**Student Government Association Minutes**

September 24, 2013

1. ROLL CALL: Amanda McCarthy and Richard Darrach were absent.
2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM September 17, 2013: Andrew McCormack moved to amend the minutes, as there was a spelling error on his name. Minutes were approved as amended.
3. PRESIDENT’S REPORT: *Taylor Fote*
4. Hello everyone. I hope you have all had a wonderful week. I want to say thank you to everyone who came out to Family Day and helped out it was a great success, but I am going to let Steve Kligerman discuss it more.
5. Something to put on your radar is the Rays of Hope Walk, which is October 20th, when I have more information; I will bring it over to you guys.
6. I am sure you all read Carlton Pickron’s email on Friday, September 20th, regarding students drinking and smoking behind the church next to campus. I was able to go with Carlton to help clean up the area, and it was rather embarrassing that students had gone there, so just a friendly reminder to respect our neighbors, which I know all of you do.
7. We are deeply saddened about the news about Emilee Gagnon who recently passed away. Rebecca DiVico is organizing a vigil for her for students and faculty so she will have more information about that in her report.
8. Charlotte from MASSPirg will be staying until the end of SGA tonight for anyone who is interested in signing her petition for the bottle bill.
9. So, now I have some friendly Robert’s Rules reminders. I know we have not had orientation but most of you are returners, so, when asking a question please raise your hand to wait to be recognized by the chair, stand when you speak. Please do not speak out of order, no shouting out. Now something new, fun fact “point of information” is not a real part of Robert’s rules, so it will no longer be used at SGA the new term is “request of information” and you need to form your statement in the form of a question like jeopardy. Also please e-mail me if you are reporting.
10. I am very excited to announce that Executive Council has picked the first Lifesaver of the week. This senator went above and beyond his required position in helping fellow senators with election forms. He went around Dickinson Hall putting slips of paper and talking to senators to get t hem involved with First Year elections. He was a huge help. That’s why Ryan Losco gets the first ever Lifesaver of the week. Congratulations to Ryan and please see me after the meeting.
11. Our next scheduled meeting is Tuesday, October 1st at 5:30 pm.
12. Items not listed on Agenda.
13. BOARD OF TRUSTEES’ REPORT**:** *Stone Koury*
14. Last Friday, September 20th I ventured to Boston to participate in a meeting called by the Chair of the Board of Higher Education Dr. Desmond. The majority of the Board of Trustees and I had a conversation with Chair Desmond, Secretary Malone, Commissioner Freeland and Vice-Chair Ricciardi.
15. The meeting served as an opportunity to answer questions and speak about the investigation and what steps all parties have been taking thus far. No actions were taken at the meeting and the minutes have been requested, once I have them I will make them available to you.
16. Also, Student Advisory Council is meeting on Thursday, September 26th at Quinsigamond Community College, as current chair I will be trying to find a path and goals that SAC wants to take this year, in my opinion I think we will be participating in thanking the Legislature for their current ‘promise’ and looking towards the future.
17. All University Committee**: Joshua Clark**
18. At last Wednesday’s meeting, September 18th, All University Committee meeting, we had a couple items on our agenda.
19. The first one was referring a change in this springs academic calendar to the Academic Policies Committee. The change reflected rearranging some dates at the end of the semester to accommodate a Friday Commencement. The AUC didn’t make any decision on that, but referred it to APC for their review. I know last week I mentioned the date for Commencement as not being a topic of conversation at the September 11th meeting so by us referring this to the APC we’ve begun the dialogue about this.
20. Our second item dealt with the new Academic building. We received Special Committee for University Planning’s letter of approval for the plan for the Wilson Annex, and then listened to the presentation given by Jerry Hayes and Bob Kersting. It was the same presentation given to the Board of Trustees Finance Committee, the board as a whole, and the campus so there aren’t any changes that you all should be aware of, if you went to any presentations. Once we heard the presentation and asked a few questions, we decided that we could concur with SCUP in approving such a plan.
21. A motion was made to instruct the AUC chair to write a letter to President Dobelle expressing our support of the plan.
22. Our next scheduled meeting is October 2nd at 4:30 pm in the Parenzo Boardroom.
23. Neighborhood Advisory Board**: Victoria Landry**
24. Yesterday, September 23rd the Neighborhood Advisory Board had our first meeting of the semester. We had a great beginning to the year and welcomed some new members. This committee meets with representatives that live around the Westfield State University Campus to foster university and community relations with the neighbors. It’s a great way to get to know the community outside of the university and also allows us to hear some of the events happening n the city of Westfield.
