Student Government Association
General Board Meeting
February 1st, 2016

Present:

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

Advisors: M. Delaney, C. Ambrosio


Guests: L. Combs, K. Gross, J. Jomca, K. O’Rourke, N. Vigorita, and A. Skates

Meeting called to order at 3:06pm

I. President Report:
   a. Acceptance of Minutes from 1/25/2016
      i. Motion #56 (J. Reid, F. Ricigliano) Motion to accept the minutes from the 1/25/2016 General Board meeting. (22 – 0 – 0) Motion carries.
   b. Residence Hall Flyers (NYTimes / Texts / SGA)
      i. Flyers are being distributed by Housing OA’s so Senators are not required to do this, simply give them to the OA’s.
      ii. The Flyers are being finalized by Public Relations Committee Heads Co. and Ch. Welch.
      iii. Faculty were emailed to see if they would want NYTimes informational cards to give to their students; over one thousand flyers were distributed by over 40 faculty members and other staff.
      iv. Textbook Exchange flyers – the general consensus was that Student Government introduce the program early to give students a sense of familiarity, and later in the semester the Textbook Exchange program be advertised more rigorously when there is a greater need.
      v. There is a “General” SGA flyer about attending meetings for interested students; the stress is not on joining SGA as that will come soon enough with Spring Elections.
      vi. Public Relations is still working on a Warrior Wednesday event flyer which will go up in all Residence Halls; more information under the Public Relations report.
      vii. J. Ahern asked Senators to keep an eye out for the posters, and if they are not up in their hall by Tuesday/Wednesday they should notify E-Board.
      viii. J. Ahern explained there will only be five copies per dorm to lessen the amount of paper needed, as this was a concern expressed at last meeting, and we do not condone excessive tree killing.
   c. President’s Breakfast Agenda
i. Facilities Update
ii. Update on Shafer and Goddard-Communications buildings
iii. Winter Snow Removal procedures
iv. Budget Update
v. Tuition & Enrollment Numbers
vi. CAPS and Psychological Services

1. Questions will be asked at President’s Breakfast regarding if the administration is filling the previously open positions, and how the search is going.
2. When prompted for any additional topics R. Eragene asked if the Student Activity fee increase will be included. J. Ahern said it will be under the SGA report.
3. J. Reid wants to hear about the ‘new student art gallery in wood’, if it is happening, and whether or not the desired amount of signatures was reached.
4. J. Ahern encouraged her to bring that up on open floor, but does not quite belong under the SGA discussion points as it is not a confirmed item.

d. SGA Information / Issues Table
i. The table is on Thursday February 4th from 10am-4pm at the vendor tables upstairs in the Student Center. Half of the table will be for the NYTimes and the other half manned by Student Issues as they perform their survey looking for feedback on specific topics. H. Brooks will elaborate more under the Student Issues report.
ii. M. Wysopal asked if manning the table is mandatory. J. Ahern explained that it is only mandatory for Student Issue members as Public Relations has their own agenda to work on.
iii. H. Brook passed out an attendance sheet for Senators to sign up for.
iv. M. McFall Gorman said attendance will be counted for Office Hours in this case.

II. Vice President Report:
a. BOR / AAUP Contract Resolution
i. E. Drouin checked in with DR. Tapia (AAUP Faculty representative of ECSU); there are some things that have been removed from the table in terms of negotiations. While the Board of Regents wanted to cut research for faculty that has been removed from our resolution. The document handed out is completely up to date. It is up to us whether or not we want to pass this resolution.
ii. J. Ahern reminded everyone that the section referring to research cuts has been taken out, and the only other change is to the last paragraph: whereas the original resolution passed by Central Connecticut was all about rejecting the entire contract as is we have rephrased it to reject it “as it currently stands” meaning we are open to changes and negotiations.
iii. The resolution must sit with the senate for the week.
iv. H. Brooks said there are several grammatical errors and overall revisions are needed.
v. J. Ahern says for all Senate members to take a look and be prepared for revisions and final discussions next week.
b. Internal Committees Update
i. Student Issues: Student Surveys
1. Types of Questions that will be at table for Survey:
   a. Eastbrook/Wal-Mart, SGA, and Buckland Hills Mall Shuttles
   b. Open ended of where you would like to see the shuttle go instead of the established places
   c. Alcohol Policy
i. The question is whether or not students who are of age should be able to bring alcohol into the residence halls. H. Brooks will ensure proper phrasing of these questions to produce the best survey possible

