

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 #22, Wednesday, February 24, 2010**

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103	<b>Call to Order, Approval of Agenda, Approval of Minutes</b>
103	<b>Updates</b>
103- 104	<b>Old Business</b>
103-104	74-0910: BE IT RESOLVED THE SA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE approve the changes to the Academic Affairs Committee Constitution and By-Laws per the attached documents. Second of Two Readings
104	76-0910: BE IT RESOLVED THE SA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE allocate \$30,000.00 from SA Reserves, Account 4000 to SA Programs, Account 1002 in order to fund the Student Association Merit Scholarship Program. <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Be it further resolved the SA Executive Committee allocate \$30,000.00 from SA Reserves, Account 4000 to SA Programs, Account 1002 in order to fund the Undergraduate Research and Travel Grant Program.</li></ul> Second of Two Readings
104	77-0910: BE IT RESOLVED THE SA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE allocate up to \$150.00 from Budget Increases, Account 1099 to SA Programs, Account 1002 in order to fund a start-up budget for Geneseo Knitting and Crocheting Club. Second of Two Readings
104-105	<b>New Business</b>
104	82-0910: BE IT RESOLVED THE SA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE approve the Budget Realignment by SEAA, Account 1002 to move \$25 from Line 10, <i>Office Supplies</i> and \$125 from Line 20, <i>Speaker</i> , to create a new line <i>Movie</i> . First and Only Reading
104-105	83-0910: BE IT RESOLVED THE SA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE allocate \$160.00 from Budget Increases, Account 1099 to Women's Ice Hockey Club, Account 1417 to cover the increasing costs of referees and home games. First of Two Readings
105	84-0910: BE IT RESOLVED THE SA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE allocate \$1650.00 from Budget Increases, Account 1099 to Pride Alliance, Account 1906 to put on a cultural event called Pride Night. First of Two Readings
105	85-0910: BE IT RESOLVED THE SA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE approve the appointment of Katherine Krafchuk to the Student Court as a temporary justice for the remainder of the 2009-2010 academic year. First and Only Reading
105-106	<b>Open Discussion</b> Dr. Dahl and Vice President Levison
	<b>Adjournment</b>

*Executive Committee*

President:	Haleema Murtaza
Vice-President:	Nicholas Kaasik
<b>Directors:</b>	
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:** 6:15PM

**Approval of the Agenda:** Reading 84-0910 should read "...up to \$1650." Approved as amended 7-0-0.

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

### Updates

**President, Haleema Murtaza updates:** elections are coming up and if you plan to run, come talk to any member of SA Exec to learn about their positions.

**Vice-President, Nicholas Kaasik updates:** student senator caucus members met informally to discuss budget issues and look for them in the Union lobby in the next few weeks regarding the Public Higher Education Empowerment and Innovation Act.

**Director of Business Affairs, Mark Petrie updates:** budget hearings are going well. If you haven't turned in a budget, please do so ASAP.

**Director of Inter-Residence Affairs, Melissa Kaye updates:** Mark Scott was the open discussion speaker on Monday and IRC/NRHH are fundraising for alpaca. They have used their wellness fund. There is a concert this weekend, "The Love Handles" in the Knightspot with donations accepted.

**Director of Public Relations, Mathé Kamsutchom updates:** met with Patty Hamilton to discuss advertising for the Merit Awards scholarship program and they had good ideas generated. Sorry that we don't have delicious food today as it was listed in SA-1.

**Director of Academic Affairs, Brian Hartle updates:** Met with Dean McKeever and Dean Iyre regarding scheduling issues. They are working on a survey. He'll be sending out the survey to everyone's account and have you fill it out and send on to your members. Dean McKeever met with AAC on Tuesday. Geology is going on a trip during spring break and it's open to students.

**Director of Student Affairs, Hamza Murtaza updates:** ACE is having an event March 26, Cultural Extravaganza.

**Director of Student Programming, Corinthia Kotlar updates:** KINO presents the Maltese Falcon and SceneIt challenge on Friday. Sibs Weekend is coming up on 3/26-28, the movie UP will be shown and there will be roller skating and an ice cream social sponsored by IRC. Also, the Rhythmics will be presented by Limelight and Accents.

