**Student Government Association Minutes**

February 07, 2012

1. ROLL CALL: Caitlin Turner, Kevin Gallant, Nikki Ferraira were absent. Liz Labek and Elizabeth Cauley sent alternates. Taylor Fote was excused.
2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM January 31, 2012: Minutes were approved.

1. PRESIDENT’S REPORT: *Lou Cimaglia*
2. Hello everyone. We have a couple speakers tonight. First, I would like to invite up Waleska Lugo-DeJesus, Director of Multicultural Affairs as well as Interim Executive Assistant to President Dobelle.
   * + 1. **Waleska Lugo-DeJesus**: This is my first time in front of The Student Government Association, as a whole, so I am really excited to be here. I have been on campus for almost three years, but in my current role less than one year. I hope you all will visit me in the multicultural affairs office. My role here today, is to share with you, a couple of things regarding Black History Month. I learned that we started celebrating Black History Month in 1974 and it really picked up again in 1984. With Dr. Pickrons help, along with many other staff and students, we have created, what we think, is a very good calendar of events. I feel Black History Month is important because we need to educate the campus, and to embrace all of the progress African Americans have made, and to come together and embrace different cultures. We came up with this calendar of events, by having conversations with different departments and student groups, and it escalated from there. I want to remind you all, that this Friday is Step Africa, which will be a great event. We kicked off the month by attending ”The Color Purple” with a group of students. Next month, we will be preparing a month of celebrating women. I hope you all come to visit me, and give me any student input that you can.
       2. **Amy Wing**: Just to add on to that, I want to point out that the Black History Month calendar is back by our calendar, and are all unit opportunities.
       3. **Meaghan MacDonald**: What do you envision yourself doing in this position in comparison to others in your position?
       4. **Waleska Lugo-DeJesus**: I would personally love to see a multicultural center on campus, I know some other campuses have that, and I would love to have that here. If any of you have any suggestions please don’t hesitate to come see me. I have a big background in Civic Engagement, and would love to talk to any of you about that as well.
3. Thank you Waleska. Next up, I would like to invite up Kat Dolan, Campus Coordinator for MASSPIRG.
   * + 1. **Kat Dolan**: I would like to introduce Kelton Dougherty he is the campus Relations Coordinator for MASSPIRG.
       2. **Kelton Dougherty**: I am the campus relations organizer for MASSPIRG here on campus.
4. Our lead campaign is the zero waste campaign. We are working on collecting 500 petitions to pass a local ban on single use plastic bags, as many are not being recycled.
5. We also have a very strong team who works on hunger and homelessness issues, and they are currently working on a national hunger cleanup project. They are trying to raise $1500.00 for this project. They currently work in coalition with 4 other campus bodies or community advocates.
6. We also have a group focused on energy service. We help by weatherizing local homes, to help them save energy and money. The goal for this semester is to help 4 local homes and to educate over 60 school children about energy conservation.
7. We also want to increase public transportation, as well as always trying to help the campus remain cost effective. You can contact me, anytime, if you have any questions
8. Thank you Kat Dolan and Kelton Dougherty.
9. I accept the resignation of Nicholas Newsome as Commuter Council President and Dominic Farbo as Representative at large.
10. I move to Appoint Josh Frank, Stan Costa and Aaron Ashley as Representatives at Large for the remainder of the academic year. Motion approved.
11. Ross Beck will be going over some Robert’s Rules during his report, but just a quick refresher let’s please be respectful during these meetings and stay focused. I know sometimes they run a little long, but we’ve got to make sure these meetings are run tightly.
12. I am currently in talks with the Executive Director of Westfield Business Improvement District. We will be trying to start a new tradition this year; I will keep you updated on this. If we can pull this off, it would be taking place in April.
13. Another date to keep in mind is March 5th from 5:00 pm until 6:00 pm. I will be giving a “State of the Campus Address” in Dever Hall. This can be a huge night for us. This will, hopefully, put SGA on the radar of the entire campus and be a statement of our importance. I want to fill Dever Hall with students, faculty and staff alike. We’ll be starting an advertising push soon, but please start spreading the word. SGA’s problem is often a lack of exposure. This is a chance to remedy that.
