**Student Government Association Minutes**

March 08, 2016

1. ROLL CALL: Ashley Deleon and Connor Glynn were absent. Casey Hiltz, Lezlie Campbell and Molly Romano were excused.
2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM March 01, 2016: Minutes were approved.

1. PRESIDENT’S REPORT: *Evelyn Dina*
2. We have two speakers tonight, first we have Josh Hettrick the Assistant Director of Housing, to speak to you all and look for feedback on a potential ne micro-fridge plan
3. **Josh Hettrick**: Presented the newly proposed Micro-fridge plan for SGA.
4. **Jon Cubetus**: You said on a previous slide that if micro-fridges are installed in all the traditional dorms that other fridges would not be permitted in residence halls. When you use the language residence halls, does that include the apartments too?
5. **Josh Hettrick**: Yes, it would include the apartments and the suite style buildings mainly because those buildings already have refrigerators in them, and we allow microwaves in the common areas of those buildings as well. That’s an amenity that the students living in the apartments in suites already have access to as opposed to the traditional halls where the microwaves would be prohibited unless they were part of the micro-fridge unit. That would be the reason why we are looking at it across the board.
6. **Haley Batchelder**: Could a person in a one or two-person room request a bigger fridge?
7. **Josh Hettrick**: It would be challenging to do that because we’d be replacing a certain number of them every summer on a cycle to ensure that the oldest ones are getting cycled out, and when you look at our first year and transfer students, you’re looking at about 35-40% of students don’t know where their assignments going to be until June or July in some years, so it’s challenging for people to request something larger not necessarily knowing where they’re going to be living. That’s some sort of trade off that we go into; if there’s a degree to which you all think the units, that we have right now are not enough for students, then that’s certainly feedback that I’d like to take, so we’re able to incorporate that into what the plan is going to look like for this. I’ve never heard negative feedback about our units, but that could also be because a lot of students are bringing their own units as well. I’m certainly open to hearing what you think about the size of the units themselves and whether or not the current ones would be enough.
8. **Brandon Trafford**: If you’re only saving $17,000 with the reduction in energy cost, how much are you spending to replace the units every year?
9. **Josh Hettrick**: That’s the reason why $25.00 would be incorporated into the housing fee, because it would cover the cost of purchasing new units on an annual basis. That’s essentially what we’re trying to do, is offset that cost. It also is going to help to pay for the fact that we’re going to need an increased number of student workers over the summer time to clean the additional units. Right now, we have 450 units, we’d be proposing over 800 units, so it’s a lot more to clean for the student workers. We’re trying to make sure that we cover all of our bases.
10. **Brandon Trafford**: Do you have the actual figures as to how much it would cost for the units themselves?
11. **Josh Hettrick**: It would vary per year depending on whether we’re replacing the smallest units, the middle units, or the largest units. On average, if we replaced 19% of each individual size, then it’s approximately $70,000 or so.
12. **Shannon Cullinane**: My only concern, I live in Lansdowne and none of my roommates have meal plans. We obviously buy a lot more groceries, and since there are five of us, three of us are using the big fridge while the other two use smaller fridges. It would be hard to put five roommates’ groceries in one fridge, so that’s my concern.
13. **Evelyn Dina**: What is the current Micro-fridge rental fee going towards?
14. **Josh Hettrick**: It goes towards the cost of the unit itself and replacing them.
15. **Evelyn Dina**: Do you foresee a lot of roommate issues with having to share a fridge? I know that even though a fridge might be bigger, it could still be an issue with people sharing space.
16. **Josh Hettrick**: It’s definitely something we’ve thought about and definitely something that would need to be incorporated when students are having discussions when they first get here as to how this space is being used. We certainly see issues with students using each other’s things now, and that’s with students having their own units, so I’m not sure that’s necessarily something that will go away by continuing what we currently have in place. The other piece of this for me is I was surprised that there were only 27% of students that bring their own units, that’s not a lot compared to where I expected it to be. Because of that, I think that some of this conversation, as to how we share these units in the first place is happening right now.
