

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 #7, Wednesday, September 21, 2011

Page	Business Meeting Agenda
18	<i>Call to Order, Approval of Agenda, Approval of Minutes</i>
18-19	<i>Updates</i>
19	<i>Old Business</i>
19	19-1112: BE IT RESOLVED THE SA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE allocate up to \$2,000 from Budget Increases, Account 1099, to SA Tech, Account 1004 to allow for further training of SA Tech employees. <i>Second of Two Readings</i>
19-21	22-1112: BE IT RESOLVED THE SA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE allocate up to \$5,000 from Budget Increases, Account 1099, to Student Government Meetings, Student Assembly and Conferences, Line 20, Account 1002, to be used during SA Meetings during the 2011-2012 School Year. <i>Second of Two Readings</i>
19-21	<i>New Business</i>
19	23-1112: BE IT RESOLVED THE SA EXECUTIVE realign \$300 from Line 20, Programming – Transportation, and \$200 from Line 10, Tennis Balls, from Men’s Tennis, Account 1416, to Line 10, Tennis Supplies, to get new tennis rackets, grip tape, and string. <i>First and Only Reading</i>
19	24-1112: BE IT RESOLVED THE SA EXECUTIVE approve GODA’s fundraiser for the Owego-Appalachian School District for school supplies that were ruined from the recent flooding. <i>First and Only Reading</i>
21-22	<i>Open Discussion</i>
22	<i>Adjournment</i>

Executive Committee

President:	Nicholas Spengler
Vice-President:	Tyler Ocon
Directors:	
Academic Affairs:	Justin Shapiro
Business Affairs:	Brittany Wolf
Inter-Residence Affairs:	Carly Annable
Public Relations:	Lindsey Hebell
Student Affairs:	Stasia Monteiro
Student Programming:	Heather Bristol
Advisor:	Patty Hamilton-Rodgers

PROFESSIONAL STAFF

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

Call to Order: 6:15 pm.

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

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

Updates

President, Nicholas Spengler updates: No new updates.

Vice-President, Tyler Ocon updates: No new updates.

Director of Business Affairs, Brittany Wolf updates: We're still waiting on Knightlink. Treasurer training is coming; you're going to get an email this week I promise. Men's volleyball, your budget is frozen because you missed the last 2 SA meetings. It's important to come.

Director of Inter-Residence Affairs, Carly Annable updates: IRC was on Monday. We finally had all of our reps and all our presidents and it went really well.

Director of Public Relations, Lindsey Hebell updates: Working on the bulletin board outside the SA office. I want to do something Knightlink themed.

Director of Academic Affairs, Justin Shapiro updates: "Avast ye SA mateys." I'm running out of nautically themed ways to introduce myself. AAC this week, the Accounting and Finance clubs leave for NYC tomorrow. Physics picnic at 4 pm on Doty field, there will be lots of good food, they do have veggie burgers. Elected a new secretary as well, happy to have a full e-board, it will be a huge help. Also I got a new nametag so I'm back to being Jewish.

Director of Student Affairs, Stasia Monteiro updates: ACE is going really well, we're just brainstorming for the Intercultural Dinner. Stephanie Medina stopped by our meeting looking for people to help her plan the holiday jubilee in December; it's a lot of performances that aim to promote cultural harmonies.

Director of Student Programming, Heather Bristol updates: First thing is, Kinetic Gallery on Monday featured "Airplane Mode" which is a photographic representation of areas around the world. KINO will be hosting its next film "Airplane" on September 28th at 7:30 pm in the Union Ballroom. September 30th Mac's Place is hosting its next show. Guitar club will be opening for the band "Joy Wave" which is like MGMT. That show is in the South Hall quad, 7pm-9 pm. On October 1st in Wads at 8pm is Paul's Dance Company, the first Limelight show of the semester. Tickets are available in the SA Box Office for \$6 for students.

Kate Rebban, Director of SA Programs, Personnel, & Finances updates: The audit presentation will be on September 30th at 4pm in College Union 319. It is open to any student that wants to see how last year's financial situation turned out.

