Community Relations Committee 2011-2012

AF= Aaron Flaster GW= George Williams

AM= Andrew McCarthy MM= Melia Manter

GO= Ginny O'Brien ER= Erica Terpening-Romeo

LC= Lex Corwin CC= Claire Cushing

KN= Kara Nelson DL= Daniel Leavenworth

NM= Neil Murray

October 5th, 2011

This was our first meeting of the year. We met at the couches outside of the ASLC offices and all CRC members were present. We introduced ourselves and AF gave a brief overview of CRC: available funding, goals, past projects, future projects, and mission. We set a normal meeting time for Wednesday at 4:00 pm.

October 19th

We met to prepare for the Trick or Treat event that CRC is hosting. Children of staff, faculty, neighborhood residents, and the Boys & Girls Club trick or treat through some of the residence halls at Lewis & Clark. AF gave an overview of the event and asked the following questions: who can pick up candy from Fred Meyers; what would be the best way for students to sign up for the event; and how can Resident Advisors become involved. GO and GW offered to purchase candy from Fred Meyer (they were later reimbursed by Jason Feiner). KN is a Resident Advisor and offered to send out an email to the RA listserv describing the event and asking other Resident Advisors to get involved. KN also offered to decorate her hall and advertise the event in Copeland. AF split the rest of the committee members into pairs and assigned each pair a residence hall. The CRC members were responsible for getting students to sign up and advertising the event in that dormitory.

November 11th, 2011

This was our first grant hearing. Julia Huggins applied for a grant from CRC to bring mycologist Paul Stamets to campus. She had already secured most of the funding from other groups on campus, but she was a few hundred dollars short. AF gave an overview of the grant and asked if CRC members had any questions. The application was approved.

After the grant, AF asked about events in Portland that CRC could subsidize for Lewis & Clark students. LC suggested the Japanese gardens and KN suggested theatrical performances.

November 23rd, 2011

This was our second grant hearing. Dale Forrister applied for a grant to fund the 3CE Alternative Spring Break trip to El Salvador. Dale gave a short 5-10 minute presentation that described the program structure, mission, goals, and budget. After the presentation, AF asked how the LC students on the trip would integrate with this community in El Salvador because the trip is only a week long. Dale explained that the trip has an emphasis on relationships—LC students are not visiting this community to build a well and leave. The purpose is to engage in a cultural exchange and learn about the history of this community. The students will be immersed in the community because they will be staying with host families. GW asked what other funding sources Dale had acquired. Dale responded that 3CE was providing a grant for the trip and he had also applied to the Finance Committee. LC asked how the trip will affect the Lewis & Clark Community and what the participants will do to share their experience with other students. Dale said that the trip participants will be making a video during their time in El Salvador and will give a presentation open to the student body upon their return. The grant was approved.

December 5th, 2011

This was our third grant hearing. Marissa Seller, Daniela Ragan, and Andrew presented a grant for a senior art project. The project would be displayed in the Hoffman Gallery and Templeton Student Center. It would also be featured as part of the Gender Studies Symposium. The art project uses lights, a sculpture, and wire as an abstract expression of issues related to gender. AF asked whether they had reserved all of the necessary spaces and how they would transport the project. Daniela said that they had reserved the spaces and the project can be transported by breaking it down into pieces. CC asked how the event would be advertised. Marissa said that the art would be advertised as part of the Gender Studies Symposium and they would put up posters in addition. This grant was approved.

Marissa then presented a different grant without Daniela and Andrew. She is trying to organize a concert on campus. The artists are a local group of feminists that would be playing about issues related to gender, equality, and identity. Marissa explained what she had prepared and what still needed funding. She was able to bargain a cheap price for the artists, but she had not acquired sufficient funding for materials such as speakers and overtime pay for Campus Security. AF asked where on campus she wanted to host the event and where else she had applied for funding. Marissa said that the event would either be in Stamm or behind the Manor House, weather dependent. LC expressed his concern that the cost of sound equipment would be much more than Marissa anticipated. LC is also planning a concert and he described some of the prices he found while researching the project. This grant was approved for partial funding.

LC then presented a grant. He is organizing the "Lewis & Clark Dance Extravaganza". LC described what he had researched thus far (prices, liability, etc.). He is working closely with Jason Feiner and applying for additional funding from CAB and Finance Committee. He described the budget and his plan for keeping the event safe and sober. AF asked whether the event would be open to the public and how he would prevent students from entering with illicit substances. LC responded that the event would only be open to Lewis & Clark students and Campus Safety would be checking wristbands and bags at the door to make sure students were sober. GW asked about the sound system prices that LC cited in the proposal. LC acknowledged that the prices were much higher than he had expected, but after extensive research, these were the best he could find. This grant was approved.

January 18th, 2012

Sarra Wynn and Alison Dubchansky presented a grant for the 3CE Alternative Spring Break trip to New Orleans. The trip will have ten to twelve participants and they will be engaging in various types of service learning. The participants will learn about how race relations have affected the rebuilding process after the Hurricane. They will also collaborate with community centers in the Lower 9th ward to assist with rebuilding efforts. AF asked where the participants will be staying and how they plan to share this experience with other students at Lewis & Clark. Alison responded that the participants will stay at one of the community centers, which will provide room and board. Upon their return to Lewis & Clark, the trip participants will give a presentation to any other interested students. GO asked what would happen if CRC was not able to fully fund the grant. Alison replied that they would try to secure the funding from another source but because they have already applied to an array of groups on campus, it would be difficult to find another funding source. This grant was approved.

