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| 1400 WASHINGTON AVENUE  ALBANY, NY 12222  CAMPUS CENTER 116 (CC116)  www.albany.edu/sasenate  sasenate@albany.edu |  | SEN. JARRETT ALTILIO  *CHAIR*  SEN. SUBHA TASNIM  *VICE CHAIR* |

Student Association Senate

Wednesday, October 25, 2017

9:00 PM – Boardroom

**AGENDA**

1. **Call to Order and Opening Roll**
   * 1. Pledge of Allegiance
2. **Approval of Minutes**
   * 1. Minutes from October 18, 2017 approved.
3. **Public Comment**
   * 1. **Shannon,** 
        1. Hi! I will be at the front desk, and I am excited to meet you all in the coming weeks.
     2. Rev. Sandy Damhof
        1. Thank you for inviting me to be here, I am here to represent all three chaplains. Also thank you for passing resolution, we can only stay here with your voice. Some history on the interfaith center: back about a year ago, December 2016, it was sold to University Foundation by the Albany Interfaith Collegiate Center. There was an understanding that we will be able to continue our services there. However, last semester, we were told we were being moved, so we met with Dr. Christakis who said we would be safe for at least a decade. However 4 weeks ago, we were given a blueprint with temporary interfaith suite, so we requested a meeting with a president. After a week we started to talk to everyone, and started to save the center. Vice President of Student Affairs Dr. Christakis, met with Albany heads because Hillel was locked out of their offices. The meetings started with the Jewish Federation, and then went to Catholic Dioceses and Alliance of the churches. After meeting with all three faith groups, they told him to talk to chaplains and students. Tomorrow, we have a meeting with Dr. Christakis at 10:30. Since the Albany Student Press article came out, we have been told we are going get more than a room, but we do not know where it is, it is a safe and sacred space. Does it have offices and worship space? Does it have 2 kitchens? A meditation room? A library? I do not believe that any space in the campus center is comparable to what it is now. If you can help us in any way shape or form, go on social media, and tweet out save the center.

Reporter Tyler McNeil: Apparently there misunderstanding with Cathy Reid, and that there is a different idea.

Rev. Damhof: There was a meeting with the three chaplains, Dr. Christakis, Ekow, and Amberly. We were told we would have the space for 10 years, but we are meeting again tomorrow.

Sen. Shapiro: How long has it been there?

Rev. Damhof: The Interfaith Center has been around for more than 50 years. The first was burned in a fire, and rebuilt in the 1980s to where it is now. There was a deed restriction, so when that land was given to the university it is for religious reasons only.

Reporter Tyler McNeil: I have heard that a lot of the letters to the president had a lot of misinformation.

Rev. Damhof: I believe what you are talking about is the specifications for the room. When we originally got the blueprint from the university, it was a 14’x14’ space.

Sen. Rybak: What is the most efficient to keep it there?

Rev. Damhof: Collectively and individually, go do something. Every year I get arrested for social disobedience, so get out and show yours! Go on Twitter, ask people questions. We are not using for slamming others. My email is: [sdamhof@albany.edu](mailto:sdamhof@albany.edu)

Chairman Altilio: We have to try to be there for students and be a voice, and hopefully we will have a response from university about their hesitancy to answer. I will touch base with Rev. Damhof.

1. **Opening Remarks**
   * 1. Sen. Jarrett Altilio, Chairman of the Senate
        1. Director Duran is updating the senate website, and tomorrow in the recap you will see a link so that you can have a biography and picture of you so people know you. Please put your email, the people you represent, and immediately contact them.
        2. I also want to say Community Engagement and Outreach and Constituent relations are off to a fantastic start.
        3. Parking. It was a productive meeting where we got to ask questions and express our concerns. I want this to be a start of a persistent dialogue, and we should be following up on the issues as well as holding our leaders and us accountable.
           1. Some immediate changes:

Flex parking on State will be reopened to students. There will be a delay time for signage, so do not expect to see different signs, but you can still park there without worrying of a ticket. They may look to change the contractual obligations with the faculty and unions. They have many considerations, if they take away the spots from faculty, they have to make it up. The comptroller Kevin Wilcox made a commitment to see if they are not being used and to make sure the area will be.

They will absolutely reform the appeal process because supposedly 1 in 3 appeals are successful. There are 9 people on the board, and 1 person checks to see if it is a viable appeal and then maybe it will go on. The board are volunteers, so we would like to see more students are on the board and giving them an opportunity. Faculty and staff also are getting ticketed so they should still have a voice, it should be more equal though.

