

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



Student Association meetings are Wednesdays at 6:30 pm in the College Union Hunt Room. All are welcome to attend.

MINUTES #30, Wednesday, April 20, 2011

<i>Executive Committee</i>	
President:	Doug Sinski
Vice-President:	Tom Sochia
Directors:	
Academic Affairs:	Meghan Pipe
Business Affairs:	Mark Petrie
Inter-Residence Affairs:	Mary Bock
Public Relations:	Jake Griffin
Student Affairs:	Will Labate
Student Programming:	Nick Spengler
Temporary Advisor:	Dr. Robert Bonfiglio

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

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123 128-1011: BE IT RESOLVED THE SA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE approve Geneseo Late Knight's request to switch their fundraiser recipient from the Red Cross to Livingston CARES.

First and Only Reading

123-124 129-1011: BE IT RESOLVED THE SA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE allocate up to \$9,500 from SA Reserves, Account 4000 to SA Programs, Account 1002 to fund the Collegiate Link.

First of Two Readings

124 ***Open Discussion***

124 ***Adjournment***

Call to Order: 6:30 pm.

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

Approval of the Minutes:

122-1011: change deferral to referral, change “cabinet as well” to D.A.C., change “the same as” to “similar to”, change “Mary” abstaining to “Meghan”.

Passes 7-0-0.

Updates

President, Doug Sinski updates: Still on the search for new Vice President of Admin & Finance. If you know what that position is and think that there is something that person should have, let me know so we can keep that in the search. We have Dr. Rao and Landon Hurley here to talk about the national survey of student engagement

Vice-President, Tom Sochia updates: Tomorrow is the last student senator caucus. If you want to apply to be one next year, come talk to me.

Director of Business Affairs, Mark Petrie updates: No new updates.

Director of Inter-Residence Affairs, Mary Bock updates: IRC only has 1 meeting left.

Director of Public Relations, Jake Griffin updates: No new updates.

Director of Academic Affairs, Meghan Pipe updates: Last night we had elections for AAC. They went great. Secretary is still vacant, but other than that we have some great students filling in positions. We have a ton of end of the year picnics for a lot of department clubs. Sociology and Prism are on April 28th, and on the 29th Geology is going to Letchworth Park. I will send out a message to the list-serve that they are open for all students. Next week after our last meeting we are having an end of the year celebration at 7:30 at Club 41.

Director of Student Affairs, Will Labate updates: Next week is going to be “A Day Without SUNY Geneseo”. Thursday 3 pm-4 pm we will be tabling in the lobby asking people to come down and sign a letter or place a phone call to various people in Albany. If you look around campus there are various posters of 100 things Geneseo does to benefit the campus and the college/state community. It is really important that we let our representatives know how much we benefit people other than ourselves. Please take part. Also we had our ACE pool party this weekend. It wasn’t the best attended due to the cold weather but we all had a fun time.

Director of Student Programming, Nick Spengler updates: Look forward to Springfest coming up next weekend. We will be showing “The Kings Speech” as well as many other things.

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

Dr. Robert Bonfiglio, SA Executive Committee Temporary Advisor updates: Not present.

Open Updates

Pride: Saturday at 5 pm in the Union Ballroom, Pride is having our intercultural dinner. It will be lots of fun; there are cool skits and lots of good food. Tickets for students are \$6, \$7 for faculty and \$8 for the general public.

BSU: We have a Caribbean celebration dinner and fashion show from 2 pm-5 pm before the Pride dinner. Tickets for students are \$3.

Swing: We went to DCLX this past weekend and it was amazing, so thank you so much for allowing us to go.

GEO: Went to DC this weekend for Powershift. We took about 40 students and learned about leadership as well as campus initiative. Monday we are doing a panel on what we learned in Welles 140 at 7:45 pm. Earth day is coming up this week, we will be showing “Addicted to Plastic” in Newton 203 at 5:30 pm.

Democrats: Tonight at 7:30 in Newton 204 is the annual debate with the College Republicans. There will be refreshments and it’s free. Tomorrow at 8 pm in Newton 204 the democratic candidate to fill the seat in the upcoming special elections will be here, Jane Corwin was here last week. We hope to see people there.

