**Student Government Association Minutes**

September 16, 2014

1. ROLL CALL: Taylor Wertz was absent.
2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM April 09, 2014: Minutes were approved.
3. PRESIDENT’S REPORT: *Rebecca DiVico*
4. I will be sending out the contact sheet again. There is a new spot to add in your birthday. I want to incorporate that into our group so please fill that out.
5. The Leadership voyage is coming up in the next few weeks. It will be on October 3, at 5:00 pm at 5:00 pm at Camp Chimney Corners in Beckett, MA. Applications have been emailed out.
6. Tomorrow, September 17, there will be a Graduate School Workshop in Bates 218, hosted by Catherine Savini who is from the Reading and Writing Center. This will take place from 3:30 pm – 4:30 pm.
7. Thank you, to those of you who have responded to my email about the “who’s your senator? “Posters. I have completed the entire Executive Board’s poster and they can be seen right outside of the SGA room on the bulletin board. Here is a completed one of Alex Doming. Please send me your answers; I can re-email the questions if you need. Tori Landry will be taking your head shot after the meeting, please make sure you do it, so I can finish these up. I’d like to have yours done before the Hall Councils and the Class of 2018 is elected into SGA, in two weeks.
8. Items not listed on the agenda.

1. BOARD OF TRUSTEES’ REPORT**:** *Joshua Frank*
2. I am sure most of you have heard the news that we filled one of our Trustee vacancies. The new Trustee is Bob Johnson; he is the former President and CEO of the Special Olympics Massachusetts. He is also an Alumni of Westfield State University . I’ve worked with him before on the Foundation and he’s a great person and cares a lot about the student body.
3. This Thursday, September 18 is the ground breaking ceremony of the new Science Building at 2:00 pm. I hope you attend and remember it is a unit.
4. All University Committee**: Sarah Palis**
5. Hello everybody. Rebecca DiVico, Josh Clark and I are very happy to be representing you on the All-University Committee this year. Yesterday, September 15, we had our second meeting of the year.
6. We received a request from a Curriculum Subcommittee to look into core classes and review outcomes. We are asking the Curriculum Committee to give their blessing on this and will move forward accordingly.
7. Another proposal was submitted to us asking the AUC to review actual usage of final exam times. Basically, the subcommittee wanted to launch a different group to look at the question, “Do professors use final exam time to give actual final exams?” We are asking the Academic Policies committee for their blessing on this question and will move forward accordingly.
8. We referred two course action requests back to their submitter because the changes were so minor that it did not seem necessary to take any action on them.
9. The chair of AUC, Ted Welsh, wants to remind you all that all of our documents are posted online at [governance-committees@Westfield.ma.edu](mailto:governance-committees@Westfield.ma.edu). You can view meeting agendas, minutes, and other supporting documents.
10. Our next scheduled meeting is September 26 at 12:30 pm in the Parenzo Board room.
11. Neighborhood Advisory Board**: No Report**
12. VICE PRESIDENT’S REPORT-STUDENT LIFE**:** *Joshua Clark*
13. Hello everyone, I have had a busy week and have a lengthy report for you.
14. I met with the new Catholic Chaplin on campus, Father Savage. As many of you many know, Father Dean is no longer the Catholic Chaplain, even though you may have seen him. The Mass was fully packed and he is a genuinely nice guy. If you would like to know details about catholic or any other religious service, come see me after the meeting.
15. Some constituents came to me during office hours last week with some questions about the shuttle service in the morning. These were students who have observation hours this semester and will be student teaching next semester. At this time, the shuttle will not be running any earlier than 3:00 pm, however, if you need to be picked up at your residence hall in the morning, you are encouraged to call Public Safety a little bit before you need to leave and they will send an ISO to pick you up in the shuttle. If there are any problems, call Captain Foyle at extension 5262 with all the details and he will look into it. Of course, if they are unavailable due to a call or emergency, that would be an exception. This is the standing policy of Public Safety so please call Captain Foyle if there are any problems.
