**Student Government Association Minutes**

October 4, 2016

1. ROLL CALL: Sarah Kennedy, Assaqi Wynter, and Michael Guertin were absent. Earl Turnbull was excused.
2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM September 27, 2016: Minutes were approved.

1. PRESIDENT’S REPORT: ***Matthew Carlin***
2. Please welcome our guest speaker, Larry Johnson the Director of Non-Discrimination Compliance.
3. **Larry Johnson**: Thanks for giving me a few minutes to speak to this group. I was here two years ago and one of the really nice things, that I noticed this time, was last time I was here I didn’t notice anyone in the room, but now I’m looking out and I’m seeing people that I work with. I’m seeing people that are in groups that I work with. I see people that have been on interview teams with me. It’s really heartening for me to finally start making a connection with people. They have me talking over in Horace Mann and I just don’t get over here often. It’s really nice to be able to chat with you. I think the last time I spoke with you as well; I was probably going into a lot of detail about Title IX. So now I have to ask, how many people in the room have heard of Title IX? Thank you.
4. Two years ago when I was first speaking here, we were really coming out of the gates in terms of our initiative on addressing issues of sexual violence on campus. In a moment I’m going to take a little bit of a different tactic. I’m not going to go into detail about Title IX because I’m assuming most, if not all of you, have completed Haven, which is an annual requirement now that’s set up and goes into a lot of detail about that. I do want to take this moment to emphasize just a couple of points first of all about the policy.
5. I keep coming back to the issue of consent. Consent. Consent is at the heart of this law. It simply means this: before you touch someone, you need to get their permission. Before you touch someone you need to get their permission. Touch in any way. Technically hand holding, a hug, if they don’t want to be hugged or they don’t want to hand held and you do it then technically it’s a violation. Believe it or not though people are still not getting that concept. Consent is the key. Before there’s any kind of physical connection or interaction you need to have that.
6. The other thing is we as a University mean to assure you that if a report comes forward, we are going to take it seriously. We are going to investigate it thoroughly. We are going to treat it with promptness, with efficiency, and we’re going to try to remove all of those issues or as many of those issues, that one might be feeling or others might be feeling regarding that kind of conduct. It’s called eradicate the effects, that’s one of the responsibilities that’s placed on us as Title IX people. I want to once again extend this message to the community. That we are here to support you, if anything of a sexual nature occurs that you didn’t want to have happen.
7. I want to emphasize that there is a very strong non-retaliation policy that’s involved with Title XI and our own policy. Sometimes people are saying I don’t want to go forward because I’m afraid of what the person I’m reporting will do and here’s the way it works. If the person about whom the report is filed ultimately retaliates against the person making the report, even if through our investigation they were found not responsible for the underlying or initial allegation that was made. If they’re found responsible for retaliation they’re going to face the same consequences as the might have faced if they were found responsible for the original violation. I want to emphasize again, if issues occur please talk to somebody you know. I’m sure from going through your training, RAs, coaches, vast majority of administrators are responsible employees that are obligated under the law once they get a report to pass it on. If you are unsure how to go forward there are people in the counseling center and health services, and people in campus administrative office that you can talk to that don’t have that obligation to pass that on. So you can have some time to think that through.
8. Those are the points that I wanted to talk to you about regarding the policy, which I wanted to emphasize. But here’s why I’m talking to you as this group of people. By virtually the fact that you are in this room, you’re student leaders and I said the same thing to athletic teams that I’ve spoken to. You are student leaders you’re in the position to change our culture, more than anything that I can do, more than anything the President can do, more than anything a vast majority of faculty and staff on this campus can do. You are the ones that can change this culture.
9. If you’re in a situation and you see that there might be two people that are about to hook up and in your mind you’re not quite sure whether that’s going to be consensual, you as a student leader have the ability to try to pull one of those people aside and just say hey are you sure? Because you know what the next day, or maybe even sooner than that, it might become clear that something happened and the other person really didn’t want that to happen and next thing you know there’s some issues that the university has to address with both of those individuals. Let alone the fact that the person who is ultimately reporting it is struggling with some real issues.
10. Those are the kinds of things that you as student leaders you as fellow students can do to try to prevent something like that from happening. I’m not just talking about incidents of sexual misconduct. If there are racial or insensitive jokes or comments that you might see happening on campus, you are in a position to intervene. You are in a position to challenge your peers. That’s not what we’re about at Westfield State. You know that. Those of you who I’ve gotten to know, I know you bring a real spirit and a real sensitivity and a real passion for what is good about Westfield State. All of those things that are wonderfully good about Westfield State. You’re in the position to have that spirit become alive and to have that spirit continue.
11. Thank you Larry Johnson, next we will have Dean of Students, Sue LaMontagne.
12. **Sue LaMontagne**: Hello everyone, I have a quick request. In line with Larry Johnson’s presentation with you, we are trying to do a climate survey this semester, which is under the federal guide lines for Title IX around what is it like on the this campus relative to awareness on sexual assault, sexual assault policies, and sexual violence. WE wanted to pilot our survey before we give it out to the general classrooms and I was hoping to have some volunteers give me twenty minutes on Thursday for a pilot. If you are available this Thursday, October 6 at 6:00pm, I’m going to send this sign-up around.
13. Thank you Sue. I’d like to thank those who stayed last week for orientation. It really shows your dedication to your position by staying and learning or refreshing on the information presented. To those who couldn’t be there, please see me at some point so we can go over some basics.
14. Tonight there will be a Vice Presidential debate party I the Wilson Auditorium hosted by Professor Gardner and Professor Smailes. The doors open at 8:00pm and there will be discussion after the debate
15. Tomorrow night, our Guest Lecture Series will be hosting Dr. Amy Bass at 7:00pm at Dever Stage: the topic of “Why I go to the Olympics”, a topic which will address the Olympics as a stage of nationalism, race relations, and human rights. We find ourselves in a time of great political and social movements, and a lot of programming is happening on campus to help provide resources to understand and be a part of these movements.
16. Just a reminder that Tuesday is a Monday schedule, we will be having SGA at our normal time. If you cannot make it, because of class conflict, please let Rebecca Kennedy know as soon as possible.
17. Items not listed on the agenda.