17. **Dana Kilby**: I was wondering if based on how big an apartment is, if it’d be reasonable to allow more units to be brought?
18. **Josh Hettrick**: That’s definitely something that I can talk to our director about incorporating into the proposal, it’s just one of those things where we talk about energy conservation. The one thing that I noticed is that we have barely 300 units in the apartments right now, which is a very small number compared to the amount of apartments we have on campus. It seems like now for the most part students are able to make the primary fridge work, but if it’s the sixes and fives that we think wouldn’t work, we can find middle ground to fix that.
19. **Justin Connolly**: What are our sister institutions doing with micro-fridges?
20. **Josh Hettrick**: What we found is that there are a lot of schools that provide fridges outright or have a rental program like we do right now. There are some schools that offer nothing regarding this at all, and students are on their own to purchase units outright. Because units are becoming more common and accessible for families to purchase themselves, there are some schools that see that they’re ready to bring their own and it’s not an issue. When you purchase a unit independently and outright, these units can range from $450 up to $1000, and at that point, it’s very cost prohibitive to families. Most of our students are going to be able to live in a traditional residence hall for two years and then move up to an apartment style or suite, so over the course of the first two years your $100.00 goes towards a fridge that you don’t have to outright pay, clean or move.
21. **Brendan McKee**: In situations where there are forced triples or more people in a room than expected, how do they decide which sized fridge the room will receive?
22. **Josh Hettrick**: We were discussing this in the department, and our concern is that forced triples are so tight, as it is that putting a larger unit in may not help as much as we’d hope it would. In those situations, we would need to look at either using a double sized fridge and look at installing a cube style fridge, or telling students to bring a cube fridge as their own until they break the room down only because they are the ones that can slide under beds easily so they don’t take up a lot of space. We’re trying to make sure space gets maximized no matter what we implement, it is something we’re cognizant of.
23. **Xavier Carmona**: I know some students buy their own fridges as more of an investment since they expect them to last throughout college and to not cost as much as renting a micro-fridge. I know the school will benefit from using less energy and making more money, but how would students benefit?
24. **Josh Hettrick**: There are two benefits as far as we can tell. The first is that energy saving is being passed on to you in the sense that your rooms are going to operate a lot more effectively, we won’t have to deal with tripped circuit breakers in traditional styled halls that we do currently see quite often. It’s not something all students are aware of in these buildings because it happens more so in some buildings than others, but I don’t see students decreasing things they’re bringing that need to be plugged into walls, moving forward. That energy savings is not as much a cost savings so much as it helps you guys by not having to draw as much electricity out of the rooms for those units that constantly have to stay on. Also, it’s been widely received that students really desire having a microwave in their room, it’s not something people enjoy when they have to go to a common room or kitchen to use a microwave, and it’s one of the reasons why the micro-fridge program has been so successful over the years. We rent out 450 units on an annual basis, and for that students are spending $60-$180 depending on how they decide to split the cost. By doing this, it’s going to be less than what students are paying right now and every room would have a microwave in it, which as an amenity from student feedback is something that many students want.
25. **Justin Connolly**: Is there an opt out option?
26. **Josh Hettrick**: It wouldn’t be an opt out option because if we’re going to make it universal for the campus, then trying to track the opt ins and opt outs as well as the rooms allowed to bring their own would be nearly impossible for our staff to manage, especially during opening weekend. There’d be no way to thoroughly follow up with that, we’d be where we are right now which is during health inspections finding out things. It would be more helpful to just keep it standard across the rooms.
27. **Ryan Losco**: A lot of students will bring their own fridge to campus because it’s their private property, not the schools, so they can put anything that they have in their fridge. If you have a designated school fridge, how does staff accessibility change?
28. **Josh Hettrick**: That would mirror what the current access would be, which is that we aren’t able to go in and open whatever we want whenever we want. That’s something where if public safety were to talk to them, it’s a matter of how they respond and if they’re asked to do certain things.
