**Student Government Association Minutes**

January 24, 2012

1. ROLL CALL: Eric Thompson, Dave Getchell, Yadira Garcia, Jim Robertson, Michelle Brown, Kevin Gallant, Kaitlin Moriarty, Peter Sepe, Steven Evans, Brenda McCarthy, Abbie McMahon, Sarah Alicia, and Alicia Thomas were absent. Tammy Adams and Ian Wilson sent alternates
2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM December 06, 2011: Minutes were approved.

1. PRESIDENT’S REPORT: *Lou Cimaglia*
2. Welcome back everyone. I hope you all had a restful and productive winter break. It’s great to see you all back and dressed so well. First off, I am happy to introduce our guest speaker for the night, President Evan Dobelle.
   * + 1. **President Evan Dobelle:** Welcome back everyone, it is great to have you all back. I am happy to answer any questions you may have. We have a lot of strategic planning meetings coming up, that I hope to see some of you in attendance, if it fits your schedule. I hope the new library renovations, in our $500,000 phase one project, are what you hoped for. We are still taking input for the second phase. I also hope you like the new server in the Dinning Commons, I think it is working well so far, and I appreciate all of the input you students had on it. I think Tom Raffensperger is doing a great job as the Librarian, and has done wonderful things with the library thus far. I hope you all enjoy being able to study in groups now, a lot of what we did to the library was from your input. We are excited for the New Year, and anxious to see what the budget will look like. We are hoping to see an increase in our budget, to accommodate inflation and give you all the resources that you need. There is a term you will hear that we will get ’level funded,’ which means we get the same amount of money as we did last year. However, this would mean we would lose money, in realty, due to costs going up. We are committed to remaining the least expensive of the State Universities, but that does not mean there won’t be an increase. I also hope you all know that when we do spend money, or increase costs, it is for you students, and to better your experience. We hope that you are not inconvenienced by the construction, that we will be beginning this spring, with the new dormitory, which will open in September of 2013. I think this will be an extremely iconic building. We are also planning renovations for the Wellness Center, which I think will be great. We are planning to have the Wellness Center done by the fall 2012 semester. We continue to search for full time faculty, which is vital to this institution. We would like to see some of our adjunct faculty, have the option to become full time professors. We still remain number one, of the institutions, in terms of the best value, at $16,800 for room, board, tuition, and fees. We also were ranked to have the best faculty in our online program by *US News World Report.* I was also pleased to see, that we were one of four institutions on the National Honor Roll. I am pleased that we were able to get everybody on campus that wanted to be on campus, it is not an easy job by any means. I hope the new building in 2013 will help fix some of the housing difficulties. I do encourage students, who live off campus, to make sure their landlords are up to code, in terms of safety codes, to ensure your best safety. Students at Lansdowne Hall have been adjusting well, and are giving energy and life to the down town area. Students are currently spending over $60,000.00 per month, in Owl Bucks, at local businesses. For seniors, you all know your commencement will be at the Mass Mutual Center, which I think will have a lot of positive changes. I also want to let you know Congressman Richard Neil will be on campus on Friday, January 27th. I am happy to now answer any questions you may have.
       2. **Amy Wing:** You were talking about the down town area, was there anymore discussion of the bookstore downtown?
       3. **President Evan Dobelle**: Barnes and Noble are under contract to put a bookstore downtown with a Starbucks. There is no talk of location or size just yet, but they are under contract. If they do not do this; they have to forfeit $500,000.00, which in that case, we will make the efforts to make this happen. I will keep you all updated. I think it is important for us to have this store downtown, especially for those students at Landsdowne Hall.
       4. **Lou Cimaglia**: Last night, Governor Patrick mentioned Community Colleges budgets will be stream lined, instead of being given their own line items, do you foresee that happening to the State Universities?
       5. **President Evan Dobelle**: As you know, I have been President of two Community Colleges, and there are many difficulties, since they are so underfunded. I hope Community Colleges can help their students go on to four year institutions, which I have seen states like North Carolina do very well. I do fear, that there will be a competition for funding, amongst the three different systems, which is why I filed legislation in 1988 to make everything one UMass System. But, the Community Colleges are certainly under sourced, and need all of the help they can get, because they are a great springboard for many people.
