Present:

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

**Advisors:** M. Delaney, C. Ambrosio


**Guests:** Samantha Landry, Sarah Tricarico, Laura Combes

**Meeting called to order at 3:00 PM**

1. President Report:
   a. **Acceptance of Minutes from 3/7/2016**
      i. **Motion #76** (Co. Welch, K. O’Rourke) Motion to approve the Minutes from 3/7/2016 (21 – 0 – 0)
      Motion carries.
   b. **SGA Shuttle to Storrs**
      i. J. Ahern explained the shuttle procedure and how far along we are with finalizing the schedule.
      ii. The estimated cost for the shuttle was higher than expected, at $30,000 a year (ten thousand more than we budgeted for) meaning we must either scrap one day or reduce both days.
      iii. M. Wysopal said that the one day option would be better as a trial run of sorts, so that we can see how popular it is.
      iv. A. Dilone asked what the cost difference would be to keep it at one day versus two days at restricted hours. J. Ahern said that another cost analysis would have to be done to find out.
      v. Co. Welch asked what the hours on Saturday would be and if we could extend them if it is to run only on one day
      vi. J. Ahern said that the Saturday hours could start at 10am, and it goes until 6pm
      vii. J. Ahern said he will send out the times again to the Senate so they can review it and give a decision
      viii. K. C said that we don’t necessarily need to extend it because it won’t be the end of the world if the driver takes a one hour break, during lunch peak when everyone else would be eating lunch anyway
      ix. J. Ahern pulled up the time schedule for the proposed Storrs Center Shuttle, and asked everyone to respond to his email in regards to times.
      x. J. Ahern has gotten tentative approval for the Backdrop options on the shuttle stops, and he is in the process of finding a design and getting them fully approved.
      xi. J. Ahern is meeting with President Nunez to get the shuttle name “Shopping Shuttle” approved
      xii. After this, the next step will be purchasing shuttle magnets with the proper titles on them to be placed in the shuttles.
xiii. J. Ahern will meet with Chief Garewski to have the shuttle app updated
xiv. With this being done, new schedules would have to be posted in the shuttle stops along with a new poster for the purposes of advertising. This task will fall under the responsibilities of the Public Relations Committee
xv. Chief Garewski will take responsibility for emailing students for cancellations and shuttle updates.

c. Housing Mascots (RHA Updates)
i. A. Dilone (Burr) said that after speaking to RHA the general sentiment was to keep the mascots. A. Dilone expressed her being against the Mascots, but the feedback from RHA was that it gave a sense of community.
ii. J. Brucker was absent but sent in a report that was read by J. Ahern and it sited similar reasons of ‘community’ for keeping the mascots.
iii. J. Ahern read a list of reasons as given by RHA Presidents, all of which referred to the Warrior Cup, sense of community, residence hall spirit, involvement, and so forth.
iv. G. Littke said that Mead was indifferent.
v. C. Gosselin said that most upperclassmen halls are indifferent, so it’s a 50/50 split except for the freshmen who generally really like them.
vi. J. Mazyck said that in general, people either really care or do not care at all, so the people who feel passionately will win out.
vii. M. Patino said that it inspires a sense of community between upperclassmen, freshmen or even sophomores who have lived in the same hall.
viii. Unofficial vote showed that a majority of the Senate does not feel the need to pursue the issue of Residence Hall mascots any further.

d. Qualtrics Software and Election Application
i. J. Ahern explained the old survey software (Select) and its shortcomings. Question Pro is the new system and it is almost a halfway point between the old system and the Qualtrics Software.
ii. E-Board just purchased for $300 the Qualtrics system; which is mobile friendly, customizable, allows you to return to a previous page, and is overall more appealing aesthetically.
iii. The Qualtrics Survey system can be used for FRP’s and elections (if we purchase another program within Qualtrics). The limit with this software is 300 votes, which is perfect for FRP’s as we have only about 80 Student Organizations.
iv. A full subscription to Qualtrics would be $3,000 which comparatively is a money saver hen compared to the older system, especially in the long run. J. Ahern will come back to the senate when he has more information, as he needs to be sure that the program would not be accessible by SGAE-Board members, which could lead to possible problems with elections in a future situation.

