

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 #23, Wednesday, March 10, 2010

<i>Executive Committee</i>	
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
 <i>PROFESSIONAL STAFF</i>	
Dir. of SA Programs,	
Personnel & Finances:	Kate Rebban
Administrative Assistant:	Nancy Chirico
Graphics Coordinator:	Kristen Fuest
Program Advisor:	Danielle Akins
Service Manager:	Dianne Krenzer

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114	96-0910: BE IT RESOLVED THE SA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE allocate up to \$1,300.00 from Budget Increases, Account 1099 to ACE, Account 1002 to replenish funds so ACE can put on more programs such as ACE Field Day, Cultural Extravaganza, and Shakti's comedian. <i>First of Two Reading</i>
114	97-0910: BE IT RESOLVED THE SA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE approve the changes to Activities Commission's Constitution and By-Laws per the attached documents. <i>First of Two Readings</i>
114-119	Open Discussion
119	Adjournment

Call to Order: 6:16 PM

Approval of the Agenda: Reading 87-0910 should be \$1600.52 to subline student organization conferences. 90-0910 is no longer a reading. Charges for moving tables will be absorbed into Corey's budget like work orders to AC. 93-0910 - account 1002, student organization conferences. Account 1002 instead of 16xx. Approval 6-0-0.

Approval of the Minutes: Approval 6-0-0.

Updates

President, Haleema Murtaza updates:

Vice-President, Nicholas Kaasik updates: \$597,786.00 total budget. Blog post on SA's website with info about the budget. Bus trip to Albany March 23rd.

Director of Business Affairs, Mark Petrie updates: Budget Review Committee is in the process of putting together a rough draft. That will be available to the organizations on March 31st.

Director of Inter-Residence Affairs, Melissa Kaye updates: Geneseo delegation at Minis, 1st pace banners, presenting programs. IRC working on consitution.

Director of Public Relations, Mathé Kamsutchom updates: Absent.

Director of Academic Affairs, Brian Hartle updates: Biology Club to Boston, Anthropology Club to Toronto. Business alumni dinner at Big Tree.

Director of Student Affairs, Hamza Murtaza updates: The Slavic Club went through a two week reading process and is now a part of ACE. Cultural Extravaganza is on Friday, March 26 2010 in Wads Auditorium at 8 p.m. and today we had SA candidate speeches at the ACE meeting and that went very well.

Director of Student Programming, Corinthia Kotlar updates:

Kate Rebban, Director of SA Programs, Personnel, & Finances updates: Working with Budget committee.

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

Open Updates

Amnesty – Bio Club trip is open to the whole campus. Includes hotel bus, zoo, museums, and food. You can buy tickets in the SA Ticket Office until the Friday after Spring Break.

Brian- I'd like to commend Tom for sending out the What's Up email about the USAEC committee position.

Tom – To reiterate the candidate policy, no candidate is allowed to solicit door to door. For candidates any further clarification of the decision policy is posted in the SA office.

Swing Dance – We are having a dance the Monday after break in the Ballroom at 8pm. We can teach you to swing dance.

GSTV- The telethon was a huge success. We raised \$357.88 for the Geneseo Program, El Saucé.

MTC – We have our show April 1-3 at 8pm in Alice Austin Theater. The theme is "MTC in 3-D...also available in 2-D"

Old Business

87-0910: BE IT RESOLVED THE SA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE allocate up to \$1,600.52 from SA Programs, Account 1002 to Japanese Culture Club, Account 1901 to cover costs associated with the Japan-America Society and Washington D.C.'s Cherry Blossom Festival from April 9-11th.

Second of Two Readings

JCC – we've been having a rough time with board members withdrawing and lots of confusion. Sorry about that. We're asking for the amount to change to \$1,337.00.

Corey –Are you renting an extra car? – A car doesn't cost as much as we thought. Luckily we caught it in time, and everything is set.

Corey – Looking through, I noticed that at this point it might be cheaper to get a bus. Maybe you could collaborate with Swing Club who are also going to Washington DC those dates – We looked into a bus but it is significantly more expensive, and collaborating might not make it that much cheaper.

Swing Dance– What price did you find? – I don't know, but it wasn't an option. It was cheaper to rent a few vans for the weekend than a bus.

Nick – Would it be an obstacle for you to postpone this reading until the next business meeting? It should leave you 2 weeks with the reading. – We also have hotel rooms on hold right now, so it would be an inconvenience, I'm sorry.

Nick – Pending approval, do you think you can get some quotes and email them? – Sure.

