**Student Government Association Minutes**

September 23, 2014

1. ROLL CALL: Ryan Losco and Ivanna McGlinchey were absent.
2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM September 16, 2014: Minutes were approved.
3. PRESIDENT’S REPORT: *Rebecca DiVico*
4. Hello everyone tonight for our speaker, we have Michael Basmajian from MASSPIRG to talk about voting.
   * + 1. Michael Basmajian: Thank you Rebecca. For those of you that I haven’t introduced myself to yet, my name is Michael Basamajian and I am the campus organizer for MASSPIRG here. For those of you who don’t know what MASSPIRG is, it is a statewide, student funded and student –directed advocacy organization?
       2. Right now, our number one priority is the voter registration project. You may have heard that today is actually national voter registration day. So, all across the country and all across the state, many different organizations are working s hard as they can to get as many people registered to vote as possible.
       3. Our organization is going to get to get 2,000 people to vote today. We have been working on this initiative on campus. So fare today, we have registered 45 people to vote on campus and we plan to register even more than that this evening. Thus far, over the course of this semester, we have registered over 200 people to vote here at Westfield State University. Therefore, we are well on our way to our 500 student goal.
       4. So, I just wanted to check in and let you know what we are doing and I am excited to report what we’re going to be achieving in the coming weeks.
       5. If anyone still needs to get registered, I dropped off some voter registration forms on the table towards the door. If you are interested in taking some with you to bring back to the organizations that you work with, definitely talk to me about that.
5. Thank you Michael. I want to thank everyone for answering the “Who’s Your Senator” questions, I think I have everyone but three people which is awesome.
6. Next week, September 30 will be our first full meeting, which means we will have all of our hall councils and the Class of 2018 council. For anyone who was wondering, no next week is not a dress code meeting, but our meeting on October 7 will be, because Interim President Dr. Elizabeth Preston will be down to speak.
7. Today is National Voter Registration Day. If you are not registered please take the five seconds out of you day to register, it’s important to exercise your right to vote.
8. For any females out there interested in self-defense classes, there will be RAD, Rape Aggression Defense, classes taking place in October and November. If you’re interested please see me after the meeting.
9. I’ve mentioned the Leadership Voyage a few times, but they have added a new component called the Compass Program. They are offering a ton of one hour workshops that you should definitely go to.
   * + 1. **Justin Connolly:** Are the Class of 2018 elections online or in person at the Dining Commons?
       2. **Rebecca DiVico:** It is online. There is a popup on MyWestfield for first-year students and they were also sent an email with a like to vote.
10. Items not listed on the agenda.

