

STUDENT ASSOCIATION MEETING
State University of New York, College at Geneseo



Student Association meetings are Wednesdays at 6:15 pm in the College Union Hunt Room. All are welcome to attend.

MINUTES #19, Wednesday, January 27, 2010

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76	<i>Call to Order, Approval of Agenda, Approval of Minutes</i>
76	<i>Updates</i>
76	<i>Old Business</i> None.
77-79	<i>New Business</i>
77-79	64-0910: BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE SA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE allocate up to \$61,694.00 from SA Reserves, Account 4000, to Activities Commission, Account 1302 to cover costs associated with the Spring 2010 Activities Commission Concert. <i>First of Two Readings</i>
79	65-0910: BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE SA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE approve the realignment request by Inter Residence Council to move \$300 from Line 20, <i>Retreats</i> to create a new line, <i>Spring Concert</i> that will take place on February 27 th by the band The Love Handles. <i>First and Only Reading</i>
79-80	<i>Open Discussion</i>
80	<i>Adjournment</i>

Executive Committee

President:	Haleema Murtaza
Vice-President:	Nicholas Kaasik
Directors:	
Academic Affairs:	Brian Hartle
Business Affairs:	Mark Petrie
Inter-Residence Affairs:	Melissa Kaye
Public Relations:	Mathé Kamsutchom
Student Affairs:	Hamza Murtaza
Student Programming:	Corinthia Kotlar
Advisor:	Tamara Kenney

PROFESSIONAL STAFF

Dir. of SA Programs,	
Personnel & Finances:	Kate Rebban
Administrative Assistant:	Nancy Chirico
Graphics Coordinator:	Kristen Fuest
Program Advisor:	Danielle Akins
Service Manager:	Dianne Krenzer

Call to Order: 6:17PM

Approval of the Agenda: Approval 7-0-0.

Approval of the Minutes: Approval 7-0-0.

Updates

President, Haleema Murtaza updates: Student Court public hearing, ruled in favor of the guidelines for USAEC.

Vice-President, Nicholas Kaasik updates:

Director of Business Affairs, Mark Petrie updates: Budget Review Committee is all set. Start working on the budgets you want for next year because I will want them in the middle of February. I will let you know specific dates either Thursday or Friday.

Director of Inter-Residence Affairs, Melissa Kaye updates:

Director of Public Relations, Mathé Kamsutchom updates: No new updates.

Director of Academic Affairs, Brian Hartle updates:

Director of Student Affairs, Hamza Murtaza updates: KASA had a great dinner, congratulations.

Director of Student Programming, Corinthia Kotlar, updates:

Kate Rebban, Director of SA Programs, Personnel, & Finances updates: No new updates.

Tamara Kenney, SA Executive Committee Advisor updates: 1. Reminder update in mailbox over the weekend. Please review that because you are responsible for it. 2. Through the Livingston CARES program, any organizations who are fundraising for Haiti can put your money into this program on campus. Pennies for Haiti Relief is in the Union, feel free to donate.

Open Updates

Model UN – We are going to Montreal for a conference tomorrow, and we'll let you know how it goes.

Jeff – I wanted to voice my outrage for the Student Court hearing last night. The Student Court declared that their decision was binding, and that future decisions are binding. I want to call attention to the idea of “recommending” amendments. The Court decision to say that the Court's own guidelines cannot be amended by SA Exec is wrong. I believe they overstepped their boundaries in their decision because SA exec delegates powers to the Student Court. I would also recommend the removal of judges who made the decision.

Melissa, from Student Court – We were unanimous on the decision. We outlined our decision based on the SA guidelines. With your separation of powers argument, there are plenty of US court cases that were deemed unconstitutional similarly to this hearing. I think the roles of SA and Student Court are being misinterpreted. USAEC is considered a quasi-legislative role. As far as the binding decision: our decision is binding in USAEC cases, and we are still giving recommendations for other cases. With the timeline issue Brian addressed, we didn't have enough time for this. As far as letters of impeachment: we have to impeach ourselves.

Model UN – Regarding advertising of the hearing, I didn't hear about it until about 30 minutes ago. As far as I knew, there was no deadline for the hearing, and we were told it would be publicly announced.

Tamara – Melissa, can you just let us know how you advertised the hearing?

Melissa – Thursday at 4:30 the decision was made, and since Student Court is supposed to have 2 weeks for hearings, we felt that it would be better to do it earlier rather than later. We advertised through What's Up emails. We also had the time posted on the Room Reserved board. But we were only given a short amount of time.

Haleema – An email also went to all of your organizations so you should have heard about it that way as well.

GEO – GEO changed our meeting time to 7:45PM on Mondays at the Fireside Lounge.

