**Student Government Association Minutes**

October 07, 2014

1. ROLL CALL: Cleston Flemming, Marlon Bryan and Sergio Arroyo were absent. Alex Doming and Haley Caisse sent alternates.
2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM September 30, 2014: Minutes were approved.
3. PRESIDENT’S REPORT: *Rebecca DiVico*
4. Our fist speaker is Interim President, Dr. Elizabeth Preston
5. **Dr. Elizabeth Preston**: Dr. Elizabeth Preston: Thank you President DiVico. It’s nice to see everybody here on your first dress code meeting. I am mostly here to answer questions should you all have any. We are trying very hard to go through the year and keep everyone very informed about what is happening on campus.
6. In addition, we want to get your feedback about different things happening on campus. So if there are things that you are unaware of or you feel that we are not sharing things with you. We are trying in as many different ways as we can to communicate with the campus community.
7. On that note, I would like to remind you that we are having a town hall meeting on Thursday from 3:30 PM – 5:00 PM in Dever Auditorium. Students, faculty and staff are all welcome to come. We are going to talk a little about what is happening on campus in addition to some of the challenges we are facing. We will also be taking questions. If you can come to this meeting, that would be great!
8. **Richard Darrach**: Have there been any updates with the foosball tournament?
9. **Dr. Elizabeth Preston**: This weekend I am going to Amherst to buy a foosball table. We are bringing it to campus next week, but that’s as far as I have made it with that.
10. **Evelyn Dina**: Now that we have a full Board of Trustees, what are the next steps in the Presidential Search?
11. **Dr. Elizabeth Preston**: The Board of Trustees is meeting tomorrow afternoon October 8 at 4:00 pm. I am not sure if they are planning to have a conversation about the search beforehand at the governance committee meeting. This is going to sound odd but I honestly don’t know what they are going to do. I believe that they are having conversations amongst themselves, and perhaps Joshua Frank, Student Trustee can speak more to this, about making a decision regarding the search now or next spring. This is truly a decision for the Board and not administration because they control this decision. I think that the latest they would start it, is this spring. They may choose to start it this week. We will all know more tomorrow and we can discuss it at the Town Hall meeting on Thursday, October 9.
12. **Ryan Losco**: I know last year there was a lot of talk about commencement, so I am wondering if a decision has been made regarding the location of the Class of 2016 commencement? Also, will the committee take the class council’s opinions on this matter into account?
13. **Dr. Elizabeth Preston**: This year, the Class of 2015 commencement will be at the MassMutual Center again. The question that remains is where we move from there. We are going to have a committee that will likely form next month that will deal with this for the rest of this year and I would assume that student representation on that committee will come from the Class Councils. What is your perspective on the issue?
14. **Ryan Losco:** Readdress. I liked MassMutual. I think it was better than having commencement on campus because you can fit a lot more people at MassMutual. We don’t have to worry about weather and it really is a more central location.
15. **Dr. Elizabeth Preston:** Yes, I think people have different opinions. Candidly, after 25 years of me being here, we have only done commencement at MassMutual for a few years. It was mainly moved due to the construction of University Hall. We had no chance that year. I was very much in favor of coming back to campus for commencement as soon as it finished but having it for a few years at MassMutual Center; I realize that it actually does have some significant advantages. So, I find myself very torn. I’m attached to the idea of campus commencements but then again, there are some real serious advantages to MassMutual. I think that the job of the committee will be to weigh out these pros and cons and see how people feel about it.
16. **Andrew Morin:** I know you don’t know the timing of everything but come to conclusion of the Presidential search, what are your plans?
17. **Dr. Elizabeth Preston:** There are a lot of things I don’t know. One thing I have learned is that I am taken by surprise a lot more than I thought. I am surprised how much being in these jobs changes you in a funny way. I would not have though that I would find this a complicated question. I would think that I would be able to say that without a doubt, I would return to the faculty and cannot wait to do so. I am a little more ambivalent about that now because we are all in agreement that it would not be appropriate for the Interim President to be a candidate for the permanent President seat. So, that is not on the table. So, the question becomes, would I look for a job elsewhere? I never would have thought that to even be an option of mine when I started this job. I think that it is really unlikely, but I don’t rule it out anymore and that surprises me. I will also say that I was up in the TV studio the other day, which was kind of my space for about eighteen years, and all I could think about was how I wanted to come back. Odds are, I will return to the Communications Department.
18. **Richard Darrach:** Today you sent out a really important email. Could you elaborate on the job of the compliance officer a bit and maybe tell us a little about this new faculty member?
