**Student Government Association Minutes**

April 7, 2015

1. ROLL CALL: Priscilla Aguilar and Ashley Giglietti were absent. Courtney Keddy, Emily McKenelley, Megan Doerle and Marlon Bryan were excused.
2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM March 31, 2015: Minutes were approved.
3. PRESIDENT’S REPORT: *Rebecca DiVico*
4. Hello everyone, our speaker this evening is Marsha Marotta Interim Vice President of Academic Affairs.
5. **Marsha Marotta**: Thank you, Rebecca DiVico. Good afternoon everyone. Thanks for having me down here. You may have some questions about Commencement. I do have some ticket information so let’s start there. You may have noticed that we have a new and improved commencement website. Most of the answers to your questions can be found there. It has a lot of dates and other kinds of things. For example, on Friday, the bookstore will get the list of eligible graduates. After that point, caps and gowns will be available. All of that information is available on the website.
6. As of noon today, 717 students have registered and asked for commencement tickets. So, they each asked for anywhere from one to four tickets. That amounted to 2,844 tickets. Then, in the same request, people asked for their plus two, if they could get it. By the looks of this, it looks like everyone who asked for a plus one or plus two will get it. One thousand fifty two tickets were requested there so that is a total of 3,896 tickets taken already. About 300 students have not registered. They may not be planning to come or perhaps they just haven’t registered yet. They have until Friday. So, we could do that. Therefore, the plus one or plus two are not a sure thing yet. It depends how many students need tickets for their original one to four tickets. It is looking good that most people should get their initial plus one or plus two. If there are extra tickets after that, we will do a lottery. The plus one or plus two will be a lottery though, if we do run out of tickets by Friday, April 10. There are 4,800 tickets total meaning we have about 900 tickets now that are not spoken for. So, I think the best advice for those who were planning to bring a lot of guests, like Joshua Clark, ask your classmates who aren’t going or do not need all of their tickets or what have you. We will make an assessment on Friday, April 10, after the deadline and then we will make an announcement so that then you know whether you can ask for more tickets or not and how many you can get. It is a complicated process but we are doing our best to be as fair as possible.
7. The last of the petition to walk decisions went out today. So, everybody should know by now whether they are walking or not. Some people will continue to “clear their record” as we say, so they may become eligible to participate in commencement, even if they aren’t right now. So, we have to watch out for those numbers as well in terms of tickets.
8. The only other thing I would really like to say about Commencement is that there is an expectation for students to stay through the whole ceremony. Each year, we shorten it a little bit. There are some things we cut this year to shorten it even more. The expectation is that you will stay until the end of the ceremony and you should probably have a conversation with your parents and guests about that. Whether they stay or not is up to them but as students, you are expected to stay. Not only does it look bad when people leave after they get their diploma, this is a community and this is your last event being all together as undergraduate students until you hear that gavel. So, out of respect and so as to not distract the ceremony, we do ask that you stay for the entirety of the ceremony. Somebody made the suggestion that if we banged the gavel at the end and you don’t actually earn your degree until the gavel is banged, everyone would be forced to stay until the end. We normally bang the gavel at the beginning and then announce the names. We don’t want to do that. That would be somewhat extreme. I hope that those of you who are seniors and those of you coming up in the ranks will remember that this is a dignified really special ceremony and special day. I hope you will treat it that way.
9. **Victoria Landry**: As far as staying until the end of the ceremony, is the University planning on communicating that to the students or will that be up to the class officers?
10. **Marsha Marotta**: We actually put that in all the communication to the students and the parents. Do they actually read it? I don’t know. So, I always ask the class officers to help spread that word. It is important for you, especially, to spread that word. Because of the order we go in, if half of the seats are empty as we get towards the end, it is a shame and kind of embarrassing for you.
11. **Olivia Dumas**: Are the class officer duties changing at all?
12. **Marsha Marotta**: No, the class officer duties are not changing. The position in the arena where the class officers sit will not change either. Class president, who will give a speech, will be up on the platform and the class officers will be right in the front. I think they’re the best seats in the house because you are not as conspicuous up on the platform but you can still see everything.
13. **Richard Darrach**: Do we have a projected timeframe for how long commencement will be this year?
14. **Marsha Marotta**: Commencement usually lasts about three hours. It is more like two hours and 45 minutes but if you plan on three hours, you should be safe. Last year we shaved off about 20 minutes. This year, I think we will shave off about 10 more minutes and believe me, it is 10 minutes of stuff that will not be missed.
15. **JJ Terlaga**: Could you talk about parking for a bit?
