**Student Government Association Minutes**

February 28, 2012

1. ROLL CALL: Ian Wilson, Hannah Parsson, Victoria Landry, Ktie Morrisey, Nikki Ferreira, Joyniqua Hall, Matthew Richardson, Jon Mercurio were absent. Meaghan MacDonald, Brittany Moniz, Emily Tobin sent alternates. Caitlynn Greenleaf, Olivia Dumas, and Kylie Nelson were excused.
2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM February 21, 2012: Minutes were approved.

1. PRESIDENT’S REPORT: *Lou Cimaglia*
2. Hello everyone. We are light up front tonight, thanks to Stone Koury for helping out as Parliamentarian. We have two speakers tonight. First, we have Laurie Simpson, Director of Academic Achievement.
   * + 1. **Laurie Simpson**: I am here tonight, to take any of your comments or concerns about the advising system. Please do not hesitate to give any and all feedback you can.
       2. **Rich Darrach**: Do first year students have to go to peer advising in the spring semester?
       3. **Laurie Simpson:** It depends on your major.
       4. **Rich Darrach:** I am a business management major**.**
       5. **Laurie Simpson:** Then you do not. I also want to point out that the course offerings books are available. Remember your advising and registration datesw are based on the amount of credits you have. These dates can all be found in the offerings book, as well as in the peer advising office. I would also like to know how the online system for registration is working for all of you.
       6. **Rich Darrach:** Why does registration have to occur so early at 7:00 am?
       7. **Laurie Simpson:** It is to prevent students from missing class, if their registration fell during a class period. I also want to point out, that we are in the advising office at 7:00 am every registration day, to help all of you, if you have any troubles. I also want to make sure you all are making connections with your departmental advisors. It is helpful to create a relationship with them and not just only see them during advising time.
       8. **Tony Iozzo:** (POI) regarding academic advisors, we sent out a survey over winter break about department advisors. We are still compiling the data and looking for trends in departments.
       9. **Laurie Simpson**: For those of you who have gone to peer advising, I would love some feedback.
       10. **Tom Durkee**: I feel that peer advisors can be pushy, with which classes to take, when a lot of us had a different plan in mind.
       11. **Laurie Simpson**: Thank you for letting me know. Our peer advisors really have your best interest at heart, but if they do seem too pushy please continue to let me know.
       12. **Jocelyn Herra-Lazo:** Why can only a certain amount of students sign into the portal?
       13. **Laurie Simpson:** It is to prevent the portal from crashing like it did a few semesters back.
       14. **Jessica McKinnon:** Can you talk about the changes to early registration, for honors students?
       15. **Nicolle West**: Instead of just giving us your sheets, you will now register yourselves the week before seniors do. This is to really help you, so you make sure you get the classes you want, and don’t run the risk of our office or the registrar making a mistake. There will be training on how to register on March 19th to make sure you are all as prepared as possible.
       16. **Laurie Simpson**: I also want to make sure, you all add us on facebook, because we post valuable information on there.
3. Thank you, Laurie, Next we have Will LaFever, the New Veteran and Military Service Coordinator.
   * + 1. **Will LaFever**: I just wanted to introduce myself. My name is Will LeFever, and I am the Veteran and Military Services Coordinator. Basically, I am the Veterans advocate to the administration, and recognize some of the special program they should have. We have about 200 veterans. I want to make sure to get the word out to them, that I am here for them and to serve them. Part of my job is to make sure they are getting all of the help they need. If you know any veterans, please make sure they come see me. We also do have a facebook page.
       2. **Carlton Pickron**: I also want to point out that students who have parents who are veterans may also receive benefits.
       3. **Will** **LeFever**: That is very true. Many students who are children of Veterans may not know this, so please make sure they come and talk to me, if you know anyone.
4. Thank you, Will. This is my last chance to plug my State of the Campus Address to you all, before the event. If I may reiterate the importance of this. And I thank you all for your patience, as I have been so consumed by it. But this address is much bigger than me. The main goal is that this speech sets a precedent, for Student Government, to act as a galvanizing organization on campus. This speech will hopefully, become an annual event that staff, faculty, administration and students look forward too. SGA has a chance here, to position itself, as a driving force for positive change and campus cooperation. I am really humbled to have the chance, to represent this body in the inaugural address.
