Student Government Association
General Board Meeting
March 2nd, 2015

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

Advisors: C. Ambrosio, M. Delaney

Senators: E. Benoit, H. Brooks, V. Cosma, M. Ehrnfelt, S. Froehlich, C. Gosselin, P. Hoeps, J. Mazyck, E. McDonald, M. McFall-Gorman, M. Patino, E. Pelletier, J. Reid, N. Vigorita, Ch. Welch, Co. Welch, G. Wrobel, M. Wysopal

Guests: Dan Solomon, Josh Silkoff (Golf Club), Colin Gaffey (Golf Club), Adam Burns, Ashley Thibodeau (Intervarsity Christian Fellowship), Danielle VanEtten (Intervarsity Christian Fellowship)

Meeting called to order at 3:02 PM

1. Vice President’s Report
   a. Acceptance of Minutes from 2/23/2015
      i. Motion #72 (E. Pelletier, J. Reid) Motion to accept the minutes from 2/23/15 (20-0-1). Motion Carries.

2. Golf Club
   a. Representatives Club came to speak from the soon-to-be-created Golf Club. The goal is to create a cheaper way for golfers on campus to golf. They realize they're at probationary status, which has a max of $1000 for funding. They have about 20 member interested and the contract they're looking for costs $6,000. They've found a website for very cheap balls and tees. They're looking for driving range time as well, which is $10 per person. They're looking to become competitive eventually.
   b. Discussion
      i. J. Reid asked since the membership fee is $50, is there a way for members who cannot pay to still golf?
         1. Not right now as they're not a fully funded club.
         2. C. Ambrosio pointed out that it's not uncommon for a club sport to charge their members a fee.
      ii. E. Pelletier asked if they have called places around to see if they can find a cheaper group rate.
         1. They're examining a variety of different options with the amount of people.
      iii. N. Vigorita asked if they have plans to compete with other colleges.
         1. That is something they'll eventually work towards.
      iv. E. Drouin asked if they were just doing driving ranges or if they'd be going on actual courses.
1. They're going on actual courses, driving ranges are extra and are on the back burner.

c. **Intervarsity Christian Fellowship**
   i. Intervarsity Christian Fellowship is a national Christian organization that is trying to start a chapter here at Eastern. They've had a lot of student interest. At their first Bible Study they had 17 students attend and the numbers have been pretty consistent.

ii. **Discussion**
   1. E. Pelletier asked what the specific purpose of the organization was.
      a. They use discipleship cycles, which is how they do their Bible study.
   2. E. Pelletier asked what the structure of the leadership was.
      a. Everyone is welcome to be involved. Current leaders interview people applying for leadership to make sure they are following Biblical standards.
   3. J. Reid asked leaders could be a religion besides Christian.
      a. To be a leader, you have to be Christian.
   4. E. Pelletier asked about the specific standards for the E-Board.
      a. There are certain Bible passages that they are referring to. They are asked to follow Biblical principles.
   5. M. Ehrnfelt asked for an overview of the Biblical principles.
      a. The principles essentially refer to staying pure and being good role models.
   6. G. Wrobel asked if the general board of the club has no control over who the executive board is.
      a. No, the executive board is screened and presented to the General Board.
   7. H. Brooks asked if this is a common club on college campuses.
      a. There are many chapters at schools across the nation.
      b. J. Ahern added that some schools have denied making them a club, however.
   8. E. Drouin asked what happens if leaders don't adhere towards the leadership standards
      a. They have a private meeting with the leadership council, and they're asked to stop or step down.
   9. A. Bullard asked if they would be willing to get rid of the interview process and change to the leadership structures that are like our structure
      a. They understand that, but members should really be adhering towards the Bible; this is so they can avoid a painful removal process.
   10. M. McFall Gorman thinks that voting is the only way to avoid excluding certain students
      a. They have a lot of people that come to the Bible studies who are just curious and don't believe in what the organization does; Intervarsity doesn't think those people would choose the right people to lead the Bible studies.
iii. S. Froehlich asked how the club would differ from other Christian organizations.
   1. Intervarsity likes to focus on being multi-ethnic and diverse in terms of ethnicity and build relationships between ethnicities
iv. E. McDonald asked what their definition of Christianity as different denominations hold different standards.
   1. They have a doctrinal basis in their constitution. And the club has a multidenominational status.
v. J. Reid asked if you can be on e-board if you're gay.
   1. You have to be sexually pure; you would have to commit to celibacy.