We will be working with the Graduate Student Association to make another committee: parking advisory board. There will be 6 people on it, with 4 undergraduate students, and 2 graduate students, let me know if you would be interested. They would be meeting once a month to follow up on commitments, and other issues.

b. Long term issues include:

i. Downtown parking because Parking and Mass Transit Services cannot create new parking lots downtown without approval from the city.

ii. In 2-5 years, they will increase the parking space on Indian quad, if they want to increase enrollment.

iii. Another potential goal is to change the metered parking policy. Make the meters not for students, but we would have to be weary of abuse of meter. There would have to be a strict half hour time limit that was enforced.

iv. The Colonial Northwest Lot could be used for commuters overnight parking, and allow students that are commuters to have more leniency, but again we have to be weary of the abuse of it.

c. At the end of the day, we got commitments from parking to move forward which are big wins, and goes to show that we can have successes. The work doesn’t stop here, but starts.

* + 1. Sen. Subha Tasnim, Vice Chairwoman of the Senate
       1. The parking was a very constructive dialogue. Chairman Altilio forgot to mention that if you email them for once time if you have to stay over, they will give you a pass.

Sen. Edwards: Do they have quotas for ticketing?

Chairman Altilio: No. In the mind of Parking and Mass Transit Services, it would be a perfect world if they didn’t have any citations. However, they do expect it in their budget, and would have to ask for more money. The average daily number of tickets given is between 40-50 tickets.

Vice Chairwoman Tasnim: That is 3 tix an hour which is not feasible

Sen. Correia: I just want to point out that what Vicechairwoman Tasnim said is only applicable if you are on Dutch.

Sen. Johanssen: They plan to make a snow emergency lot for those who live downtown.

Sen. Carroll: Is there any way we can get those numbers for the number of tickets given?

Sen. O’Connell: The uptown circulator bus is always late, and is inconvenient for everyone on Freedom.

Sen. Lajara: How accurate is the data?

Chairman Altilio: I do not know where the data comes from.

1. **University Reports**

1. Ray Webb, Representative of Office of Student Involvement:

1. Change for Change Challenge is happening now until December to raise money for disaster relief.

2. There is a leadership minor.

3. PLEASE VOTE, local politics affect your lives!

1. **Judicial Report**
   * 1. The Honorable Monica DeJesus-Ramirez, Chief Justice of the Supreme Court
        1. Pages 77-78 in the bylaws talk about senator duties.
        2. Life can be difficult but it can also be fabulous.
        3. November 16 is the first judicial event with civic action and it will be entertaining and informative.
2. **Board of Finance Report**
   * 1. Sen. Mitchell Rybak, Chairman of the Board of Finance
        1. The application for deputy comptroller is up, so please let anyone you know who may be interested to apply.
3. **Executive Reports**
   * 1. President & Vice President
        1. Jerlisa Fontaine, President of the Student Association:
           1. Next week we will be uniting the student body with a Kneel for Kaepernick event. It will be an opportunity for students to voice opinions, and Chief Wiley will speak on police brutality in America.
           2. Tom, the Dippikill Director is retiring after 26 years. We are losing someone who ran Dippikill for a while. I am talking to Casey about what is going to happen.
           3. Most of tailgating was fun! However there were a few bad reports for tailgating, and we do not want to lose tailgate. So email or text if you have an information.
           4. DACA-we need to continue dialogue and are trying to reach out to DACA students. Please come to me or Chief of Staff Cadesca so we can have a program.
           5. Academic senators, please email Executive Assistant Cutrone back. I need your feedback to be able to improve.

Sen. Rybak: What is your opinion on the Interfaith Center?

President Fontaine: It is university property, but this is a space advocated for. Campus Center is not appropriate for this issue. When people are focusing on their God, they need to have a space away, and need to be separated from the hustle of campus.

Sen. Blackwood: What is the academic initiative?

President Fontaine: Read Executive Assistant Cutrone’s email.

Public Comment: Can Pan-Caribbean be a part of the DACA intiative?

President Fontaine: Yes! Alert as many people as you can!

2. Luisa Segura, Chief of Staff to the Vice President:

a. No report.

* + 1. Comptroller & Deputy Comptrollers
       1. Brian Polanco, Deputy Comptroller:
          1. I just drafted an email with FAQs about their budget for student leaders.
    2. Executive Directors
       1. Director Frempong, Director of Community Engagement and Outreach:
          1. This Sunday is Pine Hills cleanup. There will be a raffle. There will be a social worker for toys for tots.
       2. Hallie Landwehr, Director of Gender and Sexuality Concerns:
          1. The Trans Day of Remembrance will take place in the Interfaith Center on November 20. Thanks for coming to the Coming Out Reception. I am looking for an intern, but I want it to be through word of mouth.
       3. Katherine McDermott, Director of Health and Sustainability
          1. Tomorrow night in the Indian penthouse we will be having the Getting hazed Event. Come by at 6 pm.

Sen. Lajara: What are marijuana goggles?

Director McDermott: Same thing as beer goggles, but show the effects of marijuana instead.

