**STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION MINUTES**

**October 31, 2017**

1. ROLL CALL: Owen MacDonald, Victoria Lind, Joseph Joyal, Saltanat Aldebayeva, Scott Howe, Christopher DiCarlo, Elijah Mosley, Mitchell McKittrick and Angela Riley were absent. Sammantha Dorazio sent an alternate.
2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM: October 24, 2017
3. PRESIDENT'S REPORT: **Brendan McKee**
4. We do actually have a speaker tonight. With Westfield/Local elections coming up on November 7, we felt it was important to invite Tamara Smith, Faculty Coordinator of Civic Learning and Democratic Engagement to speak about events leading up to the elections. Welcome, Tamara.
5. **Tamara Smith**: Thank you all. I just wanted to invite you all to a candidate forum that we are going to be having directly outside of the glass doors here on Thursday, November 2 from 4:00pm until 6:00pm. This past week and tomorrow, November 1 as well there have been candidate forums that have been held at the Westfield Council on Aging in the city. The candidates for City Council and School Committee are the most local of government and for many students this is your first foray into learning more about local government and where you can make a difference. Since there has been such an increase in active political campaigning and activism on the part of so many people we wanted to make sure that you were aware that this event was happening and tell you a little bit about the local government.
6. Some of the issues that local candidates are discussing within Westfield include the upcoming construction on Western Avenue, that will be happening, Noble Hospital and having that in a residential area and whether or not that should be zoned as a hospital area and how that will affect your commute to campus. Issues about the arts, the schools, the police force, and the fire department, all of these services throughout the City of Westfield really are dependent on the activism at a local level. This is where you can use your voice as a Westfield State Student to inform the candidates of what issues are important to you and find more about what their important issues are. So these are people that have lawn signs distributed throughout the whole city. As a side note Westfield State University is located in Ward four of the city so there are two Ward four candidates who will be coming as well as the rest of the candidates for the slate and the school committee candidates.
7. So again it’s going to be on Thursday, November 1 from 4:00pm until 6:00pm. The entire campus is invited to attend. There will be refreshments served and it will be right out here outside of Dunkin Donuts. We purposefully held it here so that we can encourage more student participation and because it’s a meet and greet, it’s more open to being able to come and go. I hope to see you all there.
8. Our speaker next week will be President Torrecilha. Meaning that we will be having another dress code meeting next week. Again, if you have any questions about dress code, please let me know after the meeting.
9. I accept the resignation of Angela Riley as Lammers Hall President.
10. My main information to report today is in regards to faculty lines. As you all know, we were supposed to have information for today for us all to discuss, but after two weeks we’re still trying to compile facts for you all to analyze before we have a discussion. Therefore, we’re going to postpone this discussion until we feel we’ve provided adequate information to have a productive conversation on the situation.
11. As I emailed you all last night, Jacob Lotter has been in touch with department chairs that had been in the process of submitting faculty lines. We’ve received a few responses, and as we get more information from the various department chairs, we’ll make sure it all gets out to senate. Based on the information that these responses provide, we may go one step further and look into minutes of meetings between the provost and academic departments to see how faculty lines were discussed. All in all this has been a long process, but we want to make sure that we get as much information as possible for all of you to interpret. Thank you for your patience, and I will continue to keep you updated as this all progresses.
12. **Jacob Lotter**: Just a point of information so everybody knows. All of the department chairs that I have reached out to I did ask them to try and get any information that they would be willing to share with us by Monday, November 6. Hopefully I should have something to be able to share with all of you next week.
13. Items not listed on Agenda:

1. BOARD OF TRUSTEES' REPORT: **Cameron Swan**
   1. Last Friday, October 27, Brendan McKee and I met with the Student Advisory Council. This council is comprised of the student body president and student trustee form all the Massachusetts State College/Universities, community colleges and the UMASS system. At this meeting we elected officers and identified three main goals, or areas that we as student leaders and representatives would like the Board of Higher Education to focus on. The most popular areas we identified are open educational resources, civic engagement and post graduate preparedness, and increased assistance to student with disabilities.
