**STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION MINUTES**

**October 9, 2018**

I. ROLL CALL: Krista Galetta, Sarah Balestro, Olivia Gwynn, Ricky Fonseca, Sandra Domingos, Madison Houle, Kathleen Edwards, Delayna Moore, Isabel DeMarco, and Eric Harris were absent. Annamarie Jackson, Marcus Payne, Mitchell McKittrick, Connor Kennedy and Sam Tsongalis were excused.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM October 2, 2018: Minutes were approved.

III. PUBLIC REMARKS: No Remarks

1. PRESIDENT'S REPORT: **Marcus DiBacco**
   1. Welcome back from the long weekend. Our first speaker this evening will be Dean of Students, Sue LaMontagne
2. **Sue LaMontagne**: I have learned that you all know me enough that I don’t really need an introduction. I haven’t had the chance to officially say welcome to all of you. Congratulations on your election, or selection to SGA. I know that some people were selected and that some were elected, but in any case you all have important roles. Congratulations to the first year Class in particular on coming on board. You hear this every year when I stand up here, those who are new will be happy that you only have to hear this once that really this is a critical job. Unlike the role model in our Federal Congress, your job is to really listen to your constituents and to represent them; to go and find out what they want. Whether you are a Sophomore Class President and you need to find out what the Sophomore Class is thinking or if you are a Davis Hall Rep or a College Rep or an All University Rep, it is your job to go out and find out what people want that are your constituents and then bring it here. Sometimes it is popular and sometimes it isn’t, but that doesn’t matter. What matters is that your voice is being heard. That everyone’s voice is being heard, that you have the majority opinion or minority opinion, doesn’t matter, it matters that you are speaking for those who have really selected and elected you to be here. It is an important job and I know from watching already, that you don’t take it lightly. I saw your questions around housing, and I saw your representation through the speakers that have come up already. You are doing a great job. I thank you in advance and I will thank you throughout the year.
3. We have a number of really important things going on this year that require your voice even more than ever. You know that we had a number of incidents of racist and sexual biases last fall, and those where very painful for students to go through. But let’s be clear that we may not have incidents that are being reported, or maybe we don’t have the slew of things from last fall. But we would be silly and we would be ignoring things if we thought that things were perfect and great and therefore nothing is wrong. We all know out there that everyone needs to have a voice and we need to represent everyone, so relative to Diversity issues to being supportive, to being allies. We already talked, Marcus DiBacco talked about what we need to be allies and be as supportive as possible as a Student Government.
4. We have the Westfield State Experience. Is everyone familiar with that? The Westfield State Experience in a couple sentences here is a signature initiative that we put together. It is going to be a four year experience from first year all the way up through fourth year and it is going to build on each year and we want as many students involved as possible. It is there to support to retention, graduation and to connect students to campus, all students to campus, not just ones who are natural leaders who are going to go out and do leadership things, but all students on campus as best as possible. There are different pieces being added each year from research and internships in the third year to anthropology and community service and other internships in the fourth year. The first two years we are going to be talking about building your leadership skills and career skills and getting ready for the professional world. This program is being developed this year for implementation next fall, full implementation. Parts of it are already in place, but haven’t yet been brought together in this nice full package. We need students to sit on the Committee, and we have students being selected from each College. We will have three students on the committee with the potential of the fourth from Student Government and we will be having focus groups at times to find out about questions from all of you. We are going to need your input on this as we move forward, so I want you to put that in mind.
5. The second thing that is happening right now that I am looking for Student Government to assist with, is that we are in the process of a search for an Emergency Response Director. This is someone that would work on our campus as well as Holyoke Community College and they would be in charge of getting us prepared for and responding to any emergencies that come up. They would work directly with our Emergency Response Team, Public Safety and our Medical EMS. The three final candidates are coming to campus, our campus, this Friday, October 12 next Friday, October 19 and the following Friday, October 26. They will be here at 2:30 pm doing a presentation on Emergency Preparedness followed by questions. The presentation is for a general audience of Students, Faculty and Staff, which means that I need some students. If you have Fridays at 2:30 pm free, the presentations will either take place in this room or across the hall in the Owl’s Nest. If you come to this area at Friday at 2:30 pm, this Friday and then the following two Fridays, it would be great to have students in the audience asking some questions. Whoever can do that, be there for 45 minutes. Fill out the evaluation, that we will hand you when you come in and you’re out and Courtney Smith is that a possibility of an office hour?
6. **Courtney Smith**: Definitely and I encourage it.
7. **Tony Casino**: Point of Information: I think the last one is on a Thursday.
8. **Sue LaMontagne**: The 25th is a Thursday. I’m sorry that was my mistake. So it is actually this Friday, next Friday the 19 and the following Thursday, October 25 at 2:30 pm will be the time.