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

**Tamara Kenney, SA Executive Committee Advisor updates:** No new updates

### Open Updates

Tom Buneo, USAEC Chair: – elections are coming up, if you're interested in running for Class Officer or SA Exec, there's 2 more meetings, one tonight and one Thursday at 8pm in CU 325. If you have questions, please email [saelections@geneseo.edu](mailto:saelections@geneseo.edu)

Brian – asked that next week the figures that were voted on last week to be placed on the agenda are included in the agenda.

Mark – they are included on page 2.

SMA - Flute Choir will be having an event coming up.

Amnesty International – Friday night there is a concert at Muddy Waters and all proceeds will go to Amnesty International. \$3 suggested donation at the door, but they will be selling items.

Women's Rugby – they came in 3<sup>rd</sup> at a tournament this past weekend.

GSTV – their telethon is coming up next weekend and they are looking for performers. The proceeds will be donated to the El Sauce program.

### Old Business

74-0910: BE IT RESOLVED THE SA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE approve the changes to the Academic Affairs Committee Constitution and By-Laws per the attached documents.

*Second of Two Readings*

Just to recap some of the changes made to the Constitution and By-Laws. Brian made changes to the duties of the chair. Added to the Vice President's duties are to plan 2 academic or leadership programs each academic year. Section 3 was changed. Section 4 D, E, just some grammatical things. Section 7, meeting. Article 6 D, bimonthly instead of biweekly. Changed "school" to "college". For the By Laws, there are some stylistic changes. Section 3, 2, A, changes to make it more consistent with IRC policy, and for giving clubs more flexibility, section C was added so that they have 2 days for advertising, clubs coming to AAC enough in advance, just so it's not a closed process. Section 4, Bad Financial Standing, got rid of Section 5,2 added federal laws, updated the date. Article 12, must

be passed as a two week reading, Brian changed it so that it is presented to AAC first and then to SA. Nick asked if Brian would be amenable to adding a line in Article F section 3 that this change would be effective June 1, 2010. Tom asked about the removal of PAC. Brian thinks that AAC will still be able to function without PAC meetings.

Discussion: Melissa stated that she was first against the removal of PAC, but now it increases the jobs of AAC reps and the vice president would be responsible for holding campus wide events. Brian said that having the Rock Spring Semester event was successful and helped students decide what classes to take and professors to avoid. Tom clarified that the PAC was reinstated from 2 years prior and wasn't new to AAC last year. He feels that PAC gave accountability and responsibility to AAC and AAC should not be viewed as a bank. Mathé thinks good ideas have come from AAC this year and the first step is to strengthen what you have. Brian doesn't feel there is a reduction in the responsibilities of AAC reps. They will have new programs to develop next year. Nick told Tom that they considered his concerns from last week's meeting and thinks that PAC is just work to create work. Nick asked if the AAC representative president's agreed with Brian. Brian said when the document was brought to them, it was unanimously voted on. Mathé thinks AAC is a good standing committee and the lack of PAC doesn't take away from the committee. Nick asked why force president's to meet when they choose not to. Mathé said she did question the reading last week like Tom did but sees now this new plan could be more efficient with the new programs that Brian wants to enact and if Brian and his reps see no reason for PAC, there is no reason to argue the matter.

*74-0910 second of two readings, passes, 6-0-1 with Brian abstaining*

76-0910: BE IT RESOLVED THE SA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE allocate \$30,000.00 from SA Reserves, Account 4000 to SA Programs, Account 1002 in order to fund the Student Association Merit Scholarship Program.

- Be it further resolved the SA Executive Committee allocate \$30,000.00 from SA Reserves, Account 4000 to SA Programs, Account 1002 in order to fund the Undergraduate Research and Travel Grant Program.

*Second of Two Readings*

Patty Hamilton-Rogers presented. This would be the last payment toward the SA Merit Scholarship endowment that was started in 2006. This would generate at least \$10,000 a year in perpetuity. Nick asked if it was possible for the committee to reduce the amount spent, perhaps put on the form that 2-3 hotel quotes are obtained to discourage spending the maximum or use it up because it's there. He said he brought it up to the grants committee and they were in agreement that it has happened in the past. Patty said that Anne Baldwin heads the committee and follows SA guidelines. They monitor the allocations versus what is spent; for example if \$500 was allocated and not all is spent, the money is returned and available to reallocate. Brian asked how it was advertised and could it be reworded to reach broader campus. said she met with Patty after the last meeting and it will be stressed that it is open to everyone. Mathé is confident the advertising will be effective. Nick asked if the committee would be open to advertising guidelines. Patty said that Student Association's PR person would work with the committee, perhaps add it to their job description. Mark said he was in full support of both these programs and would hope the rest of the committee is. He would like to see the Merit Award fully endowed and in the future discuss the possibility of endowing the Research and Travel grant program. Mathé said, for the record, would include this in her year-end report to advertise for these. She's confident that more advertising will take place. Nick stated as a symbolic gesture, because how often it goes to the SA leadership and the exclusivity of the award, he is motioning to divide the question because he has concerns with the Merit Program – vote on motion to divide fails, 2-5-0 with Nick and Brian voting yes.