   2. All University Committee**: No Report**
   3. Neighborhood Advisory Board: **No Report**
   4. NEASC Steering Committee: **No Report**

1. VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT-STUDENT LIFE: **Arielyss Santiago**
   1. If you read your emails, you will see that you received an email from Mike Norman the Special Projects Manager for Housing within Residential Life. This email was announcing that the Spring Intent Forms are live on Mywestfield. This form is to determine your housing plans for Spring 2018. If you are applying to be a Commuter for the Spring, you would need to fill out this intention form, as well as the Petition for Release form. These forms can be found in your mywestfield by clicking on “quick links” – “myhousing” – “applications”. These form(s) should be completed no later than Sunday, November 12 at 11:59pm. If you fail to do so, someone from Residential Life will be contacting you! Any questions feel free to ask me.
   2. The Student Affairs Committee will be meeting this Friday, November 3 at 1:40pm in the SGA Club Room E021. If you’re still looking for a second committee please see me after the meeting!
   3. Student Affairs Committee**: No Report**
   4. Diversity/Inclusion Committee: **Mika Lapre**
2. As you all have heard by now there was an incident in Davis Hall this past weekend that included racial and homophobic slurs, sexist profanity and Anti-Semitic symbols**.** Davis Hall had mandatory meeting sessions last night from 7:00pm until 7:30pm and 7:30pm until 8:00pm. The Ramon Torrecilha president of the University was there to speak as well as our new Bias Incident Response Team. BIRT is coming together with Public Safety and Mass State police to investigate the issue, However if anyone has any information please come forward.
3. Diversity and Inclusin Council met on Monday, October 30 with BIRT and discussed these issues as well as some ideas to help improve unity and responsiveness on campus. There have been many ideas that will be implemented throughout the year including a campus wide campaign so please be on the lookout.
4. I still need a few more representative to be part of the Diversity and Inclusion committee, please see me after the meeting if you are interested.
5. Our next scheduled meeting is Thursday, November 2 at 6:00pm in the Unity Room.
   1. Food Services Committee**: No Report**
   2. Parking Control Board: **Danielle LoGuidice**
6. Yesterday, October 30, we held electioins for Chairman and Vice Chairman. Chairman and Vice Chairman for the 2017-2018 Academic Year will be Derek Estrella and Ashiah Richeme. Some of the topics we touched on were revisited and possibly making adjustments to the current procedures for the board, looking into areas on campus that can possibly become converted into parking, and proposing that faculty decals be raised from $1.00 to $10.00 to support a transition to faculty their purchasing decals online. These topics were touched on briefly with intent to discuss them deeper in our next meeting.
7. If you have any quesionts feel free to ask me or ask the Chairman of the Board, Derek Estrella.
8. Our next scheduled meeting will be on November 13 at 2:00pm in Ely E210.
   1. Student Athletic Advisory Board: **No Report**
   2. Substance Advisory Committee: **No Report**
   3. Community Relations/Fundraising Report: **Maddie Scott**
9. As most of you are aware, every year Westfield runs an annual turkey drive for families in need at Thanksgiving. This year, the Turkey Drive will be running from Friday, Nov. 1 until Friday, November 17/
10. Last year $2,463.65 was raised which gave the ability to buy 145 turkeys for families in need. This year the goal is to raise $3,000.00 which would be a stellar improvement. Each class council will be assigned a building to collect from, and each hall council will collect for their respective halls. The assignments are as follows:
11. Exec is collecting for Horace Mann and Health Services.
12. Reps at Large and Commuter Council are collecting for Wilson and Dower.
13. Class of 2018 is collecting for Woodward and Public Safety.
14. Class of 2019 is collecting for Ely.
15. Class of 2020 is collecting for Parenzo and Mod hall.
16. Class of 2021 is collecting for Bates.
17. You will go around room to room and office to office for your assigned building, collecting as much change as you can. If you have any other ideas to raise more money, feel free to use your creativity for that as well. Please note we also will be accepting Big Y turkey coupons that people may have from shopping. The Turkey Drive will end on Friday, November 17 so make sure to have all your money in to Barb Hand by that date at 11:00am.
