**STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION MINUTES**

**November 14, 2017**

1. ROLL CALL: Ellen Lambert, Andrew Logan, Danielle LoGuidice, Kyle Szczepanek, and Elijah Mosley were absent. Christian Capalbo, and Michael Reid were excused and Katelyn Nardi sent an alternate.
2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM: November 07, 2017
3. PRESIDENT'S REPORT: **Brendan McKee**
4. Here tonight to speak about recent events and a potential student service, we have Dean of Students Sue LaMontagne and Chief of Public Safety Tony Casciano.
5. **Sue LaMontagne**: Hello everyone! I wanted to come tonight initially to talk to you about an initiative that some faculty and students have brought to our attention relative to an escort service on campus where people could feel safe and one formed and started by students, but I’m going to actually back up first a little bit because Tony and I just wanted to bring you up to speed with the lockdown from yesterday. Kind of tell you what did occur, what we were able to do to close out the matter and then also listen to any concerns or questions you had about that before we talk about the possibility of an escort service being formed.
6. **Chief Casciano**: Everyone knows we had this incident yesterday basically I’ll go step by step. We received information that there was a suspicious male on campus dressed in black and at the time the information we had that he had on a bullet proof vest, long black jacket, and backpack full of what we didn’t know inside. We took that all into consideration and felt that we need to go into lockdown to find this person. That was a concern especially with the witnesses stating that he had a vest on, potentially a bullet proof vest. We went into lockdown and sent the rave alert and set off the sirens. These lights there stayed on alert meaning that it was still active so that was why they were flashing. We had state police already on campus for another investigation and were able to bring in a few others. We teamed up with them. Westfield police did a sweep of the buildings. It was Wilson hall where people said they saw this person. We went into some of the other buildings. I know we didn’t get to the res halls because they went into an automatic lock down we checked some of the halls after. When we felt that the area was secure we lifted the lockdown. Another RAVE message wen out. So when we lifted the lockdown we were confident enough that this person wasn’t on campus. We still had the state police and our officers walking the halls. About 10:30pm last night we received a call from the man who was home and he said I think I’m the person you’re looking for and he went on to explain everything he was wearing we asked him to come down and he came onto campus. He came in with his backpack and his long jacket on, he had his vest on. He did explain to us that he was at this location, this location and this location so everything verified where he was. At that point there was no crime so we released him and this morning when we sent out that email that the person was identified there was no threat no weapon and we’re back to normal right now.
7. **Sue LaMontagne**: He was willing to have his picture taken so that we could show that to the witnesses for his identification. He was very cooperative and so we did get that as well.
8. **Chief Casciano**: This morning at 8:00am we went down to the witness and they said yeah that’s the person and the other two witnesses also verified that that was the person, they were pretty convinced.
9. **Sue LaMontagne**: Students were really helpful. Last night when the press conference was held and it was on the news, and there was a hotline given, within two minutes we got a call from a student who said they thought that the person was in one of their classes. They gave us the class and we were able to get the roster, look at the men who were in the class, and start to look at their pictures and at the same time as I was going out to the halls someone came up to me and said that they thought he was in one of the clubs they were in. We got the name of that person and it turned out to be the same as on the roster so that’s kind of how things came together with the help of students just saying that they might know this person.
10. **Chief Casciano**: I just want to say one thing though. I’m very proud of you guys because you did what you were supposed to do. We sent out the notice and people locked themselves down in place. You knew how to do this. We did some drills in the past and this wasn’t a drill and something went off in your heads saying this was what you needed to do. Everyone was inside and sheltering in place which for that I am proud of you guys for that.
11. **Maddy Scott**: I didn’t receive any notification until just after 1:00pm, but then the reports were saying that the lockdown went into effect at 12:49pm and I have all the RAVE alerts so I was just wondering what the timeline was?
12. **Chief Casciano**: We are gathering information to make sure, we had to evaluate everything then the message went out. The first message went out at 1:03pm and we sent a second one at 1:11pm.
13. **Sue Lamontagne**: It’s important to know how RAVE works, but it sends messages to about 90 people at once every 30 seconds. It doesn’t do 4,000 people all at once, it only does batches so some people were saying last night that their friends got the message before they did and then four minutes later they got it. That’s kind of how the RAVE system works.
14. **Maddy Scott**: When did the lockdown actually go in place though was it at 1:00pm or was it earlier than that?
15. **Sue LaMontagne**: I think the decision was made at around 12:50pm and was recorded as 12:50pm as the lockdown starting, but the different forms of alerting people happened subsequently so I think that’s why there are different times.
