Student Government Association
General Board Meeting
September 15th, 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

Senators: Erica Benoit, Greg Canzio, Victoria Cosma, Mae Ehrnfelt, Sarah Froehlich, Clint Gosselin, Meaghan McFall-Gorman, Ryan Perry, Elizabeth Pelletier, Judy Reid, Reuben Rivera, Megan Styczurza, Gabby Wrobel


Meeting called to order at 3:05 PM

1. Acceptance of Minutes for 9/8/14
   a. Motion # 19 (J. Reid, E. Pelletier) Motion to accept the minutes from 9/8/14 (17-0-0) Motion Carries.
      1. M. Hicks stressed the importance of reading the minutes from general board, E-Board, as well as committees. Minutes are made available to the senators through email and will be passed out in packets during general board.

2. President’s Report:
   a. Clubs and Activities Fair
      i. M. Hicks thanked everyone who took the time and effort to represent SGA at the Clubs and Activities Fair this year. We have a lot of strong, committee, qualified senatorial applicants for our Fall Elections!
   b. Conference
      i. M. Hicks spoke a bit about the conference that senators will be attending this year. Over the summer, applications were sent out to current senators to apply to attend the National Leadership Conference in Student Government, our chosen conference this year. M. Hicks thanked everyone who did apply and congratulated the four senators who will attend the conference: C. Gosselin, K. Chrzanowska, M. McFall Gorman, and E. Drouin. These senators will be attending the conference to get new ideas to bring back to the senate and to network.
   c. Retreat
      i. M. Hicks reminded the senators about the retreat and stressed that it is mandatory. It is one of the most important weekends of the year for SGA and spots are reserved and paid for. There is a spot for every elected senator to attend the retreat. The retreat functions as social
bonding and as an orientation of how SGA functions to new and old senators. Everything you need to know for the entire year, you will learn at the retreat.

1. Finalized Times
   a. We will be meeting in the SGA Suite on Friday, September 26th at 3:30 PM and departing at 4:00 PM.
      i. It is here that you will receive the full agenda. Days will be broken down differently.
      ii. M. Hicks added for the new senators who may be nervous: Friday is a very social day, so you will be able to get to know your peers.

2. M. Hicks will also email out a “What to Bring/ What Not to Bring” to all senators.

3. M. Ehrnfelt asked if we will be in cabins or tents.
   a. M. Hicks answered that we will be in cabins.

4. University Senate
   i. A. Bullard will be providing a list of external committees for senators to sign up for
      1. M. Hicks explained external committees. Everyone will be placed on a University Senate committee that they will be responsible for reporting back on to General Board. The committees are made up of faculty, staff, and administrators.
   2. One of the most important external committees is called the University Senate. Faculty members are elected to represent departments on the senate and SGA representatives are the only students that attend these meetings. We have three spots and M. Hicks wanted to take the opportunity to ask if anyone wanted to join.
      a. A. Bullard provided that University Senate meets Tuesdays 3:30-5, biweekly
      b. Volunteers were: E. Benoit, R. Rivera K. Chrzanowska, J. Reid, and M. Wysopal.

ii. Mascot Re-Design
    1. It is here that M. Hicks provided a report on one of his own external committees.
    2. Over five years ago Eastern redesigned the mascot to the current shield. The mascot itself has typically been viewed as unimpressive by the students. A lot of students don’t get excited by the shield, so the administration is planning on changing the mascot
       a. M. Hicks stressed that we’re only capable of redesigning the physical mascot costume.
    3. The committee intends to lay the foundation for a campus wide contest. The logistics haven’t been worked out yet
       a. J. Reid, inquired about whether or not the voting will happen with students
          i. M. Hicks responded that the final details haven’t been finalized, however, the plan is that they will partake in the decision process.
       b. E. Pelletier asked about the possibility of a frog
          i. M. Hicks responded that although Eastern tries to work cohesively with Willimantic, it would take away something from
Willimantic’s identity to use the frog as our mascot. The frog is not an option for a potential mascot. We will still be the warriors.

c. N. Vigorita asked about the timeline for the mascot re-design contest.
i. M. Hicks responded that the hope is for by the end of the year but there has been no definitive timeline

e. SGA Logo
i. The current SGA logo is almost ten years old. It’s a bit tired out. M. Hicks explained that the Executive Board was originally thinking about opening up the idea of a new logo as a contest to the student body, however, with the development of the mascot contest, we are looking for alternatives, such as looking into graphics coordinators to make the process easier. The SGA Facebook has changed, as have the newly ordered polo’s. J. Ahern has created a filler logo in the meantime for all means of SGA PR. We will hopefully have a new logo by the end of the year.

f. Off Campus Incidents
i. M. Hicks explained the change in the Code of Conduct. Eastern has recently chosen to sanction the code of conduct off campus. A significant amount of homeowners who are students have been arrested for their parties in their homes. This has caused a significant amount of backlash from the student body. SGA has been dealing with this problem for years, however, this year it is more prevalent. Willimantic residents are getting very frustrated with Eastern students especially on weekend high-traffic nights. Students are being disruptive to the homeowners. SGA has taken a PR standpoint of cleaning up the community and doing community outreach.

