**Student Government Association Minutes**

March 25, 2014

1. ROLL CALL: Robby Fincchiaro was absent. Dana Kilby was excused.
2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM March 18, 2014: Minutes were approved.
3. PRESIDENT’S REPORT: *Taylor Fote*
4. Hello everyone. So, tonight we will be discussing the matter of the MASSPirg Chapter on our campus. Just so everyone understands, we are discussing this because every two years, there is a revote, called the referendum vote, whether students support or do not support MASSPirg on our campus. I’d like to invite Charolotte Graham and the rest of the Westfield State MASSPirg chapter to the podium for a short presentation on the Chapter and what MASSPirg does for the school. Then we will have an opportunity to discuss and ask questions after that.
5. **Charlotte Graham**: I’m Charlotte, the Campus Organizer here at Westfield, and I have with me Dan Powers: Class of 2015, Jake Lehan: Class of 2015, Morgan Suddeth: Class of 2017, Alex Gaspar: Class of 2017, Eric Wisel: Class of 2015, Brian Aurelio: Class of 2016, Justin Wright: Class of 2015, Michaella Tretheway: class of 2017 and Kathryn Murphy: Class of 2017.
6. **Katheryn Murphy**: MASSPirg mission statement is to stand up to powerful special interest groups on behalf of the public. We aspire to be the voice of what people want. We’re the only one in Massachusetts so it’s great for us to work with all the chapters towards a common goal. There are Pirgs in other states as well, and we have the chance to work with them to do even more than we already try to do. Some of the issues that we’re really active in are: affordable education, increased recycling, better public transportation, consumer protection, and alleviating poverty. MASSPirg started as a result of the 60’s and 70’s when people started to take an interest in what was going on in their country. Students got together and decided to approach these goals through projects more practical than just raising awareness. So they pooled their resources together, had students pay a small fee, and were able to hire advocates and lobbyists to represent what we wanted. We’ve been at Westfield State for 40 years and we’re one of the longest standing chapters in the country.
7. **Morgan Suddeth**: MASSPirg as a chapter has had some concrete wins since its founding. Some of our biggest wins include the Lemon Law, which requires car salesmen to replace your car or refund your purchase if your car breaks down, within a year or 15,000 miles. We also helped to put expiration dates on dairy products, in 1973, because lots of people were getting sick through bad milk. And two years ago, a bill regulating Stafford Student Loan rates was set to expire and if no one did anything about it, student loan rates would have automatically doubled. MASSPirg advocates didn’t like that and went to Washington, DC and worked to keep interest rates where they are, which ended up saving 7 million students about $1,000 each. Every two years, we run a large, non-partisan registration drive. This is something important to us because it’s purely civic engagement and gets more young people involved in politics. The more people who vote, the more people who pay attention to the public. In the past few decades, young adults have been least likely to vote, but that’s been changing because of our efforts. Just last election cycle, across the country, we registered about 100,000 people to vote. And over 11,000 were registered here in MA through MASSPirg. Voter participation increased 15% just at Juniper Park. So, as I mentioned, we do this every two years and this year we have some big plans. We want to register 7,000 people to vote and make sure everyone knows to vote yes on the updated bottle bill in November.
8. **Dan Powers**: So back in 1983, MASSPirg students passed the original Bottle Bill. This put the five cent deposit on beer and soda bottles and proved to be the most effective recycling program to this day. We want to update the Bottle Bill, to include all other beverage containers that have come out since then, such as PowerAde and juice containers. MASSPirg along with some other groups led a massive petition drive to qualify the question on the ballot, for November 2014. Back in October, MASSPirg students from across the state met at University of Mass in Amherst for a retreat to kick off the petition drive. We collected over 1200 signatures that day. For the rest of that semester here at Westfield, MASSPirg students collected 2700 signatures on campus and around town. This gave us the opportunity, for us to interact, with members of the community, have conversations with them, and recognize how much of an overwhelming majority supported something like this. On March 6th, I testified in front of the MA legislature at the State House in support of the Bottle Bill. The legislature has one more chance to pass the bill through the State House by May 7th and if they don’t, then it will go on the ballot. Every year, one billion water bottles get thrown away in Massachusetts. The funding we receive through this $9 waivable fee would make a difference if kept here on campus, like just buying new recycling bins for the dorms, however, the money is much more effective when used at a state-wide level towards things like updating the bottle bill has a much greater impact not only on campus, but in every community across Massachusetts.
9. **Charlotte Graham**: A lot of people in the room have questions about how we use our money, because we do raise a lot through the $9 waivable fee. I did a budget breakdown for you: 86% is spent on staff, because that’s our main focus. We want to make sure we’re making as big of an impact as possible, by doing advocacy work, by building up students to go to the State House and talk to legislators, things like that. Fifty percent of our budget goes to our staff right here in Massachusetts, so that’s like paying for me and my boss, and all of the other organizers in the state. Also, we have a lot of people working in the Boston office: 4 advocates, who work full time in the State House for tons of different issues. The second biggest chunk of our budget, 34%, goes to pay our national student PIRG staff. We have program staff, that help develop strategies and tactics so that students who want to get involved can just take something on right away rather than needing to develop a complex campaign. My boss has a boss, who works with all the organizing directors across the country, and he’s been with MASSPirg since the 80s. He has so much institutional knowledge of how to work with students on campus and help them with activism. We also have a graphics department that develops our posters and stuff like that, which makes more sense to share those expenses across the country than to have each state have their own graphics department and organizing team. The third part is the 2% is the PIRG dues, which pays for our federal advocates in Washington, DC. We pay into a national federation of state PIRGS called USPIRG and that’s how we do advocacy in Congress. Some of you might recall our campaign about the price of textbooks, and that was then brought to Congress using the information we collected on campuses. And the last chunk is 14% to keep the lights on in our office in Boston, make photocopies, and stuff like that. We keep that pretty low; we don’t pay for anything that we don’t need to, so that we can spend the majority of the money on the advocacy work we do.
10. **Kathryn Murphy**: So, a lot of you might remember Charlotte Graham coming to your classes to talk about MASSPirg and at the beginning of her spiel she talks about the $9 waivable fee and how most of that money goes to advocacy work so that students are aware of what it is we do. We go to a lot of classrooms. We do a lot of grassroots work, like going out on campus and talking with people in person and collecting signatures for these causes, and when we do, we always try to explain what MASSPIRG does so that people understand. We also do a lot to spread awareness for the two-year referendum vote about who we are, what we do, and why we’re here. So we have this two-year vote, which is a choice that MASSPIRG made so that we are sure that it’s what students want. We’re the voice of students so we want to make sure we are their voice. We just started yesterday but we’ve collected 75 signatures of our goal of 1,000 of supporters and a lot of the people I’ve talked to are really for it. About 90% of people who we all have talked to were willing to sign and then the other 10% just said no thanks, which is cool too. We encourage you guys to vote yes, or at least allow students to vote on this on the ballot this year.