14. We will also, be implementing a new procedure to help stream line these meetings. If you are going to give a report, email me at [President.sga@westfield.ma.edu](mailto:President.sga@westfield.ma.edu) by 3:00 pm on a meeting day. This way, we will not be going down the agenda to one “no report” after another. This will make our meetings much more efficient. That will be started next week February 14th.
15. Finally, every Senator on the Class of 2015, the Executive Board would like to hold a Pizza Dinner for you all after the meeting on February 21st. Plan on sticking around and getting a free meal, after that meeting. We will have dates for each class after that as well.
16. Our next scheduled meeting is February 14th, at 5:30 pm in the Student Government Association Room.
17. BOARD OF TRUSTEES’ REPORT**:** *Ryan Meersman*
18. **Sue LaMontagne**: I wanted to come before you tonight to discuss a motion going before the Trustees, which will affect your student privacy regulations. As I hope most of you know, all of your records, on the campus, are protected under federal law and by college policy. You all have control over who gets to view your records, and there are limits on what is released, on your records. Within this privacy regulation, there is a section called ‘Directory Information’. This is information that can be made public if the school choses, such as your name, phone number etc. If someone called and asked where you live on campus, I can tell you that information. I cannot disclose anything private, but directory information is public. One of the things that the government has allowed to be part of Directory Information is photographs, such as your student ID photo. Right now, photos are not part of your Directory Information because we want to protect as much of your privacy as possible, and until recently, have not felt the need to include it. We have put a motion, to the Trustees, to include photographs as part of Directory Information. I want to be clear, that this would allow the school, to give your photo out when we feel it is appropriate, it does not mandate that we have to give it out. Also, you as students, every year, have the power to protect your Directory Information by filling out a form with the registrar. We want to include photographs in Directory Information because we are using photographs more and more with publicity, marketing, and things like that. I want to be clear that photos taken of you at a public event, such as a hockey game, are different than your Directory Information, because they are not linked to the rest of your information such as your hometown, major, and things like that. A good example of this is the peer advisor board, and how we have to get their permission, to put their photo on the peer advisor board. If photos were a part of Directory Information, we would not need to take that step. This will allow professors, who have to give out progress reports to learning disabled students, to include your picture in the software we have, to easily identify that student. This is just a one word addition of photographs, I am happy to answer any questions.
19. **Amy Wing**: When would it be appropriate to release our photos outside the University?
20. **Sue LaMontagne**: The two people who are in charge of privacy regulations are John Ohotnicky and I. We both take a fairly conservative view on giving out information, in that we don’t like to do it, unless absolutely necessary. I am inclined to say, there will not be a lot of cases where someone outside the University is going to get your picture. I will give an example though. We send Dean’s List recipients to local newspapers, and I can see them wanting to add your photo along with that. Also, President’s award recipient’s photos and other awards photos need to give permission now to use their photo, and we would no longer have to go through that step.
21. **Meaghan MacDonald**: Which photo would be used? Our ID photo?
22. **Sue LaMontagne**: It would most likely come off the database, which is your ID photo, unless we took a separate photo. For instance, at awards ceremonies we take a separate photo.
23. **Ryan Meersman**: Can we take a straw poll of who is in favor and opposed?
24. **Ross Beck**: There are 25 in favor and 26 opposed to the motion.
25. **Rebecca DiVico**: I would just like to be asked when my photo is being used.
26. **Ryan Meersman**: I think that, in most cases, you would still be notified.
27. **Anthony Oberg**: Along the same lines as Rebecca DiVico, I would just like to be asked to use my picture, especially in the public.
28. **Ryan Meersman**: Normally, public request come from pictures for award recipients and thing like that.