Kate – Will they let you go outside of New York State if you're renting from Enterprise? – There were no problems last year, we had to come up with contracts, but I don't know if it would be a problem. – If this passes, can you come see me tomorrow? – Certainly.

87-0910: Second of Two, reading passes 6-0-0.

New Business

92-0910: BE IT RESOLVED THE SA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE approve the Fundraising Request by Shakti, Account 1926 to raise up to \$300.50 from henna tattoos to support Shakti's Annual Dinner.

First and Only Reading

We'd like to raise funds to get decorations. Henna has been very successful in the past. We're asking to raise funds and for \$49.50 to get the henna. Each tattoo on March 22nd-23rd will be \$5, with larger ones at \$7. We'll also be selling tubes of henna for \$6 each.

92-0910: First and Only, reading passes 6-0-0.

93-0910: BE IT RESOLVED THE SA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE allocate up to \$752.80 from SA Programs, Account 1002 to Swing Dance Club, Account 16xx to cover costs associated with the Washington DC Lindy Exchange from April 9-11th.

First of Two Readings

We would like to go to Washington to dance. We're asking for a portion of our transportation, food, and registration for the event. We can open it up to other people as well.

Kate – Do you know what time you are leaving or returning? – It depends on the number of people going, and when we are able to leave. – Meals are based on the 9th also. – We'll probably leave early in the morning to catch as many dances as possible. – Have you paid for registration yet? – No.

Brian – Is this a big swing dance? – Its' probably the fastest and best one.

Pride Alliance – How many people are planning on going? – We have 8 right now. – Will you be taking more than that? – We could be, we can open it up to the campus too.

Corey – Have you done any advertising? – No, but I have posters ready, I didn't know about SA policy, so I didn't put them up yet. – It does need to be open to the general student body.

Nick – According to financial policy, the group can't advertise an event until the funding is approved. To me it seems open already because the club itself is open to the campus for everyone to join.

93-0910: First of Two, reading passes 6-0-0.

94-0910: BE IT RESOLVED THE SA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE allocate up to \$2,340.00 from SA Programs, Account 1002 to Amnesty International, Account 1910 for the "Get on the Bus" conference in New York City on April 16th.

First of Two Readings

One amendment in the form, under miscellaneous expenses, the registration fee is \$10 per person instead of \$8. The total is \$2390 now because of the increase in fee. Amnesty wants to go to NYC on April 16th to attend the rally. We will send Geneseo students to meet other people to protest with the UN different human rights violations, to walk around the city and protest. We attended in 2008 and 2009 and got SA funding both years. We filled up the bus last year, and we'll have enough time to advertise so I think we can definitely fill the bus this year. We will leave at 3am on April 16th, be at the conference from 9 or 10am to 3pm. We will leave on the bus and come back to Geneseo. The buses hold 50 people. We called 6 different bus companies. I felt most comfortable with Trailways since we've used them before. We will get the proof of insurance, and gratuity is \$2/person. Meals are just breakfast and lunch because we will leave before 6pm. Like I said before, the conference registration is \$10/person. We will complete registration online pending approval. Miscellaneous \$100 is for gratuity for the bus driver.

Haleema – The conference form you used is outdated, and there are changes in meal costs.

Mark – Motion to allocate maximum amount of \$2,500, seconded by Hamza, motion passes 5-0-1. New total is \$2,500.

Nick – The way that SA food reimbursement works, you pay and bring back all receipts, and due to procedure I think only 2 out of 45 people last year got food reimbursements - Maybe we could advertise more and make it a requirement to keep receipts with names on them. Kate – Just so you know, it has to be a detailed and itemized receipt. Brian – And no alcohol. It voids everything.

94-0910: First of Two, reading passes 5-0-1 with Nick abstaining.

95-0910: BE IT RESOLVED THE SA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE allocate up to \$485.00 from Budget Increases, Account 1099 to Black Student Union, Account 1902 to cover costs associated with their 3rd annual Fashion Show to celebrate Caribbean History Month on April 24th in the Union Ballroom.

First of Two Readings

We have \$600 allocated in our budget for Caribbean History Month, and our theme for the fashion show is the sweeter side of fashion. The "up to" amount does not include a memo to realign \$80 from programming line to this event. We didn't include it in our

requested amount. We are getting the college choice DJ in western NY. DJ lodging costs are up to \$160 if prices go up, we want to be safe. The price of the DJ is \$600, which is a discounted amount. The after party is co-hosted with KASA, and is a Late Knight event. We will have SA tech from 5pm-2am, and the duplicating center will be printing advertising. We will be getting materials for fashion show, and clothing donated. We have had support from clothing stores in Rochester previously. \$125 will be allocated for door prizes. We are also asking for the first week reading to be waived because of miscommunications between BSU, SA, and ACE.