18. This is an incredibly important event that we hold every year, and the people of Westfield really do count on us to pull through, so I hope everyone can put in their best effort.
19. The group that raises the most amount of money will get a pizza party sponsored by SGA, and the top three groups that raise the most will get a prize of no office hours for a certain month.
20. Additionally the Comm Fund Committee will be meeting this Thursday, November 2 at 4:00pm in Ely E020. This committee will meet on an as needed basis, and with the Turkey Drive coming in full swing the help from everyone will be necessary.
21. If you have any interest in joining this committee please see me after the meeting today.
22. Also if I could see all Hall Council presidents and all Class Presidents after the meeting to go over the fine details of the Turkey Drive, that would be great.
    1. Veteran’s Affairs Report: **No Report**

1. VICE PRESIDENT’S REPORT-ACADEMIC LIFE: **Jacob Lotter**
   1. This week is advising for juniors. You will register this Friday, November 3 at 7:00am. Before continuing with the rest of my report I’d like to give the seniors who registered on the October 27 a chance to talk about any issues they had while registering. Were there any concerns or questions?
   2. My next order of business is the Peace Corps Prep Reception that is taking place this Thursday, November 2. I’m sure you all saw the email that went out from Dean Swaidan. But for those of you who may not have, the event will be taking place Thursday, November 2 in the Loughman Living Room. Like I said last week there will be former Peace Corp volunteers there to discuss some of the different jobs they did with anyone who is interested.
   3. I wanted to touch base with everyone about the Scanlon Hall network outage that happened last night. I know we all got an email from Tom Casartello in IT letting us know that the outage took place and affected the first floor and Annex sections of the building. I want to remind everyone that if you ever notice a widespread issue in your residential hall past 5:00pm when IT is closed you can do a couple different things. One of those things is reaching out to the RA on Duty, who will then reach out to the RD on Duty to get in touch with someone from IT to come see what the issue is. Another option is that you can get in touch with Public Safety who can also get in touch with a staff member from IT to let them know that there is an issue. If an issue occurs during business hours on a weekday you can find the IT number on their webpage. Also, just a reminder that some of our older buildings were built to withstand nuclear warfare. Not wifi. So please be patient if you are in buildings like Scanlon, Parenzo, or Bates where we still have bomb shelter signs hanging on the buildings.
   4. I was able to form a new Working Group that will consist of mainly students to discuss issues involving Academic Affairs. The group will have Seven Undergraduate students, one Graduate student, our Retention Coordinator Nicole West, the Assistant Registrar Monique Lopez, the Dean of Academic Technology/Library Director Thomas Raffensperger, Chaitali Brahmbhatt from Urban Education, Emily Gibbings from Admissions, Ryan Meersman from CGCE, Barbara Hand from Student Affairs, the Dean of Undergraduate Studies Christina Swaidan, and myself. So far I have filled four of the Undergraduate student positions. That being said, I need three more people to volunteer to serve on the group. If you are interested please see me after the meeting or send me an email. I’d be happy to give you more info. It will count as a second committee for those of you in need of one.
2. **Shayna Arnott**: Is there any reason why we can’t do registration at night like ResLife does housing?
3. **Jacob Lotter**: I think one of the reasons they do it early in the morning is because it is easier to help students that day if they need help. If they did it at night they wouldn’t be available to help students and there would be lines in the morning when they came in.
4. **Kyle Szczepanek**: When will the working group meet?
5. **Jacob Lotter**: I haven’t decided yet. We’ll probably do a doodle poll to see what time works best for everyone.