16. **Mika Lapre**: A concern I have heard was how seriously professors took this lockdown. Some students have told me that some professors kept teaching. So do you have any feedback about that?
17. **Sue LaMontagne**: I have heard that as well. I have heard various things about professors some who kept teaching, some who didn’t do anything to pull the shades or shut the lights off or anything, those who had students leave, so it’s all over the place but we hear your concern, we share your concern. What happens from here just so you know is there is at least one aftermath meeting where we look at how everything went, how we heard feedback and start to address everything we put on there. This morning at the emergency response center I went in and recorded all the notes from last night’s meetings in the residence halls. What the themes were concerns about faculty, concerns about communication, concerns about time lapses, concerns about security. There were a number of themes that were present. So those are now all recorded in our after action meeting agenda for us to talk about and that’s one of them. I was in a meeting with the President and he was very clear that the faculty need to be instructed. Need not only training, but need to be instructed not to continue to teach class. If we need to instruct then we’re going to put it in instructions.
18. **Sammantha Dorazio**: A concern brought to me was the wording on the text messages. The original one said it was a drill, but then the second one said that it wasn’t. I was wondering if there was a way to rearrange the wording so when it goes out it doesn’t say that.
19. **Chief Casciano**: Yes, that is on us, we’re going to own that one. The header was of one that we did earlier and that wasn’t changed. So, it was a lesson learned for us. We’ll do some training on that and have some test drills just on that in our department, but that’s what happened with that. As soon as I saw that I immediately sent out a second one at 1:11pm.
20. **Shayna Arnott**: Who made the final decision for classes to resume after the lockdown?
21. **Sue Lamontagne**: I arrived at that meeting as it was being made and it was the Emergency Response Team that said do we resume classes do we not resume classes. We made the decision to resume, we’ve heard lots of feedback and that is certainly on one of the after actions.
22. **Connor Kennedy**: I know a lot of students were in spaces that didn’t lock, are there any plans to increase the security in these rooms?
23. **Chief Casciano**: We did a drill over the summer and that was one of our main focuses on seeing which doors did not block and Wilson has some, Parenzo has some. So that information has gone into facilities and they are looking into replacing the doors so hopefully in the near future we can get those doors in there. Some have been fixed already and replaced, but there are still some out there that need to get the work done and that’s a work in progress in there.
24. **Andrew Tierno**: I was in the DC yesterday and it took them 15 minutes to get us cleared and that makes me very nervous because with a shooter it takes five minutes for them to finish what they are doing and ten minutes for the police to arrive. Is there any way that we can start having random lockdowns to really get people prepared for this?
25. **Sue LaMontagne**: Yes we do campus wide and specific building drills. We do a couple times a semester, you may not be involved in the ones that are specific buildings and I think you probably all remember the lockdown drill we did last spring, but beyond that I think we have to do some drills in the Dining Commons and we need to get some signs up in there that say in an emergency the place to go is the kitchen because believe it or not that’s the place.
26. **Chief Casciano**: Actually Lt. St. George is stopping by there tonight to talk to the management because that was a concern we heard about the DC.
27. **Jake O’Kane**: Yesterday when I got the phone call I was outside. Luckily someone in my apartment was there so they let me in, but during that time I was looking around the Olds courtyard and there was a few people standing outside. What would be the course of action someone should take if they found themselves outside like that?
28. **Chief Casciano**: If you can get away, keep going. We had people who hid in the bushes behind one of the halls, but I would suggest getting away and keep running. If you keep going down Western Avenue you’re a good distance away. Preplan. You need to preplan all this. You have to know your environment.
29. **Sue Lamontagne**: Keep in mind and you may not know this, your tech keys in the residence halls in an emergency are shut down so you can’t use them to access anything. Your point is a really good one, if you aren’t near a building that doesn’t require access you aren’t going to go across campus to find one of those buildings. It’s better to go down Western Avenue and into one of the neighborhoods and wait to be called back.
30. **Mika Lapre**: I know that there were two tours that were here, one was families of high school age students and the other middle school age students. Were those parents of the middle school children contacted and given all the information that we were given about the whole lockdown?
31. **Sue Lamontagne**: I don’t think we contacted people individually, but I think that is one of the reasons they had the press conference to get it out on the news. I know the programs that sponsored them to be here contacted families and I only know that because we had a call from a family last night and while we were on with that family the program sponsor of the trip that her son was on called her to let her know where her son was at.