5. I have an email from Dr. Dobelle here, highlighting some civic events of major importance coming up next week. First, the Board of Higher Education meeting is March 6th at 10:00 am in the Woodward Center. This is an opportunity for us to see this body preform their regular function. This board oversees all higher education in Massachusetts. Westfield State University is very much impacted by the decisions they make.
6. Commissioner of the Board of Higher Ed, Richard Freeland will be speaking, later that day, in Scanlon Banquet Hall at 2:00 pm. He will be speaking about the Vision Project, which targets accountability, with the aim of reinforcing the arguments for increasing state support of the public higher education system.
7. Advocacy day for Public Higher Education is March 8th at the State House. Westfield State is sending a delegation to advocate for students.
8. I will be speaking about all of these initiatives at my Speech on Monday, but it is important that we as the Student Government on campus are ready and willing to participate.
9. On behalf of Stephanie Close, who could not be here, please remember, that Room Reservation Deposits are due this Thursday March 1st at 5:00 pm. The cost is $200.00.
10. The deadline for buying Daffodils for The American Cancer Society Daffodil Days is tomorrow, February 29, 2012. Make checks payable to the American Cancer Society and return the form, that I have right here, to Patricia Berube.
11. Immediately after this meeting, I invite Senate to head over with me to Scanlon Banquet Hall to watch the Third World Organization name changing ceremony. They would greatly appreciate the student presence there, and we were all invited. Please make it if you can.
12. Also, Senator Knapik, Mayor Knapik and Representative Humason will all be speaking, here at SGA, at some point this semester, so if you have any pressing questions for them, start thinking now.
13. After this meeting, could I see Ian Wilson very quickly, as well as the President of each Hall Council?
14. Our next scheduled meeting is Tuesday, March 6th at 5:30 pm.
15. Items not listed on the agenda:
16. **Carlton Pickron**:I would just like to add, March 19th, is the deadline for anyone who wishes to go to Crosno State in Poland, so make sure you get everything in if you wish to go.
17. BOARD OF TRUSTEES’ REPORT**:** *Ryan Meersman*
18. All College Committee: Aaron Astley
    * + 1. Our meeting commenced at 3:30 pm in the Parenzo Boardroom, last Wednesday the 22nd. An updated and request for the budget of fiscal year 2013 was commented on. We discussed Commissioner Freeland’s upcoming visit on March 6th, 2012. He will be discussing many topics, as well as a new program called Leap, which would possibly compare colleges across the states, against each other if chosen to be a part of it. We reviewed and rewarded the charge for Strategic Academic Planning Committee, focusing on what it meant to be a department and program. Professor Diana made it clear that the lobby Day is of high importance and students should go to express their thoughts and feelings.
        2. Our next scheduled meeting is March 22rd at 3:30 pm in the Parenzo Boardroom.
19. Long Range Planning Committee: **No Report**
20. Strategic Planning Committee: **No Report**
21. Alumni Report**: No Report**
22. VICE PRESIDENT’S REPORT-STUDENT LIFE**:** *Stephanie Close*
23. Student Affairs Committee: Katie Turner
    * + 1. The Student Affairs Committee met Wednesday, February 22nd. At our meeting, Nicole West came and spoke to us about a new program called the Owl Book which would give incoming first year students, an online checklist of what they need to have sent in on certain dates, as well as a place to have information, such as gym times, club contacts etc. Junior Delgado also came and spoke to us about new interviewing software they have, that can be found online, on their website. There are spots open on our committee, if you need a committee and are interested, please see me after the meeting.
        2. Our next scheduled meeting is on March 14th at 3:30 pm in the Ely Conference Room.
24. Multicultural Committee: **No Report**
25. Food Services Committee: **No Report**
26. Health Committee: **No Report**
27. Parking Control Board: **No Report**
28. Sustainability Committee**: No Report**
29. Student Athletic Advisory Board: Ian Wilson
    * + 1. Ice Hockey raised $527.05 for the Pink in the Rink event.
        2. NCAA is having A Division 111 week in April. The Student Athletic Advisory Board is going to have community service and promotional events that week, and throughout the month. Possibly at the home games.
        3. Our next scheduled meeting is March 5th at 8:00 pm in the Woodward Center.
30. Substance Advisory Committee: **No Report**
31. VICE PRESIDENT’S REPORT-ACADEMIC LIFE: *Tony Iozzo*
32. Hey guys, the rough results, of the advising survey, that was available on MyWestfield portal over break are back and about 35% of students responded, which I have been told is a tremendous increase from years past. The recipients of the (6) $50.00 gift cards will be randomly chosen from those that responded and I will notify the students.
