**Student Government Association Minutes**

February 26, 2013

1. ROLL CALL: Brandon Burr, Melvin Rivera, Lauren Drew, Matt Demikat, Anna Dilorenzo, Justin Connolly, Emily Baker and Shannon Cullinane were absent. Samantha Dacey was excused.
2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM February 19, 2013: Minutes were approved.
3. PRESIDENT’S REPORT: *Stephanie Close*
4. Hi everyone. Hope you’re all staying away from whatever bug is going around right now. Tonight we have the Assistant Director of Residential Life, Dr. Joshua Hettrick to speak to us about housing signups.
5. **Dr. Josh Hettrick**: Good evening everyone. How many of you are first year students? All right, so the majority of you are already familiar with housing sign ups if you already live on campus.
6. A few things are changing because of University Hall getting added and that is going to affect the housing sign up process as far as how we are going to roster now that we have suites.
7. If you don’t know about University hall, it’s not going to be apartments like the Apartment Complex, New Hall and Lansdowne. These are going to be suites, with common area, bathroom, but no full size kitchen. So the difference between apartments and suites is that there is not a kitchen, so students living in University Hall are required to have a meal plan, just like the students that live in traditional style halls, which we want students to understand.
8. A survey went out in January to go over what students’ interests on campus were for a building on campus and where they will want to live. Based on the survey, the majority of juniors, who will be seniors next year, still want to live in the Apartment complex or New Hall, with some interest in living in University Hall, but for the most part, the rising senior class is interested in the typical apartment style housing that we have on campus. The students most interested in University Hall are current freshman and sophomores. Based on that, we set up the housing sign up process to start with rosters for the apartment complex, New Hall, and Lansdowne like we’ve done in the past. And then the suites for University Hall will be chosen in a similar roster process after that. That we can fill what has most interest of the rising seniors, who have first choice anyways, and then continue on through University Hall. So we are trying to encourage all students, if they are interested in living in any one of these four buildings, to apply for everything they can from start to finish. So that starts with the two person apartments down at Lansdowne, the four-persons in New Hall, then the six persons in the Apartment Complex and New Hall, and then the five persons down at Lansdowne, and then the four persons in University Hall, and finally the six persons in University Hall. If you just go for one specific building, and you don’t get it, then you end up living in either Courtney Hall or Lammers next year, because Scanlon will be for only first-year students.
9. The roster process is also being changed up a bit so that rising seniors will have the highest chances of getting their preferences. This is going along with what students have told us is important to them. So this year the roster process will be dictated where rosters will be delineated by all of the classes on the roster. So if you have 6 junior/seniors, it’s a 600 roster, and they will be at the top of the line and that will be sorted by lottery numbers. Then you go 510, which is five junior/seniors and one sophomore and no freshman numbers. And then 501, which is going to be five Junior/Seniors and one freshman. So you can see how it’s going to stack up. But we know that this will give juniors and seniors the best chance to have the housing they want first and foremost. So it’s going to be complicated and everyone won’t get their first choice, but we’ll do the best we can.
10. Those are the major changes we have coming. The housing Gazette is out and information is around campus and online, and the deposit deadline is this Friday, March 1st at 5:00 pm, so spread the word. The timeline is up online, as well as page detailing University hall, and we’re hoping to have a room in University Hall open for students to look at and see what it’s like.
11. **Kevin Soucie**: Do fifth year students get an even better chance?
12. **Dr. Josh Hettrick**: No, those students willstill have a Junior/senior number.
13. **Jennifer MacDiarmid**: I was looking through the Housing Gazette and saw that the apartment meet and greats are right before the rosters are due. Is there any way that there will be more of these events sooner than that so that there is more time to get to them?
14. **Dr. Josh Hettrick**: We tried having more of them last year, and they were really poorly attended. But on Monday, March 4th, we will have a roommate finder posted on Collegiate Link, which was pretty successful last year, for students to post about looking for roommates. There are so many options now so we really have to have the compressed timeline on these events in case rosters are denied and have to go to the next event.
15. **Rebecca DiVico:** How soon will you know if you are accepted when you turn in the roster?
16. **Dr. Josh Hettrick**: the captain of each roster will get an email from me the next morning, after they are due, so you will get that by noon, so that you know what’s going on.
17. **Kevin Soucie**: Is there another sheet you have to sign?