32. **Mitchell McKittrick**: I am a first year and when the lockdown happened I didn’t really know what the policies and procedures were. Is there discussion to make this a part of New Student Orientation?
33. **Sue LaMontagne**: I think that’s a great idea. It is something that we absolutely need to discuss. I think one of the things I learned yesterday is I don’t think every single person knows and I honestly think there’s a really good group that you may have learned it in elementary school, high school, but it doesn’t mean that automatically clicks back. We need to keep retraining and so I learned that lesson in listening to students yesterday. I’d taken for granted that you all knew.
34. **Chief Casciano**: And we’ll come into your hall and do a class if you want. Just give us a holler and I’ll have one of my officers come and go over the Run, Hide, and Fight protocol.
35. **Thalita Neves**: I was just wondering in regards to the mental health aspect of it. I know the counseling center has a wait list just because of the racial discrimination events, but with the lockdown I know that shook up a lot of people worse so I was wondering if there was any talk about calling in for outside help or making more counselors available.
36. **Sue LaMontagne**: Yes, we have starting today we actually hired two counselors extra, who will be putting in 150 some odd hours extra between now and the rest of the semester to help get through some of that waiting list and see students one on one. They are both familiar with the campus and they started today. The other thing I wanted to talk about was the counseling center potentially doing something where they sit in a res hall common room and advertise a non-therapeutic counseling support. So we’re looking into doing some of those as well.
37. **Sue LaMontagne**: The idea was brought up about students running an escort service to kind of keep the campus safe and we were talking about it potentially becoming a club. They could get some funding from SGA and student affairs, have a radio, need vests, and go out in pairs and do escort service regularly around campus. Other campuses have that, we have student security, but we want them free to do other things. I’m happy to take some thoughts on it, but I have this sign-up sheet and the left column says if you might be or know anybody interested and the right column says if you would be interested in leading the effort. I’ll just send this around if you aren’t interested in either don’t sign up, but if your put your names on either well contact you. Tony and I have offered to be the advisors and we’ll go from here with an interest meeting.
38. **Maddie Dexter**: During the current campus climate is there any way that these student volunteers are going to be looked at or interviewed for these positions?
39. **Sue Lamontagne**: Yes, there would be a vetting process of some sort. There would also be training by police on safety measures, how to use a radio, etc.
40. **Arielyss Santiago**: Are there thoughts of changing the name?
41. **Sue Lamontagne**: Someone had said to me maybe Owl Buddies or Owl Watch. This morning as I was driving in I came up with CEOs, Campus Escort Officers.
42. **Maddie Creamer**: Will there be an increase in student security officers on campus in the next weeks?
43. **Chief Casciano**: We’ve started them already on Sunday night. We have right now three teams. We broke the campus up with Scanlon, the Apartments and Dickinson; University, Lammers, Courtney; New Hall and Davis. They’re in the halls doing continuous rounds, they got their yellow vests on. They are our eyes and ears, but if someone is requesting an escort you call it in and notify via radio group and there you go. We still have shuttle service on campus and when everything stops you can still call campus police and an ISO can give you a ride or walk you.
44. **Courtney Smith**: Would it be possible to just hire extra student security just for this escort service?
45. **Sue Lamontagne**: It’s totally possible if we committed the budget to it and that’s what student security has done. I bring this idea to you because it was faculty and students who brought it to me and said we realize there’s student security, but they’re paid and wouldn’t it be nice if so many students have come to us and said they want to do something. They just thought this was a really good way students could volunteer and do something very concrete on campus and keep a legacy going.
46. Thank you Sue and Tony. There is no SGA meeting next week. We will have Carsten Braun here to speak about CURCA on November 28, the first meeting after Thanksgiving.
47. I accept the resignation of Elijah Mosley and Kyle Szczepanek as Courtney Hall Representative to SGA.
48. As you are all aware, there was a lockdown yesterday due to a report of a suspicious male on campus. An email was sent out to campus today from Tony Casciano, Chief of Public Safety, which stated that the identified male came forward to police and was not identified as a threat. I just want to thank all that were involved in keeping students safe during this time frame, including our advisors and those of you sitting in the back of the room. On the note of the lockdown, I know there was a lot of frustration shown by students about the way that the lockdown was handled, so I’d be more than happy to welcome any grievances at the end of my report in the hopes that any potential future lockdowns will provide students with the utmost safety.
