**Student Government Association Minutes**

October 16, 2012

1. ROLL CALL: Olivia Dumas, Lawrance Rodkey, Rachel Foran and Rabi Alhassan were absent.
2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM October 09, 2012: Minutes were approved.
3. PRESIDENT’S REPORT: *Stephanie Close*
4. I hope Midterms are going well. I would like to welcome our first speaker tonight, Amy Szlachetka the Director of the Campus Center
   * + 1. **Amy Szlachetka**: All is well in the Wellness Center. We recently expanded to approximately 10,050 square feet compared to approximately 6,500 square feet.
     1. The aerobic room is now 500 square feet larger than before and can now hold 25-30 people, compared to formerly only holding 15-18.
     2. The wellness center now is 2 floors which allows for more light, and less crowding so our members feel safer while working out.
     3. We hired a new full-time manager and her name is Myra Ahern. Myra has over ten years of experience working in the corporate fitness world. She has recently worked in Hartford, CT at the Hartford Insurance Company and the United Technologies Corporation. She is trained and certified in the Exercise Science field and is an Alumnus of Westfield State University, Class of 2000.
     4. We are seeing 10,396 workouts per month with 3.033 student members compared to 3,364 last year. Se we are down 331 members, but I think many students were only paying $20.00 last year and did not think the fee raise would be worth it. But I am sure they are regretting that now that they can see our wonderful expansions.
5. Thank you Amy. Now I would like to bring up Junior Delgado, the Director of the Career Center.
6. **Junior Delgado**: I am the Director of the Career Center. We are over in Lammers Hall, on the left hand side of the building. I just want to share some of the services we provide for students. We advise students on applying to Graduate School. I would also like to make it clear that the Career Center does not only serve companies and organizations in the Western Massachusetts area, we spend a lot of time in Boston and Connecticut, working on contacts and organizations to bring back. We provide appointments from 20 minutes to one hour long. Resume cover letters and grad events. There are two major programs or software I want you to know about.
7. One is Career Spots. The videos are no longer than a few minutes and cover all types of topics. We offer lifetime assistance to Alums, whether you are two years or twenty years out of school. We also recommend that everyone have at least one internship before leaving this University.
8. I also want to talk about LinkedIn. It is one of the fastest growing social media sites in the country. It is Facebook without all of the other junk.
9. And lastly if you have a Webcam, the Career center has purchased software called Interview Stream if you would like to practice interviews. You can select up to ten questions with the prerecorded person on the other side then you can come in and we will review it together. It helps pick up on the little things like clicking a pen or playing with your hair that are distractions in interviews.
10. Thank you Junior. Our last speaker tonight is Curt Robie, Assistant Vice President of Facilities and Operations.
    * + 1. **Dr. Curt Robie**: We did a lot of meetings last year regarding the strategic master plan and Academic needs. I am pleased to say this process is moving forward at a relatively quick speed. We are right now involved in Phase 1 of the academic space initiative.
11. This program is going to create a new Science building of about 52,000 square feet.
12. It is going to do some interim renovations to Wilson Hall.
13. We are going to try to air condition Parenzo and Bates.
14. We are also going to do some work in Dever Stage and make it more handicapped accessible.
15. We are going to do some preliminary work on Juniper Park school which is coming back to the University for our own use in 2014. Right now we are hoping it will be used as a Fine Arts building in the future.
    * + 1. Phase 1 is estimated to cost 47.8 million dollars. We have 33 million coming from a capital bond issue that came up in 2002. We also have 2.8 million available from the state to for the renovations in Dever Stage. The rest of the money we are going to have to borrow or take from our campus reserves, to get to the 47.8 million.
        2. Phase 2 we hope will come to fruition; we are asking the state to consider another capital bond issue for higher education in Massachusetts. Many of our sister institutions have a critical need for additional capital projects on their campuses. We are asking for an additional 50.9 million dollars in funding which would bring the total campus project to around 98.7 to 100 million dollars. Phase 2 would include:
16. Complete renovations to Parenzo, Bates and Wilson halls and the conversion of Juniper Park School. It is a very aggressive program.
