

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 #30, Wednesday, April 18, 2012

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

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133	<i>Call to Order, Approval of Agenda, Approval of Minutes</i>
133-134	<i>Updates</i>
134-139	<i>Old Business</i>
134-139	112-1112: BE IT RESOLVED THE SA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE allocate up to \$25,000.00 from Reserves, Account 4000, to The Undergraduate Research and Travel Grant Program for 2012-2013. <i>Second of Two Readings</i>
139-141	<i>New Business</i>
139	115-1112: BE IT RESOLVED THE SA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE approve Slavic Club, Account 1915, to fundraise for the CAS bill and SA Tech costs from their Slavic Dinner by selling tickets to the Slavic Dinner on April 29. <i>First and Only Reading</i>
139	116-1112: BE IT RESOLVED THE SA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE realign \$39.40 from Account 1922, GAGG, Line 20, Convention Booklet, realign \$150.00 from Line 20, Posters/Advertising, realign \$200.00 from Line 20, Tech/OT, realign \$300.00 from Line 20, Prizes, realign \$200.00 from Line 20, Post Card Mailer, and realign \$300.00 from Line 20, Tournament, to Line 10, Library Addition. <i>First and Only Reading</i>
139-140	117-1112: BE IT RESOLVED THE SA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE allocate up to \$5,000.00 from Reserves, Account 4000, to the Study Abroad Endowed Scholarship. <i>First of Two Readings</i>
140	118-1112: BE IT RESOLVED THE SA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE approve the following changes to the Inter-Residence Council Constitution as outlined in the attached rationale. <i>First and Only Reading</i>
140	119-1112: BE IT RESOLVED THE SA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE approve the following changes to the Inter-Residence Council By-Laws as outlined in the attached rationale. <i>First and Only Reading</i>
140-141	120-1011: BE IT RESOLVED THE SA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE approve the Student Association Budget for the 2012-2013 academic year with total expenditures of \$1,283,221.16 representing \$971,435.00 of mandatory student activity fees and \$311,786.16 in other income generated from Student Association organizations and services. <i>First of Two Readings</i>

141 *Open Discussion.*

141 *Adjournment*

Call to Order: 6:15 pm.

Approval of the Agenda:

Lisa asks to amend reading 112-1112: BE IT RESOLVED THE SA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE allocate up to \$50,000.00 from Reserves, Account 4000, to The Undergraduate Research and Travel Grant Program for 2012-2013 to \$25,000.
Lisa asks to amend reading 117-1112: BE IT RESOLVED THE SA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE allocate up to \$30,000.00 from Reserves, Account 4000, to the Study Abroad Endowed Scholarship to just ask for annual gift of \$5,000.
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: Thank you to everyone who took the time to fill out appeals, we will be voting on the final budget tonight.

Director of Inter-Residence Affairs, Carly Annable updates: IRC was this Monday and we elected our new e-board for next year, congrats to all of them. I want to congratulate anyone who took part in GREAT Day.

Director of Public Relations, Lindsey Hebell updates: Changing of the Guard is next week, I'll put signs on the door to remind everyone, go to MJ. I've had only 3 responses on KnightLink so please have your representatives go on KnightLink, go on the flyer board, go to our logo, go to the RSVP and then say which organization you are RSVPing for. It's at the same time as all our other meetings, formal entire is encouraged.

Director of Academic Affairs, Justin Shapiro updates: I'm really happy that we're not the UB student government right now. I have a meeting with Provost Long coming up soon but I still haven't set up a date. If you have any problems or any praises please let me know. At AAC we elected our e-board, Lena will be leaving SA but she will be joining AAC. I hope everyone is excited for Kid Cudi this weekend. The last meeting for AAC will be next week and we will be going to Club 41 after. Last night at our meeting we approved a few readings, French Club will be going to Montreal, and there will be a Spanish Club game night.

Director of Student Affairs, Stasia Monteiro updates: ACE is holding its end of the year intercultural picnic event on Tuesday May 1st, still looking for a rain location, should be lots of delicious food and lots of awesome ACE groups. KASA is having their annual cultural dinner on Saturday, doors open at 3:25pm, dinner starts at 4:15 pm \$6 for tickets.

Director of Student Programming, Heather Bristol updates: The concert is this Saturday, the rules and regulations for the event have been sent out via email to everyone. You can't bring any beverage containers of any kind into the event, you can't bring in any bags, if you have one you can't bring it in, we will not hold them. The following Saturday is Springfest featuring Teddy Geiger. There will be lots of other things going on as well. Congrats to Colleges Against Cancer, Pride and those involved in the queer theatre weekend. Remind all of you to be nice to each other, be positive, life can be short.

Kate Rebban, Director of SA Programs, Personnel, & Finances updates: Because end of the year is coming up, there will be memos in everyone's mailboxes by April 27th, outlining end of year procedures.

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

Open Updates

SUNY Assembly: The spring conference in a week and a half, do not have a copy of the agenda or the resolutions yet, I'll find out. Any further questions come find me.