11. Thank you all, now I would like to open the floor for discussion. Please remember that we will be adhering to Robert’s Rules as always, so everything will be recognized by Rebecca DiVico, and all questions will come through me. We aren’t making a motion, we’re just asking questions.
12. **Tom Durkee**: I’ve heard this, the last time this vote came up and I’ve seen MASSPirg grow since then, especially since Charlotte Graham’s contributions on campus. I’ve seen campus organizers not be as visible, so I think you for being visible and it seems you have quite the following this year, unlike past years. I appreciate all your work, and it’s extremely important to the state and to our campus, but Kathryn Murphy mentioned that you guys had talked to students about the $9.00 waivable fee a the beginning of the year, which is great, but I feel like that’s almost too late since ills are already paid at that point. I read my bill very carefully, but I feel the description on the bill is very vague and regardless of the vote tonight, I feel like there needs to be a little more transparency on the bill as to what the fee goes to, which includes the campaigns you work for. It’s just $9.00 but it all adds up after eight semesters, so I think educating students and parents is important.
13. **Courtney Keddy:** I agree that MASSPirg has grown this year, Charlotte Graham, I’m just wondering if you will be staying and working on our campus again next year?
14. **Charlotte Graham**: That’s a good question. Generally, the campus organizer, is a one year position and I am not planning to be here next semester, there will be a new campus organizer, but this great group of students has got a lot of training this year and each organizer gets a three week intensive training, before starting on campus, so I am confident that whoever is here next year, will have a good team to show them the ropes. I’m hoping to be in the area at the beginning of next year, so that maybe, I can introduce that person around a little bit.
15. **Josh Clark:** I think an opt-in option would be fair, but the contractual issue with that would cause MASSPirg to leave completely. So, we need to be sure that we’re informed and fair with this vote.
16. **Ashley Deleon:** I agree that opt-in would be better, and that the MASSPirg section on the bill is vague, especially for first years, so it feels like being tricked out your money. I didn’t really see any return to school in general in the budget, but there doesn’t seem to be much room for things like getting the new recycling bins you mentioned**.**
17. **Dan Powers:** I just used recycling bins as an example, that the fee does more paying for advocates rather than just putting bins on campus. It makes a bigger impact to pay for advocates, because they are advocating for us and our interests. A lot of the money doesn’t stay on campus but 100% of the money that goes to MASSPirg is used to represent everyone on campus. It benefits everyone on campus, in Westfield, and across the state. 80% of recyclables are returned because of the Bottle Bill, so having people work to make that apply to other recyclables will improve us and beyond, rather than just us having recycling bins.
18. **Lauren Grams:** I think there should be a confirmation on the bill about what it is you’re paying for when it comes to the waivable fee for MASSPirg so that people might be more aware of what they’re paying for.
19. **Charlotte Graham:** As far as adding that additional confirmation, that would have to go through student accounts and the bursar. I am hoping to set up a meeting with them before the end of the semester to make sure the language on the bill is clearer about MASSPirg and what the $9.00 goes to.
20. **Steve Mailloux:** I think a flyer sent out with the bill with details about MASSPirg would help make that more clear. As far as the vote goes, they have the right to be here and not be thrown off campus, by a question or political tactic. I think that it’s unfair that voting for opt-in would mean taking this organization away. Whether you support this organization or not, that’s not fair to them. I hope everyone is aware of that impact before they decide.
21. **Taylor Fote:** I just want to discuss the vote since I sense some confusion. Since, in elections, only 10% of campus votes, we’re bringing it to you guys, to vote because every aspect of students on this campus are represented within this room right now. So, since MASSPirg will not exist with an opt-in option, we instead, will be voting on if we want MASSPirg on campus or not. Please continue to listen, ask questions, and remember your constituents rather than your personal opinion.
22. **Ryan Losco:** It’s clear that if they got 750 signatures for support within two days, that there are 750 students who want them here and we would be doing them all a disservice to take that away. That’s the equivalent of the entire Courtney Hall and then some, to put it into perspective. I agree that the bill wording is vague, especially for a student’s first semester, so I agree a handout with the bill would be a great solution.
23. **Olivia Dumas:** Charlotte, you’ve done an incredible job to strengthen MASSPirg. I just hope to see your students involved, step it up, to keep it going after Charlotte leaves. I was sitting in the Dining Commons and I felt that students signing these, had no idea what they were signing, so I don’t know how valid it is to say that there are 750 supporters represented with those signatures. It definitely was not clearly explained at least at my table and the table behind me.
24. **Rich Darrach:** So, now that there’s clarification on what we’re voting for, as a student leader, I have found my niche and if this is your niche on our campus, it would be a disservice to the people we represent and what we stand for to take that away from you. I will proudly continue to pay $9.00 as this goes forward. You guys went to advocate, before the legislature, this is a great opportunity that you wouldn’t have had, without MASSPirg. I believe that’s a great investment on students, and you will carry that on into your career. Whether or not I agree with you politically or the projects you do, I support the opportunity for you to get involved. You bring a lot to campus and I hope that your program keeps going strong and do more to clarify your work on the student bill**.**
25. **Sarah Hegarty:** As a senior, I have seen different campus organizers, who were not at your standard, or level you’re at right now. So, for me, I’m concerned that the quality of the program depends on whoever is in your position. Has the idea of being a MASSPirg club been discussed? That way the projects you do can continue but without being reliant solely on the organizer or opt-out funding**.**
26. **Charlotte Graham:** Our organization is funded very differently from most of the clubs on campus, as you guys are aware. We haven’t talked much about that option. The number of students in the past may not have been as high as it is this year, but ideally the students are the ones really driving it and the organizer is there to provide the resources for students to get involved in these campaigns. My hope is that even after I leave that all these students will be able to continue to build up with students, and help the new organizer learn how to run things here. We’ve really upped our criteria for campus organizers because we don’t want, what’s happened in the past, to happen anymore because it is a disservice to the campus to have an organizer who isn’t as skilled or able to help students with these opportunities. Because we’re a statewide organization and we’re part of a larger group that pools the money together from different campus chapters, it wouldn’t work in the same way, if it was a club here on campus. The students can do the same type of work, but it would take away from the big picture of what can be done when resources are pooled.
27. **Tori Landry:** I’d love to see a stronger student presence, if we do see this go through. We are all here as students, but I know we can be passionate about what we’re working on, so I’d like to see people reaching out to me on Facebook, or meeting more students. I know this is the first year we’ve had such a student following, so just speaking student to student, I’d just love to see more of you and getting to know you and what you’re passionate about. Charlotte, why is it that you will only be here for one year? Is that a statewide rule?