49. There was a Walk Out held today sponsored by the Education Department in regards to the continued hate crimes and racist acts on campus. Obviously there have been many conversations about the issues at hand and how they impact campus, but I want to stress how important it is that we take action. Make sure your voice is heard. If you didn’t have the opportunity to speak today but you have ideas as to certain actions that can be made to unite campus, tell me, tell anyone on exec, tell Carlton Pickron, Sue LaMontagne, Barbara Hand anyone.
50. If action plans come from faculty or administration, get involved and make a difference. Each and every one of you has the power and the responsibility to reestablish a comfortable campus climate and eradicate inexcusable racist acts from Westfield State.
51. Items not listed on Agenda:

1. BOARD OF TRUSTEES' REPORT: **Cameron Swan**
   1. All University Committee**: No Report**
   2. NEASC Steering Committee: **No Report**
   3. Strategic Planning Committee: **No Report**
   4. Student Advisory Council**: No Report**

1. VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT-STUDENT LIFE: **Arielyss Santiago**
   1. Student Affairs Committee**: No Report**
   2. Diversity/Inclusion Committee: **No Report**
   3. Food Services Committee**: No Report**
   4. Parking Control Board: **No Report**
   5. Student Athletic Advisory Board: **No Report**
   6. Substance Advisory Committee: **No Report**
   7. Veteran’s Affairs Report: **No Report**

1. VICE PRESIDENT’S REPORT-ACADEMIC LIFE: **Jacob Lotter**
   1. This week is advising for First-Year students and you will be registering this coming Monday, November 20.
   2. With First-Year advising being such an important time of the Fall Semester, I have made an agreement with Dr. Laurie Simpson and Nicole West in the Academic Advising Office that I will be spending my office hours this week in the Academic Advising Office. I am doing this mainly to just see what is happening during First-Year advising, but also so I can talk to some of the students that Laurie and Nicky are talking to about what their concerns are moving forward and what they feel strengths are of Westfield State. My main focus will be on Undeclared or Exploratory Students whom have to be advised by Laurie, Nicky, Bill Pass, or Carolyn McDonald in the Academic Advising Office.
   3. Next week I will facilitate my semester discussion on how advising and registration went for everybody, so be prepared with questions.
   4. In terms of the Campus-wide lockdown that happened yesterday I will be having a phone meeting with Dean Christina Swaidan to discuss whether students whom missed their 3:10PM classes will be marked absent or not. I will also be asking her whether students whom were attending the Walk Out today will be marked absent from their classes as well. I will try to come back with as much information as possible when we return from Thanksgiving break about that.
   5. I would also like people to see me after the meeting if they had a professor who didn’t cooperate, continued to teach, or seemed uneducated about how to handle a lockdown situation. I will try to set up a meeting with Dean Leggett before the end of this week to discuss that list and to really let her know that there are some places of concerns.
   6. Academic Policies Committee: **No Report**
   7. Curriculum Committee: **Jacob Lotter**
2. I am reporting today not so much about the Curriculum Committee itself but about the Bylaw Subcommittee formed this semester under the Curriculum Committee. So, as Maddy Scott had said a few weeks ago the Curriculum Committee formed a subcommittee to look at its bylaws and zoom in on some of the more problematic rules the committee must follow or have not been following. The subcommittee’s first meeting was held on Thursday, November 2 and was chaired by myself and Dr. Brian Jennings from Mathematics. The subcommittee is made up of me, Brian, Dr. Volker Ecke from Mathematics, Dr. Timothy Ledoux from Geography and Regional Planning, and Dr. Mark Nimkoff from Communication. We looked at the bylaws article by article and made mostly minor changes to the makeup of the committee, which faculty contract the committee adheres to, and which version of Robert’s Rules we will use.
3. Before adjourning the meeting Brian asked that Maddy Scott, Victoria Lind, and I discuss whether or not we would like to put forward a proposal to the subcommittee asking for a quorum requirement article to be added to the bylaws. Right now Curriculum Committee’s parent committee, the All-University Committee, cannot meet unless it has one member of the Administrative union, one member of the faculty union, one member of the staff union, and one student present. The Curriculum Committee can meet no matter who is present as long as 50% + one person from the membership is present. This means that decisions can be made and discussions had even without student input. Moving forward myself, Maddy, and Victoria will be looking at whether or not we want to ask the committee to consider making this change to the bylaws and we will keep you updated.
4. The next meeting of the Bylaw Subcommittee will be on November 30 at 2:00pm in the Mathematics Department Conference Room and the next meeting of the Curriculum Committee will be on November 17 at 1:40pm in Wilson 404.
