Student Government Association  
General Board Meeting  
9/28/2015

Present:

Executive Board: J. Ahern (President), E. Drouin (Vice President), (Treasurer), (BAM), (Secretary)

Advisors: M. Delaney, C. Ambrosio


Guests: M, Alexis, J. Brucker, V. Burgess, M. Crespo, J. Dignoti, A. Dilon, R. Eragene, P. Hoeps, K. Lien, B. Paiva, J. Reid, F. Ricigliano,

Meeting called to order at 3:04 PM

1. President’s Report; Justin Ahern
   a. Acceptance of Minutes from 9/21/2015
      i. Motion #22 (M. Patino, J. Mazyck) Motion to accept the minutes from 9/21/2015 (16-0-0). Motion Carries.
   b. Welcoming Remarks
      i. A motion is the approving or denying of a statement, idea, etc. The senate goes through those in favor, in opposition or abstaining. Only a sworn in senator may cast a vote
      ii. Clint Gosselin is the Budget and Management chair
      iii. Erin Drouin is the Vice President
      iv. Justin Ahern is the President
      v. Nicole Vigorita is the Secretary
      vi. Tyler Mack is the Treasurer
      vii. While we all joined SGA for similar reasons, our majors and interests are all very different. We have common goals here in SGA but have different ways to tackle them.
      viii. It doesn’t matter what year you are, it’s important that you are here. Lack of experience doesn’t matter!
      ix. Each person who casts a vote represents about 200 students on campus.
      x. We are here to help the clubs and students, and that is really important!
   c. Nominations
      i. We have 11 open spots and 12 applicants; we need to make sure all the applicants are committed. You will receive an email tonight that you need to reply to asap!
      ii. If you didn’t get the chance to apply:
1. Applications have closed so you are unable to formally apply at this time. If there is/becomes an open seat, you can attend 3 meetings in a row, inform J. Ahern you would like to take the spot, and then become a sworn in senator on your 4th meeting.

iii. **Motion #23 (G. Wrobel, M. Ehrnfelt)** Motion to nominate John Brucker, Brianna Paiva, Shackeel Brown, Daniel Sheridan, Phillip Hoeps, Victoria Burgess, Kristiane Lien, Megan Crespo, Francesco Ricigliano, Ruth Eragene, Jimmy Dignoti, and Judy Reid to become Eastern Connecticut State University senators. *(16-0-0) Motion carries*

iv. **Discussion:**

1. Even if you do not become a senator or get voted in, you are still more than welcome to stay, give your advice, contribute, you just cannot vote. You also can still be on committees!

v. As soon as this meeting is over, you can begin campaigning!

vi. Look out for an email shortly after this meeting for whether formal elections will be held or not

vii. What is the difference between a senator and a delegate?

1. A senator can vote! A delegate cannot

viii. **Requirements to be a senator:**

1. Minimum of 2.5 GPA
2. You need to be a part of an internal AND external committee
3. 2 office hours in the SGA suite a week
4. Come to general board meeting
5. You must be taking 12 credits or more each semester (full time student)

**d. SGA Retreat**

i. This is mandatory! October 9-10, Friday 5pm- Saturday late in the evening. We will be leaving from Eastern around 6pm Friday the 9th but we will meet at 5 to go over some information.

ii. Depending how many senators can go, the discussion of whether or not delegates can come will occur

iii. R. Eragene questions whether or not you have to go if you are not yet a senator and didn’t know about this date, but you already have an obligation- talk to J. Ahern if this is an issue.

iv. We will be holding the retreat at camp Jewell in Colebrook, CT

v. All meals Saturday are covered!

vi. The Eboard will let the senate know asap when we’ll be back saturday

vii. This retreat will be a lot of fun!

2.

**a. College Campfire Review**

i. This was an alternative to the pep rally that was held last year

ii. J. Mazyck, among others, unanimously heard this was 10x better than the rally!

iii. E. Drouin admits that she was originally opposed this, but admits she was 100% wrong and this was executed well. Entertainment is relatively expensive, but this was very social which helped create a better atmosphere for a better price than the rally.

iv. C. Welch also heard was a big success, and it was great that it was with Fall Fest and raising awareness of how awesome SGA is!
v. H. Brooks commends J. Ahern for sticking to his guns and putting on a successful event.
vi. C. Gosselin offers some advice if this event were to be put on again next year: he would like to see more trashcans, no frisbees, and more napkins!

vii. K. Constant asked what happened to the fire breather
     1. The contract wasn’t in on time so we were unable to hire him.

viii. C. Welch would like to see performers having more of a heads up so they can get performances together. Possibly even plan every half hour to have someone signed up to show skills off.

ix. The mascot should have an Instagram!