Patty Hamilton-Rodgers, SA Executive Committee Advisor updates: No new updates.

Open Updates

Malcolm: Report from Student Assembly is that this past weekend the exec committee met in Buffalo. It was the last meeting of the exec committee until the fall conference at the end of October, the trip to Latham. Still looking for interest in it. It's from October 28th-30th. For anyone who was on the website last week or tried to go to it, the website is back up and running. Remember if you do want to go your lodging meals and transportation will be provided for you.

GAGG(Malcolm):I would like to apologize to anyone who showed up to the Union at 10am. I found out that the person who sent out the email with the time for Inter-geek expo put the wrong time in the email. It was 9pm, and the e-board had some words with him when we met at 7pm last week. It still went well, we had decent attendance, and we remain open after this meeting for fun and games.

GODA: We are collecting school supplies for an Appalachian school district. This elementary school was affected by the flood; drop off boxes will be in Sturges and South Hall by October 3rd.

BSU: "Back to School" party on Friday at 10pm in the Knightspot.

WAC: We are starting to do planning for Domestic Violence Awareness month for October, email wacsg@geneseo.edu.

Model UN: Tryouts for Yale and Georgetown conference are this weekend on Sunday from 12pm-4pm. If you want to participate you can email us at mun@geneseo.edu, or you can ask me. We are still open to anyone who wants to come.

Old Business

19-1112: BE IT RESOLVED THE SA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE allocate up to \$2,000 from Budget Increases, Account 1099, to SA Tech, Account 1004 to allow for further training of SA Tech employees.

Second of Two Readings

Nick says because no representatives are here, by default this reading fails on week 2.

22-1112: BE IT RESOLVED THE SA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE allocate up to \$5,000 from Budget Increases, Account 1099, to Student Government Meetings, Student Assembly and Conferences, Line 20, Account 1002, to be used during SA Meetings during the 2011-2012 School Year.

Second of Two Readings

Heather makes a motion to move reading to the end of agenda.

Seconded by Justin.

Motion passes 7-0-0.

New Business

23-1112: BE IT RESOLVED THE SA EXECUTIVE realign \$300 from Line 20, Programming – Transportation, and \$200 from Line 10, Tennis Balls, from Men’s Tennis, Account 1416, to Line 10, Tennis Supplies, to get new tennis rackets, grip tape, and string.

First and Only Reading

David says we want to re-align some of our funds to get rackets since we have a lot of new members who don’t own rackets. I had an idea that our team would purchase a few rackets to have on reserve in case someone needed to borrow one. This would also help to attract new members who are new to the sport and don’t have to make a big investment if they don’t end up coming every day. We also need the strings and grip tape to keep the rackets up to date and in order.

Justin says there’s some crazy line in the CSA budget that allows clubs that are under it to do this and keep the money for transportation.

David says yes, I emailed them 3 times and they never responded to me. We need the rackets right away so this is the next quickest thing to do.

Tyler says I think that it makes sense to change it to tennis supplies because you need tennis balls and if you have the money you should be able to do that yourself without coming to us. Making the line more inclusive is definitely a good idea.

Malcolm says on the tennis balls line it says the original amount was \$300, decreasing by \$200, what’s happening to remaining \$100?

David says I actually used that to purchase tennis balls.

23-1112: *First and Only Reading*, Passes 7-0-0.

24-1112: BE IT RESOLVED THE SA EXECUTIVE approve GODA’s fundraiser for the Owego-Appalachian School District for school supplies that were ruined from the recent flooding.

First and Only Reading

GODA rep says we want to bring supplies to the Owego-Appalachian School District since they were affected by the flood. We already have drop off locations approved. We’ll be donating supplies such as crayons or scissors, anything an elementary schooler would need.

Pride says I think it’s a really good idea. I know this town and I heard that everything is pretty much underwater and the town might not survive since industry has been destroyed. It would be good to implement sturdiness within the school system.

Kate asks if you would be donating money or just supplies?

GODA rep says just supplies.

