Student Government Association
General Board Meeting
11/2/2015

Present:

Executive Board: J. Ahern (President), E. Drouin (Vice President), T. Mack (Treasurer), C. Gosselin (BAM), N. Vigorita (Secretary)

Advisors: M. Delaney, C. Ambrosio


Guests: K. Bedini, A. Cross, A. Dilon

Meeting called to order at 3:02 PM

1. President’s Report
   a. Acceptance of Minutes from
      i. Motion #36 (J. Mazyck, K. Lein) Motion to accept the minutes from 10/26/2015 (26-0-0). Motion Carries.
   b. Vice President Bedini- Pride Center and C.A.P.S.
      i. Pride Center
         1. When the Student Center was built there was no need or ask for a pride center like there was for the rest of the Unity Wing
         2. Last year SGA passed a resolution and there were other organizations and faculty asking for this center as well
         3. Pride Alliance wanted more space and staff and a larger budget.
         4. Eastern and CT in general are in financial disarray. Last year we had 3 rescissions. We are struggling. Eastern keeps positions vacant (about 40 right now) to save money. So it would be hard to get a full time staff for this room. The plan was to get a second part time UA or a full time grad student. We were unable to get a grad student for this fall semester but will try to get another staff member for the spring semester and grad interns for the future.
         5. The budget was, however, increased this year
         6. Space on campus always has been and will be an issue.
         7. VP Bedini doesn’t want to relocate the room to a center outside of the student center.
         8. We have to be realistic on what space we have available
         9. Taking a meeting room offline for this center won’t work because they are highly used.
10. There was a paper with the current and new layout for the rooms handed out
11. Yearbook office would have to be relocated
12. This looks pretty simple, but is not so. In the ceiling there are the HVAC and communication systems.
13. This will cost upwards of $100,000 from capital expenses, not tuition money. The same money that fixes hot water leaks and other problems similar to this
   a. This cost includes furniture
14. The plan is to do this this summer since it will take more than 3-4 weeks during winter break
15. M. McFall Gorman thinks it would be used well, but the commuters use the computers and are in the space often
   a. There is a plan to relocate the computers along the new wall so they are still there
   b. A separate space for commuters hasn’t been decided
16. M. Wysopal asks what the pride room will be converted into?
   a. Possibly a commuter room, although small, or a meeting room or art gallery.
   b. She suggests a small room for veterans since Woods is only available until 5 and many vets are commuters and have PTSD and this space is quiet
17. A. Dilon asked if in the fine arts building there are meeting rooms?
   a. VP Bedini replied there are classrooms and will look into meeting rooms
18. M. Ehrnfelt mentions the new center would probably be a little smaller than the new SGA suite.
19. She would like to know the new budget as well, which VP Bedini will get
20. J. Ahern wonders what the timeline of the old Pride Room’s change is and would SGA’s input impact the decisions?
   a. If we are doing the construction over the summer, in the spring give input into what the room should be turned into.
   b. It’s the University’s decision but want the students opinions
21. M. Patino asked about the yearbook room?
   a. Undecided where/if this will be relocated to
22. M. Ehrnfelt would like to know if the Pride Center Coordinator would be used this summer to give input for the new space?
   a. Yes!
23. Informal vote taken shows the senate is pleased with this outcome

ii. C.A.P.S.
1. It takes way too long to get an appointment here and it is understaffed with inadequate interns.
2. You can get an appointment relatively quickly with the health center, but it takes 5 weeks for CAPS.
3. We are comparable to Central, Southern and Western for staff in this area even though we are a smaller school
4. There gets to a point in the semester where they are maxed out.
5. Currently we are down one position, the director, because they resigned in May. We are in the process of searching and would like someone by the middle of the spring semester. A counselor there took over the director position and still sees patients, as the old one did.
6. They never will refuse a crisis. There is an on call crisis counselor at all times.
7. As far as the interns are concerned, Eastern takes a student who is getting their license in CT. They are required to do ‘X’ amount of hours in a counseling center, like a doctor does a residency in a hospital. They are under the supervision of a psychologist who reviews the case notes and cases and this is how they learn to do these jobs well.
8. VP Bedini mentions we do not have enough staff, we could add 5 more and there still wouldn’t be enough counselors.
9. Other schools will take more students but only allow 4 visits or so, and then you are on your own.
10. We have a contract with a hospital where they provide a Psychiatric PRN to Eastern to prescribe medications.
11. It is very difficult to get this issue resolved because it will always be there.
12. There isn’t a counseling center in the state that can keep open appointments and that don’t have a wait.
13. There are 3 full time staff, 1 director, (normally 4 full time and a director) and this year there are 8 or 9 interns. We have a significant interview process for these interns.
14. H. Brooks would like a survey to the student available to say how the intern they saw is doing as a counselor.
   a. VP Bedini will look into this.
15. All interns have to put notes into the computer even though they may not be taking physical notes during a session.
16. The ‘tell somebody’ form, is it developed here or required?
   a. Division of Student Affairs developed this. If there is a need, whether behavioral, relationship, personal issues this option is available.
   b. There is a committee that meets every Monday at 9am to go over the cases. If it is critical it is entered immediately to be taken care of.
   c. E. Drouin has heard of problems with this where you need dates, times, etc. What if you want to enter “I think so & so needs help because of x,y and z”. But you can’t do it.
   d. A CAPS staff told someone it was ‘too late’ to submit a Tell Somebody form. It should never be too late for this.
   e. You hit the submit button for this form and it goes to about 8 people’s email.
   f. VP Bedini doesn’t believe you need to enter every field in this form, he will confirm this.
17. J. Mazyck asks about the “Titabium software” used to document notes. If a student were to go in, can they ask for the notes on themselves?
   a. VP Bedini said yes.
   b. M. Wysopal wonders if this is a conflict of interest? She was told, as a psychology major, that you shouldn’t show the client what you are writing. It may be detrimental to show them what is written. VP Bedini understands, and he’d have to get a print out of how CAPS goes about this, but it is available to the student. The counselor is a professional and will go about this accordingly.