16. **Marsha Marotta**: There is information and maps about parking on the website. There is parking in the Mass Mutual garage across the street from the arena. Because it’s a Saturday afternoon, there is lots of on-street parking as well. Not only do you have to pay in the garage, traffic jams can be crazy at the end of events for that kind of stuff. So, there is some paid on-street parking as well as metered parking. Last year, the meters did not have to be paid on a Saturday and I believe that is still true. You can check that out. There is another Commencement in the Mass Mutual center before ours so sometimes if you time it right, and get there around 2:30 pm the other guests from the previous Commencement are just leaving. So you can steal their good parking spaces.
17. **Olivia Dumas**: Is there a need for student volunteers at commencement?
18. **Marsha Marotta**: Yes. In fact, there are lots of roles for student volunteers at Commencement. It is a nice thing to do if you’re a junior or sophomore and you want to see what commencement is like. So, Barbara Hand would be pleased to take your name down if you’re interested. She is on the Commencement Committee and she will be able to pass on the names to the committee. We have vests for volunteers to wear.
19. **Emily Mason**: Will there be special parking or seating for those with disabilities or handicapped needs?
20. **Marsha Marotta**: In that parking garage, there are spaces for that. There are on street spaces as well. If you are concerned for when you arrive that these will not be available, tell Barbara Hand please and we will see what we can do about that. We know that there are not always enough and you can’t really predict that. There is a space that people can be dropped off, like a little pull-in right at the front of the building. Someone can get dropped off there while others park the car.
21. I can talk about other things too. I know you all have registered very smoothly. The last registration is Friday, April 10. This is not always the case. So, we are really pleased. It is sort of weird. I don’t completely trust it. I always have to find out immediately at 7:01 am how many people have registered by 7:02 am and it is always about 700 students. So, that is going really smoothly which we are really happy about.
22. If you’re a senior, you may be interested to know that the Academic Awards Ceremony is April 28. That is when the departments are going to give academic achievement awards to their students in the departments. Some of you may be getting those or you may want to go to support your friends.
23. We are in the process of a searching for a new Dean of Undergraduate Studies. Some of you may know we do not have a Dean in that position right now which means a lot of work for everybody else in Academic Affairs. So, we are looking forward to filling this position for someone to start likely in June.
24. We just had a program review in International Programs. It was a very positive review. We haven’t gotten the results yet but the exit interview was very positive. The reviewer was very impressed with all of the things that Westfield State is doing with International Programs. Right now, we are getting ready to approve our slate for International Programs next year. There are some pretty exciting courses coming up.
25. **Ariana Roche**: Do you have any idea when you would get that report?
26. **Marsha Marotta**: The reviewer said that she hoped to get it to me before she leaves for a trip to South America. So it will be anywhere from the next two weeks, to about one month.
27. **Ariana Roche**: Readdress. Will any of that be shared with students?
28. **Marsha Marotta**: Absolutely. The way this works is that you get a draft report and then the staff and faculty get to read it and fix any misinterpretations and that there is a revision and we share the final draft. That may take a little bit longer.
29. **Matthew Carlin**: Is there any new curriculum or policy changes that we should be looking forward to in the near future?
30. **Marsha Marotta**: There is nothing big coming through curriculum right now. We do have some things in the planning stages. We have an Interdisciplinary Health Sciences major coming though and a Post-Baccalaureate Health Sciences program as well that would just help students prepare for medical professional school including med school, vet school, dental school, PA, PT, OT, and all of those kinds of programs. We have about 200 students on-campus who are coming together to put together this pre-medical health science program. Some are Movement Science majors, some Biology, some Psychology, and so on. So, we are trying to create an Interdisciplinary program that would fit the needs of all those students. So that is very interesting. I’m sure you have heard about the Physician Assistant program, which is a graduate program, which is in the process of being put together right now. We hope to open it, though we are not sure exactly, with the opening of the new science center in the fall of 2016.
31. **Matthew Carlin**: Is there anything coming out of the common core meeting? There was a special committee formed. Is anything official coming from that?
32. **Marsha Marotta**: That committee is working to review the Composition classes. Next year, they will do another area. Then, they’ll be on a six year cycle. There is some interest on campus to look at the core as a whole. That committee is not responsible for that. They assess the core. The core we have now was adopted in 1998. It has been around for a while. There is some question about whether it is still the best core for us today. We did have a special committee a few years ago called ROCCC which stood for Review of the Common Core Committee. They studied for two years and made recommendations but in the end, curriculum did not see it as the right way to go for Westfield at that time. The question is whether we do that kind of review and proposal again or do we do it some other way. I hope that students will pay attention to these things because it makes a big difference to you.
33. Does our core make sense to you?
34. **Joshua Frank**: I was on Curriculum Committee when ROCCC went through and I really liked ROCCCs core. I really advocated for it. I think a big thing with our core right now is that it is so many credits, so it is kind of hard to balance that and pick up minors plus getting your major requirements done. I know that at other schools, they have significantly less credits to complete for core. I think that the core definitely achieves the goal of having a liberal arts education but I think that same goal could be achieved another way.