Malcolm: A week and a half ago Student Assembly met in Syracuse for its annual conference. We passed the resolutions that I referenced before the conference which increased reps for graduates among other things. We elected our leadership for next year. Our new exec board is composed of Geneseo's current rep on the exec committee, Katelyn Beachner, she is our president elect. Our VP elect is currently an ad tech rep named Kevin Ray. Our treasurer is Severon Comainy, and our secretary is Julie Gorman. Our new rep on the exec committee is Laura Imm. These officers take office on June 1st, and president elect Beachner is accepting cabinet applications for anyone who is interested in serving in her cabinet. The application information is all online www.studentassembly.org. There are about a dozen positions that she needs to fill.

Mary: I move to suspend Robert's rules of order to have Open Discussion before Old Business.

Seconded by Jake.

Motion carries 7-0-0.

Old Business

117-1011: BE IT RESOLVED THE SA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE allocate up to \$800 from Budget Increases, Account 1099 to Inter-Residence Council, Account 1201 to replenish drawing funds.

Second of Two Readings

Mary: We still need \$800. Our drawing fund is down to approximately \$40 right now which isn't going to cut it to put on end of the year events for IRC.

117-1011: *Second of Two Readings*, Passes 6-0-1. Mary abstaining

122-1011: BE IT RESOLVED THE SA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE approve the changes to the AAC Constitution.

Second of Two Readings

Meghan: As discussed we cleaned up the constitution a whole lot and delegated different tasks because of a position that does not exist.

122-1011: *Second of Two Readings*, Passes 6-0-1. Meghan abstaining

123-1011: BE IT RESOLVED THE SA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE approve the changes to the USAEC Constitution.

Second of Two Readings

Rob: Three changes. First is adding a vice chair position, second is that we have two separate packets (class officers and SA) and we will be moving some information from the class officer packet to the SA one, and the third is campaigning procedure for voting.

Mary asks, we had suggestions last week; did you take them back to your committee?

Rob says I met with my committee and they felt that the changes were strongest in the form they are already in.

Will says I respect the committee opinion however I also disagree. If we pass the changes adding more regulations to list-serves I don't think that will be in the best interests of the students and elections. Regulations have been a problem in the past, we have seen it. That's why we deregulated the system a lot last year. It's harder for people to find out about elections because a lot of students don't know about it. If we want elections to be well known, then this will be a step back. Levels are not where they should be. It puts USAEC in an area it should not be in, we should be letting people email who they want. I believe these regulations go against free speech and are wrong. I think we need to vote no on this if we want better elections.

Kate Cragg says I agree with Will. I think elections need more visibility. Why should you not be able to email who you want?

Rob says as far as restricting emails we are allowing people to campaign on Facebook. It's more that we are restricting sending out emails through specific clubs. If a moderator of a specific list-serve doesn't allow a candidate to send out an email I have no control over that. If they choose to allow one candidate to send it out and not another, that's a problem that I can't fix. We are allowing them to send out list-serves through each class, and as far as getting the word out, there shouldn't be as much of a problem.

Justin says I agree with Will. It distracts USAEC's primary obligation which is to facilitate the election along.

Malcolm says it is the responsibility of the current SA exec board and USAEC to publicize and get voter turnout. It is not the job of the individual candidates to get the word out. The brief version is that this is not a violation of free speech in a court of law.

Will says I would agree with you Malcolm, it may not violate the law, but is it ethically correct? USAEC is supposed to promote elections and by that, candidates should get the word out to increase voter turnout. Rob, things get lost in Facebook, having one class list-serve message sent out, that email can get lost and not a lot of people read the "What's Up" which is what this would be restricted to.

Malcolm asks Will, are you asking us whether we are in favor of the policy as worded, or in favor of being able to send out emails to anyone that we want which is still allowed under the policy?

Will says it was a question of principle rather than a specific question. Should 1) people be allowed to send out emails from any list-serve they want, or 2) only restrict it to "What's Up" and class list-serves?

Andrew says in its current form or within modification, is there any coverage, say I'm the president of a club and send it to others, could the other candidate ask for the list-serve to send it out also?