19. **Dr. Elizabeth Preston:** We have created a new position and are in the process of hiring a candidate. To be clear, this new position is not being paid with any kind of “new money.” We had a lot of changes in the administration over the past nine months and we held a couple of positions vacant and chose not to fill them. We are using money from one of those positions to fund this position, as we saw it as a priority. The position is called Director of Non-Discrimination and University Compliance. It is somebody to help advance our equal opportunity and affirmative action policies on campus. It is also somebody to help coordinate our compliance with Title IX and the Clery Act and the Violence against Women Act and so forth. If you read any of the local papers or national journals, you will know that trying to comply with these federal policies is incredibly complicated. It seemed to us that because it deals with issues in Academic Affairs, Student Affairs, Public Safety and Human Resources, it seemed that having one person dedicated to coordinating all of these events on campus would just help pull it all together. It won’t replace some of the great things already happening on campus in regards to these issues but it will just help provide some additional support and coordination revolving around these activities and groups. There will be a new policy in place hopefully by the end of this semester. It is a statewide policy regarding sexual assault and harassment. This will be this person’s job to help implement that new policy. He will be doing things differently than we have that will be in compliance with state and federal regulations. We hired a man named Larry Johnson. He is an Associate Dean at Ryders College in New Jersey. He is an attorney which I think will help navigate all of the legal complexities involved with this issue. It will also be a great resource to us. He is going to be at the Board meeting tomorrow, afternoon, October 9. We are going to introduce him so they have a sense of who he is and what he is doing. He then starts on October 20 and then I’m sure he will be everywhere on campus pretty quickly.
    * + 1. **Victoria Landry:** I have more of a comment, specifically from seniors. Some seniors that are not as involved as all of us were saying that they were unclear about when the All-University Committee sent out the results of the commencement survey, where those results can be found and how that will affect future commencements. Being on Class Council and Student Government, we know that it is being held at MassMutual this year but I’m not sure the entire senior class in aware of that.
        2. **Dr. Elizabeth Preston:** We are still working on who the commencement speaker will be. It’s tough to find someone available and affordable but once we know, we will send all the information out at once.
        3. **Olivia Dumas:** Do you know if there are any definite administration changes occurring in the near future?
        4. **Dr. Elizabeth Preston:** I don’t know of any definite administration changes happening in the near future. I know that the one thing that is unsettled is Dr. Andrew Bonnacci. He is Dean of Undergraduate Studies. I laugh now because back when I was Dean of Faculty, Dr. Bonnacci was a department chair. He kept asking to return to the faculty because he didn’t even want to be a department chair. However, he is such a wonderful administrator so we keep pulling him in. But, I think his love is teaching. So, every time we ask him to step up and take an administrative role, we all feel a little bit guilty about it. He does such a great job though, so it’s really hard to let go of him. So, I don’t know whether he will step back to the faculty at the end of this semester or at the end of the year but I think at some point, he is likely to head back to the faculty. Until that decision is made, we have not really talked about anyone that would replace him. I would say that is the one thing that is on the horizon for administrative changes. We may talk him into staying for the year.
        5. **Matthew Carlin:** I was just wondering what the current standing for the University budget is. Will there be any negative effects on the students any time soon, such as fee increases or withdrawal of certain services?
        6. **Dr. Elizabeth Preston**: This is a slightly complicated answer. The Universities budget this year is based on a presumption that we would have 4,675 paying Day Students. It does not look like we will meet that number. That is the short version of the story. We get to that number in a couple of different ways. One is by the admission target that we set. The other is by some assumptions regarding how many students will return. We base that assumption off of a three year average. Admission did reach their target. Their target for the new incoming students was 1,500; we have slightly more than that. However, we had a lower percentage of students returning this fall than we have had for the last number of years. This took us a little bit by surprise. If things unfold the way that statistically should, and enrollments are consistent in terms of how many students who are here in the fall come back in the spring, then we would be short somewhere between 75-100 students. There are always more students on campus in the fall as opposed to the spring. This would have an impact on the budget. We would have to make adjustments to the budget to deal with the fact that we would be somewhere between $750,000– $800,000 short. This is all dependent on whether things unfold this particular way. So, we have been having conversations about where that money might come from. I think it would have relatively little impact on students. That is certainly the goal always. You may see less food at events, but that’s about it. If we need to cut money, we will look to do the least harmful things to students. However, I would also like to point out that this is not a clear reality right now. Admissions Department is trying to bring in more students this spring. That is predicated on 160 new students in the spring semester. If admissions bring in 200 students, then we have cut the problem in half. So, we still don’t know what the final number will be but that is what the issue is. So, this was a surprise to us. We thought we knew how many students were going to come back and retention is an important issue for all of us. We hope to bring back more students each year. It turns out that it is a funny problem. About 50% of that issue was because our graduation rate went up quite noticeably last year. So, we graduated more students sooner than we would have expected to. That created a hole because people who would have ordinarily taken longer to graduate just didn’t come back in the fall. They graduated on time or closer to on time than in the past. So, more than half of the gap we have is simply because our graduation rate was really good in the spring. Ordinarily, we would be very happy that our graduation rate has gone up and it is good news. Our graduation rate, which is still sad, is about 2.5% higher than it was last year. So, our six year graduation rate is about 62.6& now. I still think that is worrisome. So, all of you who are in the Class of 2018, statically, only 62.6% of you will graduate from this school. This means we are still losing about 40%. This doesn’t mean that students are not graduating, to be clear. A lot of students have been transferring or they’re taking longer than six years. However, we obviously would like that number to continue to increase at the rate that is has been. It is great news but the fact that it went up from 59% to 62.2% meant that we had a lot fewer students here in the fall than we were expecting.