1. BOARD OF TRUSTEES’ REPORT**:** *Joshua Frank*
2. All University Committee**: No Report**
3. Neighborhood Advisory Board**: No Report**
4. VICE PRESIDENT’S REPORT-STUDENT LIFE**:** *Joshua Clark*
5. Hello everyone, I have had a busy week and have a lengthy report for you.
6. Father Savage is moving quickly to help the Islamic Students out. He has already identified somebody who is interested in becoming the Islamic Imam, who will perform services for those who identify with that religion. Father Savage himself is holding Catholic services on Sundays at 11:00 am. There are Rosh Hashanah services Wednesdays at 7:15 pm and Thursday at 10:00 am Protestant/Congregational services are in the Second Congregational Church as always.
7. Related to that, Student Affairs and the Interfaith Center has been busy putting together an Interfaith Committee, which is part of Presidents Obama’s interfaith Challenge. The initiative is meant to increase interfaith activities on college campuses and to create a more collaborative and respectful environment. There will be a student representation on this committee. The current thinking is that myself as the Vice President of Student Life and four other students would be on this council. The four students would be derived from the four different religions that are currently or will be represented in the Interfaith Center (Catholic, Jewish, Islamic and Protestant). I will keep you posted on this initiative as it progresses.
8. As I mentioned last week, the gazebos were placed on the agenda of the Student Affairs Committee, which met yesterday, September 22. The committee members had a lot of great ideas on how to combat the graffiti and vandalism, so I was really excited about the energy that the committee had. In committee, we discussed the graffiti and how that specific content of it might lead to some issues with offending people. We are going to implore Facilities and Maintenance to get rid of the offensive graffiti. Professor Sackett from Economics gave us the great idea of turning the gazebos into an art project, so that was thrown around. It was an overall great discussion. After the meeting Vice President Carlton Pickron and I went out to the gazebo behind Ely and met with Robbie Finocchiaro. Robbie is really focused on trying to get people to stop damaging the space and was really excited that we were focusing on this. Robbie suggested chalkboard paint instead of an art project. Chalk gets put out there and anything offensive can be taken off easily. Vice President Carlton Pickron and I both agreed that it was equally as creative as the art project idea.
9. I have been sitting on a search committee for an Outreach Counselor for the Counseling Center since August. I am happy to announce that we have interviewed our last candidate and will be deliberating tomorrow, September 24. We interviewed five candidates for this position and they were all great. I will have the name of the person who got the position next week.
10. I still need four students for the Student Affairs Committee. I also need one more student for the Parking Control Board. I am not going to pass around the signup sheets today, but if you want to sign up for the committee, let me know.
11. Student Affairs Committee**: No Report**
12. Multicultural Committee**: Ivana McGlinchey**
13. Today, September 23 at 4:30 pm was the film Latinos beyond reel.
14. The next upcoming event is the Café con Leche in the Tekoa room at 11:30 am until 1:30 pm on September 25.
15. Next Tuesday, September 30 there will be a Bomba dance workshop in the Owls nest from 4:30 pm until 6:30 pm.
16. **Evelyn Dina**: Point of information: All of these events count as units.
17. **Alex Doming**: Point of Information: A lot of professors in the Ethnic and Gender Studies and Spanish Departments will give extra credit to students for attending these events. So, if you are taking any of those courses, I would encourage you to ask your professors about it.
18. Food Services Committee**: No Report**
19. Health Committee: **No Report**
20. Parking Control Board: **No Report**
21. Student Athletic Advisory Board: **No Report**
22. Substance Advisory Committee: **No Report**
23. Community Relations/Fundraising Report**: No Report**
24. VICE PRESIDENT’S REPORT-ACADEMIC LIFE: *Olivia Dumas*
25. Hello everyone. I met with Tom Raffensperger today and he updated me on some library and Academic technology things.
26. Last year there was an academic tech survey and the major result was that resnet/wireless needs help. All the money that was given to Library Services went to improving the bandwith/wiresless locations on campus and that is an ongoing project.
27. There will also be an IT help desk in the library on Monday through Thursday from 11:00 am until 10:00 pm and Sundays from 1:00 pm until 10:00 pm, so use them.
28. There will be two print only stations put up in the library and they will be standing and only to quickly print a document.
29. **Courtney Keddy**: Are two computers being lost from the work area of the library to go into this standing only?
30. **Olivia Dumas**: No, they are two new computers.
31. This is great but I also urge everyone to download Pharos wireless printing
32. The Curriculum Committee is meeting on Thursday Septmeber25 at 3:45 in the Tekoa room if anyone wants to come
33. May I please see all the Representatives at Large by the round table after the meeting?
34. Academic Policies Committee: **No Report**
35. Curriculum Committee: **No Report**
36. Enrollment Management Committee: **No Report**
37. Campus Technology Committee**: No Report**
38. International Programs Committee: **No Report**
39. Library Advisory Committee**: No Report**
40. Writing Liaison**: No Report**
41. VICE PRESIDENT’S REPORT-PROGRAMMING: *Shannon Cullinane*
42. Programming update**: Rebecca DiVico**
43. Bingo is Friday, September 26 at 10:00pm in the Scanlon Banquet Hall.
44. Our next scheduled meeting is September 24 at 5:00 pm in the Owl’s nest.
45. VICE PRESIDENT’S REPORT-FINANCE: *Matthew Carlin*
46. I am up here for a couple of reasons. The first regards a quick update on Foundation matters and the second is just a quick reminder of Fundraising.
47. The Foundation has made a few changes both to the organization and to the campus community. The board of directors met for the first time this academic school year this past Thursday, September 18, with nearly a brand new board. The board discussed some events that I hope to be sharing with everyone in the upcoming weeks, while also approving the appointment of several new corporates.
48. I would like to inform everyone that with the new semester the Foundation will be starting some initiatives for the campus community. I believe everyone is aware of our radio station 89.5 WSKB Westfield, well the Foundation and WSKB has formed a partnership in starting up a “Community Radio” time between 6:00 am and 10:00 am during the week. Money from the underwriting is being handled by Mike Knapik and the Foundation.
49. **Joshua Clark**: Point of Information: If you are looking for the schedule of the Community radio for WSKB, I’ve got it so I can send it to you.
50. The other current/ongoing activity form the foundation, Lisa McMahon will be reorganizing and updating all current scholarships handled by the Foundation and hoping to make it more accessible to students.
51. Every Organization/Club on campus must fill out a Fundraising request form. These forms can be found either with Me, Kim Hosmer or online. The forms are very simple and quick to do, but they must be submitted an approved before your fundraiser. After the fundraiser you must fill out a Fundraising report form about five business days after the event. No new fundraisers will be approved until your last report is submitted.
52. Next week I will give everyone a quick update of our current fundraising policy like bake sale guidelines and 50/50 raffles.
53. Can I see all Class Presidents at the end of the meeting?
54. Finance Report: **No Report**
55. Foundation Report: **No Report**
56. SERETARY’S REPORT: *Andrew Morin/Evelyn Dina*
57. Executive Secretary Report: **Andrew Morin**
58. First-year election polls opened this morning at 9:00 am and will remain open until tomorrow, September 24 at 11:59 pm. Please, as always, encourage your first-year friends to vote.
59. In addition I am looking for some volunteers to help me out after the meeting, to slip mini flyers, that remind first-years that the polls are open and encourage them to vote. The more people I have, the quicker it will be for everyone.
60. If you live and/or are an RA in a first-year building, I would appreciate your help very much, since you likely know the buildings the best and con unlock the doors with your ID.
61. So, if you are free after the meeting please meet on the couches outside Rebecca DiVico’s office when we adjourn, so that we can split up into teams for each building.
62. In addition we have two senators of the week this week: Mikayla Culley and Sara Palis. Congratulations to both of them.
63. **Richard Darrach**: Can Executive Council members be nominated for Senator of the Week?
64. **Andrew Morin**: Yes, they can.
65. Legislative Secretary Report: **Evelyn Dina**
66. Just a quick reminder that four units are due before our next meeting. Please email them to me, my email is on the exec contact sheet in your binders.
67. If you have attended all of your council or committee meetings you may count that as a unit as well, just please don’t lie about it because I have the attendance records.
68. If any of the council or committee chairs have not been sending your meeting attendance, please update me on that as soon as you can.