Rob says if you want to send out a message through a list-serve first it needs to be approved by me and then the moderator of that list-serve. Whether or not it gets approved after me is not up to me. If there is a conflict of interest it will go to student court, but if that person wasn't running and then still didn't let it go through.

Andrew asks isn't it more the responsibility of that club that if someone violates and uses the club for alternate purpose, that's their job?

Rob says that's their job but it doesn't always happen like that.

Meghan says every time USAEC policy comes up for a vote which it does more often than it should, shows that there are inherent flaws in the way that it works. Us arguing about whether or not this is ethical or right has no definitive end. Either we vote yes for less regulation or we vote no and it stays as it is with the regulations that are in place and it will come back to the SA board next fall. I don't see this discussion as producing any long term changes in the actual deadlines.

Call to question by Meghan. Jake seconded.

Discussion closed 6-1-0.

123-1011: *Second of Two Readings*, Passes 5-2-0. Nick and Will opposed.

124-1011: BE IT RESOLVED THE SA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE approve the Student Association Budget for the 2011-2012 academic year with total expenditures of \$1,386,440 representing \$1,019,199.45 of mandatory student activity fees and \$367,240.55 in other income generated from Student Association organizations and services.

Second of Two Readings Mark says as convoluted as it sounds this is basically the budget we came up with. We fulfilled all of your requests.

Mary asks is this amount including the stipend for an advisor?

Mark says no.

Doug says that was amended in last week.

Mark says yes.

Doug says so it actually is reflecting it, Mark is just confused.

124-1011: *Second of Two Readings*, Passes 7-0-0.

New Business

125-1011: BE IT RESOLVED THE SA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE allocate up to \$35,000 from SA Reserves, Account 4000 to SA Programs, Account 1002 in order to fund the Undergraduate Research and Travel Grant Program.

First of Two Readings

Lisa: I work in the College Advancement Department. I'm here to talk about undergraduate research and travel grants. SA has funded this program; it seeks to enrich your educational experiences by providing the opportunity for kids to finance their endeavors. Over the past years SA has increased the amount of money invested in this program \$41,000 to \$86,000. This year 181 awards were given to many different students from many different majors. Letters are reviewed by a group made up of students and faculty. The best part of this program is the partnership between SA and the Foundation. The Geneseo Foundation allows this to benefit twice as many students as there would be with just SA. We secure donations from alumni donors, friends of the college and parents as well. I'm here to respectfully request that the SA renew your commitment and consider an increase to \$35,000 for the next school year. This would bring the total amount to \$70,000.

Doug says I thought it was currently at \$35,000.

Lisa says no, we are currently at \$30,000.

Meghan says as one of the students that sits on the committee, we definitely allocated all of that money this year and there are lots of opportunities for students to go on and show off what they have done here.

Mary says this is one of the opportunities that Geneseo's SA has to make us unique. We support our academics by doing the research and travel grants, which is a great thing.

125-1011: *First of Two Readings*, Passes 7-0-0.

126-1011: BE IT RESOLVED THE SA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE allocate up \$300 from SA Programs, Account 1002-*Service Grants* to create a Geneseo Sexual Assault First Response Team.

First of Two Readings

Brittany: We are here to ask for funding for the Geneseo Sexual Assault First Response Team. As you know, this year there was a sexual assault teach in. I was one of the facilitators. During the training we had we went through Geneseo policy and procedures and discovered that right now if someone is assaulted and doesn't need an ambulance, there is no transportation service in place to get them to the hospital. It is important to go to the hospital because they need a rape kit to be administered. A SEA nurse is a sexual assault nurse examiner and Strong Memorial hospital is the only one that has one. We would like to provide the transportation for someone who is assaulted to the hospital in order for the rape kit to be performed. It's up to 72 hours after an assault happens that they can have the kit performed. The kit can sit for about a month before they want to prosecute. We are proposing for \$300 of the service grant for this year's budget to go towards this new program. The grant expires on May 31st, and it allows us to do the program for the remainder of the school year. I would put out my cell phone number, so that if someone were assaulted they could call me. I have a phone tree with drivers and escorts. There would be one driver and one escort because we want the confidentiality to remain. Not everyone wants to report an assault. Then I would call Sarah Keller, our rape crisis advocate on campus. Our only part in the situation is transporting them there and transporting them back. The cost is literally \$7 round trip to the hospital. Parking I attached here but the maximum it would be is \$6, which is for 24 hours parking which won't be necessary. Just as a heads up, one of the kinds of concerns would be how much this program would be used. We hope it's not used at all; I don't want anyone to need to be transported. When I talked to Sarah Keller, she told me that 13 people from this campus last year went to her that could have used this service. I also attached the executive summary of the spring 2010 campus wide survey of SUNY Geneseo. In the survey there were 1701 students