        7. **Aaron Sylvia**: You mentioned earlier that upon the hiring of the Title IX compliance officer, certain other administrative positions became liquidated. Can you elaborate on why they were liquidated and which positions they were?
        8. **Dr. Elizabeth Preston**: I would not say liquidated. Last year, we had an Associate Vice President for Alumni Relations and that person had an administrative assistant. We decided not to fill those positions. We felt like we had adequate staffing without those.
        9. **Shannon Cullinane**: With the renovation of Wilson and creation of the new science center, what is going to happen with the open classrooms that will be left in Wilson? Will we be adding sections to existent courses because we have more space or will it be utilized some other way?
        10. **Dr. Elizabeth Preston:** When we renovate Wilson and build the new science center that will create new and nicer lab spaces. With the older labs, some of them will be used as such still but some others will be transformed in multipurpose classrooms. However, the majority of them will be turned into offices. On the fourth floor of Wilson, faculty offices are really crammed together and we will be spreading those out with this newfound space. Nursing also does not have space in Wilson right now. The Nursing simulation labs will be in the new science center but the Nursing faculty offices will be moved over from Juniper Park to Wilson. So, a lot of the existing space will be turned into office suites. The last time I looked, we were struggling to stay with the same number of classrooms. The goal was to have the same number or a few more of general, multipurpose classrooms at the end of the renovation/building project. It seems like a low goal considering the project, but with all the office space we need to create, it seems as though we are going to just meet that goal, almost exactly. So, there really won’t be room to add more sections of existing courses. It just will allow us to have better space for what we are currently doing.
        11. **Scott Seskevich:** The Class of 2017 is looking to raise awareness for the issue of Sexual Assault. We are looking to work with administration on this issue. Could you elaborate more on the person who is in charge of this issue and how we can coordinate with them?
        12. **Dr. Elizabeth Preston:** The person who is going to be joining us, Larry Johnson, will play a role in education campaigns. I know that one of the things he is particularly looking forward to doing is working with student athletes. However, a lot of the training is already going on now. So, if you are looking to get involved, I would say get in contact with the folks in Student Affairs and Residential Life. As I said in my e-mail to students, we’ve already been doing some training around campus. The federal campaign right now is the “It’s on Us” campaign. Perhaps you have seen some of the Public Service Announcements and such. The underlying theme there is that we all have a role in this and everyone should be looking out for everyone else. Essentially, we should feel empowered as bystanders. A lot of it revolves around educating women to protect themselves with has a lot to do with alcohol consumption. So, there is a lot than can be done right now. Many people would embrace your assistance. You can talk to Dr. Carlton Pickron or Chief Tony Casciano if you would like to help out.
        13. **Joshua Clark**: Point of Information. The counseling center is hiring an outreach counselor who will be doing workshops and trainings on a lot of these various issues. You may want to work with them once they are hired to help put together your programs.
        14. **Ariana Roche**: Has the admission target you mentioned earlier gone up over the past few years or stayed the same? Do we push to keep class sizes down or does it go up each year?
        15. **Dr. Elizabeth Preston**: So, the goal used to be 1,400 students. That is what we normally set for class sizes. Last year, the goal was 1,500 students and it worked as a status quo. Two years ago, the goal was 1,600 students but that’s because the year before that, admissions did not meet the original goal of 1,400 students. So, we have a very small class of 2016, a very large class of 2017 and a medium-sized class of 2018. The target that Dr. Pickron is overseeing for next year is a solid 1,500 students. So, the intention is not to grow the University. However, that is interesting because on-campus, I think we all like this size. Regardless of the physical size of the institution, we aim to have small class sizes and the chance for students to have a personal relationship with their professors. All of the pressures in the state is to grow the campuses. Coming from the Board of Education and Board of Higher Education, there is constant pressure to admit more students, enroll more students and graduate more students. They see this as our obligation to meet the needs of the Commonwealth. They talk about it in terms of providing opportunity. So, there’s a lot of pressure on all of the State Universities to increase our sizes. They are talking about putting into place a performance-based funding formula next year. This would mean that part of the funding that we receive from the state would be based on performance on some particular measures and one of those would be increasing our number of graduates. So, there’s a lot of pressure that comes from outside the institution to increase our numbers. It’s kind of a balancing act.
        16. **Dana Kilby**: Last year, there was some trouble with sophomores getting housing. There are a lot of sophomores stuck in Lammers this year. So, if we keep increasing our numbers, would we buy more off-campus apartments, such as Lansdowne?