3. Bowl a Thon
   a. The Bowl-a-Thon is Saturday at 10:45. You can come support SGA if you please!

4. Legislative Lobbying Effort Update
   a. Senators from SGA represented the students at a meeting of the Appropriations Committee. They got to speak exclusively with the head of the committee and our own legislator for Windham, Senator Flexer.
   b. A. Bullard thinks it would be a good idea of an effort to keep up to date with how they're going to be going with the funding, starting with writing a letter to Senator Flexer. This is will be talked about at E-Board on Wednesday.
      i. M. Wysopal just sent a letter to her a few weeks ago. There’s a proposed bill about to go up in regards to textbook prices and Senator Flexer is currently working on it.
      ii. E. Pelletier said one thing she’s been doing is talking to her friends about it and telling their own personal stories.
         1. A. Bullard agreed, saying in her experience that legislators like personal stories.

5. Committee Updates
   a. Public Relations
      i. Warrior Wednesday Update
         1. PR is working on the flier and also is working on prize ideas.
            a. K. Chrzanowska came up with the idea of gift baskets with Eastern stuff.
            b. N. Vigorita asked if it was one winner or multiple winners.
               i. V. Cosma said that they would have tiered prizes on one Wednesday per month.
               ii. C. Gosselin said that the two quickest ways to a college student’s heart is food and money, so gift cards to food places would be nice.
   b. Internal
      i. For the banquet, they were looking at smaller hors d’oeuvres but it was deemed too expensive, so they’re going for the actual dinners as they would be more effective and efficient.
   c. Student Issues
      i. E. Pelletier presented the revised Resolution for the Pride Center.
      ii. A. Bullard thinks that we should remove a clause in the resolution that discusses the Pride Alliance Club
         1. M. Ehrnfelt thinks that it should be kept because sometimes clubs receive funding from departments on campus
2. C. Gosselin added that he thinks there’s attempts to being more of a distinction between Pride Alliance and the Pride Room.

3. M. Wysopal added that the club does a lot of the programming now, so some of their responsibility in terms of programming could be released by a full time coordinator.
   a. A. Bullard suggested revising the Resolution to be more clear in that regard.

iii. N. Vigorita asked about the “*” next to Trans in the document.
   1. E. Pelletier said it is common practice so as to accommodate transsexuals and transgenders

iv. N. Vigorita asked if the numbers were verified
   1. Yes, they were.

v. H. Brooks suggested separating the names in the final clause with semicolons.

vi. A. Bullard added changing “ECSU” to Eastern Connecticut State University.


viii. E. Drouin pointed out that we should keep it consistently with either “the Student Government Association” or “Student Government Association”.

ix. J. Reid said that she really likes the document.

x. **Motion #73 (M. Ehrnfelt, N. Vigorita)** Motion to approve the resolution for the Pride Center contingent upon these changes (20-0-1). Motion Carries.

d. **BAM**
   i. **Motion #74 (H. Brooks, P. Hopes)** Motion to go into closed session (21-0-0). Motion Carries.

   ii. **Gymnastics Club**
       1. **Motion #75 (P. Hoeps, E. Benoit)** Motion to approve the Gymnastics Club as an SGA recognized club. (15-0-0). Motion Carries.

   iii. **Pre-Med Society**
       1. **Motion #76 (G. Wrobel, J. Mazyck)** Motion to approve the Pre-Med Society as an SGA recognized club. (14-0-1). Motion Carries.