   1. Enrollment Management Committee: **No Report**
   2. International Programs Committee: **No Report**
   3. Academic Technology and Information Services Committee: **No Report**
   4. Writing Liaison Committee: **No Report**
   5. Guest Lecture Committee: **No Report**
5. VICE PRESIDENT’S REPORT-FINANCE: **Marcus DiBacco**
6. Finance Report: **Marcus DiBacco**
7. I met with the Vice President of Enrollment Management, Dan Forster, to discuss what we can do to help increase university Financial Aid. After some discussion, it was decided that the best thing we could do would be to advocate for more funding on the state level. To put things in perspective, the “primary need-based grant program, MASSGrant, has fallen in purchasing power from 88 percent in 1988 to 8 percent of average tuition and mandatory fees in 2013”. This information was taken from the Massachusetts Student Financial Aid Study. In order to change this, I am brainstorming the best way to reach out to the State legislature in order to improve our funding.
8. We will be matching the money raised for coins for change with Executive Discretionary funding. Matching the money raised means that we will make a donation which is 100% of the total funds raised, doubling the funds raised as a result. And to clarify, Executive Discretionary funding is an allocation established out of the operations budget to help fund trips and activities, such as coins for change or a Broadway bus trip.
9. The next finance committee meeting is Friday, November 17 at 1:00pm in Ely 020.
10. Foundation Report: **No Report**
11. Student Organization Council: **No Report**
12. VICE PRESIDENT’S REPORT-PROGRAMMING: **Madeline Dexter**
13. I hope everyone enjoyed the long weekend. I would like to start my report by reminding everyone that right now is a very stressful and tense moment in our campus history. Don’t forget to take some time to perform self-care.
14. Campus Activities Board: **Madeline Dexter**
15. Tonight at 8:00pm, the AcaOwlettes will be hosting a Student Activities Open Mic Night in the Owl’s Nest. Come to perform any sort of spoken word, comedy skit, or musical arrangement of your choice. Just a quick reminder, this and all of student activities events are Safe Zones, so please be courteous of that when picking your material for this evening.
16. Tomorrow, November 15 CAB will be hosting a SAGA trivia. Rounds include Harry Potter, Marvel, Lord of the Rings, and more! Come out at 8pm to the Owl’s Nest for free pizza and a fun time!
17. Thursday, November 16 Student Activities will be hosting the thrifty Thursday of November. It is a DIY spa night in the Owl’s Nest at 9:00pm. These events are always wicked fun, so come on down!
18. Friday night, November 17 is the last CAB Brown Bag Bingo of the semester. It is at 10:00pm in the Scanlon Banquet Hall. Come stop by for a fun night!
19. Saturday night, November 18 Student Activities will be hosting a “What you’ve been waiting for” High School Musical evening. We will be showing the classic High School Musical, as well as have some great throwback snacks and some wildcat décor.
20. Campus Activities Board has been trying to implement some new community engagement programming for both the fall and spring semesters. On November 29, at 8:00pm in the Owl’s Nest, we will be hosting a “Warming Hearts” events where you can come and make a blanket to be donated to the New Beginnings Shelter in Westfield. We are not looking for monetary donations, just your time. There will be snacks and refreshments provided, as well as a holiday movie showing through the blanket making process.
21. The Theater Arts Department will be putting on Big Love this weekend in the Black Box Theater on the second floor of Ely. It runs from November 15 thru the 18 at 8:00pm with an additional show on the 18 at 2:30pm. Tickets are four dollars for students, eight dollars for faculty and seniors, and ten dollars for everyone else. If you are interested in purchasing a ticket, they are available at westfield.ma.edu/tickets.
22. Our next scheduled meeting is on Wednesday, November 15 at 5:00pm in the SGA room E017.
23. Neighborhood Advisory Board: **No Report**
24. Community Relations/Fundraising Report: **Maddy Scott**
25. This week closes out the Turkey Drive, so I hope everyone saw my Facebook post and has been working hard on collections. This is a very important drive as all of you know, so every effort in these last few days is essential. If you have any questions, feel free to contact me.
26. As soon as we get back from Thanksgiving break, we have a blood drive that Wednesday, November 29. I need volunteers to help on that day, so I will be sending a sheet around now to sign up. If you are interested in donating. I will have sign-ups for that in the DC soon.