       6. **Meaghan MacDonald**: How will the admissions be working for this year?
       7. **President Evan Dobelle**: We will have to turn down many students, about four to five thousand, who are qualified. We are among the most popular institutions in the state. It will be difficult. Another complication is that our Nursing program isn’t full blown yet, and they are the number one applicants this year. We have placed a cap on nursing program and the program for the learning disabled students. A lot of learning disabled students are strong enough to get into the institution on regular admissions, and then switch over to the Learning Disabled program, which dose throw our numbers off. We have very high standards, which makes us more desired. We have become very popular, which is great, but we have to turn a lot of people down. The short answer is; we have a lot more qualified applicants than we can take. We will also, most likely, lose students due to the inability to offer housing. I also should mention that we added an additional shuttle.
       8. **Rich Darrach**: Is there anything you would like to see from the Student Government Association?
       9. **President Evan Dobelle**: I want to see us all engaging more with online education. This is simply, now just the world we live in. Technology is increasing every day, and many more students are attending college online. We have to embrace what we are ranked so highly in, which is online education and its faculty. I know many of our students like more interactive classes, but our online Technology is increasing every day. Online high school education is also on the rise, which will attract even more online students. I do think that this is not a loss of education, but rather a different option. This would also make many of our faculty coaches, as opposed to lecturers. We are not trying to be the biggest institution, but have the best quality, and engaging more with online education is key to that. I suspect that many more students will be engaging in online education, over the next few years, and we all need to be aware of that. I would love to see that students take on this. Most students enrolled in online courses are already full time students. Online education will certainly allow for many more opportunities.
       10. **Caitlin Turner**: Have emergency response plans been revamped at all since the October storm?
       11. **President Evan Dobelle**: I will turn this one over to Sue LaMontagne and Carlton Pickron.
       12. **Sue LaMontagne**: We do have a plan to get sirens, once we figure out finances. We should be able to have them as soon as April. We do have a plan in place that covers various emergencies. We have designated officials to take on certain roles, in the event of an emergency. We meet about the plan, every month and tweak and test it. We did a lot of work after the October storm, to see what could have been better. We know that we need a generator for Lansdowne Hall. We also need to focus more about the Faculty and Staff being in crisis as opposed to just the University. Emergency response is a high priority of ours and is constantly being considered.
       13. **Carlton Pickron**: I also encourage you all to make sure your friends and roommates have registered their cell phone and email into the emergency response system, because that is how we will be communicating with you.
       14. **Tori Downs**: I noticed that the trash can on the Lammers side of the Dinning Commons is gone, and now people are littering more outside.
       15. **President Evan Dobelle**: I am sure we can take care of that. I am happy to meet with any of you, at any time. I think things are moving well and I look forward to a good semester.
3. Thank you very much President Dobelle, and thank you everyone for the questions.
4. I accept the resignation of Jim Robertson as a Representative at Large.
5. First, I have a couple of dates for you all to be aware of. There are two upcoming All Committee Council open forums that will be hitting on some pretty relevant topics for those of you who would like to attend.
   * + 1. The first is this Friday, January 27th at 2:30 PM in the Scanlon Banquet Hall. There will be an update on Strategic Academic Planning: Strategic Academic Planning committee co-chairs Holly Noun and Bob Hays and MSCA President Buzz Hoagland will report on fall 2011 work and solicit input. Also, there will be a Progress Report on academic Space Use Study: George Mathey of the firm Dober Lidsky Mathey will give a brief summary of progress to date and solicit input and reaction to his findings. The more students input at these events, the better.
       2. The Second meeting is Tuesday, January 31st, at 3:45 PM Holly Noun, Bob Hayes and Buzz Hoagland will give the same report, in Scanlon Banquet Hall.