9. Than you know because Dr. Carlton Pickron is retiring in December. I will be filling in for six months. I am not planning on applying to the permanent Vice President position and I say that because it is critically important, it is going to be just as important to me as it is to you that we find the next best person for the Vice President of Student Affairs. The best person is retiring in December that’s our guy right there. We have to find the next best person come July. The Search Committee is being formed. There will be students on it, names will mostly likely be giving from the Executive Board that does not mean though that we do not want all students involved in the process. There will be opportunities for open forums, and we want you to get involved in that. This is your most important Vice President, this is the person that advocates for students, everyone does but this Vice President particularly for Student Life, which is in the title and is for you. You want to make sure that you get involved in that as we progress throughout next semester.
10. You may have got my imploring email today that what it was meant to do implore people to behave well, celebrate reasonably. But everyone celebrate responsibility. If you see people starting to act a little crazy just tell them to chill out a bit and celebrate. I think I’ll stop there.
11. **Sammantha Dorazio**: In regards to the presentations, do you have to be able to make all of them to go to one of them?
12. **Sue LaMontagne**: For the Director of ERP, you don’t have to go to all of them. If you can go to one that’s fine. Whoever is there will evaluate.
13. **Sammantha Dorazio**: On another note could you just let everyone know where your office is in case they might need you or come across a student that might need you?
14. **Sue LaMontagne:** Yes in Ely 209. It is right upstairs if you are ever upstairs by the theater stop in and say “hi”. When we use to have units I used to bribe students to come visit me by giving them a Unit. It’s like an Office Hour is now. But come and visit me anyway and say “hello”. I would like to get to know you one on one, so I can get familiar with your name and your face. Carlton Pickron and I are in the same office suite so you can see us both if you want.
15. **Tommy Howard**: I was just curious because I missed it but I was wondering if you could reiterate the process where the locations are for the presentations.
16. **Sue LaMontagne**: For the Emergency Response Director the presentations will either be in this room or right across the hall in the Owl’s Nest. If you come down to this area someone from the Search Committee will direct you in. It’s 2:30 pm on all the days. It is not an open forum. We are actually inviting certain people who are on the Emergency Response Team which is about forty people and then we are inviting all of Student Government. In the hopes that we can have at least a half of dozen students at each one. So we hope you can come.
17. **Matt Michalik**: I had a quick question about the Westfield state Experience Committee. How would one get involved in that? Like do they come speak to you personally?
18. **Sue LaMontagne**: The students that are selected for the Experience Committee, there is going to be one student selected from each College. If you want to go to your College Dean, do you know who that is? What’s your major?
    1. Our next speaker this evening will be the Vice President of Enrollment Management, Dan Forster. VP Foster previously worked at Westfield State as an RD. We were glad to welcome him back to really bring students to campus.
19. **Vice President Forester**: Good Evening. Thank you for having me. It's great to be here and I want to thank you all or some of you who serve as Tour Guides and Student Ambassadors, just people who talk nicely about Westfield State University. Enrollment is at the heart of this University. Without students, where are we? Nowhere. Last year when I addressed this, we talked about the market and the environment that we are operating in for recruiting students but I don't need to tell you that, you already know that you have been through this process and it is getting more and more competitive. Good news is we are recruiting. We are recruiting for an excellent institution. There are some Colleges out there with these warts and some imperfections and they have to try to cover them up. Westfield State is a great institution, and is a great value we have really great outcomes for our Students. What I mean by outcomes is what happens to our Students after they graduate and we know the student experience here is really rich, for most of our Students. When we compare to our competitors, which is other upper hand State Universities in Massachusetts we have some real advantages. We have the highest graduation rate and a really high first to second year retention rate. We have athletics. We have long standing, very active shared governance with our Student Government Association which we are really proud of and talk a lot about when we are out on the road. We have a great group of Professors, many of our Professors that work here have terminal degrees and our academic rigor is excellent.
20. One of the things that I wanted to share with you this year that is different from last year. This Class that just came in was about 20 points higher than the previous Class and average GPA was almost a point higher. What that means is not that you are automatically smarter, what it means is that we have become more competitive, our academic profile is increasing. Which you should feel good about because when this happens your degree becomes more competitive in the marketplace. I don't want to ramble, I could go on and on about the good thing happening at Westfield State, but I did want to share a couple of initiatives that we are talking about moving forward with High Schools and we are talking with Guidance Counselors about it and one of them is Discover Westfield. So, basically what it was, was a program that we worked with about ten local High Schools, where we targeted First Generation Students, Students of Color and invited them to campus and tried to introduce the campus too them and it was an okay program but we have re-purposed it this year and some of you may have been asked to help out with this program. Aliaya Mercer is bringing it together, she is doing sort of a speed dating set up and it is called SOAR, Student Outreach and Recruitment and we are working with a similar High School, we are going to invite them and sit them down at tables and have them interact with students here on campus for about 5 to 15 minutes and then we are going to signal and those Students are going to stand up and go to a different table and talk to someone different and we are going to keep swapping them through until everyone gets too speak with a number of different Student Representatives on campus. In addition to a tour and some other things, talk to some Academic People here on campus as well, but we think that this is going to be a really more dynamic better set up. We are repackaging it and really have high hopes for it.