Corey – If you already have your Late Knight grant of \$600, you can use that to secure the DJ, and you wouldn't have to wait until we approve it – The grant is not towards a specific thing, so maybe we should do that.

Tamara – What is the housing for the DJ? – Quality Inn on 20-A. He's coming with his manager, so it will be for 2 rooms 1 night.

Nick – Where are these tentative funds of \$80? – Realignment from programming line that we didn't use.

Mark – You requested \$600 for next year too during budget hearings. Have you had this problem in the past? – I don't know.

Hamza – Can you clarify that this is in your budget? – Yes. – ACE funds can't be allocated for this event if it's already a budgeted event. – It doesn't say what its for in the budget.

Brian – Are you willing to do what Corey suggested? You won't jeopardize securing him if you allocate those funds to the DJ – Yes.

Nick – I think a second reading for this is okay with that in place. It's a shame that you were pushed around, but given you can still get the DJ with the money you have, I think a second reading is needed.

Mark – Thanks for presenting at such an early date.

95-0910: First of Two, reading passes 6-0-0.

96-0910: BE IT RESOLVED THE SA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE allocate up to \$1,300.00 from Budget Increases, Account 1099 to ACE, Account 1002 to replenish funds so ACE can put on more programs such as ACE Field Day, Cultural Extravaganza, and Shakti's comedian.

First of Two Reading

ACE funds would have been negative if we continued with the comedian this semester, but we have some money left over because we didn't. We are looking into rescheduling the comedian this semester but we have more programs coming up, so to cover costs, I've requested \$1,300 but I'd like to increase to \$2,100 to cover WAC.

Brian – For Field Day, have you talked to AC or IRC for collaboration? I know last year there was more than one picnic at once – I can definitely talk to them about it.

JCC – Shakti has a comedian coming, have you talked about collaborating? – If we follow through with rescheduling, but Pride was already collaborating with them.

Corey – Motion to increase the reading to \$2,100, seconded. Motion passes 5-0-1, funds increased to \$2,100.

96-0910: First of Two, reading passes 5-0-1 with Hamza abstaining.

97-0910: BE IT RESOLVED THE SA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE approve the changes to Activities Commission's Constitution and By-Laws per the attached documents.

First of Two Readings

AC's constitution, things added are in lighter color. For changes, the problem is in 2007, ACE was under AC so we had to update to reflect it is no longer under AC. Also changed Limelight/Accents into one group. Changes include applications submitted in advance, the secretary doing the website, publicity and promotion strategies, under general council rules. Event forms are to be filled out after an event and kept for reference. Also added sign up sheets for events.

97-0910: First of Two, reading passes 5-0-1 with Corey abstaining.

Open Discussion

Candidate Speeches

Nick Spengler – Director of Student Programming

Corey – I know you've been at our meetings for AC, what do you like about AC and what do you want to improve upon? – The cohesiveness of the group. It is different than IRC where I have the exec board there to help me out, but it would be great to work with all programmers in AC, and that's the reason I want to join the group. I wouldn't change much right now. I love the way it works.

Jeff – Concerning the concert debacle, what do you think their role at Geneseo is? – I love the concerts, and this year was a fluke in my opinion. They are a major part of the campus.

Brian – What is your leadership style? – I like to work with everyone on the same level. AC is one big group, everyone is their own individual, they all help each other out.

Haleema – You are running uncontested, but what's so special about you, why should someone vote for you regardless? – I've been doing the programming for IRC all year. The chair is there for help, and I have experience with hands on programming. The executive board of IRC can attest to my work in IRC.

Will Labate – Director of Student Affairs – on Skype from France!

