SAAC Minutes 4/15/15

I. Elections

**President**

*Emily Gifford-Smith:* Hello everyone. For those of you who don’t know me, my name is Emily Gifford-Smith, I am a junior on the soccer team, and I would like to be considered for the position of SAAC President. I believe I am qualified to take on the role of President because I am highly motivated, very organized, and have a great deal of leadership experience. Most importantly, I am fully committed to working on behalf of all of the members of the student-athlete community.

During my time at Bryn Mawr, I have been involved in a wide variety of activities and events within the athletics department. Over time, I have moved from simply participating in events like the Free to Breathe 5k, Special Olympics, and Relay for Life, to taking on leadership roles in many different areas of SAAC. Specifically, I organized and led Rally, stepped into the role of team representative, promoted the Pink Games, and became the point person for the Community Service Committee.

As President, I hope to continue the athletic department’s volunteer efforts, particularly those that allow us to reach out to and become more integrated into the larger community. Additionally, I hope to continue to use and develop the role of the specific committees within SAAC so that we can work together to increase the positive impact and engagement of the athletics department on campus.

**Vice President**

*Sam Heyrich:* I, Sam Heyrich, am running for the position of SAAC Vice President and believe that I am a qualified candidate who possesses the necessary skills to serve as VP. I currently serve as a representative for the Field Hockey team and am a member of the community service committee. The main responsibility of Vice President is organizing the end of the academic year Athletics Banquet. Through out this year, I have planned and organized a variety of events inside and outside of the athletics community, including Field Hockey’s Fourth Annual Dodgeball Tournament, National Girls and Women’s Day in Sport, Bring Your Child to Work Day (postponed to the Fall 2015 semester), Winter Formal, a campus wide discussion on Alcohol and Party Safety and the Campus Center Halloween Party. These experiences have granted me the opportunity to further develop my organizational, communication and event planning skills. I am confident that these events in conjunction with my communication, organizational and event planning skills have prepared me to plan future successful events, such as the Athletics Banquet. I believe that my experience in planning large-scale events, and commitment to the Athletics community makes me the most qualified candidate for Vice President of SAAC.

*Allie Nagelski:* I am running for SAAC Vice President for the second year. As the only returning candidate from this year's executive board, I believe that I bring a cohesive understanding of the processes and procedures under which the SAAC Executive Board operates. Additionally, I have experienced first hand difficult situations that we have encountered as an executive board this year, and have been directly involved in providing feedback and insight into such departmental and campus-wide issues. If elected, I will serve to not only fulfill the duties as vice president with the athletic banquet, but to serve as a resource, an enthusiastic idea contributor and an ardent supporter of Bryn Mawr athletics for the SAAC board and the committee. I have new ideas moving forward for next year, in respect to the banquet and to the organization of the committee, such as developing a more effective form of communication between the currently established sub-committees, their heads, the board and the athletic department in addition to establishing a more permanent and accessible system of documentation for event planning, along with a few other ideas.
   I want to continue being a part of SAAC because I believe in the purpose of SAAC and I am passionate about improving the student-athlete experience and image on campus. The banquet is one of my favorite athletic events because it exists to unify the entire athletic community here at Bryn Mawr and to celebrate our collective achievements over the past year. It brings together great speakers, fantastic athletes, inspiring coaches and supporters, quality conversations, tremendous seasons, honorable awards and delicious food. When planning the banquet this year, I put a lot of effort into making it one of the best ones yet, and I hope to continue this with next year's banquet if I am elected as SAAC Vice President for this upcoming year. Thank you for your time!

Promote communication between athletics
administration and student-athletes
• Disseminate information
• Generate a student-athlete voice within the campus
athletics department during its formulation of policies
• Build a sense of community within the athletics
program involving all athletics teams
• Solicit student-athlete responses to proposed
conference and NCAA legislation
• Organize community service efforts
• Create a vehicle for student-athlete representation on
campus-wide committees (e.g., student government)
• Promote a positive student-athlete image on campus

**Secretary**

*Diana Kelley:* Hello everyone, my name is Diana Kelley and I am running for the position of SAAC secretary 2015-2016. I am a current sophomore on the lacrosse team, SAAC representative, and an International Studies major. I think that the position of secretary calls for a level of responsibility and commitment that my experiences here at Bryn Mawr have prepared me for. As a camp counselor and a TA I have learned the importance of organization, teamwork, and patience, all skills that directly align with the position of secretary.  In addition, my familiarity with SAAC as a current representative has prepared me for the responsibilities associated with being a board member. I look forward to serving as secretary next year and performing my duties of taking minutes at each meeting, updating the blogs and Facebook pages, and continuing to make SAAC a stronger presence on Bryn Mawr’s campus.

