**STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION MINUTES**

**February 04, 2020**

1. ROLL CALL: Avery Szulc, Ariana Torres, Valerie Eckenroth, Jason Phillips, Mitchell McKittrick, Joseph DeMeo, Marilyn Maison, Victoria Ricciardi were absent.
2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM January 28, 2019: Minutes were approved.
3. PRESIDENT'S REPORT: ***Kaytlyn Mekal***
4. I hope your semester is going well so far. As I told you all last week, we do not have a guest speaker tonight. In other news, I have a few things for you guys.
5. As you guys probably saw on Friday, January 31 President Torrecilha has decided to retire from Westfield State University. Through his tenure as the Twentieth President of the University, he has taken great strides, to quote the Board of Trustees Chair Kevin Queenin, “to create a platform for growth and improvement, while always putting students first.” After 30 years of working in higher education, I wish him all the best, and I hope he enjoys a long and restful retirement. He will be retiring at the end of August, and the Board of Trustees will be naming an interim president for the 2020-2021 academic year and initiating a search committee for his successor.
6. I move to appoint Matt Wandishion as Representative at Large for the remainder of the 2019-2020 Academic year. Motion carries.
7. There will be another Dean of Students search taking place soon, and if any of you are interested in getting involved with that, please let myself or Dr. Lopez know as soon as possible. This is an intense time commitment, but this will be both valuable experience for you, and it will help ensure that we have candidates who will be the best fit for Westfield State University. Dr. Lopez has asked for 2-3 students, so if you or someone you know might be interested, you can reach out to myself or Dr. Lopez for any questions.
8. It is really important that you all start reporting on your committees. It’s beneficial for not only us in SGA to know, but for students who might come down looking for information. If we are all on the same page for what’s going on around the University, then we can help more students that way, and maybe even get more students involved in our clubs and committees. So I ask, even if you come up here and say that your committee met and did nothing, that you come up and give a report so that we’re all on the same page.
9. For anyone who’s interested, Dr. Erica Morrin from the History Club will be hosting a viewing party for the State of the Unio address at 9:00 pm in the Owl’s Nest.
10. Next week we will be having several members from Enrollment Management Committee to get our feedback on retention at Westfield State and what can be done to improve retention rates.
11. Items not listed on Agenda:
12. BOARD OF TRUSTEES' REPORT: **Thalita Neves**
13. You should’ve gotten an email from President Torrecilha about the Board of Trustee’s meeting this Thursday, February 6.
14. I just to reiterate, the meeting times are as follows:

* Advancement and Enrollment Management from 8:30-9:30
* Academic and Student Affairs from 9:30-11:00
* Finance and Capital Assets from11:00-12:30
* Governance and Nomination from 1:00-1:30
* Full Board meeting from 1:30-3:00

1. I would just like to note that the Audit committee was cancelled for Thursday’s meeting.
2. The meetings will be in the President’s Boardroom in Horace Mann and you can come and go as you please.
3. My office hours for this semester will be 3:00 pm until 5:00 pm on Monday’s and 2:00 pm until 5:00 pm on Tuesday’s.
4. All University Committee: **Kaytlyn Mekal**
5. On Friday, January 31 Sam Tsongalis, Audrey Therriault and I went to a special All University Committee meeting where Dr. Diane Prusank came to discuss the Department of Higher Education’s new approval process for new majors. They have created a 2-track system where new majors will either be placed on the Fast Track to be approved as soon as possible, or on the Standard Track to come back for any changes the DHE deems necessary. With this, they have left it up to the individual universities to figure out what we feel needs to happen before the new program gets sent to the Board of Trustees and then to the DHE. Through this meeting, we came to a conclusion that any departments that would like to start a new major need to first fill out the DHE’s letter of intent and send it to the Provost, who will send it to AUC. From there AUC will send anything curricular to Curriculum Committee, and everything else to the Advisory Committee on Academic Planning. This is part of ACAP’s mission, so that is the reasoning for sending it there. From those committees, they will send it back to AUC, and we will send it to Diane, who will present it to the Board of Trustees.
6. Our next scheduled meeting is on Friday, February 7 at 1:40 pm in the Parenzo Boardroom. We still have room for one more student on this committee, so if you’re interested, please let me know.
7. Student Advisory Council: **No report**

1. VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT-STUDENT LIFE:**Gift Madu**
   * 1. Student Affairs Committee: **No Report**
     2. Diversity/Inclusion Committee: **No Report**
     3. Food Services Committee**: Kelson Burke**
2. I am absolutely excited to announce that we have finally found our new Director of Dining Services. The candidate chosen is William Connor or Bill as he’d like to be called. He should be starting work on February 18.
3. Marketplace has been expanding their options of what can bought with dining dollars over at the marketplace. This includes items that can be seen over at Ely Harvest and the Wilson Café. They are also hoping they’ll be able to put out microwavable dinner options in the near future.
4. For events, there will be a Greek Lunch tomorrow between 11:30 am and 2:30 pm. The lunch items will be at the Chef’s table with the addition of a couple desserts in the dessert section.
   * 1. Parking Control Board**: Aaron Lessing**
5. I hope you all had a good weekend last Friday, January 31 parking appeals committee went through 35 appeals that happened in a span of four days. Altogether the committee decided to overturn four appeals, reduce two of them, and then upheld the rest of them.
   * 1. Student Athletic AdvisoryBoard**: No Report**
     2. Substance Advisory Committee**: No Report**
     3. Veteran’s Affairs Report**: No Report**