   1. Academic Policies Committee: **No Report**
   2. Curriculum Committee: **No Report**
   3. Enrollment Management Committee: **No Report**
   4. International Programs Committee: **No Report**
   5. Academic Technology and Information Services Committee: **No Report**
   6. Writing Liaison Committee: **No Report**
   7. Guest Lecture Committee: **No Report**
6. VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT-PROGRAMMING: **Madeline Dexter**
7. Programming update: **Madeline Dexter**
8. Some exciting news: Coins for Change has raised $185.94 as of this afternoon when I counted everything. It will be going on for a few more weeks, so just keep an eye out for the donation jugs.
9. CAB is going to our annual conference so we do not have any programs this weekend. Student Activities is hosting their Westfield After Dark programs all weekend. Thursday, November 2 from 8:00pm until 10:00pm they are collaborating with LAFE on a Dia de los Muertos event in the Owl’s Nest. Friday, November 3 is Rec the Night form 9:00pm until 11:00pm in the Parenzo Gym. The sport is floor hockey this week! Finally from 7:00pm until 11:00pm in the Owl’s Nest on Saturday, November 4 will be the Sign Shop where you can stop by the make your own street sign.
10. A musical comedy by Larry Grossman, sequel to the musical *You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown*. Presented by the University Music Theatre Workshop under the direction of Lynn Paulella-Beard. The Dates are: Friday, November 3, 7:30 p.m., Saturday, November 4, 3:00 p.m., and Saturday, November 4, 7:30 p.m. Tickets are $10 General Admission and $5 Faculty, Staff, Students, Seniors and Youth.
11. CAB will not be meeting tomorrow, November 1 as we have our bonding trip scheduled for then. Our next meeting will be November 8, and we will be discussing Owl Bash options, so if you have any ideas, please come!
12. VICE PRESIDENT’S REPORT-FINANCE: **Marcus DiBacco**
13. Finance Report: **Marcus DiBacco**
14. Our Finance proposal today has been submitted by the Circle K Club. Circle K is part of an international organization dedicated to service, leadership, and fellowship. As such all of the money they fundraise goes directly to charity. Once a year Circle K asks for additional funding in order to attend the annual conference.
15. The finance proposal to attend the conference this year is $964.56. The registration includes the hotel, so we can only pay for half of the $150.00 registration for each of the ten students. This combined with travel at $44.56 and parking at $20.00 brings us to $8.15.56. We will also be paying for their advisor to go for $150.00.
16. I move to allocate $964.56 for Circle K Club to attend their conference. Motion Carries.
17. The University Budget and Planning Committee meeting was cancelled last week so, I have nothing to report from there.
18. The next SGA Finance meeting will be Friday, November 3 at 1:00pm in the SGA conference room E020.
19. Foundation Report: **No Report**
20. SECRETARY'S REPORT: **Karina Sallaway/Derek Estrella**
21. Executive Secretary Report: **Karina Sallaway**
22. Hello everyone! I formed the Owl Ball Committee yesterday so those that are on it have gotten an email from me. If you did please fill out the doodle so I can set up our first meeting. I’ve said it many times and I’ll say it again, but Owl Ball this year is March 23. Save the date.
23. Our LifeSaver of the Week tonight, stands out because she went above and beyond to help CAB organize the belongings in their office. She by no means had to do any of this and I know Maddie Dexter appreciated it very much. So congrats to Thalita Neves for being our Lifesavers of the Week. Thank you all and have a lovely week.
24. Legislative Secretary Report: **No Report**
25. PARLIAMENTARIAN REPORT: **Tyler Cameron**
26. Rules and Regulations Committee: **No Report**
27. Constitutional Review Committee**: No Report**

1. ADVISORY COMMITTEES:
2. Advisory Committee on Facilities Planning: **Karina Sallaway**
3. Facilities Planning met last Friday, October 27 and we continued to discuss Parenzo. We did a conference call with a consultant from the firm that’s helping us with our proposal to the state for.