21. In addition too that we have repurposed our Honors Program, so in the past what has happened is we sliced off the top percent of Student Applicants in our pool that were accepted to the College and we asked them to please join the Honors Program and this year it is going to be different. This year we are still going too contact students, we are not going to be so selected, in fact we are going to invite more. We are not going to be using SAT so much as a cut off anymore we are going to be looking more at GPAs because it seems more predicative for students on how well they are going to do and we are not going to accept immediately, they are going to have to apply. So we are going to ask them to provide writing sample and answer some questions and the Honors Faculty will review them and then they will either be accepted or not accepted into the Honor Program. We are excited about that because we think that we will get a better commitment from it because Students are going to have to choose if they want to be a part of it and it’s going to take more thought on what they want to write about and present that skill to us at admission. So that’s the second things. Honors Program change.
22. Have you been to our new Welcome Center? Take a trip over too Horace Mann it is pretty cool. We invested in a video wall; with a bunch of different size huge TVs. Invested in some furniture and some banners for the front of Horace Mann and some new carpeting. It may surprise you to know that Westfield State didn’t have a Welcome Center prior to this. We operated in a number of different areas based on the school year, but it is really important to have a home. It should be something that we are proud of, state of the art, and if you haven’t seen it, it is something to be proud of. It looks sharp and we have gotten a lot of good feedback from our visitors. The Tour Guides like it, the Administration like it and we are already getting requests to do different things in that space. We are trying to preserve this for our Welcoming Center.
23. **Simone LaPlant**: How are you going to get more students of color to come to Westfield to makes it more diverse?
24. **Vice President Forester**: Certainly, the SOAR Program, Discover Westfield, that’s one of the reasons we wanted to make it a more dynamic program and we got to hear more from the Students instead of them sitting and just sort of listening to us talking. They want some interaction, so that is one thing. Another thing that was really important to me when I came on board was that our Admission Staff reflects the community in which we are trying to recruit. If you see our Admission Staff now to where we were a couple years ago they look like the Students we are trying to recruit more of. Our Financial Aide Staff as well, both Admissions and Finical Aide, have been dramatically diverse in the last two years so we think that is really going to help. When people go out to see a school they want to see people that look like them and that’s the first step. We have a number of programs, one being the Westfield State Promise which we just spent half the afternoon talking about with the Board of Trustees. Which is a program aimed at School, for College preparation and we think that is going to be a big funnel for First Generation Students getting to college. We have high hopes for that and reaching that goal as well. We also just need to recruit better and get out there more into those areas. We need to get out to school districts that have a higher percentage of Students of Color. We saw some of those visits going down a little bit because our Staff is so stretched. We were able to add Staff which means we were able to get out to more schools and see schools more often; I think another part of this is better collaboration with Urban Education as a tool. Also more coordinated efforts between their Recruiting Staff and our Recruiting Staff to make sure there is more correct messaging. I think we are doing that. For an example when we went to meet with the Urban Education Staff this summer, Carlton Pickron was there and Dean Swaiden was there and we talked about what can we do to the program, what can we offer? In the Bridge Program they are giving up five or six weeks of their summer where they can't earn money so we made a commitment from Finical Aide to offer a stipend too those people in these programs for a thousand dollars too sort of make up the money that they are losing because they are attending and trying to build skill through the Bridge Program. That is one change that we have done. The other thing is a little different, a slight messaging change. One of the things that we know about the Urban Ed Program or that I learned is that their graduation rate is higher than the general population graduation rate, but we don't talk about. We talk about support, counseling, family that gets to know you and supports you and that’s all great. But one of the things we need to focus on is outcomes. If I am in that program that I would like to know that I am more likely to graduate verse if I am not in that program. So that is a messaging change that we need to make. Talking with the Students and Family about, it’s not just a support system, it is a system that works, that gets people out of here in four or sometimes five years.
25. **Simone LaPlant**: Are there any initiatives to get more Students of Color in the Honors Program? Because I know I got into honors because of Urban Education.