       3. There have been changes to the Higher One Card.
       4. This is a good time to say, I am very proud of the job we did, first semester, this year. I think we made great strides in spreading the word, and reputation of Student Government, and our voice is absolutely a valuable piece to the decision making process regarding major issues on campus. I have gotten some great feedback from faculty and staff, about the work we do. We have some big plans this semester and I think this group, we have here, can accomplish some great things.
       5. Next week, January 31st, when all of our empty seats are filled, we will do a quick rundown of Robert’s Rules, one more time as a refresher.
       6. It is great to have everyone back. Our next scheduled meeting is January 31st at 5:30 PM in the Student Government Association Room.
6. BOARD OF TRUSTEES’ REPORT**:** *Ryan Meersman*
7. The Board of Trustees met on December 8th, with a very light agenda. First we were given a presentation from Don Bowman, the new Executive Director of the Westfield State Foundation and Chief Development Officer of Westfield State University. Our first action item was, to approve a list of professors Emeriti which included Mr. Gerald Healy of Economics and Dr. Signia Warner of the Library. Our only other action was to approve the Ely Revitalization Project which will commence later in the spring.
8. Our next meeting will be Thursday, February 9th, 2012 at 6:00 PM in the President’s Board room of the Horace Mann Center.
9. All College Committee: **No Report**
10. Long Range Planning Committee: **No Report**
11. Strategic Planning Committee: **No Report**
12. Alumni Report**: No Report**
13. VICE PRESIDENT’S REPORT-STUDENT LIFE**:** *Stephanie Close*
14. Hi everyone! I hope you all had a great winter break and your semester is off to a good start. Committees are beginning to meet again, so please be aware of those days and times. If you cannot attend the committee meetings, please let me know so I can reassign you to another committee. Also, I know this is prime time for illness, so if you come down with something and can’t attend a committee meeting, please let me know. Also as a reminder to those who report for their committees, please record attendance and hand that into Amy Wing each Tuesday.
15. There will be a meeting with the hall council presidents on the couches after this. If your president is not here, please send a representative from your hall council.
16. Student Affairs Committee: **No Report**
17. Multicultural Committee: **No Report**
18. Food Services Committee: Victoria Downs
    * + 1. We have our dinner for the food committee members on Monday, January 30th at 7:00 PM, its Hawaiian themed.
        2. Some upcoming events and raffles
19. Sodexo is giving away a trip from now until February 29th to Spain or Greece and you can enter online.
20. On February 2nd there is a student verse food competition at dinner time. Anyone who participates gets a $10.00 Sodexo card the winner gets $50.00 and the runners up get $25.00. The signups for that will start Thursday, January 26th.
21. February 21st is the vendor day from 11:00 am until 1:30 pm with people like Pepsi and General Mills with lots of fun giveaways.
22. February 29th is the soul food dinner.
23. Also they are going to have a salad making competition given only lettuce and you have to use all the ingredients from the Dinning commons that night, you will have 1 hour to make it. They are going to meet tomorrow January 26th to finalize the details on that.
24. Lastly they are planning a Rice Krispy “sandcastle” making competition.
25. Just so everyone is aware that allergies on campus are on the rise and a tot more people have gluten/sylliac allergies. So be sure to be conscience of that and try not to contaminate the gluten free area and encourage friends with allergies to obviously read the signs and ask if they need something specific.
26. Health Committee: **No Report**
27. Parking Control Board: **No Report**
28. Sustainability Committee**: No Report**
29. Student Athletic Advisory Board: **No Report**
30. Substance Advisory Committee: **No Report**
31. VICE PRESIDENT’S REPORT-ACADEMIC LIFE: *Tony Iozzo*
32. Hey guys, I hope you had a refreshing break. I do not have too much. As President Dobelle mentioned, and you may know, Phase 1 of the Library renovations took place over break, the library staff commandeered our office space down in the Student Government Office for a month, while that was being completed. If you haven’t checked out the new layout yet, stop by upstairs and do so.
