Student Government Association
General Board Meeting
October 20th, 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: P. Hoeps, V. Nguyen, D. Donovan, B. Dostaler, J. Maura, M. Wysopal, C. Watson, D. Coules, B. Molta

Meeting called to order at 3:06PM

1. President’s Report
   a. Acceptance of Minutes from 10/13/2014
      i. Motion #35 (N. Vigorita, A. Nadeau) Motion to accept the minutes from 10/13/14 with the understanding that the incorrect motion will be removed from the minutes (22-0-0). Motion Carries.
         1. Discussion
            a. J. Reid asked about a motion within the minutes which mentioned $5,000 to be spent on puppies for the senators to cuddle with.
            b. E. Drouin explained that she placed that motion within the minutes to see if senators read the minutes. Clearly, J. Reid and a few others were the only ones who did.
            c. M. Hicks said this emphasized the importance of reading the minutes.
   b. Asian Cultural Society
      i. A representative from the Asian Cultural Society came to speak to the senate about their potential new club. They started the club because Eastern is kind of lacking the Asian culture around campus. They want to do events that will help amplify the Asian Identity here at Eastern. They want to have a night of Asia, where they celebrate different countries, celebrate the Chinese New Year and discuss how Asian cultures differ.
      ii. Questions
          1. H. Brooks asked if they have a full executive board.
             a. V. Nguyen answered that yes, they do.
          2. M. McFall Gorman inquired about the amount of student interest that has been shown in the club.
a. V. Nguyen answered that they have 6-10 members that regularly attend each meeting.

3. The senate will vote on the Constitution next Monday after they have reviewed it.

c. **Eastern Ice Hockey**
   i. Representatives came from Eastern Ice Hockey to discuss their revised bylaws. They revised them because they changed their practice time to a time where classes are actually going on. For that reason, players are missing practices for a good reason. The change in their bylaws accommodated players missing practices.
   
   ii. **Motion #36 (J. Reid, E. Benoit)** Motion to approve the Constitution Revisions of the Eastern Ice Hockey Club (17-0-0).

d. **Midnight Madness, Athletics**
   i. Representatives from Athletics came to speak about their new “Warrior Madness” Event. They are looking to start a Pep Rally of sorts, where they have competitions to try and get fans excited for the new athletic season. They are asking the senate for $1,000 for gift cards and t-shirts for the attendees. They want students to be able to get to know the basketball team and get invested in their Warrior spirit.
   
   ii. B. Molta, who works for athletics added that in the past, Warrior Madness has been very popular with a great turnout.
   
   iii. **Discussion**
       1. M. Patino asked why they were including only basketball teams and if they think other teams deserve recognition.
          a. Representatives answered that other schools strictly do it for basketball, but it’s more for school spirit. It’s difficult to include all the other teams. Our basketball teams have a large following.
       2. J. Ahern asked the representatives if they were aware of the Warrior Rally we just had. J. Ahern wanted to know about the differences between the two events and why they couldn’t have come to us earlier to try to collaborate.
          a. B. Molta asked about the specifics of the rally.
             i. M. Hicks clarified that we met with athletics and discussed at what level the collaboration would be. SGA received little collaboration with athletics, who did not want the sports teams involved. The Student Athletic Advisory Council did participate in the discussion.
             ii. A. Bullard furthered his point by saying that Cynthia from Athletics didn’t want athletics to participate. She wanted spirit to transcend from sports to school-wide.
       
       b. K. Chrzanowska added that last year we had an extensively long dunk contest that didn’t include other sports teams.
       
       c. H. Brooks asked the executive board how much they spent on the Warrior Rally
          i. A. Bullard answered that we spent around $5000.
ii. H. Brooks added that he thinks the basketball team should fundraise for this.

3. J. Reid asked the representatives what they’re doing to advertise the event.
   a. They will be using posters.

4. M. Ehrnfelt expressed concern about the timeline of the event as they would need to start planning as soon as possible with the proposed date. She also asked about the current amount in the general board account.
   a. J. Ahern answered that the account is at about $1000.

5. M. Wysopal asked if the purpose of this event was to be a kickoff event for the season like larger schools do.
   a. The representatives answered yes, they would like to draw students to the games and get students more involved with athletics.

6. M. Hicks elaborated that the Midnight Madness will coordinate with a Tip-Off Tournament that they put on every year.

iv. N. Vigorita asked what the $1,000 is going towards.
   1. Representatives answered that it would be going to shirts and four gift cards at roughly $25 each.

v. M. Hicks inquired about the time frame.
   1. Representatives answered that it would start at 7PM and last roughly an hour or an hour and a half at most.

vi. B. Molta elaborated that all they’re trying to do is investigate different areas where they can get funding. They’re willing to get as much money as possible. The money SGA gives directly correlates to how many t-shirts they can get.
   1. The representatives added that they would be willing to put the SGA logo on the t-shirts.

e. Motion #37 (V. Cosma, J. Reid) Motion to allocate $1,000 to athletics for their Warrior Madness Event.
   i. Motion #38 (J. Reid, T. Mack) Motion to amend Motion #37 by striking out $1,000 and replacing it with $100. Amendment Carries. (24-0-0).
   ii. Motion Carries (14-8-0).