ii. M. Hicks has created a new external committee position as a Community Liaison. The function is to serve as the student voice at attend town meetings. This student must be able to attend all town meetings such as Town and Gown.
   1. For example, there’s an open forum about the new policies with the Office of Judicial Affairs on September 16th. This would be one of the meetings where it would be vital for this person to attend.
   2. M. McFall Gorman, E. Pelletier, A. Nadeau, and A. Bullard all expressed interest in the position.

g. CAB After Party
i. Emily Haggett, CAB Coordinator submitted the proposal for the CAB Dance Dance Rave-olution.
   1. M. Hicks explained that the Warrior Pep Rally ends at 8:00PM and CAB has traditionally sponsored an event as an after party. In past years we have cosponsored this event, so it’s become the norm for us to fund this party. Keep in mind that we already fund the Campus Activity Board by our constitution and they have had the ability to plan their budget according to that. SGA typically uses our co-sponsorship to hype up our own Warrior Rally.
When asked about how much money is given to CAB per year, J. Ahern answered $175,000.

M. Hicks also explained that a lot of the money goes to the infrastructure of the event, such as furniture, lighting, set up, etc.

J. Reid asked about when we started cosponsoring event. Why was it necessary?

M. Delaney responded that we started cosponsoring about 3 years ago.

A. Bullard added that cosponsoring is a good thing for the two largest organizations on campus to do.

C. Ambrosio added that it was actually SGA’s idea back in the day to have this event in order to play off the momentum from the pep rally.

M. Ehrnfelt thinks that CAB should have accounted for this when they were planning last year.

C. Gosselin asked which account the money would come from.

M. Hicks answered that it would come from General Board.

C. Gosselin asked about the current balance of General Board.

J. Ahern answered that it is $6,717.

M. McFall Gorman asked if they expect for us to pay for the entire event.

A. Bullard answered that no, they’re only asking us to pay for up to half.

M. Hicks added that if the senate desires, we can fund their request partially.

At this point, they have $4,000 for the event, the money we can contribute will just be to make it nicer.

R. Rivera asked about how the turnout was for the people.

A. Bullard answered that it was typically not filled, but consistently had between 75 and 100 students.

A. Nadeau said it would be a better idea to keep the momentum going to appeal more to freshmen. Freshman senators will go around talking to all their friends about how cool the event is going to be.

M. Hicks agreed, that’s an event filled week so we should do the best we can.

E. Pelletier contributed that we should only be funding a third of the total cost, because CAB isn’t necessarily relying on us. We don’t know what will come up for us as far as expenditures goes.

M. Wysoopal agreed, saying it shows good faith that we still want to be involved with CAB.

N. Vigorita asked about the turnout on campus dances.

A. Bullard says the CAB dance typically generates a lot more hype than other club dances. It’s a way for CAB to keep people in on Thursday nights. It would cause students to stay on campus and impede disruptive behavior.

Motion # 20 (J. Reid, E. Pelletier) Motion to spend $2,000 on SGA’s Contribution to the Dance-Dance Rave-olution event (16-1-0) Motion Carries.

Discussion
1. R. Rivera asked about Cops Open Rec Night and how much money from our accounts would go towards that later on in the semester.
   a. The money comes from the General Board account.
      i. A. Bullard explained Cops Open Rec Night, it’s a safe weekend activity where SGA gives money to huge prizes. In order to get tickets for prizes you give canned food. If we’re not able to give them enough money we’re not able to give them prizes.
         1. C. Gosselin said that last year we gave them about $7,000 for prizes. He thinks we should give money to both Cops Open Rec Night and the CAB Dance, but we should save more for Cops Open Rec Night. We need to put as much money into that as we can.
      ii. G. Wrobel inquired as to what else we pay for from General Board,
         1. M. Hicks said we already paid for retreat and the conference from that account
         2. He added that we may need to give money for BAM.

2. J. Ahern added that it's possible that they might reject our money

3. E. Benoit asked if CAB’s money ever rolls back into the Reserves
   a. M. Hicks says it can but it rarely ever does. They are very good at using all of their allocated money.
   b. K. Chrzanowska added that money can be allocated back and forth between General Board and E-Board accounts, so she's comfortable with spending $2,000.

   ii. J. Ahern stressed that now that we're giving less money, we should be even more motivated to staff the event, just to help.
      i. CAB is offering to help with the Warrior Rally. It is good to build a back and forth relationship.

3. Vice President’s Report:
   a. External Committees
      i. A. Bullard asked that all current senators please inform her what external committees they were on last year if they’d like to stay on them
   b. Elections
      i. **Motion # 21 (M. McFall Gorman, C. Gosselin)** to nominate Muchi Kandemir, Charlotte Gray, Nicole Vigorita, Tyler Mack, Harrison Brooks, Michelle Longleton, Stephanie Hartnett, Christina Hart, Courtney Welch, Mitchell Zagrodnik, Jacob Mazycz, Melanie Patino, Rose Labrie, Troy Hastings, Allison Nadeau, Maggie Wysopal, Antoinette Thuillier, and Kyle Ginel as candidates for senators for the 2014-2015 academic year (17-0-0) Motion Carries.
      ii. Election Guidelines
1. A. Bullard distributed election guidelines to the senate. She shall distribute them to all candidates via email as well.