4. President Fontaine on behalf of Information and Technology Department:

a. Currently working on the Student Association homepage. The executive biographies are done, but senate and judicial are coming.

5. Aniel Luna, Director of Intercultural Affairs:

a. We will be tabling on November 14 at the International Fair.

6. Darien Randolph, Director of Marketing:

a. Student Association pins are in!

7. Allen Enriquez, Associate Director of Programming:

a. Scholar series will take place on November 1 in the multipurpose room.

b. Fallapalooza needs volunteers, please email at [jfambrini@albany.edu](mailto:jfambrini@albany.edu) if you are interested.

8. Ryan Maestre, Director of Public Relations:

a. I just want to echo that the Scholar Series is next Wednesday.

b. The google calendar for student groups is up.

i. Sen Correia: Will Scholar Series always be on a Wednesday?

ii. Director Maestre: It will bw whenever is available.

9. Jazlin Perez, Director of Student Group Affairs:

a. The Hurricane Relief Fundraiser will be from November 6 through the 12. Student groups come table and whoever get most money gets a plaque.

1. **Committee Reports**
   * 1. Sen. Jarrett Altilio, Chairman of the Executive Committee
        1. Parking meeting (refer to opening remarks)
     2. Sen. Brandon Holdridge, Chairman of Rules and Administration
        1. We have two bylaws tonight. Mostly have met with university at senate meetings, getting half up, talked to his committee, best way to keep the interfaith center where it is, is by petition and protest the issue. Something may get done, we are the voice.
        2. Going over ethics and government operations in order to make a better guidelines.
     3. Sen. Mark Anthony Quinn, Chairman of Appropriations
        1. Good homecoming! We have met with six groups and there are four bills, and ten submissions. Good marketing by word of mouth and others.

4. Sen. Anna Agnes, Chairwoman of Government Operations

1. We are trying to make sure everyone is doing their job. We will act if you are not, so please go to your office hours.

* + - * 1. Sen. Adam Shayo, Chairman of the Subcommittee on Ethics

No report

* + 1. Sen. Olivia Johansen, Chairwoman of Community Engagement and Outreach
       1. We are moving the start of the food drive to Monday October 20. 9 student orgs on board which already is a huge improvement and hopefully there will be a large turnout.
          1. Webb: sa?
          2. Sen. Johansen: Each living area and the Student Association, and maybe library. Later on I will let Student Association people make monetary donations.
    2. Sen. Sean Correia, Chairman of Constituent Relations
       1. We are reaching out to State and Indian Quads for the town hall.

1. **Legislative Agenda**
   1. Chairman: Sen. James did a lot of work for iclickers. Thanks!
      1. S.1718-048 Appropriations, La Dolce Vita

Sen. Quinn: This is one of the first requests, first come first serve basis.

Student representative: Tuesday at 9, we have Italian club which is a safe space for people to do something to do after classes or work. We do not have a budget because of last year’s E-board. We have an agenda though, scholarship for people of Italian decent, and we want to do a trip to Ellis Island and have Masquerade ball.

Sen Quinn: They want $100 for gift cards with 6 gift cards total. In the past there has been corruption, but we are trying to get rid of corruption, and our Eboard is not allowed to play in tournament.

Sen. Shayo: Call to question

Sen Agnes: Object!

Objection is sustained 16-21-2

Sen. Rybak: Why are we giving to gift cards instead of scholarships?

Student Representative: We want to get small stuff first, and want to get more people into it.

Sen. Quinn: It is difficult to incentivize people to come, and is a very good technique, and implement system to work. We should all be able to agree gift card is a good way.

Sen. Agnes: Can you talk more about corruption?

Sen. Quinn: In the past the Eboard would be getting the gift card.but it can’t be removed till purchase request is approved. The gift card, is in possession of comptroller. The person who is receives it is under supervision of comptroller. There is already check and balance in place, and the money is not to one person,

Sen James: There are 6 gift cards, and the highest gift card is $25.

Sen. Lajara: Gift cards are great incentives. As of right now, you do not have budget, are you going to be back with a bigger ask?

Sen. Quinn: They came with a bigger ask, Eboard t-shirts, but the committee voted it down. I advised them to do it down, and they understand why they don’t have money, and now everything they need, they will be coming here for more if they need it.

Sen. Rybak: Some past information on gift cards. They have and have not been given out depending on the senate. However when gift cards are given, complaints about the gift cards have been brought up.

Sen. O’Connell: These are games, you have to win in order to get a gift card. They are not rigged.

Sen. Carroll: I voted no, because of gift cards. I hate not giving them, but it puts committee for thousands of dollars’ worth of prizes.

Shapiro: Students can ask for $1000, but that’s not going to happen. If you don’t like gift cards, I also hesitated. But if gift cards are a thing, it should have been made during budget season.