Greetings from Montpellier France! My name is Will Labate and I am running for Director of Student Affairs. Over the past three years at Geneseo my role as both an officer of Model UN and the Pride Alliance as well as Geneseo's delegate to the SUNY Student

Government has given me the necessary insight and experience to represent you, the students in this organization. I want to change SA, but into what you might ask? It will be an SA that is more approachable for both students and clubs alike and here is how I am going to do it: One of my big initiatives will be reforming the constitution as well as SA General and Financial policies. For example, the current purchase order system is both burdensome on clubs and unnecessary. Many club presidents have told me it discourages them from doing events, which is the opposite of what SA should be doing. I also want to formally give the Student Court the ability to serve as a check to the power of SA Exec as well as turn ACE into a standing committee with more finances and broader powers of their own. Another initiative will be to increase SA's visibility on Campus. Office hours of SA Exec should be more widely posted so students know there is a place, and a person who will listen if they have a problem. SA Exec must also make more of an effort to attend the meetings of clubs and funded organizations so they can answer questions and concerns and also so that students can see their government at work. Finally I want to bring new services to Geneseo like an off campus housing directory with a listing of rates, locations and contact information of houses and apartments in order to assist students with their off campus living. Another Idea is an online listing of items and services by Geneseo Students like electronics, textbooks, and furniture. Sort of like a campus "craig's list." And of course there is budget advocacy which I will pursue as vigorously as I did last semester when I coordinated the campus protest and campout which attracted much attention from both the media and politicians. There you have it! My commitment to you, the students if elected. I gurantee you that I have the experience in SA, ACE and budget Advocacy to deliver on these promises. So remember, Vote Will Labate for Student Affairs this March if you want somebody to fight to give you a voice!

Hamza – Two years ago, ACE was under AC, and since fall 2008 onwards, there has been a dispute under ACE and SA, and the loyalty wasn't there. Sine then we've been trying to build a relationship between the two, and build up trust. How would you enhance this relationship? – I'd like to see ACE with more power as a standing committee. I talked to leaders of ACE groups, and I want to repair what happened. Any changes to ACE will be done with ACE and conjunction of all groups as a mutual thing. It is not a top-down matter. Any changes in the status of ACE will be with ACE and the organizations approval. I believe since ACE will have a say upon how their committee will be run, the relationship will improve a lot.

Brian – What time is it over there? - 1:15 in the morning! I'm committed!

Justin Shapiro – Director of Student Affairs

So, an introduction is in order, beyond the obligatory Facebook information. My name is Justin Shapiro, and I'm campaigning to be your Director of Student Affairs. I expect you've noticed that my hipster hometown has endowed me with a certain fashion style, one that I hope has lent to my visibility on and off campus. Teal pants and coffee in tow, I expect that you've seen me in the Grind, the SA Corridor, or in class. I live with a constant fear of being hit by a car, or something to that effect. Which serves as a nice segue to my first point: SA visibility. I don't know and can't speak to the experience of other candidates, but apart from the people who attend these meetings or actively participate in student organizations, SA proves to be a strange and unknown entity. Voters respond with: "What's SA" or "yeah- they cancelled the concert" when asked about their input on SA or SA policies. How can this be rectified? How can we expect to enlighten the student population? The answer to this question is multi-faceted and requires, or can be streamlined, through a coordinated effort amongst all SA members; not just the Director of Public Relations, not just the Director of Student Programming, but each and every member, who is expected to fulfill his or her roles for the students. In this vein, I promise to increase cooperation between SA and ACE groups through monthly meeting between representatives from both entities. It is only through collaboration and trust that SA can continue to improve and become as efficient an organization as possible. Likewise, students who live off campus should not be subjected to unawareness of the policies of the Student Association. I expect to use the dissemination of off-campus living guides as one of many methods of both easing students' adjustment to housing in Geneseo and to develop a certain sense of familiarity with this organization. The mailing of letters and packets provides a beneficial opportunity to communicate with upperclassmen and tune them into the events, programs, and other activities hosted by the numerous Geneseo clubs and groups. If elected Director of Student Affairs, I can assure you that I will coordinate the intercultural dinner and assist in the set-up and organization of this event in addition to coordinating the winter ball with AC. It is through the collective efforts of all ACE groups that the intercultural dinner can be successful, and it would be a great honor if I were elected to serve as coordinator and liaison for this event to SA and the student body. I pledge to do all I can to assist in and help to organize the intercultural dinner, one of Geneseo's most honored traditions. To all representatives of ACE groups assembled here, you'll be seeing more of me in the future, and if elected I will work on building mutual trust immediately. It is with this understanding that every Director of Student Affairs should begin. Whoever wins this election must realize that Geneseo is in an incredibly precarious financial situation. The SUNY reserves stand to be emptied within two years, leading to faculty lay-offs and program elimination. This is simply unacceptable. Students need to be enlightened and informed regarding this incredibly important and determinant issue. We are the greatest force for change and it is us that have the power to change the SUNY future. I promise I will be on the bus to Albany, because I know it would be one of my most important duties to make sure the student body is involved to their full potential to help Geneseo survive the treacherous waters of legislative stagnancy. It's my firm belief that the current SA executive board has made great progress in establishing the current cultural atmosphere of SUNY Geneseo, and I would like to extend a thank-you to Hamza, who has risen above the duties required by his position. It should be realized that through coordination and association amongst the various cultural organizations on campus, Geneseo is no longer a melting pot. Homogeneity has been abandoned for a more dynamic and diverse image. We are a mosaic, wherein each student contributes a diverse background and acute cultural dynamism, and when viewed from afar, the Geneseo community is as strong and vibrant as each student. Experience is the final quality of this candidate on which... well, this candidate would like to speak. Since my first days on Geneseo's campus, I have actively participated in organizations and in groups which promote the same ideals I would like to promulgate as Director of Student Affairs. Seeking an outlet for debate and