4. This Friday, November 3 Facilities Planning will be holding a Charrette in Bates 117 from 1:00pm until 4:00pm. This Charrette is designed to solicit feedback from a broad group to sharpen our focus and narrow down the most promising ideas. The program will be facilitated by the consultant we spoke with and will consist of three one hour sessions. The Charrette is not for space allocation or part of a design process, rather it’s focusing on new and innovative ideas we can include in the proposal. If any of you can attend this I would greatly appreciate it, because every group on campus was already reached out to except the students and I really want our voices to be heard on this proposal. Again it is this Friday, November 3 in Bates 117 from 1:00pm until 4:00pm. Thank you!
5. Advisory Committee on Academic Planning: **Jacob Lotter**
6. This past week the Presidential Advisory Committee on Academic Planning met to assess the information we gathered in our smaller subcommittees. As some of you may remember at our last meeting the committee agreed that our job this year would be to begin work on what should be done with the common core. Across many campus constituencies there is a sense that the common core is out of date and that the credits required of us are above the average of a core. To assess different factors the committee split up into three groups to assess prior attempts to change the common core here at Westfield, how the common core effects transfer students, and what some best practices are for assessing the current core.
7. The first group to give their report was the subcommittee made up of myself and Dr. Lynn Shelley from Psychology. Dr. Shelley and I presented the final report of the ROCCC (Review of the Common Core Committee) from January 2009 which was ultimately not accepted by the University. In addition to that we presented SGA Minutes from November 16, 2010 where Dr. Emily Todd, Dr. Carlton Pickron, and Corinne Ebbs presented on ROCCC to SGA to receive student input. Dr. Shelley and I also presented SGA minutes from March 5, 1996 where then student Nicole Sisson announced that our current common core, that we use today, was passed by the Curriculum Committee and would begin implementation for the incoming class of 2002 in 1998. According to those minutes Nicole fielded some interesting comments and concerns from the Senate about the new core which Dr. Shelley and I felt were helpful. In addition to those documents Dr. Shelley and I compiled a number of SGA meeting minutes where the common core was discussed from the early 1990s to now, and a report on the state of the common core done by then student Dave Kroon in 1993. All of those documents will be available somewhere on MyWestfield by next week.
8. The second group to give their report was the best practices group. Dr. Brian Jennings handed out a packet with information about how our sister institutions (Fitchburg, Framingham, Bridgewater, Worcester, and Salem) all have their common core’s set up. Dr. Jennings also suggested that the University consider hiring an outside consultant to help with assessing and changing the core.
9. The third group that discussed transfer students will give their report at the next meeting.
10. Before adjourning, the committee agreed that our charge for the year will be to look at these different factors and to make a suggestion to President Torrecilha about how to move forward. From there, the President can charge the All-University Committee with a recommendation report for a new core which would ultimately go to the Curriculum Committee for the actual work to be done.
11. Our next scheduled meeting is November 17, at 3:00pm in the Parenzo Boardroom.
12. Advisory Committee on the CURCA: **No Report**
13. College of Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences Search: **No Report**
14. College of Mathematics and Science Search Committee: **No Report**
15. College of Education Health and Human Services Search**: No Report**
16. COMMUTER COUNCIL, CLASS AND HALL REPORTS:
17. Commuter Council: **No Report**
18. Senior Class: **No Report**
19. Junior Class: **Abdullah Shafiique**
20. I would like to announce that the 2019 council are now searching for Contestants for Mr. Westfield 2018. For those who don’t know what Mr. Westfield is, it is an annual pageant that is run by the respective Class Council consisting of male and female contestants.
21. The goal of this pageant is to raise money for the Make-A-Wish foundation. Contestants will be required to fundraise and meet once a week to prepare for the show which will be held on May 4. This is a big commitment but is also a very rewarding experience.
22. Interviews will be held next Monday, November 6 and Thursday, November 9 at 6:00pm right here in the SGA room, if you cannot make this time please let me know and we will work something out.
23. I will be passing around a sign-up sheet and encourage you to sign-up or if you know someone that may be interested please let me know.
24. **Maddie Dexter**: Seeing as you are taking both male and female contestants has there been any talk about changing the name to something more neutral?
