

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



Student Association meetings are Wednesdays at 6:45 pm in the College Union Hunt Room. All are welcome to attend.

MINUTES #20, Wednesday, February 6, 2013

Page Business Meeting Agenda
Call to Order, Approval of Agenda, Approval of Minutes

Updates

Old Business

52-1213 BE IT RESOLVED THE SA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE allocate up to \$4,960.09 from Permanent Equipment, Account 2000, to purchase a Toshiba eStudio Digital Copier/Printer/Scanner.
Second of Two Readings

New Business

56-1213 BE IT RESOLVED THE SA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE approve the appointment of Andrew Roche to the Stipend Review Committee for the remainder of the 2012-2013 academic year.
First and Only Reading

57-1213 BE IT RESOLVED THE SA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE allocate up to \$4,801.00 from Budget Increases, Account 1099, to SA Programs, Account 1002 to support the GREAT Day Luncheon on April 16, 2013.
First of Two Readings

58-1213 BE IT RESOLVED THE SA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE approve the proposed changes to Activities Commission bylaws and constitution.
First of Two Readings

Open Discussion

Adjournment

Executive Committee

President:	Carly Annable
Vice-President:	Justin Shapiro
Directors:	
Academic Affairs:	Dara Gell
Business Affairs:	Casey Howard
Inter-Residence Affairs:	Silvia Roma
Public Relations:	Forrest Regan
Student Affairs:	Sadie Baker
Student Programming:	Matt Bower
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: 6:49 pm

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

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

Updates

President, Carly Annable updates: This week I met with Dr. Bonfiglio to go over the different things that have been going on with SA. I've also been working with the President's office to coordinate a small group of students to go to Albany on Monday, which is SUNY Day, in order to talk to different legislators about our disapproval of the new resource allocation model and that they should adjust it to increase funding based on the performance of schools.

Vice-President, Justin Shapiro updates: For all you vegetarians out there, there will be an event in MJ in the next couple of weeks. It's not entirely clear what it is yet, but basically, it is in support of CAS going Meatless Monday. It's a good idea in moving our campus towards a more sustainable environment. I'll have more details on that by next week. Secondly, I am looking for three new student senators. I have one application in so far. If you're interested, come and pick up an application from the SA office. Applications are due by noon next Thursday. It's a great way to work with faculty administrators and represent the student body. The anti-hazing workshop will be next week. Attendance is mandatory for all club sports that started this spring and individuals who did not attend last semester. The three days will be Tuesday, February 12th from 4:00 pm to 5:00 pm in College Union 322/323; Wednesday, February 13th from 2:30 pm to 3:30 pm in Sturges 113; and Thursday, February 14th from 1:00 pm to 2:00 pm in the College Union Hunt Room. There will also be a club sports meeting for all club sports representatives from 7:00 to 8:00 pm in CU 330 on Tuesday, February 12th. If you have any questions, email me at savp@geneseo.edu.

Director of Business Affairs, Casey Howard updates: Not present.

Director of Inter-Residence Affairs, Silvia Roma updates: IRC also had elections on Monday. Monroe Hall joined us for the first time. There will be a rededication of Monroe Hall at 3:00 pm this Thursday. Housing deposits are due soon. Townhouse deposits are over; EcoHouse, Writer's House, and Gender Neutral Housing deposits are due by February 15th; and Suites and Corridor Style Housing deposits are due by March 25th. Finally, lots of people are getting sick so please be careful.

Director of Public Relations, Forrest Regan updates: Thanks to everyone who participated in the Student Club Expo today. I was thinking that it would be a great idea if in the next week or so, all the clubs go over with new members what the referendum is and to vote yes. As you all know, the referendum is on March 13th. We just had 2000 leaflets with budget information guidelines come in so if you need more information about SA's \$1.3 million budget, please come take some from the SA office. Also, keep in mind that elections for SA positions will happen then too.

