I. Call to Order: 3:00pm

II. Roll Call:

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


Advisors: M. Delaney, C. Ambrosio

Guests: Vanessa Hill,

III. President Report:

   i. Motion #84 (H. Brooks, D. Sheridan) Motion to approve the Minutes from March 28th, 2016 (18-0) Motion carries.

b. Elections and Application Information
   i. J. Ahern explained how the new software is being used for SGA applications which are live until Monday April 11th.
   ii. Senators are asked to pick up fliers for the Residence Halls and Academic Buildings, please put your name by the buildings you take, and have the fliers posted by tomorrow evening at the latest.
   iii. All dates for the Elections process are on the Agenda.

c. Positions and Transition Summit
   i. Each member of the Executive Board spoke about their position:
      1. Budget and Management (BAM) Chair is a dual role, not only an Executive Board member but also a committee head at the same time. Therefore you are doing things somewhat similar to J. Ahern in running (BAM) meetings. There is also a lot of behind the scenes work to make sure things go smoothly. Several tidbits: the BAM Chair does not have a vote in BAM, there are a lot of emails, spread sheets, mail mergers (individualized emails to student organizations), and you are working with C. Ambrosio on club stuff. Hours-wise, C. Gosselin described how every Monday he puts in about 5-6 hours, and while there is not a lot of other work in the office after that, there is a lot of hours spent on emails, for BAM alone, not even including Executive Board.
      2. Vice President is a straightforward position. E. Drouin described it as being in charge of internal committees, through conjunction with the Committee Head’s, as well as external committee. Overall it’s relatively simple, just managing tasks and being a mentor as well as an upstanding Executive Board member who is able to perform delegated tasks.
      3. J. Ahern informed the Senate that there are a lot of issues behind the scenes that Executive Board members tackle outside of the regular meetings, which do take a lot of effort and dedication.
4. President deals with lots of emails, must attend meetings with administration once or twice a month, creates the meeting agendas, runs the meetings, and must be able to monitor discussion and cut off or redirect them as necessary. The President must go to meetings that people may not initially think about, such as external committees without representatives or smaller administration meetings. Overall email is the biggest part – because you have to decide whether or not all of the invitees, requests, questions, or concerns are something that SGA should get involved with – meaning you decide what is in the agenda. J. Ahern explained that he dedicates a good 2-3 hours a day for the position. He insists that you only go for the position if you can give the time to it, because it is an important role. If you have internships, jobs, hard classes, be wary of your choices.

5. M. McFall Gorman described the position of Secretary. The primary tasks are writing Minutes for all of the official SGA meetings as well as overseeing all communication involving SGA through its main email account. More than this, there are the tasks of counting attendance, and using your judgment in situations where an ‘excused’ absence may or may not be acceptable, dress attire is questionable, etc. Very important though is the need to be present 100% of the time during all meetings. As Secretary, the position requires you to be cognizant of the entire conversation, able to listen, understand, and record all at once without blocking out the next comment or conversation as you finish typing the last one. Typically per week, depending on the content of the meetings and the rate of discussion, the minutes take anywhere from 3-4 hours to complete. Besides that, the email should be checked preferably twice a day, or whenever possible if you can have it synced with your personal devices.

6. The position of Treasurer must give a budget proposal every semester. Always crunching numbers, the Treasurer is consistently working with BAM and is basically the secretary of BAM. Another task is to meet with Carol from Fiscal Affairs to discuss club funding and SGA funding. The Treasurer works with the President on vouchers and expenditures, works with M. Delaney for shuttle payments, and is generally always touching the money. T. Mack said he donates about 7 hours a week for the position.

7. J. Ahern said that all the positions have in common this constant thread of communication; we have group texts, we email one another, and we make sure that everything goes smoothly by helping one another out. Please run for a position if you believe you can seriously participate and give your all.

8. The Transition Summit on April 22nd from 3-6pm is mandatory for current Executive Board members as well as the newly inducted members.
   a. This Transition Summit is not just for SGA, it is for all Student Organizations.

d. SGA Banquet
   i. Tried to get them out sooner, but the RSVP is April 7th, please email M. McFall Gorman to confirm your attendance.
   ii. J. Ahern explained the pickup time, how dress is business casual, that there are meal restrictions due to cost, we can all pick from the same dessert options, and that if you do not want to take the vans (for which you must meet in the SGA suite for 6:30pm) then you can provide your own.
   iii. J. Reid asked if we could bring guests, and J. Ahern said it is only current members and newly elected senators that will be allowed to attend.