    * + 1. We are right now out to bid for a designer for the science building and for the improvements in Phase 1. We hope to select an architect very shortly and be well on our way to plans and specifications before summer 2013.
        2. We also have a number of other projects in the works including a 1.9 million dollar project in design to replace the air conditioner chiller in Wilson Hall. As the AC in Wilson is approximately 40 years old.
        3. We are also in design to look into other sustainability projects. We have about $270,000 earmarked, this year, to replace some building hot water systems that work on steam. Our goal is to get off of the power plant behind Ely by summer.
        4. Over Thanksgiving, we are going to shut the power down to the campus at 5:00am until sometime Saturday, November 24th in order to repair the transformers in the power plant.
        5. Next summer we have a 4 million dollar project to continue renovations to the Old Apartment Complex. We are going to replace the carpet in the bedroom; we will fix the lighting in the bedrooms and put in new windows.
        6. We will be fixing the lighting in Davis Hall and Dickinson Hall along with other projects and will be meeting with Residential Life to discuss and come up with replacement furniture.
        7. We also have a parking study. At the request of the President, we hired a consultant to come on campus and do a study of our campus parking. They came on both normal days and special days and clicked the number of cars that came in each day. They reviewed all of the public safety and parking control regulations. They concluded we have enough parking on campus for the population we have. They saw we had about 500 empty spaces on the entire campus on an average day that would reduce to 27 empty spaces on a busy day. Main campus is always about 94% occupied on a daily basis. They looked into parking garages.
17. It was discussed to put a parking garage on the bluff of North campus that would come up and behind Juniper Park. It was looked into and they estimated it would cost roughly 35 to 40 thousand dollars per space.
18. They looked at putting a parking garage behind Juniper Park School. That would roughly cost 8.5 million dollars. T
19. They looked into putting a second tier of commuter lot and that was quite costly.
20. If you have any questions about parking, please talk to Tim Egan who is your student representative on the parking control board.
    * + 1. Ely is progressing on schedule. University hall is progressing on schedule and soon we will start to see the brick work being done.
        2. We had received help from Senator Kennedy a few years ago, to be able to build a road down to North Campus. We were allocated about 2.4 million dollars to build that road before Senator Kennedy’s untimely passing. With recent cost increases and the fact that the road must be a public road and connect tow public ways and not just be a driveway for the campus, the road process was scrapped. So the 2.4 million dollars will be used to renovate and reconstruct Western Avenue, starting next spring and summer from Lloydes Hill to the campus.
21. We are going to take that money and put in a permanent light at Commuter Lot; we are going to put some third lanes and turning radiuses on Western Avenue.
22. We are looking into putting some more security on Western Avenue with some lighting and security phones.
23. We are also going to make general improvements in the sidewalks and improve Western Avenue.
    * + 1. We have a lot happening on campus. Any questions?
24. **Barbara Hand**: Just to Lloyds Hill, not further down?
25. **Dr. Curt Robie**: Right now the city is looking into projects to go all the way down to the center of town, but right now the project is for Lloyds Hill to campus.
26. **Barbara Hand**: So the city may supplement?
27. **Dr. Curt Robie**: The city may supplement and will need to, in order to continue the project.
28. Thank you Dr. Robie.
29. I accept the resignation of Sandra Kwawu. This means we are looking for a new Executive Secretary. If you are interested, please see me after the meeting.
30. I am passing around the contact sheet for Sarah Hegarty. Please, make sure your information is correct and fill in the blanks.
31. This past weekend was the Leadership Retreat. It was a great experience. The SGA Executive Board had a great time. Thank you to all who went.
32. If you are a new senator and did not attend the orientation, please see me after the meeting so I can go over some basics with you.