2. She stressed those campaigning to not put posters on pillars in the Student Center.

3. Stamping
   a. Get your posters stamped! Print one copy, get it stamped and then make copies. Everyone who was nominated will be sent the code for the printer
   b. Have fun during this election!
   c. Campaigning begins on 9/16.

4. V. Cosma asked for a refresher on dates for the election.
   i. Elections are September 22\textsuperscript{nd}-24\textsuperscript{th}. We will get the results on Thursday, September 25\textsuperscript{th}. There’s 11 spots and 18 nominations.
   1. However, If you are not voted into the senate you can be a delegate, you have all the same privileges as a senator, you just can’t vote. You’ll have a committee, help on events, and go on outings.
      a. In the event we have a position open, delegates will be able to campaign within SGA in an internal election for the position.
   b. A. Nadeau asked why returning senators aren’t running
      i. M. Hicks explained that there are two elections per year. They leave spots open for fall for incoming students.
   c. H. Brooks asked: can we only campaign in the student center?
      i. You can campaign anywhere, you just can’t campaign at SGA events
   d. M. Wysopal suggested that SGA invest in a button maker.

c. Warrior Rally
   i. A. Bullard and K. Chrzanowska are meeting to finalize the Warrior Rally
   ii. A. Bullard stressed that you call it the Warrior Rally and not the Pep Rally. We’re trying to boost spirit school wide, not just in regards to athletics.
   iii. It is mandatory that senators attend this event. A sign-up sheet was passed around.
   iv. The event starts at 7, but set up starts at 3:30
      1. If you help set up, it can count as your office hours
   v. E. Benoit asked if athletic teams involved. The dunk contest did not go well last year because it only involved one athletic team.
      1. A. Bullard has reached out to athletic teams but hasn’t heard back from many.
   vi. Housing is involved as well. All the residence halls are going to have chants at the Warrior Rally to incite competition between halls
   vii. The theatre department is going to be a flash mob.
viii. All dance teams and clubs are performing.
ix. There is a relay race that is sports related. People will be chosen randomly from the audience
x. A. Bullard asks the senate if there’s anything they’d like to see in the Warrior Rally
   1. J. Reid asked that there is more audience participation.
      a. A. Bullard says that there’s going to be much more participation within the audience via housing and potentially a SOC chant
   2. M. Wysopal asked for commuter oriented chant at the Warrior Rally

d. Committees
   i. Student Issues
      1. E. Pelletier passed around a sign up to help at the voter registration table on Tuesday, September 23rd.
   ii. PR
      1. V. Cosma needed help passing out quarter sheets to advertise the Warrior Rally
         a. C. Gosselin pointed out that you must get permission from Housing to slide them under the doors.
         i. Mr. Coleman will be contacted in regards to this, however it will most likely be fine because this is a housing co-sponsored event.
   iii. Internal
      1. There will be donuts at the next meeting.
   iv. BAM
      1. Nothing to report.

4. Treasurer’s Report:
   a. CT 2020
      i. J. Ahern is very disappointed by the lack of CT 2020 Responses. Only two people sent in questions for the forum.
         1. Senators can make it up to him by coming to a student roundtable, the date of which he will make known at the next meeting.
      ii. This plan is big, it affects a lot of people, so J. Ahern asks that people look at the PowerPoint.
      iii. We need to get other students involved, there needs to be huge student support
         1. M. Wysopal suggested that it is mentioned at the Pep Rally.

5. Secretary’s Report:
   a. E. Drouin passed around a sheet ID numbers from senators in order to register them for FileMaker, the new system we will be using to collect office hours.
   b. E. Drouin expressed disappointment that only six senators did their office hours last week. She stressed that it is vital that they do them.
   c. A. Nadeau asked about office hours
      i. M. Hicks explained that office hours are how the senators make their presence known in the suite and also work on their committee work.

6. Advisor’s Report:
   a. C. Ambrosio welcomed the senate back as he was not here last week
7. **Old Business:**

8. **New Business:**

9. **Open Floor:**
   a. M. Hicks reminded all seniors to get their degree applications in, they are due October 15th!
   b. Soccer player Jon DeCasanova will be starting at the men’s soccer game on September 16th. He was diagnosed with a cancer that gave him a 1% chance of survival. He has gotten to the point that he can play within the soccer game. The soccer coach is asking that students be present for his announcement during the starting lineup.

10. **Dates to Remember**
    a. Campaigning begins September 16th
    b. The Judicial Forum on the Code of Conduct is in Webb 110 at 6 PM on September 16th.
    c. The Warrior Rally is September 25th at 7PM in the Sports Center Gym
    d. The Retreat is Friday, September 26th at 3:30 PM in the SGA Suite.

*Meeting adjourned at 4:21 PM*