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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, February 14, 2018

9:00 PM – Boardroom

**SESSION AGENDA**

1. **Call to Order and Opening Roll**
   * 1. Pledge of Allegiance
2. **Approval of Minutes**
   * 1. Minutes from January 31, 2018 approved.
3. **Opening Remarks**
   * 1. Sen. Jarrett Altilio, Chairman of the Senate
        1. Strategic Plan is next week at 8:30 PM and that is a true start time. Both President Rodriguez and Dr. Christakis will be here.
        2. Dippikill is on March 2, and we will try to carpool.
        3. The Senate meet and greet is rescheduled to the last week in February.
     2. Sen. Subha Tasnim, Vice Chairwoman of the Senate
        1. Welcome back and congrats to new senators!
4. **University Reports**
   * 1. No report
5. **Judicial Report**
   * 1. Monica DeJesus Ramirez, Chief Justice of the Supreme Court
        1. No report.
6. **Board of Finance Report**
   * 1. Sen. Mitchell Rybak, Whip of the Senate
        1. Budget packets are due this Friday (2/16) at 11:59 PM.
7. **Executive Reports**
   * 1. President and Vice President
        1. Jerlissa Fontaine, President of the Student Association
           1. Reslife is starting a new thing where student groups cannot use quads for events. I am having conversations with them to see what we can do about it.
           2. Leadership conference on May 5 from 8:30-5. Going to be a great seminar, and we will have amazing guests coming.
           3. What do you think the Office of Diversity should be working on? Please send me an email with your ideas.
           4. The New York Capital Council meeting on Saturday (2/17) may not occur. Instead we may have a conference call.
        2. Madeeha Khan, Vice President of the Student Association
           1. We are planning a Student Association Formal on May 4. We will be creating a scholarship for the Student Association leaders through alums.
     2. Comptroller and Deputy Comptrollers
        1. Nicolas Hackshaw, Deputy Comptroller of the Student Association
           1. I have had to work on a lot of big groups to get their events in order.
           2. I also have been meeting with the Board of Finance to get a list of new and unfunded groups.
     3. Executive Directors
        1. Joel Duran, Executive Director of Information and Technology
           1. Tech Savvy Series is Wednesday, if you want to increase your productivity come out.
        2. Allen Enriquez, Associate Director of Programming
           1. We are currently working on Parkfest. If you are interested in volunteering, please email us.
        3. Hallie Landwehr, Executive Director of Gender and Sexuality Concerns
           1. Thanks to anyone that promoted and came to vagina monologues!
        4. Aniel Luna, Executive Director of Intercultural Affairs
           1. Martin Luther King, Jr. event was a great one.
           2. February 22 will be the next Conversation for Change.
           3. Cultural Fashion Show is on April 22 during the Cultural Carnival.
           4. I was happy to go to the conference. The heads loved us and everything we had to say. We learned how to handle certain dialogues, and I brought back information we learned to the Conversation for Change committee. I am hoping for people to use this information, and we are trying to bring conference to Albany.
        5. Ryan Maestre, Executive Director of Public Relations
           1. Professional Readiness series next week, please try to come out.
           2. We are trying to get businesses in the area sponsor Parkfest.
        6. Sylvia Ayoub, Associate Director of Health and Sustainability
           1. We are looking for a senator to be a part of the sustainability committee. We will be brainstorming and collaborating with the administration.
           2. The university is trying to create a tobacco free campus.
        7. Intern of the Marketing Department
           1. New associate directors for Marketing and Dippikill have been selected and will start next week.
        8. Haven Hutchinson, Executive Director of Community Engagement and Outreach
           1. We will be tabling in the lecture center for civic action policy change.
           2. SUNY Advocacy Day is February 24.
           3. I will be working with the senate to try to get everyone out to SA Day in late March or early April.
        9. Vice President Khan, Spokesperson of Student Group Affairs
           1. Director Cacoperdo is getting back to the student groups, and is trying to help get student groups who are unrecognized to be recognized.
           2. Apply for Purple and Gold Awards. The ceremony is April 12, and the form is live until February 24.