rhetoric, I joined Model United Nations during my first semester. Representing nations as diverse as India, Switzerland, and Ukraine have undoubtedly influenced this delegate in a positive matter. Embodying the hipster ideal by seeking approval from my peers, I ran for and won the position of Model UN treasurer, of course with the help of my friends. It was my job to attend weekly SA meetings, and I must admit that these meetings have proven to be interesting beyond my expectations. Sitting in that seat every Wednesday is something that I always look forward to, and listening to President Dahl, Dean McKeever, or anyone who took the podium after heated policy debates only added to this amazing experience. I assure you, whatever circumstances in which I find myself next semester, I will be here, voicing my opinions and listening to the statements of others. This is *your* SA, and I'm happy to be running to be *your* Director of Student Affairs. When you cast your vote in two weeks, I hope you vote for the Justice League and for me, Justin Shapiro for Director of Student Affairs. A vote for me is a vote for you, as I will do all I possibly can to support my fellow peers. Thank you.

Hamza- Two years ago, ACE was under AC, and from fall 2008 onwards, ACE became under SA, even though they didn't want to go under SA. Since fall 2008 we have been trying to build up the trust. How will you help in that matter? – I would increase functions, and once a month, I would go to the groups. We've been talking about this bizarre bureaucratic procedure, and I'm here to face it. Overview of clubs under ACE. I am dedicated to the organization.

Haleema – How do you feel not being a Murtaza and running for this position?

Mark Petrie – Director of Business Affairs

Haleema – What is one thing you would like to improve on for next year with exec, and what is something SA did well? – I'd like to see more collaboration within the board. If one person is working on something, others can help. One thing we did well, we tried to take a good initiative with trying to be more transparent towards the SA reps.

Brian – Have you thought about getting rid of POs for small purchases? Like a \$4 PO and all the trees getting killed in the process? – Small POs are annoying and we could look into it. A lot goes into the guidelines. It would be a big change. A lot of SUNY's do use the PO system. I've looked into their policies.

Adele – I appreciate your enthusiasm in looking into the policy. It is something everyone in this room would be enthusiastic about. – I'm preoccupied with budget review and financial policies now. We're doing a form change where at the beginning you can submit a list of officers so I can get a hold of you.

Meghan Pipe – Director of Academic Affairs

Brian – In light of hearing other candidates look at constitution, with each organization having one vote, would you change the policy? – I think that part of the problem is that everything gets passed. I would like to bring in more representatives because it allows more communication. I'd like to see what would happen with representation if they hear more about where the money is coming from. More questioning of where budget goes in the future.

Nick – Talk about having students in the honors program register first might come up again. What are your thoughts on that change? – As a member of the honors program, there has been no discussion with students involved in the program. It is a misinterpretation that we would always register first. Tried to appease people, I would like to see that be gone for good.

Mary Bock – Director of Inter-Residence Affairs

Melissa – How are you going to balance being on one eboard and the chair of another? – I think this is important for most jobs out there. I have shown this because I've been in an internship for 3 years, I still answer to a boss but I also help the newer interns. I feel like I can adjust to that well, and my main hope is to help people where needed.

Brian – What are your thoughts on seniors going on trips after the end of academic year after they graduate? – Hopefully it won't happen with the exception of nationals, which has to be looked at as far as student fees go. It is something to consider if it happens.

Haleema – Do you think SA has done a good job this year reaching out to IRC? – We have tried to work with AC in collaboration. Overall, we've done what we can. With IRC in general, SA going to programs.

Alex Conti – SA Vice President

Nick – If elected, what would you do to build on or expand budget advocacy? – I think the bus trip to Albany should be continued. Continuing tabling in the Union, and the camp out also I hear was a great success. I'd like to work with PR to expand it.