18. **Dr. Josh Hettrick**: There is an apartment and suite addendum that will go out after you hand in your roster.
19. Thank you Dr. Hettrick.
20. I am going to pass around a contact sheet for you to fill in your information if you’re new, so that administration can get in touch with you if necessary.
21. I don’t have the support letter ready for you guys yet about the Intellectual Disabilities Program, but Taylor and I attended a meeting about it today and that went very well. We’re looking at ways to get funding and how we can make this program the best it can be on our Westfield campus.
22. Tomorrow night, February 27th at 7:00 pm in the Owl’s Nest, we have a speaker on Interracial Baseball in Westfield and neighboring areas in the early 20th century, before the Negro National League. This program is called “Jim Crow Strikes Out in Westfield: How a New England town embraces the African American Ball Player”. This is a speaker funded by Student Affairs, that Professor John Dempsey is bringing to campus, which usually means it will be a great presenter and great conversation. I encourage you al to go tomorrow night at 7:00 pm in the Owl’s Nest.
23. Thursday, February 28th from 4:00 pm until 6:00 pm in Wilson Auditorium C, singer/Actor/Inspirational Speaker Noah Griffin will be speaking about the Emancipation Proclamation, its impact on the recruitment of black troops, which lead to the right to vote, which lead to Barrack Obama becoming President.
24. Next Wednesday, March 6th, there will be a career fair in Scanlon Banquet Hall from 1:30 pm until 4:00 pm. This is open to all majors, and will be featuring part-time and full-time employers, internship opportunities and grad schools. This is a great event for any student or situation, so dress to impress and bring your resumes.
25. I have some great news about the library. Many of us find it hard to find a place to study during finals week so this Spring the library will be accommodating us being open 24/7 from May 5th until May 10tth
26. Stone Koury is not here tonight, he’s at a networking event, but it is okay because it’s his first meeting missed in three years. A few things from him:
27. The Leadership Retreat is this Friday, March 1st, so please see me if you still want to sign up, and he will be emailing you about registration.
28. The State House Advocacy Day for Higher Education will be March 5th. We’ll be leaving in the morning around 8:30 am or 9:00 am and returning here by 4:00 pm, so you won’t be missing SGA. We have about 12 students so far, I encourage you to join us if you’re interested. Lunch is provided and you get to meet the people who represent you on Beacon Hill as well as Western Massachusetts Representatives. This year we’re really hoping to pull for more funding for higher education, so maybe you’ll get more financial aid or keep our bills from increasing. So please see me after if you can make it.
29. Our next scheduled meeting is Tuesday, March 5th at 5:30 pm.
30. Items not listed on Agenda.
31. BOARD OF TRUSTEES’ REPORT**:** *Stone Koury*
32. All University Committee**: No Report**
33. Neighborhood Advisory Board**: No Report**
34. VICE PRESIDENT’S REPORT-STUDENT LIFE**:** *Taylor Fote*
35. I have the numbers from the Blood Drive. We had 130 people show up and we had 32 first time donors and 12 double reds. Our goal was 116 pints and we got 115 so that’s pretty awesome.
36. Also Student Affairs met on Wednesday, February 20th after a good discussion we passed the policy to the board of Trustees in April. If you have any questions comments or concerns, talk to me or Larry Rodkey, we will be going to the Board meeting.
37. Can I see ARB Committee and Kevin Soucie after the meeting?
38. Student Affairs Committee:
39. Multicultural Committee**: Jocelyn Herrea Lazo**
40. I only have one event for this week but will be reporting more events next week. The event is Hungry for Change on March 5th in the Owls Nest. It’ a documentary and open discussion regarding race and eating healthy. The lack of nutrition in urban neighborhoods. Light refreshments will be served. If you want more information you can talk to me after the meeting.
41. Food Services Committee**: Tom Durkee**
42. The food Services Committee will now be meeting once a month.
43. We will be focusing on event planning, food knowledge and education, dining commons and retail operations.
44. The March Calendar was emailed on Monday, February 25th.
45. Thursday, February 28th is 20% off all retail locations and free munchkins with a beverage purchase at Dunkin donuts.
46. March is Heart Health Month on March 21st the Dietitian will cook at the island in the Dining Commons and be available for questions.