28. **Charlotte Graham:** That’s a good question. Generally, nationwide, a campus organizer is a one year commitment that people make and people can choose to continue on in a second year, but other people might choose to move into a different role in the organization or move on to do a different type of work. I am choosing to move into a different role within MASSPirg. It’s definitely a possibility for organizers to stay more than one year though.
29. **Jen McDiarmid:** I really like that you guys got a lot of people to vote, however, the student that came to my class, to get us to register to vote, said that we should all be registering, so that we could vote to legalize marijuana, which I thought was in very poor taste and reflected poorly on the organization. I’m sure it was probably nothing any of you said or how you told him to go out and say it, but it was just a little off-putting. I would like to see you guys around more though, and put your faces to the organization. I agree that organizers should probably be here more than a year; I just feel if Barb Hand wasn’t here every year, and we had a different SGA Advisor each year, it would be really fragmented and I imagine it’s same for MASSPirg with trying to build a strong presence. I was just wondering if you ask Westfield State students what their opinions are, and then advocate for those feelings specifically, or if you just advocate for what you think we want, or what statewide students want**.**
30. **Kathryn Murphy:** We have a student board, and we have a representative from each chapter meet twice a year, or the beginning of each semester, to talk about what students have expressed interest in. We talk about that and work though, to find what is actually feasible with the advocates who are hired.
31. **Jen McDiarmid: Readdress:** So, you have a student group on this campus or is it statewide? I’m a senior and I’ve never seen or heard of being able to come to the MASSPirg group and talk about what we want advocated for.
32. **Kathryn Murphy:** This particular meeting is not campus specific, but if you have interests you want us to be aware of and try to represent, you’re welcome to come by and we can try to keep the campus more informed going forward**.**
33. **Shannon Cullinane:** I just want to thank you guys for getting me to register to vote here, away from home, because otherwise I wouldn’t have voted and it was a cool experience. Thank you for giving that to me and pushing me to do that**.**
34. **Josh Clark:** I want to see more of the students participating, and recognize you for your involvement more. I haven’t seen most of you before. I think it’s great that you guys got 750 signatures, but it’s clear that there aren’t 750 students involved with MASSPirg here on this campus. I think we need to get more involvement and get the students who signed your papers to get involved with MASSPirg, because that’s where the disconnect is for me. Regardless, I can’t willingly vote to keep you guys here, because it’s still the method of payment that is my issue. Students need to know what they’re paying for, and they won’t know, then the payment needs to change, and if that can’t change than neither will my vote.
35. **Jake Lehan:** I agree that there needs to be change, and I think that MASSPirg needs to be involved with SGA in the future, and by that I mean, that at the end of the semester, we decide what projects we will take on in the next year, and I’d like to come to SGA and see what you guys want to see happen, at a state level. Nothing changes about the funding, but I think it’s important that you guys are empowered by what we do, at a state level. We want to make people more aware of what’s going on. I don’t feel we were false advertising with petitioning, I, at least tried, to convey the message as clearly as possible, but we are all volunteers and some people might not be as completely informed or putting in 110%, but the people standing here are informed. We do pick and choose what projects we take on, so, in the future, I’d like to see MASSPirg involved with SGA more, on what campaigns you guys would like to see us do, at a state level.
36. **Kathryn Murphy**: As far as the 750 signatures, most of the signatures were collected in the Dining Commons and we talked to tables of people, so multiple people all at once, so that we could get our message out more. The flyers you guys have right now, are the flyers we gave to everyone we talked to, so the information was given to those who signed and we tried to explain what MASSPirg was, as best as we could.
37. **Tom Durkee**: I also agree that the organizer could benefit the organization by staying longer and perhaps even rise out of the student volunteers, or become a grad assistant. I think the passion for Westfield is important. But I’m not getting why an opt-in would mean bye-bye MASSirg. I feel like this feels, really all or nothing. You do spend a lot on staffing but technically everyone could waive the fee, or opt-out, so why is that more valuable than what money is made from those who chose to opt-in and then budgeting based on that?
38. **Charlotte Graham**: The reason opt-in, or donation style fees, would mean not having a chapter here on campus, because it would really shift the way our organization functions here on campus. It would change the way students and staff spends their time here. We spend about three weeks, every two years doing a huge education drive, which starts with our petition drive this week, and then the next two weeks we would do a lot of “get out and vote” efforts. That’s three weeks out of every two years that we are spending, not working on the campaigns. But then the rest of the time can be spent on campaigns and going to the State House. But if there was a donation style fee, or opt-in, that would mean that staff and students would have to spend 60% of their time going around and fundraising and essentially street canvassing work. It would really change the way students experience MASSPirg on campus because they would spend a majority of their time advocating for support of MASSPirg rather than advocating for the campaigns. We don’t want students to pay for something they don’t support, but not having opt-out would very much change our program. And the reason being an opt-in program would mean there would no longer be a chapter is because of the way the MASSPirg student board bylaws are written, that we are only funded through waivable fee. This has happened with other schools where student governments would vote to change the funding to opt-in and that just isn’t recognized by our student board, because it would detract so much from the campaign work and how students experience MASSPirg on campus.
39. **Tom Durkee**: Readdress: I think that a flyer going with the student bill would help make opt-in work, but I understand the bylaws. I just think that education is key, when it comes to the bill because we can support what you guys do but we’re here on behalf of the students at Westfield State University who expect something to come back to them from MASSPirg and not really understand, so we’re concerned about this vote at that level.
40. **Taylor Fote**: What percent of the pooled MASSPirg funds is Westfield getting back? And at the referendum vote, SGA expressed that we wanted more local contributions made. I want to know what local issues have you guys worked on rather than Massachusetts as a whole.
41. **Charlotte Graham**: We actually don’t think our budget in that way, because it gets pooled into what all the students across the state have contributed toward the work that we do. I don’t have those numbers because that’s not how we break our budget down. We work at a statewide level, but we see the effects of what we do here in Westfield and all across the state. We usually raise about $30,000 – 35,000 here from Westfield and then I as an organizer make $24,000 a year and so, that’s a good chunk of the Westfield money and I spend a good amount of my time right here on campus, working with students and making connections with SGA and other student groups and administrators, and then there’s an additional cost to me being on staff, benefits, and travel to Boston, so most of what Westfield puts in goes to me working with students in Westfield.
42. **Taylor Fote**: Readdress: I understand that thats where budget comes from, but don’t you split your time with Holyoke Community College also? You don’t spend 100% of your time here?
43. **Charlotte Graham**: Yeah, I spend one or two days a week at Holyoke Community College as well.