26. **Vice President Forester**: There is a new Honors process so that is one of the goals. Before we were so SAT focused, we weren’t really looking at what the data was telling us. For a long time people thought that was the best predictor for how well a student is going to do in school. I don't want to single out Urban Education, this is for all students. And really the SAT is a great predicator for what? How well a student will test? So if you have to do the NCLEX test as a nurse, it is a great predictor. In fact the old school that I worked at wouldn’t take a Nursing Student unless that had at least a 510 on their math because the statistics where really strong that if you couldn’t get at least a 510 in math for SAT you were not going to pass the NCLEX. There was almost a one to one relationship. They just made that, so it sounds kind of limiting in some ways but other ways they had a very high pass rate for the NCLEX and that was how they managed that. It shows how well you test and the other thing is it shows how wealthy your family is, so it is a good predicator of whether or not you can pay the bill. I don't want to get into the SAT. But the gist of what we got is that if you come in with a high school GPA and the divider seems to be about a 2.5 you’re no matter what you got in SAT, if your GPA is below a 2.5 your chance of staying here and retention and graduation are not good. If you’re above a 2.5 your chances of retaining and graduating go up. That’s kind of where the line is, so if we are taking chances on people that’s kind of where the lines are, we are going to make decision based on GPA not SAT. As you go the GPA lists your ability to do well and matriculate all the way through here keeps climbing with the GPA. So Honors looked at that data and started to say why we don’t look at GPAs that’s a better predictor than SATs. One of the other things that we know is that Students of Color do not always fair as well on the SATs as White Students. So in a way we were limiting our pool of Honors by using SATs as a predictor for the Honor Program. That is gone now and is one way we are trying to build the Honor Program as well.
27. **Matt Michalik**: In regards to the Honors Program, in the new way it will work will there be a student cap on it on the amount of student that are allowed into the program?
28. **Vice President Forester**: Yes, they only have so many resources there. I don't want to speak about something that I am not doing myself so that would be a great question for the Honors Department, if that is something that you want to learn more about or if you want to know more about or from Mr. Heart who does the actually Admission process. But yes there is going to be a cap and it is going to be similar to what it was before. They are not looking to grow the program.
29. **Tommy Howard**: I just wanted to know more about the comments you made earlier regarding the prestige of the University and the new facilities and the investments that the University has made to compete with other University. With all of this being said, it has some effect on tuition. I was curious if you could expand on what the process looks like or if you could make any comments on what Administration has been talking about.
30. **Vice President Forester**: Okay I will try to answer that. The investment that was made in the Welcome Center actually came from money that was not normally utilized in this year so as we progressed through last year’s Academic Year we saw that there was going to be a surplus of some of our budget. We went back to some of our strategic initiatives that we used to help drive how we spend our money in the budget that was developed prior to that year and part of that was enrollment and upgrading Enrollment Management and the operations. We went at that and we put the bid for that money and complete with all the different parts of the College. Each division put in what they would use that money for and the Cabinet get together and voted on what they thought the best use of the money would be. This was not the only initiative that was funded, but it was a significant part of it. The cost of it was significant, I mean not in the grand total of the budget, but it is nothing that Enrollment Management could have done on its own, it was almost 200 thousand dollars to invest in the banners and I don't want to minimize that, but compared to our whole budget, it is not a lot of money but its huge to the division. It made a big difference. I don't know if I quite answered your question but I wanted to let you know how it happened. You were talking about other investments or how the students get billed.
31. **Tommy Howard**: Just too reiterate my other point, with the Colleges always competing with each other, always updating their facilities on campus and with the higher degree and the value of the degree, you see a price range. I was wondering if Administration had been speaking about this in their various committees, or if you can expand about the process on how that happens.
32. **Vice President Forester**: Yes, there is a lot there that you just talked about that really goes to the heart of how we do business. I think how I would answer that is there has not been a huge investment by the College in these areas before. When I came here for Enrollment Management, you might be surprised to hear that we were still using paper folders, while most other institutions where paperless. You might be surprised to hear that our staff in Admissions was a lot smaller when compared too other Colleges around the same size. Our Finical Aide Office was also much smaller. There has been a lot of investment in where we are trying to stay current in kind of our operation. When you refer to an arm’s length that is happening at the Private College level you kind of see it’s like climbing a wall, these other things or really fancy dormitories or Residential Halls. We have had some of that, we have had an investment. But really it doesn’t really compare to some of the other institutions in what they are spending and in what they charge. The fact that we are still around 20 thousand dollars or so for room and board is really remarkable compared to what you get. We talked about the three important things are valued, outcome and fair. The value here is tremendous and we need to start talking about that more. The trick here is that people associate high tuition with high value and I use the analogy from last year, of going to TJ Max and you find a sweater and it says $19.00 you probably wouldn’t be interested but they leave the other tag on it that shows you it was $80.00 at one point. That helps you and that is something that influences your bargain hunting skills. If it said $21.00 and was marked down to $20.00 you might not think that that was that good of a deal. That is what is happening at Colleges so you get a price of 60 thousand dollars and someone is giving you 35 thousand in scholarships and you still owe a lot of money. We do talk about it, it is one of the things that we need to stress more, is the value and way you still get great Res Halls. I just found out that we have a climbing wall, I was in the gym and I didn’t notice it. Have you guys seen the drown video? It is our biggest video that we have ever had on campus. I think there are 44 thousand views. Our big ones usually get four to six thousand, and as of last week we had 44 thousand. There is a close up of someone climbing the wall, it is pretty cool. I didn’t even know we had it, because I haven’t been over their much.