35. **Morgan Suddeth**: I think that when I came in as a first-year, I was really overwhelmed by the idea of the core. Sitting at orientation and listening to all of the presentations and then hearing that we had all of these requirements to do prior to graduation was overwhelming. I like that there are a lot of options within the common core. I think that is fantastic.
36. **Jon Cubetus**: I tend to agree with what Josh and Morgan said. I am curious as to what ROCCC proposed.
37. **Marsha Marotta**: I could not do justice to it here. It has been a few years. I think part of the issue with ROCCCs core is the complexity of it. If you sit down and study their matrix, you can understand it. It was a bit too much to really explain though, I think. That was part of the problem. Would you agree with that, Josh Frank?
38. **Joshua Frank**: Request for Information. It was almost too much change all at once. It was complex but I really liked it. It was just too much change too quickly.
39. **Marsha Marotta**: Yes, there was a philosophy behind it. So that was what they were trying to sell. But, there was intended to be a philosophy behind our core now which has to do with Liberal Arts and getting a broad understanding of different areas of academia. So, even if you are a Criminal Justice or Biology major, you still have to take Appreciation of the Arts classes and it is to make well-rounded individuals. So, is it too many credits? I don’t think a lot of people would argue with that. The question is what is the right number of credits? How do we fix it? There isn’t another committee working on that right now but when there is, students need to be involved with it.
40. **Victoria Landry**: Throughout my core, I think the only part of it that I wasn’t a huge fan of was the Literary and Philosophical Analysis piece. I don’t know if it was just the courses that were offered but I think that I was looking for something with more of a critical thinking component to it where I felt that I was just reading stories and writing about them with those two pieces. It could have just been the two courses I took but I think many students feel that way. I just think that area could be developed a lot more.
41. **Andrew Morin**: I tend to agree with what everyone said. I just wanted to add a bit. I think it’s difficult sometimes with the common core because there is only one section offered of some classes and there are only 20 spots in that class. I feel like if it is a “common” core class, it should be offered more “commonly.” Some of them are also major restricted and that makes very little sense to me.
42. **Marsha Marotta**: There are no classes in the common core that are major restricted. The other comments that you said are absolutely true and that can be a challenge but no course can be in the core if it is major restricted.
43. **Olivia Dumas**: Request of Information. Introduction to Criminal Justice is major restricted and it is in the common core. The same goes for a few education classes.
44. **Marsha Marotta**: Intro to Criminal Justice is not technically major restricted. We just put Criminal Justice majors in it first. And then there are no seats left. That is in effect but there are so many Criminal Justice majors. We are not looking for more. Core courses like that can be used for undeclared students to take and realize that they like it and want to join the major. Intro to Criminal Justice is not the case for that. But you said there are some education courses? I would have to look at that. What was the other area?
45. **Olivia Dumas**: Request of Information. There are a lot of sections of the core that contain major restricted classes. There are a lot of 300 level courses too. It’s hard in peer advising to tell students that they cannot take certain classes even though those classes are listed under the common core. Maybe there is confusion between “core classes” and then classes that count as core. That might be a little separate and I don’t thinks students see the difference between the open “core classes” like Introduction to American Literature or the closed classes like International Relations that can count for core but is not a common core class open to everyone. Multicultural Education is the same thing. It is listed as a core class but only education majors take that during their junior year.
46. **Marsha Marotta**: Okay. Well, that does go against the philosophy of the core. I am sure that these were exceptions that led to these kinds of things.
47. **Andrew Morin**: Readdress. Sometimes, I am in classes that are required for my major and I wonder why it cannot count for core. For example, I was sitting at a lecture, learning about social understanding but I cannot imagine why it does not count as a social understanding core class.
48. **Marsha Marotta**: That piece I can explain. It is up to departments to submit a course to the core. If you submit to the core, than you in theory, have to make your class available to everyone. Oftentimes, they don’t have enough Faculty to provide enough sections to do that. In that case, it becomes major restricted and in theory, it does not belong in the core.
49. **Joshua Frank**: Has there ever been communication with other state Universities and how their core works and possibly, how they restructured their core? I know that at other schools have very different core requirements. Has there been any crossover?
50. **Marsha Marotta**: That is a great suggestion.
51. **Jon Cubetus**: I’m not sure if you are looking for more courses that are restricted like that. Introduction to Ethics is restricted for Nursing majors. My advisor was not aware of that and so I put it down and was surprised on registration day.
52. **Matthew Carlin**: Request for Information. When a class says that it is major restricted, it just means at that current time, let’s say that there are only five spots left, they are saving those spots for first-year students. The registrar can come in and save four of five seats because first-year students have no control over their schedules at all.
53. **Jon Cubetus**: I understand that for most classes but Intro to Ethics is something that Nursing majors do take, so that is why it is closed off.
