**STUDENT ASSOCIATION SENATE MEETING**

**Campus Center, Assembly Hall**

**April 09, 2014, 8:30 PM**

CALL TO ORDER AND OPENING ROLL

Chairman Witte convened the meeting at 8:35 PM.

* Pledge of Allegiance

Also in Attendance: Chief Justice Ben Engwer, Director of Student Group Affairs Katie Thomas, Director of Community Engagement and Outreach Rose Avelino, Director of Gender and Sexuality Concerns Emma Suarez, Director of Academic Affairs Derek Ellis, President Francis Agyemang, Chief of Staff Marc Cohen, Director of Programming Christine Jolly, Director of Marketing Steve Valentine, Comptroller Lee Stanton

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion to skip reading of the minutes by Sen. Cronin

Seconded by Sen. De La Cruz

Motion to approve minutes Sen. Forman

Seconded by Sen. Dunleavy

Minutes are approved

PUBLIC COMMENT

Comptroller Lee Stanton: Begins talking about his campaign and a recent decision by elections commission, (interrupted by Senator Markisello who says it is not allowed to be discussed)

With regards to current events.... what isn’t allowed to be discussed?

Sen. Markisello Don’t talk about campaign, nothing regarding campaign

Comptroller Lee Stanton: Well, just take a look at my Facebook status

Ajon Crump

Resigning as director of programming.

Here is why: In Nov. 1 single one on one meeting with president as the programming director

E-Board has only had 6 meetings as a whole. Last one in February 9 weeks ago.

How Ajon was treated as director of programming: During speaker series had issues with marketing director. Brought to president and VP, was told not to speak to the director. VP threatened to fire Ajon after bringing issues up to Pres.

Another reason: Not fair to run for a position knowing your boss is running for the same position. Already decided in Sept., genuinely felt she would do a better job. Creates a lot of tension, now is not a safe environment. Not stable for the SA.

Major reason: Cannot speak out publicly against president while he’s the boss. Unfair to him and to SA. Did not plan on resigning right after Parkfest. Does not have an appropriately place in the SA.

Sen. Efekoro: Major reason is against marketing director?

Ajon Crump: No. Issue with other director, goes to leadership about it. Communication is key. Has not been fostered by the leadership.

Submitted formal complaints to OSI

Sen. Dunleavy: Threatened to be fired. On what grounds?

Ajon Crump: If you and Steven do not handle this you will both be leaving. When you’re telling your director she’ll be leaving 2 weeks after a death in the family, it’s an issue.

Sen. De La Cruz: Recognize the accomplishments of Ajon Crump as Programming Director

Associate Justice David Solimeno Meeting with Appropriations about MayDay, May 2nd. Thanks to appropriations and Ajon.

Sen. Grey: Last week we did not recognize the two student that has recently passed away. Requests moment of silence for student who just passed.

Moment of silence.

Sen. Alic: Sen. King was elected president of Sketchy Characters.

OPENING REMARKS

Chairman Witte:

Election Season

Series of allegations on many campaigns. VP opening investigation. Encourage Gov. Ops. to reach out to VP Butler and assist with investigation. Slander with elections, etc.

If people are named and they are involved in SA, they will no longer be involved in SA. Will not be taken lightly. Will be pushing them for impeachment or resignation. People are taking SA way too seriously and are attacking others in the process. Reminds all the Senators that SA is not the end of the world and that life will go on. But if an individual is involved, will personally ensure that we won’t see them around SA anymore.

Vice Chair Krush:

Things have been reasonably clean until these allegations. For the next 14 hours or so, be sure to vote.

UNIVERSITY REPORT

JUDICIAL REPORT

Chief Justice Bengwer

2 petitions filed with the court since last meeting.

1st was Francis and Cohen in regards to campaign issue. Elections Commission took away their campaigning rights. Filed petition as result. Brown, Kollue, Solimeno overturned OSI’s decision. After doing this, Derek Ellis and Bengwer spoke. Resolved all conflicts and complaints.

Monday around noon, 2nd petition. Initial complaints filed were defined as being a clean slate because it’s a run-off election (new.) Lee did not agree that it was a new cycle. Would like to change the definition

6-0-1 decision, Lee was correct. One election cycle.

BOARD OF FINANCE REPORT

Appeals open on Thursday 7-11 then Friday.

EXECUTIVE REPORT

Director of Community Engagement and Outreach Rose Avelino

Professional clothing drive until 4/19. Any of the quad offices or SA office.

Pine Hills Clean Up this Sunday 12-3pm. Senators, show support! Many student groups come out. SA sponsored event.

Witte: Where are you meeting?

Rose: Meeting at Ridgefield Park Parking Lot

Free breakfast

Sen. Schwab: Big event sponsored by SA, show support!

Director of Academic Affairs Derek Ellis

Excellence in Teaching Award

Christine Wagner

Thanks to whoever submitted. Ceremony end of April.

Video clips for UA U should Know are complete. Busy with these tasks.

Rose Emma and Al.

Comptroller Lee Stanton

28-2nd of May, for emergency expenses.

Classes are ending soon! Keep studying.

Director of Marketing Steven Valentine

Marketing Pine Hills Clean Up

SA Lapel Pins for everyone!