Jeff- I just want to say that the US constitution is not the same as SA Constitution

MTC – We have our first weekend of rehearsals this weekend and we're very excited!

Mathé – Students have been in the process of creating Haiti Relief projects. The week of Feb 13th –Feb 20th will be Haiti week, with lots of fundraising ideas planned on that week. This is a positive thing for volunteers, and would be effective for lots of donations to Haiti.

Old Business

None.

New Business

64-0910: BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE SA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE allocate up to \$91,950.00 from SA Reserves, Account 4000, to Activities Commission, Account 1302 to cover costs associated with the Spring 2010 Activities Commission Concert.

First of Two Readings

Emily – There are a few changes to the request. We will be subtracting \$40,000 from the Concerts/Comedian line, subtracting the estimated income of \$39,124, which would be leaving \$60,950 for a benefit concert for Haiti. Tickets would be free to students with a donation to Haiti. \$14,000 of the request is for the correction of no ticket sales for this past Fall's concert, which would allow AC to still bring entertainment to campus, and also help Haiti.

Nick – I motion to amend the reading to reflect \$60,950.

Motion passes 7-0-0.

Jeff- Do you know which performers? – The Top 10 choices are Colbie Calliet, Goo Goo Dolls, MGMT, Jack's Mannequin, Andy Sandberg, Demitri Martin, etc. based on 2,720 votes, which is the highest we've had.

Nick – What is the difference of money lost this year compared to a typical year? – SA would lose \$15,000 – \$25,000 typically. For 2 free concerts to students, \$30,000 more would be lost.

Melissa – Would you institute a required donation? – I want to leave that up to discussion of SA for public ticket sales.

Dan – What would happen if this didn't pass? – We wouldn't have a spring concert, and my budget would be -\$14,000.

Nick – Would every effort still be made to get the performer for free, and the revenue would be donated? – Yes, it would be considered a benefit for Haiti, so we're looking for acts to come for reduced prices or at no cost. I would like to have some budget towards this.

Club Sports- If all relief efforts from the performance go to Haiti, would we consider a different performer instead of someone listed on the top 10? – Yes, we could coordinate a show booking a different space for a smaller performer. We would look for a Haitian musician or poet, etc to play for free.

Nick – To answer your question about bringing an artist not on the list, part of the efforts would be to bring in revenue that would go to Haiti, so we'd be asking any available acts if any would like to do it, and if they are willing to come for free, whether or not someone on the top 10 list would be willing to.

Jeff- What about comedians? What was the student response? - It was fairly split between musicians and comedians, so a comedian is definitely a possibility

Melissa – I would feel better about it if we had a required donation to raise money for Haiti.

Nick – Acts would be more likely to come at a reduced price if there was a set ticket price.

Mark – What if people are uninterested in the band and they feel that they are required to go? – They wouldn't have to go to the concert. We're only expecting about half of the students to come.

Melissa – We're unsure about this, so it would be a big help to us to hear your thoughts.

Ulyses – I don't understand where the money is coming from and where it is going. Is the \$60,950 to cover the deficit, the event to make it free for students with a donation, and would as well put AC in the hole another \$13,000?

Haleema – Because of the free Fall concert, currently AC's budget is negative \$14,000. They need money to start the process of booking an artist, and the money would come from SA Reserves.

Ulyses – Would this affect organizations here?

Haleema – It affects us as students, because of the student mandatory fee.

Ulyses – Would it affect other programs this semester? I don't know what that means.

Tamara – Think of the money as coming out of a savings account. It will affect the money that we have in the Reserves.

Nick – There is a somewhat substantial amount in the Reserves, about \$300,000-400,000 so this would not be a large percentage, but it wouldn't have an immediate impact on you because we're not that close to a minimum. I think it's worth investing in.

Ulyses – I know of at least 3 groups talking about Haiti Relief, and we're going to have Haiti week, so I think it would be cool to have the concert to bring a performer to help us. Last free concert, was it successful? I think it's a matter of opinion. If it's coming out of Reserves it seems like it's okay. Is it a worry that it is setting a precedent?

Haleema – A precedent has already been set this Fall.

Brian – Last spring, AC came to SA asking for money from the Reserves, so it's been done before.

Kate – AC asked for just under \$10,000 from Reserves to Arts & Exhibits and Mac's Place.

SMA – I like the idea of having a concert, it's a college thing, but for a benefit for Haiti, people aren't going to go if they don't like the performer. If you want to raise money, choose carefully; think about the demographics of the college. It's a good idea to have the concert for a benefit, but be careful.

Crew – People look forward to a Fall and Spring concert, and since we pay student fees, we expect a concert. It's important to keep with tradition. I like the benefit, and maybe we could make a set ticket price and have half of it going to Haiti. I definitely agree that you need to pick a performer everyone will like, because people will not go to the concert if not.

