Eastern Connecticut State University  
83 Windham Street  
Willimantic, CT 06226

Student Government Association  
General Board Meeting  
November 26, 2012

Present:
Executive Board: S. McCabe (President), A. Bullard (Vice President), R. Silberquit (BAM), M. Hicks (Treasurer)

Advisors: C. Ambrosio, M. Delaney


Guests:

Meeting called to order at 3:02 pm.

1. President’s Report:
   a. Guest Speaker
      i. Todd from the Center for Internships and Career Development spoke on the many resources available to students via the Center. They are more than welcome to helping students on interview skills, information on different career paths, as well as guidance on graduate school. On Tuesday November 27 there will be a workshop for students interested in careers in government. Please RSVP to attend.
   b. Board of Regents
      i. If you would like to join Shawn in attending the Board of Regents meeting on Friday, November 30, please let him know as soon as possible. We will meet in the SGA Office at 10:30 for the 12:00 meeting in Hartford.
      ii. Any attending will be back in time for the retreat at 5!
   c. Last Meeting
      i. Next Monday, December 3 will be the last meeting of the semester. It will also be a dress down day.

2. Vice President’s Report:
   a. Inductions
      i. **Motion #18 (B.Rice, A.Bullard):** Motion to induct E. McDonald into the senate for the 2012-2013 school year. **(23-0-0)** Motion carries.
b. Committees
   i. BAM
      1. FRPs
         a. FRPs are being completed and will be mailed out next Monday.
   ii. Internal
      1. Internal Retreat
         a. M. Hicks announced the theme of the internal retreat to the senate. It will be “South of the Boarder Holiday Fiesta”. The retreat is this Friday, November 30 from 5:00-6:45 pm. Attendance is required.
   iii. Public Relations
      1. No Report
   iv. Student Issues
      1. Z. Yeager let the senate know that he is talking with CAB coordinator Kasey Bandura in order to address the CAB related issues brought to the committee’s attention at the Wiener Wednesday at the beginning of the semester.
         a. Issues included complaints about guest tickets for events being sold the same day as students, and the possibility of having Thursday events.
      2. All issues brought up at this event have been investigated and resolved if possible.
         a. Z. Yeager will email out the issue list.
      3. Z. Yeager invited the senate to attend the Commuter Forum which will be Thursday November 6 from 8:00-10:00 am. It will be taking place along with the Commuter Breakfast. Attendance is not mandatory.

3. Treasurer's Report
   a. Funds have not changed since last meeting.

4. Secretary's Report:
   i. S. McCabe expressed to the senate that we should keep the SGA Suite clean and approachable for other students. He also stressed that no inappropriate music or language should be heard.

5. Advisor's Report:
   a. C. Ambrosio announced to the senate and event in correspondence with LEAP. Milton Jackson, an Eastern Alum will be giving a presentation on Public Speaking, in the theatre at 5:00 pm on Wednesday November 28.

6. Old Business:
   a. Student Activity Fee
      i. Last week the senate motioned to raise the student activity fee by $5 a semester. Originally it was thought that the fee was $90 a year. We
found out after the fact that the fee is actually $90 a semester. This voids last week’s motion.

ii. Discussion started on if we should still raise the fee per semester to $5. It was then expressed to raise it $10 to keep it at an even $100 a semester.

iii. **Motion #19 (B. Rice, A. Bullard):** Motion to raise the Student Activity Fee $10 a semester.
   1. B. Rice expressed that increasing the activity fee by $10 to make it an even $100 a semester were more than likely not be noticed.
   2. M. Hicks spoke, saying that an increase by $10 would be irresponsible and we should go with the previous plan of raising the fee by $5.
   3. B. Lisi addressed a point made last week about inflation and how we should plan accordingly.
   4. A. Bullard said she was impartial to raising the fee to $10, and felt that since it will have to be raised again in a few years, it might as well be done now.
   5. P. Bjornstad agreed saying that the whole campus would benefit greater with a larger sum of money reserved for the clubs. Either way, we must think of the concerns of the students.
   6. M. Hicks stated that we have a reserve fund of $350,000, and there is no need to raise the activity fee by $10

iv. **Motion #20 (M. Hicks, C. Cocola):** Motion to amend the previous to raise the Student Activity Fee $5 a semester over $10 a semester. \(18-5\) \(1\) Motion carries.
   1. R. Perry likes the amendment of raising the fee by $5 instead of $10 as he thinks it is pointless to have the spare money is reserve not being used.
   2. R. Silberquit told the senate that with a $5 increase, we would have $20,000 more per semester to give to the clubs. This increase in money would not affect the BAM Guideline rules of only funding one club sport a semester.
   3. J. Tedford further expressed that club sports are capable of fundraising in order to play two semesters instead of one.
   4. S. McCabe commented that with the increase we would also be able to better fund conferences for clubs.
   5. J. Tedford in response stated that funding for the club sports only benefits a few people.
   6. S. McCabe said the same for conferences.
   7. A. Daley agreed with J. Tedford saying that club sports, such as Rugby are more than capable of fundraising.
   8. B. Lisi talked on how a $5-$10 increase may not seem a lot in respect to other fees paid, but we should look in the long run
and how it may overburden students who are struggling to pay tuition as it is.
9. Z. Yeager said that with all other prices such as fees and tuition going up, we should not raise this fee too much.
10. M. Hicks also stated that there are many groups on campus that need the money as well.
11. P. Bjornstad expressed that the majority of students on campus are involved in clubs, and that the original increase of $10 a semester would be more beneficial.
12. J. Tedford agreed with M. Hicks saying that raising the fee by $10 could cause frivolous spending by clubs, when they could always fundraise the extra money needed.
13. B. Lisi agreed with P. Bjornstad’s statement that an increase will better benefit the clubs, but $5 is a sufficient amount to do so.
14. R. Silberquit explained saying that BAM would not just give the extra money to the sports, but it would also go to CAB per our Constitution, which would mean more activities for students.
15. S. McCabe commented that it is the SGA President’s job every year to set the budget. This semester, rather than giving SGA a large portion of money to use, he opted to giving that money to BAM in order to support the clubs better. This resulted in many SGA cutbacks.
16. Z. Yeager asked R. Silberquit how often BAM turned down clubs for funding in certain areas.
17. R. Silberquit responded saying that as is, BAM usually turns down funds 80% of the time. He then said that having more money would be able to better satisfy what the clubs would like to do.

v. **Vote on Motion #19** to raise the Student Activity Fee to $95 a semester. (18-5-1). Motion carries.

7. New Business:
   a. **Elective Course Offerings**
      i. S. McCabe informed the senate that during the last President’s Breakfast, the issue of elective course offerings was growing as students are unable to take the electives they would like to. He then asked the senate if anyone would be willing to take time to explore this issue. B. Rice, B. Lisi, A. Daley, and D. Beason all expressed interest.

8. Open Floor:
   a. **Town Gown**
      i. S. McCabe passed around a sign-up sheet for Thursday’s Town Gown Meeting
   b. **Cops Open Rec Night**
i. S. McCabe expressed the importance of the senate attending Cops Open Rec Night as we donated our funds to the cause.

c. Dates To Remember
   i. November 29, 2012 – Town Gown, 6-7:30 pm, Science 301
   ii. November 30, 2012 – Internal Retreat
   iii. December 3, 2012 – Last Meeting
   iv. December 7, 2012 – Cops Open Rec Night
   v. January 14, 2012 – President’s Breakfast
   vi. April 24, 2012 – President’s Breakfast

Meeting was closed at 3:43 pm.