GEO: We are having our Regenerative Energy Symposium from 8am-2:30pm, will have speakers throughout the day and food provided by CAS. It's in Wadsworth and Welles.

Slavic: Having our cultural dinner April 29th in the Ballroom at 5:30pm, \$5 for students, \$6 for faculty and \$7 for outsiders.

Pride: Tomorrow in the Alice Austin Theatre we are having our event "Gay? Fine by Me". A series of panels discussing gay related issues. We are giving out purple t-shirts. It's free and really fun.

Old Business

112-1112: BE IT RESOLVED THE SA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE allocate up to \$25,000.00 from Reserves, Account 4000, to The Undergraduate Research and Travel Grant Program for 2012-2013.

Second of Two Readings

Lisa says good evening, I work for the College Advancement Department. Before I read my amended request I have answers and comments regarding everything that was said last week. In the midst of the discussion it seemed to me that there wasn't a firm understanding of what the Foundation is. The Foundation is not a discreet decision making body it is a legal name of the fundraising part of the college. It is not a separate entity. They secure donations from alumni, parents, friends and students, and we acknowledge those gifts through the Foundation. Before the fiscal year starting in July the college approves the budget in anticipation of what donors will give to the college. Everything the Foundation puts towards any program on an annual level comes from donors through that fiscal year. One of those line items is the commitment where we match what SA gives. It comes from other funds, the Research Council covers the budget gap by allocating funds from \$5,000 rollover from the previous year from students who under spent, the grants total would exceed so they pulled funds provided by donors for other programs. \$22,000 or so was donated from other sources like scholarships and faculty travel grants. You also asked what would happen to the program if SA doesn't fund this. Since 1989 the SA has generously funded this program. If the SA does not fund the program, there will be a void left in the budget. In response to that hole, the program will have to be downsized on some level until we secure funds. Even if we do, that funding will come at the cost of other programs. That hole will exist no matter what happens. Examples of the research that is performed of this grant, I have a full list of every topic that was funded through this. We fund research from all types of areas. Several people raised concerns about whether or not funding this is within the vision statement of SA. The SA looks to provide numerous services that promote a lifetime of leadership. Enabling research does this. It offers a culturally enriching experience and allows for growth of leadership qualities. I respectfully request that even with the fiscal situation of the SA that the SA would give \$25,000 rather than \$50,000. Maybe next year we will be able to request for \$25,000 in the fall to fill the gap.

Malcolm asks what happens if one or both of these readings fail?

Lisa says if the students are benefitted by this \$25,000 today the Foundation will secure the fund to match that gift, and the funding will stand at \$50,000 after the College Cabinet approves that. In the fall we will have to deal with that situation.

Tyler asks regardless of whether this passes or not, I know there has been discussion on capping the amount that is given to each project. I was on that committee this year, it was \$650 per person or something, given that it has been exponentially been growing, I stand to believe that even with \$100,000 there still will not be enough at the current rate. Is there any plan to cap the amount?

Dr. Baldwin says the Research Council has started to discuss plans for capping the program. They have not voted on anything yet, and the first scenarios that they came up with were with a budget of \$80,000 next year. There will be a significant decrease from the students. If we can't find the money we will have to drop everything down.

Dara asks how many students use the full amount of the grants?

Dr. Baldwin says the average award is not \$650, it's something lower. Students are very good about requesting what they need. Around \$530ish.

Dara asks if they don't use it, does that go back into the funds?

Lisa says yes that's where the \$5,000 came from.

Justin says I know that the Center for Everything is offering \$5,000 grants over the summer. Will they be able to fund a similar program?

Lisa says those were specific gifts. There are restricted gifts and unrestricted gifts. Those stipends were established through an endowment. Those funds kick off through interest the stipend each year. That gift is untouchable.

Charles asks why doesn't the Foundation give the same amount that we give no matter what?

Lisa says it comes from donors. The people from College Advancement work really hard to raise that money. Like I said, at the beginning of the year, it starts at 0. There's nothing to give. We try every year to raise more money. Only 10.5% of alumni have given back to Geneseo this year. In Cornell 60-70% of alumni give back. When we are out there asking for funds to get this gift it is a difficult challenge.

Charles asks why aren't you allocating \$50,000 automatically?

Lisa says if we didn't receive funds, it would have to go to College Cabinet, there's only so much money and if you take it from somewhere else you leave a hole there. That \$50,000 has to come from somewhere. It's not in the budget.

Dara asks are you saying that it's a policy of the College Cabinet that they will only match what SA has?

Lisa says no, right now we look at the unrestricted budget. We have the amount given by SA, and then match it. The purpose of a matching gift is to say thank you.

Malcolm says I think the issue is if we give this money, the Foundation then decides to match that gift. You made a production about if \$50,000 is given to this program it has to take away from other programs, wouldn't that happen regardless of whether or not the SA gave in the first place? Why can't you make that commitment in your budget before the SA gives its donation?

Lisa says the other half of it is not in the budget.

Tommy asks you said that \$5,000 was reallocated from the prior year to this year's budget; do you see any money from this year going towards next year?

