**STUDENT ASSOCIATION SENATE MEETING**

**Campus Center, Assembly Hall**

**February 26, 2014, 8:30 PM**

CALL TO ORDER AND OPENING ROLL

Chairman Witte convened the meeting at 8:35 PM.

* Pledge of Allegiance
* The following senators were present:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| * Sen. Abraham * Sen. Victor Alicea * Sen. Stephanie Augustin * Sen. Anthony Balzano * Sen. Nadia Belkin * Sen. Devin Caravello * Sen. Corey Carmello * Sen. Christian Chowdhury * Sen. Patrick Cronin * Sen. Khadija Cuevas * Sen. Skyler DeAngelo * Sen. Conner Dunleavy * Sen. Beroro Efekoro * Sen. Benjamin Engwer * Sen. Allie Faver * Sen. Alex Flood * Sen. Michael Gray II * Sen. Chenaniah Henderson * Sen. Brad Hershenson * Sen. James King | * Sen. Matthew Krush * Sen. Michael Longo * Sen. Daniel Markisello * Sen. Cylas Martell-Crawford * Sen. Patrick Moran * Sen. Kevin Murphy * Sen. Casey Olszewski * Sen. Kathleen Orlan * Sen. Shireen Ramnath * Sen. Zach Ripka * Sen. Johnathon Rood * Sen. Roger Rook * Sen. Vanessa Salamy * Sen. Adam Sanzone * Sen. Emma Schwab * Sen. Juliet Shen * Sen. Raymond Webb * Sen. Connor Wilkins * Sen. Jamie Zieno |

Absent Senators: Sen. Alic (excused), Sen. De La Cruz (excused), Sen. Forman, Sen. Gustave, Sen. McBride, Sen. Russell

Also in Attendance:

President Francis Agyemang, Vice President Nick Butler, Chief of Staff Marc Cohen, Comptroller Lee Stanton, Deputy Comptroller Tyler Paladino, Director of Academic Affairs Derek Ellis, Director of Programming Ajon Crump, Director of Student Group Affairs Katie Thomas, Director of Community Engagement and Outreach Rose Avellino, Director of Marketing Steve Valentine, Director of Legislative Affairs Justyn Turner, Trey Price, Emma Suarez.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion to approve minutes with unanimous consent by Sen. Schwab

Seconded by Sen. Faver

PUBLIC COMMENT

Sen. King

Sketchy Characters free Saturday shows 6:30pm UFood grill lounge.

Requesting higher senator attendance.

Sen. DeAngelo

Powerpoint highlighting YAL

Short history of club

“2013 Best Chapter in NE”

Has had 28 events thus far since its formation in July 2012

Sen. Efekoro

Mentor to HS kids, sports coach, etc. Apply 2/27

Cameron from Sustainability Council

Recycle-mania. Competition between schools in the area in order to reduce waste

running from 2/2-3/29

Wants people actively involved, spread the word

LC 3B

Rose Avelino

UA Alive- fundraising for Out of Darkness walk.

OPENING REMARKS

Sen Krush

Next Monday (3/3) is Rita Levine Day

Until March 3,1995 she was the Director of Ops.

Rita Levine Award

Mon. stop by SA office. Family will be there. 2 awards for students who dedicate a lot of service to SA

UNIVERSITY REPORT

Nancy Lauricella: Conflict Resolution

Here to introduce new program: Off-Campus Student Ambassador Program (OCA for short)

1. Infancy of development of program
2. Improve and enhance communication and collaboration and problem solving of constituencies at university- including those off-campus.
3. Long-term residents also affected by school community
4. Visited Syracuse University who have a similar model
5. Spring and Fall semesters this year. Pilot initiative to launch 2015
6. Campus liaisons between campus and community, and other constituencies of Albany.
7. OCA- 5 different categories of focus including: relationship building, hosting activities, leadership for community
8. Creating email/phone distribution list- emailing them info on regular basis about things on and off campus.
9. Weekly meetings- tenants rights, hard copies of educational materials, planning marketing and facilitating events for students and community, forums so students can air concerns, working with each other on committees, working with city of Albany (police dept., certain demographics)
10. OCA will be recruited and hired as student staff
11. Recruitment process- late spring/summer. Training during fall. Pilot run in Spring ’15 semester.
12. Hire initially 10 off-campus ambassadors- teaming them up. 5 per team.
13. Next steps: be sure everything will be put together, sit down with more students to encompass new ideas, hopefully something to enhance off-campus life and to establish sense of community

DIPPIKILL REPORT

Casey Crandall, chairman: Thanks to SA senators

Commends Dippikill student-board leadership

Tom Savarie: Dippikill is available throughout our lives as alumni

2 minute video: Available on all social media and Dippikill website dippikill.com - log on to see if the cabin you’d like is available, or call SA @ 518-442-5640

Facebook.com/discoverdippikill

1. Dippikill=900 acres. 100% owned and operated by SA and UA students
2. 8 cabins varying in occupancy from 4-25 people
3. New cabin= multi-million dollar asset added to property opening for reservations in 2016- Julie’s Lodge
4. Early May- Student Leadership Retreat

Like them on Facebook!