January 25th, 2012

Temesghen Habte presented a grant to visit an Ethnic Studies conference in New York City. He learned about the conference through is participation in the Ray Warren Multicultural Affairs symposium at Lewis & Clark. The conference is free, but Temesghen needed to secure funding for transportation. LC's family lives in New York City, so he suggested that Temesghen stay at his house for free. Temesghen was very appreciative, but mentioned that he was already staying with a friend. This grant was approved.

January 30th, 2012

Sam Ashman and Drew Lenihan presented a grant for the 3CE Alternative Spring Break to Cuba. This is the first alternative break trip that has ever gone to Cuba. The participants will be using art a medium to discuss and learn about the political relations between the U.S. and Cuba. Lewis & Clark students will be collaborating with Cuban artists at a non-profit organization and painting a large mural to express certain political views. The Lewis & Clark students will stay with the host families of Lewis & Clark students that are currently studying abroad in Cuba for

the semester. Professor Elliot Young will chaperone the trip because he has led the Lewis & Clark study abroad trip in Cuba. AF asked how Cubans might receive the mural. Would Cubans support the mural, or would it conflict with popular political views? Sam replied that the Cuban non-profit has been organizing this event for months now and has the support of various Cuban artists. AF then asked about the safety of the participants and whether they would be allowed to go out to bars in the evening. Sam and Drew replied that the participants could go out in the evening because the drinking age is eighteen, but that Sam, Drew, and Elliot would ensure that the participants did not violate any laws. DL expressed his support for the grant and asked how the participants would share their experience with the Lewis & Clark community after the trip. Sam replied that they will be making a video during their time in Cuba to share with the Cuban non-profit and the Lewis & Clark community. This grant was approved.

February 1st, 2012

Now that CRC has given away all of its grant money, we are starting to focus more on on-campus projects. There are a number of ideas that have arisen over the last few months: installing new art in Fields Dining Hall; researching the possibility of bringing back the Sellwood Shuttle; installing more food sources in Copeland; creating a monthly list of events in Portland that CRC could subsidize; the NYT Crossword Puzzle; researching the possibility of creating a bar on campus. AF then asked which projects the other CRC member would like to take on. KN volunteered to research food options for Copeland because she is an RA there. DL and AM volunteered to organize the NYT Crossword Puzzle Contest. GW and MM volunteered to create a calendar of events in Portland. GO offered to research the Sellwood Shuttle. LC volunteered to research the possibility of installing a bar on campus. ER and CC volunteered to install new art in Fields Dining Hall.

February 13th, 2012

ER, LC, CC, AF, GO, and AM met in Fields Dining Hall to install new student art. The portraits are from Professor Debra Beer's drawing class. We put up nine portraits throughout the dining hall and it took approximately one hour.

February 15th, 2012

CRC met with the Co-op coordinators today to discuss how CRC and the Co-op can better collaborate. AF gave a brief overview of CRC and suggested that the Co-op apply for funding from CRC in the fall to purchase new furniture and other necessary amenities. AF also described some of the projects that CRC is working on this semester (subsidizing tickets, researching the possibility of a bar on campus) and welcomed any suggestions from the Co-op coordinators. The Co-op coordinators discussed some of their plans to expand the menu at the Co-op and ensure that students use the Co-op.

February 22nd, 2012

The CRC meeting was cancelled and instead, CRC members were attended Common Hour. Future Dean of Students Anna Gonzalez was visiting Common Hour to meet students. There was a large turnout at this Common Hour because of the recent decision to deny Professor Reiko Hillyer a tenure track teaching position. A number of students wanted to ask Anna about her thoughts on the issue and how she would respond to this student uproar if all of this had happened when she was dean. Anna explained that she would foster discussions between students, staff, and faculty, and ensure that no one violated the confidentiality agreements during the hiring process.

March 7th, 2012

At this meeting, CRC members discussed the Friends in Fields program. Friends in Fields allows students to bring any staff or faculty member to Fields Dining Hall or the Trail Room for free. AF recently printed several large posters to advertise the event and asked the other CRC members when they could table outside the Bon to distribute these cards.

March 21st, 2012

Only DL, LC, AM and KN attended this CRC meeting. We discussed a number of issues on campus, ranging from faculty evaluations to the recent events with Professor Reiko Hillyer. AM voiced his concern that faculty evaluations are insufficient to provide a thorough overview of the class and professor. AM also expressed his concern that students do not take the evaluations seriously enough; most students scribble something in the comment box rather than providing thoughtful feedback. AF mentioned that he shares AM's concerns, but thinks that such a project lies outside the purview of CRC. The conversation then shifted to the issue of tenure and how tenure is awarded. We discussed the history of the tenure system and why tenure exists. We also shared our thoughts about Dean Jordan's decision not to give Professor Reiko Hillyer the tenure track position. Joel Schooler, a first year Lewis & Clark student, also participated in the discussion.

April 18^{th,} 2012

This was our last CRC meeting. The leaders from the 3CE Alternative Spring Break Trips each gave a ten minute presentation about their trips. Every trip leader had very positive things to say—the participants really enjoyed the trip, they collaborated well, and everyone returned safely. After these short presentations, the 3CE trip leaders left the meeting and AF distributed CRC evaluations to the committee members and after a brief thank you, excused himself from the room.