33. **Sammantha Dorazio**: You said that some of the changes were made based off of different research. I was wondering if it was specific research studies or just kind of general college research.
34. **Vice President Forester**: That’s one of my big things. We try not to make decision because we think that the way they are but we are making them with the data that you have. One of my mottos this year when I have a Staff meeting or even a meeting with the Cabinet. I try to start every meeting with some data and matrix to bring to the table. These matrix that I have been using are matrix that have been here we are just asking for them and using them. In Financial Aide for example, we are looking at what is the average adjusted gross income for our Families. We are looking at the average award for our Families that apply for Financial Aide we are looking at the average size of the Financial Aide Staff compared too other Colleges our size. We are not creating more data, it’s just that we are mining it to make decision and influence others on the campus. When we talk about the Welcome Center, one of the things that I did, when I got here last spring was toured every other State University, and I was surprised. If you know Bridgewater has their own building as a Welcome Center, that houses Financial Aide and Admission and it has its own parking and you know it’s really impressive. Fitchburg has a well done Welcoming Center and Worcester State has a Welcome Center and we didn’t have one. It was important. It wasn’t just that I wanted a Welcome Center, we needed to have a Welcome Center because we are going to fall behind other schools. We are constantly looking for more data especially around Financial Aide and how we fund students that’s the big one and the other big one is Student Affairs and how we retain our students. We don't want students just to come in, we want students to succeed. Not to get down to money all the time but it’s much easier to keep a student than loose a student and have to recruit a New Student. We want to get down to how much it cost for everything here. How much it cost if you are a Nursing major how much it cost, if you are a Biology major how much it cost to recruit you how much it cost to graduate you, and how much it cost when you leave and come back later. We want to know all these things so we know how much we need to invest to make things better.
35. **Cameron Swan**: Point of information: I don't know if you were asking about fee increases for next year, fees will be set in February by the Board of Trustees they will be approved in February when we do the budgetary stuff. The standard inflation rate usually increases between 2.75 and 3.75 percent. We don't know the numbers for sure yet, but I will let you guys know as it gets closer.
36. **Thalita Neves**: I just wanted to ask a question about the new Honors Program Initiative? I am a Tour Guide is this something we should tell seniors, that it is going to be a separate application?
37. **Vice President Forester**: It’s on the new application right now. If the student choose too click on it, they get a box and get generated to a page where they can fill it out. So it is in place.
38. **Rose Guillaume**: Is it possible for students to go to the High Schools with Admissions?
39. **Vice President Forester**: We love that idea and it is something that we have done on a limited basis. The hard thing is that we visit schools between 7:00 am-9:00 am, and we are leaving at 6:00 am. So it is sometimes hard to get a college student too go with you too Ludlow at 6:00 am. So the timing is usually during a high school schedule. But I love that idea and we will take it back because one of the things we know is that they like to hear from our students and one of the things that resides with them is if we can say, Hope was here, she is a junior, from your high school and is doing well know. She is having a great experience; she is in Costa Rica right now. Whenever you can give information to them about people they know it is more powerful, because it is personal which is even better.
40. **Sam Tsongalis**: Is Westfield State an SAT optional school?
41. **Vice President Forester**: It is not.
42. **Sam Tsongalis**: With re-shaping the Honors Program and weighing a lot more of SAT scores and weighing more on GPA would it make sense to weigh whole enrollment on GPA rather than SAT, joining the four to 800 other schools that are doing SAT optional.
