**STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION AGENDA**

**February 20, 2018**

1. ROLL CALL: Marcus Payne, Simone LaPlant, Walter Bauer, and Kyle Nolan were absent. Matthew Howe, Connor Kennedy, Chris DiCarlo, and Jason Rosselli were excused. Jake O’Kane and Samuel Tsongalis sent alternates.
2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM FEBRUARY 13, 2018: Minutes were approved.
3. PRESIDENT'S REPORT: **Brendan McKee**
4. Tonight we have Lieutenant Bernie St. George here to provide us with active shooter training. We felt it was important when coming up with a list of speakers to include this in case anything were to ever happen here, and recent events such as Parkland reinforce our belief that an active shooter training is incredibly important to prepare for any such event. Therefore I’d like to welcome Lt. Bernie St. George!
   * + 1. See attached for Lt. St. George’s presentation.
          1. **Sammantha Dorazio**: If you’re in a room with someone who has an allergy should you grab their epi-pen and take the chance of having something in your hand when the cops come or keep an eye on them and hope you get to an EMT on time?
          2. **Bernie St**. **George:** If you can without putting yourself in danger, absolutely. Grab whatever you think you’re going to need. It’s not a perfect scenario, there’s no perfect answer to any of this.
          3. **John Coulombe**: In the event in you’re in a lockdown and you hear “police police coming in” should you stand down or should you assume it could be a killer acting as the police?
          4. **Bernie St**. **George:** Police have been known to rip their patches off and slide them under doors. If we’re coming into a room we have keys, the bad guys probably don’t, but we will announce ourselves and we’re going to come in. Chances are we’re going to give commands from the hallway so try to follow those commands. But yeah don’t unlock the door unless you’re satisfied that it’s police.
          5. **Aaron Sylvia**: Have you seen a reduction in deaths, are any of these Run Hide Fight programs working?
          6. **Bernie St**. **George:** The average fatality 0-3 that was a high one so I would say yes. For years the biggest threat was fire drills. Now the mindset is changing and this is being taught in the higher grades and it’s getting much more effective in the hopes of reducing those numbers. So the high number incident you saw last week are getting fewer and fewer.
          7. **Cameron Swan:** Has there been any movement on making this presentation available to faculty more because I know that during the lockdown a number of faculty were uncooperative.
          8. **Bernie St. George:** That’s always a challenge isn’t it? This has been presented to quite a few of them and I think after that lockdown I would see a lot more positive response to it. Hopefully we can get the message out to those who haven’t taken part and even those who so they can go through it again just as a refresher. It’s not a bad idea.
          9. **Madeline Dexter:** What is this University’s policy on concealed weapons?
          10. **Bernie St. George:** Without the approval of the President it’s against the law unless you’re a law enforcement officer or you have the direct written permission of the President, by law you cannot carry a firearm on campus.
          11. **Maddy Scott:** What type of reason would give someone permission to have a gun on campus?
          12. **Bernie St.** **George:** That would be up to the President.
          13. **Joseph Newlin:** Are there ever any plainclothes officers on campus with concealed weapons?
          14. **Bernie St. George:** There often are, they take a lot of classes with continuing ed. So we have a big criminal justice program here and there’s a lot of police offers taking night classes in Horace Mann and there’s a very real possibility that they are armed.
          15. **Victoria Lind:** As far as having weapons on campus is there any policy on having knives on campus?
          16. **Bernie St. George:** Small pocket knives and things are allowed. So yes people can carry knives and people can carry pepper spray.
          17. **John Coulombe:** What would be the repercussions for a student with a license to carry found to be carrying on campus?
          18. **Bernie St. George:** They would have their license to carry taken away by us and face criminal charges and quite probably be expelled from school.
5. Thank you, Lt. St. George! Our speaker next week will be Steve Marcus, chair of the Board of Trustees. If you need any ideas for questions, we have our own lovely student trustee who would more than happy to give you information.
6. My only real information to repost is that I sent you all an email regarding the MassPIRG vote. Considering the Monday schedule today caused some issues with absences, we felt it’d be best to postpone the vote until next week. Again, if you have any questions whatsoever on what we’re doing, feel free to let me know.
7. BOARD OF TRUSTEES' REPORT: **Cameron Swan**
8. Last Thursday, February 16 the board of trustees met for their bimonthly meeting. Unfortunately, there are some bad news from the finance and capital assets subcommittee meeting. Fees will be going up by $714.00, which equates to $357.00 per semester. I voted against this increase, but was the only one. There are now two courses of action that we can take; we can take the increase silently, or we can make the increase as useful as it can be. I personally chose the second option, for that reason I am forming an ad-hoc committee to prioritize spending in a way most optimal to the student body. I am looking for about five other senators to join me so that we can sit down and figure out which areas of the budget are most important to us as students. The ultimate goal of this committee will be to write a formal memorandum to the Board of Trustees and to our Vice President of Finance and Administration advocating for additional funding in these areas.
9. One of the major reasons for fee increases across higher education is the obvious lack of funding from the state. In fact, state funding for Westfield State University only accounts for less than one third of our revenue. At the risk of sounding political, this negates the entire purpose of a state university, and is a direct contradiction to the mission of our university. So please, if this doesn’t feel right to you either, call your State Representative and tell them that you would like them to advocate for higher education funding in the budget.
10. Or, you could tell them in person at State House Day on Monday March 5! Transportation is provided, please email me at trustee.sga@westfield.ma.edu if you want to attend!
11. All University Committee: **Sammantha Dorazio**
    * + 1. AUC met this past Friday, February 16 and elected Professor Jennifer DiGrazia from the English Department as the new chair. Gabriel Aquino from the Sociology Department was appointed as vice chair. The committee is planning to gather information and have further discussion regarding the process of filling open faculty/staff positions throughout the University. The next AUC meeting is March 1 at 1:40pm in the Parenzo Board Room.
12. NEASC Steering Committee: **No Report**
13. Strategic Planning Committee: **No Report**
14. Student Advisory Council: **No Report**

1. VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT-STUDENT LIFE: **Arielyss Santiago**

A. Student Affairs Committee: **No Report**

B. Diversity/Inclusion Committee: **No Report**

C. Food Services Committee: **No Report**

D. Parking Control Board: **No Report**

E. Student Athletic Advisory Board: **Delaney Gembis**

* + - 1. On Tuesday, February 20 we have Men’s Ice Hockey at Plymouth State at 6:00pm and Men’s Basketball at Fitchburg State at 7:00pm both games will be streamed with online video and live stats.
      2. On Thursday, February 22 both Men’s and Women’s Basketball will move on to playing in the MASCAC Semifinals if they win today.
      3. On Friday, February 24 and Saturday the 24 Men’s and Women’s Track is at Middlebury Winter Track Carnival. And also on Saturday is Men’s Ice Hockey in the MASCAC Quarter Finals depending on their game this week and Men’s and Women’s Basketball MASCAC Championship finals depending on their games this week.

F. Substance Advisory Committee: **No Report**

G. Veteran’s Affairs Report: **Sean Manion**

1. Veterans and Military Services would like to announce the screening of the documentary *Almost Sunrise* on April 25. This film is a story of resilience and recovery. It follows two Iraq war veterans, Tom Voss and Anthony Anderson, as they struggle with depression upon returning home. Fearful of succumbing to the epidemic of veteran suicide, they both seek a lifeline and embark on a 2700 mile walk across America as a way to confront their inner pain. The film captures an intimate portrait of two friends suffering from the unseen wounds of war as they discover an unlikely treatment: the restorative power of silence and meditation. *Almost Sunrise* is also the first film to explore “moral injury:” the profound shame that many veterans feel when their experiences of war violate their moral beliefs, and a possible critical factor in veterans’ suicide.
2. Even though the film pertains mostly to the veteran community, the screening is open to everyone who wishes to attend. There will be a panel discussion following the film to educate and possible help anyone who is struggling or knows someone who is struggling with a traumatic event, not just veterans. This is an event that the Veterans and Military Services feels very passionate about and is willing to hold a special screening to any SGA senators who wish to view the film beforehand in an effort to help spread the word. We cannot stress enough that this screening is open to anyone on campus and within the surrounding community. Please if you wish to help and want to see the film, see me or send me an email.
3. This Thursday, February 22, there will be a Veterans Town Hall meeting at the Westfield Senior Center. This will be an opportunity for Veterans and their families to ask questions and seek information regarding the VA Healthcare system and other services. If anyone wants more information on this, let me know and I will put you in contact with Lisa from Veterans and Military Services here on campus.