IV. Vice President Report:
   a. Internal Committees Update
      i. Student Issues:
         1. Campus Alcohol Policy
a. H. Brooks made a separate committee for writing the resolution, and they decided to backtrack slightly to gather more information and a greater spectrum of opinions so as to move forward with the student’s best interests and wishes in mind.

b. F. Ricigliano added that the committee is trying to talk to the administration and get their perspective.

c. J. Ahern said this issue may carry on to next year, which is not exactly a bad thing, you’ll have something to start with. However, because he thought the administration would not be in favor, he was looking for a written, concrete resolution.

d. President Nunez confirmed J. Ahern’s suspicion, however she is not the only person on campus with a voice, and J. Ahern recommends that the committee continue to talk to other administrative members, students, officers, teachers, etc. so that when/if President Nunez says no it will be harder for her to do so.

e. Harrison said the overall goal is to have the policy changed, but right now their primary goal is to have an informed resolution, he wants it to be as official and effective as possible as it is the first real student attempt at making a change to this policy.

f. J. Reid asked what President Nunez’s reasons for saying no were. J. Ahern said she gave several points, primarily being that the current policy is better, and we are more ‘residential’ than other colleges in CT. It is in the committees hands right now and whether or not they finish it for this year, it will be good to continue with.

ii. Public Relations:
   1. Application Table Review
      a. Co. Welch thanked those who assisted with the event!
      b. NY Times representative was present and spoke to students about services being provided, she reported a good amount of students had already taken advantage of the program and were using it in their classes.
   2. Events for Elections
      a. Items mentioned by Co. Welch included chap sticks, SGA gum, water bottles, thermoses, and more.
      b. There will be food catering: April 18th and 19th in the lobby of the Student Center, and on the 20th in Hurley Hall during the lunch/dinner rush.
   3. E-Board Reimbursement
      a. The Executive Board purchased the $3000 system for the election ballot, and the items purchased by the Public Relations committee for elections were $3500 totaling $6000. J. Ahern explained that both costs were supposed to be from General Board, as they are purchases for the entire senate and student body, but we were pressed for time so Executive Board went ahead and purchased the system and items from their own account.
      b. **Motion #85 (H. Brooks, J. Dignoti)** Motion to approve the reimbursement of Executive Board in the amount of no more than $6,500 for Public Relations items and Election systems. (19 – 0 - 0 ) Motion carries.

iii. Budget and Management:
   1. FRPs
      a. Reviews start today so BAM will be in closed section for the next 3 weeks.
      b. If your FRP did not get submitted, be warned to do it ASAP because the later that BAM gets it, potentially the less money you will receive.
      c. Upcoming Monday (April 11th) is the last day to request additional funds for the remainder of this semester

b. External Committees Update
V. Treasurer Report:
   a. Accounts Update
      i. Executive Board: $3,192.32
      ii. General Board: $11,684.32

VI. Secretary Report:
   a. Office Hours
      i. C. Ambrosio has sent M. McFall Gorman the roster for the Office Hours and she is in the process of reviewing them.
      ii. Thank you to all of those Senators who have been consistent in their hours and who have emailed in advance of absences or tardiness, which always shows well.

VII. Advisor Report:

VIII. Old Business:
   a. #FlintWaterProject
      i. Leave your donations in the E-Board room by 6pm and we will bring it all down to the Intercultural Center
   b. SGA Shuttle to Storrs – New Updates
      i. J. Ahern met with Kevin Paquin and he will have a quote regarding the metal signs/backdrops by next Monday.
      ii. The bid is still being discussed, since we had to add a one hour break for the driver. The new schedule is available to students.
      iii. Most likely the big update will be next Monday, like everything else.
   c. SGA Trip to Boston, MA
      i. The tentative itinerary is as follows: meet in SGA Suite at 8am, depart by 8:30 and arrive by 10:30 – JFK museum at 11am, New England Holocaust Memorial at 1 or 2pm. (lunch around 2pm). Freedom Trail right after, then Quincy market for dinner (around 5pm). We will be leaving afterwards to get back to campus by 8pm.
      ii. J. Mazyczk asked if we could provide our own transportation for the trip. J. Ahern responded No, as this is an off campus event and per Student Activity guidelines the group must use University transportation together.
      iii. F. Ricigliano asked about food cost and J. Ahern clarified that the only thing Senators must pay for is their food, while SGA pays for your admittance into the museums.
      iv. Motion #86 (R. Erage, F. Ricigliano) Motion to approve spending no more than $400 for the Museum fees which are estimated on about 20 participants (19 -1 -0). Motion carries.
   d. Provost Interviews
      i. Co. Welch described how the interview she attended went very well. Only herself and J. Ahern attended, but the Provost candidate made it a point to guarantee that the students’ level/quality of education must not suffer with these looming budget crises, and that would be one of their primary goals. Also the provost candidate stressed the importance of the relationship between students and faculty.
      ii. J. Reid said the two interviews she attended went really well, both candidates were extremely qualified, and have a long history in academics either as teachers or administrators. They also both had experience in administrator positions during times of budget cuts.
      iii. R. Erage said that for the Friday interview, the candidate dodged questions, and while she was very qualified, she seemed to grumble over answering questions.
      iv. J. Ahern asked people to give their input on these candidates by emailing the administration, as student input needs to be taken into consideration when choosing the future Provost.
II. New Business:
   a. SGA Live on WECS Radio (12:30 or 2pm, on April 19th)
      i. Senators interested include D. Sheridan and possibly J. Mazyck. Any others should come forward and express interest to J. Ahern
   b. Committee Proceeding