Sen. Gonzalez: I couldn’t find the individual submissions. The only ones I could find were for groups.

Vice President Khan: We will look into this. Remember to also tell students about this opportunity.

Public Comment: I made a submission, and it would not let me edit nor make a new submission.

Vice President Khan: I can help you with that.

1. **Committee Reports**
   * 1. Sen. Jarrett Altilio, Chairman of the Executive Committee
        1. No report
     2. Sen. Brandon Holdridge, Chairman of Rules and Administration
        1. We will be having a meeting soon.
     3. Sen. Mark Anthony Quinn, Chairman of Appropriations
        1. Last Sunday was our first meeting of the semester; it was 3 hours long. We had eleven groups and some are here today.
        2. Our spreadsheet is spot on!
     4. Sen. Anna Agnes, Chairwoman of Government Operations
        1. No report.
     5. Sen. Olivia Johansen, Chairwoman of Community Engagement and Outreach
        1. No report
     6. Sen. Sean Correia, Chairman of Constituent Relations
        1. Send the survey about what students want from the Student Association around to help circulate it.
           1. Sen. Shapiro: Can you give me a number of how many recognition forms have been handed into you?
           2. Sen. Correia: Only a handful.
           3. Sen. Shapiro: Student groups haven’t heard from anyone, and have handed in the form.
           4. Sen. Correia: If it happened at the end of the last semester or the beginning of this one, then it is because there has not been a Student Group Affairs Director.
2. **Legislative Agenda**
   * 1. S.1718-087R Snap Act
        1. Sen. Rybak: The Student Association condemns the new snapchat!  
           1. Sen Asmus: What would you think about sending it to more people in Snapchat?
           2. Sen Holdrige: I have been personally affected by this update because I lost a 380+ day streak with the chairman.
           3. Sen Zelaya: It causes confusion and people hit random things on the update.

Iclicker Vote: Passes 32-3-0

* + 1. S.1718-088 Spring 2018 Committee Reauthorization
       1. Sen. Altilio: This is just the new committee structure. As you can see, it is basically the same with only a few tweaks which I think will help the Senate work more efficiently.