d. Housing Mascots
   i. There is the sense that they take away focus from ECSU’s real mascot, the Warrior.
   ii. A. Dilone asked if commuters could affect the results. H. Brooks explained that he will include a “Non-Applicable” option
   iii. Co. Welch says that including the commuters in the survey will make them feel like they matter; she suggested the addition of questions targeted at them and their problems.
   iv. M. McFall Gorman suggested that the survey also include a question asking students if they would be willing to check-in their alcohol with their RA’s as there would probably be a certain amount of alcohol (per night/weekend) etc. that could be had.
   v. A. Dilone asked if RA’s sign in alcohol, will RA’s sign themselves in?
   vi. J. Ahern reminded all that we are merely looking for feedback, we are not necessarily tackling issues immediately, we would be gauging what actions we could possibly take based on the survey.
   vii. M. Wysopal would like to see the University’s Policy on us being a dry campus, as she has heard rumors that we get grants for being a dry campus. She wants to know why we are a dry campus and what obstacles we might face going up against it.
   viii. H. Brooks says that is a good idea, he will look up the policy and print out several fact sheets so that Senators are knowledgeable when they man the info table.
   ix. M. Delaney says that only about 20% of students on campus are 21 and over, so there are logistics to making certain dorms wet dorms or not. There must be a need for making exceptions to the dry campus rules.
   x. J. Ahern says that we should keep this in mind and still work towards some sort of recommendation or other way of bringing it to the administrations attention.
   xi. H. Brooks says he will be researching Central Connecticut’s policy so that he can give the best information and make clear that we are not recommending a change but rather getting opinions.
   xii. N. Vigorita and C. Gosselin agree that there should be some demographic questions: age, student type, resident or commuter etc.
   xiii. M. Patino said that we should keep in mind that students are thinking ahead to when they will be 21 – and still living on a dry campus.

ii. Public Relations: Warrior Wednesday
   1. Showed the “Why Do You LOVE Eastern” event posters
   2. They are sending around a sheet for sign-ups at next meeting
   3. They are still discussing prizes with E. Drouin in terms of prices, which they will make a motion for in their next committee meeting

iii. Budget and Management: Student Organizations
1. The Black Student Union
   a. Closed Discussion: K. Constant explained that the only changes being made are the addition of a Public Relations position and subtraction of the word “black” from the purpose statement so as to be more inclusive to non-black students.
   b. Motion #57 (J. Mazyck, J. Dignoti) Motion to approve the above listed constitutional changes for the Black Student Union (21 – 0 – 0) Motion carries

2. The Greek Cultural Organization
   a. C. Gosselin explained how it is essentially a cultural organization, and that shows lots of promise.
   b. Open Discussion:
      i. A. Dilone asked if they would do activities similar to other cultural associations.
      ii. J. mazyck asked if there was genuine interest. C. Gosselin says that there are lots of interested students, and while their original founder is no longer at Eastern, they show great promise.
      iii. N. Vigorita mentioned that there is no ‘political affiliation’ section to their constitution and asked if it was necessary. C. Gosselin said he will make the suggestion to the club but that it is not totally necessary.
   c. Motion #58 (D. Sheridan, F. Ricigliano) Motion to approve the Constitution of The Greek Cultural Organization (21 – 0 – 0) Motion carries.

3. Love Your Melon “Campus Crew”
   a. Representatives from the organization described the goals of the organization to the Senate: it is a National Organization founded on many college campuses; they sell the apparel with the organization brand, and for every one bought, one is given to a child with cancer; they get credit levels based on their sales which then allow them to go to hospitals and present the hats to the children; only 20 members are allowed per the national guidelines, as they desire only very involved and dedicated members, however, within their constitution they have added a voting membership as well, who are not a technical part of the national organization but can still be involved with fundraising and other campus activities such as library readings/runs for childhood cancer.
   b. Open Discussion:
      i. F. Ricigliano enquired about their Constitution in Article III Section II – which talked about an Advisor who is not referenced anywhere else. The student representative explained that the advisor mentioned is their faculty advisor who will help in planning and attend the events, no different from any other club advisor.
   c. Closed Discussion:
      i. F. Ricigliano noted that the phrasing of their inclusive clause is not grammatically correct and has odd phrasing, specifically in how it states “politics” instead of “political ideology”
      ii. C. Gosselin said this is most likely just a typo and will bring this to their attention.
d. **Motion #59 (H. Brooks, K. Chrzanowska)** Motion to approve the Constitution of the Love Your Melon student organization (22 – 0 – 0) **Motion carries.**

4. Tennis Club
   a. C. Gosselin explained how the organization does not plan on becoming a club sport and will stay small.
   b. A. Dilone asked if they will be using all of the basketball/tennis courts. C. Gosselin explained that the club will use the tennis courts behind the parking garages.
   c. K. Lien asked what they will do in the winter seasons. C. Gosselin says they intend to fundraise, have meetings, and maybe have practices at indoor arenas if funding permits.

   d. **Motion #60 (H. Brooks, M. Crespo)** Motion to approve the Constitution of the Tennis Club as a student organization (21 – 0 – 0) **Motion carries.**