II. Vice President Report:
a. Internal Committees Update
   i. Student Issues:
      1. Elevators and Handicap Buttons
         a. H. Brooks, J. Ahern and F. Ricigliano met with Renee Keisch about the elevators. Apparently there is a monthly review, and while sometimes the elevators get stuck because there are ‘glitches’, this is merely because things ‘happen’.
         b. It was noted that in Webb the faculty side elevator got renovated, but the student one did not.
         c. SGA representatives were told that if you are outside of an elevator and it gets stuck, you would have to contact facilities prior to 5pm. After 5pm you would have to contact Dispatch (Campus Police). However, Facilities apparently has resisted placing fliers or notices outside the elevator doors advertising this information.
d. J. Ahern thanked L. Combes for her article about the problems with the elevators. He mentioned another thing from the meeting, how the group discussed the issue of a student being IN the elevator; in those situations, it is in a contract that the Elevator suppliers (Otis Elevators) come in to further check the elevator.

e. L. Combes explained that this is a big problem because there are a lot of handicapped students on campus and they have all these new buildings, but they don’t have the money to buy new elevators for the buildings that already exist.

f. J. Ahern clarified that the elevators ARE working, some of them have glitches, and the procedures for their malfunctioning are being followed. Also, there is a Master Plan for the University that includes funding for renovations in the future that could include elevators.

g. General consensus was that signs being placed outside the elevators would be within our power, and the only question is whether or not facilities would want their number posted even if we do it for them.

h. K. Chrzanowska said that there is a call button inside every elevator, and for those students who have accessibility problems, they call AccesAbility services and there are options given to those students.

i. L. Combes said it is not about response time, but about the principle of the matter, and the inconvenience (related to the handicap buttons).

j. H. Brooks explained that there are no checks done on the handicap buttons, so it relies on people phoning in to inform them.

k. J. Mazyck asked if there was a problem with so many people using the buttons, and if people should limit their usage. J. Ahern said that whoever uses them can use them, but it’s the matter of documenting the breakages.

2. Student Issues Donation to Public Relations Event

   a. H. Brooks said that the SI committee is giving away $250 (from their budget) to spend on a gift for a raffle and they are asking for another $100 from G-Board

   b. Motion #77 (H. Brooks, K. Chrzanowska) Motion to allocate $100 to the Student Issues committee to go towards a raffle for the Public Relations committee and their Eastern Spirit Day event. (21 – 0 – 0) Motion carries.

3. Alcohol Policy

   a. The Alcohol Policy will be discussed at the Student Issues committee, and H. Brooks asked the Senate for any suggestions that they might want the committee to discuss. Their thoughts and decisions will be brought to general board afterwards.

   b. J. Ahern reviewed the goals left for the semester, and reminded everyone that the Alcohol Policy was one of those goals set at the beginning of the academic year.

ii. Public Relations:

   1. Eastern Spirit Day

      a. Wednesday March 16th is Eastern Spirit Day

      b. Ch. Welch passed out a list to sign up for the event; set-up session, table manning, and breakdown. They are partnering with CAB for the event.

      c. Ch. Welch said that if you worked at the event for one hour, and it is documented in eLife you may have a t-shirt

      d. Co. Welch described the different stations that will be a part of the event, and Ch. Welch described the “Bucket List” event that they will be doing. There is also the “Frog Hunt” activity, where 75 plastic frogs will be hidden across campus, and several either indicate winning a t-shirt or a gift card.
e. SGA members (like CAB) will not be allowed to enter the raffle, however if you work for one hour then you can get a t-shirt
f. The event is from 10am – 1pm but set up will start about 8am,
g. K. Constant asked why the event was shorter. Ch. Welch described that the event is not necessarily shorter but rather that it was planned ahead of time and there was nothing they could do to lengthen the time already given to the event. Besides, the event is going to be around the peak traffic times in the Student Center.
h. M. Patino asked how the event would be set up, and was concerned about the tables being too crowded and there being not enough room for students to walk around.
i. Co. Welch said that CAB has experience with mapping out placements, and that if it should get busy, we can put up stanchions or redirect people to the sides, so it is easily addressable.
j. Ch. and Co. will send out an email to remind everyone.

iii. Budget and Management:
   1. ConNOTicuts
      a. Representatives from the group explained their Student Organization and their goals.
         i. It is an organization for out of state students. Samantha Landry and Sarah Tricarico explained that there are over 300 out of state students, and this student organization would be extremely beneficial to them.
      b. E. Drouin asked how many active members they have, and Samantha Landry replied that at their interest meeting they had about 17 students.
      c. Motion #78 (K. O’Rourke, A. Dilone) Motion to approve the Constitution of the ConNOTicuts Student Organization (21 – 0 – 0) Motion carries
   2. College Democrats Constitutional Change
      a. Motion #79 (R. Eragene, F. Ricigliano) Motion to approve the addition of a Public Relations position to the Constitution of the College Democrats (20 – 0 – 1) Motion carries
   3. Spring Council & FRPs
      a. C. Gosselin explained how well the Qualtrics system works with the FRP’s, which will be released today, and are due the Friday following Spring Break (which is more time than is normally given)
      b. The meeting is today at 5pm in the Student Center Theatre, all clubs are encouraged to come…because it is mandatory 😊
      c. Three Warrior with Initiative points will be given for attending

