Wentworth Student Government
September 15, 2011
Admissions Conference Room, Williston Hall 113

OUR MISSION:
The purpose of WSG is to act as a conduit between the students, faculty, and staff at Wentworth Institute of Technology; to encourage responsibility through democratic self-governance; to work with the administration to influence educational programs, student life, and administrative management of the Institute; and to further the interests of the student body.

I. Welcome to a new year of WSG!

II. Members In Attendance:
   a. Nicholas Torres, CT Hannon, Jesus Rivera, Joe Kobrianos, Brian Conway, Vittoria Petrillo, Taylor Rosenblum, Austin Chaffee, Susan Needleman, Leslie de Leon, Brendan Ciotto, Viana Reyes, Nicholas Cole, Corrinne O’Neil, Anette Balestrand, Jonathan Lindblad, Samuel Kim

III. E- board updates
   a. President – Anette Balestrand
      i. Meeting location
         1. Currently WSG is holding their weekly meetings in Williston 113, but the room seems too small for the anticipated number of members that we are expecting to join this year. Another option would be 4th floor in the residence hall; 610. Look out for an email confirming the new location.
      ii. T-shirts
         1. WSG has run out of last year’s T-Shirts. This year we plan on having a contest within the FYS (First Year Seminar) classes. Students will be given a template and the allowed colors to design the new WSG T-shirt. The student whose design we choose will win a $100 gift card, and perhaps their name printed on the shirt. This contest will get our name out there to the freshman who may not know anything about student governments, and it is a good way to include the campus in our endeavors.
      iii. CLP representative
         1. CLP is the Center for Community & Learning Partnerships. WSG plans on closely working with the CLP this year to get all members more involved in the community. Ideally WSG would like to have at least one community service project a semester, maybe more! In order to meet this goal WSG would need a CLP representative to work directly with CLP to help set up these community service events. If you or someone you know is interested in this position, it would be greatly appreciated if you let us know at the next meeting or email:
            wsg@wit.edu.
      iv. Charity event
         1. The charity event is finally here! We will be fundraising for the Jimmy Fund by setting up Penny Wars across campus. Penny Wars is a competition (probably between departments) in which each team tries to get the most pennies. Dollars, quarters, dimes, and nickels all take points away from the team’s total. This completion has been successful in the past but the only problem with it would be students rarely carry around change. SLP has a Fenway Cash machine which could be used, or even a coin machine. The main even would be at the end of the week during Alumni and Family weekend, so there will be chances for everyone to donate.
   b. Vice President – Nicholas Cole
i. No updates at the moment but Nick would like everyone to know that his main focus for the year is accountability in the officers as well as the general members. A monthly report may be put in effect soon for the E-Board and committee heads, more information to come.

c. Secretary – Cori O’Neil
i. Cori will be taking unofficial attendance for the first few meetings, once a member reaches three meetings in attendance they will be added to the official WSG roster. If you are expecting to miss a meeting please email wsg@wit.edu to be considered for an excused absence.

d. Treasurer – Viana Reyes
i. Budget Update - The budget from last year does not get transferred over to this year, but we ended up spending last year’s budget on WOW week gifts and a projector for the second floor of 555.

e. Public Relations – Nick Torres
i. Nick has worked a lot with the WSG website and updating WSG’s public image. There is now a section on the WSG website; the WSG Accomplishments section, which needs more entries, so if you have any ideas let Nick T. know at: torresn1@wit.edu. Also, don’t forget to register on OrgSync and sign up for WSG, this site is a good way of connecting all the different clubs and organizations on campus.

f. Student Affairs (non-academic) – Brendan Cioto
i. Brenan has no updates at the moment but will be meeting with Annamaria Wenner soon. Brendan will bring any kind of issue that students may have with Wentworth’s community and he discusses them with Annamaria to find possible solutions to the problems. If you or anyone you know have an issue to bring to Annamaria let Brendan know at: ciotob@wit.edu.

ii. Susan would like Brendan to bring up the issue of the dangerous fire alarms and lack thereof in Beatty to Annamaria the next time he meets with her.

g. Academic Affairs – TJ Liveston
i. TJ was not present at this week’s meeting but if you or anyone you know have academic issues that you would like to bring to the provost please let TJ know at: livestont@wit.edu.

IV. Representatives Updates

a. ISAC – Cori
i. No updates at the moment, but Cori will find out when the first meeting is as soon as she can.

b. ATAC (Academic Technology Advisory Committee)
 i. A student representative is needed for this committee, if you are interested in this position, please bring it up in the next meeting or email: wsg@wit.edu.

c. Laptop Committee - Nick C.
 i. No updates at the moment.

d. Commuter – Susan
 i. There is now a new faculty position at Wentworth, the Coordinator of Commuter Student Programs; Mallory Pernaa. She will work closely with Susan throughout the year, and the minutes of their last meeting will be sent out as soon as possible. Let your commuter friends know that 555 lobby has been converted to the temporary commuters lounge with pool and plenty of seating.

e. CTL – Susan
 i. CLT is now the learning center (LC). The LC is located on the 4th floor of Beatty and any Wentworth student may visit the center for any tutoring or academic assistance needed.

g. COF – CT
i. No updates at the moment. The COF is a great place for the six Colleges Of the Fenway to get together and share ideas and resources. (The COF block party was the reason for so many of the absences this week!)

g. Clubs Sports – Spencer
   i. No updates at the moment.

V. Old Business
VI. Time with Carissa (durfeec@wit.edu)
   a. Carissa Durfee is the Director of student Leadership Programs and the WSG advisor. She says that Wentworth will be going through accreditation soon, around mid-October. Accreditation is a way of keeping colleges up to date and well rounded, it happens every five years. The last accreditation Wentworth had, the student government was hardly in existence. Now five years later WSG has grown and become very sufficient student government and organization.
   b. Carissa thinks WSG should have a DTS representative working closely with DTS, a good option for the rep would be Susan, who already works with and knows most of the DTS faculty.

VII. New Business
   a. Anette believes that a member of WSG should also have a student representative position on the Board of Trustees. The Board of Trustees deal with various issues and topics around campus, including residential issues and our tuition. Having a student voice on the Board will be extremely useful and help the student body have a say in what happens on campus, the students are the ones who will be affected so we should have a voice on this committee. One idea is that in the future there will be an elected E-Board member as WSG’s Student Trustee, who will be the student representative on the Board of Trustees for the year that they were elected.
   b. Jesus Brought up the issue of the Add/Drop date being too soon for those who are switching majors. Can the Add/Drop date be extended one extra week? Students need time to see if they want to stay in the class or switch out. If the add/drop time cannot be extended for everyone, can there be exceptions for those who need to completely change their schedule for switching majors or any other reason.
   c. Email System Updates
      i. Horrible transitions with the emails
      ii. New email system is not compatible with all cell phones and devices, like what was promised. This conversation/issue will be tabled until the next meeting.
   d. Simmons swim pass
      i. There was not enough interest in the passes last year so it is no longer cost effective to buy the passes. There is a pool in the local hotels as well as the YMCA.

VIII. Questions, comments, suggestions?
IX. Adjournment

Your Voice, Our Mission ...