Student Government Association
General Board Meeting
November 10th, 2014

Present:

Executive Board: M. Hicks (President), A. Bullard (Vice President), K. Chrzanowska (BAM), J. Ahern (Treasurer), E. Drouin (Secretary)

Advisors: C. Ambrosio, M. Delaney


Guests: K. Jules, D. Cowles, Y. Kaja, M. Higgins

Meeting called to order at 3:05 PM

1. President’s Report
   a. Acceptance of Minutes from 11/3/2014
      i. Motion #50 (H. Brooks, G. Canzio) Motion to accept the minutes from 11/3/14 (26-0-0). Motion Carries.
   b. UNICEF Club
      i. The UNICEF (United Nation International Children’s Emergency Fund) Club came to speak to the senate. They have provided a Constitution to the senate that does not look like the original Eastern constitution, this is because they have to incorporate components of UNICEF’s Constitution. A representative from UNICEF Club came to speak to the senate. They hope to empower the university by providing opportunities for community service and development for UNICEF

1. Discussion
   a. J. Reid asked where the idea for the organization came from.
      i. Y. Kaja is a UNICEF volunteer herself. She was the President of Peace and Human Rights Club but she wanted to focus on children.
   b. E. Pelletier asked if they’d be fundraising just for UNICEF the organization or if they’d be educating students on human rights issues as well.
      i. The main purpose is to educate and do some fundraising as well, the two go hand in hand.
   ii. Discussion on the club and voting shall happen next meeting to give the senate a full week to read the constitution.

c. Eastern Finance Association
i. The idea of the Eastern Finance Association came after the introduction of the finance major here at Eastern. The club is going to be educating the students on the stock market, budgeting, and managing money, along with other financial things. They shall make it interesting and try to keep the students engaged

1. E. Pelletier asked the representatives what kinds of funding they’d be requesting.
   a. They’d be looking for funding for visiting Wall Street and for speakers who can attest to working in the financial world.

2. P. Hoeps said that Economics Club is doing something with the stock market. He asked if the Finance Association would be doing something similar.
   a. There’s some overlap between the two fields, but both clubs will not be exactly the same.

3. M. McFall Gorman asked how many reoccurring members they will have.
   a. 24 people came to their interest meeting and there’s been roughly 20 consistent members.

4. A. Nadeau asked when their meeting is.
   a. Tuesdays at 3:30 in Room 107

5. E. Pelletier asked if they’d consider collaborating with any clubs such as Economics Club
   a. They’ve spoke to AMA about collaborating and they’re willing to collaborate with others.

ii. Discussion on the club and voting shall happen next meeting to give the senate a full week to read the constitution.

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d. SGA Logo

i. M. Hicks introduced the newly drafted logo that has been brought to the executive board from the CAB Graphics Coordinator, Abby. She created two logos, one official that is a seal and one, less official, to go on documents. The Executive Board wanted something that was more Eastern-appropriate. It has a newly incorporated clock tower. M. Hicks asked for feedback from the senate.

1. R. Rivera doesn’t think any of the two font options look professional; they look childish.
   a. M. Hicks asked if he liked the overall concept.
   i. R. Rivera responded yes, but the font is too round.

2. A. Nadeau doesn’t like either of the fonts. The clock tower doesn’t work well.

3. H. Brooks says it doesn’t look as professional and doesn’t like the clock tower being incorporated in the “A”.

4. J. Reid agrees with H. Brooks, it should be formatted better.

5. E. Pelletier asked what the thought process of the olive branches were. She thinks it’s reminiscent of Greek life.
   a. M. Hicks says it’s a Laurel; it’s common in crests.

6. R. Rivera doesn’t think there should be a rectangle around the logo; he thinks there shouldn’t be a border.

7. J. Mazyck thinks the clock tower above the “A” looks like we’re trying to force it in there.
8. J. Ahern thinks that if we remove the clock tower, the border around the “A”, and change the font, it looks like current logo that he makes.

9. M. Wysopal likes the clock tower concept, it makes the Eastern SGA identifiable.

10. M. McFall Gorman thinks that the clock tower is something that we should incorporate. With a simple font change, the clock tower would probably fit better.

11. Co. Welch is wondering if we should incorporate the words “Student Government Association” into the logo as we have in the past
   a. M. Hicks says that yes, we should.

12. E. Pelletier thinks we should incorporate our current font into it so it would fit better.

13. J. Mazyck likes that the current logo fits our motto “Students Serving Students”. He thinks the larger crest is perfectly fine.

14. R. Rivera thinks we should incorporate the Eastern Shield.
   a. M. Hicks says that an initial draft included the shield, but it looked too much like athletics’ logo.