        17. **Dr. Elizabeth Preston**: No, I don’t think so. And I think that begs the question of what kind of University we want to be. If we were to increase enrollments, and I stress the word “if,” we would have to expand the physical layout of the campus. I think we are very committed to being a residential campus. We would also need to build more classrooms. So, we would need to really look into this because there are a lot of limitations as to how large we can grow. There is a lot of room for growth with our online programs and with the Department of Graduate and Continuing Education. So, if we are going to expand anywhere in the near future, it would be there.
        18. **Matthew Carlin**: I saw the draft of the University planning and I noticed that the Foundation owns a lot of land behind our buildings near route 20 as well as over behind South Lot. Is the University looking to utilize this land in any way?
        19. **Dr. Elizabeth Preston**: Years ago, I went for a ride with Curt Robie and he was pointing around South Lot to all of these imaginary buildings he had in mind for if we ever expanded into South Lot. Right now, we do not have the resources to do that. As far as the property of Route 20, we use it a lot academically in terms of the Environmental Science classes using the trees for classes and such. So, we are using it in some ways. One of the reasons we originally acquired it was to run another road up from Route 20. At some point, it looked like there was going to be some federal earmark funding to supplement some of the other funding we had for that but it did not materialize. So, the reason for holding onto that is with the hope of running a road up from Route 20 eventually. The Foundation and University Board are trying to schedule a meeting and get together to talk about a number of issues, this being one of them. It doesn’t cost the Foundation much to hold onto the land, so it is not draining their resources but the discussion needs to be about what to do with this property. It’s a nice piece of property and it’s very fertile so there is some talk about leasing it to farmers to grow some food down there.
        20. **Joshua Clark**: You spoke about performance-based funding and how some of those factors would be enrollment numbers. I am just wondering if those new policies will take into account the dreadful standardized testing that the high schools face.
        21. **Dr. Elizabeth Preston**: Right now, it’s not that at all. It’s more of retention rates and graduation rates. I will also say that the State Universities Presidents, which most of us are all interim or leaving soon, has been working on our own performance-funding formula. The idea there would be we would get as much money as are now and then additional funds if we move those metrics forward. We are trying to keep it away from standardized testing.
        22. **Andrew Carr**: I am just wondering about the recent Ebola outbreak. How is this affecting the University?
        23. **Dr. Elizabeth Preston**: I think that Dr. Pickron might have some more information about how Health Services is dealing with the Ebola issue. Although, I think the situation has changed now that we have at least one confirmed case in the United States. I think that there is constantly increased concern about it. I know that a lot of institutions are preparing for cases of Ebola. Right now, I think we are at risk for many other illnesses. We give out flu shots regularly and I would worry about that more than Ebola. Realistically, we can get really sick from the flu and its more common to have a flu epidemic here than an Ebola one. A few years ago, we were all gearing up for the H1N1 disease. Part of our emergency planning had to do with having masks. So, we are constantly preparing for different health issues and we have policies for continuous awareness and prevention of these outbreaks. I think Dr. Pickron will have more information regarding how Health Services is screening for different infections like Ebola. We are always making sure that we are prepared for these kinds of viruses and health breakouts.
20. Thank you Dr. Preston. Our next speaker is Michael Basmajian from MASSPIRG.
    * + 1. **Michael Basmajian**: Hey everyone. Thanks for having me again. I am Michael and I am the campus organizer for MASSPIRG. We are a statewide, nonprofit advocacy group. We are student funded and student directed. We hire full-time advocates to work in Beacon Hill and Washington DC to work and lobby on behalf of students.
        2. Right now, we are working on the new voter’s project. You have probably seen us around campus encouraging students to register to vote. The deadline to register is coming up on October 15 and so, we are doing a big push in the final few days to get 100 students to register to vote right before the deadline. Our overall goal is 500 students and we broke 400 today, which is really awesome. We really want to make sure that everyone on campus that isn’t registered gets registered before the deadline. We know that when students turn out to the elections, it makes a difference. The only way that we are going to have an impact is if we are engaged and participating.
        3. So, on Tuesday, October 14 and Wednesday, October 15 of next week, we are going to have a Mega-blitz and have several tables around campus. We are asking for your help so I have talked to Evelyn Dina and to help satisfy your unit requirements, you can volunteer with us on these days to help us register students to vote. So, we are working from 9 AM to 9 PM on Tuesday and from 9:00 am to about 5:00 pm or 6 PM on Wednesday. I have an electronic signup sheet that will be emailed out to you all later and you can fill out the form there if you’d like to help and get some units. It’s a great experience!
        4. So, I think we will hit our goal of 500 students by the deadline of next Wednesday night at 8:00 pm. I hope that you all will join us in that effort.
21. **Ariana Roche**: I really appreciate the work that you are doing. I am wondering if you have any plans to motivate the students to be informed about what they are actually voting about. The numbers are great but I think it’s more important for students to be informed about what they are voting on before they go and do it.