1. BOARD OF TRUSTEES’ REPORT**:** ***Brandon Trafford***
2. All University Committee**: No Report**
3. Neighborhood Advisory Board**: No Report**

1. VICE PRESIDENT’S REPORT-STUDENT LIFE**: *Brendan McKee***
2. Last week I sent you all home with some homework in regards to publicity on campus, how people hear about events and how people would prefer to hear about events. I’m just going to open the floor to any feedback that you all have received, and once it’s all compiled, I’ll take it to student affairs and report back to you all at the appropriate times.
3. **Andrew Morin**: What I heard from my constituents was mostly e-mail is the best and although some students don’t check their e-mail those students don’t really look at flyers either so there’s no way to reach those students, but e-mail was the best way.
4. **Maddie Creamer**: Similar to Andrew, a lot of people said that they got most of their information through e-mails, but they’d like to see it more through various social media outlets.
5. **Jon Cubetus**: I heard mostly social media and word of mouth.
6. **Shayna Arnott**: I heard signs in Ely are really helpful because a lot of people go through Ely. Also a website that’s more publicized.
7. **Caitlin Hurley**: I heard e-mail and the class pages.
8. Student Affairs Committee**: No Report**
9. Multicultural Committee**: No Report**
10. Food Services Committee**: Andrew Manchino**
11. Grab and Go is now offered for any student with a meal plan and anyone who has Owl Bucks too. Students can only have one per day though. The entrees will be either be sushi, pizza, salad or a wrap. This will hopefully be up by Thursday, October 6, but Monday, October 10 it will be 100% up and running.
12. Ely Harvest will be adding sandwiches, soups, and macaroni and cheese come next week for more variety.
13. President Torrecilha’s Investiture Lunch will be held in the DC on Friday, October 14. The normal DC will be closed from 11:00am until 2:00pm but will instead have buffets, appetizers, and entertainment. Students can still swipe in if they choose. The DC will shut down their operations at 10:30am to prep for the lunch, but no one will be kicked out.
14. The late night promotional event will be held during the first week of November in the DC.
15. E-mail me if next Monday, October 10 you’ll be late or absent.
16. **Andrew Morin**: I know I talked to you about this privately, but the meal exchange wasn’t working last week, any update on that?
17. **Andrew Manchino**: They keep saying it is working. I’ll mention something though.
18. **Marcus DiBacco**: Do you know why they are only allowing one To-Go per meal swipe?
19. **Andrew Manchino**: The To-Go option is supposed to be specifically just for students who have meal plans. So, by adding the possibility for students with Owl Bucks they are limiting it, in a way, with this new addition. Why? I don’t know. That’s a good question, but I’m not really privy to that information currently.
20. **Abdullah Shafique**: I know that the DC has extended hours up until 10, but they start closing down stuff at 8. Is there any talk about extending that stuff?
21. **Andrew Manchino**: When they are open from 8:00pm to 10:00pm it is just going to be the few stations you out there because they aren’t going to have as much staff as you see out there during the day. The idea of a late night option 8:00pm to 10:00pm is to be much more of your junk food type stuff. Like chicken tenders, fries, burgers, chili dogs, tacos. It’s not going to be your normal every day options, that’s just the idea of the late night DC.
22. **Shayna Arnott**: Point of Information: Just to clarify what Andrew just said. Chicken tenders is one night. Chicken and waffles another night. Etc. They are all going to be on different nights, not all the same.
23. **Ashley Deleon**: As far as the meal exchange goes, what are you supposed to say to them? Do they automatically know what you’re doing?
24. **Andrew Manchino**: I’m assuming you do say to them, I would like to use a meal exchange, and as of right now they know that it is the five meal people only. So, you would go to them and say I’m using a meal exchange I want x y and z and it’ll come out to whatever it is.
25. Our next scheduled meeting is Tuesday, October 11 at 4:00pm in the Tekoa Room.
26. Health Committee: **No Report**
27. Parking Control Board: **No Report**
28. Student Athletic Advisory Board: **No Report**
29. Substance Advisory Committee: **No Report**
30. Community Relations/Fundraising Report**: Marissa Cremin**
31. Our first Red Cross Blood Drive is tomorrow, Wednesday, October 5 from 1:00pm until 7:00pm in the Parenzo Gym. Our goal is to collect 100 units of blood. Thank you to the senators who have volunteered already. I want to reiterate how much I depend on volunteers for these blood drives. The drives are sponsored by SGA, so we all need to help run them. Just volunteering for an hour is plenty and if everyone did this no one would have to volunteer more than one time.
32. I still have about ten more volunteers for tomorrow, especially from 5:00pm until 8:00pm. Please sign up if you can. It’s an easy way to get your units done for October. You will get one unit for every hour you spend volunteering for up to four hours.