Lisa says it could happen, and we won't know that figure until September.

A rep asks why can't you promise to raise this money in donations before having this money come from us?

Lisa says I don't make that decision; the College Cabinet sits down at the end of next week and approves the unrestricted budget. That \$40,000 from last year, that is on there; that is in the budget. Even if that money is approved on that budget in a week, there will still be a 50 or 40 thousand dollar gap. We can't pick up what SA usually puts into this project.

Malcolm asks SA, because this is coming from Reserves, if it passes what is the balance? And can we estimate how much will go back into Reserves at the end of the year?

Brittany says \$280,915.

Nick says that's a number that no one will figure out unless they sit down and spend a few days on it.

Jesse asks if the President and the Cabinet say that we charge the Foundation with finding donors to raise up to \$40,000 funded and we'll match that, if that happened that 20% donated, could the Foundation raise more money than given by SA?

Lisa says yes, definitely.

Carly asks you're saying in your proposed budget you already have that in there that we are estimated to give a certain donation before we have said we would give it?

Lisa says no.

A rep asks SA, why would you not continue this practice in the future?

Nick says our Reserves sits a couple hundred thousand below what it used to speak at. I wouldn't mind seeing Reserves go slightly larger.

Tyler says in the past the money that was given to this program, at this time it was half of what we are being asked for now, it came from the money that was not spent in the budget, a surplus that wasn't used. However last year and this year all of the money has been spent out of Budget Increases and money has been taken out of Reserves. There isn't any money there to fund this program with the budget that we have now. That's why this is such a big deal.

Carly says looking back over what we have given, almost every couple of years we have increased it by \$6,000 to \$10,000 and that's not the only area of the budget where people continuously ask for more money. We cannot afford to keep increasing the budgets. At the end of the day we are stuck with a situation that isn't our fault but we have to make decisions based on what the boards before us have done.

Heather says this comes down to not a question of whether it's beneficial or ideal, but we have to make the most financially responsible decisions for the student body in its entirety. It would be ideal to give hundreds of thousands of dollars, but that's not a fiscal reality we can make happen. Cuts have been made to other large expenditures in everyone's budgets. We are trying to put money back into Reserves so that if the referendum is to fail in the future, SA can still support everything.

Tyler says at this rate if SA continued to fund everything the way it has been funded, there wouldn't be any money left in Reserves, so if the referendum did fail, SA would not be able to function as an organization. We have to keep this all in mind.

Malcolm asks how many unique individual students are served by this program?

Lisa says 200.

John asks SA, how is this the only program that you fund, what else is going on with the money?

Tyler says it isn't just this. It's also things like concerts. There are only 2 potential options for SA to deal with the fiscal realities. We could increase the mandatory student activity fee which we have already done last year. Or we could start limiting how much is being given to each organization. Then we start looking at financial analysis of the past.

Justin says we are in a weird situation of financial catch up right now; we are trying to make sure that the SA mandatory fee is reflective of needs and what is appropriate. We had the lowest fee of any SUNY or community campuses until we raised it. Geneseo is a very advanced institution that has all of these needs. It leaves this board and the board that will follow in a situation where we need to address these important situations on a limited budget.

Brittany says it's traditionally done at the end of the year, now we are playing catch up with what's left over, it's in an unfortunate situation where this is proposed at a bad time. I know that it's tradition but it makes it harder.

Carly says this isn't the only program that we are looking at this critically. The budget that Brittany will present later has a large number of cuts to a large number of organizations. I know that AC has huge cuts to their budget for next year.

Mr. Peterson asks we have the lowest fee?

Justin says we are now at the second lowest. I think New Paltz is \$400 every semester.

Tyler says now it's at \$100. Cortland has \$95 and they have a larger population.

Carly says last year's SA exec spent over \$100,000 more than they were allotted.

Tommy says I understand the idea of playing catch up, for this particular reading, I don't think that you need to hit the home run and save everything, but I would still say that you don't have to give everything.

A rep says I work in College Advancement and I know how hard it is to get funding from donors. I also benefit from the travel grants; they really are beneficial there are a bunch of us here in support of them.

Malcolm says I do think that this is a worthy program viewed in isolation, however we cannot do that. Two hundred students represent about 4% of the overall student body and the Reserves are already low enough; I don't think that we can afford the hit on the Reserves. I would oppose this.

Tyler says I do believe that this is a very important program, the fact that Geneseo does offer this kind of program when many state schools do not. As much as I would love to say yes, I have to consider the financial reality of this situation in that there isn't any money to spend anymore without severely detracting from everything else. It's just the reality of the timing of this particular one, for the most part the exec board cannot anticipate what will come. I find it very difficult to say yes to this because of that financial situation. Given that hopefully in the future SA can and will be able to fund this program to the level that can work out for everyone, given that there is only so much money to go around, even going from 40 to 50 thousand would not be reasonable, so I believe that SA

for the indefinite future should consider capping it at the \$40,000 we spent last year. Once we start adding to this we have to start taking from somewhere else. We have to keep the amount of funding that we have been giving.