29. All College Committee: **No Report**
30. Long Range Planning Committee: **No Report**
31. Strategic Planning Committee: **No Report**
32. Alumni Report**: No Report**
33. VICE PRESIDENT’S REPORT-STUDENT LIFE**:** *Stephanie Close*
34. Student Affairs Committee: **No Report**
35. Multicultural Committee: **No Report**
36. Food Services Committee: Victoria Downs
    * + 1. We had a long meeting; we had some good discussions and gave some good feedback. We have been getting good feedback for the new island, but had very negative feedback for all the elementary school children that were there last week. Next time we have visitors, they are going to coordinate a later time for them to eat, so it does not overlap with our busiest meal time.
        2. We discussed the issue of waste, and want to remind everyone to be aware of what and how much food they are taking. We brainstormed ideas, to reduce waste, maybe something as simple as posting pictures of wasted food on the belt to Twitter/Facebook or as drastic as collecting the waste from one meal and putting it out near the conveyor belt, for students to see how much waste they are producing.
        3. We discussed hours of service and products we would like to see for the new places arriving next January. As we know Jazzman’s is closing and Dunkin Donuts is coming in. We suggested that the hours for the new Dunkin Donuts be open later on Fridays, because there are events on weekends and earlier on Sundays because everyone is doing homework. The other proposed place that will be coming to campus and taking the old Dunkin Donuts place will be *Simply to Go*. We gave some product ideas such as a Chill Zone type set up, different sandwich and salad to go options, yogurts, granola, Ben & Jerry’s, baking ingredients etc. We also suggested hours of service for this *Simply to Go* shop, weekdays maybe 10:00 am until 1:00 am and weekends maybe later 7:00 am until 1:00 am. We also gave suggestions on how the *Pride Grill* at *The* *Perch* should be for anyone from 8:00 pm until 2:00 am, with a kiosk for ordering or something like a hostess stand. These are only suggestions and we are looking for more, so if you have any now, you can give those to me or email Craig Goodridge at [cgoodridge@westfield.ma.edu](mailto:cgoodridge@westfield.ma.edu).
37. **Brandon Burr**: Do you think the new Dunkin Donuts will be able to take gift cards?
38. **Victoria Downs:** I can definitely ask.
39. **Stephanie Close:** (POI) They don’t take gift cards, because they are contracted through Sodexo.
40. **Anthony Oberg:** Will the new Simply to Go: take Sodexo bucks?
41. **Victoria Downs:** I believe they will.
42. **Peter Sepe:** When will the new Wellness Center be open?
43. **Lou Cimaglia:** In the fall semester**.**
44. Health Committee: Stephanie Close
    * + 1. Just a reminder that there will be Blood Pressure Screenings in the Dinning Commons from 12:00 pm until 1:45 pm tomorrow, February 8th , and February 22nd. These are done by our EMS and Nursing Students.
        2. The Blood Drive is next week, February 15th from 1:00 pm until 7:00 pm. I need volunteers for this day, so I am sending a signup sheet around. Volunteering is a unit. Please get this back to me by the end of the meeting.
        3. Our next scheduled meeting is February 13th at 4:30 pm in the Counseling Center Conference Room.
45. Parking Control Board: **No Report**
46. Sustainability Committee**: No Report**
47. Student Athletic Advisory Board: **No Report**
48. Substance Advisory Committee: **No Report**
49. VICE PRESIDENT’S REPORT-ACADEMIC LIFE: *Tony Iozzo*
50. Hey guys, I hope you had a good weekend.
    1. Tomorrow, February 8th from 5:30 pm until 7:00 pm there will be a Study Abroad and Exchange Program Fair in the Scanlon Banquet Hall. It will be regarding the spring and summer J-Term courses that still have openings, and there will be representative from various long term study abroad programs.
51. Academic Policies Committee: Tony Iozzo
    * + 1. We will be meeting on February 14th and we will be reviewing possible 6 policies that All College Council will be sending us.
        2. There was an Academic Honesty Hearing this morning in which a student was found ‘responsible for plagiarism and we have another one tomorrow, February 8th in the morning.
52. Curriculum Committee: **No Report**
53. Enrollment Management Committee: **No Report**
54. Campus Technology Committee**: No Report**
55. International Programs Committee: Rebecca DiVico
    * + 1. Our last committee meeting was last Thursday, February 2nd. We talked more about simplifying the application for Faculty interested in planning a study abroad course.