24-1112: *First and Only Reading*, Passes 7-0-0.

22-1112: BE IT RESOLVED THE SA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE allocate up to \$5,000 from Budget Increases, Account 1099, to Student Government Meetings, Student Assembly and Conferences, Line 20, Account 1002, to be used during SA Meetings during the 2011-2012 School Year.

Second of Two Readings

Nick says I looked into numerous ways to produce more participation and attendance. What I came up with for this reading is a compilation of my ideas and lot of ideas I heard from other students. I want to hear your opinions on this. If you as a group like this reading, then I will encourage my board to vote for it and vice versa. I’m really curious about the general student body for this reading. I want to post questions to see how you guys see all of these different polls. This \$5000 is going to go to 2 separate things. Food at meetings and giveaways. Food part, about \$2000 will be spent on food. What that will do is provide food for about every other meeting for the rest of the year. The ideal objective is that anyone walking by or anyone on the edge of coming to the meeting will be swayed. We are using text-space voting for this to have people be honest. (The end result of the poll is “just on a rare occasion”.) The other \$3000 of the reading would go to giveaways at meetings, which the objective again would be incentive to have

people come. If hypothetically there was a giveaway that was based on every student in this room and one student wins \$75 for an organization, would you encourage as many people as you could to come to meetings?

Pride says yes I would mention it at meetings and send out 1 or 2 emails to let people know.

Rep says I would rather not do that because what if you rarely ever ask for money and you don't need it. Rather than there being a club who does need it you'd just hold on to it.

Nick says now let's vote on whether or not we should do this. (The room is voting that we should not do that with majority of 58%.) Given those 2, this is a vote based on the reading as a whole. (47% wants the reading to pass-53% does not want the reading to pass.)

No being the decision. If the reading wouldn't pass the money would remain in budget increases, if not allocated straight into Reserves. Charles asks what do you stand to gain by more attendance? What do you want? Attendance is great but why is this your campaign? Nick says I want more representation from every member of SA as a whole. I am trying to do that with methods like this. If the room is made up of the average reps that are here every day it's only so many people that are giving input. I would rather see that 1 member from every organization plus random people invested in SA come to see how we spend our money.

Charles asks don't you feel like you'd rather have a more motivated person who came here rather than a bribed person?

Nick says I would rather see that. I'm aiming for that but I don't want to miss the people that I could bring in with other means. People might end up wanting to stay and get involved. It's SA money to begin with and it's going back to organizations if it fails. I was only bringing this up so that people stayed invested.

Carly says you have \$3,800 in the line right now. Why didn't you go out to do this with what you have and then come back and ask for more money as opposed to asking for \$5000 right off the bat?

Nick says I have some money to get this started but it's not whether or not I should start doing it it's whether or not this should happen. If I brought in this reading and it got shut down, then people wouldn't want it and I shouldn't have spent the money.

Carly says you can still ask for people's opinions without asking for \$5,000.

Nick says I could have gotten it started much sooner if people wanted it.

Heather says isn't it true that you have never missed an SA meeting prior to getting involved in SA?

Nick says I have only missed a couple of meetings, I don't feel that just anyone can say that. I love the meetings.

Heather says and you weren't receiving random giveaway money. There are other students like that. There are students that come here because they want to be involved, so aren't those the kind of students that you want to be focusing on? Focusing on money for this sort of thing rather than bribing uninterested people with food.

Nick says I still would like to see every student in this room and I'm looking at ways to do that.

Malcolm says I'd like to respond further to Heather's question. I've noticed both here at Geneseo during the last elections and at other schools particularly SUNY schools, there seems to be a similar trend that people are not interested in student government. People don't see how it affects them; they don't see how it could possibly be important to them. If we get people in the door we might have to resort to means that are called bribery, but once they are in the door we can show them how it remains important. Maybe we need this to get people in the door initially, and then we can increase interest, get better turnout at our elections, get better participation with SA. Stasia says I'm a little concerned because this whole thing doesn't seem to address the meetings as they stand. If we don't have a plan in place to get people engaged in the student government, then throwing food at them doesn't seem to help SA as a whole and I don't think it will increase attendance.