1. Discussion
   a. T. Mack said this is a major event in all of college athletics. If this turns out to be a good thing, we could get them to do things for all sports.
   b. E. Benoit said that we’re here from the students, and she thinks this is something we’d appreciate.
   c. C. Gosselin said that basketball is one of our more popular sports on campus. Students have expressed they want to be more into sports here, the games aren’t enough, looking for more events. We can only minimally fund now, but we should put as much as we can into.
   d. M. Wysopal asked how much we spent for t-shirts for Warrior Rally and how many did we receive.
      i. A. Bullard said we spent $1,440 for 200, although they were dry-fit.
e. H. Brook ask about any money that they don't spend, if it will have to be brought back to the senate.
   i. M. Hicks said yes, but they'll spend it.

f. Ch. Welch said that if we choose not to give them $1,000, we should offer to help sponsor and staff the event. We should also consider giving partial money.

h. A. Nadeau said we should give $500 and asked if there were any other events the semester that we needed to sponsor.
   i. M. Hicks said Cops Open Rec Night.

i. M. Hicks thanked everyone who attended the Majors/Minors Fair. We had over 250 sign-ins and we're setting up a meeting with all three departments who helped coordinate it to debrief. They were very happy with the event in comparison to last year's event. He also said thanks to PR for publicizing the event so well and on so many platforms. He asked for feedback from the senate in regards to the event.

   1. H. Brooks talked about how there were a lot of complaints about how the Education department wasn’t there.
a. M. Hicks agreed, expressing disappointment that our three largest majors, education, communication, and business, did not make a large showing. We’re forwarding comments to the department so that they know how disappointed the students were.

2. M. McFall Gorman said that this event could be even more successful if we throw money into it such as free food to build it up for students.
   a. M. Hicks agreed, but liked that we had a successful event that didn’t cost us anything.

3. J. Mazyck thinks it looks bad that some of our biggest departments couldn’t show up. We look bad because of it.

4. K. Chrzanowska didn’t like how a lot of department heads left in the first hour because there weren’t a lot of people there. They gave attitude, we should reiterate to them that the first hour is always the slowest.
   a. J. Reid responded that a lot of faculty advisors left because they had registration appointments.
      i. M. Hicks responded that planning it during the registration period was intentional.
         1. M. McFall Gorman added that we should give them more notice about this so that they don’t plan during the meeting times. We should ask them to have students to come to the fair for their advising appointments.

2. Vice President’s Report
   a. E-Board Update
      i. M. Patino read E-Board minutes from last week and asked about a conference at Central.
         1. M. Hicks explained the minutes. Central is trying to plan a Conference on Connecticut Student Government Associations and are looking to unify Connecticut SGAs only. There’s a conflict because BAM funds one conference per club per year, so we were discussing if we’d be hypocritical by going. Given there’s potentially no cost, we’d open it up as an optional conference for anyone who wants to go. It’s not set in stone.
   b. Committee Updates
      i. Issues
         1. Committee members are meeting with Ned Harris, the head of Financial Aid on Tuesday.
            a. M. Hicks stressed to them to ask questions and don’t back down on important issues.
         2. A. Nadeau had a meeting with public safety about the smoking policy and possible solutions.
      ii. Public Relations
         1. V. Cosma distributed a sign-up sheet for PR’s Fall for Eastern event. Senators should wear their polo’s to the event.
   iii. Internal
      1. Co. Welch gave a report for the Internal Committee. They’re looking into constitution revisions and also discussing planning for banquets
         a. A. Nadeau asked what the banquets were for.
M. Hicks explained that the SGA Banquet is a smaller banquet to represent ourselves. The Clubs and Organizations Banquet is to celebrate achievements of all clubs and organizations and distribute club awards and honors.

1. H. Brooks asked if President Nunez goes.
   a. M. Hicks said she is invited

iv. Budget and Management

1. Film Club
   a. **Motion #39 (J. Reid, H. Brooks)** Motion to approve the Constitution of the Film Club as an SGA recognized club *(17-0-0)*. **Motion Carries.**
   i. **Discussion:**
      1. J. Reid pointed out a typo within their Constitution.
         a. M. Hicks said passing it would be dependent upon their correction of the typo.

2. Knit Wits
   a. **Motion #40 (A. Bullard, M. McFall Gorman)** Motion to approve the Constitution of the Knit Wits as an SGA recognized club *(15-0-2)*. **Motion Carries.**

3. PRSSA
   a. **Motion #41 (J. Reid, C. Gosselin)** Motion to approve the Constitution revisions of the PRSSA *(18-0-0)*. **Motion Carries.**
   i. **Discussion:**
      1. H. Brooks asked if we can change the two titles that sound similar in their constitution.
         a. M. Hicks answered no, we’d have to vote down their constitution and ask them to revise.
         b. K. Chrzanowska clarified the differences between the two positions; one is focused mainly on social media and one is focused more on traditional public relations.
         c. E. Drouin added that the two titles coordinates with national chapters titles. She would rather that they coordinate with the national chapter.