Director of Academic Affairs, Dara Gell updates: The Academic Affairs Department of Student Association likes to join with GREAT Day every year and so I'm in charge of getting volunteers. There are four different slots. One is on Monday, April 15th, the day before GREAT Day from 11:00 am – 2:00 pm. Just keep in mind that there is class on this day. On GREAT Day, there are three different times from 8:00 am – 12:20 pm, 2:30 pm – 5:30 pm, and 6:30 pm – 8:00 pm. Duties involve general things like setting up posters and pointing people to the correct areas. You get an embroidered T-shirt that says GREAT Day, you can put it on your resume, and it's a great way to get involved. You can see all the great work that the other students have done and you get free food. If you're interested, contact me at saaac or talk to me after today's meeting. We're looking for about 20 volunteers and you can choose any of the slots. The Vagina Monologues are next Thursday and Friday at 7:00 pm. You can buy tickets this Thursday and next week from Monday thru Friday in the Union. At the same time, next Thursday to Saturday at 8:00 pm and on Saturday at 2:00 pm, *One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest* will be shown. Last year, AAC teamed up with the Teaching and Learning Center for the Professor Recognition Ceremony. It was the first time that students got to nominate their teachers for this award. The teachers were really honored to be awarded something from the students. Therefore, once again this year, AAC will be teaming up with the Teaching and Learning Center to send out a survey that asks people to nominate their professors and fill out a questionnaire. For this event, we're creating a committee that creates the survey questions, gets the ball rolling, evaluate the answers, and chooses the professors. If you're interested, email me at saaac. You can also email Efthimia Barbagiannis at eb12 or Riley Burchell at rkb2. The Student Ambassadorship applications are due February 18th. Sociology Club is interviewing students who have experience with law enforcement. It's confidential, so if you want to share your stories, contact Soc Club through Facebook or email. AAC elected a new secretary recently and the eboard will be going on a retreat to get to know each other better. "Rock Your Semester" will be on March 29th from 2:30 to 4:00 pm.

Director of Student Affairs, Sadie Baker updates: I'll start off with the cultural dinners. Black Student Union will have its cultural dinner on February 23rd and they will have Cajun Food. Shakti will have theirs on March 2nd and will include Bhangra. Korean-

American Student Association will have theirs on March 9th. LSA's dinner is on March 30th and there be will Latin food. Women's Action Coalition and Pride Alliance are teaming up for a Carnival themed dinner on April 13th. Students Educating About Ableism has changed their meeting time to 7:00 pm biweekly on Tuesdays in Welles 133. Also, the Interfaith Center will be having an Interfaith dialogue on Tuesday, February 12th at 4:30. There will be a free pasta dinner and discussion with representatives and leaders of different faiths and traditions. There will also be a Hip Hop Symposium on March 4th. On March 5th, they are attempting to bring in a hip-hop performer who is African-American, gay, and Jewish. He portrays these characteristics in his lyrics. Geneseo Chinese Culture Club is going on a trip to Rochester this weekend for Lunar New Year. The trip costs \$5.00 and you need to get a ticket from one of the members. The bus leaves at 5:30 pm.

Director of Student Programming, Matt Bower updates: I just want to thank Trevor for all the hard work he's done making changes to the Constitution for AC. We have Winter Week coming up which is seven days of events back to back from February 9th to the 15th and is hosted by Special Events and other members of AC. February 9th is Philadanco, the 10th is Cookies and Coffee, on the 11th we have a Rochester comedian coming in, on the 12th we will be hosting a Jeopardy game for students, 13th is the Window Painting Contest, on the 14th KINO will be showing *Friends with Benefits*, and lastly on the 15th Mac's Place will be hosting Battle of the Bands.

Kate Rebban, Director of SA Programs, Personnel, & Finances updates: Budgets are due by 4:00 pm in Casey's mailbox. Also, remember to sign in and sign out for every meeting.

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

Open Updates

Melissa: Tomorrow, *The Lamron* will be starting our "Sweet Tweet" Valentine's Day campaign. So, if you have a message to send to a friend or significant other, please come to our table from 11:00 am to 5:00 pm. We're doing it Thursday, Friday, Monday, and Tuesday.