22. **Michael Basmajian**: Yes, thank you. I think it is important as well. In the presidential election, we see a lot more engagement and awareness. So, as a non-partisan effort, we are not endorsing candidates but we are making sure that people have the knowledge about who is running and which initiatives are on the ballots. Our volunteers have that knowledge base to answer those sorts of questions. (39:24)
23. **Joshua Clark**: I did jury duty, here, earlier this year and I was with another student who has registered here with MASSPRIG. He didn’t realize that because he was registered here and not his hometown, he would be summoned in Springfield. So, I think that it’s important to make sure that is part of the conversation when registering somebody to vote. They may graduate, move back East and then get a letter for jury duty out in Western, Massachusetts. Also, that letter of summons could be sent to the University as opposed to their home.
24. **Michael Basmajian**: Decent amounts of the people that we have registered are also registering in their hometowns as well. So, we are having them register with their current addresses or home addresses so they know that they have that choice. We do recommend that while people live here, it is the easiest to just vote next door at Juniper Park Elementary School in person. It’s also important for students to realize that when the move, whether it’s after graduation or after another time, that they should be re-registering in that town. Therefore, they can vote in that town and any other civic duties, such as jury duty, can be done in that town as well.
25. **Victoria Landry**: Does your organization have any plans to have a presence on Election Day, such as at the polls?
26. **Michael Basmajian**: Absolutely, yes. We are going to be doing a “Get Out and Vote” effort in the week leading up to the election. We are going to be going into classes reminding students to vote, we’re going to have table events and we’re going to have a presence outside of the polling locations as well.
27. **Ashley DeLeon**: I am curious as to how you are getting your numbers. I know there are quite a few students that you approach on campus. Are you going by how many people sign up through you or from Westfield State in general? I know that there are different ways such as the website on your flyers, or through you, or in person?
28. **Michael Basmajian**: The numbers come from any physical forms that we collect whether it’s from me, my interns or my volunteers. We’ve had around 40 or so students volunteer with us so far this semester, which has been really great. I also have six or seven interns working with me as well. So, our numbers come from any forms that we collect in person and we have covers for each event where we tally up the numbers and we deliver those in person to the registrar in Westfield or mail them out to the respective towns where students registered to vote. Ones that are done through the website are printed out and mailed in by the students separately. Those do not count towards these numbers that I am reporting on.
29. **Courtney Keddy**: I know last year with the last Campus Organizer, she had a solid amount of active members in MASSPIRG. I was wondering how many you have this year so far aside from just volunteers and if your interns work just here or in your entire sector of Western Mass?
30. **Michael Basmajian**: So, I do some work at Holyoke Community College. The numbers that I just talked about were just for Westfield State. I’ve had about 40 volunteers from Westfield State and six or seven interns working currently. The Interns are the most active members of the group. Some of the volunteers that haven’t signed up as Interns are still active members that regularly come to events and meetings.
31. **Courtney Keddy**: Readdress. Are in the Interns paid by MASSPIRG?
32. **Michael Basmajian**: They are not. They can get internship credit through the University though.
33. Thank you Michael.
34. I move to appoint Barbra Hand as a Student Government Association Advisor for the 2014-2015 academic year. Motion carries.
35. I move to appoint Andrew Dalesandro as a Student Government Association Advisor for the 1024-2015 academic year. Motion carries.
36. I move to appoint Chaitali Brahmbhatt as a Student Government Association Advisor for the 2014-2015 academic year. Motion carries.
37. I move to appoint Chelsea Nelson as President of the Apartment Complex for the 2014-2015 academic year. Motion carries.
38. This year the faculty contract is being ratified and part of their contract says that the student body needs a majority vote to continue to stay on governance committees. I will be sending this vote out through a survey through an email next week, but I’d like to get an SGA straw poll. So, if you are in favor of continuing to have students on governance committees to keep our voice heard please raise your hand. If you do not wish to support the continuation of students on governance committees to keep our voice heard please raise your hand. Thank you.
39. **Aaron Syliva**: Just for clarification, are student representatives elected onto Governance Committees? What, exactly, is a governance committee?
40. **Rebecca DiVico**: Governance committees on this campus are made up of faculty, staff, administration and students. All governance committees on this campus including the All-University Committee, Curriculum Committee, and Student Affairs Committee, cannot vote without students present to take part in the vote. They usually need at least one student. The contractual vote is basically just asking whether we as students support our voice being heard on these committees.
41. Straw Poll: Roughly 100% yes.
42. Tomorrow, October 8 at 1:30 pm and 2:30 pm in the Owl’s Nest there will be information sessions about spending the summer or semester in Washington D.C. doing a internship through the Washington Center. Our own Joshua Frank did a summer in DC so; I am volunteering him as a person you can ask questions to.
