**Student Government Association Minutes**

December 4, 2012

1. ROLL CALL: David Getchell, Xandria Sotomayor, Steve Evens, Justin Connolly, Gabrielle Correnti, Cayleigh Russell, Kaylen Vangos, Hannah Newell and Luis Arzola were absent. Sara Palis, Jocelyn Herrera-Lazo and Katie Morrissey were excused.
2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM November 27, 2012: Minutes were approved.
3. PRESIDENT’S REPORT: *Stephanie Close*
4. Tonight, we have Billy Dunn and Jessika Murphy here to show you a video they made from the Leadership Voyage.
   * + 1. **Billy Dunn**: Hello, how many of you went with us on the leadership voyage? How many of you wanted to go? How many had any idea what it was when it was pitched to you? We’re hoping that for 2013, we’re going to be able to put out a lot more detailed information about what’s going to be available for next year’s student leaders. Many of you are probably in the room that will be continuing with your leadership pursuits and goals for another year. The video is just one piece of what we’d like to do for outreach. Another thing we’d like to do is sit down with folks that both went or weren’t able to go and talk about the experience, what you’ve heard about it, how you were drawn to it, or not drawn to go on the leadership voyage. We’re in the planning stages now for when we’re going to be going again within the calendar year, as well as how long of a trip it’s going to be. For those of you who didn’t go, it was about two and a half days, you left Friday afternoon and you got back Sunday afternoon. We are looking at keeping it that way or shortening it or other options as well.
       2. **Jessika Murphy**: We’re going to show you a short video that some of you here may be in. While we get it set up, do you have any questions for us?
5. **Richard Darrach**: Will there be more free t-shirts?
6. **Jessika Murphy**: Most likely, yes.
7. **Michelle Hanney**: Are you planning another trip during the spring?
8. **Jessika Murphy**: No, we would talk about doing a supplemental, maybe having a keynote, something like that but it wouldn’t be an actual night or two nights away.
9. **Richard Darrach**: Based on your really successful turnout this year, what are you going to be doing to improve it this time around?
10. **Billy Dunn**: I think things like the video and testimonials will be used in advertisements and outreach for it. When we stand in front of groups like you, we will have a clear picture of what this event will be like.
11. **Jessika Murphy**: We’re going to beef up the advertisements, hopefully going to use this video, and we’re going to speak at Orientation, to get some first-year students interested in it. We’re looking to book it before the end of this year, so we can get a good date.
12. **Billy Dunn**: We’re not sure yet, but we’re going to try to plan it for earlier in the year so that it’s a little warmer. Those of you who went, you might remember how cold it got. It should be a little nicer in the fall rather than the early winter.
13. **Victoria Landry:** Speaking of first years, how was the turnout for first year students? Do you think it was beneficial for them? Should we promote it even beyond Orientation?
14. **Jessika Murphy:** I think it was absolutely beneficial for them and we would like to promote it more than just at Orientation. I think a lot of first years maybe shied away because they felt a little overwhelmed with the time of the year and trying to get involved with other clubs and organizations, and trying to get a handle on classes and living on campus. Hopefully by reaching out more, we can get some more first years involved.
15. **Shannon Cullinane:** When are we getting the letter we wrote to ourselves back?
16. **Jessika Murphy:** Those will be mailed to you sometime in the spring.
    * + 1. Jessika Murphy: Any ideas for giveaways in the future?
17. **Rebecca DiVico**: I thought the backpacks were helpful because you don’t go back to your cabin a lot, so it was helpful to have everything in it.
18. **Stephanie Close**: I would recommend reusable water bottles.
    * + 1. **Jessika Murphy**: So if you want to use this video, it is on Youtube. You can access it from the Student Activities website, which is a link on the Westfield State homepage.
        2. **Billy Dunn**: Thank you so much, SGA for all your support.
19. Thank you, Billy and Jess. If you guys have any feedback, or any ideas, send them to me and I can forward that to Jess and Billy, so that we can get more students involved next year.