33. Also, as you know, course offering booklets for the fall semester were released Friday, February 24th. In the future there may be a push to get rid of paper copies and just have the booklet online. It already is available online, and sometimes students run into issues where they sign up for sections of courses, that become cancelled and the paper booklets can be out of date, while the online booklet is always up to date. So what do you think? I will conduct a straw poll to see. The results were that most of the Senate would like to reduce the paper copies but would still like copies to exist. I will be looking at the data and reporting that to the Department Chair at the end of the semester.
    1. **Priscilla Aguilar**: I think we should just reduce the amount of printed books.
    2. **Katie Turner**: I think it would be good to just reduce the amount printed, I know a lot of students us them. I personally don’t because I think they are hard to read.
    3. **Nikki Ferraria**: I like in the online version that it tells you if the class is full or not, so I personally don’t use the printed books as much.
    4. **Victoria Downs**: I think we should try and get an ida of how many people use the books to see how many to cut down on.
    5. **Stan Costa:** I do use the books because I am a visual person.
    6. **Stone Koury:** Based on the straw poll, the large majority of senate feels that the University should just cut down on the amount of books printed.
34. Lastly, there are still some openings for the J-term trips this semester, so check out the website *International programs.*
35. Academic Policies Committee: Stan Costa
36. Recently our committee passed 3 proposals
37. Clarification of wording (2).

Completion of Minor for graduate requirements.

Declaration of Minor.

1. Change to the Dean’s list time frame.
2. We will be voting on next time: to increase total number of chances to repeat classes from 3 to 5.
3. Our next scheduled meeting will be on Monday, March 19th at 10:25 am in the Parenzo Boardroom.
4. Curriculum Committee: **No Report**
5. Enrollment Management Committee: **No Report**
6. Campus Technology Committee**: No Report**
7. International Programs Committee: **No Report**
8. Assessment Committee: **No Report**
9. Academic Strategic Planning Committee**: No Report**
10. Library Advisory Committee**: No Report**
11. Learning Communities**: No Report**
12. VICE PRESIDENT’S REPORT-PROGRAMMING: *Brandon Burr*
13. Programming update: **No Report**
14. Neighborhood Association Committee: **No Report**
15. Neighborhood Advisory Board**: No Report**
16. VICE PRESIDENT’S REPORT-FINANCE: *Stone Koury*
17. I am looking for feedback for the Bookstore via the Bookstore Advisory Committee. Also I want to remind everyone the BAC is meeting Monday at 3:00 pm in Ely 210.
    1. **Katie Turner**: Prices on simple objects are too high.
    2. **Amy Wing**: I like the Nike attire.
    3. **Jen McDiarmid**: I get too many emails from them.
18. Finance Report: Stone KouryI have 3 finance proposals.
    1. I move to allocate $500.00 to the communication club for their end of the year dinner. Motion Passed.
    2. I move to allocate $1,811.00 to the Business Club for a trip to New York City. Motion passed.
    3. I move to allocate $1,335.00 to the Wounded Warriors Club for a Tough Mudders competition. Motion passed.
    4. **Rich Darrach**: How much a year do we have to allocate funds to clubs?
    5. **Stone Koury**: It can change from year to year, and I believe this year we had around $20,000. After these three proposals we have a little over $5,000.00 left.
    6. Katie
19. Foundation Report**: No Report**
20. SERETARY’S REPORT: *Krysta Livingstone/Amy Wing*
21. Executive Secretary Report: Krysta Livingstone
    * + 1. Please remember to buy your Senate Banquet tickets, and tell all your friends. There are senators tables reserved, that two of you can claim until Friday, March 2nd. Next week they will be released to the rest of the campus. Can I see the Banquet Committee after the meeting?
22. Legislative Secretary Report: Amy Wing
    1. Units are due tomorrow February 29th.
    2. Lou’s State of the Campus Address is a March unit and it is also mandatory, so this works in every one’s favor.
    3. Blue Key nomination papers are available. I encourage you to nominate a peer that you feel, deserves a Blue Key award. There will be an email sent out tomorrow.
    4. Also, please “like” the WSU SGA Facebook page.
23. PARLIMENTARIAN REPORTS:
24. Rules and Regulations Committee: No Report
25. COMMUTER COUNCIL, CLASS AND HALL REPORTS:
26. Commuter Council: **No Report**
27. Senior Class: **No Report**
28. Junior Class: Allie McLaughlin
    1. I accept the resignation of Emily Hamel as Representative to Senate for the rest of the 2011-2012 Academic year. Motion passed.
