**Student Government Association Minutes**

November 29, 2011

1. ROLL CALL: David Getchell, Nicholas Villante, Andrew Alcombright, Yadira Garcia, Peter Sepe, Prischilla Aguilar,Brenda McCarthy, Aerin Andre, were absent, Michelle Brown and Alicia Thomas were excused.
2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM November 15, 2011: Minutes were approved.

1. PRESIDENT’S REPORT: *Lou Cimaglia*
2. For our holiday community service project, we will be teaming up with the “Stuff A Cruiser” program. We need to get donations from the campus community, so I have broken it down and I will run down that list now. I am passing around a signup sheet. We will be going shopping next week after our SGA meeting on December 6th. We will take all the money we collected and purchase items for those impacted by domestic abuse. It’s a great cause, and we always have a great time doing this every year. I will need the money back by Friday, December 2nd. I have the envelopes in my office.
   * + 1. **Barbara Hand**: (POI) I think some of the residence halls are already working on this project, so the hall councils may not need to go around.
       2. **Tammy Adams**: There are two Residence Assistance’s from Davis who are doing this; I believe they are doing it campus wide.
       3. **Stephanie Close**: Hall councils should still go around to the buildings; it doesn’t hurt to ask twice.
       4. **Nick Newsome**: I need a little clarification.
       5. **Lou Cimaglia**: You will convene your commuter council and go around to the different departments in the building you were assigned and get donations. I have the envelopes for you, and you bring them back down to Student Government Association room when you are done.
3. Finally, I hope you have all read your assigned NEASC chapters. At the conclusion of this meeting, we will ask for the NEASC feedback, Sue Lamontagne and I will be looking for some analysis and impressions from the document.
4. Next week, December 6th is our last meeting.
5. BOARD OF TRUSTEES’ REPORT**:** *Ryan Meersman*
6. The next board meeting is next Thursday, December 1st in the Horace Mann Center, the public meeting starts at 6:00 PM.
7. All College Committee: **No Report**
8. Long Range Planning Committee: **No Report**
9. Strategic Planning Committee: **No Report**
10. Alumni Report**: No Report**
11. VICE PRESIDENT’S REPORT-STUDENT LIFE**:** *Stephanie Close*
12. Tomorrow, November 30th is the blood drive from 1:00 PM until 7:00 PM in the Parenzo Gym. I still need volunteers for that, so I am sending the sheet around again. I really appreciate it when you all help out; it makes the blood drive a lot easier. When you do sign-up, to help out, please remember; it is much easier for me to plan around an empty slot, than to plan around someone just not showing up. I understand people forget, but it has been happening frequently this semester. If something comes up, that you cannot make something you signed up for, please call someone on the Executive Board.
13. HIV/AIDS Awareness Day is December 1st, so everyone wear your black and red. A free HIV testing clinic will be held Tuesday, December 6th from 12:00 PM to 4:00 PM in Scanlon Banquet Hall. Other STD tests will be available at no cost as well.
14. Student Affairs Committee: Caitlin Turner
    * + 1. We talked about many events on campus, such as the success of our women’s sports teams and the “Speak Out” demonstration. We were also given an update, from Kurt Robie, about the new construction on campus, such as rehabbing the baseball and softball fields, repairs to Horace Mann walkway, University Hall and the Ely Renovations.
        2. Our next scheduled meeting is Wednesday, December 7th at 3:30 PM in the Ely conference room.
15. Multicultural Committee: **No Report**
16. Food Services Committee: Victoria Downs
    * + 1. Construction of the new island service area will begin on December 21st.
        2. Our reading day is the Holiday Buffet on December 14th . If you have any suggestions for the kind of food to have at that, you can let me know. Tonight’s dinner is Native American themed, very good salmon. Also they have a lot more people from Westfield coming in to eat, since the storm and people are actually raving about the food. So we have some good Public Relations going on there.
        3. Our next scheduled meeting is December 6th at 4:15 PM in the Dinning Commons.
17. Health Committee: **No Report**
18. Parking Control Board: **No Report**
19. Sustainability Committee**: No Report**
20. Student Athletic Advisory Board: **No Report**
21. Substance Advisory committee: **No Report**
22. VICE PRESIDENT’S REPORT-ACADEMIC LIFE: *Tony Iozzo*
23. This Monday, November 28th there will be a survey about advising with your department advisor on the myWestfield portal, it will be available until January 10th. It will pop up as soon as you sign into myWestfield. Also, for those that take it, your name will be entered into a raffle with six $50.00 gift cards as prizes.
