**STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION MINUTES**

**September 26, 2017**

1. ROLL CALL: Marissa Cremin, Victoria Lind, Kelsey Kiltonic were absent and Katherine Lindberg was excused.
2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM: September 19, 2017
3. PRESIDENT'S REPORT: **Brendan McKee**
4. Hello everyone, and welcome to all of the new senators in the room. My name is Brendan McKee and I am the President of SGA for the 2017-2018 academic year. Before we get started, I just want to point out that the executive board has a dinner event we have to go to right after the meeting, which is why we’re dressed up. While we do have some meetings that have specific dress code, usually you are free to wear what you would like.
5. We have one speaker tonight. Here to welcome you all, we have Vice President of Student Affairs Dr. Carlton Pickron.
6. **Dr. Carlton Pickron**: Everyone take one as this gets passed around. This is this year’s version of the Westfield State lapel pen. It says 1839. So everyone has that and we expect you to wear it with great pride. Welcome back, it’s been an interesting and bumpy start, but I’ve told people last week Wednesday when we had the special SGA meeting here, that was Westfield State Student Government at one of its finest hours in all of my years here. That was outstanding. Then after that when we went out to the Globe where BSU had a rally continued Westfield State at its finest hour. More than 300 students out there, faculty and staff out there showing support. Then we move to Thursday and Thursday what stood out to me was Pancakes with the President and students come up and say oh thank you. How proper, mature our students are here. Also at Pancakes with the President if you ask me I thought there was a party going on. DJ Boogie had the music rocking and that was all of our flavors here at Westfield State. Another phenomenal day here. That’s what Westfield State is about, not this craziness, not this stupidity that we have been subject to, but that’s what Westfield State is about. Remember that, keep that strong in your heart when you tell people Westfield State moving strong and moving forward. Go Owls go Owls. Peace be with you.
7. **Emmett Witherspoon**: I just want to say to everybody, the fight continues throughout the years. Owls will always fight back.
8. Thank you, Carlton. Before I get into business, I would like to direct all new senators to a packet at your seat that outlines the basis of how SGA functions during its meetings. We will be having a mandatory new senator orientation following the end of our SGA meeting next Tuesday, October 4 but if you have any questions about how our meetings work, reach out any of us up here at your discretion and we’d be more than happy to help.
9. I move to accept the Class of 2021 and Hall Council election results for the 2017-2018 academic year. Motion carries.
10. I move to appoint Barbara Hand and Ryan Meersman as SGA Advisors for the 2017-2018 academic year. Motion carries.
11. I move to appoint Jon Kelland as SAAC Representative to SGA for the 2017-2018 academic year. Motion carries.
12. I move to appoint Mike Reid as Commuter Council President for the 2017-2018 academic year. Motion carries.
13. ~~We have to select a Parliamentarian for the year. The Parliamentarian is in charge of running the Rules and Regulations Committee as well as sitting up front with the Executive Board during SGA meetings to ensure that Robert’s Rules are being upheld and that the meeting is running properly. For those who do not know, the Rules and Regulations Committee typically will meet after SGA meetings on Tuesday nights. The purpose of the committee is to review bylaws and constitutions of both SGA and its clubs/organizations, as well as helping to establish new clubs/organizations on campus. I am now opening the floor to accept nominations for Parliamentarian.~~
14. **~~Maddie Dexter~~**~~: I nominate Tyler Cameron.~~
15. **~~Tyler Cameron~~**~~: I accept.~~
16. **~~Owen MacDonald~~**~~: I nominate Bryan Pimentel.~~
17. **~~Bryan Pimentel~~**~~: I accept.~~