43. **Vice President Forester**: It would except for one problem. Yes some schools are doing what is called a pilot program, but we don't set the standards for entrance to State Universities. That is set by the Department of Higher Education in Massachusetts. They set that sliding scale that has been in place for years. Every time we don't use the sliding scale, we say you don't have to send the SATS; we’re basically using an exception. The Commonwealth said if you want to do that you apply to us and let us know what you want to do but they still make you go to the students to get their SAT’s anyways for data. It is a lot of hoops you have to jump through and we can manage it with the number of exceptions we have. If the student misses the scale by 10 or 20 points for SAT, we are going to let them in. Especially with the data now that we have we are not managing that exception. We are managing exceptions much better but we are just using the GPA. The cost benefit time benefit we don't see it yet. We may get there but we don't see it yet. Another thing that is happening is we are seeing yourself as a University that requires a higher academic profile than our other sister schools, and we are okay with that. We are okay with being a little more selective and still trying to diversify our class. That’s what the Enrollment Management is, so a lot of our sister schools right now are saying we don't have enough people let’s just keep taking people that wouldn’t get in last year, to fill the place. We are just going to bring people in and not worry about whether they are going to graduate, they are just going to bring them in to fill the class opposed to shaping the class. We don't see the SAT as a hindrance for us for building diversity in the class which is what some of the other schools are saying. That by itself is not going to change it in a meaningful way. You are going to need a serious commitment from Financial Aide and the support that you have for students when they get here. Those fixes have been kind of short lived and they don't help with retention. I know that was long, but it is something we talk about everyday to see if it is something that we want to do.
44. **Tommy Howard**: Point of Information, as a Representative on the Honors Advisory Board, there is a new initiative being made for rising Honor Students, that will help all of the students especially first generation students.
    1. My grandmother at the young age of 84 is the biggest Sox fan I have ever met. That being said, we are from Boston and out here there seem to be a lot of Yankees fans. As we approach tonight the last game before the Yankees are swept out of this season I want to remind you all that we are now officially adults. As such, we are supposed to carry a higher level of respect and responsibility. So, when you are celebrating another Red Sox victory over New York this evening please act with these high levels of both. Please also remind your friends.
    2. I will be sending you all a draft of petition later this evening. Although we have talked about multiple issues from cable to official student input, we believe it would be best for the petition to be solely focused on the earlier Housing Selection. We will keep one copy of the petition and subsequent signature forms in SGA. This copy will be available for senators to walk around with and collect signatures during our office hours. As there is only one copy and there are generally multiple people doing office hours at the same time I encourage you all to walk around as teams. When collecting signatures please do not repeat signatures and make sure that people use cursive, as it must be an official signature. Before moving on, there is one more thing that you should all be aware of in regards to the petition. Cam Swan and I were speaking this morning and we agreed on his statement that we need at least 500-1000 signatures. The problem is when I said that we could do it in two weeks, the ever-confident Cam Swan said we could do it one. So now of course, the gauntlet is thrown and the wager has been made. Although we have not decided what the loser has to do, the guidelines are clear. It is up to all of you to prove who is right, Cam or me.
    3. Items not listed on the agenda.
45. BOARD OF TRUSTEES' REPORT: **Cameron Swan**
    1. I do have a brief overview of what we talked about today at the board meeting, but before that, I need to pass out a lapel pins like the one I’m wearing on behalf of Vice President Carlton Pickron. Please wear lose and represent our University proudly.
46. Academic and Student Affairs discussed the new College Structure and early college, more specifically the Westfield Promise.
47. Finance and Capital asset discussed timelines for the FY20 budget and various informational items.
48. Advancement and Enrollment Management discussed recent advancement events and enrollment messaging
49. Audit passed the audit report.
50. Governance and Nomination discussed that there will be a new subcommittee to examine new trustee mentoring.
51. Executive passed the Presidential Evaluation.
    1. Marcus DiBacco and I went to Framingham State University last Tuesday, October 2 for a meeting with the Student Advisory Council. It was great to meet other Student Trustees and Presidents, and I speak for both of us when I say I am excited to see what this council can accomplish this year.
    2. All University Committee: **No Report**

B. NEASC Steering Committee: **No Report**

C. Strategic Planning Committee: **No Report**

D. Student Advisory Council: **No Report**

1. VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT-STUDENT LIFE: **Nickalena Richards**
   1. Student Affairs Committee: **No Report**
   2. Diversity/Inclusion Committee: **No Report**
   3. Food Services Committee: **No Report**
   4. Parking Control Board: **No Report**
   5. Student Athletic Advisory Board: **No Report**
   6. Substance Advisory Committee: **No Report**
   7. Veteran’s Affairs Report: **Sean Manion**
2. We have a couple of things coming down the pipeline over in services. With Veteran’s day coming, along with the centennial celebration of the end of World War 1, we are currently looking for any pictures that anyone would like to share. Pictures of you, friends or family members who have served in the military from WW1 up to today. We will also take any pictures of significant events you may have attended, and any taken here at school events over the past 100 years. Anything will be appreciated. These pictures will be put up on the pillars within the Scanlon Banquet hall on November 1 and displayed until November 11 at the end of the day. You can give me these in person, or you can email them to me at [smainion5056@westfield.ma.edu](mailto:smainion5056@westfield.ma.edu) or you can email them to Lisa over in the Veteran’s and Military services office. You can also hit me up on social media with any pictures of past celebrations as well. Facebook and Instagram work, I do not have a twitter account.