surveyed and 23%, 15% women 8% men reported that there was attempted or completed rape. That brings the total to about 425 people last spring that were here in Geneseo. Those 425 people should have the use of this service.

Mary says my question is regarding confidentiality. Say I was to be assaulted and I'm calling you a student and 2 additional students, is there going to be any confidentiality papers the drivers and escorts are signing just to reinforce the confidentiality? It might not come into play this year, but I would hate for something that serious to get talked about.

Brittany says I think the forms are a fantastic idea. Additionally we have training next week and its mandatory training that they would have to go through in order to help provide the transportation. She will be going over the confidentiality statements. Kate spoke with Dr. Bonfiglio, and he said it would be fine to have the passenger and the escort forms in a sealed envelope when it's handed in.

Meghan asks how will this service be publicized?

Brittany says posters, Facebook.

Mary asks are you in contact with Lauderdale?

Brittany says yes I've been working with Melinda who is the administrator there. I'm sure they would help advertise.

Meghan asks is it clear that its students you would be dealing with if you called the number?

Brittany says yes.

Malcolm asks does the \$300 include costs to publicize the service?

Brittany says no I only want that money used for gas money and parking. Because it's through WAC we can use our budget to publicize.

Community Health Alliance says we are looking at a project that is potentially the same so let's talk after.

Meghan asks where will direction go next year?

WAC says I think that we will see how it goes, as president of WAC I am more than capable of handling this.

Meghan says I think it's pretty ridiculous that our campus can't offer this resource already, so I think it's amazing that you have taken the initiative to do this.

126-1011: *First of Two Readings*, Passes 7-0-0.

127-1011: BE IT RESOLVED THE SA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE approve the changes to the ACE Constitution.

First of Two Readings

Will: We are asking to change the ACE constitution again. We are just briefly changing the vice chair positions details. For the treasurer portion we are changing it so that it doesn't do anything that will conflict with what the vice chair will be doing. For secretary we changed it from publicizing these events to assisting. This ensures that publicizing does not fall only on one person.

127-1011: *First of Two Readings*, Passes 6-0-1. Will abstaining

128-1011: BE IT RESOLVED THE SA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE approve Geneseo Late Knight's request to switch their fundraiser recipient from the Red Cross to Livingston CARES.

First and Only Reading

Kate: They want to change the donation from Red Cross to Livingston CARES.

128-1011: *First and Only Reading*, Passes 7-0-0.

129-1011: BE IT RESOLVED THE SA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE allocate up to \$9,500 from SA Reserves, Account 4000 to SA Programs, Account 1002 to fund the Collegiate Link.

First of Two Readings

Lauren Taraska and Claire Wright: Proposing Collegiate Link, which is a centralized online location for all student organizations.

There are many benefits such as online budget forms, fundraising forms, an electronic P.O. system, electronic co-curricular transcripts, a collaborative event calendar and electronic elections. I think it will give you guys the opportunity to bring everything you do with your student organizations to one place and allow incoming students as well as those already on campus to easily locate what is going on with which club. Additionally it's a great way to archive your organizational information. You can have your constitution there, your budget there, all of your information. It puts it all in one centralized location that can help the transition of officers smoothly.

Doug says this made me so happy inside. You can easily check to see how much money you have left, see if you can put on a program and you can also easily see what days are available too. You can do everything all at once in your meeting.

Kate Cragg asks, are they editable pdfs?

Doug says it's all inclusive.

Mary asks will this be used for all student organizations including those not SA funded?

Claire says yes.

Mary asks so is a moderator required, and who would be in charge of that?

Lauren says there would be administrators.

Meghan asks will there be workshops?

Lauren says yes they will come and do training with SA exec and some of the organization presidents. Also we are at a point to make it a part of continual recognition so that every organization has to go to that.