MTC – I agree with the mandatory price. I know from Acapella groups and concerts at Brodie, it really works out better with a designated price. Sometimes you have to put your money where your mouth is, but people don't know how much to donate. Some students won't donate. I think it's a great idea but designated price is beneficial.

Melissa, Student Court – My main concern is a loss of essentially \$80,000 for concerts. I'm not sure it's fiscally responsible of the school.

Nick – It will be impossible to find a performer that everyone likes. Gym Class Heroes came in near the top of the list, and people didn't buy tickets. The reduced price is trying to save as much money as possible, and this money eliminates certain bands that would be more popular. Other popular bands are way out of the price range. We are actively seeking Haitian performers with the original intent of the benefit to Haiti. Whether or not we can find it, it's still a good cause. Making ticket prices mandatory would be much more effective.

Ulyses – I like the idea of a Spring concert, but would it be at the end of Haiti Week after everyone already donated?

Mathé – Haiti week is in the middle of February.

Emily – The date of the concert would be April 24th.

Ulyses – Subsidized tickets make sense.

Mark – Emily, can you just say what changes you made again? - \$40,000 off of the original \$65,000, \$4,000 off of agent commissions, and taking off the estimated income of \$39,124, which leaves \$60,950.

Club Sports - Why don't we just give Haiti \$80,000 and make it easy?

Emily – I was under the impression we would give all of the money from the tickets to Haiti, while also raising school spirit and awareness.

Dan – If traditional concerts were successful at the original price, why don't we give all that money to Haiti?

Melissa – Given we have less money than usual, the reduced rate would not be enough for popular performers. The money in Reserves is still important.

Nick – I'd like to hear if people are opposed to this idea with reasons, or even if you're opposed without any reason, please raise your hand and let us know. We're talking about \$61,000. Reason why it's not \$90,000 is we could do a full concert and give money to Haiti, but we would end up losing more money in the end.

Mark – We could also put on a normal concert, leave it with \$90,000 so we can get a bigger concert/comedian than we would expect. We're not going to have a Haitian performer because we can't find any.

Crew – I think it's more valuable to have a bigger artist that more people will go to, and spend more time and energy encouraging people to donate to Haiti during Haiti Week.

Jeff – Maybe a normal concert without donations, but I think it's a good thing to donate to. It seems almost wrong that concert ability could be diminished because we'd be spending less money.

Mathé – I sympathize and partially agree. We have to think about what is a concert that would benefit everyone. Last semester thousands voted for Gym Class Heroes, and we all know what happened. Either way, we're still losing lots of money.

Chris – In a business sense, I think we should put on the best concert we can, and make sure the concert series is strong next year. I vote for \$90,000.

Drew – The concert seems like a better idea than comedic act. It's what we're used to, and I think you'll get more of a showing.

Melissa – I don't think we should throw out the Haiti benefit, because we could do something valuable. I think it could appeal to a lot of people.

Melissa, Student Court – Is there a way to have a second survey with limited list?

Emily – I did do two rounds of voting this time, with lots of advertising, so we had double responses with a narrowed down list.

Travis – I want to thank Mathé for making sense. The last concert wasn't well attended but we did vote and still had a problem. I think it's a problem with the student body. If we're going to have a band anyway, we should put our money to a good cause. Certain people are disconnected with the devastation in Haiti. We're talking about 100,000 people affected. People aren't aware or are apathetic. If we have the opportunity to do something, we should do it.

Nick, Student Court – I'm concerned about the survey in general, two rounds is great, but that's still what happened last semester. A better concert is whose opinion? We can get someone for cheaper and also donate a lot to Haiti, and it will be more worthwhile. Not everyone understands SA Reserves or where the money is coming from. Just see what's happening on campus, maybe they can't make connections of where the money is. Taking a different route this time would be more advantageous.

Hamza – What about not having a spring concert because we lost a decent amount?

Ulyses – I wouldn't care. Would it really bum you guys out?

MTC – Acapella groups do concerts for charity and have really good attendance, and raise thousands for whatever cause. If this concert is what we want to do, we should have a good way of advertising that it's a good cause. It doesn't mean we can't push for change, help the cause and improve attendance.

Show of hands who prefer spring concert with Haiti relief – about half

Show of hands prefer regular concert without Haiti – one.

Show of hands no concert – about half.

Ashley Tinney – If we have a concert with a Haiti focus, we could have Geneseo bands focused as open acts. Acapella groups might draw more people, and still bring in revenue.

Model UN – From what I've heard, it's been a transitional year for freshman, so if the concert is cancelled, you should have a well thought out plan instead. I think freshman are under represented here.