33. As many of you may know, you are required to sit on two committees. If you are on Hall Council or Class Council, that counts as one committee. If you do not have a second committee, please see me after the meeting.
34. On Friday, October 26th, there is a rally in Springfield for Higher Education called College? Yes!. This is to encourage students to attend college after high school. I will be speaking on a panel about getting to college and the changes you can make while at college. There will be a van leaving at 9:00am. If you are interested in attending, please let me know.
35. The Rays of Hope walk is Sunday, October 28th. I am going to send around a sign-up sheet. If you are interested, please fill out your name, club/organization, and T-shirt size. We are trying to figure out how many buses we need.
36. Tomorrow, October 17th is the last day to register to vote. Your voter registration card needs to be post-marked or brought to city/town hall. I have voter registration cards here tonight if you would like to fill one out.
37. Tonight October 16th there is a watch party for the Presidential Debate at 8:30pm in Scanlon Banquet Hall. This is sponsored by the Political Science Department.
38. On November 7th, there will be an interest meeting for the Multicultural committee in Wilson 116 at 5:00pm.
39. Next week, President Dobelle will be coming to speak. This means it will be a dress code meeting.
40. Could I please see Gabrielle Correnti and Ashley LeBlanc after the meeting?
41. Items not listed on the agenda:
42. BOARD OF TRUSTEES’ REPORT**:** *Stone Koury*
43. The Board met last Thursday, October 11th for the first time of the year. A few things were discussed and approved.
    * + 1. Four honorary degrees were approved by the board, all of which will be give out at the Political Convocation, which Rebecca DiVico will speak more to in her report. All of the recipients are well known in the political world, especially in the Commonwealth.
        2. Academic policies that have been current practice for the past few years are now being sent through Board to approve instead of the former system of them just going up to AUC. So the board meetings will always have a few of them going through to be updated.
        3. A quick update on capital projects around campus, tentatively, there is a rough timeline of a 2 phase plan that will have the new 33 million dollar academic building, renovations in Dever, Bates and Parenzo and completion of Juniper along with a couple other things. All of this is pending a professional study/survey that will tell us exactly what we need and how much things will cost and how long it will all take. I have a feeling this is going to be a big topic in the spring semester, so I’ll keep you informed as I know more.
44. I am passing around a sign-up sheet for the final University committees we need to fill, please sign up to any that you are interested in, if you need a committee, and Representatives at Large you have priority with these so I want you all to get the sheet before anyone else does.
45. All University Committee: **No Report**
46. Neighborhood Advisory Board**: No Report**
47. VICE PRESIDENT’S REPORT-STUDENT LIFE**:** *Taylor Fote*
48. I need two students for the Substance Advisory Committee, they meet Friday’s at 11:00am and the first meeting will be October 26th.I am sending around a sign-up sheet if you’re interested; if you would l like more information on what the committee does, please just see me after the meeting.
49. The Student Affairs Committee met and discussed many things. The biggest thing we discussed was the possibility of bringing bikes to campus as a green wheels bike share program. This is like those bike hubs you may have seen in Boston or other major cities. The hubs would be around campus for example in South Lot, Horace Mann, Woodward, Ely and other buildings and possibly down town. Also with pairing with the bikes the Committee had the idea to put signage around campus in various spots telling how far you have walked from spots on campus. I want to open these ideas up to you guys, as of right now I only want your comments, opinions and questions. I plan on bringing these comments and questions back to the committee. Overall I want to know your thoughts about both ideas and if you think it’s a good fit for Westfield.
    * + 1. **Richard Darrach**: I like the idea.
        2. **Andrew Dalesandro**: Who would pay for this?
        3. **Taylor Fote**: We do not know. There was talk of donations or donated bikes.
        4. **Joshua Frank**: I have a comment. The Campus is one mile long and I just do not see the point. I walk ever where. Maybe if we were a larger or longer campus, but for us, no. I think this is just way to confusing and not needed.
        5. **Amanda McCarthy**: Point of information, we are looking into possible grants to pay for this.