Jesse says I'm stuck on Carly's questions. I'm hearing a great conversation, but what other methods did you have or anyone on SA have to have this conversation without making it a \$5000 reading?

Nick says I could've brought it to an open discussion. \$5000 would be enough for me to do it all. I did the math for the food, and for the giveaways.

Alanna says I just fail to see if other options have been explored, like more free advertising. People don't know what goes on in SA meetings or when they are or that they exist or what kind of things pass at them.

Nick says there are many other avenues; this is just one of many that I'm trying to do. I would love to start having posters up, Facebook events for SA meetings and free ads. If this did pass I'd like to include this in it.

Heather says I feel that although it's a great goal to try and get more people to come to SA meetings it's not what we should be spending \$5000 on especially because if you think about it, do you want to walk up to students on campus and tell them that you have taken their money to feed people at the SA meetings? Although SA is important and we do decide where money goes, there are many other means through which students influence school. We are just where students hold events. To me it's just as important to encourage people to be at all of the different things that this school offers than just here. That's why I'm not willing to give \$5000 so people come here, rather than having people miss out on getting money to host an event.

Justin says we need to hear what you say and we care about what you say, we care about how our money is spent. It's frustrating when we don't hear what everyone feels; even just one small snowball of opinion can launch an avalanche of information.

Rep says I see how food and maybe raffles would bring in attendance but it won't help with participation. Those people show up for the free stuff, they aren't involved.

Rep says a concern of mine is if you bring people in based on incentives, I like the text voting thing, but if you have an even larger group of people in a bigger room, people will be texting on their phones and not paying attention to the meeting. I like the suggestion of trying this out with the money that is already there, it think that \$5000 is a lot to add to something you haven't experimented with, give it a try and then if it works add more money to it.

Rep says take out money that you currently have and look at other options. If you changed the date of the meetings, like put it during college free hours or put it on a different day once, so that you can get the people who can't make it here on a Wednesday night.

Malcolm says over the last 4 years of my work with various student governments, my coming here for 2 years and working for 2 presidents. My time at MCC where I served 4 different presidents, SUNY Student Assembly where I have worked with 3 different

presidents, not to mention all of the other SUNY student governments that I've worked with tangentially, this is the single best idea I have seen for increasing participation campus-wide. The national average turnout in student government elections be it public or private school is 3% of the student body. Of all the work that I've done, this idea to start getting people in the door, once they're in the door then grab their attention, is the best idea I have ever heard and I remain in strong support of it. I'd like to reiterate my strong support. I will support this until the day I die.

Jesse says to follow up on Heather's point from before on increasing student participation in student government. A lot of students have a lot of other things in their day to day. There are other things going on such as programs shutting down, like curriculum being shut down or not being able to get a job in your department, all diverse parts of student's lives. How it would look to students if their money went towards this? Something doesn't feel right to me.

Brittany says to reiterate off that point, after the polls it seems like representatives want food sometimes. Regardless, I think that if no one is questioning your intentions and your ideas, since you have money sitting there, whether you try out this idea with that money, I think it's not wise to use an extra \$5000 since not everyone in this room is completely behind that.

Nick says I 100% agree. I would never do this and have people opposed to it.

Charles says I thought this was a great test run. I like voting and seeing how other people feel. If people know that there will be a reading and they will vote on it, they will bring people who are interested in that.

Tyler says there are still bunches of ways that we can use this money. We've looked at different texting programs, mulling around about purchasing PRS clickers and using those one for each organization.

Malcolm says just to make sure you know the SA funds legally cannot be used by the college for any purpose academic or administrative. If we increased participation here through this or some other means, we can then increase the amount of pressure we can bring to not just our local administration but on the state government to properly fund the SUNY system so we can restore the funds that have been cut and save our SUNY.

Justin says whatever the results of this vote, it fills me with an immense joy to see that people are talking about this, now we are at a category 5 avalanche of informed opinion, I thank you.