Brittany says I see the importance of this program, thank you for lowering it/ I mentioned that we have a certain amount in Reserves. The \$25,000 will help a lot of students so I'm in favor of it.

A rep says I received funding from the grant and just a few weeks ago I got back from a conference, even though you say it has only given to so many students, we get the word out about Geneseo, it's great. The more that we get the name out, it increases the value of all of our degrees. A lot of the research done here, because it's a smaller university, it's funded by grants from the Geneseo fund. I can speak for the science programs, we are different from many universities, professors here teach and we have the ability to receive grants here as well. This is all increasing the value of our degrees and we are more prepared to go out into the real world which makes it better for all of us. The reason why Geneseo has been increasing in recent years is the advancement done by these grants. The reason why I got into the grad school that I got into is through the research that I have been involved in so I am very passionate about it. If you want to cut something, don't cut from this, you have choices, yes it's fiscally hard but you have to make the choice to select other programs that are not as worthy.

A rep says even though this program only funds a smaller amount of students. It's not a fun trip to a conference but these experiences allow us to progress to the next stages in our careers. Even though it is small it is absolutely essential to our futures. If there is any way to be flexible for a program, it is for this one.

Ben says I just wanted to say that GREAT Day was put on yesterday; a lot of the projects that happened were funded by this.

Heather says it's not easy to follow that. We are not funding this, everyone's student activity fees are. We are here to represent all of the students. It's not that we are cutting it or we are funding it, because it can be seen like that it is difficult because we know that your research is important and that your research has a big impact on all of us. It's not a question of that; it's about the financial reality.

This has to be pulled directly from Reserves. Other readings we would have to increase to Budget Increases, so we are already viewing this as different, when it shouldn't be viewed as different if SA should be funding it. I think that it's good that other programs are being cut in the future because it's all about what we can afford based on the money that we are given.

Charles says I don't think that anyone who may oppose the reading is questioning the value of the research or the quality of the work. Simply put, this can be done next year when you have the budget in front of you, and they can budget it. They can make it a priority if they want. They can raise the \$50,000 and start there.

Lindsay says I want to echo the fact that it is everyone's mandatory student activity fee and that future exec boards will make decisions. I want to say that I'm in favor of this because of the fact that it is such an important experience. However it is just not sustainable for what SA has. Thank you for reducing it, that is a huge thing. In the future the exec boards will have to take a hard look at the budget and see where they can even it out.

David says I will be traveling tomorrow to present with a travel grant. When I came to Geneseo and I was looking at the different colleges to transfer to, I saw Geneseo as a small liberal arts college offering a high caliber education, and this is a small decision that will make a large impact.

Jo says I am also a recipient, I am also coming as a student and as an individual who pays a mandatory student activity fee. We all know that it's critical, crucial to our reputation; first about the fiscal responsibility, taking from Reserves it is not a significant debt that would be a problem for our future. There have been increases in other lines in SA and by decreasing this, even though we are taking from Reserves, it is to say that those other aspects are more important than the research is. Malcolm talked about how it was only 4% of the campus. Even though only 200 students are receiving it, there are significantly more students that apply. Those students are trying to get in, and we are trying to facilitate as many possibilities as we can. We are just doing the best we can. You have to attend an informational session and the one that I attended there were over 150 in that one session, it was worse than this room is here. That shows how many students want those travel grants. It would be severely detrimental to our reputation as a Public Ivy and Honors College.

Tyler says having been on the committee I can ensure you that everyone that applied did get some sort of money.

Jo asks would that be true is there are ever increasing amounts of applications? I would assume that if we are not increasing the budget and are cutting the amount that would not be true.

A rep says we are not a big university, we don't have a lot of research. Not many professors who go out and get their PhD's are willing to sacrifice research and just teach. A big pull for professors at Geneseo is the notion of researching with students and teaching them what research is and how it works. Having them work with them on projects. The types of professors that we have here at Geneseo would not want to come here anymore.

Malcolm says I don't think that anyone sees these grants as silly extracurriculars. Our mission is as a liberal arts college, not a research university. This is a bigger thing considering our overall larger budget concern; maybe this might have been a better use of some of our funds than some of the things that we did spend money on. I can see why grant recipients would feel a certain way because of that. If we shouldn't be funding this at the cost of someone else, where have you been all year when we were spending money on other things saying keep in mind that we have an interest too. Spending thousands of dollars to bring Kid Cudi here.

Lisa says when you make a distinction between a research university and a liberal arts university, being a liberal arts school does not preclude research but makes it necessary to be funded the way that we are getting it funded. It makes this all a necessity.

Dara says I think that there is something really important here that we are talking about. It is impacting our college degrees infinitely. I am going to apply so I can go to a conference in Wisconsin that is internationally recognized. I will bring Geneseo to Wisconsin because no one outside of upstate New York has even heard of us. You are worried about next year and I appreciate that, let me worry about next year, let us worry about it. I think that in this room right now, we see that people really believe in this. I couldn't support it for the full \$50,000 but I think that \$25,000 is good. I was here for Kid Cudi and I am ashamed now, but this is so vitally important to our college. I cannot see it fail.