20. Everyone received a copy of the Hazing Law on his or her chair. We are required to distribute these. Please read them over.
21. This week the Executive Board will be going around to collect for Stuff-A-Cruiser so tell your friends to save their change for us.
22. Opal Real Estate, the group that owns the Washington Street Property in downtown, is offering an amazing deal. This off campus housing option is $600.00 per resident and if you commit to lease for Fall 2013 and Spring 2014, you get spring 2013 rent-free. They give tours all week; you just need to make an appointment. If this is something you are interested in, I have the contact information.
23. Next Tuesday, December 11th is the Wreath Across America event at the Veterans Memorial in Stanley Park. This is at 9:00am. If you are able to attend, please do. This is an amazing thing to honor our service men and women, and it is amazing that Stanley Park was selected as a stop.
24. Next week, December 11th is our last meeting of the semester, and the last meeting in this room. To kick off the holiday cheer, we will be having cookies and hot chocolate for everyone. These will be out before the meeting starts, so come a little early and grab a treat for the meeting.
25. Our next scheduled meeting is December 11th, at 5:30pm in the Loughman Living Room.
26. Items not listed on Agenda.
27. BOARD OF TRUSTEES’ REPORT**:** *Stone Koury*
28. All University Committee: **No Report**
29. Neighborhood Advisory Board**: No Report**
30. VICE PRESIDENT’S REPORT-STUDENT LIFE**:** *Taylor Fote*
31. Student Affairs Committee: **No Report**
32. Multicultural Committee: **No Report**
33. Food Services Committee: **No Report**
34. Health Committee: **No Report**
35. Parking Control Board: **No Report**
36. Student Athletic Advisory Board: **No Report**
37. Substance Advisory Committee: **No Report**
38. Community Relations/Fundraising Report**: Victoria Landry**
39. Thank you everyone who helped coordinate the Blood Drive. We collected a total of 123 units on November 28th with 34 first time donors, which was a great accomplishment.
40. That kind of wraps up our projects for this semester. I just want to thank all of you for your support.
41. VICE PRESIDENT’S REPORT-ACADEMIC LIFE: *Rebecca DiVico*
42. I’m going to get you guys talking, hopefully. First off, how many of you attended went to the event last week that happened after SGA, the speaker who wrote the 1st year required book “Gang Leader for A Day”? Great, now Academic Affairs would like some feedback, so how’d you guys like it?
43. **Ryan Losco**: I enjoyed it and I think we should do it again next year.
44. **Samantha Dacey**: I really enjoyed it and I also think we should try to do it again next year.
45. **Shannon Cullinane**: I enjoyed it a lot but it felt like he was in a rush. A lot of students wanted to talk to him or have a book signing, and he kind of just ran out the door.
46. **Rebecca DiVico**: So you’d like more time allotted after for some communication.
47. **Melivin Rivera**: I think it should be held in a bigger place in the future.
48. Thanks everyone. Can I please see anyone who is a prat of the Class of 2016 after this meeting?
49. Academic Policies Committee: **No Report**
50. Curriculum Committee: **No Report**
51. Enrollment Management Committee: **No Report**
52. Campus Technology Committee**: No Report**
53. International Programs Committee: **No Report**
54. Library Advisory Committee**: No Report**
55. Writing Liaison**: No Report**
56. VICE PRESIDENT’S REPORT-PROGRAMMING: *Michelle Hanney*
57. Programming update: Michelle Hanney
    * + 1. So tomorrow, December 6th at 7:30pm in Ely is CAB’s Gingerbread house throw-down and there are still about 5 houses left down in SGA. The prize for the winning house is a $50.00 gift card to Walmart. There is also an “Ugly Sweater” contest and the prize is $25.00 gift card to Walmart. There will also be cookie decorating, hot chocolate, and Christmas music playing.