Discussion: no further discussion.

*76-0910, Second of Two Readings, passes 5-2-0 with Nick and Brian voting no.*

77-0910: BE IT RESOLVED THE SA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE allocate up to \$150.00 from Budget Increases, Account 1099 to SA Programs, Account 1002 in order to fund a start-up budget for Geneseo Knitting and Crocheting Club.

*Second of Two Readings*

Rachel presented stating that they would like funding to purchase knitting supplies. Their club has rapidly been expanding. They do a lot of charity work such as charity caps and the Linus project. Jeff asked if it was cleared up from last week where they would put the balance of \$27.35. Rachel said they decided it would be used for advertising.

*77-0910, Second of Two Readings, passes 7-0-0*

### New Business

82-0910: BE IT RESOLVED THE SA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE approve the Budget Realignment by SEAA, Account 1002 to move \$25 from Line 10, *Office Supplies* and \$125 from Line 20, *Speaker*, to create a new line *Movie*.

*First and Only Reading*

The presenter was not here so the reading automatically failed.

*82-0910, first and only reading, fails 0-7-0*

83-0910: BE IT RESOLVED THE SA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE allocate \$160.00 from Budget Increases, Account 1099 to Women's Ice Hockey Club, Account 1417 to cover the increasing costs of referees and home games.

*First of Two Readings*

The reps from Women's Ice Hockey stated that they needed a budget increase to go toward game fees and mileage. The home ice fees have been increased this year. They also need money to attend away games. They have been invited to Colgate, Clarkson and St. Lawrence but have said no due to lack of money. Brian asked if they included an increase in both of these categories when they submitted their budget. Yes, they did. Nick said they should come to SA for budget increases if they have these new opportunities to compete.

*83-0910, First of Two Readings, passes 7-0-0.*

84-0910: BE IT RESOLVED THE SA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE allocate \$1650.00 from Budget Increases, Account 1099 to Pride Alliance, Account 1906 to put on a cultural event called Pride Night.

*First of Two Readings*

Tom and Kevin presented that they currently have \$300 in their Gay Pride Month line. It's usually held in April and increases the visibility of the gay community. They are asking for this budget increase to hold a dinner like the other ACE groups hold as they are the only group that doesn't have a dinner. Mark asked what they were planning on doing with the income. They are planning on submitting a reading next week for the fundraising portion. It would go back to the organization to help put on the dinner. Tamara asked if this will be an annual event. Hopefully yes. Kate asked where it would be held, it's in the ballroom. Mark asked when, it's April 3. Melissa thought that this was a very detailed budget proposal.

*84-0910, First of Two Readings, passes 7-0-0*

85-0910: BE IT RESOLVED THE SA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE approve the appointment of Katherine Krafchuk to the Student Court as a temporary justice for the remainder of the 2009-2010 academic year.

*First and Only Reading*

Haleema said that there was a vacancy on court due to a justice studying abroad. She sent out announcements for the opening and Katherine applied. Haleema was impressed with her application and asked Katherine if she wanted to say anything. Katherine felt she knew what was required of the position and had a speech prepared. Brian asked if she knew the responsibilities of the position. Mathé commended her for being prepared with a speech.

### **Open Discussion**

Dr. Dahl and Vice President Levison presented the budget and the Public Higher Education Empowerment and Innovation Act. There are many reforms that he feels are very advantageous to Geneseo, its students and faculty and they strongly support. Dr. Dahl stated he wants to present where the state budget is now, what will happen if the current proposed budget passes and the alternatives to a negative SUNY funding situation and the news isn't good. The Chancellor is supportive of this Act and is highly positive and forward thinking. She is the first Chancellor that has held a webcast press conference with journalist students throughout the system. Dr. Dahl is asking that the Student Association assist in a student advocacy effort similar to the one they conducted in the fall semester and he would be pleased and would ask if the Student Association would submit a resolution in support of the program and call for the Governor to pull back on the cuts to SUNY.