43. The Rays of Hope walk for Breast Cancer is Sunday, October 19. The bus leaves at 8:00 am, the walk starts at 10:00 am and you will be back on campus by 1:00 pm. I will be sending an interest sheet around now and if you are seriously interested please see Barbara Hand or Kim Hosmer to register.
44. Homecoming is rapidly approaching. It will be on October 25 and if you want to volunteer next week I will have an official sign-up sheet for those interested.
45. Please stick around to get your headshot done for the “Who’s your Senator” posters. You all look so wonderful tonight and the quicker I get your picture, the quicker I can churn out these posters for you all.
46. **Megan Doerele**: What about the senators who got their headshots done a few weeks ago?
47. **Rebecca DiVico**: Good question. I have them. So, if you already have had your picture taken don’t feel the need to have it taken again unless you really didn’t like your first one.
48. **Victoria Landry**: Point of Information. The Class of 2015 will get in free to the Homecoming Alumni tent. So if you have Alumni friends, you can get in for free as long as you are 21+ and have a valid ID as well as your student ID.
49. **Evelyn Dina**: Point of Information. Volunteering for Homecoming will be a unit.
50. **Shannon Cullinane**: Can people that are juniors go to Homecoming if they are over the age of 21?
51. **Rebecca DiVico**: As long as you are over the age of 21, you can attend but you must register online first.
52. Items not listed on the agenda.

1. BOARD OF TRUSTEES’ REPORT**:** *Joshua Frank*
2. Hi everyone, I hope you all had a great weekend. First of all I would like to apologize for missing last week’s meeting. For those of you who don’t know me I’m Joshua Frank, I’m a senior majoring in Communications and this is my third year on the Executive Board.
3. Tomorrow, October 8 is the first official Board of Trustees meeting during the academic year. The meeting time has been changed to 4:00 pm and it is in the President’s Board Room. If anyone wants to see the agenda, I have a copy in my office.
4. Richard Darrach: Do you see the Trustee meetings being held on Wednesdays regularly?
5. Joshua Frank: Mostly. I know the next one is on a Monday but that is unusual, they are on Wednesdays.
6. All University Committee**: No Report**
7. Neighborhood Advisory Board**: No Report**
8. VICE PRESIDENT’S REPORT-STUDENT LIFE**:** *Joshua Clark*
9. I still need three students for the Student Affairs Committee. The committee meets on the 4th Monday of the month at 2:30 pm in the SGA Club Room.
10. The search committee for the Outreach Counselor is pretty much complete. The last two candidates are being considered by Tammy Bringaze. I will keep my ear out for the person that receives the position and report to you guys.
11. Student Affairs Committee**: No Report**
12. Multicultural Committee**: Ivana McGlinchey**
13. With the Latino Heritage month coming to an end, there are a couple more events coming up.
14. October 8, “Tres Vida” which is a chamber of musical theater in the Dever Auditorium at 6:30 pm.
15. October 16 is a guest lecture series: Lauren Burke in Wilson auditorium at 6:30 pm.
16. October 29 is Hispanic allied health providers in the Horace Mann Center garden room from 6:30 pm until 8:30 pm.
    * + 1. I am working with the Multicultural groups t form a committee and will be looking for two people to join this committee. It is still coming together, so I will keep you updated for a time and place when the meetings start.
17. Food Services Committee**: No Report**
18. Health Committee: **No Report**
19. Parking Control Board: **No Report**
20. Student Athletic Advisory Board: **No Report**
21. Substance Advisory Committee: **No Report**
22. Community Relations/Fundraising Report**: Justin Connolly**
23. Our first Red Cross Blood Drive is tomorrow, October 8. I am really excited. So far we have about 93 pre-registered appointments. I’m going to be at the Dining Commons tonight, trying to get some more people. So, if you want to join and help me, it counts as a unit.
24. If any of you guys are interested in donating, I’ll try to be here at the end of the meeting or if you don’t catch me I’ll be at the Dining Common.
25. I’m going to send the sign ups around one more time. I’m really trying to get people volunteering during the 1:00 pm to 2:00 pm hour. I could really use some help there.
26. **Courtney Keddy**: A week or so ago, you had us write down what times we were available, when will you send the shifts?
27. **Justin Connolly**: I will be emailing you all tonight.
28. VICE PRESIDENT’S REPORT-ACADEMIC LIFE: *Olivia Dumas*
29. Hi everyone, I have exciting news, the course listings are now online. The printed booklet will be arriving this Friday, October 10, so that means registration is soon to be underway. For all the First Years who don’t know wht I’m talking about, there will be advising matters information sessions on everything advising and registration wise on October 7 at 2:00 pm and 3:00 pm, October 9 at 12:45 Pm and October 14 at 2:45 pm and 4:00 pm. They’ll last an hour and explain everything. That being said actual advising and registration dates are as follows:
30. Banacos and Honors Advising is now until October 28 with registration beginning on October 29.
31. Seniors advising will begin on October 27 with registration beginning on October 31.
32. Juniors advising will begin on November 3 and registration will begin on November 7.
33. First and Second season athletes advising will begin on November 3 and registration will begin on November 10.
34. First Year advising will begin on November 18 and registration will begin on November 24.
35. If anyone has any questions please let me know. I also work in the Peer Advising office so, I know a good deal about all things advising and registration. In an effort to make this process less stressful, myself and Dean Bonacci have come up with a “Keep Calm” campaign with posters saying “Keep Clam and check your holds” and Keep calm and have backups”, so look for those in about two weeks.