44. **Morgan Suddeth**: I’m the Hunger and Homelessness Campaign Coordinator. Everything we do for the hunger and homelessness campaign, we try to center right here in Westfield. We’ve done a lot of work with hunger relief in Westfield, giving money to the Samaritan Inn, spending time helping at Samaritan Inn, and a bake sale last semester that raised a lot of money. We also do a lot with the Bottle Bill in the community, including on campus and around the town of Westfield. We try to keep our chapter centered in Westfield as much as possible because we know that’s a student priority. We know that we’re a state organization and a nationwide organization, and it can get lost, but we are passionate about Westfield State and we want to make sure that our students on campus are able to get involved in MASSPirg however they can.
45. **Andrew Morin**: Thanks for coming down. Myself and some of my constituents, I’ve spoken with, are not entirely for the Bottle Bill, and we might now be fully educated on what that is, but I feel that the Bottle Bill is the only issue I see being worked on this year. So, I definitely think that advocating for students should mean they can see what else is going on and have their opinions on the campaigns heard. I think we should have a meeting on campus for students to come in share what they want and then maybe you can share with the student board, and that would be advocating more for what the students at Westfield want. I also agree with the sentiment about the 750 signatures, that not all of them may be genuine because some people sign just make people go away, the person who came to my table isn’t here but they did not have flyers or really explain it much to us, so maybe there should more training available for better ways to do reach out to students. I’d also like to see more fundraising so that we can see the involvement and that you collect more than just our $9.00 each semester.
46. **Kathryn Murphy**: Personally, I want to apologize for the experience you had with someone trying to get you to sign the petition. That’s not how we try to present ourselves. I know I went up to some tables and said, “Hi, has anyone talked to you about MASSPirg yet?” and they said, “No, we’re not interested.” And I said, “Okay, have a nice day,” which is what we try to do and I’m really sorry that’s not what happened. Also, the Bottle Bill, you said you don’t support it, and that’s fine, a lot of people we talked to when we were petitioning said, “Oh finally”, and because a majority of people reacted that way, that’s sort of why we went with that campaign and that’s why it was important to us. I do think it would be great to have more opportunities for students to share ideas and opinions with us, so thank you.
47. **Josh Frank**: I feel like we’re put in a really weird place right now, because I don’t want to take an opportunity away from the students but I feel like I’m in favor of opt-in rather than waivable. So, I think whoever represents you guys on the statewide board should go into the bylaws to try to change them or something, because I feel like this is an awkward situation to decide on.
48. **Courtney Keddy**: We know a lot more now tonight, but I think in general, you guys talk at the students and I think having events to get students to talk with you would help you guys know more about who you are. Also, my parents pay my bill so they don’t always know about what things are, but the word MASS in it makes it seem like it’s a necessary fee, so informing parents is also important.
49. **Lauren Grams**: I don’t really ever see flyers or advertisement. I don’t really know a lot of people involved on campus, so I guess that number would be my first question.
50. **Morgan Suddeth:** We did a Hunger and Homelessness Awareness Week in November and we tried our best to cover the campus in posters. We’ve definitely tried to host events. I’m not sure what happened, but a lot of our posters got taken down. They were stamped and everything, but we have tried to do a lot of events, like weekly open meetings and even a movie night. There are plenty of posters even right here, outside of SGA, like the “Open a Can of Political Whoop-Ass”. We’re in the Dining Commons a lot with flyers as well. I’m sorry you haven’t seen any of our posters, but we’ll have to work to make them more eye-catching.
51. **Charlotte Graham:** To address your other concern, we do a lot of grassroots work to build public support and demonstrate public support to the legislature. So, a lot of what we do is collect signatures so that the public, who feel strongly about a certain issue, is able to demonstrate their support in a way that will be ,interpreted by the legislature, as something viable that should be taken into account when making their decision. We do collect a lot of signatures because we think it’s important for students to have the opportunity to be civically engaged, at whatever level they feel comfortable. The people standing up here in front of you are the die-hards that come out to every meeting and are super involved in MASSPirg and its so awesome, but there are also plenty of students who don’t have time to put in as much time and effort into the work we do so for them, we want to provide them with opportunities to get involved at whatever level they’re able to, whether it’s volunteering at just one event or just signing a petition when presented, I think it’s a very valuable thing for us to do. It’s not because we need you, it’s because we want you guys to be able to make your voice heard, to your legislators that are meant to represent you, in the State House.
52. **Steve Mailloux**: Just to clarify is our vote tonight to put them on the ballot campus wide or to have the final vote on them?
53. **Taylor Fote**: So right now, they exist as a waivable fee and since MASSPirg will not exist with an opt-in fee, we are bringing the vote to senate to recognize MASSPirg chapter on our campus. This is vote on “yes, you would like them still here with the waivable $9.00 fee” or “no, we don’t want them here anymore”. The reason we’re doing this through senate is because, like I said before, the ballots only get votes from about 10% of the campus, which is not well represented of our campus. We are here to voice the opinions of our constituents, because we represent each part of campus, commuters, various residents, and so on. That’s why we have four Courtney Hall reps and a president, because there are 500 people in Courtney and they represent every 100 residents of Courtney. This is where the campus is best represented and that’s why we’re bringing the vote to senate, because that’s why you’re here.
54. **Steve Mailloux**: Readdress: First off, I just want to say that this room is less than 10% of campus. I don’t think we should be the people making that vote. I think it should go to a campus wide vote and I don’t think that is a decision up to the Executive Board. I think we need to give MASSPirg the opportunity to lobby across campus.
55. **Rebecca DiVico**: Point of Order: This decision isn’t because of the Executive Board.
56. **Steve Mailloux**: Then whose is it?
57. **Taylor Fote**: It’s yours.
58. **Rebecca DiVico**: This is why you’re here as a Representative at Large, and why Brittany Moniz is here as the Class of 2014 President. This is why Alex Doming is here as Dickinson Hall President. You represent constituents.
59. **Taylor Fote**: We’re not asking the people in this room, we’re asking you on behalf of the people you represent. That’s why you’re here to vote on these issues. The Executive Board didn’t bring this to you to get rid of MASSPirg, we brought this to you because this is where campus is equally represented. We’re hoping you’ll vote for your constituents, not based on your personal opinions.
60. **Steve Mailloux**: I still stand by that it should be a campus wide vote and I think there should be a motion to make it a campus-wide vote.
61. **Taylor Fote**: You can do that.
62. **Steve Mailloux**: I’m not going to do that now, but hopefully some people will support me on that. I also just want to say that I love the idea that was mentioned of MASSPirg coming to SGA at the end of each semester to talk about what campaigns people would like them to do here. I think that MASSPirg has actually done a better job advertising than a large majority of campus organizations so, I feel that it’s unfair to attack them when other clubs and organizations have never put up a flyer on this campus. Also, someone said that a student chose not to sign because they are unsure of it, this is a mindset that everyone should have. If someone asks you to sign something, you sign because you support it and understand what you’ve signed for. That should be a general behavior through your life. People should be educated before signing their name, so that’s not the fault of MASSPirg.