GAGG: We have our big convention this weekend from Friday to Sunday. It's \$5.00 to enter and we have a lot of fun playing games.

German Club: This Friday, in the KnightSpot, Mardi Gras will be celebrated from 10:00 pm to 1:00 am.

Women's Rugby: We will have an interest meeting on Thursday at 8:00 pm in Newton 214.

Geneseo Swing Dance Club: We're having a performance event on the 23rd.

Geo: We will be working with EcoHouse to screen the movie "*Dear Governor Cuomo*".

Dara: The All College Speaker series is starting next Wednesday with Women's Rights Activist Michaela Walsh. It's from 2:30 to 3:30 pm in the College Union Ballroom.

Kate: Could I see the representative from the Guitar Club after the meeting?

Patty: GREAT Day submission deadline is March 8th by 4:30 pm.

Old Business

52-1213 BE IT RESOLVED THE SA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE allocate up to \$4,960.09 from Permanent Equipment, Account 2000, to purchase a Toshiba eStudio Digital Copier/Printer/Scanner.

Second of Two Readings

Carly: Casey is ill and can't be here to finish this reading, so I will be substituting for him. This printer that we're looking at is great because it's consistent with the rest of the ones on campus, we can contact them any time we need service done, they can come look at our printer when we need them to or they can see to us when they're on campus for another technology problem, and the price given to us is good for a printer of this kind.

Kate: This is the least expensive one. The counter is what counts each print and not the finisher.

Silvia: I'm so excited for a new printer.

52-1213: *Second of Two Readings*, Passes 5-0-0.

New Business

56-1213 BE IT RESOLVED THE SA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE approve the appointment of Andrew Roche to the Stipend Review Committee for the remainder of the 2012-2013 academic year.

First and Only Reading

Justin: Basically we wanted an extra person for the Stipend Review Committee. I asked for two individuals because doing so provides a balanced approach. It doesn't make sense to just have the same exact people go over the same exact stipends again. Hopefully Andrew adds a new voice to the committee. He seems to be a well-rounded candidate for the position.

Forrest: Is this a draft or a final copy?

Justin: It's the miracle of the stamps that it's both.

Forrest: Did you approve this?

Justin: I approved it four times.

Silvia: Will the previous members still be sitting on the Stipend Review Board as well?

Justin: Yes.

56-1213: *First and Only Reading, Passes 5-0-1, Justin abstains.*

57-1213 BE IT RESOLVED THE SA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE allocate up to \$4,801.00 from Budget Increases, Account 1099, to SA Programs, Account 1002 to support the GREAT Day Luncheon on April 16, 2013.

First of Two Readings

Dara: For the past two years, the academic affairs section of SA has teamed up with GREAT day to celebrate the achievements of the student body. I'm looking for \$4,801.00 to add to about \$200.00 that I already have in order to feed 800 people lunch during the middle of GREAT day. The food is always gone within 20 minutes and it's a great incentive for freshmen to come.

Silvia: Has AAC thought of contributing in other ways than lunch?

Dara: Actually, it's not AAC but the academic affairs department of SA so it's coming out of my executive budget. GREAT Day is a really comprehensive event and this will be the 7th year that they are doing it. They came to us for help with the luncheon and I think it's a decent thing to do. If they ever ask for another partnership, we will evaluate it then.

Justin: GREAT Day is a fantastic event. I think it's a fantastic affair. When I was a freshman, the free food was something that drew me in. It's a way to give back to students.

57-1213: *First of Two Readings, Passes 5-0-1, Dara abstains.*

58-1213 BE IT RESOLVED THE SA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE approve the proposed changes to Activities Commission bylaws and constitution.