1. VICE PRESIDENT’S REPORT-ACADEMIC LIFE: **Jacob Lotter**
   1. Academic Policies Committee: **No Report**
   2. Curriculum Committee: **No Report**
   3. Enrollment Management Committee: **No Report**
   4. International Programs Committee: **No Report**
   5. Academic Technology and Information Services Committee: **No Report**
   6. Writing Liaison Committee: **No Report**
   7. Guest Lecture Committee: **No Report**
2. VICE PRESIDENT’S REPORT-FINANCE: **Marcus DiBacco**
   1. Finance Committee: **No Report**
   2. Foundation Report: **No Report**
   3. Student Organization Council: **No Report**
3. VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT-PROGRAMMING: **Madeline Dexter**
   1. Say What? Karaoke went wicked well. Our celebrity quest, Matt Schuler was amazing but I have to say the competition was better. We had two winners, Audriana Cruz and MK Frechette. Both ladies rocked the house. I can’t wait to see what they do with this program next year.
   2. Tonight will be an open mic night hosted by Student Activities in the Owl’s Nest to celebrate Whitney Houston. Stop by to see some show stopping talent in respects to our late queen.
   3. LAFE will be taking orders for dozens of krispy kream donuts. The dozens are $10.00 each and you can either email Arielyss Santiago or Derek Estrella for an order. They are going to be taking money until February 26.
   4. Thursday, March 1 is a busy day in programming. Pet therapy is during the day at 11:30am either outside or inside depending on the temperate with the doggies. At 7:00pm will be the Black Girls Rock ceremony in the Scanlon Banquet Hall. At 9:00pm will be Thrifty Thursday in the Owl’s Nest where you can make DIY heating pads.
   5. Friday night, February 16 is Brown Bag Bingo at 10:00pm in Scanlon Banquet Hall. If you bring some extra moneys, you will get extra bingo cards. All the proceeds will go towards donating money to menstrual hygiene products at the TRIO office in Parenzo.
   6. Saturday, February 17 at 9:00pm is a Comedy Show featuring the hilarious comedian Ian Lara. He will be performing in the Owl’s Nest. It is sure to be a hoot.
   7. The Student Theater Association will be showing their show this weekend. American Idiot will be going up on Thursday through Saturday in the Black Box Theater. There will be a show every night at 8:00pm and an additional show at 2:30pm on Saturday. You can go to experience all the teen angst you have missed from your childhood.
   8. Finally, the CAB executive team is hard at work at the National Association for Campus Activities National Conference in Boston. They have pulled together some FANTASTIC talent for Owl Bash this year. If you want to hear the details you can come to CAB in Wednesday, February 21 at 5:00pm right here in SGA.
   9. Campus Activities Board: **No Report**
   10. Neighborhood Advisory Board: **No Report**
   11. Community Relations/Fundraising Report: **No Report**
4. SECRETARY'S REPORT: **Karina Sallaway/Victoria Lind**