63. **Ryan Losco**: As to the question of the validity of the 750 signatures, I personally saw Charlotte Graham sit at a table of students for probably 10 – 15 minutes, even 20 minutes discussing with them about MASSPirg, so I don’t think they just went up to tables and said “Hey, sign this”. They had a conversation with the students. Also, the fact that changing the fee to opt-in would cause MASSPirg to leave campus would then cause these students to loose what they are involved in, and that’s not up to us to decide. That’s like if people wanted to take away SGA. Don’t take away that opportunity based on your political views or whether you disagree with their projects. What is your goal for the amount of signatures you hope to collect, and will you keep going if you pass that goal?
64. **Kathryn Murphy**: We have a goal of 1,000 signatures and we reached that, we can keep signatures if you would want us to. We will definitely reach our goal.
65. **Sarah Hegarty**: So two years ago, this conversation went very differently and one thing that was very clear at that meeting was that students wanted an opt-in, so it’s kind of upsetting that regardless of what was expressed that, opt-in is still not an option, and we’re left to debate that same thing two years later. I just hope to see that whatever we express wanting change will go into effect.
66. **Charlotte Graham**: From what I understand from the vote two years ago, the general student body was able to vote and they voted to keep MASSPirg on campus and voted yes for a waivable fee. So you guys absolutely represent the campus at large, and you probably are some of the most involved students on campus, but the majority of students on campus who voted were in favor of the waivable fee. So, that’s why we’re still operating under a waivable fee, because that’s what was expressed in the campus wide vote.
67. Richard Darrach: I’d just like to say that the flyers taken down were likely done so by RAs, such as myself, because they weren’t posted in the designated areas. And it is not MASSPirg’s fault if students, who are 18+ and legally adults, are signing their name in support of something they don’t understand, or if they are paying $9.00 for an organization they don’t try to educate themselves on. That’s on the individual, not MASSPirg.
68. **Cleston Flemming**: I move to close the speakers’ list. Motion seconded and carries.
69. **Tori Landry**: I think that making yourselves known to more people will only help you in your efforts. I recommend collaborating with other groups, like the Communication Club at the Samaritan Inn or joining the Community Relations/Fundraising person.
70. **Morgan Suddeth**: We actually do work with the Communication Club at the Samaritan Inn, because we do realize that we’re a small group and Professor Paulman is a great guy and we’re happy that he extends a hand to us. We will definitely continue to take those things into consideration.
71. **Jake Lehan**: Thank you for pointing out more groups to us to talk to and build coalitions with. With my “Don’t Frack Mass Campaign” work, I’ve reached out to work with the Green Team here on campus as well as the Westfield River and other environmental groups that have interested and investments in the campaign work. The more hands the better, and we’d love to build more coalitions.
72. **Kevin Soucie**: Pizza with the PIRG? Anything to get people educated about the group, not to have anything signed, but just talking with them. I like that MASSPirg is getting more involved with SGA and the community.
73. **Matt Carlin**: I’d love to see just a few emails come out from you guys, maybe form an email list of people who want to hear from you, so that information is more easily available. I feel that by essentially donated that $9.00 each semester; I am therefore part of the organization. Is there a way that I can be involved in deciding the representation or having some say in something, rather than only getting feedback when the voting matter comes up?
74. **Jake Lehan**: Thanks for bringing that to our attention. We, of course, have been considering emailing the campus, but there’s a fine line that we walk. We don’t want to be too pushy or annoying because we recognize that we have been perceived in that light in the past. We want to be an organization that is liked and respected, but that is a good point. We made a Facebook group, so I would refer you to that for information.
75. **Charlotte Graham**: Yeah, definitely find us on Facebook. We also have an email list that we make based on people who fill out interest cards when we come to their classes. We don’t send a ton of emails, but we send a few emails each semester.
76. **Matt Carlin**: Readdress: I definitely don’t want you to clutter my email, but I do want to have some way to know what you’re doing, or hear about events.
77. **Brittany Moniz**: Regardless of the funding, you guys do great and give students awesome opportunities. We shouldn’t throw that away because of the funding process, that would be a disservice to the students on this campus and the state that most of you will be living in once we graduate. We’re part of a larger community, so this work really does matter. Regardless of your standing on how the funding gets to this group, it’s important we support them.
78. **Justin Wright**: I’m not technically a regular of MASSPirg, but I just want to say that having MASSPirg on our campus gives us the chance to know about what is going on, know about the Bottle Bill, and be a part of a bigger picture. If they weren’t here, there would be a very small amount of students who would even think about reaching to that level, whereas MASSPirg brings that opportunity to the University.
79. **Ashley Deleon**: I’m glad that we were reminded that we do represent the campus, so thank you. I agree with Josh’s point that this is an uncomfortable position and I still don’t know where I stand on this. Is it possible that, like with a finance proposal, that we can table this or push the decision back?
80. **Taylor Fote**: That’s a great question, but since this is a two year, reoccurring vote, we can’t postpone this. This what MASSPirg has worked to get signatures for and why we’ve put the time into this meeting to discuss this. We can’t send this back like with other things, like “pending changes” or anything.
81. **Kathryn Murphy**: I just wanted to say that if you vote to keep us on campus, then that means to us, that you are confident in us and in our ability to make these changes. If you vote for us to stay, that will not mean to us that our work is done because we’re safe. You have concerns, and by us wanting to be an effective group on campus, we are going to try to make the changes possible to us. I personally decided a few weeks ago that I want to start coming to SGA meetings and this is an optional thing, but we want to be involved so that we know we are still wanted.
82. **Josh Clark**: I think it’s a better place to vote here, as opposed to the student body, because we only get a 10% voter turnout, but the reality is that we are here to represent those who voted us here, and voice the concerns of those voters and those who didn’t. We aren’t here just to sit here and listen to Josh Hettrick about housing, this is what we’re here for and we need to do a good job on behalf of our constituents. If we don’t vote on this, then we should all just resign, because what are we really doing here? The way MASSPirg bylaws are does put us in an awkward position, but if we don’t like the way it is, then we must reflect that in our vote, and we must reflect our constituent’s opinion of the waivable fee in this vote. We are the most educated people on campus, for this topic now, after two hours, so, we must take this knowledge after the vote and let our constituents know what it is their paying for then.
83. **Charlotte Graham**: I would just like to address the voter turnout that we do a lot to get as many people as possible to vote in the SGA elections. I don’t have the numbers but I know that every two years, there is a much higher turnout in the SGA elections and a lot of that is due to our work talking with students around campus as those elections come up.