Sen. Rybak: To add in, yes that is true, Sen. O’Connell. But further down the line, there is going to be someone who does not deserve it. Additionally, are prizes something we should utilize appropriations for? This money is going to go quick.

Sen. Edwards: I think that they we should be respectful of constituents. We have 2.6 million dollars to give to students.

Sen. Tasnim: I don’t disagree with at all, but by giving the money we are setting this precedent, and we have to be neutral, if someone comes with 1000 we have to give it to them.

Sen. Shapiro: We are allowed to say no for $1000.

Sen. Correia: I do not disagree, but it is not 2.6 million dollars. We only have $100,000, and 298 student groups.

Sen. Carroll: Sen. Shapiro, I understand what you are saying, but it is a lot harder to go on.

Sen. Shapiro: The highest gift card is $25. We have every right to say no at $26.

Sen. Quinn: Spring semester is coming, but there is less time than you think. You are seeing long-term, but you are forgetting about the short-term.

Sen. Shayo: We are debating over $100. This won’t break the bank, we can’t say this and that.

Sen. Lajara: I move to call to question

Quinn : Second

25-5-6

* + 1. S.1718-049 Appropriations, Kehila

Student Representatives: This is our second official semester, and asking for $200. $100 for a MSA-Kehila event, and another $100 Shabbot 360 contribution.

Sen. Holdridge: Move to call to question.

Sen. Carroll: Second

32-1-2

* + 1. S.1718-050 Appropriations, Black Theatre Productions

Student representative: The organization started 10 years ago because lots of students felt like we were not represented. We are still small, but we are trying to do other programs to get a bigger name, including a talent show with a guest too.

Sen. James: Is that how much they need?

Sen. Quinn: They have it in the budget.

Sen. Lajara: Move to call to question

Sen. Carroll: Second

31-1-4

* + 1. S.1718-051 Appropriations, Pan-Caribbean Association

Sen. Quinn: This is a very successful organization which doubled in size from last year to now.

Student Representative: We take pride in being from Caribbean. Being a family as people who come from the Caribbean, because of the recent tragedies, it hit home for people. The proceeds will be donated, and we want a guest artist so more people come.

President Fontaine: I definitely want to emphasize that we need to support this, they are going to give back.

Sen. Carroll: They got $7000 from outside fundraising, just think that this is a small portion.

Sen. Quinn: They already have $3000 for this, but they have $7000 from last year and now, outside fundraising, we need to reward them.

Sen. Rybak: Move to call to question.

Sen. Carroll: Second.

35-1-2

* + 1. S.1718-052 Executive Branch Office Consolidation
       1. We wanted to revamp the descriptions of the directors, in order to give the president more responsibility for what the departments should be doing.

Sen. James: There won’t be a revised description?

Sen. Holdridge: We want to leave it blank for the presidents’ wants. We talked about it with President Fontaine.

Senator Rybak: The need for the departments change every year because so much changes in the world.

Senator Quinn: Will there be bylaws for this every year, but will it be free construct?

Sen. Holdridge: It changes yearly, so that the president can tell their departments what they should be doing every year.

Sen. Pilorge: Shouldn’t there be something that they should do? This gives them more power.

Sen. Holdridge: This is a baseline, and changes year to year.

President Fontaine: Departments change year to year. When you elect a leader you need to trust that leader knows what they want, and you can work with senate if you disagree.

Sen. Altilio: There are different procedures in the senate too, and they are broad provisions.

Sen. Shapiro: No basic provisions; what is the job?

Pres. Fontaine: The job will always be changing because the world is changing, so it’s hard to say these are the needs for years to come. Please advocate for it, I will hold my department to this.

Sen. Capuano: What happens if the president appoints someone who doesn’t do something and the president doesn’t do anything?

Sen. Holdridge: Same thing.

Sen. Eldridge: The bylaws are outdated, and doesn’t include what the senate wants to accomplish. It shouldn’t be set in stone.

Sen. Demma: Someone knows when they are not doing their job. They know their job description, they see it when they apply. We can hold them accountable to the job description.

Sen. Blackwood: Call to question.

Sen. Holdridge: Second

25-8-3

* + 1. S.1718-053 Reforms to Ensure Executive Branch Accountability
       1. Sen. Holdridge: We revised the first sentence to clean it up, letting executive know they have to come to make a report. We wanted to make it equal with the senate, 3 unexcused absences at senate meetings for executive now, too.
       2. Sen. Rybak: This has to get Board of Finance approval because it is 500 section.
       3. Sen. Holdridge: I move to move this to next week.
       4. Sen. Rybak: Second

1. **Old Business**
   * 1. No old business.
2. **New Business**
   * 1. No new business
3. **Closing Remarks**
   * 1. Sen. Jarrett Altilio, Chairman of the Senate
     2. Sen. Subha Tasnim, Vice Chairwoman of the Senate