

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 #28, Wednesday, April 4, 2012

Page	Business Meeting Agenda
124	<i>Call to Order, Approval of Agenda, Approval of Minutes</i>
124-125	<i>Updates</i>
125	<i>Old Business</i> None
125-126	<i>New Business</i>
125	104-1112: BE IT RESOLVED THE SA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE approve GEO, Account 1909, to fundraise for advertising costs and SA Tech costs by selling buttons up to \$20 on April 9-12. <i>First and Only Reading</i>
125-126	105-1112: BE IT RESOLVED THE SA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE allocate up to \$1,000.00 from Budget Increases, Account 1099, to Inter-Residence Council, Account 1201, to increase the RC Drawing Fund. <i>First of Two Readings</i>
126	106-1112: BE IT RESOLVED THE SA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE realign \$175 from Account 1302, Activities Commission Concerts, Line 10, Event Assistant T-Shirts, to Line 20, Concerts/Comedian. <i>First and Only Reading</i>
126-127	<i>Open Discussion.</i>
127	<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 6-0-0 with Stasia absent.

Approval of the Minutes:

Passes 6-0-0.

Updates

President, Nicholas Spengler updates: No new updates.

Vice-President, Tyler Ocon updates: The College Senate yesterday passed changes to some academic policy in terms of the minimum competency requirements such as what defines probation.

Director of Business Affairs, Brittany Wolf updates: The budget got held up a little bit and it is in the process of being reviewed right now. You have a week to appeal it, email me or come to the office.

Director of Inter-Residence Affairs, Carly Annable updates: IRC is doing its first reading tonight; it's awesome. We are holding our elections for our IRC board for next year; if you're interested please contact me. Letters of Intent are due April 13th and the elections are the following Monday. One of our delegation members from MINIs presented a program at the conference and is putting on the conference for GREAT Day. She is looking to expand that program, head to tinyurl.com/justputitinyourmouth. There are a few questions you can answer.

Director of Public Relations, Lindsey Hebell updates: The PR subcommittee applications were due today. That should be happening very soon, thank you for applying. The changing of the guard usually happens during the last meeting of every year where we stand up and leave and the new members will stand in our place. On the 25th of April I am planning for it to occur in MJ and it will be a full dinner. Nice dress is encouraged, it will be fun and it will be themed. We are also in the process of coming up with awards for student organizations, it'll be a great night to celebrate the end of the year. I'll be putting the event up on KnightLink. It is very important that everyone still comes to the meeting, you have to RSVP on KnightLink, it will link you to a document and you can say which club you are RSVP-ing for.

Director of Academic Affairs, Justin Shapiro updates: Welcome to the 1980's, if you're me. Student ambassadorships are due April 9th and they come with a \$5000 grant to pursue your dreams. Also you'll be on the Student Advisory Board for the Center for Everything. I'll be meeting with Provost Long within the next 2 weeks so if you have anything you want me to say let me know. AAC elections are on 17th of April; you can join the most rock n' roll standing committee on campus. Letters of Intent are due by the 16th. Please fill out your SOFIs which are really important. Unfortunately, Lena will be leaving us next year so if you are interested in applying for her position please let us know; applications are available in the SA office.

Director of Student Affairs, Stasia Monteiro updates: Not present.

Director of Student Programming, Heather Bristol updates: Tomorrow will be our second day of elections.

Kate Rebban, Director of SA Programs, Personnel, & Finances updates: Not present.

Patty Hamilton-Rodgers, SA Executive Committee Advisor updates: The end of the semester is coming so be sure to get your POs in, get your invoices in.

Open Updates

USAEC: If anyone has any suggestions for the new guidelines email me.

SUNY Assembly: Annual spring conference will be from April 27th-29th in Liverpool; this is our elections conference, a great time to get involved and a great time to sit through a very long meeting. It's a great opportunity to get involved in how the university is run at a broader level from the states perspective, and get an understanding of how Geneseo fits into the system overall and how it runs.

Patty: GREAT Day is coming up a week from Tuesday, tomorrow I'll send out an email. We have a new custom scheduler program where you can go in and pick out the sections you want to go to and you can print it out or download it. It was created by one of our very own students.

Shakti: We are having our cultural dinner this Saturday. We have been working really hard in the Ballroom every night, you can still buy tickets all day tomorrow in the Union.

Tyler: The 4 acapella groups on campus are having their spring concert on Saturday in Newton 202 at 7pm. It's \$5 and it's a lot of fun.

BSU: Sunday April 15th we are having our annual fashion show, "Occupy the Runway" themed. We will be showing clips of different movements while we put on the show. Tickets are \$5; it should be cool because we have designers coming from NYC.

GAGG: April 14th is Minicon, opposite the long boring meeting I mentioned earlier. You get to play games for a full day.

Carly: We are looking to make appointments for next year; a new chair for USAEC. There's an application which is in the SA office and we can answer any questions. Also we are looking for people to be on the CAS Board of Directors, to help make the large scale decisions that CAS makes. There isn't an application for that.