    1. **Sue LaMontagne**: This is an anonymous survey, correct?
    2. **Tony Iozzo**: Yes, it is.
24. Academic Policies Committee: **No Report**
25. Curriculum Committee: **No Report**
26. Enrollment Management Committee: **No Report**
27. Campus Technology Committee**: No Report**
28. International Programs Committee: **No Report**
29. Institutional Assessment Committee: **No Report**
30. Academic Strategic Planning Committee**: No Report**
31. Library Advisory Committee**: No Report**
32. Learning Communities**: No Report**
33. VICE PRESIDENT’S REPORT-PROGRAMMING: *Brandon Burr*
34. Programming update: Brandon Burr
35. Brown Bag Bingo was good and so was NACA we got some good ideas for events to bring to Westfield State University.
36. We have the Boston Bruins Trip tickets going on sale this Thursday, December 1st at 5:00 PM down here in the Student Government Office. The Campus Activities Board and Weekend Programming teamed up and bought 48 Boston Bruins tickets to sell to students and Westfield State University. To clear up any questions before they come up no guest are allowed to attend, the tickets are $35.00 and students can only buy one. There will be a coach bus bringing us to and from the game. The game is on February 2nd at 7:00 PM in Boston.
37. The New York City bus trip is this Saturday, December 3rd, the bus is leaving at 7:00 AM so be ready.
    1. **Jim Roberstson**: Are the busses to New York assigned?
    2. **Brandon Burr**: No, you just have to go back on the bus that you came on.
38. Neighborhood Association Committee: Brandon Burr
    * + 1. The Turkey Drive ended and we made a total of $1,255.00 and we were able to purchase 102 turkeys. Thank you to everyone who helped. It was a great success and the Salvation Army was very happy with the turnout.
39. **Rich Darrach**: Did we beat last year’s efforts?
40. **Brandon Burr**: Yes we did.
41. Neighborhood Advisory Board**: No Report**
42. VICE PRESIDENT’S REPORT-FINANCE: *Stone Koury*
43. Finance Report: **No Report**
44. Foundation Report**: No Report**
45. SERETARY’S REPORT: *Krysta Livingstone/Amy Wing*
46. Executive Secretary Report: Krysta Livingstone
    * + 1. We have two senators of the week awards tonight.
47. These senators really showed dedication in helping with efforts, to rake leaves at the Cancer House of Hope. They were willing to give up their Saturday morning to help out a great cause! These senators showed true dedication and commitment and are great examples for other senators. This is why Nick Newsome, Emily Baker, Meaghan MacDonald, and Richard Darrach are awarded a “Senator of the Week” award.
48. These senators showed great dedication in the Neighborhood Association Committees annual Turkey Drive. They truly went above and beyond the call of duty and showed a great example of dedication for other senators. This is why Victoria Landry, Richard Darrach, Dominick Farbo and Jim Robertson are awarded a “Senator of the Week” award.

**Sue LaMontagne**: Can I see all those who got a “Senator of the Week” for a picture for the newsletter?

1. As a friendly reminder, please remember to put your name and committee on top of your report forms and please be sure to write in complete sentences.
2. Legislative Secretary Report: Amy Wing
3. Just a reminder that units are due tomorrow, November 30th.
4. PARLIMENTARIAN REPORTS:
5. Rules and Regulations Committee: **No Report**
6. COMMUTER COUNCIL, CLASS AND HALL REPORTS:
7. Commuter Council: Nicholas Newsome
   1. The Commuter breakfast was a success we raised $40.00 for the Turkey Drive.
   2. I move to appoint Ross Beck as a representative to senate for the Commuter Council for the remainder of the academic year. Motion passed.
   3. Our next scheduled meeting is on Wednesday, November 30th at 1:00 PM in the Commuter Office.
8. Senior Class: Meaghan MacDonald
9. I announce that Ross Beck has resigned from the Class of 2012.
10. Just a reminder, that the Date Auction is next week, December 6th at 7:30 PM in Dever Hall and Stage.
11. Our next scheduled meeting is on Wednesday, November 30th at 4:30 PM in the Student Government Association Clubs Room.