84. **Tom Durkee:** I agree with what has been said about the uncomfortable position we’re in, and, in representing the students, I cannot say yes to a bylaw that basically forces our campus to say yes or all out no. We don’t know who will be stepping into this position next year, so, as something that should be reliant on student efforts rather than who is in the yearly organizer position, that maybe this should become a club. I understand that you can’t do as much advocacy that way, but community service and informing students on our campus about these issues can continue to grow. So until MASSPirg changes their bylaw, they’re going to lose more and more campuses. As higher education gets more expensive, that fee matters a lot more as years progress. Even if it passes this year, the next time around, it might not. I want to see the advocacy work continue but I think students need a more flexible choice for the funding.
85. **Kathryn Murphy**: I just want to say that our group could not do as much as a club, without the statewide resources of other groups to work with, and workshop opportunities, and we really do need the PIRG recognition to do this work. I agree that students should understand what they’re paying for and opt-out if they don’t, but I absolutely agree that we should include a flyer with the bill and do more to spread that information. We never want to trick anyone to keep us on, and that’s honestly why we have the two-year vote.
86. **Tom Durkee**: Readdress: I understand what you’re saying, but advocacy is free. MASSPirg doesn’t own those campaigns and you can do a lot without students having to pay into it. We don’t pay to vote, and we shouldn’t have to pay to educate people about their votes. You may not get the training without the PIRG but you can get the training from other resources.
87. **Kathryn Murphy**: I just feel that we can’t do as much as a club and without Charlotte Graham to kind of recruit us, I don’t know that I would’ve wanted to do this kind of work, and this is what has kept me attending Westfield.
88. **Jake Lehan**: A lot of us have other extracurricular activities outside of MASSPirg, as most of you do too. We’re on the Ultimate Frisbee club, we have radio shows, and so on. Our time is valuable, just like yours is. It’s hard for us to do free volunteer work all the time. It’s a non-profit and people should be educated about these issues, but they’re just not. We have to make a statement and let people know what’s going on. As much time as I dedicate, we wouldn’t get volunteers without this accreditation. People wouldn’t want to join, but we have the opportunity to get credit and internship opportunities because this is not just a club.
89. **Lauren Grams**: Have there been other schools that have gotten rid of MASSPirg in the recent past?
90. **Taylor Fote**: Yes, I’ve been talking with other schools and this happened at Bridgewater State not long ago, which went through a long discussion at their SGA voting on behalf of their constituents. They voted for it to be opt-in, which then meant there was not MASSPirg chapter on their campus.
91. I move that Westfield State University continue its support of the MASSPirg Chapter through a $9.00 waivable fee. The motion was made and seconded.
92. **Richard Darrach:** I move to amend the motion to send the question at hand to a general election on the campus wide ballot. Motion was moved and seconded**.**
93. **Josh Clark**: As has been said before, only about 500 students vote on the ballot, and that’s only on those individuals’ behalf. Our representation reaches beyond our own opinion and we have yet to have a question like this come to us, and now that we do, we’re going to run away from it. We need to be able to do more than just discuss these ideas, but act upon what is discussed. This is the most important thing that will come to us and now that we have a direct role in a decision, we’re just going to send it away to the student body. This vote provides us with a more representative decision. This is what our job is, to talk to students, and you’re supposed to bring those opinions here. I will be very disappointed if you send it to a general election vote.
94. **Taylor Fote**: Thank you for your work at this long meeting. This is why you’re here: to represent the 5500 students, so think about that when you’re voting.
95. **Josh Frank**: The Executive Board discussed how to approach this for a long time as well, and personally, I’d rather see this voted on in Student Government. I remember two years ago, when this went to general election, I voted for opt-in, and I didn’t realize that my vote meant MASSPirg would have to leave, which is not what I wanted to do. You are all so educated now: you saw the budget; you’ve seen their information, now you can make an educated decision, rather than it going to a general election where the people voting, without fully understanding how they’re voting, because they haven’t each sat with MASSPirg like we now have.
96. **Richard Darrach**: The reason I made this motion is that this has been a ballot initiative for the last 40 years, I see us taking that chance away from students as a disservice and giving us as SGA more power. That’s a disservice to the campus because if only 10% vote in the election, that means that we were only elected too representation by that 10%. We’re taking that away from the student body to voice their opinion. Giving the voting power to us is a disservice to them. It’s not up to us to make that decision.
97. **Andrew Morin**: As has been pointed out, 10% of people vote in general election. So, that means, yes, everyone sitting here, with the slight exception of Hall Councils, were voted in by only 10% of campus. That being said, that 10% is the 10% of the campus that wants a say in Westfield State. If we send this out to general campus, we’re going to get 10% back. Here, right in this room, we represent 100% of the students on campus who want a say in what happens here. So think about that.
98. **Ryan Losco**: I agree with Josh Clark that this is why we are here, to make the tough decisions on behalf of our constituents. We just sat through two hours of information that the general student body does not know about. We are the best students to make this decision. On the flip side, it’s pretty bad that it’s only 10% of campus voting. But that’s our responsibility to reach out to our constituents and promote the importance of voting. We can’t do anything about that right now, right now, we have to focus on this issue, I just hope we keep that in mind, in the upcoming elections.
99. **Steve Mailloux**: I agree with what Rich Darrach said, this has gone to the ballot for years, so why is the choice being made to change that now? You say it’s our job to make these decisions but I challenge that. This government is nothing more than a rubberstamp. How many times have we voted against anything? It’s a serious question. How does the actual government work? The actual government makes decisions of up or down all the time, but it’s never always up or always down. This government has never voted against something. So, to say that that is our job, yes. Has this government fulfilled that job? Absolutely not in any way shape or form since anyone has been here at this school for the most part. If this goes on the ballot, and only 10% of people vote, that’s fine. Those 10% are the people who voted us in. As MASSPirg said, they do a lot to increase that every two years, and that will then bump up that number. So, the way I see it, which alone will get a better general election than the one that voted us in here, because this group hasn’t done their job in the first place.
100. **Kevin Soucie**: Two hours and eight minutes we’ve been listening to this. We know more about this than the general student now. But this is why we’re here. This isn’t a power trip, but this is why we joined Student Government. We’re supposed to be talking with people about these things. And I’ve talked with people about this, sorry if you didn’t, but we’re asking them, how do they feel about the $9 fee, we’re supposed to generally know how the students are feeling and we should be voting on this right now on their behalf. If two years go by and nothing has changed, the vote will be redone and planned with this vote in mind.
101. **Matt Carlin**: I would challenge anyone who is afraid that we will misrepresent our constituents. So vote for your constituents, because if you don’t, you won’t be reelected again.
102. **Josh Clark**: We are the most informed students on this and I agree that we should keep this vote in this room. We need to make these tough decisions. The actual government has to make tough decisions and only 40% vote them in, and they make even tougher decisions about healthcare and war. The people who make the decisions are the ones who actually know all the sides, what happens when you vote yes or no. We’ve sat through this whole thing we know so much now, so to put it to the general election ballot, it is a disservice because, at this point in the game, we can’t physically reach every student with this information before the vote comes around. This is the smartest decision because we’re tasked to make the most representative decision.