5. Woman’s Rugby Club
   a. Student Representatives described their Goals: they desire to have a Women’s Rugby Team as we already have a Men’s Rugby Team. The students stressed its all-inclusive nature, how everyone can play this game, and that it is a great opportunity to get female students active.
   b. Open Discussion:
      i. J. Mazyck asked what level of interest has been expressed by students. The representatives said about 50-60 girls have expressed interest, with about 25 girls very dedicated to the organization already.
      ii. J. Dignoti asked if this is a club sport or student organization. C. Gosselin said they are following Men’s Rugby exactly, making them a club sport.
      iii. N. Vigorita asked if they had a coach. The representatives explained that they are not allowed to hire a coach until they are official; the job posting has to be made state wide, and while there’s a high school coach in the line-up already they must still go through formal interviews.
      iv. N. Vigorita asked if Student Government (BAM) paid for the coaches. C. Gosselin said that ‘yes’, we pay for their coaches.
      v. J. Ahern asked if new club sports are held to the rule about new clubs not getting over one thousand dollars in funding, C Gosselin said that issue would be discussed at BAM.
   c. Closed Discussion:
      i. M Wysopal explained that once they are official Women’s Rugby will be joining a conference called USA Rugby, as well as establish weekly contact with the league they are joining which includes Western, Wentworth Institute of Technology, and other New England region schools.
      ii. A. Dilone asked whether their insurance is treated like a Division III sport. C. Gosselin explained there is a separate process but it is similar.
      iii. J. Dignoti asked if ECSU has a general club trainer. C. Gosselin said that in the past priority always went to the Division III players, so now all club sports have their own trainers.
iv. N. Vigorita asked what the average coach costs. C. Gosselin says it is based off of the FLC's which means about five thousand dollars.

d. **Motion #61** (E. Drouin, M. Patino) Motion to approve the Constitution of Women's Rugby as a club sport and student organization (20 – 0 – 1) **Motion carries.**

6. C. Gosselin says that FRP updates have been given, and he encourages clubs to check their emails and be on top of budgeting.

c. **External Committees:**
   i. Co. Welch and K. Constant (who have to leave early) do not have External Committees, E. Drouin will assign them committees.
   ii. J. Ahern is the representative for the Budget and Allocation Resource Committee
   iii. J. Brucker will take the Curriculum Committee
   iv. B. Paiva has a committee and has not had a meeting yet
   v. The Organizational Committee needs a Senator, A. Dilone will take the committee. J. Reid was previously on this committee, and said you essentially are the management committee of other committees in regard to filling seats and organization within the University Senate.
   vi. M. Wysopal and K. Chrzanowska do not have committees, K. Chrzanowska will take the Support Services Committee.
   vii. M. Crespo will take the Grade Appeals Committee.
   viii. Student Advisory Committee needs a person, it is very important! M. Wysopal will take the committee, C. Gosselin is the alternate. J. Ahern has paperwork for M. Wysopal to fill out to make things official.

III. **Treasurer Report:**
   a. **Accounts Update**
      i. General Board: $13,000
      ii. E-Board: $7,365
   b. **Shuttle Expenses**
      i. **Motion #62** (J. Mazyck, R. Eragene) Motion to approve paying for the shuttle services to Wal-Mart and Eastbrook Mall (21 – 0 – 0) **Motion carries.**

IV. **Secretary Report:**
   a. **Office Hours**
      i. M. McFall Gorman requested that all senators send in their office hours if they have not done so already. She also asked for senators to leave notes if they forgot to clock in or out properly.

V. **Advisor Report:**

VI. **Old Business:**
   a. **Meeting with Housing**
      i. Resident Hall Mascots
         1. Will discuss topic depending on the feedback from the surveys
      ii. Employment Priority Points
         1. B. Paiva asked for clarification. J. Ahern said it was brought up to give students priority points for working on campus – to be inclusive we would ask for all jobs both on and off campus. If that is denied it shall be brought back to the general board.
R. Eragene asked if we can get an update on the shuttle app at President’s Breakfast. J. Ahern said that even if it’s not on the agenda, feel free to bring it up on the open floor.

H. Brooks will add a question regarding accuracy of shuttle to his survey

**VII. New Business:**

**VIII. Open Floor:**

a. A student guest attending General Board was concerned about how she had gotten stuck in an elevator on campus, and the fact that apparently this is something that has happened before. The student wanted to know if this was a regularly occurring thing. Webb apparently has been having problems, but it has been an issue in the Wood Support Services building as of late. She made sure to inform the Senate and other students that they should not try to escape a broken elevator on their own but rather call for help. Don’t get cut in half.

b. E. Drouin says that student issues will bring this up to Chief Garewski on concerns of safety.

c. J. Ahern says it is a state mandate to have the elevators serviced and checked, this is a question of safety and infrastructure

d. Mentor/Mentee Paper:
   i. C. Gosselin says that only the Mentors got the papers he handed out earlier, and the Mentors are responsible for contacting their Mentee’s.

e. There was a question of enrollment at the University: Dr. Pachis will review enrollment and the predicted numbers at President’s Breakfast.

f. J. Reid asked if we need to sign up to attend the President’s Breakfast. J. Ahern told her to RSVP to M. McFall Gorman at the SGA Secretary email.

g. J. Ahern handed out flyers advertising attendance at SGA meetings and Senators volunteered to post them in academic buildings.

**IX. Dates to Remember:**

a. **President’s Breakfast #2:** Wednesday, February 3rd 7:00 AM in the President’s Dining Room

b. **Town Gown #3:** Thursday, February 4th 6:00 PM – 7:00 PM in the Johnson Room (LIB 204)

c. **Tracks To Success #1 - Collaborate to Create:** Thursday, February 18th 2:00 PM in STU 107

**Meeting Adjourned at 4:04pm**