29. **Haley Batchelder**: To further energy reduction, have you looked into removing fridges from common areas?
30. **Josh Hettrick**: It’s certainly something we can have a larger discussion about, I can tell you that in halls that only have one large common area, the RA staff often uses the fridge there for events. Those would be situations where we’d not want to get rid of all of them, but if they’re not all getting used, it’s a conversation we’d have.
31. **Sean Bacon**: If roommates are eating each other’s food, would that be enough to talk about an exception to not have to share a fridge?
32. **Josh Hettrick**: Any type of issue is something we can have a conversation about, there’s always a wide variety of ways to solve these problems. I think in this situation, it would be important to have a conversation with the person taking food and endorsing to respect each other’s privacy.
33. Thank you Josh Hettrick, our next speakers are Andrew Manchino and Samantha Lee from Relay for Life, they’re here to talk about the annual Relay. Welcome.
34. **Samantha Lee**: Hi everyone, we’re here to tell you about what relay is doing this year, what we’ve done in the past, and what you to know about our upcoming Relay event in April. We are in our third year as a club on campus, we’re a completely student run group. In the past three years, we’ve risen over $80,000.00 for the American Cancer Society, we work very closely with them and their office in Holyoke, we have a representative that we talk to each week and all of our money goes directly to the American Cancer Society. We have about 20 dedicated club members each year that help us make the event, and we reach out to many other clubs on campus to get involved. This year, our event is on April 8-9 at the Woodward Center starting at 6:00 PM. As of right now we have about 200 participants signed up, we’re expecting 500. The past two years we’ve hosted at least 500. Relay is also a really great way we’ve been able to connect the campus community with the city community. Each year, we invite the mayor of Westfield and we have a few teams from the community that are our biggest fundraisers, so it’s a great way to bring the two communities together. This year, we’re working closely with the class of 2018 and their Buzz Off, so we’re starting a new initiative to have the weekend of Relay and the Buzz Off to be the same and call it WSU Kicks Cancer. That’s going to be our new way to advertise this year; you’ll see that after spring break. Another new thing we’re starting this year is promoting student involvement in the American Cancer Society cancer action network, which students can sign up for and sign petitions and support legislation for more funding towards cancer research.
35. **Andrew Manchino**: We started off September with our fundraiser for childhood cancer awareness month with a bake sale for Soupy for Loopy. We raised $200.00 at our bake sale for them. In October, we went to the Making Strides walk at Stanley Park with a different part of the American Cancer Society as well as a door to door fundraiser at all of the residence halls. We donated $400.00 from the fundraiser straight to our event. In November, we hosted the Great American Smoke Out, a night where we try to get as many people as we can to never smoke or pledge to not smoke for one day, we had over 100 participants that night. In December and January, we held our kick off to get people to sign up and start fundraising. February, we held another door to door and raised $500.00 for the American Cancer Society cancer action network to allow people at Relay to sign up to be a part of that. Right now in March, we’re up to 202 participants, 46 teams, and $13,480 dollars. We’re way ahead of our goal from last year, so we’re really proud of the work we’ve done so far. Thank you again to hall councils, finance committee, and all the academic and professional departments on campus.
36. Samantha Lee: Lastly, we just want to talk to you guys now about our upcoming event called Paint the Campus Purple which will be happening after spring break. We’ll be in the dining halls and hopefully there will be a lot of purple decorations throughout campus. We’re also working on a new video, so if you want to come to our table and fill out a piece of paper stating why you Relay, we hope to have a new video to show that off this year.
37. For those of you who wrote down to volunteer for Fresh Check Day, again it is going to be on March 24. Julia Nedry is going to be here to speak to all of the volunteers after the meeting so, please stay and she will talk to you briefly about your role at the registration table.
38. Just a reminder that the Tuesday following spring break, March 22 Representative John Velis will be speaking to SGA so please remember that it will be a dress code meeting and to come prepared with questions.
39. Have a safe spring break.
40. Items not listed on the agenda.

