Student Government Association  
General Board Meeting  
March 7th, 2016

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

  Advisors: M. Delaney, C. Ambrosio


  Guests: M. Alexis, B. Hayes

Meeting called to order at 3:05pm

I. President Report:
   
      i. Motion #70 (J. Brucker, B. Paiva) Motion to accept the minutes from February 29th, 2016 (21 – 0 - 1). Motion Carries.

   b. Senator of the Month
      i. Congratulations to B. Paiva!

   c. SGA Shuttle to Storrs
      i. J. Ahern took the changes that the Senate provided last week and explained that the bid is somewhat finalized, and we should hear back by April. He explained that if it’s too expensive, we may have to revisit the prices. J. Ahern is also meeting with Vice President Bedini on Thursday.
      ii. J. Ahern and H. Brooks will have a meeting with facilities on Friday to discuss possible changes to the shuttle.

   d. Senior Class Committee
      i. B. Hayes and K. Chrzanowska came on behalf of Senior Class Committee to request more funding for their events.
      ii. B. Hayes that they have added 5 events in the past years, and this has forced them to charge more for the events despite doing many fundraisers. They also explained that the events are very popular, and most of them have sold out.
      iii. K. Chrzanowska explained that the amount of funding has not changed, but that there are limits to how many people can attend.
      iv. Currently receiving $7,500 per semester, Senior Class Committee is asking for another $5,000 dollars to be divided between the two semesters.
      v. R. Eragene asked why they are having so many events, and why they do not cut some events.
vi. K. Chrzanowska explained that they have cut back on events, and minimized several, but that there is a huge demand from Seniors for these events, and they are struggling to make it affordable and available to as many Seniors as possible.

vii. B. Hayes explained that having many events is typical of a Senior Class Committee

viii. K. Chrzanowska said that even if they cut multiple events, there is essentially no money that would make it possible to come within the given budget while actually having a good attendance.

ix. B. Hayes reiterated that all of their events have sold out.

x. H. Brooks asked how often they have fundraised, and how much they made.

xi. K. Chrzanowska said they have a package sale and they typically raise about $1,000. She assured the Senate that receiving more funding would not stop them from fundraising in the future.

xii. J. Ahern reminded the Senate that we are cutting Yearbook funding in half (as they are producing their last yearbook this year) and those funds could potentially be moved to Senior Class Committee.

xiii. K. Chrzanowska requested that Senators keep in mind that the Senior Class is not doing it for themselves or their own semester, they are seeking this additional funding for the years to come. Potentially, this could affect the Senior Class positively for many years to come, and provide them with a rollover to assist in providing as many events as possible.

xiv. E. Drouin reminded all that Senior Class Committee’s budget hasn’t been raised since 2008, and that when inflation is taken into consideration, they really are struggling.

xv. C. Welch said that reallocating the money from Yearbook to Senior Class Committee makes sense because Seniors are most likely to get a yearbook, and this money could be going to that purpose.

xvi. Informal vote showed that 17 members were in favor of including this increase for the Senior Class Committee in our constitutional revisions

e. Constitution Revisions

i. J. Ahern promised that we are almost done with them.

ii. The Senate picked up on page seventeen of the Constitution for the revisions and discussed the duties of the Treasurer in regards to BAM and taking Minutes.

iii. T. Mack was not opposed to this update. Neither was the Senate.

iv. J. Ahern reviewed the responsibilities of the Secretary, and how the Secretary is responsible for monitoring the email and so forth.

v. J. Ahern reviewed the responsibilities of the Budget and Management Chair.

vi. J. Ahern reviewed the updated sections on the responsibilities of the Student Issues and Public Relations Heads. A new task is to monitor the Shuttle Schedules and this shall fall on the Student Issues Committee Head. There were no objections from the Senate.

vii. J. Ahern reviewed the updated terminology for the Student Advisory Committee, its title, and how a representative will be appointed by the Executive Board should no student be able to attend the meetings.

viii. J. Ahern reviewed the expectations of any student that desires to be a Delegate for Student Government; they must attend two meetings a month, be an active member of an SGA internal committee, and shall possess all responsibilities minus voting power.

ix. H. Brooks offered a slight grammatical change.

x. J. Brucker offered an edit to say “must attend a minimum of two meetings per month” to clarify that they can attend more often.

xi. J. Ahern clarified the difference between a member, delegate, and Senator.

xii. J. Mazyck asked if people could instead attend E-Board meetings if they cannot attend others.
J. Ahern said that would be an issue because the E-Board meetings are not always opened to the public because of the topics being discussed.

