**STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION MINUTES**

**October 12, 2021**

1. ROLL CALL: Catherine Eynation and Sophia Barker were absent. Payten Tardy, Diego Fuenmayor and Kevin Hennessey were excused.
2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM: October 5, 2021 will be approved at the next scheduled SGA meeting.
3. PRESIDENT'S REPORT: ***Cameron Kelleher***
4. I hope you were all able to enjoy your long weekend. Today we have a very special Guest to discuss some updates/information regarding Residential Life on campus, and gather some feedback on the return to housing from you all. I strongly recommend taking this opportunity to run this feedback from either yourself or things you have heard from other students up the ladder to the head honcho of Res Life. Please welcome the interim Director of Housing Joshua Hettrick.
5. **Joshua Hettrick**: I wanted to give you a, direct as can be, information session. We haven’t always been the best about communicating to students. Printed up here is the Academic Year in Res Life schedule, it is subject to change, should the need arise, but it gives you a good idea of what we are looking at this academic year from when your Department comes together to meet every month, to the RA Selection, to Housing selection and mid-year room change process.
6. Just to give you a good overview of what we are looking at for questions, we are doing everything we can to have good communication with students. I had a meeting with Aaron Lessing, it was a nice opportunity to sit down a talk about some of the things that have been coming up down here, we had a chance to talk about some of the concerns over the first month, so I am more than happy to answer them.
7. I know fire alarms especially in New Hall have come up a lot. Which I’m aware has gotten better since people are getting acquainted with the stoves and not leaving popcorn in the microwave too long.
8. I know people have brought up mold over in New Hall as well, and the campus has been dealing with that in buildings all over campus. There were some apartments in New Hall, at the end of the summer with how rainy and wet over summer, caused moisture to get trapped. New Hall has an air conditioning unit that can allow moisture to stay in places more than other buildings. All of that has been taken care of. We had an outside company take care of those from August through September. There are three on the first floor unoccupied that we are waiting for a carpenter to come in for, but we are waiting for stuff that is stuck in a ship off the coast of California right now. So, once that stuff comes in then we will be able to use those apartments for housing.
9. Outside of that we are doing a lot in Res Life. There have been a lot of programs happening in the dorms. We saw several hundred students partake in the programs and this has been encouraging to see everyone face to face again.
10. We are taking an opportunity, this year, with stuff that has been happening both on our campus, on UMass, and many other campuses. This year we are going to be starting a new project on using the arch way for University hall as a canvas of sorts and each month we will be working with students to paint a mural of whatever the artist that identifies on them, motivates them, or inspires them each month of the academic year. We are working to get a pink ribbon up there for breast cancer awareness. Next month we are working to get something for Native American Heritage and will continue doing that for the rest of the year, to bring awareness to issues of diversity and hopefully spark some conversations about diversity and inclusion on campus.
11. That’s a little bit about what’s going on at Res life, are there any things I can clear up? Questions?
12. **Cameron Kelleher**: Could you introduce yourself for all the new senators?
13. **Joshua Hedrick**: Sure, my name is Joshua Hedrick for those who don’t know me, I am the Interim Director of Residential Life I have been a part of this University for 13 years now. I have been the Assistant Director of Housing, and the Director of Housing Operations, and over the course of this summer, we worked with Dean Balch to bring Residential Engagement and Housing back together to Residential Life. We have an office of four staff members, myself, John Zocco is our Interim Assistant Director, Dawn Whitehill is our Accountant, and June Tanski is our Secretary and we have four RDs on staff all new to the University, they have been very energetic and present in the buildings. We will actually be announcing, we have successfully hired a fifth RD on staff.
14. **Daniel Currier**: For Residential Life in University Hall, I was one of those students who got stuck in the elevator when we first moved in. We’ve noticed there has been a number of changes so that doesn’t happen again, but many students won’t abide by those rules. Are there any updates on when the elevators will be fixed?
15. **Joshua Hedrick**: The elevators have historically been a problem especially when we had incidents of jumping in them. I know the first ones that got stuck was no fault of the students, and I’m sorry you had to go through that. I think everything is the same with everything in the world right now, it’s a matter of supply and trying to get everything to the campus. We are dealing with a number of issues in terms of supply chain problems, which is causing everything to be delayed, which is also why we have not been able to get the furniture into the suites in University Hall. That was supposed to have happened four weeks ago. As soon as we get everything in, and we get the elevator contractors down here, we will try and get everything done.