Justin: School of Business networking dinner will be tomorrow, Prism is having their annual "Pie your Professor for Autism" on the 11th, and the Math Department picnic will be on the 27th at Hyland Park. English Club shirts say "pro oxford comma".

MUN: We just came back from the 5 college conference and we won outstanding delegation for the third year in a row.

Tyler: SA is also looking for student senators for the Senate for the next academic year. Applications are due within the first month of next semester.

Slavic Club: Our cultural dinner is on April 29th.

Old Business

None.

New Business

104-1112: BE IT RESOLVED THE SA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE approve GEO, Account 1909, to fundraise for advertising costs and SA Tech costs by selling buttons up to \$20 on April 9-12.

First and Only Reading

A representative says essentially we are asking for approval to fundraise for our Regenerative Energy Symposium as well as to promote Earth Week which will be following the Regenerative Energy Symposium. It says that the money will be going towards our budget but it will be going towards all our advertising costs and a little bit of SA Tech. The buttons look really cool, they say "rethink regenerate renew" on them.

Tyler asks I think you are selling yourself a little short here, how much are they being sold for?

A representative says we will sell them for \$1 and we guess that we will sell about half of them.

104-1112: *First and Only Reading*, Passes 6-0-0.

105-1112: BE IT RESOLVED THE SA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE allocate up to \$1,000.00 from Budget Increases, Account 1099, to Inter-Residence Council, Account 1201, to increase the RC Drawing Fund.

First of Two Readings

Carly says at the beginning of the year we are allocated a chunk of money for a certain fund that if the representatives want to do programs and don't have funds, they do a reading about the program and the representatives vote on if the program is quality enough to deserve the funding. I am really happy with the quality of programming that has come through IRC and we are pretty much out of money. We are coming up where all of the hall councils are doing really large scale things; we want to give them the opportunity to put on these programs, to allow them to dream as big as possible. For example, Saratoga put on Casino Night, it was really successful there, Genesee put on "Let's Talk about Sex Toys, Baby" which was really successful, so I feel like that is why we should be putting on more awesome programs.

Tyler asks are you confident that \$1000 will be enough?

Carly says yes, we have about \$2000.

Tommy asks how many readings do you vote down?

Carly says we voted down one this year.

Justin asks with this money are you going to consider realigning it to other parts of the IRC budget?

Carly says no I would not support that

Brittany says the Budget Increases are around \$3500.

Charles asks how much was in the fund originally?

Carly says we have put on 50 programs with \$5000, we used \$4000.

Tommy asks if SA funds more members that live off campus why should we fund things for on campus?

Carly says because these are open to the entire community.

Malcolm says Seneca has done a lot of programming this year but there have been a few times where we asked IRC for help, we have had pretty successful programs this year.

105-1112: *First of Two Readings*, Passes 5-0-1.

106-1112: BE IT RESOLVED THE SA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE realign \$175 from Account 1302, Activities Commission Concerts, Line 10, Event Assistant T-Shirts, to Line 20, Concerts/Comedian.

First and Only Reading

Heather says I'm Bill and I'm the AC Concerts Coordinator. I would like to take \$175 out of the event t-shirts line and put it towards a third act for the concert. This won't take away from my ability to purchase t-shirts as I have more than enough money in the t-shirts line.

Charles asks who are you thinking about bringing?

Heather says I can't say.

Malcolm asks if there were a contract in the works, who might it be with?

Heather says hypothetically I could not say until hypothetically a contract goes through.

Forrest asks how much is in the t shirt line?

Heather says \$700 right now, so after that there will still be \$525. There has always been more than enough money.

Malcolm asks will \$175 be sufficient?

Heather says yes.

Justin says Bill I always tell you two things when you come, I hope you're bringing Gym Class Heroes and are making it free, and I always love your in depth Power Points; they really add to the readings.

106-1112: *First and Only Reading*, Passes 5-0-1 with Heather abstaining.

Open Discussion

Nick says there aren't people trying to change the smoking policy but there are people that are wanting to talk about it. Does anyone have a comment about the smoking policy?

A representative says I don't think that 25 feet is unreasonable, but I see people smoking right outside doorways all the time. If we should do anything, we should enforce the 25 foot rule because people don't follow that as it is.

Malcolm says I also have noticed people smoking very close to the buildings. We need an increased enforcement. However, for those students who do smoke, I know this became an issue at my last school when we discussed a smoking ban. When it's really cold out there was some discussion about putting up a smoking shelter.

Rachel says 10 feet outside the library is a cigarette disposal box.

Nick asks if the rule was sufficiently enforced would people be happy? Are there ways to enforce the rule?

Sadie says I read an article somewhere that was talking about colleges and rules on smoking. There have been several colleges in the US that have created teams of students and faculty who are the smoking police who have signed up and taken a class in non-confrontational behavior correction. They are the people who walk around and if they see people who aren't supposed to be smoking there, they say something to them. People usually responded to this program in a positive manner.