18. M. Ehrnfelt wonders if interns get paid?
   a. No. They are getting their Masters/Ph. D and this is part of that process. They need so many hours.

   a. VP Bedini expressed concern since we, as students, don’t even like the interns who are trained
   b. Maggie replies that the student will know that these are students and they can relate to the struggles on campus.

   c. Officer Schneider- C.O.P.S Open Rec Night
      i. Public safety always asks for a donation for COPS Open Rec event for prizes.

   d. One-on-Ones
      i. About 15 minutes with J. Ahern to talk about the semester.
      ii. Paper was passed around to book these meetings

2. Vice President’s Report
   a. Internal Committee Updates
      i. Public Relations- Contest & Warrior Wednesday
         1. Send Co. or Ch. Welch your ‘about me’ papers and head shots!
         2. 1st Warrior Wednesday is November 11 in the lobby after the Veteran’s Day event
         3. The book store donated shirts
         4. Athletics typically sell items to the student athletes at reduced cost, PR will look if we can get these donated or sold to us at that cost
         5. Plush/stuffed mascots will be given to the winners of the name contest
         6. A select survey is up for the mascot names! Voting should end Thursday or Friday
      
      ii. Student Issues
         1. H. Brooks is painting Voice Box Sunday at 12-2
         2. CAPS is largest issue they have
         3. Another issue is assigned to J. Mazyck and is the parking ticketing. He is finding a meeting time with Chief Garewski to talk about this.

   iii. BAM- N.O.W. & Computer Science
      1. Motion #37: (H. Brooks, K. Lien) Motion to accept the constitution changes for Computer Science (25-0-0) motion carries
2. NOW changed the wording to be more inclusive and added a PR position
3. **Motion #38: (E. Drouin, P. Hoeps)** Motion to accept the constitution changes for NOW *(23-0-2)* Motion carries
4. FRPs are due tonight!!

3. **Treasurer’s Report:**
   a. **Accounts Update**
      i. **General Board** $6,437.21
         1. When the accounts were originally done, security deposits were paid by SGA, but BAM has taken this on, so this account increased. $3,000
      ii. **Executive Board** $5,141,44

4. **Secretary Report:**
   a. **Office Hours**
      i. Remember to sign out!

5. **Advisor Report:**

6. **Old Business**
   a. **President’s Breakfast**
      i. Could use TV22 as well as the Lantern for the President’s Breakfast advertisement.
   b. **Organizational Outreach Responses**
      i. Please send T. Mack or H. Brooks your results
      ii. If the club doesn’t email back, go a little before the meeting to introduce yourself and talk to the Eboard
      iii. A lot of students have issues they expressed but also they love Eastern!
   c. **SGA Logo (Apparel)**
      i. J. Ahern took the old & new logos to University Relations, looked at other schools logos, and will look at these and come back with one by Friday!

7. **New Business**
   a. **Parking Concerns**
      i. There is a document given to us by Chief Garewski with spaces lost and gained for commuters, residents, and staff.
      ii. E. Drouin would like this document posed on the SGA social medias to show the students, with a little explanation as to why residents lost the spots.
         1. Whenever we get an answer/solution, it is decided it should go on the social media to show the students what we are working on

8. **Open Floor**
   a. **External Committee Updates**
      i. Get a physical form of what you are doing if something is resolved or looked into to let the students know.
      ii. H. Brooks and M. Delaney have more parking appeals to look into
   b. **Is it a new procedure to text club presidents about FRPs?**
      i. Yes, some students are a little annoyed by this
   c. **Friends shadowing for a day?**
i. There is an official time for this in the spring. If want an unofficial time, ask your professors if they can sit in.

d. Clubs have had problems getting vans
   i. Athletics and the CCE take many vans
   ii. Spring is more busy than fall
   iii. Looking into more vans
   iv. **2 weeks minimum to get the paperwork in for the vans is ideal!**
   v. You need a full or anticipated list of those attending when going to reserve the vans

e. M. Wysopal has a survey for a psych class she would like you to take
   i. If you are in a psych class you may get extra credit!

9. Dates to Remember:
   a. Meeting on the Master Plan: General Board Meeting - Monday, November 16th, 3:00 PM
   b. Town Gown: Thursday, November 19th, 6:00 PM, Johnson Room – Library (Room 204)
   c. C.O.P.S Open Rec Night: Friday, December 4th

Meeting adjourned at 4:19 PM