Ski Club – if we have the option to reduce ticket price, I think we should because more students would be more able to go if it was \$10, and would be much more likely to donate that money. \$7 is not a big deal.

GEO – I'm in support of that idea. A lot of people came to the Blanks concert just to see NARD, a Geneseo group. People will pay money to see Geneseo groups.

Emily – I agree that ticket prices are important. I'm in entire support of a mandatory donation to Haiti instead of ticket prices.

Nick - \$10 donation would be reasonable for this concert.

Travis – On campus groups do fundraising, and I think it would be an overdose of on campus performers. The big draw of having a spring concert is that it's a professional band.

Model UN – How much of a precedent would we be setting? – There have been cancellations maybe once or twice over the past 20 years.

Kate – Adding figures, the total price for the reduced price is \$61,694 with the changes.

Nick – I move to amend reading to show changes. Seconded by Brian.

Motion passes 7-0-0.

Discussion on new number of \$61,694: None.

64-0910: First of Two, Reading passes 4-1-2.

65-0910: BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE SA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE approve the realignment request by Inter Residence Council to move \$300 from Line 20, *Retreats* to create a new line, *Spring Concert* that will take place on February 27th by the band The Love Handles.

First and Only Reading

Nick Spengler – I want to realign money so I can put on a performance in the Knight Spot with a group on campus called The Love Handles. The money would be mostly for tech and advertising, and we are working with NRHH for food and other costs. I'm intending to fill out fundraising forms to have donations to Haiti.

Brian – If you move the money, will you have enough left in Retreats? – Yes.

Kate – This should say “first and only reading”.

Nick – Will they be performing for free? – Yes. – Hopefully that's a good precedent.

65-0910: First and Only, Reading passes 6-0-1, with Melissa abstaining.

Open Discussion

NCCs of Inter-Residence Council – Ashley Tinney and Kevin Friedman.

NEACURH 101

IRC/RHA – We provide funding to residence halls for programs throughout the year. RHA – Residence Hall Association, same as IRC.

NRHH – National Residence Hall Honorary – work on leadership skills

NEACURH – 45 different colleges in New England, one of 8 regions of NACURH.

NACURH – includes Mexico, Canada, and Australia!

Marty the Moose is the NEACURH mascot!

At conferences, NCCs represent SUNY Geneseo in boardrooms. We are in charge of taking a delegation, which can be up to 8 students.

Conferences coming up:

2/13-2/14 Subregionals at NYU

3/5-3/7 Minis at New Paltz

6/21-6/24 Nationals at UC San Diego

We present programs that we've implemented on campus (ex. No Day But Today), get great ideas for programs to bring back to campus, and network with other student leaders.

We connect with other RHA and NRHH members to discuss issues that have risen amongst the organization and brainstorm possible solutions (ex. Gender Neutral Housing)

We have ridiculous amounts of Fun!

Brings useful programs to Geneseo for Hall Councils and other student organizations to implement.

Lots of useful information is stored in the Resource File Index, and we can access it. It includes a list of everything that schools from around the world have written about with information. There are tons of RA programs, bulletin board ideas, etc. Need help? Contact us! We have access to it!

Develops leadership and communication skills for all delegates.

Allows Geneseo to shine!

We've won 3rd place in focus project, 2nd place banner competition, top ten program, and best in first time programming presentation.

Minis in New Paltz March 2010 – theme is “Climbing Mount Marty”

Apply for a Conference

Applications – only open for on campus students.

The last focus project we did was School Tools – We collected bags of school supplies for students, and we got 174 bags, and raised over \$500. We want organizations to come together for a good cause.

World Vision is the new focus project – raising money all around the world, gives you options for what you want to get with your fundraised money.

Mini focus project – gently used or new winter clothing items for FAMILY shelters. Our plan is to sit outside Wal-mart with lists of things to buy and donate.

Email – gence@geneseo.edu

Jeff- I'd like to get SA views on the Student Court case. Let us know what you think.

Melissa – SA gave power to Student Court, so this will just keep us all here longer.

Haleema – Clarification on my memo to Student Court: There is an article in the constitution about amending the readings that needed to be interpreted, so SA Exec took it to Student Court for a decision, and I asked for it to be a binding decision.

Model UN – Are the amendments going to be reintroduced? – Yes.

Jeff – My concern isn't that Student Court ruled in favor of USAEC, it's that Student Court said that the decision was binding, and that their own guidelines cannot be amended by SA Exec.

Melissa, Student Court – Not every case will be binding. SA came to us asking for an interpretation, and Haleema gave us final power on the interpretation. It's not everything that will be binding.

Adjournment

Meeting adjourned 7:45 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Ashley Arthur
Recording Secretary