27. If I can please see all presidents after the meeting that would be great.
28. SECRETARY'S REPORT: **Karina Sallaway/Derek Estrella**
29. Executive Secretary Report: **Karina Sallaway**
30. Our LifeSaver of the week tonight, has had a rough couple of weeks but stands out because of her perseverance in the face of hate and discrimination in her residence hall. Being a first year isn’t easy, especially being a first year hall president dealing with all of this. We should give her ten rounds of applause, so congrats to Simone LaPlant for being our Lifesaver of the Week.
31. Owl Ball Committee met last week and we talked a little about advertising, one thing we are focusing on is doing a save the date dorm storm to get people interested and excited. Don’t forget Owl Ball is March 23. Owl Ball Committee has their meeting tomorrow at 3:00pm in conference room E003.
32. Legislative Secretary Report: **Derek Estrella**
33. Last week we did not have classes on Friday, November 10, so I think it’s safe to assume that’s the reason why some senators did not complete their office hour for the week. To accommodate this situation, all senators who did not complete their office hour last week will be able to complete an additional office hour this week to make up for last week. This applies only to senators who did not complete their office hour for last week.
34. Since we do not meet for our general SGA meeting, the week of Thanksgiving, you will not have to complete a senator office hour. However, if you have missed any office hours throughout the semester this week
35. PARLIAMENTARIAN REPORT: **Tyler Cameron**
36. Rules and Regulations Committee: **No Report**
37. Constitutional Review Committee**: No Report**

1. ADVISORY COMMITTEES:
2. Advisory Committee on Facilities Planning: **No Report**
3. Advisory Committee on Academic Planning: **No Report**
4. Advisory Committee on the CURCA: **No Report**
5. Advisory Committee on Budget and Planning**: No Report**
6. College of Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences Search: **Karina Sallaway**
7. The Search Committee for the Dean of Arts, Humanities, and Social Sciences met for the first time this morning. In that meeting we discussed what sorts of traits we are looking for in the new Dean and what their role will look like. For those of you who may not have seen Dean Swaidan’s email yesterday the members of the Search Committee are the following people. Faculty representatives are Dr. Carsten Braun from Geography and Regional Planning, Dr. Imo Imeh from Art, Dr. Enrique Morales-Diaz from Language and Culture Studies, and Dr. Catherine Savini from English. The Administrative representative on the committee is Dr. Laurie Simpson from Academic Advising and the staff representative on the committee is Karen Ducharme from the Music Department. The student representatives are myself and Jacob Lotter. The Alumni representative is Peter Miller, and Dr. Ansari also appointed Dr. Susan Leggett whom is the Dean of Faculty and Tom Raffensperger whom is the Dean of Academic Technology and Information Services and also the Library Director. For those of you whom are interested in having your input heard on the decision-making for whom this person will be can speak to either myself or Jacob. You may also look at the email from Dean Swaidan where there is a link to a survey you can fill out with your feedback or concerns. There will also be an open forum about the search on December 1 from 10:00 am to 11:00 right here in the SGA room. Thank you!
8. College of Mathematics and Science Search Committee: **Cameron Swan**
9. As you may or may not know, Derek Estrel**la** and Iare the student representatives to the search committee for the Dean of the College of Mathematics and Sciences. The search kicked off on November 2. At this meeting, we were given our charge by the provost and discussed some of the qualities we would like to see in a founding dean. Other members of the committee are:Eric Bressler, Christine Von Renesse, Michael Vorwerk, Stefanie Sanchez, Bryan Scott, John Cassanova, Lisa Plantefaber, Christina Swaiden and Jennifer Hanselman, who is chairing the committee.
10. Our next meeting will be on December 5 at 3:00pm.
11. College of Education Health and Human Services Search**: Madeline Dexter**
12. The Search Committee for the Dean of the College of Education, Health, and Human services met for the first time last Wednesday morning, November 8. In that meeting we discussed what sorts of traits we are looking for in the new Dean and what their role will look like. Dean Swaidan sent out an email listing the involvement on the search committees on behalf of Dr. Ansari. This search committee is comprised of Faculty Representatives Jennifer Hixon from Health Sciences, Jane Mildred from Social Work, Marcia Scanlon from Nursing, Kimberly Sherman from Economics and Management, and Kim Tobin from Criminal Justice. Barbara Lucas is the Administration Representative from the Dean of Education’s office. Veleka Gallishaw is the Staff Representative as the secretary from Criminal Justice. The Alumna Representative is Sheila Foley, who completed both her undergraduate and graduate studies for Criminal Justice at WSU. The Student Representatives are Brendan McKee and myself. Dr. Ansari appointed Cheryl Stanley, the Dean of Education and Shelley Tinkham the Dean of College and Graduate and Continuing Education as well**.**
13. For those of you whom are interested in having your input heard on the decision-making for whom this person will be can speak to either myself or Brendan. Unfortunately, the open forum for our committee has since past but I would love to bring any recommendations you may have to the table. You may also look at the email from Dean Swaidan where there is a link to a survey you can fill out with your feedback or concerns. If you are interested and did not get the email, or accidently deleted it, you can see me after the meeting and I will happily forward it to you.