47. There will be a blind coffee tasting on March 22nd in the morning that will determine the coffee for “simply to go”.
48. There will be a build the best salad on March 26th at 6:00 pm in the Dining Commons.
49. Pancakes with the President will be held on March 27th at 10:00 pm in the Dining Commons.
50. We will be focusing on “National Food Days”. March 2nd will be Banana crème day and March 4th will be Pound cake day.
51. Next week March 6th from 3:00 pm until 8:00 pm is a focus group that gives our likes and dislikes to Sodexho’s corporate office. You can win $20.00 in Sodexo bucks by participating.
52. We have had a discussion about paper plates in the morning.
53. The Panini machine is brand new.
54. They are considering another buffet style dinner for the spring.
55. We talked about increased morning hours for Dunkin Donuts on Saturdays and Sundays.
56. Specialty has been moved to the other side of the island to relieve traffic in the main entry.
57. There are bagged meals available at all meals you just need to see Maria in the Dining Commons to set it up.
58. We also proposed a Rotisserie Unit and a new frozen yogurt machine.
59. Health Committee: **No Report**
60. Parking Control Board: **No Report**
61. Student Athletic Advisory Board: **No Report**
62. Substance Advisory Committee: **No Report**
63. Community Relations/Fundraising Report**: No Report**

1. VICE PRESIDENT’S REPORT-ACADEMIC LIFE: *Rebecca DiVico*
2. The finals schedule is out. An e-mail was sent to all students and facstaff with the updated schedule for May. I have printed out a few copies for anyone who is interested. Please don’t hesitate to ask your professors when your final is to make sure that everyone is on the same page. They all go the e-mail too, so hopefully they’re up to date.
3. Advising season is upon us. Advising and registration is upon us. Advising and registration dates are out for the Fall 2013 semester. The schedule is as follows:
4. Tuesday, February 19th – Tuesday, March 26th: Banacos/Honors early advising with registration on Wednesday, March 27th.
5. Monday, March 25th – Thursday, March 28th: Seniors, so juniors in the room, will have their advising period with registration on Friday, April 5th.
6. Monday, April 1st – Thursday, April 4th: Juniors, so the sophomores here, will have their advising period with registration on Friday, April 5th.
7. Monday, April 8th – Thursday, April 11th: Sophomores, which are the first years here, if we haven’t caught on yet, have their advising period with registration on Friday, April 12th.
8. Please keep an eye out in the next week or so, for advising cards that will either be in your mailbox or handed out by your RAs. Academic Affairs hand I have worked very hard over the last two months, on a check list to successful advising and it will be going out to all students.
9. Can I please see Luis Arzola after the meeting?
10. Academic Policies Committee: **No Report**
11. Curriculum Committee: **No Report**
12. Enrollment Management Committee: **Brittany Moniz**

1. The Enrollment Management Committee met this afternoon.

1. Dr. Jon Conlogue gave a housing update regarding the room reservations deposits for this year. Numbers are low compared to last year, but students tend to pay last minute, whit the deadline being March 1st, this Friday.
2. The Financial Aid Office is working to put together financial aid packages for accepted students. They are also working to upload information from the FAFSA forms as they roll in.
3. We also discussed the number of students who are accepted into a major department upon acceptance versus the number of students who change majors who are already enrolled.
4. Campus Technology Committee**: No Report**
5. International Programs Committee: **No Report**
6. Library Advisory Committee**: No Report**
7. Writing Liaison**: No Report**
8. VICE PRESIDENT’S REPORT-PROGRAMMING: *Michelle Hanney*
9. Programming update: Michelle Hanney
   * + 1. Nashville was awesome and we hall had a great time. We were able to book our spring weekend comedian while down there his name is Drew Thomas, so look him up on U-Tube to see who he is.
       2. We also started booking the novelties for the green for spring weekend. So far we have a caricatures artist, sign shop, sandy candy (pixie stick) maker and a blow up cross collision thing. We may also be able to get a couple of the following: splatter stunner shades, splatter hats or a photo booth with a back drop.
       3. So all of this is underway, so if you have any ideas or suggestions you can let me know after the meeting or come to CAB tomorrow, February 27th at 5:00 pm in the SGA room.