25. During this meeting we discussed the possibility of inviting a community member from downtown Westfield to attend a meeting to hear any commentary on the University’s impact with buildings such as the Art Gallery and Lansdowne Place. We also questioned if there should be a representative from Stanley Park, as a member of the board. We then voted on extending our term limits, agreeing that each term for a member of the committee was two years and that now they may appeal to the board to serve one more term of two years.
26. VICE PRESIDENT’S REPORT-STUDENT LIFE**:** *Rebecca DiVico*
27. Last night, September 23rd, Executive Council helped me out with Student Conduct Board interviews and we have some more tonight. A total of 16 students turned in applications.
28. Student affairs committee will be having our first meeting this Thursday, September 26th at 3:45 pm. If you are interested in being on the committee, let me know after the meeting.
29. I had a meeting with Joshua Hettrick yesterday, September 23rd. The bug issue has been resolved but if something else is to happen in any building, go to your Resident Director and they will contact maintenance if needed.
30. As some of you may have heard, Emilee Gagnon, a graduate of 2013 passed away last night from a bicycle accident in Ohio. She was biking across America for Muscular Sclerosis charity. Please keep her family in your thoughts. I’m currently getting a candle light vigil service set up for next week. I’ll have an email sent to all students so keep an eye out.
31. Student Affairs Committee**: No Report**
32. Multicultural Committee**: No Report**
33. Food Services Committee**: Tom Durkee**
34. **Tom Durkee:** The Dining Commons will be beta testing MyFitness Pal. This new program will allow students to walk up to the menu and track what they eat. It will also store calories, fats, etc... in the app, allowing students to look back on what they have eaten. The beta group will consist of around 20 people. Please email me if you are interested. The program will be released to the campus community early next semester.
35. We have discussed feedback about many topics, including The Marketplace at New Hall. They will be increasing their shipment to twice a week, which should allow them to keep up with demand on campus. We also talked about pricing, including getting prices more on par with area convenience stores. We also discussed the meal deals that were supposed to happen at The Marketplace; however those were not rolled out due to contractual issues between Sodexo and the University. In response to not getting the meal deal at The Marketplace, two more meal deals per day have been added at Pandinis.
36. We are looking at the possible addition of meal deals at other campus locations, namely Quixotes, in coming years.
37. Two ovens and a prep sink were requested by the Dining Commons to provide a hot meal to students with food allergies, every meal period. We are one of the very first Sodexo units to feature a program like this, however, we would like to see more students using this, and it is to be utilized by all students, not just those with allergies.
38. A national waste company, Lean Path, will be weighing and tracking waste in the Dining Commons over the coming months in Sodexo’s continuing efforts to be sustainable here on campus. In cooperation with Lean Path, the Dinning Commons will be cutting down on replenishing food in the hour leading up to close. If something is not our, please request it, a member of staff will be happy to get it for you. The Dining Commons has also switched out the larger napkin dispensers for smaller ones, another sustainability effort.
39. Some important dates to note; October 9th is Vendor Day from 11:00 am until 1:00 pm. This event will feature products that are used in the Dining Commons and other products that they are considering using in the future.
40. October 21st is Apple Day; this will feature 12 varieties of apples throughout the day.
41. October 23rd is Student vs. Food, back by popular demand. This semester will feature greasy food, such as a loaded three pound tater tot.
42. October 31st will be the annual Monster Bash from 4:30 pm until 8:00 pm.
43. **Rebecca DiVico**: Is Quixote’s staying?
44. **Tom Durkee**: For now, yes. Any changes like that are on the back burner for now.
45. **Steve Mailloux**: I’ve noticed that they’ve cut back on the number of meal options and lines in the DC. Was this change made through you guys or has there been any discussion on this?
46. **Tom Durkee:** It was discussed a the end of last year, and they saw a drastic cut in staffing due to Dunkin Donuts not doing well financially, but it’s something I’ll bring up to them. It also has to do with equipment, we’re serving meals to more people than the equipment can actually accommodate right now, as far as Maria Lees has told me, but the request for new equipment was not approved a this time.
47. **Arianna Roche**: When are the meetings?
48. **Tom Durkee**: Every Tuesday at 4:30 pm in the Tekoa Room.
49. **Joshua Clark**: I know this new allergy free section, Simple Servings, is a new feature. Do you have any numbers or information on how well it’s been doing?