Malcolm says this seems to me just looking through the proposal that it's a major infrastructure type overhaul. With that in mind I have a couple of questions. What exactly is the research process that got us to this point? What have people been looking into on the current executive board? How did we get here and what alternatives have been looked at? We have an executive board elect that this is going to impact much more than the current exec board and are they in favor of this proposal?

Lauren says in terms of research, I feel like the system we currently have is very dated and not very user friendly. Claire went on to do research of systems that are currently out there. This was the program that had more to offer and was more beneficial to the students at a more reasonable price. This is better for the students. In terms of the incoming executive board we made them aware of the system and we talked with them.

Lindsey says, as the incoming PR Director, I think it's a fantastic idea. I'm in love with it already. It is going to make my job a lot easier. I talked about the things I want to implement next year, such as the Facebook and the blog. It will be great because I can integrate both of them and use the new site a lot next year. The recognition crisis that a lot of our clubs have will be lessened because it will tell us who is putting what on and when.

Justin says the current email system we have is very bulky and hasn't been changed much. This one is very much more user friendly. Also we can have elections anytime and we won't be restricted.

Brittany says as a president of a club this is awesome.

129-1011: *First of Two Readings*, Passes 7-0-0.

Open Discussion

Landon: I work as a data analyst. I am presenting the NESE, which is a survey that takes place every couple of years. It is conducted by Indiana University and asks freshmen and seniors breakdown questions about the overall impression of Geneseo. From that data we can analyze against different organizations of colleges. For example we can compare against aspirational peers, which is a group of colleges which we hope to compete against academically. Most of them are private colleges. Another one is public Carnegie peers, which is all public liberal arts colleges. For different categories, we have level of academic challenge, collaborative learning, interactions, educational experiences, and campus environment. We really want to focus on the aspirational peers who we are trying to match, and we should beat public Carnegie. Geneseo does not compare well to Coplac on level of academic challenge. For the public Carnegie, we rate quite well against them. For collaborative learning and student faculty interactions, again we are quite low with first year freshmen. That means that they do not see that much benefit from interacting with their professors on a one to one basis. However seniors do find it to be worthwhile.. We fell short on Carnegie peers, which is particularly depressing because these are the people we should be beating all the time. Our seniors work just as hard with homework as our aspirational peers, we have the same course work, the same amount of time spent preparing for class, and Geneseo had higher ratings for six of eleven items. Freshmen are significantly lower than all comparison groups for this benchmark. This could be due to a lack of comfort correlated with being a freshman. We are doing better than our Coplac peers, which is good because it means that we are meeting goals that should be set by public institution of our standards. Our strength is in students who complete student research projects. Most of our students do take internships and end up having academic papers enrolled. However we are overenrolled, for instance we have too many psychology majors and it is increasing our student-faculty ratio. We work well with research, we have an electronic medium as our library is particularly large and well stocked and overall our satisfaction with Milne has been high. The reason why we are kind of behind in foreign language is because many students complete four years in high school, do well on the regents and opt out. Volunteerism is another strong thing for Geneseo. We fail to emphasize contact among students with more diverse backgrounds. 75% of our students are Caucasian, and 25% are all other groups. We are also predominantly Christian. We also have a very small out of state group, it's less than 100 students overall. First year students rate the quality of relationships they form on par with other groups. We are similar with Coplac peers in terms of freshmen relationships with administration. First years rate relationships with faculty lower than Coplac and Aspirational peers. There is a general trend to look down on students, not a trend of Geneseo but of higher education. Everyone here should be at least 18, however people still look down on us because we are still students. A great thing is that our students do not have "buyer's remorse" and if asked to do college all over again they still choose Geneseo. The hallmarks: undergraduate research, study abroad, foreign language, internships, volunteer work, and co-curricular activities that are more frequently attended than our peers. However first year students are still much less involved than they should be in comparison with our peers.

Meghan asks what will be done with these results?

Landon says this is reported over to the Provosts office. I may or may not be presenting this to the College Senate as well, but the Provost will be wanting to address these issues. Then the Senate will take specific questions and will tend to apply that and update their own departments as well.

Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 7:28 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Lena Freed
Recording Secretary