**STUDENT ASSOCIATION SENATE MEETING**

**Campus Center, Assembly Hall**

**October 30, 2013, 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:*

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| * Sen. Finney Abraham * Sen. Haris Alic * Sen. Stephanie Augustin * Sen. Anthony Balzano * Sen. Nadia Belkin * Sen. Alexa Cappola * Sen. Devin Caravello * Sen. Corey Carmello * Sen. Patrick Cronin * Sen. Khadija Cuevas * Sen. Stanley De la Cruz * Sen. Skyler DeAngelo * Sen. Beroro Efekoro * Sen. Benjamin Engwer * Sen. Allie Faver * Sen. Alex Flood * Sen. Michael Gray III * Sen. Chenaniah Henderson * Sen. Brad Hershenson * Sen. James King | * Sen. Ashley Klingberg * Sen. Matthew Krush * Sen. Michael Longo * Sen. Daniel Markisello * Sen. Cylas Martell-Crawford * Sen. Joe Messmer * Sen. Kathleen Orlan * Sen. Shireen Ramnath * Sen. Zach Ripka * Sen. Johnathon Rood * Sen. Roger Rook * Sen. Brittany Russell * Sen. Vanessa Salamy * Sen. Emma Schwab * Sen. Jacob Sherretts * Sen. Connor Wilkins * Sen. James Perry |

**Absent with an excuse**, Sen. Rob Forman, Sen. Casey Olszewski

**Absent without an excuse:** Sen. Roevelle Gustave, Sen. Stephanie Leader, Sen. Steven Nevins, Sen. Diana Parisi, Sen. Mike Torres, and Sen. Lyle Weintraub.

**Also in attendance:** President Francis Agyemang, Chief of Staff Marc Cohen, Director of Academic Affairs Derek Ellis, Director of Community Engagement and Outreach Rose Avellino, Comptroller Lee Stanton, Deputy Comptroller Tyler Paladino, Dr. Krzykowski, UAlbany Club Field Hockey.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

-Motion to skip reading of the minutes by Sen. Orlan, second by Sen. Schwab.

-Motion to approve minutes with unanimous consent by Sen. Cronin, Second by Sen. King.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

-Toni President of Club Field Hockey: The team has recently found out they were asked to go to playoffs on Saturday. They have already used up their budget. Would like to request $800 for busing expenses.

-Chairman Witte: The request will be considered later in the agenda.

OPENING REMARKS:

-Chairman Witte:

* Asks senators to submit bills from committees by Monday morning at 11am.
* Any bills submitted after this point will not be on the agenda for that week and must wait for the following week to be voted on.
* This will ensure that everyone has enough time to properly review the bills.

-Vice Chair Krush: Offers leftover baked goods to senators from charity event.

UNIVERSITY REPORT:

Dr. Kryzykowski, Assistant Vice Provost for Student Engagement:

* Thanks senators for inviting her to come speak.
* Has served as the Assistant Vice Provost for Student Engagement for the past three and a half years.
* Works to develop programs that encourage and facilitate engagement between students and faculty. Partners with Student Success and other SA offices.
* Tonight will be describing recent new initiatives.
* Distributes information packets to better explain programs.

*Overview of student engagement initiatives:*

1. Living and Learning Communities (LLC): a program created specifically for incoming freshman. Each LLC has a theme and a faculty advisor to work alongside students. Students sign up for them when signing up for housing.
2. Freshman Seminars: One credit discipline based seminars. Directed towards incoming freshman. Program has received positive student response. Group meets once a week for 55 minutes with faculty.
3. Transfer Seminars: Help transfers connect with faculty and other transfer students. Biggest struggle is lack of student awareness.
4. Peer Educator Program: All senators are eligible. Available to all upper division students. Students work closely with professors as peer mentors, peer advisors or teaching assistants. Participants can receive credits and learn how to be an educator.
5. Mentor Programs for New Students: A new program seeking to expand. Work as mentors for transfer and EOP students.
6. Faculty Involvement: Seeking to increase faculty presence in campus life and traditions. Plans to redesign the candle lighting ceremony to encourage more faculty involvement. Food for Finals has launched out of these efforts, where faculty and staff serve students food on Reading Day.
7. UA: U Know Website: Working on improving how information gets communicated to new students. Helps students stay successful in and outside of class. Has been working alongside the Director of Academic Affairs Derek Ellis on this initiative. Helps students succeed even before arriving on campus.
8. Explore UAlbany: Many incoming students have participated in this. Faculty hold lectures in the LCs the Friday before classes begin. Helps new students experience learning in a lecture center setting.
9. Food For Thought: An active program for the past three years that has not received enough student participation. Program allows any undergraduate student to take a faculty member to lunch. Welcomes ideas on how to get more students involved.

* Opens for questions. No questions

*Steps Down*

JUDICIAL REPORT:

No report

BOARD OF FINANCE REPORT:

No report

EXECUTIVE REPORT:

-President Francis Agyemang:

* Announces that there are still funds available to student groups, encourages any that need extra money to make a request.
* Met to discuss conflict resolution issues with a former president of SA. Currently seeking to obtain personnel to assist students undergoing judicial proceedings.
* There are interviews being held for the Director of Legislative Affairs position.
* Congratulates the Director of Community Engagement and Outreach for a great Pine Hills cleanup event. Thanks senators for participating.

-Vice President Nick Butler: No report

-Chief Of Staff Marc Cohen: Reports that everyone is doing a good job keeping in communication.

-Director of Gender and Sexuality Concerns Emma Suarez:

* Reports that there was a great turnout at the Coming Out event.
* Day of Remembrance event will be held on November 4th.

-Director of Programming Ajon Crump: No report.

-Director of Community Engagement and Outreach Rose Avellino: Announces that this year's Pine Hills clean up held the best attendance record since the event's history.

-Director of Marketing Steve Valentine: Focusing marketing efforts fully on the Presidential forum now that the Pine Hills cleanup is over.

-Comptroller Lee:

* Thanks Deputy Tyler Paladino for fully stepping up in the absence of other deputies.
* Currently looking at credit card reconciliation, will have written reports.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

-Chair of the Rules Committee Sen. Messmer: No report.

-Chair of the Appropriations Committee Sen. Engwer:

* Explains the conflict that resulted in the club hockey attending today’s senate meeting without prior notice.
* The club was unable to attend the Appropriations committee meeting due to hockey practice.
* The group just recently found out they were invited to play offs on Monday morning. Unable to comply with the 48 hour requirement due to conflicts with scheduling. Committee met with the group quickly before tonight’s senate meeting. Committee has approved the $800 needed to fund their transportation to playoffs.

-Committee of Community Engagement and Outreach: (Sen. Caravello)

* Committee met on Sunday.
* Committee members were present at the Pine Hills clean up.

-Chair of the Constituent Relations Committee Sen. Cronin: Committee currently working on implementing the Student Group Attendance Act.

-Chair of the Government Operations Committee Sen. Wilkins: No report

LEGISLATIVE AGENDA:

Motion to add Club Hockey bill to agenda by Sen. Engwer, second by Sen. Martell-Crawford . No objections. Bill has been added to the agenda.

-Sen. Engwer:

* The Club Field Hockey team has been invited to a tournament this weekend.
* The group was allocated a $2,000 budget that has already been spent on hockey games.
* Club Hockey is requesting $800 for bus transportation. Important for them to go represent UAlbany.

Motion to approve bill by unanimous consent by Sen. Markisello, second by Sen. Schwab. No objections. *Bill passes*

OLD BUSINESS-

NEW BUSINESS-

CLOSING REMARKS

CLOSING ROLL and Adjournment

*Senators adjourned.*