Iclicker Vote: Passes 30-1-1

* + 1. S.1718-089 Reforms to Conference Planning Oversight
       1. Sen. Agnes: This bill creates more oversight on conferences, I think it’s important to have checks and balances. We should treat ourselves like how we treat student groups. We do not just give the money to student groups, we approve it through appropriations or through the budget process. This past conference, lots of money was spent on registration and hotels and flights. $500 on Ubers (at 2am) alone! I just want the Student Association to be more accountable for their conference spending. This is not to limit anyone going to conferences. It is just to get approval and have the people who went to the conference report what they learned in there and how we can use it to help students.
          1. Sen. Blackwood: How does the money play a part of this?
          2. Sen. Agnes: The conference line is for every branch. This bill is just to see where people are going and what they see whilst there.
          3. Sen. Lajara: Yield time to Chief of Staff Cadesca.
          4. Chief of Staff Cadesca: Who would approve and what is the process of approval?
          5. Sen. Agnes: Two-thirds of the Senate would approve of it. Again, this bill is just to know what’s going on.
          6. Sen. Shapiro: This bill makes sense on the surface since you do not want them abusing their power. However, this is in their budget line, and not the time to change your mind. You are not doing this to any other budget line item. If the conference gets rejected, you are not able to use the money, and it will be leftover.
          7. Chairman Altilio: I have been on many conferences and I do not think I have ever seen Student Association funds be used so irresponsibly. The idea that the money would be useless if it is rejected is irrational. They will be able to go on just as many conference, it’s just a check. It is also wrong to think that we have different rules than student groups. A student group would either ask permission through the Appropriations Committee or when they submit a budget. We cannot say that we can do whatever we want and then make student groups go through a process.
          8. Sen. Blackwood: If money is allocated for this use, then why is does it need to go through senate?
          9. Sen. Agnes: Not all the money they used is from the conference line. They used money from marketing, public relations, and programming lines. We all, as a senate, should have a say where people are going, and help them pick.
          10. Comptroller Hackshaw: I put that purchase request in as a test. We are going through to make drastic changes. Also, there has been no conversation with me. I feel that if you are going to go up there and put this bill on the floor we should have a conversation about it first.
          11. Sen Pilorge: No one is attacking anyone. I don’t see a problem with this bill, and the conversation you are talking is going to happen through this bill.
          12. Sen. Capuano: It introduces communication. Also, I want to say since when is something going to checks and balances a bad thing?
          13. Pres. Fontaine: We have a conference budget, and we can use it. I just followed past precedent with this conference, and had no malicious intentions when going here. We did learn a lot, even if it was on Mardi Gras weekend.
          14. Sen. Holdridge: Nothing wrong in making it formal, and having legislation to put a procedure in place. This just helps with checks and balances.
          15. Sen. Capuano: I yield time to Deputy Comptroller Carroll.
          16. Dep. Comptroller Carroll: If you vote no to this bill, you voting no to your voice.
          17. Sen. Pilorge: I don’t think there is a problem with this bill.
          18. Pres. Fontaine: We learned a lot of new things at this conference something new which is not just for us. We bring it back for the students.
          19. Sen. Eldridge: This is not against the location it is just for communication, and being able to talk about where people are going beforehand. The student groups who want money go through a visible process. If we do not go through the same process, then we are not being transparent.
          20. Sen. Jones: We need to make these decisions objectively, we wouldn’t say no. The executive branch seems kind of childish to me right now.
          21. Sen. Agnes: We cannot decide on locations because of viewpoint neutrality. We are not micromanaging, but instead, making ourselves aware of what is going on.
          22. Sen. Correia: We do not vote on programming or marketing because those are things go right to benefitting students. The conferences are wonderful, but they don’t directly go to students.
          23. Sen. Blackwood: The purpose of the bill is to punish them for this conference. It is not a checks and balances, but a plan for senate to have more power.
          24. Sen. Asmus: It is up to the discretion of the budget line, and is not a direct response to this past conference.
          25. Sen. Altilio: This is a direct response to this conference. We cannot use student money for people to go to bars. We are not micromanaging, and if people could manage it, we would not need this.
          26. Sen. Hura: We should not just do this during budget season. I am past treasurer of Model UN, and on our NYU conference we were not allowed to use Ubers.
          27. Vice President Khan: If the approval is not for the location or the timing, then what is the approval for?
          28. Sen. Agnes: What you are bringing back for the conferences.
          29. Sen. Blaise: What would this be for? Would it be for executive branch only? What is the specific criteria?
          30. Sen Correia: It’s just for us to see what everyone is doing and create a way of communication.
          31. Sen. Jones: We really need to make this objective, and look at face value to see what they are doing. They need to say this is what we want to spend, and what we have to put in for. There is no reason to say no.
          32. Pres. Fontaine: You all are focusing on Mardi Gras, but we should be focusing on the new things we have learned. Nothing has been done about it in the past, why start now?
          33. Chief of Staff Cadesca: There is no formal process for student groups to come in and ask to go on conferences. This is absolutely subjective to what we do. We also told the Senate the week before that we were going.
          34. Sen. Holdridge: You had already booked the plane tickets and hotel rooms. What could we have done at that point?
          35. Comptroller Hackshaw: The plane tickets were booked with insurance, so we could have got it refunded. What is the main issue? That we are using money?
          36. Sen. Shapiro: Sen. Correia, I disagree with you because groups do directly benefit.
          37. Sen. Correia: My comment was purely in response to what Pres. Fontaine said.
          38. Sen. O’Meara: Why is this bill is a problem at all? It’s the students’ money; we should know beforehand where people are going and what they are doing.
          39. Sen. Holdridge: Move to call to question.
          40. Sen. Blackwood: Objection

Iclicker vote: Passes 20-10-3 (vote on whether or not to vote)

Iclicker Vote: Passes 22-8-3 (vote on the bill)