16. I have been approached on several occasions about the smoking gazebos. I know that there have been some underground movements to have them taken down, but we need to remember that these gazebos were built, at cost for $40,000, for the convenience of smokers who are already inconvenienced by having to go to specific places to smoke. However, having said that, there is a lot of graffiti and physical damage to the gazebos, especially the one by the Campus Center. I am placing the gazebos on the agenda of the Student Affairs Committee, and I am continuing to talk to people on campus about this issue. If you would like to see some photos of the damages, let me know, I have them in the back. Also, please look for an email that will be going out on my behalf referencing the gazebos. This is an important issue for me because once those gazebos are in a condition such that they cannot be repaired; they will be coming down without replacement. I do not want to see smokers on Western Avenue risking their lives like we saw a couple of years ago, when the policy was implemented. We need to come together on this and so, I am asking all of you to help me reach out to your constituents and encourage them to treat those gazebos with respect.
17. **Ryan Losco:** I knowwe have two designated smoking areas on campus but have you looked at the nice little space behind University Hall, which many students spoke at, as an official smoking spot and/or has any damage been done there?
18. **Joshua Clark**: We’ll I haven’t been over there but I did speak to Vice President Carlton Pickron last Friday, September 12 and asked him about this because there has been some conversations where we do say it’s a designated smoking area and others were we say it’s not a designated smoking area but we do have people who smoke there; it just happens. That is a good suggestion through and I will take a walk over there to see what kind of damage is there. There are no gazebos over there; it’s just a bunch of chairs and tables. The original plan for that space was just to have a big area with chairs to look out into the woods. That plan changed when they put tables out there. So, I don’t know if it was ever originally considered to be a smoking area but people smoke there. So, I will go take a look at the damage.
19. **Scott Seskevich**: Do you want to make this to be a student life issue or is this something you would like the Class Councils to deal with? Because we could definitely put this on our agendas as well.
20. **Joshua Clark**: Well, by the very virtue of me being up here it is a Student Life issue but, I will ask that if the Class Councils have some sort of idea to help with this issue to absolutely let me know. I’ll definitely involve the Hall Councils on this too once we have a full legislature, Especially University, Davis and Dickinson because these are tall the Hall’s that are near these areas and this issue is starting to get bad.
21. **Scott Seskevich**: That is something we would want to work on with you.
22. **Joshua Clark**: Thank you, Scott.
23. **Courtney Keddy**: Like you said, I don’t know if the area behind University Hall really counts as a smoking area but last year, toward the end of the year, some of the Adirondack chairs back there were broken. I’m not sure if it is related to the smokers but it’s definitely something to note.
24. **Joshua Clark**: I have photos of the damage to the Adirondack chairs as opposed to the white ones, but I feel bad that the black ones are broken. I don’t know what kind of material it is and if it’s different from the white ones. I’ll look into that.
25. I am looking for Senators to sit on three committees: Parking Control Board, Parking Appeals Board and for one seat on the Student Affairs Committee. I will pass around the signup sheets for the two and will ask that you write your name and email address. I need three students for Parking Control, four students for Parking Appeals, and one more for Student Affairs. The tentative dates for the committee meetings are on the signup sheets so that you can plan your semester. I will kindly ask that those signup sheets make their way back to me after the meeting.
26. Hall council elections are tonight, September 17, at 5:00 pm until 8:00 pm in the Tekoa Room and tomorrow September 18 will be at the front desk of all the Resident Halls.
27. Student Affairs Committee**: No Report**
28. Multicultural Committee**: No Report**
29. Food Services Committee**: No Report**
30. Health Committee: **No Report**
31. Parking Control Board: **No Report**
32. Student Athletic Advisory Board: **No Report**
33. Substance Advisory Committee: **No Report**
34. Community Relations/Fundraising Report**: Justin Connolly**
35. Professor Vanessa Diana reached out to me to start promoting the Run Stanley which will be held on October 19 this year. I will be getting flyers soon to hand out to you guys. In the meantime spread the word, you can also go and visit their Facebook page @www.facebook.com/runstanley5k or on twitter @runstanly5k. So come out and run or volunteer. Their official site is [www.runstanley](http://www.runstanley).com.
36. I will have more on the Blood Drive as it approaches. It is Wednesday October 8.

