

## **Senate Meeting Notes 10/08/14:**

### **Called to Order: 8:35 P.M**

- All future meetings will begin at 8:35 P.M.

### **Opening Roll:**

- Minutes approved for last three weeks.

### **Public Comment:**

- Lee Stanton: Will the senate entertain for future meetings adjusting tables to accommodate higher attendance at Senate meetings.
- Sen. Markisello: We added two tables this week, will be addressed.

### **Opening Remarks:**

Sen. Markisello:

- Attendance has been great the last few weeks. We intend to keep this meeting short.
- Joe Zumbo presentation tonight will be very important, follow up to questions with Sen. Markisello or Mr. Zumbo.

Sen. De La Cruz:

- Committee schedule will be finalized in coming weeks.
- Communication problems should be brought to the attention of either Senate Chair or Vice Chair.

### **University Report:**

- No Report

### **Judicial Report:**

- No Report

### **Board of Finance Report:**

- Met already twice.
- Sen. Markisello was elected chair and Sen. De La Cruz elected vice chair.
- Reviewing all contracts before them.
- More work to do in the Spring.

## **Executive Report:**

### Gender and Sexuality Concerns

- Coming out reception will be in two weeks on 10/23 at 8 PM in Campus center Ballroom.
- 11/7 annual luncheon with guest speaker on how to be more inclusive.
- We are 25<sup>th</sup> in the nation for LGBT friendly schools.
- Bringing Elector to campus, works to get women elected to student government in March next semester.

### Community Affairs and Outreach:

- Pine Hills clean up this Sunday, senators should share Facebook event.
- Raffling off free Dippikill weekend to student group.
- Pine Hills clean up will receive media coverage.
- Planning for Breast Cancer Walk, chartering bus tomorrow.
- Tabling "Think Pink" week in the near future.
- Putting on other events, YMCA Greek panel 10/21 from 5:30-7:30 in University Hall.
- Northeastern food bank volunteering.

### Academic Affairs

- Job Fair in SEFU Arena coming up.
- Last Saturday APD appreciation night, good turnout, good event.
- Incidents in classes last week where students in need of medical attention did not receive needed attention. Working on setting standards for when these situations arise in the future.

### Multicultural Affairs

- Working with other groups for Multicultural Awareness month.
- Mini cultural carnival upcoming.

### Programming

- Moved speaker series to spring semester. Working on date in February.
- 10/11 tabling at pep rally. Representing Student Association.
- Trying to do mini Speaker series in November, Ebola related.
- Working on Fall Fest 11/22, off campus. Looking at Armory.

### Legislative Affairs

- Had very successful event today for Voter Registration. Registered over 300 people on campus thus far.
- Mayor of Albany and Pres. Jones came to the event.
- Important for everyone to vote, SUNY initiative.
- Distributing Voter Information.

#### Communications:

- Legislative Affairs event was very successful.
- Contacting media outlets for Pinehill Clean Up.
- Working on getting Wal Mart to accept SA Purchase Orders.

#### Dippikill:

- Sent E-Mail out to all UAlbany Students and Faculty Members.
- Ordered Dippikill merchandise.

#### Student Group Affairs

- Having senators go to new clubs senate meetings to review clubs.
- Working to have some sort of event this semester to help student groups meet each other.

#### Comptroller:

- Working on MyInvolvement, getting fully updated.

#### Pres./VP:

- Commends Directors for all their hard work.
- Advocated for trying to get buses to stop by Empire. Spoke to people at Student Success, will fight for.
- Trying to get buses to stop at SEFCU.
- Went to Townhall meeting hosted by middle earth on teenage drinking, good turnout.
- Receiving e-mails from various University and outside officials commending SA on successes.
- Trying to have more signs posted around campus for voters on Election Day.

#### Marketing → Slide Show Presentation

- Created SA promotional material
- Apologized for lack of attendance at Senate meetings this year.
- Attended Orientation events to let new students know about SA.

- Met with Arleny from Frat. And Sor. Affairs.
- Designed T-Shirts for Block Party, rejected by OSI. SA Executive shirts.
- Designed fliers for multiple events.
- Marketing budget has decreased dramatically over the last few years.
- Budget was \$26,000 last year, now it is \$15,000.

*Questions for Marketing Director James Scott:*

Sen. Dunleavy: How do you fit other obligations into work with SA?