        2. As far as I know spots are still open for the Costa Rica, Ireland, Jordan and Vietnam Trips and for the Europe Business Trip. These take place from late May to mid-June. You can ask me for more information or you can contact the International Programs Office.
        3. Our next scheduled meeting is March 2nd at 1:45 pm in a place to be announced.
56. Assessment Committee: Michelle Hanney
    * + 1. Today, February 7th was Institutional Assessment Committee’s first meeting, of the semester. We discussed the ongoing updates for the E-1 Forms that the committee members have been working on with the department chairs.
        2. Institutional Assessment committee has finally been placed under the governance tab on the MyWestfield portal.
        3. One last thing that we touched up on was the core-assessment sub-committees.
        4. Our next scheduled meeting is on February 21st at 2:00 pm in the Parenzo Board Room.
57. Academic Strategic Planning Committee**: No Report**
58. Library Advisory Committee**: No Report**
59. Learning Communities**: No Report**
60. VICE PRESIDENT’S REPORT-PROGRAMMING: *Brandon Burr*
61. Programming update: Brandon Burr
    * + 1. So The Campus Activities Board has been really busy these past weeks. “Moufy” was good and the students who attended had fun.
        2. Also, spring week-end is coming along great; we have booked the headliner which will be “TYGA”. The campus seems extremely happy and excited which is great. The other details will be moving along and once we have an exact schedule I will let you all know.
        3. Also Trivia will be next Wednesday, February 15th at 8:00 pm upstairs in Ely with free pizza.
62. Neighborhood Association Committee: **No Report**
63. Neighborhood Advisory Board**:** Brandon Burr
    1. We met yesterday February 6th and we talked with a few members of the campus about some possible projects that will be taking place soon. A possible 3 to 4 million dollar improvement to Western Avenue could be in place in the next 2 to 3 years. Additions like possible turning lanes, cut through and widening of lanes.
    2. Bob Plasse spoke about the many art projects that will be happening at the downtown art gallery and the on campus gallery.
    3. There are some good ideas for this committee in future years, so I will have more information after the next meeting.
64. VICE PRESIDENT’S REPORT-FINANCE: *Stone Koury*
65. Finance Report: Stone Koury
66. I have 2 more finance proposals this week; we have about $10,000 left in our budget.
67. I move to allocate $1,995.00 to the Westfield Voice so they can pursue an online paper. Motion passed.
    * 1. **Lou Cimaglia**: (POI), if you are part of the voice, you must abstain.
      2. **Tammy Adams**: Will it be on the Portal?
      3. **Stone Koury**: It will be linked on the homepage, it is a separate company.
68. I move to allocate $2,653.37 for the Social Work Association Group, so they can go to a conference at Framingham State University. Motion passed.
69. Foundation Report**: No Report**
70. SERETARY’S REPORT: *Krysta Livingstone/Amy Wing*
71. Executive Secretary Report: No Report
72. Legislative Secretary Report: Amy Wing
    1. 3 unites are due for February, by February 29th.
    2. I am sorry for the name tags again, next week you will have glorious name tags.
    3. Make sure you like the Westfield State University Student Government Association Facebook page for more dynamic updates.
       1. **Victoria Downs**: Do we have a Twitter?
       2. **Amy Wing**: We are still working on the Facebook, but I would love to eventually make a Twitter.
73. PARLIMENTARIAN REPORTS:
74. Rules and Regulations Committee: Ross Beck
    1. **Ross Beck**: I just want to go over a few things regarding Roberts Rules. First you must clap for a speaker until they reach the podium. Please also take the time to review the motion cards on the table. If you are part of a group we are allocating funds to, you must abstain. Please stand up and state your name when called upon. Turn off and silence all cell phones as well, they are a distraction.
    2. **Amy Wing**: Also, please do not say “no report” unless you are the reporting member for that committee.
