**Minutes for Senate Meeting 4/1/15**

**Called to Order: 8:50 P.M**

**Opening Roll:**

* Roll called by Sen. De La Cruz.

**Public Comment:**

* **Interim VP for Student Success Mike Christakis**
  + Congratulations to Spellman Award winners.
  + Pine Hills Clean Up 4/18.
  + Congratulations to Chancellor award recipients.
  + Appreciates students who came to coffee at Cocadotts.
* **Provost Jim Stellar** 
  + First item on agenda is to get out and talk to students.
  + Happy to come back if there is anything the Senate wants to talk about.
* **President Robert Jones**
  + Held University Address this afternoon.
  + Appreciates ways both academic and student affairs offices are working together.
  + This is a great University but it has lost some of its standing in the last decade.
  + Working on better messaging for UAlbany.
  + Wants to help students stay on track and working on added programs to enhance the student experience at this university.
  + Decline in enrollment over the last eight year is our greatest challenge. Our rival SUNY schools have seen dramatic increases in enrollment.
  + We need to increase our degree offerings to attract more and better students.
  + Creating school of Engineering and Homeland Security and Cyber Security.
  + Sen. Webb: What have students been saying at feedback opportunities?
    - Prov. Stellar: We need to a better job of engaging students.
    - VP Christakis: Students will challenge us about both academic and social issues. We are reacting to what we hear, like changing orientation.
  + Sen. Terezakis: Should we recognize Fountain Day to encourage student enrollment?
    - Pres. Jones: If anything Fountain Day was a detriment to enrollment. Actions of too many students generated bad publicity. It is too dangerous to responsibly allow as University President.
  + Sen. Dunleavy: How will you fund new programs with decreasing revenues?
    - Endowment is up 66% from last year. People are giving to the University in ways they haven’t before because they are excited about the vision today.
  + Sen. De La Cruz: With the Student Activity Fee up in the air, what will the University do to help with funding if it fails?
    - Always sensitive to the needs of certain programs. University has been looking to engage more with vital SA programs regardless of the Student Activity Fee vote.
* Sen. Conroy: Colonial Quad is hosting SWAP on 4/9.
* Sen. Nwike: Radio Station auditions coming to Albany on Friday in LC 18.
* Tom Mastro, VP of SUNY SA in attendance.
* Sen. Efekoro: Saw post online with SA stipends which raises concern. If the Student Activity Fee passes stipends should be cut, they are “ridiculous.”
* Sen. Markisello: Budget Meetings 4/15 and 4/22.
* Sen. Dunleavy: YAL hosting event about criminal justice system.
* Dir. Teklu: Stipends only account for 2.6% of the budget.
* Fuerza Latina meeting on Student Activity Fee tomorrow.
* Student Activity Fee and implications of the result discussed by the Senate.

**Opening Remarks:**

Sen. Markisello: Get people involved, questioning our administrators etc.

Sen. De La Cruz: Appreciates work of Associate Directors.

**University Report:**

* **No University Report**

**Judicial Report:**

* Court heard a case on the Election Commission’s decision to invalidate the Student Activity Fee referendum.
* Court voted 4-0-3 to uphold the Election Commission’s decision due to the previous ballot’s incongruity with SUNY Policy.
* Gave Rules and Administration Committee oversight power over the Election Commission.
* Placed permanent injunction on by law requiring general election to occur in particular week in the Spring.

**Board of Finance Report:**

* Finishing second draft of the budget.
* Will notify student groups of their budgets and appeals process will take place next week.
* Article in ASP misrepresented what goes into Internal and External Budgets. Dippikill and Concerts etc. funded by Internal not External. When people throw around numbers without understanding them they can do serious harm.
* Two budgets are being created based on the two possible results of the Student Activity Fee vote.

**Executive Report:**

Gender and Sexuality Concerns:

* No Report.

Community Affairs and Outreach:

* Numbers for Relay for Life are not where they should be, needs Senate’s help to get where it should be.
* Pine Hills Clean Up 4/18.