1. VICE PRESIDENT’S REPORT-ACADEMIC LIFE: ***Jacob Lotter***
2. It might seem early, but registration and advising are fast approaching. I will begin by giving out the advising and registration dates for each class.
3. Honors and Banacos Students will register on Wednesday, October 26.
4. Select in season athletes will register on Monday, November 7.
5. Seniors or students ending the semester with 84 credits this semester will go to advising Monday, October 24 to Thursday, October 27. You will register on Friday, October 28.
6. Juniors or students ending the semester with 54 credits will go to advising Monday, October 31 to Thursday, November 3. You will register on Friday, November 4.
7. Sophomores or students ending the semester with 24 credits will go to advising Monday, November 7 to Thursday, November 10. You will register on Monday, November 14.
8. First year students or a student ending the semester with credits anywhere from 0 to 23 will attend advising Tuesday, November 15 to November 18. You will register on Monday, November 21.
9. First year students and transfer students you are also required to go to a first year advising seminar this week. Two of them happened today, however there are four more this week. Two of them happened today, however there are four more this week. There will be two tomorrow afternoon, October 5 from 11:30am to 12:30pm and 3:00pm to 4:00pm. There will also be two on Thursday, October 6 from 12:45pm to 1:45pm and 2:00pm to 3:00pm. All of those are in Dever Stage, so if you didn’t make it to the programs today be sure to get there Wednesday or Thursday. You can contact Nicole West if you have any questions about attending those.
10. The official course offering booklets will be on campus this Friday, October 7, outside of the Academic Advising Office. In the meantime, the courses are already on MyWestfield through the “Look up Classes” option under Academic Tab.
11. I want to remind everyone that next Tuesday, October 11 is a Monday schedule because of Columbus Day. If you will be missing SGA next Tuesday because of class be sure to let Rebecca Kennedy know so she can excuse you.
12. Academic Policies Committee: **No Report**
13. Curriculum Committee: **No Report**
14. Enrollment Management Committee: **No Report**
15. Academic Technology and Information Services Committee: **No Report**
16. International Programs Committee: **No Report**
17. Writing Liaison**: No Report**
18. VICE PRESIDENT’S REPORT-PROGRAMMING: ***Madeline Dexter***
19. Programming update**: Madeline Dexter**
20. Thank you for everyone that volunteered at Family and Friends Day. The event went very well and I definitely couldn’t have put it together without everyone’s help.
21. The tickets to Six Flags are on sale at Westfield.ma.edu/tickets. The trip is October 22, leaving Scanlon hall at 1:30pm and leaving Six Flags at 10:00pm. The tickets are $17.00, which includes transportation, admission and parking. Please come and have fun with your friends.
22. Our next scheduled meeting is Wednesday, October 5 at 5:00pm in the Owl’s Nest.
23. VICE PRESIDENT’S REPORT-FINANCE: ***Marcus DiBacco***
24. Finance Report: **No Report**
25. Foundation Report: **No Report**
26. SERETARY’S REPORT: ***Karina Sallaway/Rebecca Kennedy***
27. Executive Secretary Report: **No Report**
28. Legislative Secretary Report: **Rebecca Kennedy**
29. Four units were due today for all returning Senators. If you have not already sent them to me, please do so by Midnight tonight.
30. Every month, one senator is recognized for completing more units than any other senator. Any senator who sends in their units before the deadline is eligible to receive this award. This award is called the Big Unit Award. This month the winner is Andrew Manchino who completed eight units. Congratulations Andrew.
31. In addition to the Big Unit Award, we also have the Unit Lotto. Every senator who sends in their units before the deadline is entered into the lottery on time. The prize for the lotto is $20.00 in Owl Buck’s. Today we have one of our advisors, Barbara Hand pulling the winner. Congratulations to Jasmine Bobbitt.
32. Four units are due for October on November 1 by 3:30pm. You can find potential unit opportunities on both the wall calendar and printed calendars on the front table. If you have any questions on what a unit is or how to complete one, please come see me after the meeting.
33. As you can see I have decorated the SGA room to be very festive and Halloween themed. There are little pumpkins all around the room that have been painted by me. I would like to ask you all too please not touch the pumpkins or decorations. I paid for the pumpkins out of my own pocket and they have been ‘mysteriously disappearing’ over the past few weeks.