**Treasurer**

*Ji Yoon Ahn:* Hi everyone!

My name is Ji Yoon, currently a sophomore and I’m part of the rowing and basketball teams. And I would like to run for treasurer of SAAC.

For the past year, it’s been very exciting to see SAAC become an even more integral part of the Bryn Mawr community. Even within the SAAC meetings, the division of different committees seemed to be a success in delegation and has been such a fun environment to be part of. I think serving as a rep for the past two years helped me really see the progress we have made and how much of an impact we can have as student athletes in our community outside of the Athletics. As a treasurer, I would like to help plan the budget and also be open to suggestions of how SAAC can improve even more. The past year, I served as a treasurer for Zami and from that experience, I really learned how to plan budgets and realized how much help we can get as students if we really ask for it. And I believe that as we have more impact in our community, we can get even more support within our community. Thank you for your time and I hope we can have a great group of SAAC leaders in the following year.

**Public Relations**

*Caroline Cosby:* I would make an excellent head of public relations for SAAC because of my enthusiasm for the athletic department and my past experiences as volleyball representative to the council. I try to attend as many matches and events as possible and am constantly encouraging others to come as well, so it would not be a challenge for me to spread awareness to and beyond the larger athletic community. Whether there is an upcoming game, fundraiser or other team event that the department should be aware of, I am eager and capable of spreading the word across campus both electronically through SAAC’s various social media platforms, and by publishing the bi-weekly stalls illustrated. I am also eager to continue all of the hard work Holly has put into Owls Fight for a cure. As a SAAC representative for the past two years, I have previous experience in publicizing different events through tabling and making flyers. This year I organized and planned Bryn Mawr’s participation in the Eastern Pennsylvania polar plunge, which benefitted our community partner, Special Olympics. As a member of the community service committee, I have also helped plan and execute different recurring events including Owls Fight for a Cure games and weekly Rally sessions.

*Veronica Roux:* Hello everyone, for those of you who don’t know me, my name is Veronica Roux, I am a junior on the soccer and basketball team and I would like to run for Public Relations Officer. Throughout my past three years at Bryn Mawr I have been actively involved is SAAC. Every year I have had a position as team representative and made sure not only to bring information back to my team for what was happening within SAAC, but also made sure their voices were heard.

 I feel I am the most qualified candidate to run for Public Relations Officer, not only due to my past commitments to SAAC, but also because of the amount I have contributed and the events I’ve helped to spearhead in the past. I have helped to organize numerous volunteering events including Rally, which helps to get Bryn Mawr Athletics into the greater community, along with helping to organizing numerous pink games within the athletic department. Additionally I have helped to organize and run SAAC’s Instagram and Twitter. I have a constant commitment to not only improving and making SAAC more visible across campus, but also increasing the visibility of the whole athletic department to the wider Bryn Mawr community.

 I have been a constant and committed member of SAAC since my freshman year. I have jumped at every opportunity to work on a volunteer project, or table for athletic events. I would now like to take my commitment a step further and become part of the executive board. Those of you who know me know I am a hard worker and constantly trying to improve the athletic department and our athlete experience. If you let me I hope to make Bryn Mawr athletics even further integrated into the Bryn Mawr community.

II. Announcements

-CC Sportsmanship

-Show Your Colors!

-Volunteers: Lauren Shue, Sanam Sheriff, Caroline Cosby, Audrey Burnim

-Banquet!

 -Check with individuals who haven’t RSVPed

 -Sportsmanship Award: vote by Friday (4/17) at noon

III. Board of Trustees: next Friday from 1:55pm to 2:55pm in Taylor C

 -4-6 timeslot: drafting a policy (to be implemented as a trial run in spring 2016)

-If you’re interested (especially if you’ll be around next semester/year), email Mikah

 -Diversity and Inclusion: looking for one or two more student-athletes who are

 interested

 -Why is this important to us as student-athletes? How can this committee

 be more helpful—to you, the athletics community, or the greater BMC

 community?

 -What is an outcome/resource/goal that you would like to see from this

 committee?

 -Committee will meet once or twice per semester

IV. Take-backs

 -Elections will begin tomorrow through the athletes list-serve: VOTE!

 -VOTE for Sportsmanship Award

 -Crew Fan Appreciation: Saturday, April 18th

 -Show Your Colors: Wednesday, April 22nd at 4:30pm

V. Owls of the Week

 -Taryn Traughber: rugby

 -Miriam Myers: rugby

 -Emma: rugby

 **-Ana Krycz: lacrosse**

 **-Claudia Keep: track**

VI. 2014-2015 Wrap-Up