12. Junior Class: **No Report**
13. Sophomore Class**: No Report**
14. Freshman Class: Richard Darraach
    * + 1. We held our first fundraiser, a 50/50 Thanksgiving raffle, last week. It wasn’t the most successful, but we learned a few things, so going forward we’ll do better.
        2. On Thursday, December 8th at 8:00 PM, the Freshman Class will be hosting a Holiday Party in the Ely Campus Center. Advertisements are going out Thursday night, December 1st, along with an e-mail notice. We’re also working on a Class Yankee swap, which will be called “Switch-a-Gift”. Since our class doesn’t have an advisor yet, any suggestions or advice are more than welcome.
        3. Our next scheduled meeting is on November 1st at 5:30 PM in the Student Government Conference Room.
15. Apartment Complex: **No Report**
16. Courtney Hall**:** Victoria Downs
    * + 1. Our event, making fleece blankets, went well. We made about 15 blankets and they are really cute.
17. **Sue LaMontagne**: Can you guys also have your picture taken, with the blankets, for the newsletter?
    * + 1. We are in the process of putting our Respect/Community posters up and will be implementing an incentive, having to do with damages and the levels. So tell your friends in Courtney to be well behaved.
        2. Our next scheduled meeting is on December 5th at 5:00 PM in the Courtney Main Lounge.
18. Davis Hall: **No Report**
19. Dickinson Hall: **No Report**
20. Econo Lodge Housing: **No Report**
21. Lammers Hall: Hannah Persson
    * + 1. Lammers will be hosting our fleece blanket making event tomorrow, Wednesday, November 30th from 8:00 PM until 10:00 PM. in the lobby. We have enough fleece for 30 blankets.
        2. We also have a holiday party, next Wednesday, December 7th from 8:00 PM until 10:00 PM. We are having pizza, snacks, a snowflake making contest and holiday movies.
        3. Our next scheduled meeting is on December 5th at 8:00 PM in the Lammers Lobby.
22. Lansdowne Hall: **No Report**
23. New Hall: Anthony Oberg
    * + 1. Our Sweater contest was a hit. All food was eaten. Two main December events; the gingerbread house making contest and during finals week we will have meals and food.
        2. Our next scheduled meeting is on December 1st at 4:00 PM in the New Hall conference room.
24. Scanlon Hall: **No Report**
25. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**: None**
26. NEW BUSINESS:
27. **Lou Cimaglia:** I move to open new business. Motion Passed.
28. **Sue LaMontagne:** Hello everyone, I hope you all got a chance to read your NEASC. We are, at the point, where we are putting together the final draft, and we would like to incorporate your feedback into the final draft. I will be taking notes, and will turn it over to Lou to get your feedback.
29. **Lou Cimaglia:** Is there any feedback for standard 1?
30. **Ryan Meersman:** On the fourth paragraph, on the first page is this something that should be identified in areas of improvement? As in, we should aim to have all departments having missions on their websites?
31. **Elizabeth Cauley**: It talks about the strategic planning committee, and refers to it as SPC. I think it should be named consistently.
32. **Ryan Meersman**: On the first projection, the last sentence doesn’t seem to make sense to me.
33. **Lou Cimaglia**: Is there any feedback for standard 2?
34. **Tammy Adams**: In the first paragraph, under planning, is it still the All College Committee?
35. **Sue LaMontagne**: It does still go by ACC.
36. **David Smailes**: The all-college committee is under a state contract, which is probably why the name hasn’t changed.
37. **Ryan Meersman**: I guess my question is, I have been asking myself ‘how?’ through reading a lot of this. I don’t know if it is for this document, or does the ‘how’ stuff come in another step?
38. **Sue LaMontagne**: I will give that as a general feedback, because the how part is very important.
39. **Lou Cimaglia**: Is there any feedback on standard 3?
40. **Tim Egan**: I really liked the organization and the way it was written.
41. **Ryan Dolan**: I think adding the lack of knowledge of Student Government Association by students and faculty should be added under weaknesses.
42. **Rebecca DiVico**: What does DGCE?
43. **Sue LaMontagne**: It is the Division of Graduate and Continuing Education. The team will know what this means.
44. **Victoria Downs**: I agree with Ryan about Student Government Association, also, there are a few sentences that are worded difficult to understand.