   iv. **Golf Club**
       1. **Motion #77 (H. Brooks, G. Wrobel)** Motion to approve the Golf Club as an SGA recognized club. (13-0-2). Motion Carries

2. Discussion
   a. M. McFall Gorman asked how funding would work if they were a club sport.
      i. K. Chrzanowska answered that they’d receive a lump sum.
      ii. J. Ahern said it comes down to what’s on the FRP and what’s approved by BAM.
      iii. A. Bullard says to keep in mind for next year that it might be a good time to raise the student activity fee. If Golf decides they’re
going to be a club sport, it's going to be a lot of money

b. J. Mazyck asked if there is ever a way to just say no to a club if they're not being prosperous
   i. C. Ambrosio added that we've seen clubs become inactive. We give two semesters of leeway before they're kind of cast to the side and are considered inactive.

c. M. Wysopal asked if there's ever a cap to the amount of money a club receives
   i. No, there is no cap.

v. Intervarsity

1. The constitution is unprecedented and the senate should be as critical as they always have been.
2. C. Ambrosio added that BAM would never bring the senate a constitution as long as they never thought it would be breaking guidelines.
3. E. Drouin asked K. Chrzanowska if they changed the outside influence of the overarching organization in regards to funding.
   a. The intervarsity person would be serving as a nonvoting member
   b. C. Ambrosio added that clubs all function differently, would be functioning as an advisor. Chapter clubs all have similar things.
4. E. Pelletier has a problem with how the “purity” would be enforced. They do not want them digging into students pasts.
5. H. Brooks thinks that the standards for practice and the potential consequences for not going along with what they would like is kind of oppressive and having such high standards could ruin diversity. He thinks they seem very exclusive
6. G. Wrobel feels as though the screening process and the E-Board is too much power for an E-Board. They're not giving credit to a membership.
7. V. Cosma is wondering how, interviewing for committee head positions is different.
   a. It's not.
8. E. McDonald is concerned that they're not taking the Bible metaphorically like some denominations do and they're supposed to be multi-denominational.
9. G. Wrobel thinks that this is going to lead to discrimination issues. She is also worried that the E-Board will not have the skills to keep the club going as Danielle will eventually leave
10. H. Brooks' main concern is the leadership standards. They're digging into people's backgrounds which is very different than what SGA does.
11. J. Ahern looked at it like a hiring process, you want someone who reflects the values of the organization. He doesn't think the whole e-board should be screened, maybe just one member.
12. M. Wysopal is a member of Intervarsity and is a member of Pride Alliance. The screening process is about the ability to
teach to the Bible. She doesn’t feel as though it’s a discriminatory process at all.

13. E. McDonald is worried about them being multi-denominational as some of their standards do not adhere to rules across denominations.

14. J. Reid thinks that one or two members should be screened but the others should be voted in by students exclusively. J. Reid thinks that in order to be diverse, all denominations should be represented.

6. Treasurer’s Report:
   a. Accounts Update
      i. General Board is currently at $7,326.50 and E-Board is currently at $2645.15.

7. Advisor Report:
   a. Nothing to report.

8. Old Business
   a. If you’re interested on being on the Elections Committee, please talk to A. Bullard after the meeting.

9. New Business
   a. External Committees
      i. J. Reid gave an Organizations Committee update. The committee is going through a five year review process, each member is assigned to review other committees. There’s an external committee without a student representative, J. Reid shall bring the information next week.

10. Open Floor
    a. M. Wysopal announced the Love is a Drag Event, tonight March 2nd at 7PM in the BTR.
    b. N. Vigorita told everyone about the RDT Showcase on April 15th at 8PM
    c. J. Ahern asked about the Pep Rally Exploratory Committee.
       i. K. Chrzanowska is going to set up a Doodle Poll.

Meeting adjourned at 4:28 PM