54. **Andrew Morin**: Request of Information. Just to clear that up, you take that as a first semester first-year nursing student. They are holding those spots for incoming first-year students that are nursing majors.
55. **Marsha Marotta**: I do believe that there are more seats than just for nursing majors. Many majors recommend Intro to Ethics so it is competitive. We could use many more sections of ethics.
56. **Rose Ferraro**: I am a Music major. I cannot get my Appreciation of the Arts in which is weird because I major in the Arts. They are all at the same time as my common music core. Music Theory I sections are all at the same time as Basic Music Theory. It doesn’t make sense to me or my advisor, Mary Brown-Bonacci, as to why Music Theory I does not count for core whereas Basic Music Theory does and it is essentially the same information.
57. **Marsha Marotta**: I will take down your name and I will look at it.
58. **Joshua Clark**: Have our reviews from NEASC addressed the core? I feel like as the State Universities evolve, NEASC would look at our cores differently. If our common core is a little wonky, why wouldn’t NEASC say something? I guess, have they commented on it?
59. **Marsha Marotta**: NEASC was here in 2012. The team noted that we had this ROCCC committee with a proposal that has been languishing for about six years. They did say that if we were going to do a review of our core, we need to do it and change it. NEASC does not usually comment on the quality or type of core that an institution has. Rather, they want to be sure that it makes sense in your institution and that you are assessing it and monitoring student outcomes and using those outcomes to evaluate things.
60. **Victoria Landry**: One component I think was lacking, I know we have talked about Civic Engagement, but I was thinking about something more broadly in terms of a professional development or career oriented sort of piece like leadership skills, which would of course need a whole curriculum. I know that I am thinking on a wide scale right now. But something with civic engagement or leadership section.
61. **Marsha Marotta**: Would you add credits? Or would you take something away?
62. **Victoria Landry**: I don’t know if it could be somehow factored into Social Understanding? I find it interesting that we have to do one credit from the government section and three from the other section. I bet it could be put into the general social understanding.
63. **Ariana Roche**: I personally am a fan of the common core. I think that as a Liberal Arts education, I gained a lot from it. I also just want to say that the honors courses offered in the common core were very effective. I think that is what we sign up for. As much as we don’t want to take some of the classes, it is what we do because we are getting a liberal arts education. While it could use some minor adjustments, I think it is great overall.
64. Marsha Marotta: Thank you so much.
65. Thank you Marsha Marotta.
66. There is a survey out for Health Services that was sent out through email. Please take a moment to participate in the survey; these results really help out Health Services.
67. This Thursday on April 9 at 5:30 pm, there will be a Passover Seder in Scanlon Banquet hall C. the cost is free but please RSVP to Lisa McMahon if you are interested in attending.
68. There is another survey that is out for the climate of the Campus Center. You can win $25.00 in Owl Bucks so you should definitely take that.
69. The deadline for the Sodexo Scholarship is due on April 17. Please get those up to Student Affairs Office as soon as you can.
70. Items not listed on the agenda.

1. BOARD OF TRUSTEES’ REPORT**:** *Joshua Frank*
2. So first I want to thank everyone who attended State House Day. We were one of the largest represented schools there, and we got to meet with Representative, go on the Balcony of the State House and hold the Senate Presidents gavel which was my favorite part. As a little surprise and thank you to the senators that went, I worked out with Evelyn Dina that your units are all set for April. Thank you all again, and if you have any suggestions for next year please see me after the meeting and I’ll let Brent Bean in the President’s office know.
3. The Board of Trustees met on April 6 and we went over a number of things.
4. We met with Commissioner Freeland from the Department of Higher Education. He spoke to us about how were seeing a stronger business invest in Public Higher Education than ever before. He also talked to us about the budget. This year we are looking at a 3% increase for the Baker administration, however the budget does not fund collective bargaining. I don’t have any specifics yet on how that will effect tuition it’s still a little early in the process but I will let you know as soon as possible.
5. Then we approved 22 faculty promotions, and approved three proposed honorary degrees including this year’s Commencement speaker Brandon Stanton.
6. Then we approved a State wide Equal Opportunity, Diversity and Affirmative Action plan. This plan is being used across all of the state universities to address diversity, discrimination, sexual assault and violence and accommodations for persons with disabilities. With the implementation of this plan we then eliminated a number of policies for redundancy purposes.
7. We also approved policies on workplace violence, domestic violence leave, and information security passwords.
8. At the meeting we discussed advancement opportunities and approved a revised policy for the naming of University facilities and other spaces.
9. The second annual Scholarship and Fundraising Gala will be held on May 9 at 6:00 pm on the campus green. If any of you are presenting projects this year good luck at the event.
10. On the financial end of things we hired O’Connor and Drew for next year’s auditing process. We approved a policy on fixed assets, capitalization, and inventory control. We also eliminated the corporate credit card use policy because we no longer have credit cards on campus.