First of Two Readings

Trevor: My name is Trevor Peglowski and I am a Senior Biology major. I have been on AC for two years. Last year, I was the Contemporary Forum Coordinator and this year I am Treasurer. Before that, I served as both hall President and IRC Rep for Ontario Hall Council. Activities Commission, or AC, is the largest student-run programming board on campus. It was founded in the 1960s when students found there was a lack of events for non-greek students to attend. It currently consists of fifteen members; 4 executive board members, and 11 programmers across 8 positions. So why have I come to you with the change? The constitution and bylaws, as they stood, were simply dated. They combined into this weird 15 page conglomerate mess that constantly referred to one another and had no direction. It was really hard to get any information out of. The board and I felt that AC really needed a stronger presence on campus and that we needed to impact more students in a big way without, of course, breaking the bank. When we brought in the concert reading earlier in the year, there was a lot of discussion that people don't go to AC events and what do we bring to the campus. So we really wanted to increase our presence on the campus. There are three main changes to the Constitution. First we got rid of irrelevant and erroneous wording and positions that don't exist anymore. Our biggest change is the implementation of general membership. It's basically like a shadowing program but more involved. It allows for students to learn the processes of programming, publicity, and budget management without having an entire budget that they're responsible for. Along with that, they function as their own programming force. Finally, we streamlined the entire process. First off is the removal of irreverent information. The SA Program Advisor is a position that no longer exists because it wasn't doing what it was initially supposed to. The use of 'Associate Director of College Union and Activities' was changed to 'AC Advisor' to cover any situations in which the Advisor is not the same individual as the Associate Director of College Union and Activities, or if there are multiple advisors. A few programs we rarely do were cut from Special Events. For example, Lip Sync was cut out because we haven't done it for the past two years and events like Mics and Mocha replace it. We also took out the fireworks for Homecoming because we don't do the event anymore. With this constitution comes a new level of AC membership. The power structure of AC will now have three levels: The Executive Board will consist of the Chairperson, the Vice Chairperson, the Secretary, and the Treasurer. Below that will be the Programming Board which will consist of the current coordinators on AC; Kino, Mac's Place, Arts and Exhibits, Special Events, Limelight & Accents, Concerts, Contemporary Forum, and Publicity & Promotions. Finally, below that will be the General Membership that will contain interested students who do not feel they have the time or commitment level to fully maintain a coordinator position. There are basically two functions. The membership will be divided into committees based on their interest and the needs of the coordinators to join with the

programming board coordinators. For example, in the fall, Concerts probably won't have a big committee whereas in the spring, they will have a massive committee to help out with the concert. These committees would meet once every other week at a time decided upon by the committee and the Coordinator. They would aid the Coordinator by offering ideas, aiding them in publicity, programming, and exciting the campus for their events. These members will also meet bi-weekly with one another and the Vice-Chairperson to program their own event each semester. This will further teach them how to program, and give them the accomplished feeling of putting on their own event. The reason I felt that this was important was because I went to NACA Regionals where I heard a lot of this stuff. I saw two schools. Townsend did something very similar to the top but they had an issue where the general membership lost interest. I also looked at a very small catholic private school that had something similar to the bottom but they had the issue where members felt that they were a smaller board under a bigger board. I think this model addresses those two issues. The ultimate goal of this general membership is to improve every Geneseo student's experience by making more programs on campus through both less-stressed coordinators and having the events brought about by the general membership. The idea is that there would be higher quality programs because of more involvement and a more highly-trained pool of talent within AC. The more highly trained individuals would add to the pool for recruitment and election come spring. There would be more student leaders on campus, and more students skilled in programming to serve other clubs, SA, and the CU&A staff as a whole. This is an example of how we streamlined. The top shows a complicated mess of words. I simplified it to say three main things. We are a programming board, we function as a teaching presence, and we are a standing committee. It's done in simple bolded print that makes it easier to understand what we stand for and makes it easier to read. The previous set of documents consisted of two documents: a constitution and by-laws. There was no clear difference between the documents, and the two constantly referred to one another. Now, there is only one simple ten page document that is much shorter after the repetitive information was eliminated. The new constitution is much less bulky meaning easier reading and scanning. According to the standing constitution, any ratification must receive two-thirds majority vote from the AC Board, and must be reviewed and approved by the SA Executive Board. On Thursday January 24th, the Activities Commission Board passed the new constitution unanimously at our meeting, so now I'm here. I want to thank all of you for listening to me ramble through all of this. I would also like to thank the AC Board for their patience with me and this process. I had like 20 revisions. I would like to also thank Carey Backman, who is no longer here, for all the work she put in with me on the document, hoping to ensure the future of the board.