Can go just for the day- just sign in for the day. For free! and open to the public

BOARD OF FINANCE REPORT

Sen. Longo

1st BOF meeting this Friday night

EXECUTIVE REPORT

President Agyemang

SA scholarship- app due this Friday. 24 scholarships ranging from 500$-1000$

Vice President Butler

Pizza social with OSI Friday, 4pm

Chief of Staff Marc Cohen

Undergrad Forum

Can send questions to Cohen, or with AA

Tentative date: 4/23, 424 is back up date

Comptroller Lee Stanton

Very close to alleviating credit card debt

Director of Programming Ajon Crump

Currently working on Parkfest

No updates since last report

Has been reaching out to other SUNYs in terms of comparison of programming

Emma Suarez

Tuesday March 4th luncheon LGBT higher ed

Sue Ranken will be the keynote speaker

Director of Legislative Affairs Justyn Turner

Committee Pine Hills Assoc. Neighborhood

Bettering Pine Hills as Neighborhood

Beautification project- cleaning up downtown. Art projects on abandoned buildings, lots (art, gardens)

Stop by, ask about volunteering

Director of Community Engagement and Outreach Rose Avelino

Hackett Middle School- new program Wed 3-5

Sunday Community Council Meeting- many student groups seeking community service. Beginning tracking/incentive program

SA Lounge 7pm 3/2. Sunday application. Student group. Funding of 250$ to begin own event related to community service if app

Director of Student Groups Katie Thomas

Training new assistant, Kayla Potter

Purple and Gold awards- recognize student groups and individuals

7:30 4/28 ballroom

Greek orgs. FSA 4-5 greek orgs. who worked with student groups. Nominating them for awards

Friday morning- nomination goes live. For 3-4 weeks.

Outstanding graduating senator

John Murphy Bob Ford Podium Pat each getting awards at Purple and Gold

Director of Academic Affairs Derek Ellis

Next week apps for outstanding faculty/teaching awards.

Given out at Presidents Spring Faculty meeting in April

Director of Marketing Steven Valentine

Lapel pins- suits, caps

Grad. seniors for free

Promotion for Parkfest

Promo videos for artists once each artist is known

Job and Internship expo 27% increase 1635 indvs attended expo

COMMITTEE REPORTS

1. Rules and Admin.: Sen. Markisello-

A few bills:

1st- Amendment to bylaws- changing wording

2nd- clarification of a contract policy

2. Constituent Relations: Sen. Cronin

Beginning of appeals process

Appeal dates = last weekend of March

3. Community Engagement and Outreach: Sen. Efekoro

Meeting Wed 8pm in SA office

3/8 community service with Ronald McDonald House

Working on bill with community and outreach

4. Government Operations: Sen. Wilkins

Next few weeks programming oversight bill with constituent relations

Next tues 6pm outside of SA office

5. Appropriations: Sen. Rook

One bill on agenda

LEGISLATIVE AGENDA

Sen. Krush: Motion Dippikill (1314-090) move to top of the agenda due to the fact that the Director of Dippikill drove an hour and half to be here.

Seconded Sen. Cronin

1314-090:

*Casey Krandal:* Original request at $5950, Appropriations looked at projector and brought the price down, this is the first time Dippikill has come before SA for supplement, Typically budget to the penny, Looking to bring more educational programs there.

Motion to vote by roll call Sen. Henderson

Seconded Sen. Dunleavy

No objections, Bill passes

1314-083

Motion to approve Sen. Krush

Seconded Sen. Ripka

Bill passes

1314-084

Motion to approve Sen. Schwab

Seconded Sen. Salamy

Bill passes

1314-085

Motion to vote via UC Sen. Markisello

Seconded Sen. Cronin

Bill passes

1314-086

Motion to vote via UC Sen. Schwab

Seconded Sen. Henderson

Bill passes

1314-087

Motion to vote via UC Sen. Cronin

Seconded Sen. Ripka

Bill passes

1314-088

Motion to vote via UC Sen. Henderson

Seconded Sen. Faver

Cultural Carnival planning in progress

Sen. Cronin: Any experience working in this size of organization?

Afiya Roberts: Has attended conferences in different states on large scale. Prepare you so you can bring ideas and movements back to campus.