3. Regarding the pamphlets on the tables, there will be a panel discussion on Friday, November 2 from 1:40 pm until 2:40 pm. You are all invited to discuss topics of the war and the culture changes we have seen since then. Please RSVP to Lisa Ducharme, her email is on the flyer.
4. VICE PRESIDENT’S REPORT-ACADEMIC LIFE: **Madeleine Scott**
   1. I wanted to let you all know that the exploratory open houses are happening on Wednesday, October 10 and Thursday, October 11 for the College of Arts, humanities and Social Sciences. If you are interested in a major or minor within this College, please plan on attending this open house to get more info on that College. If you are already in that College, please try to stop by as it would be helpful to have current College students there to be available for questions. These open houses will be from 1:00 pm -3:30 pm on Wednesday and 9:00 am- 11:30 am on Thursday in Dower 190.
   2. The courses for spring 2019 will be available online tomorrow, October 10 in the afternoon so just wanted to keep everyone up to date on that.
   3. Academic Policies Committee: **No Report**
   4. Curriculum Committee: **No Report**
   5. Enrollment Management Committee: **Madeleine Scott**
5. Last Tuesday, September 25 the Enrollment Management Committee met and discussed what is being done to make the student experience at Westfield as great as it can be, and what could be changed. Two major parts of the discussions revolved around small holds on student accounts and how it affects registration, in addition to the general communication practices of Res Life. This committee values student input, so if anyone has information they would like to share with me about anything that revolves around enrollment and student life, please share.
6. **Scotty Howe**: Will there be any copies of the classes?
7. **Madeleine Scott**: From what I understand there will be paper copies this semester but not next semester.
   1. International Programs Committee: **No Report**
   2. Academic Technology and Information Services Committee: **No Report**
   3. Writing Liaison Committee: **No Report**
   4. Guest Lecture Committee: **No Report**
8. VICE PRESIDENT’S REPORT-FINANCE: **Thalita Neves**
   1. Finance Committee: **Thalita Neves**
9. I just wanted to give everybody a quick update about the Student Organizational Council meeting. Last Thursday, Oc I held a large meeting with Club Presidents, Treasurers and Advisors to talk about the logistics about running a club. Sue LaMontagne talked about the Hazing Policy, Matt Dellea talked about the clubs relationship with SAIL, I talked about finance forms clubs need to fill out throughout the course of the year, and finally, Kim Hosmer talked about money handling procedures, t-shirt sales and pizza orders for the clubs. It was a very successful night and I was very happy to be able to interact with other student leaders and hear about how certain clubs are doing on campus.
10. I still need a junior to join the finance committee so if anybody in the Class of 2020 is interested in joining, please see me after the meeting.
    1. Foundation Report: **No Report**
    2. Student Organization Council: **No Report**
11. VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT-PROGRAMMING: **Matthew Howe**
12. Here are the events going on this week for programming.
13. Tomorrow, October 10 from noon until 2:00 pm, right down here, it’s time for recess and time to reduce stress. There are games to help de-stress you and DIY projects.
14. Also tomorrow, October 10 there is Girl Boss Yoga from 3:30 pm – 5:00 pm in Ely 346.
15. Also on Wednesday, October 10 from 4:30 pm – 7:00 pm in the Loughman Living Room there will be a showing of Let It Fall: Los Angeles 1982-1992. The film is about the 1992 Los Angeles Riot as a result of the not guilty verdict of four police officers who brutally attacked Rodney King.
16. On Thursday, October 11 at 9:00 pm in the Owl’s Nest there is Thrifty Thursday. This week’s DIY project is monster post of candy.
17. Rec the Night is this Friday, October 12 from 9:00 pm until 11:00 pm in the Parenzo Gym and the activity is basketball.
18. On Thursday, October 11 from 9:00 pm until 10:00 pm and Friday, October 12 from 5:00 pm until 9:00 pm there will be auditions for the Rocky Horror Picture Show. Auditions will be held in Dower 127.
19. CAB’s haunted House will be this Saturday, October 13 from 8:00 pm until 10:00 pm in Scanlon Banquet Hall. Come get chills and freights. This year it will be bigger and scarier than last years. I have a sign-up sheet going around for volunteers.
20. **Daniel Armany**: When are we going to have the opportunity to sign up for a room for the haunted house?
21. **Matthew Howe**: After this list goes around, I’ll meet with CAB exec and we will send out an email and all the options will be in there.
22. **Courtney Smith**: Just a reminder that volunteering counts as an office hour.