4. Guideline Changes Discussion
   a. BAM is revising their guidelines to become stricter of trips that clubs go on.
   b. The BAM Guideline Change Process is the same as all club’s revisions. BAM has already approved these
guidelines in committee, now they have to come to
the senate and have it approved.

c. Revisions include: Adding Warriors with Initiatives
and becoming stricter on FRP Review. They
encouraging all clubs do it on time so that BAM can
look at all their funding at once. Late FRPs will be
reviewed next semester.

d. Trip Itineraries (TIs) are required, which is similar to
a required conference itinerary. They can take
portions of funding out based on if they think it fits
their mission statement.

e. BAM shall also be adding requirements for clubs to
implement their knowledge from their conference
and let BAM know what they learned.

f. M. Ehrnfelt asked about a section within the Warriors
with Initiatives Program. What are student activities
leadership programs?
   i. C. Ambrosio answered that they are programs
    put on by the Student Activities Office. Club
    members can go and get rewarded for trying
to improve themselves and other clubs.

g. M. Hicks asked about Section 4 Part 2 that referred to
freezing accounts. He asked K. Chrzanowska if they
will actually freeze accounts
   i. K. Chrzanowska answered that it usually
doesn’t come to that, they want it there just in
case they need to implement it.

h. SGA will vote on these next week.

5. Club Council

a. Club Council is this week and shall be presented to
the Clubs. FRPs will not be open until after the
meeting on Monday so that we can vote on revisions.

b. J. Reid asked K. Chrzanowska to clarify what Club
Council is.
   i. BAM requires E-Board representatives from
each club come and learn about the FRP
process and learn how to get the most money
from BAM.

c. M. Ehrnfelt asked when FRPs are due.

d. K. Chrzanowska gave a timeline:
   i. FRPs open October 27th, close November 5th.
the first review session is the November 6th,
and December 4th is the appeals meeting

e. J. Ahern said senators should definitely go to club
council.
   i. M. Hicks said if you want to be a part of BAM
during your time in SGA, you should go to
Club Council meeting.

3. Treasurer's Report:

a. Expense Report:
   i. J. Ahern sent out an email with a detailed report to the senate in
regards to how much we've spent this year.
ii. J. Ahern stressed that just because we’re in the red, it’s okay because the money shall spring will cover the deficit.

iii. Email J. Ahern with any inquiries about how the money is being spent.

4. Secretary’s Report:
   a. E. Drouin stressed for committee members to follow the template she sent out for committee meetings. Minutes should be very detailed and show discussion, not just decisions.
   b. E. Drouin also stressed that senators must do their office hours.
      i. M. Hicks contributed that missed office hours do not count as absences, but these are reviewed under the impeachment process.
      ii. V. Cosma asked if FileMaker was up.
          1. C. Ambrosio said FileMaker has not been letting him add new users.

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

6. Old Business:
   a. None at this time

7. New Business:
   a. Academic Affairs Committee
      i. E. Drouin gave a committee update for the Academic Affairs Committee. Last week’s meeting of the committee was pretty bureaucratic in nature and dealt with how to let faculty know when they can shred documents that contain details about students.
   b. Honorary Degree Committee
      i. A. Bullard and M. Hicks are on a committee with faculty and administration that nominates all of the people the university can give honorary degrees to. To get an honorary degree, someone must have done something substantial to society. The committee refers a list of people to the president who then decides if someone on that list receives an honorary degree. In exchange for the honorary degree, they have to give the commencement address at graduation for free.
          1. Let Matt know anyone who you think should be a potential commencement speaker, and they can nominate them for you. M. Hicks doesn’t think any names currently jump out to the average students. We’ve had prominent names before.
   c. Support Services Committee:
      i. S. Froehlich’s support services committee discussed the lack of paper towels in Webb Hall. Additionally, they’re working on the lack of printing funds, especially clarifying the policy for students on printing funds. They’re wondering if they should increase the amount of funds students can receive.
          1. J. Ahern said that anyone can get their funds reloaded in Webb 410.
             a. M. Ehrnfelt said she tried that and it didn’t work. She emailed President Nunez who made them do it.

8. Open Floor
   a. H. Brooks and A. Bullard were working on their mentor/mentee project. A. Bullard explained how their project came about. They both love politics and wanted to watch what was going on at the Capitol in regards to the Transform 2020 Plan. They could possibly meet with legislators.
i. H. Brooks emailed a couple people in Hartford about the stakeholders’ opinions on Transform 2020. They have House Republican Legal Consultants looking at the plan

Meeting adjourned at 4:23 PM