John says to Malcolm, I just caution, and this goes for anything, but your way of thinking is penalizing people who haven't shown up, that doesn't make situations like this any less important. I think that was a very inappropriate way to go about talking about a situation like this. The point you made has been clear, it is important and I don't think anyone doubts that.

Carly says my point that I wanted to say has changed a few times over. I want to make it very clear that I think that the grant is very important and the experiences that are had, thanks to the funding, are very, very important and useful, and because it has been decreased I am going to say already that I will pass this. But I am very disheartened as a student that the two most populated SA meetings have been for the increase to the concert budget and this. Because both sets of people should be at both meetings. I'm not going to penalize, but please, next year, come when we have discussions over increasing superfluous activities. This is ridiculous. Charles says I don't see why we can't do it next year when we can start the program then.

Tyler says in no way has anything that I said this entire meeting have any insinuation that I don't believe in the value of these travel grants. Even when stating that from the get go, there are still people in this room that think that we don't have faith in the program. I have been on the board, I have seen the proposals, and I have seen the amazing things that students have worked on. I was incredibly proud that I was on the board and could send people to the Sigma Tau Delta conference to talk about what they have done. \$40,000 was spent last year to fund this year and I have no problem with that. I was in full support of it when I heard of it. But that was before I realized that they were already \$100,000 in the hole when they decided to make that move. From a fiscal standpoint that was fiscally irresponsible. There is the option that next year's board can take that on given the budget that we will be discussing later. I do believe that it is important, funding \$50,000 as an increase from years before, because of such high demand, where does it stop. SA only has so much money to give to any type of program, not just this or the concert or Model UN's conference or PAW's reimbursements. I just want to make clear that regardless of the decisions that are made; we are not condemning the travel grant programs in the slightest.

Heather says I want to say that I have taken off my AC hat, put on my SA hat, because that's what this is about, knowing what I know now which is why I think that it's good that you come at the beginning of the year next year. I don't think I would have supported the concert increase as much as I have despite how many students it benefits. I agree with both of you and I don't agree with the mindset of where were you. I don't think that's ultimately what it's about. As Lisa has said, College Advancement is still going to go out there and raise funding. Even if SA does not approve this or the second half, it's not like these programs would go away. There would be a hole, it's not like they would disappear and Geneseo would be a horrible university. The research and travel grants are a privilege. I have traveled with my own funding while at Geneseo. I also want to say that this isn't about a short sighted thing. This is about changing how SA funds things in general about starting to turn this around so that if the referendum were to fail, things could still exist.

A rep says about turning fiscal realities into nonfiscal realities, more than a lot of things, the research and travel grants are a supportive environment that will eventually lead to students giving back to the school after graduation. It's not about believing in students but about helping them to do something about it. Valuing this is great for us, but it's not just what you believe in, but also it's what you do. You should echo values with actions.

Jesse says I am speaking as someone who has benefited from a travel grant and from a group that receives money from SA. I have a question if I can, if this were to fail what would happen with the Cabinet?

Lisa says it would start with a very upset and disappointed President Dahl if there wasn't any funding since he would not have anticipated it. It just puts another hypothetical on another hypothetical. They can't plan their budget on imaginary funding. They are going to budget for what is committed.

Jesse says between being a liberal arts college or a research university, I have been trying to co-publish a pair of articles. They encourage a group of students to become parts of conversations that are larger than ourselves, larger than classrooms, in a way that opens up the life of the mind, opens up the student as an enquirer. The distinction lacks the nuance of how education and how liberal arts and research interact.

Carly says there is usually a really high turnover, it's always a new e-board and after we have made the majority of our expenditures, sometimes we are aware but most of us don't have any idea.

Jesse says if this is something that happens every year, this needs to be put on the radar. Students are even less aware than SA is. I don't want to go through why this is viable because no one in the room is questioning if they are or why they are. I still want to see this pass because I think that this is something that is central to what our college is about in a way that other ways are not. There has been precedent set that we are going to be increasing the amount of money spent on things like the concert where we have spent that much two years in a row. During those conversations we said that we want to put Geneseo on the map, and then we have this conversation be more concerned with the fiscal reality, and it is strange that it happens that way. I understand the fiscal situation, but I still say that I would support it because as a student I want to see it happen.

A rep says we would still get funding but less funding, but in my experience that would be detrimental in a few ways. I don't think that any of us could go to the conference that we are going to because we cannot afford it. Also we work in one of the biggest labs on campus, every year people refrain from going to conferences because we know that not everyone can go. To make it seem like it wouldn't be as detrimental is not a fair point.

A rep says we purchased equipment that can be used in the future and next year I will be talking at GREAT Day about our experience in Nicaragua. In coming here and now understanding the issues you have with funding, it seems to be pretty significant. I think the \$25,000 commitment is reasonable as long as you understand that in the future it can be capped. The long term benefits that the four of us received from funding was incredible. We only needed \$800 for the four of us.