18. **~~Nicole Hannon~~**~~: I nominate Abdullah Shafique.~~
19. **~~Abdullah Shafique~~**~~: I accept~~
20. **~~Maddie Creamer~~**~~: I nominate Aaron Sylvia.~~
21. **~~Aaron Sylvia~~**~~: I accept~~
22. ~~I move to appoint Bryan Pimental as Parliamentarian for the 2017-2018 academic year. Motion carries.~~
23. ~~Next we need to form the Rules and Regulations Committee. This committee will consist of one member from each class, with nominations coming from members of your class only. For example, if you are a member of the class of 2020, you can only be nominated by other members of the class of 2020.~~
24. ~~Class of 2018, please raise your hand and be recognized by those in your class. I open the floor to accept nominations for Class of 2018 representative to the rules and regulations committee.~~
25. **~~John Coulombe~~**~~: I nominate Emmett Witherspoon.~~
26. **~~Emmett Witherspoon~~**~~: I accept.~~
27. **~~Maddie Creamer~~**~~: I nominate Aaron Sylvia.~~
28. **~~Aaron Sylvia~~**~~: I accept~~
29. ~~I move to appoint Aaron Sylvia as Representative for the Class of 2018 to the Rules and Regulations Committee for the 2017-2018 academic year. Motion carries.~~
30. ~~Class of 2019, please raise your hand and be recognized by those in your class. I open the floor to accept nominations for class of 2019 representative to the rules and regulations committee.~~
31. **~~Cam Swan~~**~~: I nominate Jake O’Kane.~~
32. **~~Jake O’Kane~~**~~: I accept.~~
33. **~~Abdullah Shafique~~**~~: I nominate Mike Reid.~~
34. **~~Mike Reid~~**~~: I decline.~~
35. ~~I move to appoint Jake O’Kane as Representative for the Class of 2019 to the Rules and Regulations Committee for the 2017-2018 academic year. Motion carries.~~
36. ~~Class of 2020, please raise your hand and be recognized by those in your class. I open the floor to accept nominations for class of 2020 representative to the rules and regulations committee.~~
37. **~~Owen MacDonald~~**~~: I nominate Connor Kennedy.~~
38. **~~Connor Kennedy~~**~~: I accept.~~
39. ~~I move to appoint Connor Kennedy as Representative for the Class of 2020 to the Rules and Regulations Committee for the 2017-2018 academic year. Motion carries.~~
40. ~~Thalita Neves was nominated and accepted.~~
41. ~~Class of 2021, please raise your hand and be recognized by those in your class. I open the floor to accept nominations for class of 2021 representative to the rules and regulations committee.~~
42. ~~I move to appoint Thalita Neves as Representative for the Class of 2021 to the Rules and Regulations Committee for the 2017-2018 academic year. Motion carries.~~
43. I have a few things to pass around.
44. I have a contact sheet to pass around, and I need you to fill out your information prior to the end of the meeting.
45. I am passing around a sheet regarding interest in going to the Big E to march for Westfield Day this Thursday, September 28. Any kind of Westfield gear is required for those marching. If you would like to go please write your name down on the sheet going around right now. If so you will need to fill out a travel waiver down here in SGA before you depart. The bus pick-up will be at 4:00pm in front of Scanlon Hall, and the bus would leave the Big E around 9:30pm.
46. My office hours are Mondays from 2:00pm to 5:00pm and Tuesdays from 1:00pm to 4:00pm or by appointment if you would ever like to come by and speak with me.
47. Thank you and I am looking forward to a productive year working with all of you.
48. Items not listed on Agenda:

1. BOARD OF TRUSTEES' REPORT: **Cameron Swan**
   1. Hi everyone, for those of you I do not know, my name is Cam Swan and I will be the Student Trustee for the 2017/2018 academic year. In this position, I will represent student interests to the board, and report board activity to SGA. This year, along with the full board meetings, I am a member of the following committees: Finance and Capital Assets, Institutional Advancement and Academic and Student Affairs.
   2. My office hours are Tuesday from 3:00pm until 5:00pm, Thursday from 4:00pm until 5:00pm and Friday from 11:30pm until 1:30pm.