11. As for the Presidential search we are still working on the final draft of the position description.
12. The next Board of Trustee’s meeting is scheduled for June 25 at 3:00 pm in the Presidential Board Room. Making this the last Board meeting I will report on for the rest of the academic year.
13. All University Committee**: No Report**
14. Neighborhood Advisory Board**: No Report**
15. VICE PRESIDENT’S REPORT-STUDENT LIFE**:** *Joshua Clark*
16. Hello, hope everything is well.
17. Housing sign-ups went well, according to Josh Hettrick. Aside from the controversy from the beginning with the incorrect signups, the process went smoothly. Res Life is very happy about that.
18. There are some returning students living in Dickinson Hall next year. This was because Res Life wanted to save rooms in Courtney and Scanlon Hall for first-years attempting to live in LLC’s. There were some students who were upset about that but by and large they understood.
19. The Subcommittee of the Interfaith Council working on the President’s Interfaith and Community Service Campus Challenge is moving along. They are working on an initiative that was proposed by Interim President Preston called PUSH. PUSH stands for Presidents United to Solve Hunger. It is basically a group of College and University Presidents and Chancellors who are working on food security on their campuses and in their local communities. There are a lot of good things that will be coming out of that.
20. Please make every effort to attend the Passover Seder on Thursday, April 9 at 5:30 pm in Scanlon. This should be a good event to celebrate the Jewish holiday of Passover, so it is a good opportunity to learn about new cultures.
21. If you plan on running for Vice President of Student Life, please see me after the meeting.
22. **Maddie Creamer**: I signed up for an LLC a few weeks ago and never received confirmation. Should I be worried about that?
23. **Joshua Clark**: I would look into it. There were days where people could go to University Hall and sign up for an LLC. There were a few conversations that I had with Josh Hettrick and the lovely Housing Committee. If you had gone to these events and signed up, you were all set for housing. Certainly, call Josh Hettrick. But I wouldn’t be too worried about it at this point.
24. **Marissa Russo**: Were all LLCs used?
25. **Joshua Clark**: Some LLCs had low numbers so they were kicked out of the system. Many of them were definitely a go.
26. **Sharleen Varghese**: Do you think we would be all set if it shows up under the billing system?
27. **Joshua Clark**: Yes. Maybe still call Josh Hettrick and confirm with him.
28. Student Affairs Committee**: No Report**
29. Multicultural Committee**: Ivana McGlinchey**
30. Multicultural Student Association will be having a couple of events coming up.
31. Open Mic Night which will be showcasing Art, Poetry, Music, Culture and other talent, will be held on Tuesday, April 14 at 7:30 pm. Admission fee is by donation with a $1.00 minimum.
32. The Black Student Association and Multicultural Association will be hosting the 3 v 3 basketball tournament on Saturday, April 11 from 2:30 pm to 6:00 pm. Registration starts at 2:00 pm. There will be concessions sold. Prizes are Owl Bucks and a Trophy.
33. The Muslim Student Organization will be having an event with Bilqus Abdui-Quaadir it is a talk on Hoops, Hijab and Hypocrisy. It will take place in Wilson Auditorium, tomorrow April 8 at 4:00 pm.
34. The Jewish Student Organization will be having a Passover Cedar Thursday, April 9 at 5:30 pm in the Scanlon Banquet Hall C.
35. Morgan Suddeth: Where is the $1.00 going from the open mic night?
36. Ivana McGlinchey: They haven’t’ announced it, but it looks like it might be going to the Samaritan Inn.
37. Our next scheduled meeting is Wednesday, April 14 at 5:00 pm in the Ely conference room 003, near Dunkin Donuts.
38. Food Services Committee**: No Report**
39. Health Committee: **No Report**
40. Parking Control Board: **No Report**
41. Student Athletic Advisory Board: **No Report**
42. Substance Advisory Committee: **No Report**
43. Community Relations/Fundraising Report**: Justin Connolly**
44. On Wednesday, April 15 from 1:00 pm to 7:00 pm in the Parenzo Gym will be the final Blood Drive of the year.
45. I will be sending around the signup sheets for the lunch set ups as well as the drive volunteer signups.
46. I highly recommend to anyone who is interested in my position to volunteer as long as you can. If you are able to get a feel on how it runs. There are free t-shirts available while supplies last.
47. **Andrew Morin**: If someone not on SGA is interested in your position, should they email you about volunteering?
48. **Justin Connolly**: Yes.
49. VICE PRESIDENT’S REPORT-ACADEMIC LIFE: *Olivia Dumas*
50. Hi everyone, I hope you all had a great Easter or Passover or weekend. Today is the last week of registration, as first years register on Friday. Thank you to everyone who has helped hang up posters, you guys rock. So, I have a question and an update for you all.