A. Executive Secretary Report: **No Report**

B. Legislative Secretary Report: **No Report**

1. PARLIAMENTARIAN REPORT: **Tyler Cameron**
2. Rules and Regulations Committee: **No Report**
3. Constitutional Review Committee: **No Report**
4. ADVISORY COMMITTEES:
   1. Advisory Committee on Facilities Planning: **No Report**
   2. Advisory Committee on Academic Planning: **No Report**
   3. Advisory Committee on the CURCA: **No Report**
   4. Advisory Committee on Budget Planning: **No Report**
   5. College of Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences Search: **Karina Sallaway**
      * 1. The Search Committee for the Dean of Arts, Humanities, and Social Sciences met on Friday to talk about the applications we’ve received. We narrowed our list down to seven candidates and we will be holding off-campus interviews on March 5 and March 7. Jacob and I will have more information afterwards about on-campus interviews and forums.
   6. College of Mathematics and Sciences Search Committee: **Cameron Swan**
      * 1. We have our finalists for the College of Mathematics and Sciences. Candidates will be on campus next week, I will post in the Facebook group with the exact dates and times but keep it on your radar. Student participation is vital in this process, so please carve time out of your schedule to attend!
   7. College of Education, Health and Human Services Search: **No Report**
5. COMMUTER COUNCIL, CLASS AND HALL REPORTS:
6. Commuter Council: **Michael Reid**
   * + 1. I accept the resignation of Walter Bauer as Commuter Council Representative to Senate.
7. Senior Class: **Maddie Creamer**
   * + 1. Last week, seniors received an email from John Ohotnicky from the Registrar’s office regarding diploma order forms. In the email, there was an attachment with the order form for students to print out, sign, and return back to Parenzo 107 by Thursday, March 1. They have suggested that seniors review their degree evaluation to make sure that all requirements have been met. Students who have earned at least 120 credits, have met the minimum institutional GPA of 2.0, and have satisfied all major, minor and certification requirements will have their degrees awarded in May. Students who wish to participate in the Commencement should earn at least 114 credits, meet the GPA requirement and only have two requirements outstanding by the end of the semester.
       2. Also, our Sam Adams Brewery trip for this Saturday has been canceled. Due to this cancelation, we are looking at doing another brewery trip later on in the semester at a local brewery!
       3. Lastly, our Mohegan Sun trip is still on sale on the Westfield tickets page. The trip is scheduled for Friday, April 13th to Saturday, April 14th and costs $70, which includes hotel and transportation.
       4. Our next meeting is scheduled for Friday, February 23rd at 4:00pm in Ely 003.
8. Junior Class: **Abdullah Shafique**
   * + 1. The Class of 2019 is holding interviews for a vacant SGA position on our council. The interviews will take place this Thursday, February 22 at 6:00pm in the Ely conference room E020. If you know anyone that may be interested please have them contact anyone from the 2019 council.
9. Sophomore Class: **No Report**
10. First Year Class: **No Report**
11. Apartment Complex: **No Report**
12. Courtney Hall: **Ethan Goodfellow**
13. I move to appoint Nickalena Richards as Representative to Senate for the remainder of the 2017-2018 academic year. Motion carries.
14. Davis Hall: **No Report**
15. Dickinson Hall: **No Report**
16. Lammers Hall: **No Report**
17. Lansdowne Place: **No Report**
18. New Hall: **No Report**
19. Scanlon Hall: **No Report**
20. University Hall: **No Report**
21. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:
22. NEW BUSINESS: (requires majority vote to be opened)
    1. **Jacob Lotter:** I move to open New Business. Motion carries.
       * 1. **Jacob Lotter:** I’m up here to talk about the importance of reporting. The last few meetings we have almost no reports from the Class or Hall Councils. Committee reports we’ve been doing well with, and I want to thank everybody for that. However, Class and Hall Councils also count as committees.
         2. Moving forward it is expected that every Hall and Class Council will report on what happened at their last meeting, what events they are planning, and the progress they are making towards those events or other initiatives. This means you should be reporting if not every week, every other week.
         3. The point of having the Class and Hall Councils report is to hear about your successes and the work you are doing. We keep those reports in the minutes, and they are archived by the University. It allows for a record to be kept of what work has been done, what events were held, and how we have spent our time as student leaders.
         4. Every Council will be held accountable to this request, and you can see any of us on Exec if you have any questions. I know reporting isn’t always fun, but it is part of the Presidential, Executive, or student committee member role on SGA and is really important. It’s how you tell everybody that you’re doing something.
    2. **Maddie Creamer:** I move to close New Business. Motion carries.
23. ANNOUNCEMENTS:
    1. **Karina Sallaway:** For those of you in the back, if you are speaking please speak louder. If you’re wondering why a question you asked is not in the minutes it’s because I can’t hear you.
    2. **Jacob Lotter:** We had an event on Saturday and there’s leftover favors of glasses with chocolate in the back. Grab as many as you want.
    3. **Victoria Lind:** Can I see Brendan Brosnihan after the meeting please?
    4. **MassPIRG:** We have a movie screening next Wednesday in Dower 127.
    5. **Jacob Lotter:** Can Cam and I see Nickalena Richards after the meeting?
    6. **John Coulombe:** Trivia tomorrow 8:00pm in the Owl’s Nest.
    7. **Shayna Arnott:** Food Committee meets next Tuesday at 4:00pm in the Tekoa Room.
    8. **Cameron Swan:** State House Day and the budget committee thing let me know.
    9. **Marissa Cremin:** 88 days until Commencement.
24. ROLL CALL: Marcus Payne, Simone LaPlant, and Kyle Nolan were absent. Matthew Howe, Chris DiCarlo, Connor Kennedy, and Jason Rosselli were excused. Jake O’Kane and Samuel Tsongalis sent alternates.
25. ADJOURNMENT: Meeting adjourned at 6:59 pm

*To ensure the courtesy of others,*

*Please refrain from ANY cell phone use during the meeting.*

*Please also note that for accurate record keeping purposes, SGA meetings are recorded and kept on file by the SGA Executive Secretary.*