   3. All University Committee: **Brendan McKee**
   4. Neighborhood Advisory Board: **No Report**
   5. NEASC Steering Committee: **No Report**
   6. Strategic Planning Committee**: No Report**

1. VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT-STUDENT LIFE: **Arielyss Santiago**
   1. For those of you who do not know me, my name is Arielyss Santiago and my position on SGA is Vice President of Student Life. My job is to address any and all issues that pertain to student and their day to day lives here on campus. So, if you have any questions about Residential Life, Parking, and our Food Services then I’m your go to.
   2. If you ever need me my office hours are Tuesday from 3:00pm until 5:00pm, Thursday from 2:00pm until 3:00pm and Friday from 12:00pm until 1:00pm. Feel free to come by with any questions or concerns you may have**.**
   3. With the recent occurring events surrounding racism, sexism and other hate speech, SGA held an emergency meeting last Wednesday, September 20 where we gave students on campus a space in which they could voice their concerns and also brainstorm ways to move forward and make changes on this campus as a whole. As elected Student Government Association senators, it is our job to put our best foot forward and contribute to the solution.
   4. I hope you all have an amazing rest of your week and I am excited to see what this year brings**.**
   5. Student Affairs Committee**: No Report**
   6. Diversity/Inclusion Committee: **Mika Lapre**
2. I would like to start by recognizing those of you who attended the special SGA meeting and gathering at the globe last weekend in light of the recent events that happened on campus. Just to update you all on the matter, constituents including administration, faculty, and staff have been meeting, and collaborating on ways to become more responsive and inclusive. If you have any concerns or questions about the issues on campus and what is being done to better our community please feel free to ask.
3. There will be a workshop lead by Ashiah Richeme, Director of Diversity and Inclusion and Nick Cream to investigate the sources of unconscious bias and help those learn about and understand unconscious bias and micro-aggressions on Friday, September 29 from 1:00pm until 3:00pm and Thursday October 19 from 4:00pm until 6:00pm in the Scanlon Banquet hall.
4. Tim Wise will be speaking on September 27 at 6:00pm in Dever stage. Everyone is encouraged to wear Black.
5. There are plans in the making to have another gathering at the Globe on the tentative date of Friday, October 6 where Black Student Unions from local colleges will be attending so, be on the lookout for that follow up.
6. We are also planning to coordinate some type of food drive to those families out in Puerto Rico and Mexico dealing with the severe natural disasters so be on the lookout for that as well. If you have any ideas on ways to help support those places in need please come speak to me.
7. September 27 the Dining Commons will be having Dominican food during their dinner hours so stop by and try some.
8. **Maddie Creamer**: Just for new students, who may or may not know, are there any social media efforts that they can follow to get updates about any of these events?
9. **Mika Lapre**: Yes, so I actually have a run Twitter, it’s called WSU Social Squad so you can follow that Twitter. It is run by students here on campus; it is six females who have the Twitter account. It wasn’t created exactly to represent the different events that have happened on campus. It’s just a way to be projecting everything that’s gone on on campus whether it be the gathering at the Globe or what went on at the green. So it’s just a way of putting that out there and kind of be a positive outlook for all our prospective students coming in. They need to see not only the news headlines, but all the positivity that’s going on on campus as well.
10. **Cam Swan**: So the next meeting at the globe you said Friday, October 6, is that a tentative date? Will that be at 9:00pm either way though?
11. **Mika Lapre**: It’s a tentative date and will be at 9:00pm we’re just trying to get in communication with all the other BSUs that are local
12. The Diversity and Inclusion committee will have their first meeting on Thursday, October 5 at 5:00pm in the Unity Room.
    1. Food Services Committee**: No Report**
    2. Parking Control Board: **No Report**
    3. Student Athletic Advisory Board: **No Report**
    4. Substance Advisory Committee: **No Report**
    5. Community Relations/Fundraising Report: Bryan Pimentel
13. I just want to remind everyone that the first Red Cross Blood drive of the year is next Wednesday, October 4 from 1:00pm until 7:00pm in the Parenzo Gym. I have the sign-up sheets to pass around for the Thursday, Friday, and Monday leading up to the blood drive as well as sign-ups for the day of.