50. **Tom Durkee**: She has said that the waste from that area has been minimal, so the food is being eaten, which is good she’s gotten positive feedback from people that do have allergies. The biggest thing is that she wants you all to help yourself to that food if you like what’s being served, we don’t want any of it to go to waste and it’s not restricted to only students with food allergies.
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59. **Arianna Roche**: Do you know anything about the DJ that plays on Friday nights?
60. **Tom Durkee**: Yes, we’re asking him to come in weekly on Fridays. People seem to enjoy it, we’re probably just going to have it turned down a little bit and relocated to the couch area instead of the trash area.
61. **Chris Michaud**: Does the DC get locked down in between meal serving times?
62. **Tom Durkee**: We didn’t discuss it but it has been put into the handbook now. I guess it gives them time to prep it, but I can find out specifically.
63. Health Committee: **No Report**
64. Parking Control Board: **Alexis Wagner**
65. Parking Control Board met on Friday, September 13th and we discussed new policies such as getting ticketed for having more than just the current WSU parking sticker in your back driver’s side window. Please remind your constituents and friends of that as well as parking in your designated lots. This year, having five or more tickets will cause a $100.00 fine on your account on top of your tickets, which means you can’t register for classes and things like that, so please have the appropriate sticker and park accordingly.
66. We’re meeting this Friday, September 27th at 2:30 pm in the Conference Room next to Dunkin Donuts.
67. **Jen McDiarmid**: I got ticketed for being parked in my designated lot. Have you heard of anyone else having that issue?
68. **Alexis Wagner**: Yeah, that’s strange. If you explain the issue to Kim Morgan, she can help you resolve that.
69. **Tom Durkee**: I’ve noticed a lot of cars without decals at all, parking in the Apartment Complex Main Lot. That lot doesn’t seem too full, but should I be calling Public Safety? Would they do anything if I called?
70. **Drew Dalesandro**: You can call Public Safety and someone should then come over. Main Lot ticketing isn’t their highest priority but they would eventually get to it.
71. **Chris Michaud**: What’s the policy for the University Hall parking lot on weekends? My friends were asking.
72. **Alexis Wagner**: The new lot behind University Hall and Lammers Hall is specifically just fac/staff and visitor, which are still fac/staff and visitor on weekends. The only on-campus spots that open to South Lot stickers are commuter spots in Juniper Park and Commuter Lot.
73. **Joshua Clark**: Has the board looked at the historical success of sticker decals? Some people have a lot of difficulty getting the decals off, so perhaps the hanging parking pass would be more effective for all the lots?
74. **Drew Dalesandro**: Both Public Safety and Kim Morgan have razors that people can borrow to remove the decals and nail polish remover works to get them off as well.
75. **Josh Frank**: Request of Information: Lexi, who do we see with our parking issues?
76. **Alexis Wagner**: I recommend you speak with Public Safety, if it is a pressing issue, otherwise you should get in touch with Kim Morgan, who is the parking clerk. Her office is upstairs by Students Affairs.
77. Student Athletic Advisory Board: **No Report**
78. Substance Advisory Committee: **No Report**
79. Community Relations/Fundraising Report**: No Report**

1. VICE PRESIDENT’S REPORT-ACADEMIC LIFE: *Andrew McCormack*
2. Hello everyone, I hope everyone is doing well. After meeting with Vice President Liz Preston, we discussed Senior Convocation. She and Dean Marsha Marotta are unsure whether to get rid of it or do something big to get more involvement. If anyone has any thoughts on the matter, please let me know.
3. Academic Policies Committee: **Victoria Landry**
4. Today, the Academic Policies Committee discussed creating bylaws for the committee and considered creating a group on Plato to do our voting and file sharing for meetings.
5. The big topic of our meeting was the Academic Honesty policy. We discussed the technicalities of hearings for graduating seniors, adding that hearings for academic dishonesty must convene by May 31st. We also went through other terminology in the policy per the request of the all University committee.
6. At our next meeting we will be reviewing the Student Conduct Policy.
7. Our next scheduled meeting in on September 30th at 1:40 pm in the Parenzo Board Room.
8. Curriculum Committee: **No Report**
9. Enrollment Management Committee: **No Report**
10. Campus Technology Committee**: No Report**
11. International Programs Committee: **Andrew McCormack**
12. We elected a chair and decided on a meeting time, it is going to rotate monthly.
13. We discussed creating more exchange programs that students will utilize**.** Students want to go to places that we don’t have agreements with and are paying more**.**
14. We are also trying to create more discussion and get the word out about going abroad.
15. The Study Abroad Fair is Wednesday, September 25th from 4:30 pm until 7:00 pm in Scanlon.
16. Our next scheduled meeting is October 25th at 2:00 pm in the Parenzo Board Room.
17. Library Advisory Committee**: No Report**
18. Writing Liaison**: No Report**
19. VICE PRESIDENT’S REPORT-PROGRAMMING: *Steve Kligerman*
20. Family Day was extremely successful even with a record number of attendees, everything went very well so, thank you to everyone who helped out.