23. Our next scheduled meeting is October 10 at 5:00 pm in the SGA room.
24. Campus Activities Board: **No Report**
25. Neighborhood Advisory Board: **No Report**
26. Community Relations/Fundraising Report: **No Report**
27. SECRETARY'S REPORT: **Sammantha Dorazio/Courtney Smith**
    1. Executive Secretary Report: **No report**
    2. Legislative Secretary Report: **Courtney Smith**
28. Office hours started last week and a good amount of senators did not complete their hours. Just a reminder that an uncompleted office hour results in a half absence. If you have any questions regarding office hours, please don’t hesitate to contact me. I also sent out an email last Wednesday about volunteering for the upcoming career fair’s October 11 and October 18 they both will count as an office hour. I am sending around a sign-up sheet now for those events.
29. **Cam Stanton:** What is involved with the Career Fair volunteer hours?
30. **Courtney Smith**: It is mostly going to be greeting people and welcoming them to the fair. He did mention that there might be a brief survey where you would ask the different companies how they think the process went and stuff like that.
31. PARLIAMENTARIAN REPORT: **Jacob O’Kane**
32. Rules and Regulations Committee: **No Report**
33. Constitutional Review Committee: **No Report**
34. ADVISORY COMMITTEES:
    1. Advisory Committee on Facilities Planning: **No Report**
    2. Advisory Committee on Academic Planning: **No Report**
    3. Advisory Committee on the CURCA: **No Report**
    4. Advisory Committee on Budget Planning: **No Report**
    5. Advisory Committee for Equal Opportunity, Diversity and Affirmative Action: **No Report**
35. COMMUTER COUNCIL, CLASS AND HALL REPORTS:
36. Commuter Council: **Michael Reid Jr.**
37. The Commuter Council for the 2018-2019 year consists of a full Executive Board, on Representative to Senate, numerous members as well as event Volunteer members.
38. The Commuter Council for the Fall Semester has hosted two luncheons thus far with our guests being the Career Center and Academic Advising Center with nearly 85 attendees each time. These guest help provide answers to Commuter students who may have questions regarding services on campus.
39. The Commuter Council helped kick off the year with Donuts and Water for Commuters on opening day, has hosted a Commuter Pizza Party to socialize with Commuter students, as well as put together “Cotton Candy Day” which was held today in the Wilson Café with over 100 visitors.
40. The Commuter Council is looking forward to introducing a new Community Policy initiative between the Commuter students and Westfield State Public Safety with Officer Bian Kowal, sim to the “Adopt a Hall” approach. This partnership will create a stronger voice and connection between the Commuter Council and Public Safety. Officer Brian Kowal will be at our meeting this week to discuss the initiative further.
41. Our next event which is “Apple Cider Day” will be held next Wednesday on October 17 in Wilson Café from 11:30 am to 1:00 pm and our next “luncheon” will be a Dinner on October 24 from 4:30 pm to 6:00 pm in the Tekoa Room.
42. Our next scheduled meeting is on October 11 in Ely 003.
43. Senior Class: **No Report**
44. Junior Class**: No Report**
45. Sophomore Class: **No Report**
46. First Year Class: **No Report**
47. Apartment Complex: **No Report**
48. Courtney Hall: **No Report**
49. Davis Hall: **No Report**
50. Dickinson Hall: **Ethan Goodfellow**
51. I accept the resignation of Eric Harris as Dickinson Hall Representative to Senate.
52. Our next scheduled meeting is on October 11 at 5:30 pm in the Dickinson hall Council Room.
53. Lammers Hall**: No Report**
54. Lansdowne Place: **No Report**
55. New Hall**: Saraiz O’Farril**
56. I’m the Hall Council President for New Hall. Although I have yet to meet my council.
57. I accept the resignation of Callie Bouvier as Representative to Senate.
58. Our next scheduled meeting is on Thursday at 6:00 pm in New Hall.
59. Scanlon Hall: **No Report**
60. University Hall: **No Report**
61. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:
62. NEW BUSINESS: (requires majority vote to be opened) No New Business

1. ANNOUNCEMENTS:
   1. **Samantha Dorazio**: Can I see everyone that reported after the meeting.
   2. **Cameron Swan**: No Representative at Large meeting this week.
   3. **Marcus DiBacco**: Can I Lorenze Beltran after the meeting?
   4. **Jake O’Kane**: Rules and Regs after the meeting.
   5. **Marcus Payne:** 221 days until commencement**.**

1. ROLL CALL: Krista Galetta, Sarah Balestro, Ricky Fonseca, Sandra Domingos, Madison Houle, Kathleen Edwards, Delayna Moore, and Isabel DeMarco were absent. Annamarie Jackson, and Connor Kennedy were excused.
2. ADJOURNMENT: Meeting adjourned at 6:36 pm.

*To ensure the courtesy of others,*

*Please refrain from ANY cell phone use during the meeting.*

*Please also note that for accurate record keeping purposes, SGA meetings are recorded and kept on file by the SGA Executive Secretary.*