Student Government Association Minutes from April 2, 2014

April 2, 2014 Attendance:
President Choplick, Treasurer Mills, Senators, Alsaqri, Berriault, Bosworth, Cahill, Cassidy, Christiano, DiBacco, Fallanca, Fernandez, Fox, Frey, Fung, Germaine, Gomez, Gregonis, Hudobenko, Khan, Kitchener, Lee, Measho, Moody, Moreno, Ott, Perry, Pietrycha, Rodriguez, Sonet, Swan, Testa

Meeting is called to order at 3:13p by President Choplick

Motion to accept meeting minutes from 3/26 (Hudobenko, Rodriguez)
Motion passes unanimously

Public Hearing: None

Student Affairs Report: Scott Hazan

The new residence hall is underway and it still slated to be ready by Fall 2015 and it looks beautiful. If you request it you can have someone show you plans.

Fernandez: next fall?
Hazan: the fall after
Fallanca: do they have a name for it yet
Hazan: not yet they usually wait to try and get a donation. The President is at the BOR today to present the budget for next year and when I get more updates I will pass it along.
Ott: does this include the ConnScu 20/20 plans?
Hazan: no just the next fiscal year, the 20/20 plans are all bonded money
Choplick: do you have the combined calendar?
Hazan: there are drafts still going around and deadlines to be worked out before final decisions are made
**Treasurer’s Report:**
1. Thank you everyone who came to the budget meetings
2. Contingency: $11320.76
3. Fundraising: $25,000
4. Reserves: $251,541
5. For use by Senate: $19,711.46
6. The weekend of deliberations we are going from 9:30a-12:30 for presentations on Friday then 12:30-7p for deliberations, 10-6 on Saturday and then 10- whenever we finish on Sunday
7. I will motion for money for food since we are there all weekend and yes that’s appropriate
8. You can attend deliberations if you have come to over 50% of the presentations or spoken with me to go over my notes

**Vice President Report:** none

**President’s Report:**
1. Remember I have the authority to excuse senators
2. In regards to the smoke free campus, Dr. Miller wants it sent to referendum but he may have a few specific things to include in that first
3. With Student Activity Fees: I pushed back my own timeline because I feel it is more ethical for next year’s senate to decide on whether or not they get raised. I want to be able to do more research for it over the summer and have something ready in September
4. If you sign up for volunteer times please make sure you show up or let them know you can’t make that time

**Committee Reports:**

Finance: Mills: we no longer have to deal with Hip Hop nation and SASA because their events are no longer happening and that’s on us. Usually we would have made an eboard decision but some of us weren’t here but there is still a second SASA co-sponsorship, geology and planetary science would like to take 16 people to a diamond dig with three faculty and they are getting their own lodging and they are paying $19.50 out of pocket.

Hazan: as far as timely discussion, this is not totally on Senate because even if it was approved we might have said not because there was not enough time and there may not have been space available. I don’t know if these events would have happened either way.
Student Life: Sonet: thank you for everyone who came to base budget deliberations, we are half done and hopefully will have them done next week, we also have a lot of wellness events coming up that should be awesome. We are going to co-sponsor with PRIDE and the LGBT Center for the Day of Silence and we will be tabling with them. Let me know if you would like to be on stage with Vermin Supreme on 4/17

Public Affairs: Ott: elections are next week, for those not running I will send out an email list to help

Academic Affairs: Lee: we are doing a networking event on one of the reading days and we will be motioning to have money for it and at this we hope to have a meet and greet with the deans

Internal Affairs: Christiano: we have a recommendation for 3-2, the election of committee chairs and co-chairs and I will have the person who wrote the motion motion it

Testa: thank you for everyone who came to the candidate gallery

**Unfinished Business:** None

**New Business:**

Motion to allocate the Student Life committee $400 in support of the Day of Silence event from account SG 9195 (Cassidy, Lee)

For: Cassidy: we want to work with PRIDE on the Day of Silence for LGBT rights and this goes directly with the student life mission statement

Yields time for questions

POI Mills to Cassidy: what is this money for

Cassidy: that is a better question for Simms

POI Mills to Sonet: what is the $400 for?

Sonet: shirts, we will pay half in the co-sponsorship

Vote: 26Y (Mills, Alsaqri, Berriault, Bosworth, Cahill, Cassidy, Christiano, DiBacco, Fallanca, Fernandez, Fox, Frey, Fung, Germaine, Gomez, Hudobenko, Khan, Lee, Measho, Moody, Moreno, Ott, Perry, Rodriguez, Sonet, Testa) 0N 2A (Gregonis, Swan)

**Motion Passes**

**President Choplick passes the chair to Treasurer Mills**
Motion to strike “equivalent” and insert “deemed equivalent by either the Vice President or vote of the majority of Senate” and to insert at the end “Failure to comply will result in a loss of stipend” in Section 1-5 of the by-laws. (Choplick, Alsaqri)