15. P. Hoeps thinks we should take the clock tower and make it more of a watermark.

16. A. Bullard added that the university has a specific font and there likely won’t be any wiggle room in regards to using the font. They would likely be more willing to have the Clock Tower over “SGA” as opposed to having the SGA Logo over the watermark. A watermark would be harder to get through University Relations.

17. E. Drouin likes the current concept, she thinks it differentiates it from the other SGA’s logos. We should be original, a simple type out of “SGA” won’t make us stand out.

18. J. Ahern suggested putting the clock tower on the top of the logo if the senate was against using the clock tower in the A.
   ii. M. Hicks will bring these comments back to Abby to come up with a revised logo.

2. Vice President’s Report
   a. Induction
      i. **Motion #51 (H. Brooks, A. Nadeau)** Motion to induct P. Hoeps, as a senator for the remainder of the 2014-2015 Academic School Year (25-0-1). Motion Carries.
   b. Committee Updates
      i. E-Board Update
         1. A. Bullard is looking to create an ad-hoc committee dedicated to investigate whether or not we should plan a pep rally next fall. A. Bullard stressed that the committee is not actually planning a pep rally.
      ii. Issues
         1. E. Pelletier was just informed of a commuter lunch at 12pm in Student Center Room 107 on Tuesday, November 11th. Senators should go if they get the chance.
         2. M. Patino is working on some Hurley issues where some of the workers are being blatantly rude. She shall be getting in contact with the Hurley supervisor.
3. A. Nadeau and J. Reid are working on some of the Transform 2020 issues to try and be critical towards the plans.
4. J. Mazyck and M. Ehrnfelt are meeting to discuss large issues in regards to public safety.
5. H. Brooks inquired about A. Nadeau’s address of the smoking policy
   a. A. Nadeau received information from Public Safety asking if we had any other ideas; SGA shall be informed of Public Safety’s policy’s moving forward.
6. M. Wysopal spoke of E. Pelletier and her mentor/mentee project. They’re tackling commuter-based issues. One plan is utilizing the lockers that are in the SGA Suite and giving them to commuters for storage. Another is the issue of the commuter board that is in the Student Center. It is placed where commuters don’t go, so they’re looking into alternative options. They’re also investigating ways for commuters to come to more events. They’re thinking of making a priority point system for commuters. Commuters that attend these events can get a point and can potentially win gas cards. They’ll need SGA senators to staff the events that are weekly, they’d like it if the event could count as their office hour.
   a. J. Mazyck inquired if residential students would be allowed to attend.
   i. Yes, they’re already planned events, there will just be the need for an SGA senator to be at the event
   b. H. Brooks pledged his support for this initiative.
7. E. Pelletier also discussed the issue that we do not have Veteran’s Day off of school.
   a. M. Wysopal says that veterans typically have to speak to their professors in order to miss on Veteran’s Day.
   b. N. Vigorita’s old school used to have an assembly to honor the Veteran’s.
      i. M. Delaney added that there’s an assembly that we have every year at 9AM on Veteran’s Day.
         1. J. Reid wished they let the student body know about it.
   c. H. Brooks thinks having Veteran’s Day off is just showing your respect.
   d. M. Hicks will bring it up to Dr. Nunez at their next meeting.

iii. Public Relations
    1. V. Cosma is waiting to hear back from Hurley to see when they can put up their leaves. They’re investigating ways to use social media to be more useful in informing the students. They are also brainstorming for elections next spring.

iv. Internal
    1. Movie Night
       a. R. Rivera has planned a movie night for this Friday, November 14th at 9PM. He passed around a sheet for senator’s to write down their desired genre of movie.
i. A. Bullard stressed that we'll have to use one of the movie channels so that we don't have to pay for rights.

ii. K. Chrzanowska asked if you can bring friends
   1. R. Rivera responded that yes, you can.
iii. E. Pelletier asked if we should bring food and drinks.
   1. R. Rivera responded yes.

2. Supply Closet
   a. R. Rivera is ordering supplies for the suite, this includes club supplies and board games.
   b. V. Cosma inquired if we'd be locking the supply cabinet.
      i. M. Delaney is going to work out the lock-situation on the supply closet.
   c. M. Wysopal thinks that it should be posted when clubs should get supplies

3. Constitution Revisions
   a. M. Hicks stressed that any senator, not just those on internal, can present a constitution revision.
   b. R. Rivera will format it and present the word document to the senate.

v. Budget and Management
   1. Only one club was late for FRPs, they've began reviewing them on Thursday and will continue into their meeting this Thursday.