103. **Tom Durkee**: I move to close the speakers’ list. Motion seconded and carries.
104. **Gina Mannarino**: I personally think that we should also keep this in the room. We’re helping students by voting on this and giving MASSPirg this chance to change, before the next round of voting in two years, we will also be helping students as best we can.
105. **Ryan Losco**: The concerns that we’re rubber-stamping or voted in by only 10% can’t be changed right now. We can’t walk out of this meeting without making a decision. We were voted in to these positions, and whether we do that job right is up to the voters to decide in two weeks. In focusing on this vote, we need to vote here tonight because that is what the people who voted last year would’ve expected to be done with that vote, regardless of what percent voted, because all 100% had the chance to vote and didn’t, which we will hope to change this year.
106. **Richard Darrach**: In regards to that argument that we’re the most educated students on campus right now, I would argue that a majority of this room didn’t even know what MASSPirg was tonight. We had the chance to learn all of this and it’s our job to represent our constituents. If we were to vote based on the knowledge that we learned tonight, then we haven’t had the chance to go share that information. I would argue that this vote is being made on personal feelings rather than you knowing what your constituents want, so I still think this should go forward to a ballot.
107. **Tori Landry**: I want to reiterate that we’ve been through a lot tonight, all of our thoughts and opinions are on the floor now and I know we don’t know what the other students may be saying but we do represent them. MASSPirg, you guys have heard our thoughts and opinions and I hope that if this does go through, that you will take them seriously and make the improvements because I think you guys have done a great job.
108. **Ashley Deleon**: I want to speak to the comment that we’re not an actual government, because we’ve all sat here for this long meeting, and if that’s not showing commitment, then what does?
109. **Luis Arzola**: Each one of us are here because we care about what’s going on here on campus and we want to have a say. We are the people that actually know what’s going on, are fully educated, and get things going. MASSPirg didn’t have these numbers last year, and we should support this thing that is bigger than Westfield, or even Massachusetts. These students are using this experience towards their education and their professional journey, so this is all learning about how to get civically involved. They do more than the Bottle Bill and we just need to take more interest if we want to know more, their door is open.
110. **Stone Koury**: I formally request a roll call vote.
111. **Taylor Fote**: We are going to do a roll call vote now, so Rebecca DiVico as the chair of the meeting cannot vote and Richard Darrach who made the motion, cannot vote.
112. **Rebecca Divico**: The motion we are voting on is to send the MASSPirg vote to the general election on the ballot. So, to vote “yes” is to put it on the question of MASSPirg support to general election on the ballot on April 22nd and April 23rd, and to vote “no” is to vote on it in SGA tonight, and we return to Taylor Fote’s initial motion.
113. **Ryan Losco**: what if someone attended the meeting but left before the vote?
114. **Taylor Fote**: They won’t have a vote without being here, so that will not be a vote for or against.
115. A roll call vote was taken, see attachment A. the results of the roll call vote were 53 no, 4 yes. Motion failed.
116. This motion all of you will be voting on the status of MASSPirg on our campus if you vote yes that means you want to keep MASSPirg on campus with the waive able fee, if you vote no that means you do not want MASSPirg on campus.
117. I move that Westfield State University continues its support of a MASSPirg chapter through a $9.00 waive able fee. Are there any questions on this vote?
118. **Courtney Keddy**: Is there a way to postpone this vote to next week?
119. **Taylor Fote**: No.
120. **Ashley Erskine**: So voting “yes” to keep MASSPirg an voting “no’ to have them leave?
121. Taylor Fote: Yes. Keep your constituents in mind and take a minute to think. “Yes” is to keep them on campus and “no” is to remove them.
122. A roll call vote was taken, see attachment B.The result of the roll call vote were 44 yes and 14 no. Motion carries.
123. Thank you everyone for your work.
124. An update on Conn Review, we met last Sunday, March 23rd and we went through the first half of the constitution and we will be finishing up the constitution this coming weekend and bringing it to you guys soon.
125. If you are interest in my position or any position on exec, please see me.
126. May I see Lauren Grams after the meeting?
127. Effective next semester, Jessika Murphy will be the Director of Diversity, Inclusion and Student Activities.
128. Items not listed on the agenda.

1. BOARD OF TRUSTEES’ REPORT**:** *Stone Koury*
2. All University Committee**: Joshua Clark**
3. We moved items to the Curriculum committee with the understanding that they have a backlog of work to do. There is work backed up from 2011 and 2012.
4. Our next item of attention was Commencement 2015 and beyond. We have a subcommittee that was discussing the various pros and cons of the Mass Mutual center vs the campus green and Friday vs Saturday.
5. We will be having an on-campus information session on April 9th at 4:30 pm in the Loughman living room.
6. Our next scheduled meeting is April 2nd at 4:30 pm in the Parenzo Board Room.
7. Neighborhood Advisory Board**: Tori Landry**
8. I want to thank every single person that attended our event last night at Lansdowne Place to address the issues and concerns that our neighbors in the downtown area have as our campus expands beyond Western Avenue. There was a strong presence from the neighbors, City Councilors and local Westfield police. Students and Administrators from the school were able to represent the University and answer questions. The evening was a little tense but I am happy to say that I have gotten some good feedback about the event and we hope this has started a new dialogue and shown that the University is willing to work with our community.
9. So, as we finish the semester, I just ask that as student leaders that we remain responsible and respectful of our neighbors, whether you are on Western Avenue or Mechanic Street you and your peers represent Westfield State University.
10. We can all have our fun on the weekends but as respectful students please remind your constituents that these are people’s homes that are being disturbed by loud noises, vandalism, and to the point with students urinating on these people’s homes and on their property.
11. VICE PRESIDENT’S REPORT-STUDENT LIFE**:** *Rebecca DiVico*
12. Student Affairs Committee**: No Report**
13. Multicultural Committee**: No Report**
14. Food Services Committee**: No Report**
15. Health Committee: **No Report**
16. Parking Control Board: **No Report**
17. Student Athletic Advisory Board: **No Report**
18. Substance Advisory Committee: **Justin Connolly**
19. We are recommending that we rename “tobacco product” sections of the AUD Policy to “smoking and tobacco products”, so that any and all combustible materials for inhalation are contained within the policy.
20. We are also recommending to include in the “smoking and tobacco products policies” a general ban on the use of vaporizer devices including but not limited to, hookah pens, marijuana pens and e cigarettes.