3. Vice President’s Report; Erin Drouin
   a. Introduction
      i. What does she do? Mainly, she oversees the internal committees. There are also external committees that each senator will serve on one of. These have faculty and staff on them as well as senators while internal committees just have senators.
      ii. Meeting times for external committees are to be determined. For internal committee times, ask your committee head!
   b. Internal Committee Updates
      i. Public Relations: Meaghan McFall Gorman
         1. This committee is responsible for disbursing info for the students, whether it is for SGA or another Eastern organization, around campus
         2. We use the poster cases by the BTR to display posters for anyone who submits a request when available.
         3. We hold Warrior Wednesday once a month in the Student Center to encourage Eastern pride. For each Eastern item worn, you get one entry into a raffle whose winner is announced on social media to get more followers!
      ii. Student Issues: Harrison Brooks
         1. This committee directly affects the students on campus.
         2. Our main motivation is keeping the students happy.
         3. We get student’s issues either from the students themselves, or more than likely we come up with them as a committee.
         4. If you have any issues you want this committee to work on please let H. Brooks know at any time!
      iii. BAM: Clint Gosselin
         1. His job as chair of the BAM committee is to oversee the allocation of the funds from the Student Activity Fee to the clubs/organizations on campus. The committee determines what is fair for all. There are usually requests upwards of $400-450 thousand/year and we have only $350 thousand/year.
         2. This committee consists of C. Gosselin, T. Mack, K. Chrzansowska M. Styrczula, and G. Wrobel. There is one spot open for a new senator!
   3. Guidelines
      a. If you will be in SGA or another organization, you should own the BAM guidelines! If someone comes
4. Treasurer’s Report; Tyler Mack
   a. Accounts Update
      i. General Board $4,000
      ii. Executive Board $6,745
   b. Anything that involves our money goes through him! He is also on BAM and does the BAM minutes.
   c. The treasurer comes up with the budget for SGA every year.
   d. Gboard account- money that the general board gets to vote on and use.
   e. Eboard- money the executive board gets to vote on and use
      i. The retreat, college campfire, senator of the month gift, padfolios, elections items and more come from the Eboard account.
      ii. Money can be transferred between these two accounts and BAM can take money out of either
      iii. Eboard minutes will, from this point on, be sent to the whole senate
   f. There is a ‘reserves’ account for anything in BAM that doesn’t get used that year and can only be used on capital expenditures (physical objects or goods such as the Shuttle or a bulletin board).

5. Secretary Report; Nicole Vigorita
   a. Introduction
      i. The secretary takes the minutes at both Gboard and Eboard meetings and emails them out to the senate afterwards.
      ii. Keeps track of who is and isn’t doing their office hours
      iii. Handles correspondences between students and SGA through the SGA email account.
   b. Office Hours
      i. We are still waiting on IT; eLife works if you use it for an on campus job, but if you are only registered in the system as ‘SGA’ there are issues
      ii. Office hours started, you should have been doing them the past few weeks...
      iii. Write your hours down in the manila envelope next to the computer until further instructed!

6. Advisor Report:
   a. Dinner with faculty
1. This is where a topic that ties a professor to the students is discussed over dinner!
2. The first one is tomorrow, 5pm in Hurley.
3. Open to anyone!
4. About 10 students are signed up at this moment.

7. Old Business

8. New Business

9. Open Floor
   a. The chamber singers got to sing with Josh Groban this past weekend!
   b. M. Alexis questions why organizations use Big Y rather than the small businesses in the area?
      i. Organizations are open to use whatever company they want when ordering items for a club. There is rumor you cannot use small shops, but this is false.
      ii. The P cards last year made it possible to use small businesses
      iii. Some organizations may not be aware of this
   c. A. Dilon wonders if there are any politically enriching trips SGA goes on?
      i. It can be discussed whether or not there will be a trip, but SGA as a whole is politically neutral
      ii. We should follow the BAM guidelines still; we may or may not attend a conference this year
      iii. Political organizations on campus include The College Democrats, Conservative/Libertarian, and the Radical Student Association- all of whose presidents are coincidentally a part of SGA
   d. Do we do anything with UROC?
      i. We don’t really work too much with them. But the last 2 years we have given a small presentation about who we are, what we do at one of their events
   e. It is brought up that we should collaborate more with the organizations
      i. T. Mack has the list of all of them so we can go to their meetings

10. Dates to Remember:
   a. Faculty Dinner - The Constitution: Tuesday, September 29th 5:00 PM (PDR- Hurley Hall)
   b. SGA Retreat – Mandatory: Friday, October 9th – Saturday, October 10th (Camp Jewell)
   c. Majors Minors Fair- Mandatory: October 21st 2-4 in the BTR

Meeting adjourned at 4:15 PM