D. Sheridan asked if people could just go to committee meetings.

K. Chrzanowska said that they should be held to attend the minimum of two General Board meetings, because those are the most important.

J. Ahern agreed with K.C saying they should attend General Board meetings.

Co. Welch said that we should include a sentence saying that for those who cannot even meet a Delegate status, they can still be considered SGA members.

1. “Students who are not able to fulfill the requirements necessary to become a delegate are encouraged to be a general member of SGA”

M. Wysopal said that at this point, the student would just be a guest.

J. Dignoti said that at this point they are guests, and asked why we need to officially label them

E. Drouin with the motivational quote of the day “We do not subscribe to labels here.”

F. Ricigliano offered an edit for a typographical error.

J. Ahern reviewed the expectations of a student running for SGA Executive Board.

Co. Welch suggested that we change the 2/3 to ¾ amount in Section 3. Article A. Part i

1. H. Brooks said we should keep it at 2/3 because even though we just made the limit with ten people running, his freshman year there were 13 to 14 people running. It would not be good to restrict elections.

2. F. Ricigliano liked the ¾ idea because there are four years, and if you do it this way there will be more spaces for each class (freshmen through Senior).

3. M. Delaney warned that doing this would make it only open to freshmen, and that would exclude transfers and other classmen who are trying to run again.

4. J. Mazyck said that making this change would also exclude freshmen from the later elections, so he is against it.

5. K. Chrzanowska said this new proposal would make it harder for freshmen to get involved. She is against it.

6. J. Ahern said that the idea is nice but that it is difficult because you want more people but do not want to exclude others.

7. Who wants to change this: very few. Who does not want to change this: a vast majority

8. T. Mack explained that this proposal would stop people from running again if they lose in the spring, and that is not fair as everyone should get a second chance.

9. General consensus was not to change the above mentioned edit.

C. Ambrosio offered an additional statement so that it reads as “Executive members shall take office prior to the last General Board meeting of the academic year”

1. J. Ahern reviewed the process of informing the President when attempting to become a Delegate.

J. Ahern said that he will send these proposed revisions to the Senate so that everyone can review it one last time and then vote on it for March 14th.

f. Housing Mascots

1. J. Ahern talked to the U-Roc President, who agreed that the Mascots are not beneficial. However, when she brought it forward to the UROC members (RHA Executive Boards) they turned it down.

2. J. Ahern asked if people wanted to follow through and meet with all the RHA boards or let it die now.

3. H. Brooks said we should get more student input.

4. E. Drouin said she needed more information on who it was that turned it down. J. Ahern said he was not present and wasn’t sure.
v. M. Alexis said that he was in attendance, and said that the Residence Halls wanted to keep their own mascots for hall pride. They were not aware of the argument that it detracts from the ECSU Warrior mascot.

vi. D. Sheridan says that this is a good reason to continue with this and go to the halls

vii. J. Brucker agrees that we should follow up, but is unsure of how to address this to them.

viii. J. Ahern suggested that when you attend, you give background information from SGA saying that the mascots detract from the Warrior, it confuses people visiting campus, and that it was initially started due to dislike of the Shield Mascot (which we have since amended).

ix. C. Ambrosio said that you should also mention how in the Student Issues survey, students said overwhelmingly that they do not like the Residence Hall Mascots.

x. K. Chrzanowska said that some halls do not have an actual Executive Board for RHA, so the UROC meeting was probably not accurately representative of the students.