16. **Cameron Kelleher**: You talked about the mold, what kind of communications are going out to tell students about it?
17. **Joshua Hedrick**: We can start to send something out to New Hall, we didn’t because over the summer no one was living in the halls. We had one on the 3rd floor and moved them to a new room the same day. But we can definitely let students know it was taken care of and there are no problems anymore.
18. Thank you Joshua Hettrick.
19. I move to appoint Ryan Meersman and Barbara Hand as Advisors to the Student Government Association for the 2021-2022 academic year. Motion carries.
20. Presidents Council: **No Report**
21. Items not listed on Agenda: **No Report**
22. BOARD OF TRUSTEES' REPORT: ***Chloë Sanfaçon Reported by Lindsay McNulty***
    * 1. I have a full-day Board of Trustees meeting tomorrow, October 13 from 8:30 am until 4:00 pm in the Owl’s Nest. The Advancement and Enrollment Management, Academic and Student Affairs, Finance and Capital Assets and Audit committees will meet in the beginning of the day with the Full Board Meeting Starting at 2:00 pm. Governance and Nomination Committee has been cancelled for tomorrow’s meeting due to scheduling conflicts.
23. All of the day’s meetings will be live-streamed on YouTube and you can find the link for the stream on the Board of Trustees webpage.
24. I will be giving my Student Trustee report at the Full Board meeting. If there is anything you’d like me to bring up to the board, feel free to email me at trustee.sga@westfield.ma.edu.
    * 1. All University Committee: **No Report**
      2. Student Advisory Council: **No Report**

1. VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT-STUDENT LIFE: ***Aaron Lessing***
2. Student Affairs Committee: **No Report**
3. Food Services Committee**: Aaron Lessing**
4. Food Service Committee met last Friday, October 8 in the DC.
5. We talked about the current struggles with the food market. Dining Services is working with Res Life to get space to store food so that they can prepare for any issues with the food supply, they also are getting a large freezer truck to hold many items as well. Please realize that the supply line for food is not good with many transport ships stuck at ports, this means Dining Services might not have certain foods available as the situation gets worse.
6. The dishes and silverware started yesterday.
7. The state is paying for replacement LED lights in the DC, which will be happening over the winter.
8. Regarding Hot Chocolate, the DC has a dispenser that they will be using this winter.
9. Please take down Bill Connors number for any issues that you might have with Dining Services, (413)642-1275. If you have an issue it is much easier to immediately let Dining Services know, so that they can work with you to fix the issue.
10. Wilson Café is barely breaking even, if it goes in the red that means that Dining Services will have to take funding from other locations on campus to support Wilson. With that being said, we talked about possibly closing Wilson Café for the rest of the semester. While, the locations would be closed, the food will be sold in other locations and the employees would work at other locations as well. If this happened, Dining Services might be able to provide other things at the remaining locations.
11. How do you feel about closing Wilson Café for the remainder of the semester?
12. **Daniel Currier**: Just two things, first the silverware: I’m glad we have the dishwasher up and running, but there were no trash cans to dump food waste. It might be in our best interest for Wilson to close for the rest of the semester, and then reopen it in spring rebranded.
13. **Aaron Lessing**: For food waste, I know you can put everything on your plates on the conveyor belt and it’ll be taken care of, and thank you for your opinion.
14. **Aliah White**: I do think it will be better if we moved Wilson into the other areas because of them lacking right now.
15. Aaron Lessing: If you do have any specific questions Bill is here tonight.
16. **Matt Dibbern**: Chipotle Mayo; thank you love it. Personally, I am opposed to Wilson closing as all my classes are in Wilson. Maybe if it was just less food offered, so it would reduced staffing and food costs, instead of it be closed down. So that way people who can’t walk all around campus can have food.
17. **Katie Pinney**: I would guess that part of the reason that Wilson is not doing well is because there is no place or home for commuters. Would it be better to bring back the seating that was taken instead of closing it?
18. **Bill Connor**: The challenge in the existing café space was the occupancy was limited to five people and when COVID hit we had to limit it to 2.5 people and the cashier counted as one. So, in order to safely serve everyone, we need to keep the footprint low and the size low. I agree with you about Commuter Council, I believe you can contact Maggie Balch about the Commuter Council and there used to be an office there for commuters that had a “to do list” of improvements like seating. I think it’s a worthy point to bring up if it were to close to keep seating for people to go to.