Crew – What do you mean about bringing club sports closer to SA? – Getting girls rugby a field to play on. They have been performing excellently.

Justin – What would you change regarding policies in SA in past semester? – One hot topic is the PO system, which is something I agree with. It is essential to keep transparency to students.

Haleema – What qualities do you possess as a candidate? – I am a great leader and I take in opinions of others.

Corey – How will you be accessible to students to hear their concerns? – I know office hours are mandatory, and I'd get myself out there through the Internet also.

Melissa – How is your understanding of the structure of SA and standing committees? – I do know standing committees on SA, I've been doing some delving into the policies of SA also.

Tyler Ocon – SA Vice President

Qualifications: - Student Senator (Medical Amnesty Policy, budget advocacy) - Model UN member (debate, public speaking, creativity) - Between the Lines (founding member, learned resilience, dedication) Goals: - Collaboration between SA Exec members and between SA Exec and other student organizations - Bring club sports closer to SA (publicity for sports events, etc.) - Bring Greeks closer to SA (publicity, collaboration with other on-campus groups, more representation, bring positive image to Greek life) - Transparency of SA Exec - Streamline SA processes - Make SA more approachable and enjoyable - Make SA more visible with a brand new publicity campaign in more places - Become more involved in all organizations as an SA Exec member and learn about each organization and how they work.

Nick – How will you expand budget advocacy on campus? – A lot of students seem apathetic to the budget, so I want to bring it to the people in the town, local businesses, etc. It impacts the school as well as the businesses and is very important.

Adele – How will you go about strengthening with ACE groups on campus? – They need to become more involved. Get SA exec more involved in processes. They are disconnected with their events. Also more publicity between students and SA.

Jeff – Medical amnesty policy was shot down, so what plans do you have to breathe new life into this thought? – I’ve been discussing this with many members, even though it was K.O’d now doesn’t mean it can’t be revived later. Students don’t know the policy and have misinformation, so there should be more education on it, from the students to the students. There are a lot of ways to go about the process. Motion to extend question and answer. Motion passes.

Tyler – How do you want to bring SA closer to Greek life? Why? What about the negative stigma that Greek life has? – Members of all fraternities and sororities, the negative stigma that was brought to them is undeserved. I want to bring a positive image to campus of the students and the community at large. I want them to collaborate with SA funded organizations to have them more involved. All groups need to be involved. They are all students as well.

Melissa – What is your understanding of the structure of SA and the role of standing committees? – They are an integral part of SA as a whole. They do a lot, and their involvement with the student body is important. SA is lengthy and tedious, so I’d like to streamline it and make it a quicker process.

Non-SA funded organization member- I’m wondering how SA will be affecting students not represented. How will you get these students involved? – I’m pushing for representatives of Greek life to become more involved. Having established representatives at SA. Possibly having IGC as a standing committee. Other organizations, they come to meetings, recognition from SA isn’t painful, it’s an easily flowing process.

Tom Socia – SA Vice President

What is SA? We see these two letters on every poster as we go to class, but what is SA? It should be easy enough to answer, it’s the Student Association, so an association of the students? For the students? After going to 3 years of SA meetings, seeing the same groups of students taking advantage of their student activity fees, I started to forget how much significance the implications of these same two letters yielded. Student Association. I started to forget that the Student Association is actually more like Some Students Association. Is this what SA is? What is the Student Association if bureaucracy controls the students’ activity fees? What is the Student Association if a majority of students won’t go to an SA funded event until their graduations? What is the Student Association if their professors are laid off, and their programs are destroyed by SUNY Budget Cuts? I want to work towards an SA that adheres to the whole student body. If elected, I, with my senate, will do more than sit and talk about our best guesses for what issues face the students. We will be out visiting clubs, going to sport events, studying in the library, listening to our peers, learning from our peers, and working with our peers, because THAT is what SA is. I want to work towards an SA that utilizes its funds for the students. If elected I plan on working with the other members of the exec board to host trips or events that appeal to a vast majority of the student body, not just the students in SA funded clubs. I plan on working with Club Sports to ensure each student is getting everything they need to be proud of their team and where they play, because THAT is what SA is. I want to work towards an SA that fights for the students. If elected I plan on continuing the fight of Budget Advocacy in our school. I am not afraid to use my power as a constituent to stand up to my State Senator or Assemblyman and demand a change. I will make sure our school upholds its reputation as a public honors school instead of watching budget cuts take away everything we have grown to be proud of because THAT is what SA is. I have been the President and Treasurer of an SA funded group, so I know what it is like on the other side of exec. I am a part of radio, Orchesis, Livingston CARES, Pride, Southside Boys, so I know how to stretch out to learn from the student body. Over the past 3 years, I have been lobbying in Albany and marching in Washington for queer rights, so I know how to fight for what I believe in, and I believe in the students in my school, and I believe in SA. Tom Sochia for SA Vice President, because THAT is what SA is.