25. **Abdullah Shafique**: We did have conversations about it, but it looks as though the name will not change this year because we could not think of something more fitting, but next year it is likely to change.
26. **Marcus DiBacco**: If anyone has any suggestions please let us know.
27. Sophomore Class: **No Report**
28. First Year Class: **No Report**
29. Apartment Complex: **No Report**
30. Courtney Hall: **No Report**
31. Davis Hall: **Simone LaPlant**
32. On Saturday Night and Sunday Morning, October 28 and October 29 acts of vandalism occurred in Davis Hall. The vandalism included the flooding of a third-floor bathroom, the destruction of another, and various anti-Semitic, racist and homophobic slander and symbols attacking people of color, people of the Jewish faith, and members of the LGBTQIA+ community. The event occurred between the time frame of 12:10am, when the RA’s did their rounds and 12:25am, when the acts were reported to the RAs at the front desk. We can safely say that these acts were committed in that 15 minute time frame.
33. On Monday, October 30, Davis Hall Resident Director Ryan Begin called a meeting with all of Davis Hall. The first and third floor attended a meeting from 7:00pm until 7:30pm and the second and fourth floor attended one from 7:30pm until 8:00pm. Speakers included Ryan Begin, President Torrecilha and various RAs. They urged residents to speak up if they knew anything about the perpetrators of these incidents and informed us about support systems on campus. President Torrecilha expressed his anger and disappointment and informed us that all residents will be held accountable and participate in mandatory workshops. The specifics of who is leading the workshops and how they will be rolled out are not confirmed. According to Dr. Carlton Pickron, Vice President of Student Affairs, the workshops will be talking about living in a diverse community with dignity and respect and are planned to take place before Thanksgiving break.
34. Our next scheduled meeting is November 1 at 4:30pm in the Davis Hall Council Chambers.
35. **Danielle Loguidice**: Are these workshops only for residents of Davis Hall?
36. **Simone LaPlant**: They are going to start with Davis Hall and from there I’m not sure.
37. **Maddie Creamer**: Are these workshops going to be mandatory for all or are they optional?
38. **Simone LaPlant:** These workshops are mandatory.
39. **Maddy Scott**: Were there any talks to having these mandatory workshops for University with the incidents that happened there a few weeks ago?
40. **Simone LaPlant**: Not that I am aware of.
41. Dickinson Hall: **No Report**
42. Lammers Hall: **No Report**
43. Lansdowne Place: **No Report**
44. New Hall: **No Report**
45. Scanlon Hall: **No Report**
46. University Hall: **No Report**

1. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:
2. NEW BUSINESS:
3. ANNOUNCEMENTS:
4. **Jacob Lotter**: Can Arielyss Santiago and I see the Hall Council presidents after you are done talking to Maddie Scott about the Turkey Drive.
5. **Andrew Logan**: Come to our tailgate party November 11, Veteran’s Day.
6. **Shayna Arnott**: The Halloween Bash is tonight at the DC so go to that and come to Food Committee next week 4:00pm in the Tekoa Room.
7. **Cam Swan**: Westfield State had the honor of hosting the Board of Higher Education today see me for specifics, if you want them, after the meeting.
8. **Derek Estrella**: I’d like to see all Hall presidents, Class presidents, and Kelsey Kiltonic after the meeting.
9. **Karina Sallaway**: Please come see me if you can go to the Charrette on Friday.
10. **Mika Lapre**: Come see me if you want to join the best committee ever.
11. **Marissa Cremin**: 200 Days until Commencement.
12. ROLL CALL: Owen MacDonald, Victoria Lind, Joseph Joyal, Saltanat Aldebayeva, Scott Howe, Christopher DiCarlo, Elijah Mosley and Mitchell McKittrick were absent. Sammantha Dorazio sent an alternate
13. ADJOURNMENT: Meeting adjourned at 6:06pm

*To ensure the courtesy of others,*

*Please turn off your cell phone before the meeting*