xi. J. Ahern asked if people would volunteer to attend their RHA meetings.
   1. H. Brooks will do Nutmeg Hall
   2. M. Alexis will do Winthrop Hall
   3. A. Dilone will do Burr Hall
   4. F. Ricigliano Burnap Hall
   5. B. Paiva, D. Sheridan, and K. O’Rourke will do Constitution Hall
   6. J. Brucker will do Occum Hall
   7. C. Littke and G. Littke will do Mead Hall
   8. M. McFall Gorman will do Laurel Hall

II. Vice President Report:
   a. Internal Committees Update
      i. Student Issues:
         1. Elevators
            a. H. Brooks and J. Ahern have a meeting scheduled with Renee Keish about the elevators. H. Brooks asked if anyone in the Senate had any more questions or concerns he should bring up.
            b. K. Chrzanowska asked if H. Brooks would bring up the handicap door buttons. He agreed he would.

      ii. Public Relations:
         1. Eastern Pride Day
            a. Public Relations bought t-shirts for the Eastern Pride Day.

      iii. Budget and Management:
         1. Spring Council & FRPs
            a. On March 14th, Spring Council will begin at 5pm and once the meeting is over, the Funding Request Packets will go live.

   b. External Committees Update
      i. J. Mazyck said that the University Senate is trying to make an insurance minor.
      ii. Co. Welch explained that the Academic Affairs Committee is trying to make sure that the STEPS/CAPS program is interdisciplinary by ensuring that all faculty opinions are taken into effect.

   c. Inductions
      i. Kevin Ledezma introduced himself to the Senate.
      ii. Collin Litke introduced himself to the Senate.
      iii. Griffin Litke introduced himself to the Senate.
      iv. Thanks to C. and G. Littke, F. Ricigliano’s new nick name is Chi-chi
v. **Motion #71** (J. Dignoti, D. Sheridan) Motion to induct Collin Littke, Griffin Littke, and Kevin Ledeza as Student Government Association Senators for the Spring 2016 Semester. (15 – 0 – 0). **Motion Carries.**

vi. E. Drouin swore in the newest SGA Senators

vii. K. Chrzanowska said that we now have two sets of twins.

viii. E. Drouin **Quote of the Day:** “You guys should get married!”

ix. J. Ahern reminded the Senate that there is a cutoff date to becoming a Senator (the meeting before Spring Break must be your last consecutive meeting).

1. E. Drouin said she was against this at Executive Board

2. K. Chrzanowska suggested it be earlier

3. The Senate came to the conclusion that a Delegate must become a Senator (attend three consecutive meetings) within the first five meetings of the semester.

### 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 thanked everyone for doing their hours, and C. Ambrosio for sending her the hours weekly.

b. **Letter Writing Campaign**

   i. M. McFall has compiled a list of CT General Assembly members

   ii. M. McFall Gorman will be sending out an email to all interested members so that Senators can either meet in person or decide if they would like to work on these during Office Hours.

### V. Advisor Report:

### VI. Old Business:

a. **SGA Internal Retreat**

   i. Details will be forthcoming once the Executive Board meets on Wednesday. The event takes place on Saturday 7pm in Niejadlik commons area. Senators are free to leave whenever they want in the morning.

   ii. R. Eragene asked why it was mandatory to stay the night. J. Ahern said we will discuss this more on Wednesday.

   iii. M. Delaney can bring sleeping bags for people 😊

### II. New Business:

a. **SGA Computers**

   i. J. Ahern said that an individual in the IT department will be giving us a quote soon on how much it would cost to update the computers in the SGA Suite. More information will be forthcoming once the quote has been given.

### III. Open Floor:

a. J. Ahern requested a motion from the Senate to decide upon a limit for the cost of the shuttle

b. H. Brooks suggested that we put the cap at $19,000. Because even if it is the same amount of money being spent, we are getting a greater usage out of the shuttle
c. **Motion #72** (H. Brooks, E. Drouin) Motion to spend no more than $20,000 as a cap price on the potential shuttle expenditure. (17 – 0 – 1) **Motion Carries.**

IV. **Dates to Remember:**
   a. **Tracks To Success #2** – Event Planning: Thursday, March 10th - 2:00 PM in STU 107
   b. **SGA Internal Retreat** – Saturday, March 12th – 7:00 PM – Niejadlik Hall Commons Area

*Meeting Adjourned 4:23pm*