b. External Committees Update
   i. J. Reid and J. Ahern went to the Open Educational Resources meeting, to listen to teachers talk about open source (free educational resources) for their classes (free books, online lectures). The meeting was about one hour, a representative from the Board of Regents (BOR), and other professors were in attendance; the focus was on affordable textbooks to view online, which you can have printed and bound for $30…only problem is that it is not all out there – meaning there are courses or professor who have not put their textbooks on that platform, so the program is not as widespread as it could be.
   ii. K. Chrzanowska said that sometimes these books are outdated and not always used, so what is the committee doing to make sure that as many of the truly necessary books as possible are included.
   iii. J. Ahern said the beauty of having it online is that professors can pick and choose from multiple texts to make it more accessible and streamlined, so they can opt to use texts already included on the platform.
   iv. J. Reid said that the problem is making professors want to incorporate the program into their classrooms—so sometimes professors are reluctant or unaware of the program, and there is a small number of faculty actually participating.
III. Treasurer Report:
   a. Accounts Update
      i. General Board $11, 684.40
      ii. Executive Board $7,122.61

IV. Secretary Report:
   a. Office Hours
      i. M. McFall Gorman reminded everyone that for the Eastern Spirit Day event, all Senators must clock in using eLife in order to be documented properly (and get a t-shirt).

V. Advisor Report:

VI. Old Business:
   a. C.A.P.S Positions
      i. The Directors’ and Counseling positions are being filled – the offers to the two number one hires have been made, and they have 48 hours to say yeah or nay, and afterwards the second picks will be chosen.
      ii. M. Delaney asked what their start day is, and J. Ahern said that he will get that information out to the Senate.
      iii. J. Ahern told the senate that the IT Director position has also been filled.
   b. Constitution Revisions
      i. Motion #80 (K.Chrzanowska, H. Brooks) Motion to approve the Constitutional revisions of the Student Government Association (20 – 0 – 1) Motion carries

II. New Business:
   a. Columbia Fleeces
      i. J. Ahern recalled that a lot of Senators wanted SGA apparel, so he presented the fleece design; charcoal grey, new logo on the upper left side. J. Ahern asked who was interested in spending $20 for a fleece, a large portion of the Senate said aye.
      ii. J. Ahern said that the price will fluctuate slightly with the number of people who order them, but if the cost is too high we will change our options.
      iii. K.Chrzanowska suggested another store and gave J. Ahern the information
      iv. M. Wysopal asked if there was any way to offset the cost, and J. Ahern explained that the cost could potentially come from General Board. J. Ahern reminded the Senate of another gift that they will be receiving at the Banquet – which E Board is paying for.
      v. T. Mack will check the budget to see how the numbers will align at the end of the year. J. Ahern did a rough calculation and saw that there would be money to offset the cost of the fleeces.
      vi. M. McFall Gorman clarified that the BAM rules state that student organizations are not allowed to pay for apparel with their budget money, they must raise it. Therefore it would be proper of SGA to follow these same rules.
      vii. C. Gosselin said that since the Senate is already getting a gift, this apparel should be paid for by the Senators individually, otherwise it would be unethical.
      viii. E. Drouin agreed and said that in the past when windbreakers were produced, students were not happy about the fact that members of SGA received apparel free.
      ix. F. Ricigliano said that while SGA is different, he understands the students’ concern.

III. Open Floor:
   a. A. Dilone told everyone about the Warrior Cup Basketball tournament tomorrow night, every hall is being represented. Be there or be square.
b. T. Mack “Burr Bears are ready”

c. R. Eragene asked how the election nominations worked, and J. Ahern explained that everyone submits an application online and then everyone who has submitted that application are nominated to run at the following General Board meeting.

IV. Dates to Remember:

a. SGA Spring Elections: Application Live- March 28th, Nominations- April 11th, Voting- April 18th, 19th, and 20th

b. Last President’s Breakfast: Wednesday, April 20th 2016 – 7:00 AM - President’s Dining Room (Hurley Hall)

c. SGA Internal Banquet: Thursday, April 21st 2016 – (Location and Time - TBA)

Meeting adjourned at 4:00pm