14. If you are interested in any updates or information on the search processes, there is a Dean Search website which can be accessed at westfield.ma.edu/dean-searches.
15. COMMUTER COUNCIL, CLASS AND HALL REPORTS:
16. Commuter Council: **No Report**
17. Senior Class: **No Report**
18. Junior Class: **Abdullah Shafique**
19. As you all know, the Class of 2019 will be hosting Mr. Westfield this year, and a couple weeks ago; the question “Will we be changing the name” came up. The question has come up multiple times and I would just like to open the floor to know some of your opinions on whether to change the name or keep it.
20. Sophomore Class: **No Report**
21. First Year Class: **Joseph Joyal**
22. I accept the resignation of Ellen Lambert as Class of 2021 Representative to Senate.
23. Our next class council meeting will be taking place on Monday at 5:30pm in Ely 044.
24. Apartment Complex: **Saraiz O’Farrill**
25. I move to appoint Kyle Nolan as Apartment Complex Representative to SGA for the remainder of the 2017-2018 academic year.
26. Hall council had their first event this past Wednesday, November 8 and we had a great turn out. Thank you to everyone who showed. I hope to see you at our next event on November 29. We will be decorating Ornaments in Conlin 1D1.
27. Courtney Hall: **No Report**
28. Davis Hall: **No Report**
29. Dickinson Hall: **No Report**
30. Lammers Hall: **No Report**
31. Lansdowne Place: **No Report**
32. New Hall: **No Report**
33. Scanlon Hall: **No Report**
34. University Hall: **No Report**

1. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:
2. NEW BUSINESS:
   1. **Jacob Lotter**: I move to open new business. Motion carries.
   2. **Jacob Lotter**: I am up here today to give you the information I have been able to gather about the Faculty Line issue Dr. Frank Giuliano and Dr. Claudia Ciano-Boyce brought before us about a month ago.
3. As I’m sure most of you will remember, while Claudia and Frank were here they alluded to the fact that departments in need of a new faculty member have not been given their line unless they change the wording of their job descriptions to reflect a shift in the University from teaching based to research based. Frank and Claudia feel strongly that this would go against the mission of the University which was founded by Horace Mann under the principle of us being an institution focused on teaching and learning through instruction
4. Following that meeting I sat down with the Provost, Dr. Parviz Ansari, to discuss the issue. In my meeting the Provost stated that he and Dean of Faculty, Dr. Susan Leggett had not denied any lines due to a lack of language regarding research. The provost did point out that conversations were had between himself, the Dean, and several chairs about whether or not they’d be interested in including that language. However, he would not be denying those positions without that language.
5. In an Executive Council meeting attended by Frank and Claudia, they pointed out a number of departments that had run into the issues they had alluded to in the SGA meeting. From that conversation it was decided by the Executive Council that I would reach out to as many Department Chair’s as possible to receive feedback.
6. For informational purposes, I will name the department and the chair of the departments I spoke to. I will also share the departments whom I reached out to and did not hear back from. You will notice that I didn’t reach out to a few departments and that is mainly because we already knew those departments weren’t looking for any new positions.
7. The Department Chairs I heard back from were:

* Dr. Jennifer Hanselman in Biology
* Dr. Maddy Cahill in Communication
* Dr. James Carabetta in Computer and Information Science
* Dr. Daniel Price in Criminal Justice
* Dr. Emily Todd in English
* Dr. Robert Bristow in Geography and Regional Planning
* Dr. Mara Dodge in History
* Dr. Enrique Morales-Diaz in Language and Culture Studies
* Dr. Karin Vorwerk in Mathematics
* Dr. Andrew Bonacci in Music
* Dr. Hugh Jo in Political Science
* Dr. Lynn Shelley in Psychology
* Dr. Gabriel Aquino in Sociology

1. The Department Chairs I did not hear back from were:

* Dr. Patrick Romano in Chemical and Physical Science
* Dr. Laura Baker in Education

1. To preface, about 8 of those departments who responded to me said they have yet to have a faculty line conversation with the Provost, and they have not heard of the issues Frank and Claudia spoke of.