For: Choplick: 1-5 talks about diversity training, this is just a clarity amendment. No one party has the power to deem something equivalent it is either the vice president or the senate. I am open to taking the stipend out of the motion if that’s what people want

Yields time for questions

Berriault: I don’t believe that is the correct motion, we voted on different wording in internal affairs, the word “either” is missing

Choplick: part A on the agenda has the change

Measho: can the stipend still be appealed

Choplick: anything you lose your stipend for can be appealed

Christiano: so if you’re elected in the spring do you need to find the training on your own

Choplick: as it reads as long as you can find access to it on campus, If not they are exempt

Rodriguez: are there other organizations who have them

Choplick: reslife has them in each dorm

Cassidy: would reslife let commuters take them

Choplick: yes

Lee: if the senate says it is equivalent and the vice president says no does it still happen

Choplick: yes

Gomez: if you are re-elected do you have to take it again

Choplick: yes

POI Rodriguez to Sonet: what organizations do safe zone training?

Sonet: LGBT Center sponsors them

Vote: 24Y (Choplick, Alsaqri, Berriault, Bosworth, Cahill, Cassidy, Christiano, DiBacco, Fallanca, Fernandez, Fox, Frey, Fung, Gomez, Gregonis, Hudobenko, Khan, Measho, Moody, Moreno, Ott, Perry, Rodriguez, Testa)  4N (Germaine, Lee, Sonet, Swan) 0A

Motion Passes
Motion to strike “before” and insert “at the time” in section 3-2 g of the SGA by-laws. (Choplick, Lee)

For: Choplick: this is just a point of clarity because right now there are a few ways it can be interpreted.

Yields for Questions

Measho: what happens if the numbers of senators changes

Choplick: senate refers to the current members of senate

Vote: 26Y (Choplick, Alsaqri, Berriault, Bosworth, Cahill, Cassidy, Christiano, DiBacco, Fallanca, Fernandez, Fox, Frey, Fung, Germaine, Gomez, Gregonis, Hudobenko, Khan, Measho, Moody, Moreno, Ott, Perry, Rodriguez, Swan, Testa) 0N 1A (Sonet)
POI Gregonis to Rodriguez: was the trip originally planned for over spring break

Rodriguez: yes we were going to go to DC but that was too much money so we are doing this instead

**Move to lay the question on the table (Mills, Christiano)**

Vote: 17Y 4N 3A (Rodriguez, Fox, Cassidy)

**Motion is laid on the table**

Mills: I moved to table this so college democrats can speak later in the meeting if Bobby feels it doesn’t conflict

**Open Floor:**

**Move to approve the Geology and Planetary Sciences line item change (Mills, Lee)**

For: Mills: they want to move the extra funds to travel from their museum trip for their diamond minding excursion with 16 people going and paying $19.50 each

POI Ott to Mills: do you have a quote for lodging

Mills: it is $36 per person

POI Fox to Mills: why didn’t we just deal with college democrats?

Mills: because no one brought it up

Kitchener to Mills: were they denied this in the base budget

Mills: they didn’t ask for it

Vote: 24Y (Mills, Alsaqri, Berriault, Bosworth, Cassidy, Christiano, DiBacco, Fallanca, Fernandez, Frey, Fung, Germaine, Gomez, Gregonis, Khan, Kitchener, Measho, Moody, Ott, Perry, Rodriguez, Sonet, Swan, Testa) 4N (Cahill, Fox, Hudobenko, Lee) 1A (Moreno)

**Motion Passes**

**Motion to deny the longboarding line item change (Germaine, Christiano)**

For: Germaine: if you want to make another motion to separate them fine but I don’t think we should pay for parts and gear

Against: Sonet: we helped lunar exploration for parts so this isn’t inappropriate

For: Mills: I think we should deny this because when I talk to him I told him to send me an email with an explanation and I got no email and this request is very vague
Against: Berriault: they got parts in their base budget and this only is moving money around. The other part is just another day trip because they saved money on hotel when they went to NYC the first time but I don’t think we should deny this for lack of information. The parts are needed to set up the boards and they want to do another trip to NYC you don’t need any more information

POI Germaine to Berriault: do the longboards stay with the school

Berriault: I don’t know

For: Mills: they do need to be returned but I only accepted this on the condition that I get more information so we shouldn’t pass this because they did not give me that info. And the deadline for travel was in February with SALD so we can’t pass this

POI Ott: if we deny this can we bring it back up

Choplick: yes in another meeting

Cassidy: is this a motion to deny

Choplick: yes

POI Kitchener to Mills: it’s part to travel and parts to gear, is all the money cutoff?