1. PARLIAMENTARIAN REPORT:

Rules and Regulations Committee: **No Report**

1. COMMUTER COUNCIL, CLASS AND HALL REPORTS:
2. Commuter Council: **No Report**
3. Senior Class: **Andrew Morin**
4. The senior class council is working hard to get some events planned for us. One Friday, November 18 form 10:00pm until midnight, we will be having late night pancakes and throwback Karaoke in the Owl’s Nest. Admission for this event is $1.00 and is only available to seniors.
5. Mr. Westfield interviews will take place on Monday, October 17 from 6:00pm until 7:30pm in the SGA Club Room E021 and again on Thursday, October 20 from 7:00pm until 9:00pm in the Unity Room E023B. We have dates set aside for additional interviews, should we need them. Interview are walk-in only and will be first come, first served. No appointments can be made, so please get here early if you’d like to be done quicker.
6. Our next scheduled meeting is on Thursday, October 6 at 5:15 pm in Ely E003.
7. Junior Class: **No Report**
8. Sophomore Class**: No Report**
9. First Year Class: **No Report**
10. Apartment Complex: **No Report**
11. Courtney Hall: **Brandon Donahue**
12. I accept the resignation of Andrew Chagnon as Courtney Hall Council Representative to Senate.
13. Davis Hall: **No Report**
14. Dickinson Hall**: No Report**
15. Lammers Hall: **No Report**
16. Lansdowne Hall**: No Report**
17. New Hall**: Michaella Tretheway**
18. I accept the resignation of Brandon Rainaud, Tim Grow and Peter Currier as New Hall Council Representatives to Senate.
19. I move to appoint Earl Turnbull as Courtney Hall Council Representatives to Senate for the 2016-2017 academic year.
20. Scanlon Hall: **No Report**
21. University Hall**: No Report**
22. UNFIISHED BUSINESS**:**

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1. NEW BUSINESS:
2. It was moved by Jon Cubetus and seconded to open new business. Motion carries.
3. It was moved by Andrew Morin and seconded to go into executive session. Motion carries.
4. It was moved by Andrew Morin and seconded leave executive session. Motion carries.
5. It was moved by Maddie Creamer and seconded close new business. Motion failed.
6. **Jon Cubetus**: I move to charge the Rules and Regulations Committee with investigating the constitutionality of the Executive Board giving $5,000.00 to the Jazz Band. Motion carries.
7. **Brandon Trafford**: I move to amend the motion so that you guys speak to the Jazz Band before you guys do anything in Rules and Regulations. Motion carries.
8. It was moved by Andrew Morin and seconded to close new business. Motion carries.
9. ANNOUNCEMENTS:
10. **Andrew Morin**: Tickets for MTG’s Dinner Mystery Theater are on sale now. They are $10.00 for students.
11. **Jacob Lotter**: See me if you have questions about registration or advising.
12. **Marcus DiBacco**: SOC is this Thursday, 4:00pm until 6:00pm.
13. **Danny Chamberlain**: Tickets for Six Flags for the CAB trip are on sale now.
14. **Marcus DiBacco:** There will be no Finance Committee meeting this week.
15. **Marissa Cremin:** Blood Drive Tomorrow in Parenzo Gym from 1:00pm until 7:00pm.
16. **Andrew Manchino:** Rules and Regs after the meeting.
17. **Matthew Carlin:** I need to see all Hall Council Presidents after the meeting please and the debate is going to be in a few hours so please go.
18. **Ashley Deleon:** Everyone just love and support each other**.**
19. **Rebecca Kennedy:** I need my contact sheet back please**.**
20. **Karina Sallaway:** I need my contact sheet back please**.**
21. **Matthew Carlin:** Please don’t take the pumpkins**.**
22. **Jasmine Bobbitt:** 228 Days until Commencement**.**
23. ROLL CALL: Sarah Kennedy, Assagi Wynter, and Michael Guertin were absent.
24. ADJOURNMENT: Meeting adjourned at 6:59pm.