Tommy says earlier we talked about how alumni will donate to the research and travel grants funds, you have the opportunity to reach out now and get money for the future. The message that we are sending to this College Cabinet, is that we don't want to get behind these students. There is a certain amount of political capital that we are losing by sending this message. Maybe by not giving them

\$25,000 in the future they would give us way more than this in the future. By not giving to this you are hurting the potential of net gain.

Ana Maria says I work for the psychology research and I wanted to point out that people see research as only for science students, but also for social sciences. Without doing this research, our degrees aren't worth half of what they are worth with it. Someone mentioned that it's so valuable for us. We want everyone to appreciate how important this is for us, not just us, but for people that don't know about Geneseo.

Dara says I think we all are pretty clear on this.

Brittany says thank you everyone who came to speak today, it's about standing up for what you want to see happen. I would like to call to question.

Nick moves to exhaust the speakers list

Fails 2-5-0.

Brittany motions to call to question.

Seconded by Lindsay

Fails 3-4-0.

Nick moves to reinstate the speakers list as it was.

Steve says thank you Lisa for coming here and dealing with this. The e-board that we have now, you started talking about the fiscal irresponsibility from last year. There has been also fiscal irresponsibility this year. I think that you have avoided saying it, but you need to take responsibility for your actions as well as those years before you. At this point I would like to see it pass but the full \$50,000 that they want to ask for I am not sure if that should necessarily pass in that entirety. The amount that the SA takes in, it's barely standard, and costs increase over everything, including this. So you can't increase everything with the amount of money that SA brings in, staying the same.

Ben says I want to encourage my fellow research grant people that they get the point that this is important, thank you for recognizing that it is important. Charles mentioned earlier about this being something that comes up at the beginning of each year, maybe that should be what this gets moved to.

Carly says as the incoming SA President, I have already sat down with Lisa to discuss this with her. If this fails it would be in the Foundations best interest to come to us next year so we can address it. I do hear your concerns and I have already started to work on it. A rep says I would like to speak to Tyler, you have spoken a couple of times about how you see us as an important program, and where you put money shows how important you think the program is. I just want to point this out because there is not a distinction between something that is important and a fiscal issue. Also it was said that it was a privilege to be able to go on these conferences. I gave up a lot to go and still paid money.

Lisa says the spirit of this award is to help make that less of a reality because this is not a privilege. These are meaningful important experiences that these people could not have had. I say all of this with gratitude because SA has allowed us to have this.

John says I appreciate that you said that it's not a privilege. We are entitled to the money that you provide for the students. Moving away from the personal gratitude for the program, Tyler you mentioned that there was an upward trend of asking for more money. The amount has been knocked down, and Brittany says that it would not be a huge debt. I would like to see this move forward, to not allow fiscal responsibility to take over. The fact that it won't severely dent the budget is a good way to start; I don't see the need to scratch all the funds.

Justin says this organization exists only for the students, it's funded by students and it goes towards students. When all different organizations go and do what they do, that brings back to the community and that enhances Geneseo not just in Geneseo but across the entire country. This organization certainly supports diplomas with and without this program. In terms of the message sent to the College Council that when they are looking at allocating from alumni, they should come to the students first and give back to the students. The College Cabinet needs to know that we care about this program, and when they are allocating funding it needs to reflect that care. In terms of timing, I wish I hadn't concluded with this, but we do think about allocating funding for the future. We did that with GSTV, and we do that about asking for bigger readings to not come at the end. No matter what happens, and I think whatever happens will be for the best, this money, not just this grant money, always goes back to the students and supports their time here on campus.

Malcolm says SA exec is spending our money for us regardless of who is in here. We all pay the fees, we all elect them. The money that you are giving to SA should be important here no matter what you want it spent on. You should be coming to as many of these meetings as possible and weighing on the discussion as often as possible. This is a responsibility that is shouldered by everyone. If you are not showing up your opinion cannot be heard. When you try to get an opinion out on a last minute reading, it is impossible. How many is spent, be it in this or any other program, come to meetings, get your friends to come, get everyone to participate.

Tyler says I would like to mention to the lady in the back, while things such as the concert have passed this year, the collective action of SA as a whole is done by majority vote. Personally I voted down the concert because I saw this coming. I believe that having 150 thousand for a concert was incredibly irresponsible. I have thought about this for the past 2 hours and given what I have heard, I would be hard pressed to say no to this reading. I will say that I advocate that this be lowered to \$20,000 and \$20,000 next year to implement a cap on this as a total amount. My reasoning is that the funding for this program has doubled over the past few years while mandatory student activity fees have not. The budget cannot handle such an increase unless the mandatory activity fees are increased also.