14. I also have posters to go up in Bates, Parenzo, and Wilson if you could see me after the meeting to help hang up that would be greatly appreciated.
15. I have an update from Health Services.
    1. Veteran’s Affairs Report: **No Report**
    2. Advisory Committee on University Infrastructure: **No Report**

1. VICE PRESIDENT’S REPORT-ACADEMIC LIFE: **Jacob Lotter**
   1. Hello everyone! My name is Jacob Lotter and I am your Vice-President of Academic Life. The main part of my job is to serve as a liaison between the division of Academic Affairs where all of our academic departments are housed and the students. In order for me to do that I work very closely with some important people in Academic Affairs including our new Vice-President/Provost, Dr. Parviz Ansari. Some other people I work with are the Dean of Undergraduate Studies Dr. Christina Swaidan, the Dean of Education Dr. Cheryl Stanley, the Dean of Graduate and Continuing Education Dr. Shelley Tinkham, as well as the Registrar, Academic Advising, the Reading and Writing Center, and many more. If you ever have any questions or concerns about anything academics related you should feel free to reach out to me so we can discuss.
   2. I will have the advising and registration dates next week.
   3. My office hours are Tuesdays and Fridays from 1:00pm until 3:00pm.
   4. Academic Policies Committee: **No Report**
   5. Curriculum Committee: **No Report**
   6. Enrollment Management Committee: **Maddie Creamer**
2. The Enrollment Management Committee met last Wednesday, September 20 in the SGA Club Room. At this meeting, we discussed many topics specifically, new enrollment applications, communication and policies regarding outstanding debts.
3. Mike Mazeika from Admissions presented the software, Ellucian CRM Recruit which is used to build relationships with prospective students by communicating with them more frequently and providing them a responsive application experience. The new system has transformed the application completely since I applied in 2013. The portal now allows students to have campus plans and view information regarding student life, academics, athletics, housing and a few more areas. The campus plan allows various departments to reach out to prospects regarding their area of interest. At the time of our meeting last week, there were 58 applications completed and 230 applications that were started, which is awesome. Something new to the application process is a confirmation stating that their application is complete. In regard to the applications, the Admissions office is looking to go paperless for student files to make it more accessible for counselors to review prospects information.
4. We began discussing new policies regarding outstanding depts. These outstanding debts oftern impact student’s during registration for classes because they are unaware that they have a hold on their account. Currntly if you have a balance of $5.00 or more, you will have a hold on your account. The committee will continue to review the outstanging debts and work towards creating a policy that is best for students during our next meeting.
5. Our next scheduled meeting is October 25 at 3:30pm in the SGA Club Room E021.
   1. International Programs Committee: **No Report**
   2. Academic Technology and Information Services Committee: **No Report**
   3. Writing Liaison Committee: **No Report**
   4. Advisory Committee on Academic Planning: **No Report**
   5. Advisory Committee on the CURACW: **No Report**
   6. Guest Lecture Committee: **No Report**
6. VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT-PROGRAMMING: **Madeline Dexter**
7. Thank you to everyone that came to volunteer for Celebrate Westfield weekend.
8. For those of you who don’t know, my name is Maddie Dexter and I am the Vice President of Programming for the SGA Executive Board. This also means that I am the president of the Campus Activities Board. Basically, with the help of my two lovely boards, I program events for the campus community. You can email me any time with any programming ideas or needs you feel the campus is missing and I will try my best to accommodate your needs.
9. Programming update: **Madeline Dexter**
10. Owl Bash planning committee is forming soon so if anybody has any ideas about events for that weekend or things you would like to see again, please let me know or come to a CAB meeting!
11. I am happy to say that CAB has taken Ashiah Richeme, the Director of Diversity and Inclusion, on board as a collaborator to our team. The Executive Board, with her help, hopes to extend CAB from just social programming to branching towards community engagement and social awareness programming. I am really excited for the opportunity to collaborate with her. Also, please know that the collaborative door between clubs and organizations and CAB is always open and we would love to include more in our calendar this year.