75. COMMUTER COUNCIL, CLASS AND HALL REPORTS:
76. Commuter Council: **No Report**
77. Senior Class: **No Report**
78. Junior Class: **No Report**
79. Sophomore Class: Tammy Adams
    * + 1. We are finalizing our Mr. Westfield contestants, this week, with interviews. By next week, we will have our final list of contestants. If anyone has a question about interview times, please see one of us after the meeting. We are also looking for a few more faculty members, for our judges.
        2. We have a Class Council Twitter 2 WSU\_Classof2014. So follow us for updates.
        3. Our next scheduled meeting is February 13th at 5:00 pm in the Student Government conference room.
80. Freshman Class: Richard Darrach
81. We’re holding interviews for our Representative to Student Government Association this Thursday, February 9th at 7:00 pm. If anyone has a nomination, please contact me as soon as possible.
82. Finally, we decided on a fundraising goal of $1,500.00 for class funds, we hope to gain this, by the end of the semester.
83. Our next scheduled meeting is February 13th at 6:00 pm in the Student Government conference room.
84. Apartment Complex: **No Report**
85. Courtney Hall**: Victoria Downs**
    1. We appointed Joey Ducharme as our Courtney Hall Social Coordinator; follow us on Facebook and twitter.
    2. Our next event is on Valentine’s Day, February 14th. It’s a Ninja Speed dating game, in Courtney Hall’s main lounge at 8:00 pm. Snacks will be offered along with prizes; there will be 3 Applebee’s Gift cards. After 3 rounds; you and your new friend are invited to decorate Valentine’s Day cookies. So, come play a game of Ninja while potentially finding your soul mate or new friend. A sign-up sheet will be at the Resident Directors Desk in Courtney from 9:00 pm until 10:00 pm until Sunday February 12th. Hope to see you there.
86. Davis Hall: Matt Durant
    * + 1. Hello everyone, I’d like to announce the resignation of Elizabeth Cauley as representative to SGA.
        2. I’d now like to move to appoint Matthew Richardson as the New Representative to Senate for Davis Hall. Motion passed.
        3. We now have a full council. We had to really shuffle around within our ranks after the loss of two positions. We had to fuse two positions (Historian and Publicist) together and thanks to the volunteering of Matt Richardson, we are now once again whole.
        4. This Sunday, February 5th we had a Super Bowl pre-game event during which we provided free food, snacks, and had a trivia raffle for some great prizes. It was a great effort on the part of all Hall council members, as well as some very generous Davis Hall residents. The turnout was impressive and the reviews I have been hearing have been more favorable than those of the actual Super Bowl.
        5. We are currently working on a Valentine’s Day event, where we will provide materials for residents to make valentine’s for their significant others or friends and families. This will be done Sunday, February 12th between 8:00 pm and 10:00 pm.
        6. Davis is currently at Level 1 sanctions but I’m confident we won’t be rising to level 2 any time soon.
87. Dickinson Hall: **No Report**
88. Lammers Hall: **No Report**
89. Lansdowne Hall: **No Report**
90. New Hall: Anthony Oberg
91. Our Super bowl chip giveaway was successful. Everyone likes free stuff.
92. This week, after Valentine’s Day, February 23rd, we will be having a cookie decorating contest. There will also be post Valentine’s Day valentines.
93. I move to accept Ryan Dolan as our Representative to Senate for the remainder of the Academic year. Motion passed
94. Our next scheduled meeting is on February 14th at 4:00 pm in the New Hall Conference Room.
95. Scanlon Hall: **No Report**
96. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**: None**
97. NEW BUSINESS: **None**
98. ANNOUNCEMENTS:
99. **Ryan Meersman**: Can I see the Reps at large?
100. **Stephanie Close**: Can I please have the blood drive sheet back?
101. **Meaghan MacDonald**: Buy you fleece if you are a senior, and 102 days until commencement.
102. ROLL CALL: Caitlin Turner, Kevin Gallant, Brittany Moniz, and Nikki Ferraira were absent. Liz Labek and Elizabeth Cauley sent alternates. Taylor Fote and Hanna Persson were excused
103. ADJOURNMENT: Meeting adjourned at 6:20 pm.