19. **Lindsay McNulty**: So, off of what Katie Pinney and Matt Dibbern were saying, is one of the most important parts of Wilson is the Commuters having a home or a lounge. So probably lowering the options or just having a coffee or salad/sandwich thing that would let us expand the seating and reduce cost.
20. **Aaron Lessing**: I know the option was thrown around of having a small coffee café instead of everything we have now.
21. **Cameron Kelleher**: So, Bill we talked about it in our meeting before but I think part of the problem, as part of the sales, is one bad seating, and two Marketplace is doing a lot of what Wilson did, and it is closer to the Commuter lots and it has a lot more traffic in the morning because of options. Maybe have Wilson become a lounge, but if you were to, you need to modernize the seating.
22. **Bill Connor**: I agree it needs new seating, the Marketplace sales have grown 400 percent at that location. They used to do $5000 a week and now it is $21,000 a week in sales. The ability to use Dining Dollars and what we have done to expand that location has driven the success. That’s a great point, students who are Commuters and use the Marketplace would want Wilson to be a home and still have options for food, or is Marketplace too far from Wilson?
23. **Lyric Lamagdelaine**: I don’t know if this would help but what about reduced hours for Wilson during the periods when most students go there like breakfast and lunch.
24. **Aaron Lessing**: I know they already have reduced hours and it closes at 3:00 pm, I’m not sure if you’re thinking at more reduced hours.
25. **Bill Connor**: I’d say your concern is the market is pretty saturated, and that is another question to ask. The twister wrap seems to have taken its turn. It has been here for the last 15 years and seen its fair share of advertising, so maybe it is time for something new. But the menu there is also available in the DC, Bistro, and Harvest and it isn’t new. I like the idea of rebranding and sending out a survey about what students want to see.
26. **Matt Wandishion**: My opinion, I use Wilson café usually Monday, Wednesday and Friday and I understand financially it is not doing well but maybe if we can find an in-between, where we can still sell food there. Because I know around noon there is a lunch rush with a lot of students getting food and I am one of those students. Maybe reduce hours and options, but make sure there is at least something there. I love the chicken tenders and the sauces there. So, I think a compromise would be best.
27. **Bill Connor**: Would it be amicable for it to shut down for the rest of the semester and in the spring we start something else, what are your thoughts?
28. **Barbra Hand**: I just wanted to clarify, we do have a Commuter Council it’s an opportunity for our commuter students to sit on the council and talk about these issues. We do have a $3000 programming budget from SGA for them, other funding does not exist before that we had money coming from SAIL and other offices.
29. **Sofia Barker**: My opinion is instead of lowering the options in Wilson Café or adding back seating, have more outdoor seating?
30. **Aaron Lessing**: I know we added tables outside in other parts of the places, but I know winter will be an issue so spring and summer will be better for outdoor seating changes.
31. **Matt Dibbern**: I do think it might be a good idea to take part of the semester to close it down for a month and reopen it after the Thanksgiving break. Also, the vending machines don’t really work often in Wilson, and they do not accept Dining Dollars. So, if you are in charge of that, if we take the stuff out of Wilson having the vending machines available would be helpful.
32. **Lyric Lamagdelaine**: I just want to put this out there for people who haven’t been to campus before COVID. It was very popular, like getting water took 15 minutes in line. I think that’s important to know when having the conversation, because we want people to go back and enjoy it.
33. **Cam Kelleher**: So, for the piece about the question you just asked, if you had to close it down it would probably be the best option and then survey, but Dinning would have to be all over that and in students faces about it. If not, the students would be upset about it and not understanding why, so dinning just needs to communicate and make realistic promises to students for the future.
34. **Cam Kelleher**: So could we table this decision, and think about more options and vote on that next week.
35. **Bill Connor**: If you have an questions or need any clarifying explanations I will have a conversation with Aaron on Friday, October 15 and you can always come to Food Services Committee.
36. **Olivie Houde**: Quick suggestion have a big bill board in Wilson saying “STOP this might not be here, this is more information and how to contact us”.
37. Parking Control Board: **Emily Fluet**
38. Substance Advisory Committee: **No Report**
39. Parking Appeals Board: **Kaitlyn Egan**
40. Diversity/Inclusion Committee: **No Report**
41. Student Athletic Advisory Board: **No Report**
42. Veteran Affairs Report: **No Report**
43. VICE PRESIDENT’S REPORT-ACADEMIC LIFE: ***Lyric Lamagdelaine***
    1. I just wanted to update you all on advising and registration for the Spring 2022 semester. The course list for next spring is now online, and you can find it through the “look up classes” section under Academics on MyWestfied, or on the Registrar’s page.