Dir. Scott: Has strict schedule that he adheres to.

Sen. Faver: Why haven't you sent liaison to senate meetings?

Dir. Scott: Had meetings with Francis and Marc, recommended bigger team. Scott wants smaller higher quality team. In future will send liaison

Sen. Henderson: How much is left in budget?

Dir. Scott: \$260

Sen. Schwab: Concerned about giving more money when so much spent with not much done.

Dir. Scott: Has personal connections with marketers, we won't need money for certain things.

Sen. Schwab: How about things that are usually covered by Marketing if no money left?

Dir. Scott: Learned moving forward to be more careful in how department spends money. Less money spent than last year.

Sen. Terezakis: will budget last through the rest of the year?

Dir. Scott: Doesn't foresee future budget problems.

Sen. Faver: In the future what if other posters etc. get rejected?

Dir. Scott: Fliers were rejected because they were too close to an event campus doesn't want to relive. Looked like Fountain Day, want to distance themselves.

Sen. Dunleavy: With all connections stated, did you plan on asking these people for contributions before almost entire budget used? Is this your back up plan?

Dir. Scott: Willing to pay for things out of pocket. Not back up plan.

### **Zumbo Presentation:**

- Student Activity Fee at public institutions must follow U.S Constitution in allocation.
- Lawsuits in past against university over use of student activity fees.
- Supreme Court ruled Student Activity Fee must be applied in a Viewpoint Neutral manner.

- Speech can be limited in a content neutral manner.
- Student Activity Fee allocation cannot be decided by referendum.
- Governments cannot have unbridled decision maker for student activity fee allocation.
- Many procedural mechanisms to ensure student activity fee is allocated in a Viewpoint Neutral manner.
- Denying money based on things like prior bad behavior of applicant is viewpoint neutral and therefore acceptable.
- Even advisory referendums are not allowable.
- Establishment Clause vs. Viewpoint Neutrality.
- We need to make sure funding decisions do not favor a popular or traditional viewpoint.

*Questions for Mr. Zumbo:*

Dir. Stanton: What qualifications can be judged by SA in student group allocations?

Zumbo: Avoid anything that impacts viewpoint, biased towards majority or traditional viewpoints.

Sen. Markisello: All groups for first two semesters at \$250. Is blanket policy like this disallowed?

Zumbo: That sounds fine.

### **Committee Reports:**

Rules and Admin:

- Met last night.
- Had great conversation, meeting Sun. at 5:15. Open to public.
- Had discussion regarding attendance of Directors.
- Read 52-1 of Stipend policy in SA Constitution.
- Some directors have not been meeting twice monthly report requirement.

Appropriations:

- Met before Senate.
- Meeting Sunday with Student groups who requested funds.
- Senators should direct groups looking for funds to SA office.
- Two requests so far.

Government Operations:

- Met last night, went over by laws.
- Proposing sub-committee on ethics.
- Has power into investigation.

- Investigating Executive Branch for situation that occurred but cannot elaborate.

#### Community Outreach and Engagement:

- Not dependent on SA equivalent, will be having own events.
- Planning other events for this year. Food drive for Albany community.
- Meetings on Wednesday at 8 PM.

#### Constituent Relations:

- Met today at 8:00. Will figure out time that works for everyone after this meeting.
- Discussed creating memos for new student group meetings.

#### Legislative Agenda:

- *Motion to combine bill and resolution by Sen. Choudhury.*
- *Objected by Sen. Schwab.*
- *Senate voted by voice vote to combine.*
- *Motion to skip reading by Sen. Choudhury.*
- *Passed by unanimous consent.*

#### Bus Stop Resolution:

#### Sen. Henderson:

- Spoke to President Agyemang about bus stopping by Empire.
- Petition with 548 signatures.
- Wrote Bus Stop Resolution.
- Kevin Wilcox added.

***Bill/Resolution passed by unanimous consent.***

#### Old Business:

- No Old Business.

#### New Business:

- *Motion to move to Executive Session by Sen. Chowdhury to evaluate one director.*
- *No objection to moving into Executive Session.*

**EXECUTIVE SESSION: Entered at 10:02 PM**

**Executive Session Ended: 11:01 PM**

**Closing Remarks:**

Sen. Markisello: Thanks for bearing with us, thanks to Directors.

**Closing Roll:**

**Senate Adjourned: 11:08 PM.**