33. This Friday, January 27th is the deadline, last day, of add/drop, so plan accordingly.
34. Academic Policies Committee: **No Report**
35. Curriculum Committee: **No Report**
36. Enrollment Management Committee: **No Report**
37. Campus Technology Committee**: No Report**
38. International Programs Committee: **No Report**
39. Assessment Committee: **No Report**
40. Academic Strategic Planning Committee**: No Report**
41. Library Advisory Committee**: No Report**
42. Learning Communities**: No Report**
43. VICE PRESIDENT’S REPORT-PROGRAMMING: *Brandon Burr*
44. Hello everyone, welcome back. Campus Activities Board is jumping right into events for this semester.
45. Programming update: Brandon Burr
    * + 1. Brown Bag Bingo is this Friday, January 27th at 11:00 PM in the Campus Center Lounge.
        2. We have the famous Rosemary (the old Resident Director of Davis) will be doing a comedy act this Saturday, January 28th at 7:30 PM in Dever Hall and Stage.
        3. If you bought tickets for the Bruins Trip that is Next Thursday, February 2nd the bus will be leaving at 3:45 PM.
        4. Also Moufy will be here next Saturday, February 4th in the Scanlon Banquet Hall at 8:00 PM. Tickets will need to be picked up and will be available by Friday, January 27th.
46. Neighborhood Association Committee: **No Report**
47. Neighborhood Advisory Board**: No Report**
48. VICE PRESIDENT’S REPORT-FINANCE: *Stone Koury*
49. Finance Report: **No Report**
50. Foundation Report**:** Stone Koury
51. A lot of devastation on stock investments, over my head.
52. The Washington Street property is completely sold.
53. The grant response to the phonation positions is in their first steps.
54. We are forming a Search Committee, to hire a new director of special gifts.
55. The Foundation will be moving its location; I will need an update on that.
56. Our next scheduled meeting is on March 29th from 4:00 PM until 6:00 PM at a place to be announced.
57. SERETARY’S REPORT: *Krysta Livingstone/Amy Wing*
58. Executive Secretary Report: Krysta Livingstone
    * + 1. Hi everyone! I hope you had a relaxing break. Senate Banquet will be here before we know it, which means I need some help from you guys. For those of you who don’t know, Senate Banquet is our annual dinner/dance, semi-formal at Chez Josef in Agawam. I need a committee of two people, from each class to join the senate banquet committee, to help with things such as table sign ups, as well as helping to choose important details of the event such as favors, the meal, and coloring. I do ask that full time student teachers and full time interns do not volunteer, because you need to have some availability during the day for table sign ups. Volunteers for the Class of 2015: Olivia Dumas and Priscilla Aguilar: Class of 2014: Emily Baker and Katie Morrisey, Class of 2013: Allie McLaughlin and Caitlynn Greenleaf, Class of 2012: Brittany Kinhart and Danielle Morin.
59. Legislative Secretary Report: Amy Wing
    1. Welcome back. I am sorry I didn’t put the events on the calendar; I will e-mail you unit opportunities so that you can do your 1 unit for January.
    2. Next week, I will be forming The Blue Key Committee.
60. PARLIMENTARIAN REPORTS*: Ross Beck*
61. Rules and Regulations Committee: **No Report**
62. COMMUTER COUNCIL, CLASS AND HALL REPORTS:
63. Commuter Council: **No Report**
64. Senior Class: Meaghan MacDonald
    * + 1. I move to appoint Alex Santamaria as a permanent designee for Representative for the Class of 2012 the spring 2012 Semester. Motion Passed
        2. So I know a lot of you have already heard, but this is the first time we’ve been able to formally share that the Make-a-Wish Date Auction raised over $6,000.00. For anyone who bid and won, the money is due by February 2nd. Instead of avoiding me if something comes up with paying, please come talk to myself or any of my council member’s. Just so everyone knows, we will be sending out reminder e-mils and you can come down to the Student Government Office and pay Barb Hand or Kim Hosmer. If it’s a check, make it out to Westfield State University Class of 2012.
        3. Moving on, we will be doing Condom grams starting in a few weeks. More details to follow.
        4. We are going to be putting out order forms by next Monday, January 30th for black fleece jackets with Westfield State University Class of 2012 on the front and an owl on the back.