36. Academic Policies Committee: **No Report**
37. Curriculum Committee: **Olivia Dumas**
38. Our next scheduled meeting is October 10 at 4:00 pm in the Tekoa Room. If you are interested.
39. Enrollment Management Committee: **No Report**
40. Campus Technology Committee**: No Report**
41. International Programs Committee: **No Report**
42. Library Advisory Committee**: No Report**
43. Writing Liaison**: No Report**
44. VICE PRESIDENT’S REPORT-PROGRAMMING: *Shannon Cullinane*
45. Programming update**: Shannon Cullinane**
46. Hey you guys, we are extending ticket sales for Six Flags. Tickets are still $15.00 for Six Flags ticket and transportation. Tickets are on sale at 10:00 am in the SGA office.
47. **Barbara Hand**: How many Six Flags tickets are left?
48. **Shannon Cullinane**: About 15 tickets.
49. Our next scheduled meeting is October 8 at 5:00 pm in the Owls Nest.
50. VICE PRESIDENT’S REPORT-FINANCE: *Matthew Carlin*
51. Just a reminder that the Student Organization Council will meet on October 15 at 4:00 pm in the SGA room.
52. I am passing out an interest sheet for Finance Committee. It will meet on Thursdays from 2:30 pm until 4:00 pm. It may end early so if you can stay until 3:30 pm please put your name down. Even if you see two members of your class.
53. Also, I would like to inform everyone that I have office hours on Thursdays from 12:00 pm until 2:00 pm and Fridays from 1:00 pm until 3:00 pm.
54. Finance Report: **No Report**
55. Foundation Report: **No Report**
56. SERETARY’S REPORT: *Andrew Morin/Evelyn Dina*
57. Executive Secretary Report: **Andrew Morin**
58. Hi everyone. So, roughly 2 weeks ago, Barbara Hand sent out an email to everyone regarding a Formal Dinner Dance at an off-campus venue. Just a Straw Pole, how many people in this room actually took the survey?
59. Straw Poll: How many people answered the Survey? Roughly 75%.
60. Okay, now based on that Straw Poll: how many people would be willing to attend this off campus, semi-formal cotillion?
61. Straw poll: How many people would be interested in this off campus event at a local venue? Roughly 100%.
62. Legislative Secretary Report: **Evelyn Dina**
63. Thank you to everyone who sent in their units. Our big unit award winner earned thirteen units last month. That being said, congratulations to Tori Landry for winning the big unit award for September.
64. Now for our unit lotto. Those who were senators for the week for September have all successfully completed their units so, they have been entered twice. The winner is Danielle Coveno, congratulations on winning 20 Owl Bucks’. Also, a reminder that 4 units are due for October.
65. I just want to express how important attending your committee meetings is. If you miss a meeting it counts as a full absence. It is extremely important that if you have an excused absence that you let your president or me know.
66. As for the chairs that are sending me the committee attendance, I’ve noticed it’s been pretty difficult to get used to it. I’m going to ask you to please send me the attendance before the last day of the month, when your units are due. Please include the dates of the meetings that took place that month and who was absent. I don’t really need to know who attended, just who did not. I’ll use Class of 2015 for example, so at the end of the month when Richard Darrach sends me his units, he will include his Class Council attendance. It will include the date of every Friday, when they met, and who was not present at those meetings.
67. PARLIAMENTARIAN REPORT: *Sara Palis*

Rules and Regulations Committee:

1. COMMUTER COUNCIL, CLASS AND HALL REPORTS:
2. Commuter Council: **Tyler Hastings**
3. The Commuter Council has had two meetings so far this year. Any action plan is not yet complete. Records of past actions will be reviewed tomorrow, October 8. The budget has been reviewed; it stands at $6,000.00 with no movement this academic year. We also have a new member for one of our Representative to Senate Seats.
4. I move to appoint Ashley Giglietti as Representative to Senate for the Commuter Council for the 2014-2015 academic year. Motion carries.
5. Our next scheduled meeting is on October 17 at 4:00pm in Ely 003 conference room.
6. Senior Class: **Richard Darrach**
7. I’m happy to announce Mr. Westfield is officially underway. Keep an eye out for advertisements and nomination boxes.
8. There are interest meetings on Tuesday, October 14 and Monday, October 27 at 8:00 pm in the SGA room 017.
9. The Westfield State Walk for Suicide Prevention will be happening this semester. The walk will happen on Friday, November 21 from 4:00 pm until 6:00 pm out of University Hall. This was just confirmed a few hours ago, so keep an eye out for details as they come available.