        6. **Emily Hamel**: The farthest walk on campus is fifteen minutes so I think we are good without the bikes.
        7. **Brandon Burr**: What would we do about helmets?
        8. **Taylor Fote**: We discussed helmets and I htin we decided they would be available.
        9. **Lieutenant Mike Foyle:** It is law that requires helmets**.**
        10. Jennifer McDiarmid: I think this would be good for Landsdowne and students who do not have cars. I also like the idea of the signs.
        11. **Joshua Frank:** I do not think the signs are needed. You know how far you walk every day and I think this is just a waste.
        12. **Taylor Fote:** Alright, Thank you everyone**.**
50. Student Affairs Committee: **No Report**
51. Multicultural Committee: **No Report**
52. Food Services Committee: Tom Durkee
    * + 1. The Hunger Banquet will be held Tuesday, November 13th, at 6:00pm in the Dining Commons. Sign-ups will start at the end of October, beginning of November.
53. This will be a kick off to the food drive and you will be able to donate nonperishables in the Dining Commons as well as your Residence Hall. Collections will continue until the end of the semester.
54. Tying into this will be education about food waste and hunger issues around the world.
55. We are looking for at least 60 students to participate.
    * + 1. Weekly flyers with sales are coming soon. They will be available all over campus.
        2. You may have noticed new small display screens at all Sodexo locations, which were installed last week. They will display Sodexo related activities and events, sales on campus and fun facts about Sodexo.
        3. The business at the Perch has picked up, since alcohol was removed. There will be specials every Wednesday. They are looking at moving the smoothie machines to the Perch from Jazzmans.
        4. The new Simply-to-go location, which is scheduled to open in the fall of 2013, will have two meal deals per day, rotating through 12 total options. In addition to Pandinis, this will give students more options in using their meal swipes.
        5. The Dining Commons will be cutting down on waste. Today during the hours of 11:00am and 2:00pm, food waste was weighed in at 348 pounds. Due to the efforts to cut back on waste, the dining commons will be donating all perishable items to the local Salvation Army at the end of each semester and before breaks for local needy families.
        6. Our next scheduled meeting is on October 23rd at 4:15pm in the Dining Commons.
56. Health Committee: **No Report**
57. Parking Control Board: **No Report**
58. Student Athletic Advisory Board: **No Report**
59. Substance Advisory Committee: **No Report**
60. Community Relations/Fundraising Report**: Victoria Landry**
    1. At the blood drive on October 3rd we collected 125 units of blood which was a great turn out. The next Blood Drive is scheduled for November 28th in theParenzo Gym.
    2. I sent around sign-ups for the Turkey Drive last meeting. If anyone is interested in volunteering please come see me after the meeting. For those of you who have already signed up we will meet next week, October 23rd after the SGA meeting to brainstorm a few ideas.
61. VICE PRESIDENT’S REPORT-ACADEMIC LIFE: *Rebecca DiVico*
62. On Wednesday, October 24th at 6:30pm there will be a Political Convocation in the Woodward Center. This is a reception that will be talking about the upcoming election. Five noteworthy panelists will be attending and they will be talking about the issues, candidates, strategies, and the political climate. It is very important for students to attend, so I urge every senator to be there. Please attend this event and bring your friends. It is your job as student leaders to be present at these important events that will reflect our futures. To entice you some more there’s going to be food. This is a special event that will count for two units for the month of October.
63. Just a reminder to seniors that next week is your advising times. You’ll be registering for spring semester classes on Friday, October 26th.
64. Can I please see Dashira Vakira after the meeting?
65. Academic Policies Committee: Anna Dilorenzo
    1. The Academic Policies Committee met Wednesday, October 10th, we voted on passing the revisions of the Faculty/Librarian Emeritus by Laws. This policy will now be reviewed by the Vice President for Academic Affairs in consultation with the Faculty/Librarian Emeritus Committee.