    2. Advising began today for Honors, Banacos, and Online Program students, and ends on October 20 which is next Wednesday. They register for classes the following day, October 21. Seniors and Graduate students are next, with their advising period beginning next Monday, October 18, and ending October 21. I will keep you all updated each week on which groups are on deck for advising and registration, but please check the Registrar’s website for the full list of dates.
    3. If you have any questions about advising and registration, feel free to ask me now or you can email me at [vpacademiclife.sga@westfield.ma.edu](mailto:vpacademiclife.sga@westfield.ma.edu).
44. **Daniel Currier**: I don’t know if this is a formal or informal policy for the University but no more than 25% of classes are online and I know that for the Accounting Department most of the upper level courses are only online. Do you know if it’s a staffing issue or something else that can be addressed and if something could be done, to make more classes in person?
45. **Lyric Lamagdelaine**: I didn’t know about that but I can ask Provost Mills when I meet with her Thursday and update you.
    1. Academic Policies Committee: **No Report**
    2. Curriculum Committee: **No Report**
    3. Enrollment Management Committee: **No Report**
    4. Special Committee On Reforming General Education(SCORE): **No Report**
46. VICE PRESIDENT’S REPORT-FINANCE: ***Kelson Burke***
47. Finance Committee**: No Report**
48. Foundation Report: **No Report**
49. VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT-PROGRAMMING: ***Hannah Robins***
50. Campus Activities Board: **No Report**
51. VICE PRESIDENT’S REPORT - PUBLICITY: ***Lindsay McNulty***
52. Neighborhood Advisory Board: **No Report**
53. Community Relations/Fundraising Report: **No Report**
54. EXECUTIVE SECRETARY REPORT: ***Logan Terenzi***
55. PARLIAMENTARIAN REPORT:
56. Rules and Regulations Committee: **No Report**
57. Constitutional Review Committee: **No Report**
58. COMMUTER COUNCIL AND CLASS COUNCIL REPORTS:
59. Commuter Council: **No Report**
60. Senior Class: **No Report**
61. Junior Class: **No Report**
62. Sophomore Class: **Katlyn Egan**
63. I move to Appoint Nicholas Smith and Adam Carpenter as Representatives to SGA for the Class of 2024 for the 2021-2022 academic year. Motion carries
64. First Year Class: **No Report**
65. Apartment Complex: **No Report**
66. Courtney Hall: **No Report**
67. Davis Hall: **No Report**
68. Dickinson Hall: **No Report**
69. Lammers Hall: **No Report**
70. New Hall: **No Report**
71. University Hall: **No Report**
72. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:
73. NEW BUSINESS:
74. It was moved and seconded to open new business. Motion carries.
75. Roberts Rules of order were suspended. New Senator Orientation was presented by the SGA Executive Council.
76. It was moved and seconded to close new business. Motion carries.
77. ANNOUNCEMENTS:
78. **Ryan Meersman**: My name is Ryan Meersman. I am one of your advisors, but I am also the Associate Director of Alumni Association at Westfield. I have been working with the team to get Homecoming back up and running for Alumni. We are hoping for a good turn out and good weather. I am going to run through the events in case you were going to participate and interact with the Alumni. Friday the 15 we will have an Alumni poetry reading. Their works are in the Art Gallery upstairs in Ely. If you are interested please show up. Then on the 16 there’s a couple of things happening. The first one is at 11:00 am in the SGA room. We will be doing the 2021 Alumni awards. This one goes to State Representative Bud Williams, he is the Representative for the Springfield area. He majored in Elementary Education and had a distinguished career. If you are able to attend Representative Williams will do a question and answer with students so, that will be cool. There will also be a continental breakfast early.
79. **Aaron Lessing**: Please come next week for more about Wilson Café and you can also go to Food Services Committee meeting.
80. **Lindsay McNulty**: On behalf of Hannah Robins, Fall Fest is this Saturday, October 16. This will include a pumpkin patch, a carnival and ocktoberfest please come.
81. **Matt Wandishion**: Rules and Regs after the meeting.
82. **Linsday McNulty**: Please send me your pictures I don’t want to keep asking.
83. **Katie Pinney**: 214 Days until commencement.
84. ROLL CALL: Olivia Houde, Catherine Eynation, and Timothy Johnson were absent. Payten Tardy, Diego Fuenmayor and Kevin Hennessey were excused.
85. ADJOURNMENT: Meeting adjourned at 6:55pm.

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

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