3. Treasurer’s Report:
   a. Accounts Update
      i. Executive Board is at $-2829. General Board is at $37.14

4. Secretary’s Report:
   a. E. Drouin stressed for senators to keep doing their office hours. Additionally, if any senator is going to miss the meeting, they are to email her and not M. Hicks as some have been doing.

5. Advisor’s Report:
   a. Nothing to report.

6. Old Business:
   a. Mentor/Mentee Project Proposal is due November 24th.

7. New Business:
   a. External Committee Updates
      i. Academic Affairs
         1. E. Drouin is on the Academic Affairs Committee and their current issue is in regards to things that are required to go on syllabi. This includes OAS information, academic integrity policies, etc. Right now what they are discussing is that now syllabi require for professors to put Eastern’s recording policy on the syllabus in regards to last year’s class recording controversy. The committee is also looking to see if professor’s can still deny permission to record even if it goes against a student’s OAS accommodations. E. Drouin also asked for any other suggestions the senate had for putting things in syllabi.
a. E. Pelletier thinks that the absence policy should be more explicit in regards to special circumstances and doctor's notes.

b. M. Ehrnfelt added that she’d like to see Title IX information input in there as well.

ii. Student Support Committee
   1. N. Vigorita emailed this committee about printing funds and is waiting to hear back.

iii. University Senate
   1. E. Benoit gave a University Senate update. Dr. Kane and Dr. Nunez met with other CSUs to talk about the road maps to Transform. The meetings did not go well, but they’re hoping that the next few meetings will.

iv. First Year Program
   1. M. Ehrnfelt gave a First Year Program update. The director is retiring and they’ve lost a significant amount of funding. They’re looking into ways to amend the program. The First Year Program used to be two semesters, but now it’s just one. They’re thinking about changing it back to make it more effective.
   2. S. Froehlich thinks the modules should be more effective. As a peer mentor, she doesn’t think we’d need a second semester if the modules were fixed.
   3. A. Nadeau said that her FYI right now has become redundant. They hear the information from other places. Extending that would be reiterating a lot
   4. J. Mazyck said that with FYI, you get what you want out of it. Some kids don’t pay attention, but that’s on them.
   5. C. Gosselin learned a lot of the information from just doing the class, but it was not well enforced. The quality needs to go up.
   6. M. Hicks added that the First Year Experience doesn’t necessary mean classes. The First Year Experience begins with SOAR.
   7. When A. Bullard was a freshman, they had the cluster system. The FYI course corresponded with two classes that were on similar subject matters. She really enjoyed it.
   8. E. Drouin doesn’t think the students need their hands held; when she was a freshman, she had things figured out pretty much early on. She doesn’t think the students need it. It would also mess with four year plans. If they were going to add classes, they should be optional.
      a. M. Hicks added to keep in mind that other students might struggle more.
   9. C. Gosselin said that maybe they should make FYI count towards one of your tier courses
      a. A. Bullard said this is how it was with the cluster system.
   10. E. Pelletier works in the advising center. Fitting a cluster system into the four year plan would take a lot of extra time and planning.
      a. A. Bullard reiterated that they counted as Tier 1 classes
11. E. Pelletier is also concerned about the cluster system as it is topic based. People might get bored of topics.
12. J. Reid said that she thinks students should get to test out of FYI if they feel as if they know all the information or would know where to find it on their own.
13. J. Mazyck said they’re pushing it through because they feel like they have to. Students don’t even have to try within their FYI and they aren’t getting anything out of it because they don’t have to try.
   a. S. Froehlich said that as peer mentors they can’t assign you a grade, it’s done as participation, so students can’t be graded on the modules.
   b. J. Mazyck said that defeats the purpose.
14. P. Hoeps asked if peer mentors could receive a TA standing in class.
   a. S. Froehlich responded that that goes against university policy. She thinks we have to make the modules more engaging to make them more effective.
15. H. Brooks added that as college students we have a lot of responsibility, it’s your fault if you fail. He finds some of the modules very beneficial, a lot of the information itself is interesting.
   v. M. Ehrnfelt also asked for input about any information that is not getting to the students.
1. E. Pelletier said that a lot of students were confused on how to register.
   a. A. Nadeau said it depends on your peer mentor.
   vi. M. Ehrnfelt will bring this to her committee.
8. Open Floor
   a. A. Bullard asked senators to participate in her study for her methods course.
   b. N. Vigorita gave information on the RDT Fundraiser this Friday in the Student Center.
   c. T. Mack advocated for senators to go to Midnight Madness on Wednesday from 7-9 to support the basketball team.
9. Dates to Remember:
   a. Friday, December 5th; Cops Open Rec Night

Meeting adjourned at 4:24 PM