        2. On Friday, December 7th, the Class of 2016 will be running Brown Bag Bingo, starting at 11:00pm as normal.
        3. Another event that is being planned is for the First weekend back from break in January called Winter Weekend. The first event will take place on Friday night January 25th, some of you may have heard the name, it is Glo-Crazy. Then Saturday night, January 26th we are trying to book a comedian, that we saw at NACA and then on Sunday, January 27th we have rented out Amelia Park rink for an hour of public skating. It will be free except, you will have to pay $2.00 for skate rental. We will also have transportation to Amelia Park, in case you don’t have a car. That night we are also talking about co-sponsoring, with student activities and doing a movie night with food.

1. VICE PRESIDENT’S REPORT-FINANCE: *Joshua Frank*
2. I have one finance proposals to present today.
   1. Musical Theatre Guild is looking for funds to support their spring show. They’re asking for help with props, costumes, lumber and paint costs, performance rights, as well as the Pit Orchestra.
3. **Victoria Landry:** Just for clarification, the $900.00 for the Pit Orchestra, what does that go towards?
4. **Wilson Belbin**: We pay our orchestra, about $100.00 each and $200.00 for the rehearsal pianist, because we use his or her time more. That’s pretty standard.
5. **Tom Durkee**: For the costumes and props, are they reused or is it just a onetime usage?
6. **Wilson Belbin**: We always reuse everything we can. We have a shed for storage that we go through. We actually have a lot we can reuse because we just did Legally Blonde: the Musical and that’s contemporary also.
7. **Matt Demikat**: Is there any chance of getting a volunteer orchestra?
8. **Joshua Frank**: No, they are generally paid.
9. **Jennifer McDiarmid**: What exactly are performance rights?
10. **Joshua Frank**: The Musical Theatre Guild has to pay for the performance rights for every night that they put on a show. Every Broadway show has to do this. It comes with all the rights and scripts.
11. **Barbara Hand**: The amount of the rights is also based on how big the performance venue is.
    1. I move to allocate $2500.00 to Musical Theatre Guild to help support their spring production. Motion passed.
    2. Next Monday, December 10th the Night owls will be performing at Dever Stage. The doors open at 7:00pm and it is free admission.
    3. Can I briefly see my Senators after the meeting?
12. Finance Report: **No Report**
13. Foundation Report**: No Report**
14. SERETARY’S REPORT: *Alexis Wagner*/*Sarah Hegarty*
15. Executive Secretary Report: Alexis Wagner
    * + 1. I would first like to poll you all on the new name for Senate Banquet. We came up with a list of ideas and have narrowed it down to either “Spring Ball” or “Owl Ball”. Are there any comments on either of these names?
        2. After a discussion about renaming the Senate Banquet, to generate more interest, and let students know that it is open to all students. It was decided that the Executive Council will rename it.
16. I have also started to revive the “Senator of the Week” award, which I have nomination forms available down in the SGA office for Senators to recognize notable work of other Senators.
17. Our first Senator of the Week award for this academic year is going to a very dedicated senator whose motivation, ideas, and will power have made the Westfield State Campus and surrounding community a better place. Her hard work has stood out and deserves recognition. Congratulations to our Senator of the Week, Victoria Landry.
18. As a side note, the office of Alumni Relations has announced that the Lifetime Owls t-shirts have arrived. They will be in the Dining Commons, Wilson Commuter Café and the Ely Campus center over the next few days distributing the shirts. Please plan to stop by and see us with your student ID to sign for your shirt. Check your email for pick up details.
19. Alumni has some exciting plans coming up including events and outings exclusive to members of the Lifetime Owls program, as well as drawings for our student scholarships for the Fall 2013 semester. The $2500.00 scholarship prize for the class of 2013 is being drawn December 11th, so Lifetime Owls, keep an eye out.
20. Legislative Secretary Report: Sarah Hegarty
    1. I am going to draw the Unit Lotto winner. Congratulations Courtney Keddy.
    2. The Big Unit winner, for the second month in a row goes to Brittney Moniz. Congratulations Brittney.
    3. There will be one unit due for December. It will be due by December 14th, the last day of classes. Check your email later tonight, I will be sending all of you the December calendar.