Silvia: That was a great presentation. Why did you get rid of the sections under the articles? Having the sections would make it easier to find and refer to areas in the Constitution. I would recommend putting those back in.

Trevor: No, I agree. It would be a lot easier to refer people to different sections and that's something I will add.

Malcolm: I'd like to commend you on all your effort to make changes. I can see, especially with your presentation, what you're trying to get done here. Even though I can see what you're trying to do and that you're on to something, this constitution, as it is currently drafted, will probably create a lot of chaos. There are already a lot of issues that I spotted and I only got the document tonight at the beginning of the meeting. I haven't had a chance to read the whole thing, but on the first page alone, there are already over a half-dozen issues. Some of the issues are major and could potentially get the board tied up for decades trying to figure out legally what they're doing. I don't think that you're far from a serviceable draft so my question to you is this: would you consider withdrawing it, reworking it, and resubmitting it? I think you're close but there are a number of issues if you want this document to legally do what your presentation makes clear you want it to do.

Trevor: I appreciate what you're saying but I'm neither a lawyer nor a constitution writing expert. I wrote this for the purpose of ease. I had this approved by my entire AC Board, Carey Backman, Lauren Dougherty, Steph, and Chip Matthews. I think that since I went through the process of that, they all read it and told me it's good, and they've given me their visions and I've done them, then I think that the revised Constitution is doing its goal. If it passes tonight then I believe it's doing its purpose. You can always use a fine tooth comb to pull through it but for the purpose of what it is, I think that it's serviceable.

Matt: Is there any concrete examples of what you would like to see changed and the reasons? I understand the conceptualization but I don't understand the practicality of the physical words you'd like to change.

Malcolm: Okay, let's take a concrete example from the very first page. There is a section in this under article 2, that could lead to fight as to who serves on the programming board because there could be 7 or 11 seats.

Trevor: Just to clarify that. In the Constitution, it does say that there are co-coordinators for Publicity and Promotion so there are two, Special Events is also co-coordinators so there are two, and Limelight and Accents are also co-coordinators so there are two there. Therefore, because all those positions have co-coordinators, there are 11 people but seven seats.

Malcolm: I understand what you're saying sir and I think that's probably a good idea, and I get that's how you want it to happen. But I'm saying from a legal perspective, you only have voting seats on the programming board for seven seats. You have 11 coordinators but only seven seats.

Carly: Although this is productive in its own manner, since I don't see it being resolved right now, whether this passes or doesn't pass today, I suggest you two have this conversation at another point of time because he's can't go through and make a million changes right now.

Forrest: I know that you did research at other colleges, how did you do that?

Trevor: I actually talked to Townsend at NACA and I ended up emailing this girl from Townsend for a month trying to make the Constitution as good as it could be. Carey also did a benchmark presentation with other SUNY schools before she left. It covered schools like Oneonta that does crazy events with little money, so I talked to schools like Oneonta and Brockport. I branched out to see how other schools do it and I wanted to bring the best of it back here.

Jenny: I just wanted to recognize Trevor for the hard work he did. From a programming perspective, having a general membership would be beneficial. It's definitely an easier way for students to get involved and there will be an easier way to select more highly qualified individuals for positions. I think Trevor's on the right track.

Malcolm: As I indicated during questions, I do think that there are good ideas here and I would very much like to see AC succeed in changing their structure in a positive way. It's my dearest hope that a constitution that actually does accomplish the changes they need will pass. However, unfortunately, I think that the changes that are needed require more than one week's worth of work. As it is written right now could be structurally destabilizing. Although I do want AC to get the structural changes they want, I care the most about the institutional structural integrity of SA and all of its standing committees. For that reason, I cannot support passing this Constitution as it is right now in revised form, even for just one week. I would suggest SA vote it down and ask them to come back with a revision in a few weeks.