21. Programming update: **Steve Kligerman**
22. Brown Bag Bingo is Friday, September 27th at 11:00 pm in the Scanlon Banquet Hall. I hope to see you there.
23. **Tom Durkee**: I know Bingo was in Scanlon the first time will it be staying in there?
24. **Steve Kligerman**: Bingo will take place once again in Scanlon, but just because of scheduling conflicts, so after that it should move down to the Owl’s Nest, unless the turn out becomes too big for the Owl’s Nest, then we might look to having it in Scanlon again.
25. **Taylor Fote**: I’d like to congratulate Steve Kligerman on a very successful Family Day.
26. We will be beginning to interview for members who are looking to go to the NACA Conference with us. That should be happening within a week or two. The conference is at the end of October.
27. Our next scheduled meeting is Wednesday, September 24th at 5:00 pm in the Student Government room. There will be Pizza.

1. VICE PRESIDENT’S REPORT-FINANCE: *Joshua Frank*
2. On October 3rd we will have our firsts Student Organization Council meeting. If you are a club president let your advisor know to look out for an email tomorrow, September 25th. Also, Lieutenant Foyle will be conducting a Clery Act training for advisors, which is really important.
3. Finance Report: **No Report**
4. Foundation Report**: No Report**
5. SERETARY’S REPORT: *Alexis Wagner*/*Sarah Hegarty*
6. Executive Secretary Report: **Alexis Wagner**
7. The Class of 2017 election is going on through MyWestfield today, September 24th and Tomorrow, September 25th. Encourage first-year students to vote for there class council.
8. I’ve received at least one nomination for Senator of the Week and I’d love to get some more. Keep them coming.
9. Legislative Secretary Report: **Sarah Hegarty**
10. Hello everyone, Just a reminder, 3 units are due by Monday, September 30th; I will accept them up until 5:00 pm on Tuesday, October 1st at [legsec.sga@westfield.ma.edu](mailto:legsec.sga@westfield.ma.edu).
11. As a reminder this is what counts as a unit:
12. CAB events, sporting events, hall events, class events, visiting Dean Sue LaMontagne, visiting Vice President Carlton Pickron and school performances ie…Musical Theater Guild, Student Theatre Association or Dance Company.
13. Off campus events count as two units.
14. If you are part of the organization holding the event it does not count.
15. I’m pushing for community service to count more. If you’re helping out our community, you should be rewarded more. On Campus events will be rewarded more. On campus events will be one unit per hour, off campus, community service will be two units per hour.
16. **Michael Janchuk**: The Autism Walk is Saturday, September 28th in Stanley Park; how many units would that count for?
17. **Sarah Hegarty**: That would be 2 units per hour.
18. **Victoria Landry**: Request of Information: What time is the Autism Walk?
19. **Rebecca DiVico**: I believe it’s at 12:00 on Saturday in Stanley Park.
20. **Priscilla Aguialar**: Does volunteering at Family Day count as a unit?
21. **Sarah Hegarty**: not if you’re on CAB.
22. **Tom Durkee**: Request of Information: Can you clarify what you mean by Hall events?
23. **Sarah Hegarty**: If you’re on Hall council and you throw a pizza party, you can’t get units for being at your own event. But if your RA throws an event and you live in their section, that counts, but if you’re the RA doing it, it doesn’t.
24. PARLIAMENTARIAN REPORT: Isaac Matson
25. COMMUTER COUNCIL, CLASS AND HALL REPORTS:
26. Commuter Council: **Luis Arzola**
27. Good evening all, first of all, it’s great to see you all. This fall semester 2013 has started pretty well for the Commuter Council. We already have a new Secretary, Melanie Texeira, a new Treasurer, Fatemeh Ghasemi and Marjorie Rodriquez as Advertising Manager.
28. Our interest meeting is next Tuesday, October 1st in the Owls Nest from 2:00 pm until 4:00 pm. there will be free pizza and give away, probably key chains.
29. The council will be working in a political agenda this semester which will involve the all lovely issue of commuter parking. I will not elaborate on that at the moment until the whole proposal is figured out and the proper steps have been followed.