III. Open Floor:
   a. Final Three Weeks
   b. M. McFall Gorman spoke about the State of the Philosophy Department as it was brought to her attention by fellow students and Faculty. The Philosophy Department, since its creation nearly two years ago, has been searching for a second, full time faculty member (they have only ONE full time professor who is due to retire within the next 4-5 years). The issue is partly due to the hiring freeze being instituted by the Board of Regents and President mark Ojakian as a means to counter the budget crisis.
   c. As the Senate learned last week, there are methods to applying for an exemption for the hiring freeze, on the grounds that the position is vital, already exists (no "new" positions), and that damage will be done without the position being filled.
   d. M. McFall Gorman made clear that she is not asking for SGA approval or necessary involvement, this issue is something that she plans on assuming herself, and she merely wishes to inform the Senate of the issue at hand and ask that if any Senators are interested individually, they can talk to her.
   e. To explain further, M. McFall Gorman described her meeting with President Nunez the previous Friday, where several students met to discuss the Administration's plans or lack of motivation. The consensus that M. McFall Gorman took from the meeting was that the administration is trying to move towards a 'new' major, though they refused to be specific or give reasons for why the candidates produced by the two job searches (which produced the same, unanimously approved candidate twice) was not even granted an offer by the administration. Due to the lack of response and defensive nature of the explanations, M. McFall Gorman explained that she believed the administration was attempting to redesign the Philosophy major towards a business-effective model, where the major is not necessarily concentrating on Philosophy itself but rather on a 'mass' appeal in order to draw in more students, effectively reducing the quality of the education being given.
      i. J. Reid said that it is possible the current professor is not capable of running the Philosophy department, and that the administrations’ waiting for her to retire is because she is a poor educator.
      ii. M. McFall Gorman countered that as she has not only had this professor, but knows many people who have, all of whom have nothing but the greatest respect, admiration, and appreciation for her.
      iii. J. Reid suggested that M. McFall Gorman try and get more student input, to try and learn what the Philosophy majors/minors think will happen.
   iv. E. Drouin said to keep in mind that the Philosophy department is new, and small, so it will not be taken as a priority, and the administration will say as much. It does not include many students, therefore it is not a top priority.
   v. J. Dignoti said however that there are many students which are not only interested in Philosophy, but require it for LAC courses, and it would be silly to only offer a few courses when Philosophy is such a broad discipline.
   vi. A. Diloné replied to E. Drouin’s comment saying that it doesn’t matter that if she is only a minor, or even a minor in a small department, that doesn’t meant that we (philosophy students) don’t count.
   vii. M. McFall Gorman agreed, and offered more information to A. Diloné should she want to get involved. Anyone else who is interested can email M. McFall Gorman for more information or updates.

IV. Dates to Remember:
a. Etiquette Dinner: Wednesday, April 6th – 6:00 PM – 8:00 PM in the Johnson Room – J. Eugen Smith Library
b. Tracks to Success – A Year in Review: Thursday, April 14th – 2:00 PM – 2:45 PM in STU 107
c. SGA Trip to Boston, MA: Saturday April 16th – 8:00 AM – 8:00 PM (Meet in the SGA Suite)
d. CSCU Student at the Capitol Day: Tuesday, April 19th – 12:00 PM – 3:00 PM at the CT Capitol
   i. President Nunez wants as many students as possible to attend, J. Ahern asked who would be able to
      attend. Several Senators said that they could attend.
   ii. J. Ahern elaborated saying that Senators would return to campus by 3pm.
   iii. R. Ergene asked what we would be doing. J. Ahern said that we merely attend, support those that are
        speaking on behalf of the University, and do our best to speak with legislative members about our
        student concerns.
   iv. F. Ricigliano asked about attire, and while business casual would be fine, President Nunez recommend
       that students wear Eastern Apparel.
e. Last President’s Breakfast: Wednesday, April 20th – 7:00 AM in the President’s Dining Room - Hurley Hall

**Election Information:**

- Application Live Due: Sunday, April 10th at 11:59 PM (bit.ly/sgaspringelection)
- Nominations: SGA General Board Meeting – April 11th at 3:00 PM in the STU 117
- Campaigning: Directly after the SGA Meeting on April 11th
- Voting / PR’s Election Events via Eastern E-Mail - April 18th, 19th, and 20th
- Results Announced: via Eastern E-Mail – April 21st

f. SGA Internal Banquet: Thursday, April 21st – 6:30 PM – Se Invitation and RSVP as soon as possible.
g. Executive Board Transition Summit: Friday, April 22nd – 3:00 PM – 6:00 PM in the Betty Tipton Room.
h. First SGA Meeting of the new semester: Monday, April 25th – 3:00 PM in STU 107
i. Second SGA Meeting of the new semester and last meeting before Summer Break: Monday, May 2nd – 3:00
   PM
j. Budget and Management’s Student Organization Banquet: Tuesday, May 3rd in the Betty Tipton Room.

V. Meeting adjourned at 3:50pm