Dara: I think that you did a wonderful job. I know that this wasn't one week's worth of work and I realize that it's many weeks of work. I believe that Constitutions are living documents and are flexible. I believe that you will all learn to interpret it as you need it. I work with Constitutions and bylaws all the time and you learn how to deal with it if there is a problem in the future. I suggest that if it passes, then you meet with Malcolm and maybe you can tweak some of the things but overall, great job.

Silvia: You did a really great job with this. I think that the general membership is excellent. However, I do think that Malcolm does make some good points. I do think you should sit down with him before you come back next week. Specifically, I know that IRC had a mess with an election system. That's really difficult, especially in a case of a vacancy in a position. I see in here that it says it would be "handled properly" but I would go into more specifics as to what you would do in a case of a vacancy. Because that's a situation where when it happens, you don't know what to do and if you go look at your Constitution and it's not in there, you'll be even more confused. I would suggest relooking at that section because that is one of those unexpected situation scenarios where in the future, someone might need that information to know what to do.

Olivia: It's great that there are more leadership positions.

Justin: Putting subheadings back in would be great. You mention a general programming board, is there a way to dismiss them when you don't need them?

Trevor: We didn't want a concrete one in the constitution. Carey and I wanted flexibility with that. We want the committees to be changed as they need to be. The reason we didn't want it so concrete in the Constitution is because members would be changing between spring and fall depending on a need-basis. Some of the programs are more year-round and programs like Concerts need more people in the spring than in the fall. Maybe a few years down the road when general membership is more certain, they could look into making it more concrete and semester based. However, I didn't want to make it a thing because next year, if they only have two people than it's really awkward.

Forrest: I think open membership is a great idea since students want to be involved but there are only a few positions. I think two weeks is enough time to look this over and have a discussion about it.

Sadie: I really like the idea of general membership but how is general membership going to work?

Trevor: Selection is up to the current board. Individuals come and get to know members in an open and informal situation. In a way, it's similar to Greek-life rush. You come to some get-to-know-you events and talk with board members. Once you're in, you're in. There's a commitment. Recruitment is up to the current board during the first two weeks of academic year.

Matt: We're hoping to target mostly the freshmen body. We're thinking of publicizing when they first come in.

Justin: I think general membership is a good idea. It'll probably work. My concern is adding new things to the constitution. I would recommend that the general membership application be made more specific just because if it's too open there may be issues when people don't get selected.

Malcolm: I recognize that it took a great number of weeks. I'm just saying that it'll take more than one week to fix. I'm just saying that you need to look at it with a legal perspective. Your ideas are good and I like them but the language needs to be specifically focused on.

Trevor: The previous constitution before this one was made in 2009 and it was a complete mess. So within four years with a completely messy constitution, no legal issues have been brought up. I find it almost frivolous to go through it with a fine toothcomb when in four years a very messy set of documents had no holes poked into it. It may be a different story if I had infinite time and I wasn't also a student who was taking 15 credit hours, didn't have another internship, and this was my life's work. But it will do the job. I agree that it may need some touch up, which is why I'm here but I think it's a very good constitution.

Malcolm: When does AC meet?

Trevor: We meet Thursdays at 7:00 pm in the Boardroom on the third floor.

Malcolm: So basically we only have 24 hours to revise the Constitution before AC needs to actually approve the changes before next week's reading?

Trevor: Yeah. It would have to be a three-fourths majority and they would have to approve it by tomorrow.

Justin: Just keep in mind that minor changes can be made after it's approved by SA.

58-1213: *First of Two Readings*, Passes 5-0-1, Matt abstains.

Open Discussion

Forrest: I have \$50.00 to spend on equipment. Does anyone have any ideas as to what to buy?

Male in the back: A skateboard?

Forrest: That was my idea! But there are some insurance issues with that and we would need helmets and stuff.
Someone suggested a Kanjam.

Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 7:45 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Anna Choo
Recording Secretary