1. BOARD OF TRUSTEES’ REPORT**:** *Justin Connolly*
2. I just wanted to thank all who have volunteered their time and efforts towards the #Save the Globe initiative. And Students, Faculty, Staff, Administration and Alumni that have come together to donate funds to make this possible. Thank you and it should be here before May.
3. All University Committee**: No Report**
4. Neighborhood Advisory Board**: No Report**

1. VICE PRESIDENT’S REPORT-STUDENT LIFE**:** *Matthew Carlin*
2. Student Affairs Committee**: No Report**
3. Multicultural Committee**: Ivana McGlinchey**
4. There will be an interfaith discussion panel on April 4 in University Hall about Human Rights.
5. Common Goods Food Pantry will be open Tuesday, March 22 and Wednesday, March 23 if you would like to volunteer please see Celeste Donovan, Lisa McMahon or Father Savage.
6. The interfaith breakfast will be held on April 6 at 7:30am in the Scanlon Banquet hall. The Guest of honor will be Dr. Liz Preston.
7. For Women’s Herstory there will be Voices from Inside on March 9 in the Owl’s Nest from 2:00pm -5:00pm, She’s Beautiful When She’s Angry film on Monday, March 10 in the Owl’s Nest at 4:00pm, Her Voice will be sponsored by Multicultural Student Association on March 21 in the Owl’s Nest at 7:00pm.
8. The next meeting for Diversity is scheduled for March 10 at 4:00pm in the Unity Room.
9. The next meeting for Interfaith is scheduled for April 18 at 4:00pm in the Interfaith Center.
10. Food Services Committee**: Andrew Manchino**
11. Tomorrow, March 9 in the DC for dinner there will be a Student vs. Food competition. This time since it is National Meatball day the contest will be to see who can eat a giant meatball the fastest. It will take place at 5:00pm and you will receive $10.00 in Sodexo bucks for entering.
12. This Thursday, March 10 will be the St. Patrick’s Day Dinner, so come join us for some corned beef and cabbage from 4:30pm to 8:00pm.
13. On March 24 in the DC there will be a tasting event, where student who enter will have to taste a multitude of different foods to see if they can tell what is in the food they are eating.
14. On Wednesday, March 30 there will be a Jamaican Lunch in the DC, for Jamaican heritage appreciation day.
15. On March 31 in the DC they will be hosting Rock the Bike. This is an opportunity to make your own smoothies by pedaling a stationary bike in the DC.
16. The DC is also working on getting dispensers for ranch in the DC, like Pandini’s has.
17. Next year the DC will be introducing a Travel Mug program. This will replace all current to-go cups, to be more sustainable. It will cost $10.00-$12.00 per mug, for a one time cost.
18. If anyone is looking for an on campus job Sodexo is hiring
19. On Monday, March 21 the DC will be offering tours of the kitchen, every two weeks, sign ups by comment cards.
20. **Matt Carlin**: In order for me to get a cup of coffee or tea from the DC next year to go, I have to purchase this mug?
21. **Andrew Manchino**: Yes. As far as I know, they haven’t thought about keeping to go cups because they want to increase sustainability.
22. **Evelyn Dina**: Is this mug program something you can ask someone in Sodexo to clarify so we know more specifics?
23. **Andrew Manchino**: Absolutely.
24. **Brennan Kauffman**: Just to clarify, the DC is hiring for this semester, right?
25. **Andrew Manchino**: Yes.
26. **Cam Swan**: Is there any way to get a cheaper mug, it kind of seems ridiculous to spend $10-$12 on a mug just so we can take drinks out of the DC.
27. **Andrew Manchino**: I think it’s the size of the mug, they’re looking to get a larger one. I’m thinking that they could have different sizes, but I can talk to them about the price.
28. **Justin Connolly**: I think we pay enough in fees that when we swipe in; we deserve to take a cup of coffee out.
29. **Andrew Manchino**: I’d suggest that you or anyone on senate come by the food services committee meeting to voice your concerns, it’s much easier than me trying to relay exactly what you’d like.
30. **Evelyn Dina**: Has there been discussion about cups that may be biodegradable?
31. **Andrew Manchino**: I can mention that too.
32. **Shannon Cullinane**: How would you refill travel mugs? I was told refilling water bottles was unsanitary, so wouldn’t this be unsanitary too?
33. **Andrew Manchino**: It’s more the fact that people put the rim of the bottle or cup against the dispenser, which allows bacteria to spread. I will definitely ask because that’s a really good point.
34. **Andrew Morin**: Do you know the rationale behind not being able to use your own travel mug?
35. **Andrew Manchino**: I don’t, I will mention it to them. They do want to get away from to go cups because it costs $33,000 to continually stock those and they’re not ecofriendly.
36. **Marcus DiBacco**: Is the paper that the cups they use now not biodegradable?
37. **Andrew Manchino**: I’m assuming that because they’re doing this initiative, that they aren’t. I don’t know if they’ve looked into biodegradable ones at all.
38. **Shayna Arnott**: I’m a part of food services committee, and a main reason why they do this is people like to pouch food and take a ton of it from the DC. It doesn’t seem like a lot, but it definitely does add up after a while and although your meal plan allows you to have this food, what people are taking is excessive and lessens the supplies of food by a lot more than what is reasonable.
39. **Maddie Creamer**: I move to close the speakers list. Motion carries.
40. **Evelyn Dina**: Point of information: I’ll reach out to see if someone from Sodexo can come after spring break depending on the information we get from Andrew and how much it clarifies.
41. **Matt Carlin**: I know that Sodexo works very hard, but it’s my opinion that they have a very lucrative and healthy contract with the university, that they get a lot of money for what they provide, and this is just another way for them to nickel and dime us
42. Our Next Scheduled meeting is March 22 at 4:00pm in the Tekoa Room.
43. Health Committee: **No Report**
44. Parking Control Board: **No Report**
45. Student Athletic Advisory Board: **No Report**
46. Substance Advisory Committee: **No Report**
47. Community Relations/Fundraising Report**: Marissa Cremin**
48. We will be organizing a dress drive on campus. Chaitali Brahmbhatt is the faculty advisor of our committee, and last year she had heard about a prom dress initiative for local girls
49. She gave me the contact information, and I reached out to Kelli Quigley, the adjustment counselor at West Springfield High School who had started the prom dress initiative. At their school, they have a space called the Terrier Closet, which was created as a student’s senior project about seven years ago. The Terrier Closet is open all school year long and has many donated items such as hygiene products clothing, school supplies, back packs coats and many more items.
50. The Terrier Closet and Prom Drive are not just for students who have financial struggles. These items are available to all students regardless of their need. Ms. Quigley began the prom dress initiative two years ago ant it was a huge success. This year her team of students and interns are working hard to reach out to other high schools in the area and expand their initiative.
51. I’m going to pass around the poster that we hung up in res halls and academic buildings for this event. Please consider this when you go home for spring break and see what you might be willing to donate from your own closet. We are accepting donations from prom/party dresses, evening gowns, shoes, and accessories including clutches and jewelry. Make sure you tell your friends as well.