Bill passes

1314-089

Sen. Markisello

Changed wording of bylaw

Motion to vote via UC Sen. Krush

Seconded Sen. Gray

Bill passes

1314-091

Motion to vote via UC Sen. Henderson

Seconded Sen. Rook

1314-092

Points of interest:

Sen. Efekoro: We are already paying 100$ per semester for student activity fee

Questions:

Sen. King: You’ve been talking to people, how have you been asking the people/what have you been saying?

Sen. Shen: Speaking as objectively as possible. Social media outreach. Petitions

Sen. Schwab: What the purpose of bringing this senate is?

Sen. Shen: To show the admin. that students do not agree with added fee

Sen. Faver: What is avg. social fee greeks pay?

Sen. Shen Dues?

Sen. Faver: A few hundred?

Shen: Yes

Director Thomas: Have you educated them first before questioning them?

Dunleavy: We point them towards Facebook page. Do our best to educate them

Director Thomas: This is not just for student groups. For all students. Many students are not involved in student groups

Sen. Schwab yields time to Ajon Crump

When bill comes in for SA support, if we’re not united on something, then there’s no point on passing a bill if we’re torn.

Chief of Staff Marc Cohen: This fee will support every student. Schools with this fee see higher rates of satisfaction compared to UA.

Sen. Cronin: Argument that this fee is going to unrepresented students. But these students aren’t unrepresented

Sen. Efekoro: No need for another fee: already pay 100$

Sen. Henderson: Everyone I talked to about fee was immediately opposed. We have over 200 student groups- the unrepresented can virtually find anything to be a part of.

Sen. DeAngelo: Isn’t us versus them. Depends where your principals are. It doesn’t mean that if you don’t stand for the new fee that you don’t stand for student involvement.

Just because it works elsewhere doesn’t necessarily mean that it’d work here.

Comptroller Lee Stanton: Working with e-board members of student groups each day. Tries to be unbiased when talking to people.

Are we stop number one?

We need to ask university where else they can tighten the belt before collecting more money.

Sen. Orlan: We have an SA fee 100$ per semester. Maybe make a new fee on their own or join a current club.

Sen. McBride: The senators sponsoring this are accused of not having the best heart. If we raise this fee, it’s not a choice for the student.

Sen. Crawford: OSI’s job is to work to get the students involved. They’ve done research on this. No one wants to pay more money, but everything we’ll get out of this is worth it

Sen. Wilkins: Fee is substantial amount of money per semester. Way fee was approached was slightly rushed. Very little student input prior to that. Doesn’t seem right to pay more fees. Should oppose this as a principal in terms of how this was brought to us.

Sen. King: It depends on how you approach people

Basing it on how we feel the students feel- it’s too early. We haven’t spoken to enough students.

Trey Price: Obviously students don’t like fees, but one of the main reasons this has come up is because the university is using data, other campus’ data, etc. This is most appropriate course of action based on all data. Opposed or not, this debate is good and sends a good message to the university.

Sen. Belkin: No point of voting on this today, spread the word more. Not everyone is really informed about what is going on.

Sen. Markisello: What we currently do doesn’t work. Research they showed us was very substantial- formal, statewide. We’re not talking about making new clubs- we’re talking about standalone events. Someone can just walk in, leave when they want, no commitment. Bring school spirit.

Hard to explain because we’re talking about a complete overhaul.

Sen. Longo: Would like to see an opt-out provision in case we dislike events. Once every year/once every two years.

Sen. Witte: Given my experience in SA, in university wants to impose a new fee, they will without the students’ consent. What’s going to happen is what the university wants.

If we close doors right away it won’t make any sense.

Not an argument of rushing to do anything, was a proposal.

Motion to move back into question by Sen. Henderson

Seconded Sen. Cronin

Sen. Ripka motion to vote via roll call

Seconded by Sen. Faver

Bill passes 22-9-6

1314-093

Sen. Markisello: Would we be better served asking if professors post all syllabi prior to the course begins?

Sen. Wilkins: They should know whether they’re going to use these programs prior.

Sen. Markisello: Syllabi are on file for every course- would include Webassign, Applia, etc.

Sen. Henderson: Opposed to tabling this until revised?

Sen. Wilkins: Would be fine with resubmitting resolution and letter to admin.

***Bill is rescinded by Senator Wilkins***

1314-094

Constitutional Convention

First step

Will go on ballot in Spring election, will do it next year.

Asking for a meeting as long as student body agrees.

*Sen. Markisello*: Motion to approve via unanimous consent

*Sen. Krush:* Second

No objections, Bill passes

OLD BUSINESS

NEW BUSINESS

Witte appointed Sen. Rood to appropriations

Seconded by Sen. Longo

Opening on BOF

Send Witte an email if interested

CLOSING REMARKS

CLOSING ROLL AND ADJOURNMENT

Senators adjourned.