1. PARLIMENTARIAN REPORT: Isaac Matson
2. Rules and Regulations Committee: No Report
3. COMMUTER COUNCIL, CLASS AND HALL REPORTS:
4. Commuter Council: **No Report**
5. Senior Class: Brandon Burr
6. Our cookie dough fundraiser has concluded and we sold 156 items. We met our goal of 150 items and are all very happy. Those will be delivered to campus next Friday, December 14th.
7. Our class sweatshirts are officially on sale and are $40.00 with the option of embroidery. Order forms are located in the SGA office.
8. Senior week is in the final stages of being completed, once I finish up getting the signatures for the Alcohol Review board form, we will get the week approved and packets will go on sale. Packets will be $225.00 for resident students and $285.00 for commuter students which includes $60.00 for housing.
9. Both of these are going home in letter format to all senior parents, so if you want in for senior fest and want a sweatshirt tell your parents to send it back with the order forms.
10. We have a Zumba event tomorrow, December 5th from 7:00pm until 8:00pm in the Parenzo Gym. It is $2.00 to participate and will be a great time. Great stress reliever during this crazy time.
11. Junior Class: Brittany Moniz
    * + 1. Last week we drew the winner of the President’s Parking Space for December/January. Congratulations to our winner, Andy McCormack. We will be continuing this fundraiser in the Spring semester as well. Tickets are still on sale at the Campus Center Window in Ely.
        2. This past Thursday, November 29th, was the Mr. Westfield interest meeting, which went well. We held interviews last night, December 3rd and we will continue interviews tonight from 8:00pm until 9:00pm and tomorrow December 5th from 5:00pm until 6:00pm. All interviews are in the SGa office. If you know of anyone who is interested in participating in the show but could not attend the interest meeting, please have them contact us. It’s not too late to get in the show. Contestants will be notified through their Westfield email by the end of this week. We will have a meeting with the final contestants next Tuesday to start planning before we head out for winter break.
        3. Our next scheduled meeting is Thursday, December 6th, at 4:00pm in the Tekoa Room.
12. Sophomore Class: Richard Darrach
    * + 1. Today, December 4th, we visited Shriners Hospital for Children. We brought three dancers, a few council members and special mystery guest, Nester. Unfortunately we didn’t have proper documentation so because it’s kids and specifically a hospital we don’t have any pictures of the kids but they absolutely loved Nestor and it was very heartwarming to see kids with physical disabilities get a huge smile on their face when they got the actual picture handed to them.
        2. We will be going back in early February for more tours.
        3. We also need just one Dance Pair for Dancing with the Stars.
        4. Our next scheduled meeting is December 5th at 4:30pm in the Courtney Hall.
13. Freshman Class: **No Report**
14. Apartment Complex: **No Report**
15. Courtney Hall**:** Cayleigh Russell
16. We made Blankets for Circle K and we adopted a child that we are sponsoring for Christmas.
17. Davis Hall: **No Report**
18. Dickinson Hall: **No Report**
19. Lammers Hall: **No Report**
20. Lansdowne Hall: **No Report**
21. New Hall: **No Report**
22. Scanlon Hall: **No Report**
23. UNFIISHED BUSINESS**:**
24. NEW BUSINESS:
25. ANNOUNCEMENTS:
26. **Joshua Frank**: Can I see my senators briefly after the meeting?
27. **Rebecca DiVico**: Can I see all first years after this?
28. **Sarah Hegarty**: Can I see my senators after the meeting and can I have the clipboard back?
29. **Taylor Fote**: Can I see all the hall council presidents and Ryan Losco after this? There are 48 days until we’re back in Ely.
30. **Issac Matson**: Rules and Regulations Committee meeting after this meeting.
31. **Brandon Burr**: 164 days until commencement.
32. ROLL CALL: David Getchell, Xandria Sotomayor, Steve Evans, Justin Connolly, Gabrielle Correnti, Kaylen Vangos, Hannah Newell and Luis Arzola were absent. Sara Palis, Jocelyn Herrera-Lazo and Katie Morrissey were excused.
33. ADJOURNMENT: Meeting adjourned at 6:26pm.