        5. Senior packets will be out soon. Look out for your e-mail and Facebook events. Only 198 packets and oodles of fun.
        6. We are looking to do a habitat site on a Saturday as a group later this semester.
        7. Our next scheduled meeting is January 26th at 5:15 PM in the Student Government Clubs Room
65. Junior Class: Allison McLaughlin
    * + 1. Last semester, our council finished up our Cookie Dough fundraiser. We sold over $2,000.00 worth of cookie dough and made over $800.00 for our Class. Our meeting time will be determined soon.
66. Sophomore Class: Taylor Fote
    * + 1. I would like to announce the resignations of Tammy Adams and Kristen Brunell.
        2. I move to appoint Taylor Fote as President of the Class of 2012. Motion Passed
        3. I would like to appoint Elizabeth Labak and Tom Durkee as representatives to senate for the Class of 2014 for the 2012 Semester. Motion Passed
        4. At the end of last semester we sent out an e-mail to all of the nominees who were nominated for Mr. Westfield. We are holding an interest meeting, next week, for everyone who is truly interested in being a part of the pageant. The meetings are February 1st and February 2nd at 7:30 here in the Student Government Association Room. Another email will be sent out, but anyone who wishes to participate is welcome to come to one of the meetings.
        5. We have two new open positions, historian and alumni Representative. Interviews will be held next Monday, January 30th at 5:00 PM in the Student Government Association room.
        6. Our next scheduled meeting is Monday, January 30th at 5:00 PM in the Student Government Association Conference Room.
67. Freshman Class: Richard Darrach
68. I hope everyone had a nice break. First off I sadly announce the resignation of Abby McMahon as Representative to Senate for the 2015 class council. Our interview process will begin as soon as possible to fill the spot as well as class advisers.
69. On a better note we held our first big event last semester, the Holiday Party. My only regret was not having enough ginger bread houses. Since it was more successful and popular than we originally thought. A huge thank you to the sophomore class officers that came to support us. It really was nice to have the upperclassmen present.
70. As for events or ideas for the Spring Semester, we haven’t set any goals but we do know we want to think big. Our meeting time has not yet been decided.
71. Apartment Complex: Brian Lanciault
    * + 1. We had our 2nd event on December 14th we had Donuts, Pizza, coffee, and hot chocolate in the Dickinson common Room.
72. Courtney Hall**: Victoria Downs**
    * + 1. We had our first meeting last night. We brainstormed some ideas for the semester and also planned a Super-bowl event on Super-bowl Sunday, February 5th at 6:15 PM, in the Courtney main lounge. We are ordering wings, pizza, mozzarella sticks etc... We’ll also have a squares board with a 2 square limit and donate a canned goods per square. Then, obviously, prizes, first, second and third for the square winners.
        2. We have been sending our minutes out every week, to Courtney residents, so encourage your friends to read those and to come to our meetings.
        3. Our next scheduled meeting is Monday, January 30th at 5:00 PM in Courtney’s main lounge.
73. Davis Hall: **No Report**
74. Dickinson Hall: Aerin Andre
    * + 1. We are having a Highlighter Party Friday, January 27th from 9:00 PM until 1:00 PM B.E.Z Rapper.
        2. I want to announce the resignation of Sara Alicia. We are currently looking for new candidates.
        3. Recognize the resignation of Sara Alicia of Representative to Senate.
        4. We had a Midterm study event with donuts, coffee and hot chocolate
75. Lammers Hall: **No Report**
76. Lansdowne Hall: **No Report**
77. New Hall: **No Report**
78. Scanlon Hall: **No Report**
79. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**: None**
80. NEW BUSINESS: **None**
81. ANNOUNCEMENTS:
82. Amy Wing: See me if you don’t have a nametag.
83. Stephanie Close: Can I see al Hall Presidents?
84. Meaghan MacDonald: 116 days until commencement.

1. ROLL CALL: David Getchell, Kevin Gallant, Yadira Garcia, Peter Sepe, Brenda McCarthy, and Steven Evans were absent. Ian Wilson and Tammy Adams sent an alternate.

1. ADJOURNMENT: Meeting Adjourned at 6:40 PM.