21. Medical marijuana is not allowed on campus as we could lose our Federal aid.
22. This was our last meeting for the semester.
23. Community Relations/Fundraising Report**: No report**
24. VICE PRESIDENT’S REPORT-ACADEMIC LIFE: *Andrew McCormack*
25. Academic Policies Committee: **No Report**
26. Curriculum Committee: **No Report**
27. Enrollment Management Committee: **No Report**
28. Campus Technology Committee**: No Report**
29. International Programs Committee: **No Report**
30. Library Advisory Committee**: No Report**
31. Writing Liaison**: No Report**
32. VICE PRESIDENT’S REPORT-PROGRAMMING: *Steve Kligerman*
33. Programming update**: Steve Kligerman**
34. The Celtics Trip is tomorrow, March 26th. The bus will be leaving at 4:00 pm from the front of Scanlon. If you are going, please be there at 3:45 pm.
35. Spring weekend concert tickets and guest packets are going on sale Monday, April 7th at 8:00 pm. Concert tickets are $10.00 and guest packets are $15.00.
36. **Britany Walters**: so both guest packets and guest tickets are bought online?
37. **Steve Kligerman**: Guest Packets are purchased at the Campus Center Window and concert tickets are all bought online.
38. Our next meeting is Wednesday, March 27th at 5:00 pm in the Owl’s Nest.
39. VICE PRESIDENT’S REPORT-FINANCE: *Joshua Frank*
40. Finance Report: **No Report**
41. Finance Report: **Joshua Frank**
42. This Saturday, March 29th is the 175th Scholarship Gala, and I am proud to announce that the event has sold out.
43. So far the event has risen over $105,000, which will all go to student scholarships.
44. If you have any questions about scholarships, or the State University Internship initiative, please see me after the meeting.
45. SERETARY’S REPORT: *Alexis Wagner*/*Sarah Hegarty*
46. Executive Secretary Report: **Alexis Wagner**
47. Election packets are now available, and after 25 signatures, you can turn them in over at the table by the doors up until Tuesday, April 8th at 5:00 pm**.**
48. If you have any ideas to get more of the campus to vote, as we have discussed tonight, please feel free to discuss that with me so that we can get more students involved and represented.
49. It’s going to be a year of contested positions, so I would just like to remind everyone to be respectful and follow the bylaws that are included in the back of the packet.
50. **Joshua Clark**: When papers are turned in, are we allowed to come to you and ask if there is someone you are running against?
51. **Alexis Wagner**: Yes, you can do that.
52. Legislative Secretary Report: **No Report**

1. PARLIAMENTARIAN REPORT: Jennifer McDiarmid
2. Rules and Regulations Committee: **No Report**
3. COMMUTER COUNCIL, CLASS AND HALL REPORTS:
4. Commuter Council: **Luis Arzola**
5. Senior Class: **Tom Durkee**
6. Senior fest packets are on sale until Friday, March 28th. Check your email for the order form or come down to SGA for more information. Senior class officers are also going around to New Hall, Lansdowne and the Apartment complex to answer any questions about Senior Fest.
7. This Saturday, March 29th is the Mr. Westfield show at 8:00 pm in Dever Stage. We are hoping to grant a second with this year. All proceeds from the show will benefit the Make-A-Wish Foundation. Tickets are on sale at the Campus Service Window, it’s only $2.00 for students. You can also purchase tickets at the door. Tomorrow, March 26th and Thursday, March 27th we will be selling tickets and Make-A-Wish stars in the Dining Commons, so stop by from 5:00 pm until 7:00 pm and support our contestants.
8. If seniors haven’t picked up their sweatshirts, you can pick them up in the SGA office.
9. Our next scheduled meeting is Thursday, March 27th at 4:30 pm in the SGA Conference Room.
10. Junior Class: **Richard Darrach**
11. The class survey has been closed because we reached the maximum amount of responses we could receive with survey monkey’s base package. If you know of anyone who wanted to take it, but didn’t get the chance, please have them email [classof2015@westfield.ma.edu](mailto:classof2015@westfield.ma.edu).
12. Now that the results have been finalized in the next few weeks we will be discussing Commencement and Convocation speakers. We will be sending our recommendations to the President’s office by the end of April, at the latest.
13. Our next meeting will be in conference room 03, so we can look at the videos of potential speakers.
14. If anyone is interested in the results of the survey, please see me after the meeting and I’ll get you a copy.
15. Our “Out of the Darkness” interest meeting is Thursday, March 27th at 7:00 pm in the Owl’s Nest.
16. Our next scheduled meeting is March 25th at 5:15 pm in conference room 003.
17. Sophomore Class**: Ryan Losco**
18. The “Buzz Off” is going well; we are approaching the $4,000.00 mark. This event is going to be held at 1:00 pm on April 13th. Please help us reach our goal. So, if you help fundraise, you will get a unit.
19. May I speak with the Presidents of Courtney, Dickinson, Davis, Scanlon and Lammers?
20. Our next scheduled meeting is on April 1st at 6:30 pm in conference room E03.
21. Freshman Class: **No Report**
22. Apartment Complex: **Megan Doerle**
23. Our 2nd breakfast cart is this Sunday, March 30th at 1:30 pm. We will once again have breakfast foods going around to the different towers of the Apartment Complex.
24. Can I see Scanlon and Dickinson Hall Presidents after the meeting?
25. Our next scheduled meeting is April 8th at 3:15 pm in the RD’s Office.
26. Courtney Hall: **No Report**
27. Davis Hall: **No Report**
28. Dickinson Hall: **No Report**
29. Lammers Hall: **No Report**
30. Lansdowne Hall: **No Report**
31. New Hall: **No Report**
32. Scanlon Hall: **No Report**
33. University Hall**: No Report**
34. UNFIISHED BUSINESS**:**

1. NEW BUSINESS:
2. ANNOUNCEMENTS:
3. **Al Fava**: It’s been a long meeting, but can I see anyone participating in the End of the Year event after the meeting?
4. **Sarah Hegarty**: Three units are due for March, and can I have a brief meeting with the Blue Key Committee after this?
5. **Jennifer McDiarmid**: Thank you everyone for this meeting, I know it’s a pain to sit here for 2 ½ hours but everyone was super respectful, so give yourselves a pat on the back. Also, can I see Rules and Regs briefly after the meeting?
6. **Luis Arzola**: We still have the trip to the State Park with the caves; so spread the word that tickets are available.
7. **Andy McCormack**: Senior course registration is this Friday, March 28th and junior advising is all next week with registration is this Friday, March 28th.
8. **Taylor Fote**: Can I see Lauren Grams after the meeting? And I’d like to thank you all for your hard work tonight, I know it was long, but it’s very much appreciated and that’s why you’re here.
9. **Tom Durkee**: Can I please see Joshua Clark after the meeting? 52 days until Commencement.
10. ROLL CALL: Robby Fincchiaro, Nicole Primeau, Molly Romano, Priscilla Aguilar, Brianna Pelloso, Alex Doming, Shannon Cullinane were absent. Dana Kilby, Courtney Keddy and Olivia dumas were excused.
11. ADJOURNMENT: Meeting adjourned at 8:15 pm.