SA Free Day was last week. Didn’t even make it til 4pm.

Parkfest was great too.

Director of Gender and Sexuality Concerns Emma Suarez

This weekend Dept. is sponsoring trip to Rutgers, 40 spots available. Now have 53 total. Packed house!

4/25 2nd chance prom in Assembly Hall

President Francis Agyemang

Ajon resigned, Jolly takes that spot. Being trained.

Director of Programming Christine Jolly

6th semester in programming. Working with multicultural affairs director: cultural carnival, senior week, giving things out, many events for seniors, Caucus Week- more involved, getting people to know members of SA.

Scholarship due date was this Monday. Getting committee together.

Chief of Staff Marc Cohen

Presidential Forum 4/23

Faculty Diversity and Student Satis. on Campus.

40 mins. with president.

Will send email with details.

Director of Student Group Affairs Katie Thomas

4/28 7:30

Purple and Gold Awards

Has been getting emails from student groups, Beth from OSI said they must have their elections in by 4/15. Katie doesn’t know if this is current.

Tomorrow is her birthday!!!!!!!!!!!!

Krush will check on guidelines

Elections Committee

Feel free to reach out to email.

COMMITTEE REPORT

Rules and Admin. Sen. Markisello

Met on Sunday in SA office. Spoke about Efekoro’s cap bill. Not here tonight. As it sits now, no more than 3 tickets for first 2 days. Can only buy them for Albany students. Opportunity for UA students to buy them before other schools. Will be up next week. No meeting this weekend.

Rec’d bill Sunday to deal with order of succession in case someone elected in Spring will not stay in position. Will be addressed in upcoming Constitutional Convention.

Appropriations Sen. Rook

Met last Thursday with a few groups. Some approps. today. Managing last amounts of fundings well. Able to find funding through programming det. for MayDay. Cutting costs where possible.

Constituent Relations Sen. Cronin

Appeals process tomorrow.

Appt. for ranking member of committee

Sen. Grey

Student came to them about ethics committee within the office. Can speak to Grey. Committee took action, spoke to individual about issue. Krush sat on behalf of committee.

Shall be resolved at this point.

Community Engagement and Outreach Sen. Forman

Pine Hills Clean Up this Sunday. A lot of reason to show up.

Will record names down.

4/26 Sat. 3 PM Relay for Life

5/3 Sat. Out of the Darkness Walk

LEGISLATIVE AGENDA

1314-105 Independent Elections Act

Vetoed

Comes back to vote. Motion to table indefinitely Markisello

Objected by Alic.

Vote on motion to table indefinitely.

Markisello: After bill was passed, reason for veto was we were threatened with lawsuits based on 1st amendment violations. Not worth it.

Vote on motion:

Bill tabled indefinitely.

1314-125 Women’s Lacrosse

Motion to vote via UC Faver

Seconded Sen. Flood

Bill passes

1314-126 NAACP

Amended on floor by Sen. Rook $872 as new allocated amount.

For Image Awards

Sen. Faver: How is this different from Purple and Gold Awards?

Representative: NAACP Image Awards are for people we’ve seen do many different things on campus. Also goes towards cultural events. Recognize that. Students vote on awards. Take nominations from people on campus.

Motion to vote by voice vote Sen. Grey

Seconded by Sen. Dunleavy

Bill passes

1314-127 Project Inspire

Fashion Show event to take place outside outside. Attaching rider for 50% of ticket sales to be returned to SA.

All proceeds go to charity. Should sell about 400-450 tickets.

Sen. Efekoro: Why are we asking for money back?

Sen. Rook: Many requests have come for large allocations. Attached rider to be more fiscally responsible with current funds

Motion to vote via roll call Sen. Chowdury

Seconded by Sen. Grey.

Bill passes

King: How much money left in supplemental allocations

17,500

1314-128 Fuerza Latina

Representative’s birthday!

Sen. Ripka: Putting on play or going to see one?

Representative: Will be putting it on.

Motion to vote by roll call Sen. Schwab

Seconded by Sen. Chowdury

Bill passes

1314-129R Seawimps Resolution

Sen. Efekoro: motion to skip the reading

Everyone else: Objection!

Motion to add Wolfie as a recipient Sen. Markisello

Sen. De La Cruz: Amend it to resolve that a seawolf is not a real thing.

Everyone will cosponsor.

Motion to vote by voice Sen. Dunleavy

Seconded by Sen. Faver

NEW BUSINESS

Multicultural affairs

Carnival 5/4 on Dutch. Office working on diversity conference for SA and student body.

De La Cruz: Allow extra public comment?

Representative: Latin Night. Focus on culture and school spirit. Bring up attendance at games, etc.

4/19

Sen. Alic and Sen. Hershenson have asked to switch committees Appropriations to Constituent Relations

Sen. Forman motion to approve, seconded by Sen. Flood

Approved

No longer a ranking member on Constituent Relations Committee. Sen. Cronin has asked that Sen. Flood be made ranking member

Sen. Chowdhruy motion to approve

Seconded by Sen. Schwab

Marc Cohen

A few dozen scholarship applications were received. Need 2 people from senate to be on committee if you did not apply for scholarship.

Marc will email you within the next week or so.