       4. One last thing, Price it Right game show is being rescheduled to sometime in late March early April.
       5. Can I please see the Hall Council Presidents after the meeting in the back offices?

1. VICE PRESIDENT’S REPORT-FINANCE: *Joshua Frank*
2. Finance Report: Joshua Frank
3. The Communication Club is looking for funds to help support their annual Student Awards dinner. The funds will help lower ticket cost for students who attend the dinner. The club is hoping the lower ticket cost will allow more students to attend the dinner regardless if they’re receiving an award or not. SGA has also helped fund this event in the past.
4. I move to allocate $500.00 to the communication club for their annual student awards dinner. Motion passed.
5. Foundation Report**: No Report**
6. SERETARY’S REPORT: *Alexis Wagner*/*Sarah Hegarty*
7. Executive Secretary Report: Alexis Wagner
8. I am pleased to announce this week’s Senator of the Week. Although being a fairly new senator, he has made name for himself in SGA. He had some big expectations taking on this previously underutilized position, and he has revolutionized the council. His innovative ideas and leadership have brought the two councils together towards success. This senator is a great source of support, advocacy, and energy and has made quite an impact. Congratulations, Luis Arzola.
9. I would also like to let the Owl Ball Committee know that we will be meeting Monday, March 4th at 4:15 pm. We’re seeing a lot of great opportunities ahead for the Owl Ball.
10. Legislative Secretary Report: Sarah Hegarty
11. Four units are due for February, they are due to the legsec.sga email by Thursday, February 28th, and will not be accepted after next week’s meeting. Please send me your competed units. While I appreciate Senators are eager to keep me updated or you do not want to forget what you went to, please do not email them until they are completed. If you are sending them in one or two at a time, there is a greater chance you would forget the rest and not get the credit. So, send them in completed and on time.
12. Blue Key nomination forms are out. Spread the word if you think of someone who deserves the award make sure they get considered.
13. PARLIAMENTARIAN REPORT: Isaac Matson
14. COMMUTER COUNCIL, CLASS AND HALL REPORTS:
15. Commuter Council: **No Report**
16. Senior Class: **Nick Villante**
17. So we are up to officially 97 senior packets sold and we have about 100 left to sell. Please let your friends know the deadline is approaching and they need to buy them as soon as possible.
18. We are excited that the sweatshirts came in and are here to be picked up. Please have your friends come down between the hours of 8:00 am and 5:00 pm for pickup.
19. Our walk is rally taking off, so go on the website and register. We have people signing up daily and new teams being made. Please make a group and a team and sign up.
20. We also made $54.00 for our Applebee’s night, so thank you to everyone who came.
21. Junior Class: **Brittany Moniz**
22. The Class of 2014 will be in the Commuter Café tomorrow morning, February 27th from 9:30 Am until 11:30 am, selling raffle tickets for the Presidents’ Parking Space. Stop by to support Make-A-Wish. The drawing for March will be this Thursday, February 28th.
23. This Saturday, March 2nd, the Student Ambassadors are hosting a 3K walk in Woodward from 10:00 am until 12:00 noon. To benefit the Birthday Wishes Organization. The 2014 Council and the Mr. Westfield Contestants will be participating as a team. I hope many of you will attend as well.
24. Our next scheduled meeting is Thursday, February 28th at 4:00 pm in the SGA Conference Room.
25. Sophomore Class: **Richard Darrach**
26. Dancing with the Stars is this Friday, March 1st. The doors open at 7:00 pm the show begins at 7:30 pm. It is $3.00 for students and $5.00 for everyone else.
27. Brown bag bingo was a success, $55.00 was collected.
28. Our next scheduled meeting is Wednesday, February 27th at 4:30 pm in the SGA Conference Room.
29. Freshman Class: **Michael Janchuk**
30. Our Line Dancing event has been rescheduled for April 2nd from 7:30 pm until 9:30 pm there is a $1.00 entrance fee and we will be selling bottles of water for $1.00.
31. We are considering handing our green ribbons for the month of March to support Kidney Awareness month.
32. As a class we have decided on our charity, we have chosen Boston Children’s Hospital.
33. Our next scheduled meeting is on Wednesday, February 27th at 5:30 pm in the SGA Conference Room.
34. Apartment Complex: **Diane Lego**
35. I just wanted to make you all aware of our event taking place Tomorrow evening, February 26th at 6:00 pm in the Dickinson hall Common Area. It will feature an assortment of freshly brewed coffees, teas and backed goods. We are asking participants to donate a minimum of $1.00 that will be given to the Children at Shrines Hospital. Those who donate will be entered in our giveaway for a chance to win a Keurig.