* + 1. S.1718-090 Board of Finance Nomination, Lajara
       1. Pres. Fontaine: Nominee Lajara is involved in Fuerza Latina, and is a very diverse student. He can help represent different groups.
       2. Sen. Gonzalez: How many people were considered for this position?
       3. Pres. Fontaine: 3 or 4 people.
       4. Sen. Jones: What was the organization of how you chose who you chose?
       5. Pres. Fontaine: Someone schedules my days for me. I go where my calendar takes me.
       6. Sen. Gonzalez: Did the other people have an interview?
       7. Pres. Fontaine: One had an interview, the other one, I am sorry. As I said I go where my calendar takes me.
       8. Sen. Gonzalez: This is not an attack on Nominee Lajara, I just wanted to know what goes into it since I am a new senator.

Vote by hand: Passes 30-0-1

* + 1. S.1718-091 Elections Commission Nomination, Guerreri
       1. Chairwoman Haft: Self Nomination for the upcoming election is due on Monday (2/19) at Noon.
       2. Nominee Guerreri: I am a double major, and never have never been a part of the Student Association.

Iclicker vote: Passes 27-0-4

* + 1. S.1718-092 Appropriations, Kehila Conservative Jewish Students
       1. President: We are a conservative sect of Judaism, which is not political. We want to sponsor an event for Sexuality event with Hillel in which a Jewish Transgender group. This is really important in bringing together the LGBTQ+ community and the Jewish community on campus. There will be snacks and refreshments as well as a question and answer part.

Iclicker vote: Passes 29-1-3

* + 1. S.1718-093 Appropriations, National Association for the Advancement of Colored

People (NAACP)

1. We are asking for funds for a lot of things this semester. Some of which we are asking is for costumes and a DJ as well as a Black Panther screening.

a. Sen. Holdridge: Motion to amend the bill to the correct amounts.

b. Sen. Correia: Second.

1. Iclicker vote: Passes 26-0-4

* + 1. S.1718-094 Appropriations, Pan-Caribbean Association
       1. President: We are asking for money to go to the conference in Florida. There is the 44th Annual All Caribbean across the Nation conference. It has bettered our organization; in fact, we have grown more than 100 people. We are trying to get as many people to go to the conference as we can.
       2. Sen. Zelaya: Would it be the whole organization?
       3. President: It will only be the E-Board

Iclicker vote: Passes 31-0-4

* + 1. S.1718-095 Appropriations, La Dolce Vita
       1. President: We are trying to bring Carnevale onto this campus on March 2. We have had an increase in people come to our event and we need the money from you guys to create the event.
       2. Sen. Asmus: I applaud you guys for your ambition, what is the projected attendance?
       3. President: At least 200 people. We have had to implement dues this year, so if you are a member it will cost $5. If not, $10 and masks are included.

Iclicker vote: Passes 31-1-3

* + 1. S.1718-096 Appropriations, National Association of Black Accountants (NABA)
       1. President: We are trying to go to a conference which was such an amazing experience last year. This year we are trying to do better and bigger and make strong contacts for getting an internship.
       2. Vice President: We want to give the opportunity to our organization, and E-Board and a couple members. Our motto is lifting as we climb, so we want to give young college students who are looking to get to the next step the opportunity to do so.

Iclicker vote: Passes 31-1-4

* + 1. S.1718-097 Appropriations, Women’s Club Volleyball
       1. President: Please help us go to the championship to in St Louis. We are asking for hotel and flight costs.
       2. Sen. Quinn: They are automatically going to the playoffs, even if they do not do well during the season.

Iclicker vote: Passes 28-2-3

12. S. S1718-098 Under Construction

1. President: We are asking for money for a competition on Sunday which is for Black History Month. The rest is for different clothing items throughout the rest of the year.

1. Iclicker vote: Passes 30-1-4

1. **Old Business**
   1. No old business
2. **New Business**
   1. Sen. Agnes: Motion to move into executive session
3. **Closing Remarks**
   * 1. Sen. Jarrett Altilio, Chairman of the Senate
        1. No closing remarks
     2. Sen. Subha Tasnim, Vice Chairwoman of the Senate
        1. No Closing remarks
4. **Closing Roll and Adjournment**