    2. Our next scheduled meeting is Monday, November 5th at 12:35 pm in the Parenzo Board Room.
66. Curriculum Committee: Katie Morrissey
    * + 1. The discussion about the Special Committee on university Planning was again tabled.
        2. Course Action request forms from the music department were approved.
        3. Course Action Request forms GARP was tabled.
        4. Our next scheduled meeting will be on Thursday, October 25th at 3:45pm in Wilson Room 319.
67. Enrollment Management Committee: **No Report**
68. Campus Technology Committee**: No Report**
69. International Programs Committee: **No Report**
70. Library Advisory Committee**: No Report**
71. Writing Liaison**: No Report**
72. VICE PRESIDENT’S REPORT-PROGRAMMING: *Michelle Hanney*
73. I would like to thank Jessika Murphy for a great weekend o the Leadership Voyage. The Campus Activities Board Executive Council had a great time and was able to bond and get to know each other better. So thank you Jess.
74. Programming update: Michelle Hanney
    1. Trivia is tomorrow night, Wednesday October 17th starting at 8:00pm in Ely, with free food, so get a team and come out to play.
    2. We have a Halloween Fest coming up on Halloween, October 31st from 8:00pm until 10:00pm. We will have a D.J. costume contest, pumpkin painting contest, thriller dace off, mummy wrap and a possible candy apple vendor. More details will be up on our Facebook page.
    3. Another event to look at will be Westfield’s Got Talent. This will be a talent show open to all students and there will be a preliminary round on October 25th with some eliminations and the final round will be on November 1st in Dever Stage. The grand prize will be a Limousine to Boston and 4 tickets to the Blue Man Group. Hosting the event will be Brandon Burr and Steve Kligerman. More details will be on our Facebook page.
75. As the Vice President of Programming I chair the Weekend Programming Committee which has a budget of $15,000.00 for on and off campus events for clubs and organizations. This year CAB executive board has decided to split the money, $7,500.00 for on campus events and $7,500.00 for off campus programs. So if there is something you would like for your club or organization to see on or off campus email me or Barbara Hand.
76. Can I please see Rabi Alhassan after the meeting?
77. VICE PRESIDENT’S REPORT-FINANCE: *Joshua Frank*
78. Finance Report: Joshua Frank
    1. I have two Finance Proposals to present tonight.
       1. The Finance Committee met with the Business Club, who is looking for $950.00 to pay half of their food cost towards their annual networking dinner. This dinner is open to all majors, and allows student to connect with working professionals in their fields of study. So far they have 15 confirmed guests. SGA has helped with funding for this dinner in the past.
       2. It was moved and seconded to allocate $950.00 to the Business Club for their networking dinner. The motion was accepted.
       3. The Poetry Club is looking for $50.00 to help pay the registration fee for an intercollegiate poetry slam competition, taking place at American Institute College. This is an annual competition, and the registration of $50.00 will pay for four students to attend.
       4. It was moved and seconded to allocate $50.00 to the Poetry Club for registration to the Annual Intercollegiate Poetry Slam Competition. The motion was accepted.
79. Foundation Report**: No Report**
80. SERETARY’S REPORT: *Sarah Hegarty*
81. Executive Secretary Report: No Report
82. Legislative Secretary Report: No Report
83. COMMUTER COUNCIL, CLASS AND HALL REPORTS:
84. Commuter Council: **No Report**
85. Senior Class: Brandon Burr
    1. The Dunkin Dash went over well. Congratulations to Nick Villante for coming in 3rd place.
    2. Our calendars are done and we will be sitting in the Dining Commons over the next few weeks, a few days a week, selling them. They are $5.00 each.
    3. Our big Senior Night is coming up fast it is Friday, October 26th from 9:00pm until 12:00am in the Scanlon Banquet Hall. Tell your friends to come out and join us for some fun.
    4. Our Cookie Dough fundraiser will begin on November 1st and end November 26th. More information about prizes and details at our next weeks meeting.