Dr. Levison presented what has happened over the last three years. In 2008-09 budget cuts that effected Geneseo, such as reduction in utilities reductions, \$50 million base support cut across the university, academic replacement equipment money cuts, student computer access funding was cut. There was a midyear \$93 million reduction. They worked out a deal with system administration to use reserves. There was an overall reduction of 7% cut of the total budget and 15.7% cut of state support to the campus. He then outlined the impact of the budget on 2009-10. To fill the gap, college positions have been kept vacant, no new tenure track faculty were hired this year. There is a \$3.2 million starting gap that the college is facing. Geneseo will likely be faced with spending down their reserves at a rate of \$1.2 million per year. It is anticipated that by the 2011-12 year those reserves would be depleted. They have cut 17 full time positions and may face the possibility of getting rid of programs and potentially laying off faculty and staff. Nick asked what amount was projected to come from New York State. Dr. Levison said that was a difficult question to answer. Geneseo receives only 24% of state support at this time. Doug asked why state employees make are making more money. This is due to multi-year contracts. There are 25 Geneseo positions that are not part of any collective bargaining unit and have not received increases. Doug asked who would decide on the cuts. There is a committee comprised of two students, senate members, faculty, Vice Presidents and the Provost, but ultimately the President of the college is responsible under law. There is also a strategic planning group and a budget priority committee that make recommendations about where cuts are made to President Dahl and the cabinet.

Dr. Dahl then presented on the Public Higher Education Empowerment and Innovation Act which is a much needed change in the current system. We need strong support for this Act. This would make the SUNY system more efficient and take tuition out of the political arena and puts it in the control of the University. The bill includes a tuition policy and financing; land use, public-private partnerships and construction fund; procurement efficiencies; operations efficiencies and hospital reform. Tom asked if there would be a range of tuition and Geneseo could pick where they would lie. Dr. Dahl said the Trustees would have the legal authority to set the tuition. They intend to do this by every year a request would be made and there could be different rates for each campus. The campus could request a differential tuition. The campus would then have to report at the end of each semester. There would be limits on what an increase could be. Haleema asked if the Trustees could vote down the request. Yes, they could and Geneseo could appeal

the decision, it would be a negotiated system. This legislation is important because New York State is one of 4 states that don't have a way to set tuition and this change would reflect the way 46 of the 50 state systems handle tuition. Nick asked if there is a safeguard for TAP still in the bill. Yes, and they've come up with a new name, it's called SUNY Aid. If you're on TAP which has a maximum amount of \$5000, the agreement in the new policy, we will cover TAP out of the tuition revenue. Nick also asked about the upcoming end of reserves without any monetary relief, will these potential layoffs and program cuts wait. No, we will have to do them in the next year or so, absent another funding source. If we don't solve these problems, we have a short window of opportunity to bring these expenditures down. There are other private colleges that Dr. Dahl has heard from that are cutting programs and positions. Dr. Dahl would like the students to support this Act and by direct advocacy and by contacting their legislators and assemblymen and if the Student Association is inclined for a general resolution for this support and the Act in principle. Mathé asked Dr. Dahl if he could address why UUP is not in support of this. Dr. Dahl said that first is; if you remove legislative control over tuition, you are going to eliminate any sense of obligation on the part of the legislature to fund SUNY. The second is concerns about differential tuition. The last is that it will privatize SUNY. At this point, 30% or less of our support currently comes from the state. Nick asked if there would be differential tuition charges within majors. It won't happen at Geneseo. It doesn't make any sense at a liberal arts college. Melissa asked about the feasibility of this legislation passing and why student advocacy is needed. Dr. Dahl said it is an uphill battle and we need help. There has been negative advocacy and doubts. Unfortunately, students are being used to assume that the student position is opposition to anything that would raise tuition and all that students care about is the tuition level. This is very far from the truth. Dr. Dahl said this is why we need student advocacy and for students to write to the speaker and assembly majority. The most effective advocacy is to contact your legislator and tell them how you feel. Dr. Levison said this is an election year and they count emails and letters. The more that goes in the more they will have to act on it. Dr. Dahl said it's hard because it's change and a change in political control. He would stress that the way to maximize the benefit for SUNY is to reform the structure that hampers us. Haleema thanked Dr. Dahl and Dr. Levison for their time and the information they provided.

### **Adjournment**

Meeting adjourned at 8:32 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kate Rebban  
Recording Secretary