Nick – If elected, what will you do to expand budget advocacy on campus? – Collaborate with executive boards of other SUNY schools. This is an issue facing all the SUNY students, and I think it will better promote budget advocacy.

Corey – How will you reach out to students that aren’t a part of SA and get their voices heard? – By promoting events not necessarily promoting one group. Students can come and see that their fees are used, and tell them these are the things we can do for you.

Jeff Nathanson – Director of Public Relations

My Name is Jeffrey Nathanson and I am running for Director of Public Relations. Thank you for giving the opportunity to us candidates to introduce ourselves to you. I am a mathematics major with a computer science minor and this is my third year as a student in Geneseo. I have been very involved in SA organizations since I was a freshman. I am a RA currently in Suffolk Hall. I was also an IRC representative sophomore year. I am also the SA Representative for Amnesty International. So I have been here in the trenches with all of you all year. These positions have given me needed experience for the Public Relations position. For these organizations I helped to advertise for events. For Rockin Recess, I was the head of the advertising committee. Advertising is a big

part of the Public Relations position. As the Public Relations director I would be the bridge between SA and the student body. Unfortunately many students don't know where their mandatory student activity fee goes and many students on this campus don't even know what SA stands for. I would work really hard to change that. All students should have their say in SA and I would work hard to make sure that everyone's voices can be heard. All the students of this campus should know about the organizations in SA, especially the fantastic clubs that we have. All of these clubs represented here do a great job of making students feel welcome. As the Public Relations Director I would work to ensure that everyone on campus knows about your organizations as well as every other great organization on campus. I also want to improve the quality of these SA general meetings to make them efficient and enjoyable. For example, since these meetings can be long I would like to have free food for the reps at the meetings. I want to hear feedback for you, the reps on how to make these meetings more interesting. We are currently in a large economic crisis. SUNY Geneseo has lost millions of dollars and if things don't change in the government we will lose millions more. We have already started to feel the effects of these losses with the hiring freeze. If something isn't done majors will be cut and teachers will be laid off. Part of the public relations position is to advocate for the budget. As a member of the college senate as a student senator I have advocated for the SUNY system during this budget crisis. As your Public Relations director I would continue and expand my ongoing efforts to advocate for the budget and to get the students of this campus involved in this issue. I have already spoken to Mathé to prepare myself for this position. Thank you once again for allowing me to speak and I know that if we work together we can make SA better than ever!

Haleema – Seeing it is a referendum year next year and PR needs to reach out to students, do you have any new ways to promote SA? Why should students pay the fee? – SA to get name out there, many students don't know what SA stands for and it is pretty sad. I want to have a big event sponsored by solely SA so that students will get an image of SA in their head, and they will be more comfortable about giving money to SA. Also by getting members to clubs.

Melissa – What parts of SA's image do you want to change? – I want exec to be more open to students input, and have a forum to receive student's input and to submit student opinions.

Ray Lord III – SA President

Good evening and thank you for your time
To me, speeches are boring, so I created a rhyme
For those of you who don't know me, I am Ray Lord
And I am running to be President of the executive board
Since my time here, students have been my motivation
One of the many reasons my first job was orientation
Being a leader and role model was made easy working with my team
When the summer was over it felt like a dream
Simultaneously, I became an RA
In the bowl I jumped, letting my life be on display
My leadership ability was ever so persistent
A necessary quality of a resident assistant
During the fall I became a member of USAEC
Never imagining the degree in the spring it would be
Haleema decided to run and I became Chair
Problems from the previous semester could not compare
Last semester, I studied at the equator
But all of that, I could tell you about later
Next year I want a constitutional revision
Something I feel is everyone in this room's, very own vision
I also want to speed up the SA meeting
Because it is your time I feel we are sometimes cheating
For more of my ideas because they are the bomb
Please visit rayforpres.web.officelive.com

I hope that you found this presentation provided some helpful information. Allowing you to see my dedication and determination to work with you and each organization via collaboration to, among other things, increase participation and bring some much needed rejuvenation. With this, please vote for me for President of Student Ssociation.