86. Junior Class: No Report
87. Sophomore Class: Richard Darrach
    * + 1. I am very pleased to announce, we have a new class advisor Amy Szlachetka.
        2. We might be looking to fill a position on our council, so if you know someone that might be interested, please tell them to keep an eye out for details later this week in their email.
        3. Our next scheduled meeting is Wednesday, October 17th at 4:30pm in New Hall.
88. Freshman Class: Melvin Rivera
    * + 1. The Class of 2016 has a full council now.
        2. I move to appoint Michael Janchuf, Nicole Primeau and Xandria Sotomayor as Representative to Senate for the 2012-2013 academic year. Motion passed.
        3. At our next meeting we will be having Class advisor interviews.
        4. Our next scheduled meeting will be on Wednesday, October 17th at 5:30pm in the Tekoa Room.
89. Apartment Complex: Diane Lego
    * + 1. As the Apartment Complex President, I move to appoint Jonathan Delvalle as Representative to Senate for the 2012 – 2013 academic year. Motion passed
        2. The Resident Hall Crawl will be Thursday, October 18th at 8:00pm in the Apartment Complex Green area. As well as the rest of the campus, I believe.
        3. Our next scheduled meeting is October 23rd at 5:30pm in Scanlon.
90. Courtney Hall**: No Report**
91. Davis Hall: **No Report**
92. Dickinson Hall: Samantha Dacey
    * + 1. We are having a Halloween Party in the Dickinson Common room on October 29th. There will be a D.J. food and crafts.
        2. Our next scheduled meeting is on Thursday, October 18th at 8:00pm in the Dickinson Common Room.
93. Lammers Hall: Abigail McManon
    * + 1. Our last meeting, Thursday, October 11th, we finished planning our Fall Festival. It’s set for this Sunday, October 21st at 7:00pm. The event includes a pumpkin carving contest, a costume contest and movies will be played.
        2. Our Hall Assassins event was also organized completely today. All the targets have been assigned, and the game will start this Friday, October 19th.
        3. We have started to discuss hall t-shirts, and the possibility of a design contest.
        4. We have also started to discuss the possibility of an event in December, where we would setup care packages for the troops in Afghanistan, and everyone who brings in something will receive a free t-shirt.
        5. Our next scheduled meeting is October 18th at 8:00pm in the Main Lobby of Lammers Hall.
94. Lansdowne Hall: **No Report**
95. New Hall: Megan Brochu
    * + 1. I move to appoint Ashley LeBlanc as New Hall’s Representative to Senate for the 2012-2013 academic year. Motion passed.
        2. I move to appoint Kaylen Vangos as New Hall’s representative to Senate for the 2012-2013 academic year. Motion passed.
        3. Tonight October 3rd at 9:00pm in the New Hall lobby, we are having a meet and great with the Hall Council and we are giving away free pizza.
96. Scanlon Hall: **No Report**
97. UNFIISHED BUSINESS**: None**
98. NEW BUSINESS:
99. ANNOUNCEMENTS:
100. **Sarah Hegarty**: Please send back the contact sheet.
101. **Michelle Hanney**: Can I please see Rabi Alhassan at the end of the meeting?
102. **Tom Durkee**: I will be sitting in the back if you have any questions.
103. **Victoria Landry**: Please, return the sign-up sheet for the Turkey Drive.
104. **Taylor Fote**: 98 Days until we are back in Ely and can I see Samantha Dacey, Abby McMahon, Priscilla Aguilar and Allyson McElhiney after the meeting?
105. **Isaac Matson**: Rules and Regulations Committee will meet after the SGA meeting.
106. **Stephanie Close**: can I see Gabreielle Correnti and Ashley LeBlanc after the meeting?
107. **Brandon Burr**: 213 days until commencement.
108. ROLL CALL: Olivia Dumas, Lawrence Rodkey, Cayleigh Russel and Rachel Foran were absent.
109. ADJOURNMENT: Meeting adjourned at 6:54pm.