1. VICE PRESIDENT’S REPORT-ACADEMIC LIFE: *Jon Cubetus*
2. Academic Policies Committee: **No Report**
3. Curriculum Committee: **No Report**
4. Enrollment Management Committee: **No Report**
5. Academic Technology and Information Services Committee: **No Report**
6. International Programs Committee: **No Report**
7. Writing Liaison**: No Report**
8. VICE PRESIDENT’S REPORT-PROGRAMMING: *Haley Batchelder*
9. Programming update**: Haley Batchelder**
10. VICE PRESIDENT’S REPORT-FINANCE: *Brandon Trafford*
11. Finance Report: **No Report**
12. Foundation Report: **No Report**
13. SERETARY’S REPORT: Brendan McKee*/Jacob Lotter*
14. Executive Secretary Report: **Brendan McKee**
15. Legislative Secretary Report: **Jacob Lotter**
16. I just wanted to correct myself from last week. There are four units due for March not three. Those four are due on April 5 by 3:30pm. I’m incredibly sorry about that.
17. I just wanted to remind everyone that I’m accepting Blue Key Nominations until Friday, March 11. I currently have 33 different people nominated. Tomorrow morning, Wednesday, March 9, I will start sending out the supplemental questions that nominees need to answer, and those answers will be due on March 21. So, please get those nominations to me before Friday.
18. The committee will be hearing from me as soon as we return from break.

1. PARLIAMENTARIAN REPORT: *Ryan Losco*

Rules and Regulations Committee: Ryan Losco

1. After getting your feedback from last meeting, we went back to the drawing board and I am here to get your thoughts on it. Rules and Regulations will be voting on this later tonight. So with the changes the Amendment will read.