36. Our next scheduled meeting will be held on Wednesday, March 6th at 8:00 Pm in the RDs office.
37. Courtney Hall**: Lindsey Keating**
    * + 1. We had a scavenger hunt in our hall, last Saturday, February 23rd. We had four teams sign up, one that seriously participated. The winning team won $180.00 in Owl Bucks that got split between the six team members.
        2. Our newsletter has been a success. Our residents really appreciate the effort that we have made to string them the information of what’s going on.
        3. Our next scheduled meeting is February 28th at 6:00 pm in Courtney Hall’s RD’s Office.
38. Davis Hall: **No Report**
39. Dickinson Hall: **No Report**
40. Lammers Hall: **No Report**
41. Lansdowne Hall: **Allyson McElhiney**
42. I move to appoint Andrew McCormack as Representative to Lansdowne Place for the remainder of the 2012-2013 Academic year.
43. We will be having a cart program tomorrow night around 9:00 pm to greater ideas from our fellow residents for upcoming events.
44. Our next scheduled meeting will be held on Wednesday, February 27th at 9:00 pm in the lounge.
45. New Hall: **No Report**
46. Scanlon Hall: **Ryan Lasco**
47. On Monday, March 4th at 7:00 pm, we are holding an event with RHA to promote Spring Break safety. Location is in Scanlon Banquet Hall A, free food and drink. This will be promoting “water your own drink” awareness.
48. T-shirt designs are due Thursday, February 28th to an RH on duty. The winner will receive a $25.00 Walmart card a t-shirt and a Pizza party.
49. Like us on Facebook at Scanlon Hall 2012-2013 for a chance to win a free t-shirt. This is available for the first 100; please comment your size on your post.
50. Our next scheduled meeting is Monday, March 4th at 7:30 pm in the Scanlon Lobby.
51. UNFIISHED BUSINESS**:**
52. NEW BUSINESS: Joshua Clark moved and it was seconded to open new business.
53. Joshua Clark: I have a few things to talk about. One of them might be a little controversial, so I’ll start with the other one.
54. The Westfield Voice will be looking for some editors to join to help with production for the upcoming academic year, so, if you or someone you know is interested, send an email [thevoice@westfield.ma.edu](mailto:thevoice@westfield.ma.edu) for more information.
55. I move that the SGA provide all clubs and organizations under their jurisdiction with a balance of their club accounts. Motion was not seconded.
56. **Stephanie Close**: You just request it and we give it to you.
57. **Joshua Clark**: Well every time that we, as the Westfield Voice or another organization, do that, it seems to be a ball park figure so we want an exact number.
58. **Barbara Hand**: Point of Information: you can come down anytime; any club can get the balance of what’s in your accounts. I’m sorry; I guess I’m confused.
59. **Joshua Clark**: I don’t know. The past Editors-in-Chiefs have come down, we don’t know the process, but we just want an exact figure.
60. **Joshua Frank:** I have a copy of the budget in my office, so I can go grab that for you if you’d like like me to.
61. **Joshua Clark:** That’s fine. All right. That’s it.

1. ANNOUNCEMENTS:
2. **Sarah Hegarty**: Can I have the contact sheet? And please do your units by Thursday, February 28th, 4 of them.
3. **Olivia Dumas**: Dancing with the stars: 7:30 pm on Friday, March 1st. please come, it’s for the Children.
4. **Michelle Hanney**: Can I please see the Hall Council presidents?
5. **Rebecca DiVico:** May I please see Luis Arzola and Ryan Lasko after the meeting?
6. **Isaac Matson:** Rules and Regs, meeting after this.
7. **Taylor Fote:** Can I just see the people I asked to see after the meeting?
8. **Kevin Soucie**: Scanlon Hall 2012-2013. Like to get a free t-shirt?
9. **Nick Villante**: 79 Days until Commencement.
10. ROLL CALL: Brandon Burr, Melvin Rivera, Lauren Drew, Matt Demikat, Anna Dilorenzo, Justin Connolly, Shannon Culllinane and Stan Costa were absent. Samantha Dacey was excused.
11. ADJOURNMENT: Meeting adjourned at 6:18 pm.