Charles says if we can put the cigarette disposal boxes farther away. There should be a creation of a different hang out spot.

Tommy says compared with a lot of other SUNY campuses, this campus is a lot cleaner and I think this is because of the amount of cigarette disposal boxes that we have available

Tyler says I have noticed by the academic buildings, if you are 25 feet away from one building you are close to another building, so there are huge areas on campus where smokers could not go. They would have to walk over near the green where you can't smoke anyway and res halls are really close together. There will have to be a discussion about the change of 25 feet.

Heather says I don't know if moving the boxes farther away will make a difference because people still throw cigarettes in the garbage. But there can be a disposal box on either side of the Townhouses.

Tyler says the College Senate offered a proposal the other day which was for this coming evaluation period, we would not consider the SOFIs results for tenure or anything of the sort. This is because of the low turnout of SOFI results for various reasons that student opinion is not fully represented in the SOFIs. How do you feel about SOFIs being invalidated for this evaluation?

Carly asks when they throw out the SOFIs are they putting another form of review in place?

Tyler says the scores and the written comments would not be considered in the evaluation of the professor, but they could just read the comments themselves.

Charles says the College Senate can't do anything but they can suggest action to take, and I don't think that this should be considered. I think this should be about promoting student response, rather than eliminating them because of low student response.

Chris says I think with SOFIs you'll never get someone who is neutral; you'll get people who have strong feelings about a professor. If you use the SOFIs you can tell which side they are on; I think it's very useful.

Tommy says there is a professor in every department that students try to get around when it is time to register and I think that it's important for the college to see which professors these are.

Justin says I think this is a horrible idea, it disempowers students. One of the primary obligations is to teach students and we need to get their feedback. It's a deliberate sidestepping of one of the obligations of a liberal arts college.

Heather says I have had tenured professors say to classes that I have been in that it doesn't matter what you write in the SOFIs because they have tenure, but I think that the people who write a SOFI have the opinions that should be listened to.

Malcolm says whether they are considered for tenure purposes or not, if SOFIs are put at the end of the semester and given in such a way when students are really stressed out, they won't have the time to do it during the narrow window. They need to be fixed and College Senate should be looking at ways to fix the SOFIs, there are a number of ways. But the worst thing they could do was take it out of the process as it exists for tenure. The students who do participate will lose their motivation to participate, and the levels will drop and we will never be able to fix that. We will find the problem getting worse not better. I know that I myself have seen a different way of evaluating professors at my last school and it worked better in terms of response rate. As the SOFIs exist right now, it's bad enough that they have a minimal impact, but it will have more professors going a bad route. This cannot happen.

Sadie says it's my opinion that the SOFIs should not be done online because it leads to people not doing them or forgetting about them. It would be better to do them in class, have students take 10 minutes to fill them out and then hand them in. It would really improve the response rate. The quality of written feedback has declined since they went online.

Tyler says that is what I was going to say. They used to be done on paper in class, and the response rate was much better than it was once it moved to online. The Provost at the time decided to put them online. I personally advocate for them to be back on paper until they find a better solution for it.

Forrest says the questions on the SOFIs are not guided, it's sort of in between suggesting things for the professor to change and giving suggestions for future students for the course, it should be about how the professor can do a better job in teaching. Schools will hire teachers for their experience, rather than how they teach so this is vital.

Brittany says if you have a really awesome professor you should want the professor to stick around, then you can use the SOFIs to keep them around. It's important to share how great certain professors are.

Tommy says we have professors hold a mandatory final during a time slot; it should be put in with the final as mandatory.

Malcolm says I think responses on paper is a good idea, for those concerned about anonymity you can give the surveys out with a blue envelope, the professor has to give it to a student and then leave the room, the student would distribute them, collect them, and bring it to the administration. The professor would never handle them directly. There wasn't a place to put any names or identifying marks.

There weren't any possible ways to be concerned about repercussions on a grade, it worked fairly well and was fairly efficient. If anonymity is a concern I would propose a similar type of idea.

Chris says I think the SOFIs take really long. If they were shortened that would help response rate.

Justin says in terms of SOFI deactivation, it seems counterproductive to the goals of this school, and is a complete detriment to students experience in the system. It's a really unwieldy print out. Unless you are a math major it is really difficult to interpret it. It's a frustrating and cumbersome print out. If students see that this is an easy to read, intuitive form they might be more inspired to fill it out.

A representative says one of the problems is that most students don't know that the results of the SOFI have an impact on tenure.

A teacher offered extra credit to the class to do their SOFIs, which gave a good incentive.

Charles says I think when teachers are going up for a grant or for a scholarship, this is a chance to influence a teacher's fate.

Lexi says when I fill out the SOFIs it's because a professor urged us in emails or in class. Usually the professors don't seem to care but when they ask, it makes it more important, so it makes it more of an incentive to do that.

Tyler says I would like to thank you guys for giving me these comments, if you have any more please email me. We will discuss this Tuesday May 1st at 4pm in Newton 204.

Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 7:03 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Lena Freed
Recording Secretary