Because this will inevitably happen again, there will be an imbalance. At the beginning of the year, most of your money has been allocated to other things. Because of this, there would be an imbalance from what has already been allocated and what is available. In order to create that balance, capping this at \$40,000 total until the mandatory fee is increased, until everything evens out, that would

be more of a responsible decision rather than thinking that this money can keep increasing and increasing. There is a fiscal reality to this and while I now do support this program, a cap needs to be made because that is responsible for the long term. Heather says when I said it's a privilege; I still say it's a privilege because you have to apply for the funding. It's not a guarantee. You all pay mandatory fees, it's a privilege to be able to go on multiple conferences because more funding than you have put in has been given back to you. It is making it possible to do that. You have said you wouldn't be able to do this without the funding means that you are fortunate. I supported Bill in his reading for the concert but that was a decision on my part where I didn't know that this would be coming up. It was fiscal irresponsibility but now the incoming board will know of this. Now everyone is starting to see that SA has financial realities. If President Dahl knew that we reduced this, they would have to judge us and understand our responsibilities. Again I would call to question.

Heather motions to call to question.

Seconded by Brittany.

Passes 7-0-0.

Passes 6-0-1 with Stasia abstaining.

New Business

115-1112: BE IT RESOLVED THE SA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE approve Slavic Club, Account 1915, to fundraise for the CAS bill and SA Tech costs from their Slavic Dinner by selling tickets to the Slavic Dinner on April 29.

First and Only Reading

We are having our dinner on April 29th, planning on selling tickets.

Nick asks have you considered publicity ideas?

We are putting out flyers, teachers are giving extra credit for coming.

Justin asks do you have any idea what the attendance in the past has been?

I have only been here 2 years, last year over 80 came and we were expecting 60.

Tyler says I like how optimistic you are that you will hit 100. Without this you couldn't pay for SA tech? In the off chance that you do not reach that expected goal will you be ready to shoulder that financial burden?

We have over 40 people saying that they will definitely go, that's \$5 per ticket so that's a good amount. We also have a good amount of money in our budget so we have around \$600 already.

115-1112: *First and Only Reading*, Passes 7-0-0.

116-1112: BE IT RESOLVED THE SA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE realign \$39.40 from Account 1922, GAGG, Line 20, Convention Booklet, realign \$150.00 from Line 20, Posters/Advertising, realign \$200.00 from Line 20, Tech/OT, realign \$300.00 from Line 20, Prizes, realign \$200.00 from Line 20, Post Card Mailer, and realign \$300.00 from Line 20, Tournament, to Line 10, Library Addition.

First and Only Reading

Malcolm says the backbone of our group is games considering we are the gaming group this shouldn't be too much of a surprise. As such, we keep a library in the MOSAIC of games that the club owns that are available to club members that we break out every week and at mini-cons and such. We have a line for library editions every year. Occasionally we are replacing a game but for the most part we grow the library so we can offer better services to our members. Running GAGG is our annual convention, we bring in a lot of money, we brought in some excess this year that isn't going to be used elsewhere, so we want the excess put into our library editions so we can get even more games. The games are determined based on membership. We are assuming to get 13 new games if this passes.

Tyler asks is there anything you anticipate on buying that would be warranted as Permanent Equipment?

Malcolm says no the most expensive game on our purchase list is \$72. They will all last more than 5 years because we take care of our games.

Steve asks how does a game deteriorate?

Malcolm says normal wear and tear.

Tommy asks what kind of games?

Malcolm says almost all board games with an RPG or two and a couple of card games.

116-1112: *First and Only Reading*, Passes 7-0-0.

117-1112: BE IT RESOLVED THE SA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE allocate up to \$5,000.00 from Reserves, Account 4000, to the Study Abroad Endowed Scholarship.

First of Two Readings

Lisa said last year the SA established a \$125,000 endowment. I was initially coming here to ask for a \$25,000 installment, we reduced that to a \$5,000 request to make sure that we can fund the scholarships. The study abroad scholarships benefit students who are studying abroad, they must meet all requirements. They were chosen by the study abroad program after review of all the applicants.

Last year 380 students studied abroad and 260 over the summer. The biggest problem is financial access; these thousand dollar scholarships have a great impact on people and allow people to afford something that they couldn't afford before.

Matt asks what is the selection criteria like for the scholarship?

Lisa says you have to be accepted for the program, you have to be in good academic standing, and then they review your application.

Stasia asks what process do you go through for raising student awareness of this program?

Lisa says it's on the website.

Stasia says I would have loved to study abroad and couldn't afford it; I would have loved to know about this.

Lindsay says these are great but they are not well publicized because they are new. I do agree with spending these funds on study abroad. I went to Australia over the summer and it was amazing. Would they be willing to make the policy that they can pay for a program that is not a Geneseo study abroad program?

Lisa says that is not the spirit of the program right now but it is definitely an option for the future.

Malcolm asks why aren't there any students on the review board?

Lisa says I can look into that.

Patty says I asked the board if they wanted student representation on the selection committee, and they said no.

Dara asks what does this go for? If this doesn't pass they don't get scholarships?

Lisa says it's for the summer sessions and that is true.

Rep asks what is the commitment?

Lisa says it was originally a 5 year commitment, but we understand that this would not be possible so we are extending it for a few years.

Carly says it was a verbal plan made by a previous exec board.

Tommy asks applications are in but the money is not there?

Lisa says yes.