1. VICE PRESIDENT’S REPORT-ACADEMIC LIFE: *Olivia Dumas*
2. If you are interested in serving on the Civic Engagement Committee, please send me and email and I will get you in contact with the chair of the committee.
3. Senior Convocation is this Thursday, September 18 at 4:00 pm in the Scanlon Banquet Hall and make sure you’re encouraging all seniors to attend.
4. Can I see the Reps at large in the conference room?
5. Academic Policies Committee: **No Report**
6. Curriculum Committee: **No Report**
7. Enrollment Management Committee: **No Report**
8. Campus Technology Committee**: No Report**
9. International Programs Committee: **No Report**
10. Library Advisory Committee**: No Report**
11. Writing Liaison**: No Report**
12. VICE PRESIDENT’S REPORT-PROGRAMMING: *Shannon Cullinane*
13. Programming update**: Shannon Cullinane**
14. We have Trivia tomorrow, Wednesday, September 17 at 8:00pm in the Owl’s Nest. There will be free pizza.
15. The Big E trip was a great success. We had 90 students attend. We hope that this will be an annual thing for us.
16. Our next scheduled meeting is September 16 at 5:00 pm in the Owl’s nest.
17. VICE PRESIDENT’S REPORT-FINANCE: *Matthew Carlin*
18. The Club Fair was a great success last Thursday, September 11. We saw an extraordinary amount of student’s interest at the fair. I was very pleased with the turn out by both interested students and the amount of clubs themselves who had tables. The winner of the most creative table and display went to WSU-TV club. They will be given a free pizza for their meeting.
19. Finance Report: **No Report**
20. Foundation Report: **No Report**
21. SERETARY’S REPORT: *Andrew Morin/Evelyn Dina*
22. Executive Secretary Report: **Andrew Morin**
23. First year elections are in full force. Signature papers were due yesterday, September 8; we have a total of 12 candidates running for the Class council positions. Please look out for flyers, as campaigning started last night at 5:00pm and online campaigning started today.
24. First year elections will start next Tuesday, September 23 at 9:00 am and run through Wednesday, September 24 at 11:59 pm. Please encourage your first year friends to vote in the election.
25. Next week, I am going to have mini flyers encouraging first year students to vote and I will be slipping them under the doors of first year buildings. There are only four buildings, but the more volunteers I have to help, do this next week, the faster it will go, so just a heads up that I will be looking for that next week.
26. Reminder: nominate your fellow senators for Senator of the Week. It’s hard for us to see what happens in council meetings and committees but, we want people to receive the recognition they deserve The nomination forms are in the same place as where you pick up your agenda and as long as they are on my desk by 2:30 pm on Tuesday, I can give out the award that night.
27. Legislative Secretary Report: **No Report**

1. PARLIAMENTARIAN REPORT:

Rules and Regulations Committee:

