, too.

e. CURRICULUM

- Fifteen students met with faculty, then reconvened later.
- Eight core courses will collapse into six one-unit courses.
- Surveys will be sent out to graduate students for input.
- All feedback is very important.
- Faculty are interested in the student response and want to make changes with this input taken into consideration.
- Stay tuned for a series of emails from Marisa.
- Instructions are on the survey; they should be turned in to Veronica Gonzalez's mailbox.

f. NOMINATIONS FOR NEW OFFICERS!!

A list of candidates nominated at the meeting (as of 11/12/03) include:

PRESIDENT

Tim Green, Grad I

VICE PRESIDENT

Morgan Johnston, Grad I

Donovan Finn, Grad II

TREASURER/SECRETARY

Jason Brody, PhD student

APA REP

Andrew Murray, Grad I

Jason Zawila, Grad I

GRAD REP

Liz Thorstensen, Grad I

UNDERGRAD REP

Kim Jurs, Freshman

WEB CHAIR

Todd Bendor, PhD student

UPWORDS EDITORS (2)

Matt Savoie, Grad I

Divya Chandrasekhar, Grad I

- Elections will be held on Tuesday, December 2nd, 2003
- More information about the responsibilities of each position may be found at the SPO website (www.urban.uiuc.edu/SPO/constitution.html)
- Additional nominations may be submitted to Heather Jankowski, secretary (HeatherMJ924@hotmail.com)

g. T-SHIRTS

The order is expected to be ready by Thursday, November 13th. Students who ordered a shirt can pick up/pay at the DURP office.

Meeting concluded at 6:30 PM.

Minutes Prepared by Heather Jankowski, Secretary