51. The search for the Interim Dean of Undergrad Studies was unsuccessful, and the committee is in the process of finding a permanent dean right now. There will be all day interviews conducted most likely during finals week, and there will be opportunities for student input and I will update you all once I know more information of student involvement.
52. My question for you guys is in regards to the common core. In Curriculum Committee we brought up the idea of the core and what it serves and what its purpose is. I thought it would be helpful for the committee to know what students believe the core is so they can go forward with creating a solid definition of what the core is, and figure out how to inform students of the purpose of the core. So, what do you guys believe the core is, the purpose, or any constructive comments you have about the core?
53. **Victoria Landry**: I guess if I were to come in blind, I would think that it is something along the lines of courses that could be applied to whatever majors you are choosing. This is very broad-scale and I am getting far too into this, but I would think of it almost as an interdisciplinary option where I could take a class in a different discipline that could still apply to what I want to do. For example, a math class could lead to an interest in architecture. I think the core classes should lead to different paths within that class that students could be interested in.
54. **Olivia Dumas**: Do you feel that happens with our core?
55. **Victoria Landry**: For some courses yes but for other courses, no.
56. **Jon Cubetus**: I would like to see more life skill courses. I kind of like the idea of a leadership course. I know there are a lot of workshops happening but I think it would be cool to expand on that and get credit for it. I think the core is more of a chore right now for everybody. If you add more life skills instead, it would accomplish the idea of a better-rounded student.
57. **Joshua Frank**: I think the purpose of the core is to develop a liberal arts education. We are a liberal arts school. That is the purpose.
58. **Evelyn Dina**: For undeclared students, I think the core is an awesome way to explore different fields especially if you have no idea what you are doing with your life and you just happen to click with a math course and decide that you want to teach that for the rest of your life, for example. But, if you come in and know exactly what you want to do, like me coming in knowing I wanted to be a Communication major, it was very tedious. There are a lot of credits that you need.
59. **Victoria Landry**: I really do love the Liberal Arts aspect of the core. Taking classes in my core and major, I loved the Civic Engagement component of any class. I like taking what I learn in the classroom and applying it to something bigger than just the classroom. I know that is not possible for every class but having options in the classroom to do that made it more enjoyable for me, personally.
60. **John Coulombe**: I see the core as kind of taking high school over again. It is definitely good for people to get a variety of classes in and see what they are interested in but already coming in with a major, it really does feel like an unnecessary job to just take over high school again.
61. **Aaron Sylvia**: I would like to see more double dippers.
62. **Olivia Dumas**: Speaking to that, it takes a lot to convince anyone to make a class a double dipper. There are a lot of qualifications behind it. When they reform the core and make it smaller, hopefully double dippers can just disappear because we hopefully will not need them.
63. **Joshua Frank**: I tend to disagree with Jon Coulombe. My high school did not offer courses like Intro to Psychology, Mass Communication, or Principles of Sociology. In my biology class, chapter one was everything that I did in high school and everything after that was new material. I really have to disagree with that point. I think that the purpose is to make us more globally aware of what is going on around us and I think that is very important. Whether or not that is actually happening, is a whole different discussion.
64. **Maddie Creamer**: I went to advising on Friday, April 3 and they told me they could no longer peer advise Business majors.
65. **Olivia Dumas**: Yes. That is true and that is per request of the Business Department.
66. **Evelyn Dina**: Request for Information. I know that in the Communication Department, there are student peer advisors so maybe the Business Department does something similarly. Definitely see your advisor for help, though.
67. Academic Policies Committee: **No Report**
68. Curriculum Committee: **No Report**
69. Enrollment Management Committee: **No Report**
70. Campus Technology Committee**: No Report**
71. International Programs Committee: **No Report**
72. Library Advisory Committee**: No Report**
73. Writing Liaison**: No Report**
74. VICE PRESIDENT’S REPORT-PROGRAMMING: *Daniel Chamberlain*
75. Programming update**: Daniel Chamberlain**
76. CAB is hosted a scavenger hunt last Wednesday, April 1 and we had five teams come compete.
77. We’re in the final stages of planning everything for Spring Weekend and we’re getting excited because it is rapidly approaching. Just a reminder that concert tickets are on sale for $10.00 at westfield.ma.edu/tickets. Guest packets are also on sale for $15.00 and you can buy them on MyHousing.
78. CAB is also hosting Trivia next Wednesday, April 15 at 8:00 pm in the Owls Nest.
79. **Chelsea Nelson**: Thank you for lowering the guest price.
80. **Danny Chamberlain**: Last year it was $15.00 too but thank you.
81. **Rose Ferarro**: There are restrictions for Davis Hall. Will those be lifted for Spring Weekend?
82. **Danny Chamberlain**: I will refer that question to Joshua Clark?