    2. I move to appoint Lindsey Howe as Representative to Senate for the remainder of the 2011-2012 academic year. Motion passed.
    3. The People of Westfield calendars are underway. It will be the academic calendar for the 2012-2013 academic year. Pictures will be taken over the next few weeks and will be completed and on sale by April, more details to follow.
    4. Our next scheduled meeting is on Monday, March 5th, at 6:30 pm in the Student Government clubs room.
29. Sophomore Class: Taylor Fote
    * + 1. We officially have a prize for the Mr. Westfield program. Barnes and Noble has given us a $200.00 donation in the form of a gift card. So whoever wins can use it towards their books, cloths, or cap and gown if they are a senior. Please keep donation every penny counts.
30. **Amy Wing**: How is the fundraising going to work?
31. **Taylor Fote**: We have students representing each Class and Hall, and they will fundraise for that respective Class or Hall.
    * + 1. Our next scheduled meeting will be on Monday, March 5th at 6:00 pm in the Parenzo Conference Room.
32. Freshman Class: **No Report**
33. Apartment Complex: Christian White
    * + 1. Our First event of the semester will be on March 1st in the Dickinson Common Room at 6:30 pm. We will be serving assorted wings plus toilet paper for each apartment. 3 rolls of toilet paper will be stickered on the bottom with 3 prizes of $30.00, $20.00 and $10.00 in owl bucks, given to whoever selects those rolls.
        2. Our next scheduled meeting is on Thursday, March 1st at 6:00 pm in Shannon’s office.
34. Courtney Hall**: Victoria Downs**
    * + 1. We met last Thursday, February 23rd and Monday, February 27th and have gotten a lot done. We had a t-shirt design contest for a Hall Shirt. The winner was chosen and she won a flat screen TV and a free t-shirt. In order to get the shirt at the end of the year the residents had to fill out a survey. We had about 75 people fill out the survey and we have ordered the shirts and they look great.
35. We also began planning our next event, which will be “Courtney Chopped” much like the show on food network. The date for that is set for March 27th at 7:00 pm, after SGA. There will be more details to come.
36. We have decided to attend the state of the Campus Address as a full council instead of having a formal meeting. We have also made signs encouraging residents to join us at the address. We will meet at 4:45 pm in the Courtney lobby to walk all together.
37. Our next scheduled meeting is on March 5th at 4:30 pm in the Courtney Lobby.
38. Davis Hall: **No Report**
39. Dickinson Hall: **No Report**
40. Lammers Hall: **No Report**
41. Lansdowne Hall: **No Report**
42. New Hall: Anthony Oberg
    * + 1. I accept the resignation of Peter Sepe as Student Government Representative for New Hall.
        2. Our second chance Valentine’s Day was a hit. The cookies were all eaten.
        3. We talked about the end of the year event plans. More to be announced.
        4. Our next scheduled meeting is on March 6th at 4:00 pm in the New Hall Conference Room.
43. Scanlon Hall: Priscilla Aguilar
44. I move to appoint Brian Boats to be President of Scanlon Hall for the remainder of the 2011-2012 academic year. Motion Passed.
45. Our event of free chips and salsa, in celebration of national Tortilla Day, last week, went very well. Our residents seemed to enjoy it and we go some feedback of what they would want to see from us. We even had a surprise visit from President Dobelle.
46. Our next scheduled meeting is Thursday, March 1st at 7:00 pm in the basement of Scanlon Hall.
47. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**: None**
48. NEW BUSINESS: **None**
49. ANNOUNCEMENTS:
50. **Tom Durkee**: Lammers Hall council is having our pajama party at 7:00 pm in Lammers Hall.
51. **Lou Cimaglia**: Please be sure to make it to the Scanlon Hall events tonight, and remember the State of the Campus Address is next Monday, March 05, 2012.
52. **Austin Sahagian**: 81 days until commencement.
53. ROLL CALL: Hannah Persson, Katie Morrisey, Nikki Ferreira, Joyniqua Hall, Matthew Richardson, Jon Mercurio were absent. Meaghan MacDonald, Brittany Moniz, Emily Tobin and Victoria Landry sent alternates. Caitlynn Greenfeaf, Olivia Dumas, and Kylie Nelson were excused.
54. ADJOURNMENT: Meeting adjourned at 6:24 pm.