12. Student Activities is implementing something new this year called “Westfield after Dark”. This means that there will be a program every Thursday, Friday, and Saturday night after 8:00pm. This means there is a very exciting new event calendar available! The events for this weekend include Thrifty Thursday, September 28 at 9:00pm in the Owl’s Nest! You can make a fall candle holder that looks like this! Friday night, September 29 will be Brown Bag Bingo hosted by Campus Activities Board in the Scanlon Banquet Hall. Come to hear my voice over a speaker system! Saturday night, September 30 is Game Night hosted by Student Activities in the Owl’s Nest featuring snacks.
13. As Mika Lapre said, tomorrow night, September 27 Tim Wise, an anti-racist activist and educator will be speaking at 6:00pm in Dever Stage. Because of the current climate of our campus, I think this will be a very engaging presentation.
14. This weekend, September 27 through September 30 STA will be hosting “The Shape of Things” in the Black Box Theater on the second floor of Ely. This is an engaging show about a relationship between a guy and girl that goes off the beaten path. It is one of the most interesting shows I have ever read and I highly recommend it.
15. WHIP comedy improve will be hosting their first show of the semester titled “Get Comfy with WHIP comedy improve” on September 29 in the Owl’s Nest and the price is $3.00 at the door.
16. The Westfield State Music Department will be hosting a recital on September 27, tomorrow, at 5:00pm in the Catherine Dower Center.
17. Pet Therapy is tomorrow, September 27 at 11:00am. Go see the fluffy puppies and the cute old dogs too.
18. My office hours are Tuesdays from 12:00pm until 2:00pm and Wednesdays from 3:00pm until 5:00pm. Come see my and we will talk or jam to some great music.
19. CAB’s next scheduled meeting is September 27 at 5:00pm right here in SGA.
20. VICE PRESIDENT’S REPORT-FINANCE: **Marcus DiBacco**
21. **Karina Sallaway**: Good evening, Marcus DiBacco, the Vice President of Finance, could not be here today for our first meeting; but I have this message from him.
22. SGA serves as the voice of the student body and as the connection between the students and the University as a whole. You, as senators in particular, serve the most crucial role as you combined make up the largest part of SGA. You have been elected to the legislature by your peers because they trust you to represent them when it comes to making change. In the Constitution of the United States, Article I discusses the powers and responsibilities of the Legislature, Congress. The Constitution is set up this way because the Legislature is the most important branch of the government. The same is true for our Student Government, but don’t worry, it’s not as intense as I make it sound.
23. I am sure that many of you, being new senators are overwhelmed right now. I was too and so was everyone else who has ever been on SGA. But within a few weeks, that feeling will start to go away, and even if it does not, don’t worry about it. We all still get nervous from time to time, but we are here for each other; and we will be here for you too.
24. So study hard, speak with knowledge and respect, sleep, and have fun. I look forward to seeing you all around campus and in SGA.
25. Also if anyone is interested in joining the finance committee, please contact me. Thank you.
26. Finance Report: **No Report**
27. Foundation Report: **No Report**
28. SECRETARY'S REPORT: **Karina Sallaway/Derek Estrella**
29. Executive Secretary Report: **Karina Sallaway**
30. For those of you who don’t know me, my name is Karina Sallaway and I am the Executive Secretary. What I do here is type those pesky minutes every week, announce a Lifesaver of the Week, which just acknowledges one of you for going above and beyond, and I also have the pleasure of planning the Owl Ball, which this year will be March 23. So, everyone mark your calendars and I will be asking for interest in Owl Ball committee very soon.
31. My office hours are Mondays and Wednesdays from 3:00pm until 5:00pm.
32. Legislative Secretary Report: **Derek Estrella**
33. Hello everyone and welcome new senators to your first Student Government Meeting! My name is Derek Estrella and I am the Legislative Secretary for the 2017-2018 academic year. Some of duties that I handle are student engagement, which involves senator office hours and town halls, keeping attendance for SGA meetings along with all committees and councils, and chairing the Blue Key Committee which meets in the spring.