Academic Affairs:

* UPD Night coming up.

Multicultural Affairs:

* Cultural Carnival coming up.

Programming:

* No Report.

Legislative Affairs:

* No Report.

Communications:

* Got TV donated for Pine Hills Clean Up raffle.

Dippikill:

* Working on promoting Dippikill sign ups for June and the Summer.

Student Group Affairs:

* No Report.

Comptroller:

* Last date for Purchase Requests coming up. Getting fiscal house squared.

Marketing:

* Marketing Pine Hills Clean Up.

President/Vice President:

* SA working a lot on Student Acitivty Fee.
* Purple and Gold Awards coming up.
* ParkFest will be different, it will be outdoors with student groups performing and a celebrity host.

**Legislative Agenda:**

**S.1415-118 Appropriations Bill- GDFI**

* New and Unfunded $250.00.

***Passed by Unanimous Consent***

**S.1415-124 Appropriations Bill- Line Transfer 2**

**Amount amended to $1,907.40**

***Passed by Roll Call Vote 27-0-1***

***Bills 116-117, 119-122,123, 125-128 Combined***

**S.1415-115 Appropriations Bill- ASBO**

***Tabled***

**S.1415-116 Appropriations Bill- Bridging the Gap**

* Community outreach group working to build ties with the Albany community through community service.

**S.1415-117 Appropriations Bill- DFA**

* Promote diversity and involvement in the field of technology.

**S.1415-119 Appropriations Bill- Golden Chords**

* Inclusive club that promotes music.

**S.1415-120 Appropriations Bill- Grow Green**

* Working to create a garden that represents the roots of New York.
* Got a grant to start 4 gardens that represent each quad.

**S.1415-121 Appropriations Bill- Interfaith Coalition**

* Working to bridge gap between the different faith groups on campus.
* 14 mile walk from Schenectady to Interfaith Center.

**S.1415-122 Appropriations Bill- ISACA**

***Bill Withdrawn***

**S.1415-123 Appropriations Bill- Janus**

* Help train students in business and skills to succeed.

**S.1415-125 Appropriations Bill- Model EU**

***Tabled- Group not in Attendance.***

**S.1415-126 Appropriations Bill- Posh Daily**

* Promote the fashion industry.

**S.1415-127 Appropriations Bill- SFSDP**

* Want to end the War on Drugs.
* Work to create safe space to talk about drugs.
* Hosting 4/20 event.

**S.1415-128 Appropriations Bill- VATW**

* Travelling this summer to the Dominican Republic to set up clinics for medical care in underserved areas.
* Working to raise money to offset costs of the trip.

***Bills 116-117, 119-122,123, 125-128 Passed by Roll Call Vote 27-0-1***

***Motion to add Bills 131 and 132 to the docket. Passed.***

**S.1415- 129:**

* Any bills can now be passed by unanimous consent or roll call vote.
* If anyone votes against a UC vote, it immediately goes to a roll call vote.

***Passed by Unanimous Consent***

**S.1415- 130:**

* Environmental Sustainability added to repertoire of the Director of Dippikill Outreach.
* Sen. De La Cruz: This should no longer be a part of the Marketing department. 301.3 should be stricken. Amendment found friendly.

***Passed by Unanimous Consent***

**S.1415- 131:**

* UAlbany Golf Club wants $10 to start the budgeting process.

***Passed by Unanimous Consent***

**S.1415- 132:**

* Project Sunshine works to help kids with disabilities.

***Passed by Unanimous Consent***

**Committee Reports:**

Rules and Admin:

* Thanks committee for patience.

Appropriations:

* No Report.

Government Operations:

* Will oversee Judicial Branch to make sure they are holding regular meetings.

Community Outreach and Engagement:

* No Report.

Constituent Relations:

* Appeals next week for student groups budget decisions.

**Old Business:**

**New Business:**

**Closing Remarks:**

Sen. Markisello: No remarks.

Sen. De La Cruz: No remarks.

**Closing Roll called by Senate De La Cruz.**

**Senate Adjourned: 10:56 P.M**