30. The Commuter Luncheon is tomorrow, September 25th in the Tekoa room from 11:30 pm until 1:30 pm. The Academic Advising office will be there.
31. Our next scheduled meeting will be on October 8th at 2:00pm in the SGA Conference room #20.
32. Senior Class: **Emily Baker**
33. We’ve just wrapped up a big week of Senior events.
34. Senior Convocation was on Thursday, September 19th. We raffled off two Free Senior Fest Packets: one from the Class and the other was donated by President Dobelle. Thank you to Ryan Losco and the 2016 Council for helping with the raffle. We heard remarks from Maddy Cahill of the Communication Department as well as former ambassador Stuart Eizenstat. Most notably, we presented the check to Make-A-Wish for $6,000 to grant our first wish. Thanks to everyone in SGA that helped make that possible.
35. Friday night, September 20th was our Senior Luau, which drew a decent crowd out to socialize out in the courtyard. We hope everyone had a good time.
36. Senior weekend concluded with our first senior trip to Mohegan Sun. Everyone seemed to have a good time. We hope to have more seniors join our future senior trips.
37. The next big thing on the horizon is the Class photo on the green in the shape of a 2-0-1-4. We will be advertising for that soon, so please save the date: we will be taking the photo on Monday, October 7th at 4:00 pm.
38. Our next scheduled meeting is on Wednesday, September 25th at 3:00 pm in the SGA Conference Room.
39. Junior Class: **Richard Darrach**
40. Due to low interest we will be tabling Dancing with the Stars. We’re going to take the opportunity to create a “Are you Smarter than a First Year”, campus wide event with our sister class.
41. We’re also discussing Mud Volleyball, Tug of War competitions and other events. Details to follow.
42. We are still looking for a Representative to Senate.
43. Our next scheduled meeting is Wednesday, September 25th at 4:00 pm in the Conference Room 003 next to Dunkin Donuts
44. Sophomore Class**: Ryan Losco**
45. I move to appoint Mikayla Culley as representative to Senate for the Class of 2016 for the 2013-2014 Academic year. Motion passed.
46. Also, we are starting to plan our “Buzz Off” on campus. If you are looking to get involved or co-sponsor, let me know. We want to get as many people involved as possible, like Athletics, Fac/Staff or Administration.
47. **Taylor Fote**: For your mini buzz-off, it’s just shaving heads or are you doing hair cutting too?
48. **Ryan Losko**: It’s still being worked out, but what we’re thinking of is kind of a competition, so there’s a group of students all supporting a particular student who wants to shave their head, since not everyone is willing to shave their head. It’s not like Locks of Love, where the hair actually goes somewhere; it’s just to signify support of a child with cancer.
49. **Sarah Hegarty**: Are you still trying to get the Patriots?
50. **Ryan Losco**: We can try, if we are really successful with fundraising, it could be a possibility, but they wouldn’t come if we only rose like $100.00.
51. **Michael Janchuk**: Request of Information: We’re going to get the community involved and look for local barbers to do this with us aren’t we?
52. **Ryan Losko**: That is correct.
53. Our next scheduled meeting is Tuesday, October 1st at 6:30 pm in the Ely Conference Room 003.
54. Freshman Class: **No Report**
55. Apartment Complex: **No Report**
56. Courtney Hall**: No Report**
57. Davis Hall: **No Report**
58. Dickinson Hall: **No Report**
59. Lammers Hall: **No Report**
60. Lansdowne Hall: **No Report**
61. New Hall: **No Report**
62. Scanlon Hall: **No Report**
63. University Hall**: No Report**
64. UNFIISHED BUSINESS**:**
65. NEW BUSINESS:

1. ANNOUNCEMENTS:
2. **Sue LaMontagne**: Can you remind your friends and constituents about smoking gazebos and making sure they smoke cigarettes out there, and that smoking does not include marijuana, which is not allowed on campus.
3. **Sarah Hegarty**: Do your units, please.
4. **Stone Koury**: Two things, first off; the Voice came out with their first issue, last week and it looks noticeably like revitalized paper, so round of applause. Second, can I please see the Reps at Large in the glass conference room briefly at the end of the meeting?
5. **Taylor Fote**: Can I see Brittany Moniz after the meeting?
6. **Tom Durkee**: 234 Days until Commencement.
7. ROLL CALL: Amanda McCarthy was absent.
8. ADJOURNMENT: Meeting adjourned at 6:18 pm.