Section 1:

1. The Student Government ?Association (herein, SGA) and this Club, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_(fill in Club name), recognize that the overall safety and wellbeing of its Club members is a priority function of the Club.
2. This Club (named above) is only authorized to conduct its activities in a designated University approved location such as one provided on campus grounds or at a recognized location that is designed or approved for this Club’s specific activities.
3. Each Club member, as a material condition of membership, understands, accepts and agrees that his/her participation in this Club is voluntary and that he/she voluntarily assumes all risks and liabilities associated with his/her participation. Each Club member, by accepting membership, agrees to hold the SGA harmless from and Indemnify the SGA against any and all liability, including, but not limited to physical, financial, emotional and property damage claims, whether sustained or inflicted, in connection with or in any way related to the participant’s participation in the Club.
4. Once approved the SGA acts as an administrative resource for the Club and is not responsible for managing Club activities.
5. All Club activities which may include, but are not limited to practices, meetings, and competitions that are being held off of the Westfield State University campus must be supervised by a proper authority (Such as an advisor or coach or certified facility manager) and must be taking place in an appropriated setting for the activity. Secondly, all club operating their activities off-campus must complete proper paper work which may include but is not limited to travel waiver prior to the activity occurring. All paperwork must be completed and turned into the SGA office.
6. All Club activities being held on Westfield State University campus buildings and grounds must be registered in the Event Management System to insure proper coverage and knowledge of the activities.
7. The responsibility of adhering to all expectations set out in “1” and “2” of this section lies with the officers and members of the individual Club.
8. Any and all injuries, whether incurred of inflicted in connection with Club activities, must be reported to Westfield State University Public Safety (413)572-5262 immediately per University reporting procedures. The SGA Parliamentarian or Representative must also be notified of such injury in writing no later than twenty-four (24) hours after injury occurs. Reports of injuries will be kept by the SGA within the Club’s file.
9. After a report of such an injury has been made, all Club activities must cease while the cause of the injury is determined and an assessment of the situation occurs. After such determination and assessment by the Rules and Regulations committee, the club may resume its activities only if authorization from the SGA Parliamentarian to resume is issued in writing.

 Section 2:

1. Failure to adhere to these conditions may result in sanctions, up to and including, revoking the Club’s active status as determined by the Rules and Regulations Committee.
2. I will now take questions concerning new language.
3. Our next scheduled meeting is March 8 after the SGA meeting.

1. COMMUTER COUNCIL, CLASS AND HALL REPORTS:
2. Commuter Council: **No Report**
3. Senior Class: **Ryan Losco**
4. Junior Class: **Andrew Morin**
5. Junior class t-shirts are in. If you haven’t picked yours up yet, you should do so this week in the SGA office.
6. We are still working hard on Mr. Westfield. Please consider donating to your favorite contestant online or by giving them cash. Help us grant a wish.
7. Our tye-dye event is all set to go on Wednesday, April 6 from 7:00pm to 9:00pm. The cost is $5.00 for a Mr. Westfield t-shirt and if you wear it to the event, you get free admission. You can also just bring your own white – shirt and tye-dye that for free but only the Mr. Westfield t-shirts grant you admission to the event.
8. Just a reminder, we are hosting Brown Bag Bingo on Thursday, March 24. We hope to see you there.
9. Our next meeting is tomorrow, March 9 at 5:30pm in Ely E003.
10. Sophomore Class**: Maddie Creamer**
11. The Class of 2018 is still working very hard on the Buzz Off for Cancer event. We’re hoping to get more people to sign up to buzz, so if you or someone you know is interested in buzzing, please sign up for this awesome cause.
12. Also we’re holding interviews for our open SGA Representative and advisor positions when we come back from Spring Break.
13. We’re hoping to extend the deadline for our class t-shirts until the end of the month, to give students more time to order them. Class of 2018 members, please encourage your friends to buy their class t-shirts.
14. Our next scheduled meeting is on Monday, March 21 at 7:00pm in the SGA Club Room E021.
15. First Year Class: **No Report**
16. Apartment Complex: **No Report**
17. Courtney Hall: **No Report**
18. Davis Hall: **No Report**
19. Dickinson Hall**: No Report**
20. Lammers Hall: **No Report**
21. Lansdowne Hall**: Alina Bracken**
22. Lansdowne is doing big things in Downtown Westfield. We have two events this week.
23. Tonight, March 8 is Know Your Limit/Stay safe at Spring Break. It is an Alcohol Education with Drunk Googles and pizza from 8:00pm to 10:00pm.
24. Tomorrow, Wednesday, March 9 is Wings Wednesday from 8:00pm to 9:00pm.
25. New Hall**: No Report**
26. Scanlon Hall: **No Report**
27. University Hall**: No Report**
28. UNFIISHED BUSINESS**:**