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. Convocation was a huge success. Thank you to everyone that helped or attended.
5. The Out of the Darkness Suicide Prevention Walk may be moved to early November. Right now we are waiting to hear back for AFSP. Details to follow, as they become available.
6. Senior Fest is coming along well. Our goal is to finish this Friday, so we can move forward getting everything approved.
7. We’re working on setting up a few class socials. October will be a senior night on campus and November will be a trip to Mohegan Sun. Dates to be determined.
8. Mr. Westfield is starting up. Nominations boxes are going out next week. We’re holding interest meetings on Tuesday, October 14 and Tuesday, October 28 at 8:00 pm in the SGA room 017.
9. We will see everyone at Family Day. We are raffling off a few Westfield themed prize bags.
10. Can I see the 2017 Class Council after the meeting?
11. Evelyn Dina, thank you for your help as well at Senior Convocation.
12. Our next scheduled meeting is Friday, September 26 at 2:30 pm in the SGA conference room.
13. Junior Class: **No Report**
14. Sophomore Class**: Scott Seskevich**
15. I move to appoint Jon Cubetus as a Representative to SGA for the Class of 2017 for the 2014-2015 Academic year. Motion carries.
16. I move to appoint Teresa Aloi as a Representative to SGA for the Class of 2017 for the 2014-2015 Academic year. Motion carries.
17. Our next scheduled meeting is Thursday, September 25 at 4:00 pm in conference room E003.
18. First Year Class: **No Report**
19. Apartment Complex: **No Report**
20. Courtney Hall: **No Report**
21. Davis Hall: **No Report**
22. Dickinson Hall: **No Report**
23. Lammers Hall: **No Report**
24. Lansdowne Hall: **No Report**
25. New Hall**: No Report**
26. Scanlon Hall: **No Report**
27. University Hall**: No Report**
28. UNFIISHED BUSINESS**:**

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1. NEW BUSINESS:
2. ANNOUNCEMENTS:
3. **Joshua Clark**: Can I see Brandon Trafford after this meeting?
4. **Olivia Dumas**: May I see all the Reps-At-Large after this meeting?
5. **Matthew Carlin**: May I see the Class Presidents and possibly a representative from the Class of 2016 after this meeting?
6. **Andrew Morin**: Can anyone who would like to help me out with passing out the mini flyers for first-year elections please meet me by the couches after this meeting?
7. **Richard Darrach**: May I please see the Class of 2017 council after this meeting?
8. Courtney Keddy: 235 days until Commencement.
9. ROLL CALL: Ryan Losco was absent.
10. ADJOURNMENT: Meeting adjourned at 5:56 pm.