A rep says I work in Study Abroad Dept. and a lot of people ask about scholarships; even if you can only give this minimum amount you should definitely try to continue supporting this.

Heather says I am in favor of this passing; I am in favor of it being extended to any program that a Geneseo student is embarking upon. It's about getting new perspectives not just a set of them.

Jesse says yes to the reading, to Stasia, and when organizing dates for deadlines, that was a really poor plan date where the deadline was set before coming to get the money.

Tyler says I appreciate that you have worked with us to understand our financial situation. Either for this coming selection process or next coming a student should be involved on the board.

Carly calls to question.

Seconded by Brittany.

Passes 7-0-0.

117-1112: *First of Two Readings*, 7-0-0.

118-1112: BE IT RESOLVED THE SA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE approve the following changes to the Inter-Residence Council Constitution as outlined in the attached rationale.

First of Two Readings

Carly says we are trying to change the bylaws; it's all semantics, and our constitution. There's nothing about our elections here, it's all in the constitution. Malcolm already gave us the seal of approval.

Tommy says if we can have Malcolm approve every constitution change here on out I approve.

118-1112: *First of Two Readings*, Passes 6-0-1 with Carly abstaining.

119-1112: BE IT RESOLVED THE SA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE approve the following changes to the Inter-Residence Council By-Laws as outlined in the attached rationale.

First of Two Readings

Carly says there's only one change to the bylaws. It's article 2, not article 1.

Steve asks are you making it so that it doesn't have to be approved before the spending occurs?

Carly says no this implies that if a hall council wants to put on a program, they can get the program approved and ask us to pay for it rather than through reimbursements.

Tyler asks article 2 section 2, addition about KnightLink?

Carly says that is also being implemented as well, sorry; want to add that KnightLink is a place where you can get forms to apply for IRC funding.

Carly motions to amend reading to also include that?

Seconded by Charles

Motion carries. 6-0-0.

119-1112: *First of Two Readings*, Passes 6-0-1 with Carly abstaining.

120-1112: BE IT RESOLVED THE SA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE approve the Student Association Budget for the 2012-2013 academic year with total expenditures of \$1,283,221.16 representing \$971,435.00 of mandatory student activity fees and \$311,786.16 in other income generated from Student Association organizations and services.

First of Two Readings

Brittany says I forgot to put in an appeal letter, but SFER should be \$450 and total expenditure is \$500.

Nick says this is the budget for the next school year. We have talked a lot about being fiscally conservative. This is the upcoming budget. Every organization has had a chance to look over their budgets and came to us for appeals. MTC came to us with an appeal as well as SFER. One of the primary changes that should be highlighted, the total allocation went down, which is to help build up reserves a little bit.

Lisa asks will it ever be possible to write the Undergraduate Research Grants in?

Nick says this was a discussion that we had. One of the primary concerns was that it would be limited. If we reach our goal then it is still in our budget. It would happen every year and not be taken on a case by case basis. This way we can bring it to the general assembly every year.

Malcolm asks passing the budget does not pass these resolutions does it?

Nick says correct. Budget Increases has been doubled for next year.

Malcolm asks how much did we spend?

Brittany says we had \$18,000 when we were done, then we spent \$100,000.

Kate says we didn't have a position so we realigned money from that, so we in total spent less.

Tommy asks what would the figure be that is going back into Reserves?

Nick says the money that has not been allocated does not incorporate anything that Lisa has talked about, it's about \$78,000.

Tommy asks so we will have a surplus?

Nick says yes.

Malcolm asks what is "be if" further resolved?

Nick says yes we can change that to "it".

Lisa says while we approve the \$25,000 today, whether I come back in September we are also going to ask you for \$40,000 next year. So it will snowball.

A rep says I discussed with Tyler about the performers fee and found that it was arrived at somewhat arbitrarily. I don't understand why that number was decided upon.

Heather says while the number itself may be arbitrary, the reason why we ultimately arrived at that was because of the whole thing we've been talking about financial realities. Although having a huge concert on the map is good, performer fees are only going to continue increasing and it was time to reevaluate what is feasible to start off with.

A rep says that I don't understand why it takes so much time to ask for more money.

Nick says last year I worked with Bill to get his proposal out. The \$75,000 is not arbitrary, it is what he had before his first increase.

On top of that, when we gave Bill his first increase, it was under the circumstance that this would not become a trend. So we are proposing to put this back to where it was at first.

Malcolm says this is exactly what I was talking about earlier in terms of how we had people here who left after their reading ends.

This is when they are needed more than ever.

Jesse says I wanted to say thank you for putting the concert back to what it was before. Something that's been bothering me was that the argument was made that this would not be precedent. I am beyond happy to see that this is not institutionalized as a precedent.

Thank you for making that decision.

120-1112: *First of Two Readings*, Passes 6-0-0.

Open Discussion

Tommy says despite any negativity thank you for what you guys do up there. We appreciate you.

Tyler says I would like to thank Lisa for enduring almost 2.5 hours of intense scrutiny. We are still a legitimate college according to Middle States which is great.

Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 8:50 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Lena Freed
Recording Secretary