10. I’m happy to report 2015 is a full council.
11. Keep an eye out for Mohegan Sun trip details. November 15 from 2:00 pm until 12:00 am. Ticket prices will be $25.00.
12. This week we will be moving our meeting to Thursday night, October 9, at 7:00 pm in the SGA conference room 20.
13. Our next scheduled meeting is October 3 at 2:00pm in the SGA conference room 20.
14. Junior Class: **No Report**
15. Sophomore Class**: Scott Seskevich**
16. Once again our other fundraiser is the bake sale. This is December 3 from 10:00 am until 5:00 pm.
17. One last fundraiser that we are putting together is an Applebee’s night, which is a percentage of family’s bills go to the Class of 2017. We would hand out flyers not just to students, but also to the public during the Stanley 5K run. We figure the Westfield community is a good group to advertise to considering it may be difficult for students to go out and pay for a dinner.
18. **Tori Landry**: Point of Information: if you do want to get it out to the community, the Neighborhood Advisory Board sends out a newsletter to the neighbors on Western Avenue. That goes for anyone’s club or councils.
19. **Andrew Morin**: Point of Information. Applebee’s has half-priced appetizers every night, so if you can’t afford a big dinner, you can get some food really cheap there and still support us.
20. During the home coming football game, we are thinking of having another raffle. The winner would get a VIP spot near the field to watch the game. The raffle would be going on during the first half and then the second half is when they would be able to sit near the field. We will have representatives going to the home coming meeting which is October 9, in the Horace Mann center at 10:00 am. Here we will propose our idea and see if this is a realistic idea and if they will allow us to do it. I will also be contacting Nancy Bals in the Athletic Department about the idea as well as meeting with the Athletic Director.
21. Our next scheduled meeting is Thursday, October 9 at 4:00 pm in conference room E03.
22. First Year Class: **No Report**
23. Apartment Complex: **Chelsea Nelson**
24. I move to appoint Zachary Cloutier as Apartment Complex Representative to Senate for the 2014-2015 academic year. Motion carries.
25. Our next scheduled meeting is October 13 at 5:00pm in the RM’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**: LaKiyah Russell**
34. I accept the resignation of Haley Caisse as Representative to Senate for University Hall.
35. I move to appoint Andrew Carr as Representative to Senate for University Hall for the 2014-2015 academic year. Motion carries.
36. I also want to report that Tyler Gregory was appointed to Vice President, Haley Caisse was appointed to Secreatary, and Megan McGrath was appointed to Treasurer for University hall for the 2014-2015 academic year.
37. Our meeting time has been moved to Monday nights at 7:30 pm in the University Hall meeting room.
38. UNFIISHED BUSINESS**:**

.

1. NEW BUSINESS:
2. ANNOUNCEMENTS:
3. **Tyler Hastings:** Dr. Pickron informed me that I missed something very important. The Commuter Luncheon series will continue tomorrow, October 7 from 11:30 am – 1:30 pm in the Tekoa Room. Join us if you’d like!
4. **Tori Landry:** Can I please see the clipboard for the Blood Drive? Justin will be in the Dining Commons for signups for the Blood Drive that is tomorrow, October 8. Also, someone should sign up for the 1:00 pm – 2:00 pm slot for that event.
5. **Josh Frank:** Representatives-At-Large, please meet with Olivia and I after this meeting.
6. **Josh Clark:** Please sign up for the Student Affairs committee. Also, Presidents of each class and hall, please send me your meeting times.
7. **Sara Palis:** Rules & Regulations Committee is meeting in the SGA Conference Room after this meeting.
8. **Matt Carlin:** Can I see the interest sheet for the Finance Committee and can I see anyone interested after this meeting? May I also see Chief Tony Casciano after this meeting?
9. **Shannon Cullinane:** Tickets for Six Flags are available tomorrow at 10:00 am in SGA. They are $15.00.
10. **Olivia Dumas:** If anybody needs me to clarify on my report or dates for advising and/or registration, see me after this meeting.
11. **Tori Landry:** Anyone who needs their pictures taken for the “Who’s Your Senator?” posters, please meet me by the couches after this meeting.
12. **Evelyn Dina:** Could everyone just double check their contact information on the contact sheet and fill in any missing information?
13. **Rebecca DiVico:** Can I please have the signup sheet for the Rays of Hope Walk?
14. **Courtney Keddy:** 221 days until commencement.
15. ROLL CALL: Justin Connolly, Cleston Flemming, Marlon Bryan and Sergio Arroyo were absent. Alex Doming and Haley Caisse sent alternates.
16. ADJOURNMENT: Meeting adjourned at 6:49 pm.