2. Dr. Gabriel Aquino of Sociology responded with a passionate email saying that some faculty feel the Westfield State Experience has a year of student research built into it without ever asking faculty their opinion on dedicating a student’s junior year to these high impact practices. Many departments feel that this aspect of the Westfield State Experience puts them in a position to provide a service to students that they didn’t get to actively say they would provide. Dr. Aquino feels very strongly that many departments have been told to change their job descriptions to match this idea of providing high impact practices. This is NOT to say that departments do not want to provide opportunities to do research with students, but rather that they would like to home grow those opportunities opposed to being told they must produce them during a particular time frame. Dr. Aquino also feared that some departments were not providing SGA with the entire truth of their discussions with the Provost, mainly to avoid getting in trouble.
3. Dr. Daniel Price of Criminal Justice pointed out that they had a discussion with the Provost about adding language that leaned their new position towards research, however when they pushed back the Provost had no problem moving away from that suggestion. They did receive a new line.
4. Dr. Jennifer Hanselman of Biology and Dr. Andrew Bonacci of Music pointed out that they had been given new positions, and that their departments did not have any sort of conversation with the Provost or Dean of Faculty where they felt any sort of pressure to change their job posting language.
5. Unfortunately, we understand that these are still two sided arguments. We have some departments who can attest to things that Claudia and Frank say are true, and we have other departments saying that this is in no way accurate. We also have arguments from both Dr. Ansari and Dean Leggett stating they had not and would not ask departments to add language involving research. In addition to that we have Frank and Claudia’s argument from our Executive Council meeting where they stated many different departments whom had experienced this problem. After tackling that list I received responses from many of those very departments saying they knew nothing about Frank and Claudia’s claims. So, as I said we have two differing viewpoints. And unfortunately I have found that most of these conversations between the Provost and Departments would have happened in a private meeting between Dr. Ansari and the Chair, so finding evidence to support either claim now is nearly impossible.
6. To close, I want to again apologize to everybody that this issue came to this forum. I wish I had more substantial evidence and facts to provide to all of you, but unfortunately everything about this is all hearsay. If anybody has any questions I’d be happy to try and answer them.
7. **Aaron Sylvia**: My issue wasn’t so much as the issue being fought out on the floor, it was the manner in which it was handled. The lack of respect shown on both sides. I don’t think that either side held themselves particularly well. So I was just wondering going forward if when we do schedule some of these speaker’s if we give them a packet of the guidelines and the purpose of SGA.
8. **Jacob Lotter**: That’s definitely a good idea. I do want to let you guys know that when I met with the Provost I actually went over with him Robert’s Rules for our meetings for next time. And we did let Frank and Claudia know as well that this was not handled well on either end.
   1. Jacob Lotter: I move to close new business. Motion carries.
9. ANNOUNCEMENTS:
10. **Maddie Creamer**: Business Club Networking dinner tomorrow night 5:30pm in Scanlon Banquet Hall.
11. **Derek Estrella**: I would like to see Nicholas Kooyomijan and Benjamin Conlon after the meeting. Also council presidents see me after you haven’t set up a time to meet with me about your town halls.
12. **Maddy Scott**: Presidents talk to me after the meeting please.
13. **Cameron Swan**: Can I see Connor Kennedy after the meeting?
14. **Jacob Lotter**: Can I also see Joey Joyal, Maddy Scott, Tori Lind, Marissa Russo, and Kyle Nolan after the meeting please?
15. **Maddie Dexter**: Open Mic Night tonight at 8:00pm in the Owl’s Nest!
16. **Shayna Arnott**: Can I see the Reps at Large at the couches after the meeting please?
17. **Barb Hand**: The Voice is having a general interest meeting tomorrow at 4:00pm in The Voice office there will be pizza and refreshments.
18. **Kane, MASSPIRG**: MASSPIRG is making a sustainability committee with the Sustainability Club and the Facilities Director and we would love to have an SGA representative to come and talk about what the students want to hear about that. So if you are interested see me after.
19. Aaron Sylvia: 186 days until Commencement.
20. ROLL CALL: Marissa Cremin, Andrew Logan, Danielle LoGuidice, and Ethan Goodfellow were absent. Mika Lapre, Christian Capalbo, and Michael Reid were excused. Katelyn Nardi sent and alternate.
21. ADJOURNMENT: Meeting adjourned at 7:21pm

*To ensure the courtesy of others,*

*Please turn off your cell phone before the meeting*