1. COMMUTER COUNCIL, CLASS AND HALL REPORTS:
2. Commuter Council: **No Report**
3. Senior Class: **Richard Darrach**
4. I move to appoint Victoria Landry as Representative to SGA for the Class of 2015 for the 2014-2015 academic year. Motion carries.
5. I move to appoint Jonathan Terelaga as a representative to SGA for the Class of 2015 for the 2014-2015 academic year. Motion carries.
6. Senior Fest is coming along well. We have a tentative schedule and are working on filling in the rest.
7. Senior Convocation is this Thursday, at 4:00 pm in the Scanlon Banquet Hall. Please encourage all your senior friends to attend. For clarification even if you’re not at Senior you are welcome to come and view the event. I’m excited to announce we are raffling off a Senior Fest Packet as well as handing out door prizes. You must be in attendance to claim the Senior Fest Packet.
8. Yesterday, September 15 we met with Interim President Elizabeth Preston. It was a productive conversation about senior year, but the main goal was just to meet and get familiar. Once thing to point out is a change in the alcoholic event planning. For past events the usual notice time was 21 days, but that has increased to 45 days.
9. **Olivia Dumas**: Speaking of Alcohol, will there be a toast at convocation?
10. **Richard Darrach**: No
11. Our next scheduled meeting is September 19 at 2:30 pm in the SGA conference room 20.
12. Junior Class: **Ryan Losco**
13. I move to appoint Emily McKenelley as Representative to SGA for the 2014-2015 academic year. Motion carries.
14. Our next scheduled meeting is Monday, September 16 at 5:30pm in the University Hall meeting room.
15. Sophomore Class**: Scott Seskevich**
16. I move to appoint Carolyn Raneri as Treasurer for the Class of 2017 for the 2014-2015 academic year. Motion carries.
17. I move to appoint Jon Cubertus as representative to SGA for the 2014-2015 academic year. Motion denied as he was not present.
18. I move to appoint Andrew Morin as Public Relations Coordinator for the Class of 2017 for the 2014-2015 academic year. Motion carries.
19. We have one more SGA representative position open, Joshua Clark recommended a candidate and we will be interviewing her on Tuesday, September 18.
20. The Class of 2017 is also going to be co-hosting Mr. Westfield with the Class of 2015. I spoke with Richard Darrach, the president of the Class of 2015 about working together. Our councils will find a time together to meet, get acquainted and to also talk about logistics. We’re hoping to have a meeting with the Mr. Westfield Candidates early in October. Next semester we will meet weekly with them.
21. I spoke with Barbara Hand about our charity. We are thinking and are going to discuss a mental health/suicide charity. We are thinking of reaching out to the Carson Center in Westfield, a mental health clinic. We will see what we can do for them. We also may promote the suicide walk. As I understand it, the Athletic Department has teams who do the walk. I have connections with the Athletic Department and can reach out to them and perhaps coordinate it.
22. The Class of 2017 is discussing raising awareness on campus about sexual assault. We would like to educate/inform all students about the subject and how to potentially handle such a situation. We will reach out to all classes when we have discussed a course of action.
23. Our next scheduled meeting is September 18 at 4:00 pm in Conference room E03.
24. First Year Class: **No Report**
25. Apartment Complex: **No Report**
26. Courtney Hall: **No Report**
27. Davis Hall: **No Report**
28. Dickinson Hall: **No Report**
29. Lammers Hall: **No Report**
30. Lansdowne Hall: **No Report**
31. New Hall**: No Report**
32. Scanlon Hall: **No Report**
33. University Hall**: No Report**
34. UNFIISHED BUSINESS**:**

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1. NEW BUSINESS:
2. Joshua Clark moves to open new business. Motion Carries.
3. Neighborhood Advisory Board: Victoria Landry
4. Last night, September 15, was our first meeting of the NAB. We had Ken Lemanski join us to discuss the new Science building and answer any questions the neighbors had. We also invited those neighbors to join us on Thursday, September 18 for the ceremonial groundbreaking and remind them that there will be a good deal of vehicular traffic that day as it is a busy day on campus.
5. As of right now we are looking into creating a Facebook page for the community, so I’ll be meeting with the new social media coordinator Erik Gallant to hopefully get that up and running this semester.
6. Last night we introduced the newest board member, Justin Connolly and discussed adding maybe a few more student members. For now I’m specifically looking for a student who either lives in Lansdowne Place or is a Commuter student living in off campus housing.
7. The neighbors also requested to have a few more student leaders as guests and said they would like to meet with both the editor of the Westfield Voice and also, the Vice President of Student Life.
8. With a new school year beginning please just be aware of your actions as well as remind your peers to be courteous of how they act when representing the University and just remember that if you are not on WSU property you are in the City of Westfield. So, please remind your friends and classmates to be responsible and be a good neighbor, whether it be here on Western Avenue or downtown on Mechanic Street.
9. Joshua Frank moves to close New Business. Motion carries.
10. ANNOUNCEMENTS:
11. **Joshua Clark**: I would like to congratulate Matt Carlin on a very successful Club Fair. With all the success with all the club sign ups, I think it was a job well done.
12. **Evelyn Dina**: Please finish the contact sheet and get it back to me.
13. **Courtney Keddy**: 242 days until Commencement.
14. ROLL CALL: There were no absences.
15. ADJOURNMENT: Meeting adjourned at 5:57 pm.