Haleema – This is not an easy job, between having to relay 5,000 student's opinions and all the other duties of president. How will you balance all of that and still stay sane? – I was the chair of USAEC, and in any leadership position you will have people who love you and those who hate you. You find a nice balance. I am taking 18 credits now, so then I can take 4 classes per semester, and I can handle things and classes next year. Working with orientation, taking classes over the summer. I'm still sane since USAEC.

Melissa – How will you deal with the wide range of backgrounds and personalities in SA exec? – As an orientation leader, you find you're working with weird and quirky games, but the reality is that it really brings people together. Bringing SA together with trust falls, etc, integrating things like that for cohesiveness.

Corey – How would you handle with the board if you strongly disagree with their opinions? – I may bring it up at the pre-meeting, but I will support them. I will ask people to disagree with me and I will learn from it. Through studying abroad, I learned different things and different views. I would support their decision no matter what I personally feel. Motion to extend time – Motion passes.

Justin - What do you agree or disagree with policy wise? – I do agree with the concert decision. I'm in favor of collaboration with schools in the area or having a larger concert.

Haleema – You have the biggest decisions for SA, so if something gone through contract, how will you justify your decision to the board and the students? Agree or disagree with you either way – Each situation will be dealt with on a per case basis. For each decision I would weigh pros and cons. The structure and health of the organization I would never compromise. That's the way I would go about it. If it is a healthy organization, I will take the input of students but if it was putting SA in danger, I couldn't do it. You are in a position of power, so I'd suck it up and make the decision.

Tyler – During constitutional review, what changes did you suggest to eboard, and what do you think needs to be changed? – Simple to add it in to the referendum vote. Integral part of checks and balance system and create a committee that will come to the board, more reflective on times of now than 2004. Budget problems were reflected in constitution.

Nick – If elected, how would you change the relationship of SA and Student court? – I will work closer to SA currently. It is a battle of power like the real world and it becomes detrimental. I'd like to see the committee sit down and incorporate each other.

Adele – In the end, they said they wanted the court to be a checks and balances on SA. Checks on USAEC, etc. collaboration to apply to current situation? - Collaboration in terms of I don't want there to be a perceived battle. Not that we are God or controlling what's going on. Simple things as court hearings. Dealing with elected positions not promoted enough. Working collaboration and not a cut-throat battle.

Haleema – SA has a better relationship with the standing committees, and the executive boards of each meet and talk about problems and work well together. How would you carry that out, and what new ways would you implement of how to work with standing committees? – I will attend their meetings and see people's open discussion and what they think. More people open to say things when they feel like you're not around. Hear what you want, I want disagreements to come to me, and I will take into consideration the disagreements. I will be attending as many events as I can. Trying to get across the image that I'm incredibly open.

Doug Sinski – SA President

Haleema – SA president has a lot of things to do, from representing the student body, networking and meeting alumni, attending classes, etc. How will you find a balance with this without losing your sanity? – I have lots of things to do this semester and am in meetings all day. I worked on budgeting my time this year and I've almost mastered it.

Brian – How have you grown as a person last year? – In my speaking ability and working with other people. I dealt with conflicting decisions, and allowed me to see the ultimate goals of having a great time.

Melissa – Students have different strengths and powers, how will you bring them together? – I am pretty approachable, and I've been on multiple boards with conflicting views. Ultimately come together and compromise and have fun.

Justin – What SA policies do you agree or disagree with? – Its' what everyone thinks, nothing that I think has to go. It's what the students think.

Adele – What are the things you'll push for? – Collaboration, have groups work together more, and better events. Promoting what students want. I'll see what I can do about the PO system if you feel strongly about it.

Haleema – With many changes in SA this year, you are a neutral person at these meetings. The fall concert was up to me to cancel it or make it free. How will you handle such decisions that are all on your head and justify it to the board and the students? – I hope I never have to make that decision Haleema, but if I do, I'd love to seek out other ideas. If it's worth it, lets do it and have fun.

Megan – If you have to make a decision that will be best for SA, are you willing to have people be mad at you? – Some people are always mad at me, when it comes down to it, I appreciate the weight of this position and the continuity of student association. It will be taken into account with all decisions.

Haleema – How will you build a stronger relationship with the standing committees, the integral part of SA, and how will you enhance it? – Through collaboration. I've been to each standing committee meeting, and I'd love to go to them more. I love and appreciate what they do. Not just standing committees, I'd love to make it to all of your meetings at some point. Find things you are doing similarly and bring more fun and more attendance.

Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 8:45 PM

Respectfully Submitted,

Ashley Arthur
Recording Secretary