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1. NEW BUSINESS: Christian Capalbo: I move to open new business. Motion Carries.
2. **Christian Capalbo**: Westfield’s Art Education Program is going to be basically shut down, it will phase out in two years due to lack of faculty and unqualified faculty to carry on this program. It’s been unorganized, inefficient, and enrollment has lowered over the years. Instead of recertifying it and finding new faculty members, they’re cancelling it out of the art program completely.
3. There is a petition going around, it says: I chose Westfield State University for its excellent Secondary Education and Art programs. Our University recently stated that the Art Education programs will be phased out within two years, the very program I love my school for. I realize the budget is tight, but I find new departments more important than our children’s education. Many people believe that art is not important. Do you know what people are going to miss out on without art classes? Not only an enjoyable class, but also a reason for attending school, motivation, creativity, different perspective thinking, problem solving skills. That small list is only the beginning. Museums of all kinds will become less important, technology will cease to evolve. Chances are our minds will too. Please, help me to stop this nightmare; I don’t want the next or any generation to be born into a world of boredom and just math and science classes.
4. This is very near and dear to me, I’m not an art education concentration but I’m very passionate and proactive in my department, and this is very sad and disappointing. She made this petition for people to sign, so maybe we can do something about this. What would happen, I don’t know if it’s this semester or next but it’ll be the last semester to register for Art Education courses and it’ll phase out within two years. I’m going to pass around this petition to all of you, if you could all sign, that would be appreciated.
5. **Shannon Cullinan**: Would they be getting rid of Art Survey or is it more of the concentration?
6. **Christian Capalbo**: They will not get rid of it because it’s a common core class.
7. **Sean Bacon**: From what I understood, this petition isn’t going to do much because this is more of a state issue rather than a University issue. The State is mandating the school to remove the program because there were not enough graduates to maintain it. Rather than petitioning the school, I would recommend petitioning the State.
8. **Christian Capalbo**: Those are great points; I am not athe one who made this petition. This is going to be brought to the Chair of the Department. As far as it being a State issue, she would be the one to bring and have a discussion about.
9. **Justin Connolly**: I move to close new business. Motion carries.

1. ANNOUNCEMENTS:
2. **Jacob Lotter**: Nominate for Blue Key.
3. **Brendan McKee**: Can I see Cotillion Committee after the meeting, and can those of you who report, please type your reports?
4. **Justin Connolly**: Can I please get the picture of the globe back?
5. **Haley Batchelder**: CAB is meeting tomorrow at 5:00pm; we’ll be setting a final Springfest schedule.
6. **Nyasia Velazquez**: Tomorrow, March 9 we’re collecting interest in Wilson about potential Valet service on campus, please come by and fill it out.
7. **Maddie Creamer**: Class of 2018 buy your t-shirts.
8. **Sue LaMontagne**: Fresh Check Day volunteers don’t forget to stay and talk to Julia Nedry after the meeting.
9. **Jess Hanam**: Lamers is having an event tomorrow, March 9, at 7:00pm for the Celtic’s game, pizza and other goodies, raffle tickets for Relay for Life, you can win candy, Owl bucks, a TV and more.
10. **Andrew Manchino**: Thank you all for your comments today, I know Sodexo will be more than happy to hear all your concerns.
11. **Xavier Carmona**: This Thursday the first year class is having a FIFA tournament. Hope to see you there.
12. **Ivana McGlinchey**: All Hersory events are tomorrow and Thursday.
13. **Ryan Losco**: Mark your calendars for after spring break, Thursday, March 24 from 5:00 pm to 6:30pm in New Hall classroom 141B, the Dean of WNEU Law school is coming to meet prospective law students.
14. **Evelyn Dina**: Remember Representative Velis will be here when we get back, so that meeting is a dress code meeting.
15. **Michael Janchuk**: 74 days until commencement.
16. ROLL CALL: Ashely Deleon was absent. Emily McKenelley, Casey Hiltz, Al Fava, Michaella Tretheway, Maggie Mastoianni, and Molly Romano were excused.
17. ADJOURNMENT: Meeting adjourned at 6:44pm.