45. **Stephanie Close**: I understand that we want to show our strengths, but it is ignored in the weaknesses that there is a lack of communication and knowledge on how the governance system works. Also, in this standard, it gives a different number of students on SGA than another standard.
46. **Lou Cimaglia**: Is there any feedback on standard 4?
47. **Tony Iozzo**: I thought this was written very well, but I noticed that the strategic academic planning committee is not mentioned here, but it is in other standards. Also, I think it would be good to mention majors that easily coincide with each other in terms of double majors.
48. **Lou Cimaglia**: Is there anything for standard 5?
49. **Brandon Burr**: First, I think it is very well written, I guess for me, I don’t know what is expected of faculty behind the scenes, and so it is tough to know what is right and wrong here. I also think we should add ideas on getting more faculty involved in campus events.
50. **Dominick Farbo**: I agree with Brandon. When it talks about the evaluation process, it mentions the peer to peer evaluations, but not student evaluations.
51. **Sarah Hegarty**: When they mentioned the amount of part time faculty we have as a weakness, but I think it should be strength. They also don’t mention what they want to do with the part time faculty.
52. **Lou Cimaglia**: Is there any feedback for standard 6?
53. **Jen McDiarmid**: It was helpful to outline the student groups on campus.
54. **Meaghan MacDonald**: I am reading about all of these projections. How many of these things are we actually going to go through with? I feel like a lot of these are just there to be there, and they won’t be followed through with.
55. **Jim Robertson**: Does NEASC check back to check on these projections?
56. **Sue LaMontagne**: Yes, we have to submit a five year progress report.
57. **Victoria Landry**: I think more should be mentioned about the campus center.
58. **Meaghan MacDonald**: I think more should be included about New Student Orientation.
59. **Abby McMahon**: I would be helpful to include welcome week activities.
60. **Lou Cimaglia**: Is there any feedback for standard 7?
61. **Krysta Livingstone**: I think more should be more discussion on the databases the library offers.
62. **Katie Morrisey**: I think it was well written, and it was good to include that we are doing renovations.
63. **Lou Cimaglia**: Any feedback for standards 8 and 9?
64. **Eric Thompson**: There are some things that are past tense that should now be present tense, and it should be Dever Hall and Stage, not Dever Auditorium.
65. **Stone Koury**: It mentions what we do for athletics, but some of it seems redundant. I also could not find mention of the new serving station in the Dining Commons. There should also be more info on the Ely renovations. I also think we should talk about Collegiate Link.
66. **Lou Cimaglia**: Is there any feedback for standards 10 and 11?
67. **Christain White**: Is the Mass Test for Educator Licensure the same thing as the MTEL?
68. **Emily Tobin**: There areas of improvement are vague, especially the third one. Also, it mentions how to increase diversity for faculty and staff, but not so much for students.
69. **Amy Wing**: I agree with Emily. I know some of the strengths were about the Portal, but also there is a lot under weaknesses. I just think it is inconsistent. I personally think it should all be under needs for improvement. I also like what they said about the newly designed website. In standard 11, I like how it went through all of the different policies.
70. **Jim Robertson**: I agree about the portal being under weaknesses. I think this was written very well, and like how everything is consistent. I also think more should be mentioned about the make-up of the marketing department.
71. **Sue LaMontagne:** Thank you all very much for your feedback, it is really appreciated.
72. **Lou Cimaglia:** I move to close new business. Motion passed.
73. ANNOUNCEMENTS:
74. **Amy Wing**: Units are due tomorrow.
75. **Stephanie Close**: The blood drive is tomorrow, November 30th please remember, if you signed up to volunteer.
76. **Matt Durant**: 26 days until Christmas.
77. **Brandon Burr**: Bruins tickets are on sale Thursday.
78. **Lou Cimaglia**: Remember to get your envelopes.
79. **Sue LaMontagne**: Remember to stay for a picture if asked.
80. **Meaghan MacDonald**: 172 days until commencement.
81. ROLL CALL: Nicholas Villante, Andrew Alcombright, Jennifer McDiarmid, Olivia Dumas, Brenda McCarthy, Aerin Andre, and Joyniqua Hall were absent, Allison McLaughlin sent an alternate, and Michelle Brown and Alicia Thomas were excused.
82. ADJOURNMENT: adjourned at 6:25 PM.