34. As you may notice new senators, you have a New Senator Packet in front of you. I encourage you all to take the time to read this and come back next week with any questions. You will notice once reading this packets there are some duties that go along with being a senator in SGA. All of your SGA duties will begin the first week of October to give all of you a chance to digest all the information you received today.
35. I will be explaining Senator Office hours next week so you can then begin holding them.
36. If you have any questions please feel free to email me at legsec.sga@westfield.ma.edu or stop by during my office hours, which are Thursday and Friday 3:00-5:00 for this semester.
37. PARLIAMENTARIAN REPORT:
38. Rules and Regulations Committee:

1. COMMUTER COUNCIL, CLASS AND HALL REPORTS:
2. Commuter Council: **No Report**
3. Senior Class: **Maddie Creamer**
4. I’d like to welcome to all the new senators and congratulate you all on your election wins.
5. I move to appoint Katelynn Nardi as Representative to SGA for the Class of 2018 for the remainder of the 2017-2018 academic year. Motion carries.
6. I move to appoint Marisa Russo as Representative to SGA for the Class of 2018 for remainder of the 2017-2018 academic year. Motion carries.
7. I move to appoint Aaron Sylvia as Representative to SGA for the Class of 2018 for remainder of the 2017-2018 academic year.
8. The senior class has finally filled all of our positions on our council and we are hard at work with events for this year. Keep an eye out for more information.
9. Our next scheduled meeting is on October 2 at 8:00am location to be announced.
10. Junior Class: **Abdullah Shafique**
11. I move to appoint Marcus Payne as Representative to SGA for the Class of 2019 for the remainder of the 2017-2018 academic year. Motion carries.
12. I move to appoint Matthew Howe as Representative to SGA for the Class of 2019 for the remainder of the 2017-2018 academic year. Motion carries.
13. I move to appoint Joseph Newlin as Representative to SGA for the Class of 2019 for the remainder of the 2017-2018 academic year. Motion carries.
14. I would like to officially announce the date for Mr. Westfield 2017. Mr. Westfield will be held next year on May 4, 2018. The Class of 2019 will advertise the show all of October and will look for contestants beginning in November. If you know anyone that may be potentially interested, please tell them to keep on eye out for flyers regarding contestant applications in November.
15. Sophomore Class: **No Report**
16. First Year Class: **No Report**
17. Apartment Complex: **No Report**
18. Courtney Hall: **No Report**
19. Davis Hall: **No Report**
20. Dickinson Hall: **No Report**
21. Lammers Hall: **No Report**
22. Lansdowne Place: **No Report**
23. New Hall: **No Report**
24. Scanlon Hall: **No Report**
25. University Hall: **No Report**

1. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:
2. NEW BUSINESS:
3. ANNOUNCEMENTS:
4. **MASSPirg**: We are working on four campaigns this semester. To get Westfield State to make a commitment to 100% renewable energy by the year 2050. The other three campaigns are Save the Bees, Reduce the College Textbooks Price campaign and Alleviating the Hunger and Homeless of Hurricane relief.
5. **Bryan Pimentel**: See me for Blood Drive Posters to hang up.
6. **Brendan McKee**: Can I please get the contact sheet back after the meeting.
7. **John Coulombe**: For new senators you need to be on two committees. Come to CAB tomorrow it counts as one.
8. Maddie Creamer: 235 Days until Commencement.
9. ROLL CALL: Marissa Cremin, Victoria Lind, Kelsey Kiltonic, Andrew Logan, Kyle Szczepanek, Mitchell Mckittrick, Nathan Lovejoy and Angela Riley were absent, Katherine Lindberg was excused and Samantha Dorazio sent an alternate.
10. ADJOURNMENT: Meeting adjourned at 6:20pm

*To ensure the courtesy of others,*

*Please turn off your cell phone before the meeting*