83. **Joshua Clark**: Request for information. I spoke with Jon Conlogue and the RD and they are going to be having a discussion on that. The males in Davis are trying to come up with a proposal to deal with those sanctions as they relate to spring weekend. Once that is all set and Josh Hettrick is on board, the guest restrictions will most likely be remedied. I know they are trying to take care of that before spring weekend.
84. **John Coulombe**: Scanlon is currently on level 4, and there is a chance that we will move up to level 5 before spring weekend. What happens to the students who purchase guest packets before that were to hypothetically happen?
85. **Danny Chamberlain**: Again, I will refer that to Josh Clark.
86. **Joshua Clark**: Request for information. Like I said for Davis, I am assuming that Josh Hettrick would do something similar for Scanlon. Historically, when res halls have been on guest restrictions, they have some sort of break during spring weekend, and then they return to restrictions. I would imagine that if you have guest packages purchased, that it should not be a problem. I will follow up with these things.
87. Our next scheduled meeting is on April 8 at 5:00 pm in the Owls Nest.
88. VICE PRESIDENT’S REPORT-FINANCE: *Matthew Carlin*
89. Finance Report: **No Report**
90. Foundation Report: **No Report**
91. SERETARY’S REPORT: *Andrew Morin/Evelyn Dina*
92. Executive Secretary Report: **Andrew Morin**
93. Election packets are due this Friday, April 10 by 5:00 pm. there is absolutely no campaigning allowed before this time.
94. Pizza with the candidates will be held next Wednesday, April 15 down here in the SGA room 017 beginning at 4:00 pm. That is one week from tomorrow. All candidates are required to attend; those who cannot should email me at execsec.sga@westfield.ma.edu.
95. I have flyers that need to be put up tonight. Just like before, if you commit to putting up flyers in a building, you will get one unit for April. It’s really easy, there is only between 5 to 15 flyers, depending on what building you take. Please see me after the meeting to pick them up.
96. Elections will be held Tuesday, April 21 through Wednesday, April 22 on MyWestfield.
97. A heads up to all Hall councils: after our meeting on Tuesday, April 21, I will be asking you all to slide mini flyers under each door in your respective hall. The flyers simply tell residents that the polls are open and encourage them to vote. This is usually a huge push in voter turnout and will help us reach our goal, which is 15%.
98. All hall councils should plan to do this after our meeting April 21. I would encourage you to talk to the Non-SGA members on your council before then about helping out because the more people you have helping, the less time it will take.
99. If you are interested in my position, please see me tonight, after the meeting.
100. **Brendan McKee**: How long do you expect Pizza with the Candidates to run?
101. **Andrew Morin**: It would be an hour at the most. It depends how many candidates we have, but each person only gets about 30 seconds up here. So, it shouldn’t take too long at all.
102. Legislative Secretary Report: **No Report**

1. PARLIAMENTARIAN REPORT: *Sara Palis*

Rules and Regulations Committee: Sara Palis

1. The two amendments that addressed the duties of the Vice President of Programming have been withdrawn by the petitioner.
2. An amendment has been submitted to the Rules and Regulations Committee, which has been signed by five senators and the sponsor, Evelyn Dina. The amendment, if passed, will be added to Article II, Section 3 of the Student Government Association constitution bylaws. The text reads as follows, “*The BKC shall convene to review all nominations papers and information provided* ***no less than two times.*** *No final decisions shall be made by the Committee during the session; however, preliminary votes may be taken.”* This amendment shall be Subsection B number 2 of Article II, Section 3. If it passed by three-fourths next week, the amendment shall take effect immediately.
3. The Rules and Regulations Committee has recommended its approval.
4. **Joshua Clark**: I think that after rereading the amendment, it came to me that the language in here about the committee convening less than two times, and then the second sentence references a particular session, I believe. Shouldn’t it say during the first session?
5. **Evelyn Dina**: As it reads, the only thing that I changed was the bold part.
6. **Joshua Clark**: It does not reference during which session a final decision would be made, so I’m confused.
7. Joshua Clark: I move to amend the language in this amendment from “during this session” to during the first session.” Motion carries.
8. I move that the amendment gets approved. Motion carries.
9. An amendment has been submitted to the Rules and Regulations Committee, which has been signed by five senators and the sponsor, Evelyn Dina. The amendment, if passed, will be added to Article II, Section 3 of the Student Government Association constitution bylaws. The text reads as follows, “*Any nominee that does not choose to respond to the Committee’s request of additional information within ten (10) business days upon receipt of notification, shall no longer be considered for the award and subsequently disqualified.”* This amendment shall become Subsection E number 2 of Article II, Section 3. If it passed by three-fourths tonight, the amendment shall take effect immediately.
10. The Rules and Regulations Committee has recommended its approval.
11. **Ashley Deleon**: How are the candidates notified?
12. **Evelyn Dina**: They are notified via email.