Heather says I was just going to respond to Malcolm, I want to say that I am positive that Jesse is not suggesting that we can use these funds in any way. I think he's saying that it seems kind of wrong to have to go up to someone and say I used your activities fee so I could put bruschetta and lemonade in the back of the SA room.

Jesse says like Justin, I'm very happy to see this discussion happen; I just want to again throw concern that a \$5000 reading could have us have such a discussion. It seems to me that a mechanism of the agenda has happened so that we could get involved in this.

There is reservation about how the accumulation began.

Justin makes a motion to call to question.

Seconded by Carly.

Motion passes 6-0-0.

22-1112: *Second of Two Readings*, Fails 0-6-0.

Open Discussion

Nick says that was solely me who brought it as a reading, I wanted the discussion and that was my method. I'm glad to hear your opinions though. One complaint I've heard is that people in this room feel that SA exec has pre-made decisions and opinions before we come into the room. One way I've thought about rectifying that is if my exec board couldn't read over readings before.

Malcolm says the idea to not let exec see the readings before the meetings, might perhaps to some people be nice in theory, however it goes against Roberts Rules and the Public Officer's Code. You have to see it 3 days before hand.

Justin says it was proposed at elections, but how about having a living agenda online so you guys all have the same option?

Brittany says I was talking about that earlier today that once Knightlink is set up I can put it up there.

Pride says I know that it might be illegal, but I want to express that I understand where that concern is coming from that you guys can have preconceived notions. I have every faith that even if you have those decisions, you will not make it so that you are listening to what students have to say. All of you are very flexible, and you will make the correct decision.

Tyler says I think that I can speak for the rest of the board in saying that we all ran to represent you all. I don't come in with any preconceived notions of how I will vote and I love hearing other people's opinions.

Rep says I have to say that something that irked me was that you were writing a question while someone was talking. I haven't been to a lot of SA meetings, but the last time that I came and something kind of came up. Someone thought that an org was doing a reading, and the members of the exec board were racing each other to do the motion, but the org didn't know this and you could tell that they were scared that they weren't going to get the money and they thought that people were going against their motion. I understand you guys are all friends and you have inside jokes, but for the rest of us it's scary to see people rush to put up a motion and second it.

Heather says organizations that want to do a reading, have to have it in by Thursday at 4pm in the mailbox the Thursday before. If we were going to do a live agenda it would be necessary for every reading to be in at that time. It should definitely be a practice that if organizations have to follow that practice that any SA exec member should have to follow that practice too.

Malcolm says I would just like to agree with Tyler's comments that this meeting has had a lot more participation than my other meetings. There were several people saying well why do we have to kick start the discussion by having a \$5000 for the last reading?

My thinking is that we might not have had this participation if we didn't have \$5000 at stake. We've already had a spike in participation just by putting the reading on the agenda and talking about it. I'd like to say, to the people who asked why start the discussion I can't of course speak for Nick for what his reasons were but I can say look at the positive effect.

Jesse says it is possible to have a campaign saying here's an idea using money to do this. We are going to discuss it, post it and have the discussion get that value without it being attached to a mechanism.

Alanna says I agree and I think it's a little concerning that \$5000 was gambled to get more conversation started. I also feel like you referred to it as getting people in the game. I don't think that \$5000 should be used as a bargain in any gain.

Heather says I agree with you guys and the real reason is because the first reading passed. We could have made this a one reading thing. In that case this \$5000 would have been allocated before this even occurred. The discussion should have been put out there before the \$5000 was ever put at stake.

Rep says I would like to say that the price tag is worth it, I don't find that okay.

Patty says Heathers point is that is why you have a 2 reading process, why you should think long and hard before you ever let the reading go. You have a week to find out what everyone thinks before you come back for the second reading. Think long and hard before waiving the second reading.

Nick says I never would have brought this if it was a 1 week reading.

Tyler says although I do see that waiving a first reading happens rarely, it makes me cringe a little bit when one exists. It should be longer process to waive a first reading than it is.

Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 7:16 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Lena Freed
Recording Secretary