1. VICE PRESIDENT’S REPORT-ACADEMIC LIFE: **Samuel Tsongalis**
   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**
2. VICE PRESIDENT’S REPORT-FINANCE: ***Kelson Burke***
3. I am looking for a senator from each class year to join Finance Committee for this spring semester. If you are interested please see me after the meeting.
4. I would also like to see all First Years after the meeting over by the couches.
5. Finance Committee: **No Report**
6. Foundation Report: **No report**
7. Student Organization Council: **No report**
8. VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT-PROGRAMMING: ***Cameron Kelleher***
9. Campus Activities Board: **Cameron Kelleher**
10. Tomorrow, February 5 CAB will be hosting a live at lunch event in the DC, from 11:30 am until 1:30 pm. Then also, CAB will be hosting the “Say What Karaoke” auditions in the Owl’s Nest this Thursday, February 6 from 6:00 pm-8:00pm. The actual competition will be February 20 at Dever stage.
11. Our next scheduled meeting is Wednesday, February 5 at 5:15 pm in the SGA room.

1. LEGISLATIVE SECRETARTY: **Elizabeth Ferrara**
2. Neighborhood Advisory Board: **No report**
3. Community Relations/Fundraising Report: **No Report**
4. EXECUTIVE SECRETARY REPORT: **Aaron Lessing**
5. Hello again Owl Ball Committee met yesterday on the couches and we just kind of brainstormed ideas for the theme of Owl Ball and our idea in the end was a Masquerade Party like the masks. So, one thing we had a concern about was the masks that tie around your head and we came to the conclusion that we can only use handheld masks with public safety and another thing is we're planning a trip down to Tekoa Country Club to see the layout to pick the color scheme for the Owl Ball so in case you're interested just let me know and when we have planned it I will let you know so you can come along.
6. **Riley Gregoire**: Hey so I really wanted to go to that meeting, but I had class. Is it possible if we try to rotate times for the meeting?
7. **Aaron Lessing**: That is something we could try to do to get more people in it. Yeah.
8. **Chloe Sanfacon**: I would just like to comment, you can also paint on your mask.
9. **Aaron Lessing**: That is a very good comment.
10. **Joey Joyal**: Why can’t we wear the masks around our face?
11. **Aaron Lessing**: I was told it was a safety concern.
12. **Tony Casciano**: We are allowing the mask that you can tie over the face.
13. PARLIAMENTARIAN REPORT: **Matthew Michalik**
14. Matthew Michalik gave a presentation on Robert’s Rules of Order.
15. Rules and Regulations Committee: **No Report**
16. Constitutional Review Committee: **No Report**
17. ADVISORY COMMITTEES:
18. Advisory Committee on Facilities Planning: **No Report**
19. Advisory Committee on Academic Planning: **No Report**
20. Advisory Committee on Budget Planning: **No report**
21. Advisory Committee on Affirmative Action: **No Report**
22. Advisory Committee on the Westfield State Experience: **No report**
23. Search Committee for Dean of Students**: No Report**
24. COMMUTER COUNCIL AND CLASS COUNCIL REPORTS:
25. Commuter Council: **No Report**
26. Senior Class: **Ethan Goodfellow**
27. I wanted to update you guys on what the Senior Class discussed in our meeting on Wednesday, January 29. We discussed the final details of the 100 Days Toast, which is this Thursday.
28. Then the conversation shifted to the Red Sox trip, again mostly to finalize details.
29. After we discussed the Senior Send Off in May.
30. We had five minute conversation about the word “corral” and how to spell it. And finally, we talked about senior sweatshirts and how we are doing one last push to sell them.
31. We are meeting again on February 5 in Ely 020 at 4:45 pm.
32. Junior Class: **No Report**
33. Sophomore Class: **No Report**
34. First Year Class: **Chloe Sanfacon**
35. I accept the resignation of Avery Szulc as a Representative to Senate for the Class of 2023.
36. The Class of 2023 will be holding interviews to fill our four empty positions, three Rep to Senate and a Historian, on Monday, February 24 at 4:30 pm. If you know any First Year students who may be interested in joining their Class Council, feel free to have them email me at [csanfacon3894@westfield.ma.edu](mailto:csanfacon3894@westfield.ma.edu).
37. We will be hosting an event this upcoming Monday, February 10 at 5:00 pm in the lounge outside Dunkin Donuts. This is an informal Meet Your Officers event where we will be serving Hot Chocolate and students can come make Valentine’s Day Candy Grams and chat with the Class council members. If you know any First Years, please spread the word. This event is also open to all classes so if you’d like to come make a Candy Gram, feel free to stop by.
38. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:
39. NEW BUSINESS: (Requires majority vote to be opened)
40. ANNOUNCEMENTS:
41. **Kelson Burke**: Just a reminder all first-years please see me at the couches.
42. **Matthew Jacques**: There are 102 days until Commencement.
43. **Thalita Neves**: Board of Trustees meeting we are voting on fee increases so go.
44. ROLL CALL: Ariana Torres, Valarie Eckenroth, Jason Phillips, Joseph DeMeo and Victoria Ricciardi were absent.
45. ADJOURNMENT: Meeting adjourned at 5:58 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.*