13. **Ashley Deleon:** Readdress. Do you tell them ahead of time to look in their e-mail? There are a lot of students who do not check their e-mail. Do you tell them ahead of time?
14. **Evelyn Dina**: This has been done electronically and common practice for years. We send an initial email to the nominees, congratulating them on their nomination with a request for additional information. They have ten days to respond and I send a reminder email saying they have to respond. I notify them that they will be disqualified if they do not respond within ten days. They get two emails.
15. **Victoria Landry**: Is the official deadline ten business days?
16. **Evelyn Dina**: Yes.
17. I move that the amendment gets approved.
18. Our next scheduled meeting is April 7 at 8:30 pm in the SGA Conference Room E020.

1. COMMUTER COUNCIL, CLASS AND HALL REPORTS:
2. Commuter Council: **No Report**
3. Senior Class: **Richard Darrach**
4. Just a few important dates for Seniors.
5. April 10 commencement registration is due.
6. April 11 Cap and Gown sales start, they are $63.00.
7. April 28 Academic Awards Ceremony in Scanlon.
8. May 8 is Commencement Rehearsal at 5:00 pm in the Woodward Center. The first 400 people in attendance will receive a door prize, courtesy of Student Affairs.
9. Commencement tickets will be available for pick up starting April 20 at the service window.
10. Tickets that are not picked up will be moved to a will call table at the Mass Mutual Center.
11. Senior Wisdom and Merit award applications were due today, April 7. We received about 23 of them.
12. **Victoria Landry**: I have gotten some confused questions about the Academic Achievement awards. Do departments notify students? Do students already know? I think some students are under the impression that they have to go but they aren’t sure whether they have won something yet or not.
13. **Richard Darrach**: I don’t have any information on that right now.
14. **Rebecca DiVico**: Request for information. The department lets you know, you would know by now.
15. Our next scheduled meeting is April 10 at 4:00 pm in the SGA conference room E020.
16. Junior Class: **Ryan Losco**
17. The Buzz-Off is this Sunday, April 12.
18. We would like for all of you to come and take our information packets at your seats.
19. You can still sign up online or on the day of the event, donate $20.00 and take part in the event. We will have food, prizes and more, so come check it out.
20. **Amy Szlachetka**: What time is the Buzz Off?
21. **Ryan Losco**: It is at 1:30 pm to 3:30 pm.
22. Our next schedule meeting is April 14 at 4:00 pm in conference room E003.
23. Sophomore Class**: No Report**
24. First Year Class: **No Report**
25. Apartment Complex: **No Report**
26. Courtney Hall: **Rebecca Kennedy**
27. Maintainers Appreciation Day is now Facilities and Operations Appreciation Day.
28. I need volunteers for this event, both during the brunch and during the evenings/afternoon. I am passing around signup sheets for volunteers to choose a time to help. Anyone can volunteer if you so wish.
29. Can I please anyone who wants to volunteer and hall Council Presidents after the meeting?
30. **Joshua Clark**: Let’s say you get these banners done by Friday, April 10. Can you bring it to SGA next week?
31. **Rebecca Kennedy**: That is the plan.
32. **Evelyn Dina**: Request for Information: You will get a unit if you help Rebecca out with this.
33. **Rebecca Kennedy**: Thank you.
34. Our next scheduled meeting is April 8 at 6:45 pm in Courtney Hall room 151
35. Davis Hall: **No Report**
36. Dickinson Hall**: No Report**
37. Lammers Hall: **No Report**
38. Lansdowne Hall: **No Report**
39. New Hall**: No Report**
40. Scanlon Hall: **No Report**
41. University Hall**: No Report**
42. UNFIISHED BUSINESS**:**

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1. NEW BUSINESS:
2. ANNOUNCEMENTS:
3. **Matthew Carlin:** May I see the Finance Committee and the Parking Control Board after this?
4. **Ryan Losco:** Come to the Buzz Off**.**
5. **Maddie Spillers:** The Class of 2017’s tie dying event is this Thursday, April 9 in the Owls Nest for 7:00 pm to 9:00 pm. we would love to see you there**.**
6. **Justin Connolly:** May I please have my signup sheets back?
7. **Andrew Morin**: Please help me hang up Pizza with the Candidate Flyers.
8. **Evelyn Dina**: Blue Key Committee will be meeting this Thursday, April 9 at 7:00 pm. check your emails.
9. **Joshua Clark**: Pick up the paper because the last edition has been revised with more adequate and quality photos.
10. **Victoria Landry**: Can I see the Neighborhood Advisory Board after this as well as anyone interested in being a part of this committee?
11. **JJ Terlaga:** 39 days until commencement.
12. ROLL CALL: Priscilla Aguilar and Ashley Giglietti were absent. Courtney Keddy, Emily McKenelley, Marlon Bryan were excused.
13. ADJOURNMENT: Meeting adjourned at 6:57 pm.