Mills: if this is done by Friday and they speak to SALD they may have a chance

Motion to amend to deny part B and approve the rest (Measho)

No second, the motion doesn’t carry

Against: Kitchener: I’d really like more information but we can’t get that but we have approved requests with no info before

Move to divide the question (Fox, Christiano)

Vote: 18Y 8N 0A

Question is divided

Part A:

For: Ott: is it possible to get more information

Point of Parliamentary Inquiry: Lee: if we divided the question is this to deny both parts now

Choplick: yes

POI Hudobenko: why vote for B if we can’t do it
Choplick: because it was brought up

Against: Kitchener: we can’t get more information and they need more parts to set up the boards I don’t think it’s more complicated then that

For: Mills: we’ve had requests similar to this but they gave us information, this has given us no information when we gave them the chance to. This is poor planning and we only have a few weeks left in school

Against: Lee: we have enough info to vote on this, it’s just moving $100

POI Fallanca: do we only have what is on the page

Choplick: yes

POI Christiano: do we give money for summer things?

Choplick: I can’t speak to anything specific but the boards are left with the club e-board

POI Testa to Mills: how much notice did the club get

Mills: they contacted me last night and I told them to get me information by the next morning and they didn’t contact me

For: Fallanca: this isn’t a specific request

POI Kitchener: if a club submits a request with quotes do they have to purchase what is on the quotes?

Choplick: it depends on the motion

Against: Berriault: I am against the motion to deny because of the lack of information argument. We have plenty of information

Yields time

Mills: point of order

Not well taken

Christiano: are the parts for their personal longboards

Berriault: the parts stay in the club

Christiano: but are they their own personal longboards

Berriault: they need to abide by the university regulations

Christiano: but they will keep their own longboards?
Berriault: you are over complicating it. They are requesting to move $100 from accommodations to parts to be used by the club. The students need this

For: Hudobenko: vote no we are just making assumptions and we need the info they didn’t provide

Against: Kitchener: we can specify in the motion the parts stay with the clubs

POI Mills to Berriault: who is their liaison?

Berriault: I don’t know

Berriault: Motion to amend with the stipulation the parts and gears...

Kitchener: point of information: this is a motion to deny

Well taken

POI Mills to Cahill: do you know the prices

Cahill: no

POI Measho to Mills: do you know how they store the equipment

Mills: no

POI Germaine: is this for or against

Choplick: in favor of denying

POI DiBacco to Mills: what info are you looking for

Mills: why they need it, how much they need and the prices

For: Germaine: we do not give clubs money for personal equipment

Chair is passed to Senator Sonet

Move to call to previous question (Fernandez, Hudobenko)

Vote: 5Y 16N 0A

Motion fails, debate continues

Against: Choplick: yes I am biased to club sports board, I am well aware of that but this club hasn’t asked for parts. If baseball asked and said they needed mits we would consider it. If we make assumptions those are dangerous avenues to go down. We have given them parts before to set the club up we have this info and stop making assumptions
For: Mills: when a club doesn’t give me more information we say it is denied because of lack of information

Against: Bosworth: we’ve done this in the past, we don’t have enough information? Sen. Measho asked what finance would be using the money for and treasurer Mills said it was irrelevant and that just passed...

POI Choplick to Mills: If this wasn’t denied and you got info could you make an eboard decision?

Mills: yes

POI Kitchener to Choplick: can eboard make a decision without bias

Choplick: if time sensitive an eboard decision will be made but there is always bias when making a vote

POI Testa: so a yes is to deny

Sonet: yes

Vote: 10Y (Mills, DiBacco, Fallanca, Fernandez, Germaine, Khan, Moody, Moreno, Swan) 11N (Choplick, Berriault, Bosworth, Fox, Gomez, Hudobenko, Kitchener, Lee, Measho, Ott, Testa) 2A (Cahill, Frey)

**Motion Fails**

**Chair is passed to President Choplick**

**Part B:**

For: Christiano: they can’t do this so it should be denied

POI Measho: if approve could they use this to travel on their own

Choplick: SALD wouldn’t let this happen

Vote: 22Y (Mills, Berriault, Bosworth, Cahill, Christiano, DiBacco, Fallanca, Fernandez, Fox, Frey, Germaine, Gomez, Hudobenko, Khan, Kitchener, Lee, Measho, Moody, Ott, Sonet, Swan, Testa) 1N (Moreno) 0A

**Motion Passes**

Move to approve the Criminal Justice fundraising loan (Hudobenko, Kitchener)

For: Hudobenko: when we denied this we requested they come back for a fundraising loan and they’ve done it
Vote: 21Y (Berriault, Bosworth, Cahill, Christiano, DiBacco, Fallanca, Fernandez, Fox, Frey, Germaine, Gomez, Hudobenko, Khan, Kitchener, Lee, Measho, Moody, Moreno, Ott, Sonet, Swan, Testa) 0N 1A (Mills)

**Motion Passes**

SG14-159

Berriault: College Democrats: I won’t speak when this motion is on the table. The bus changed in price and we are getting a free ticket from the JFK library because we bought 8. This was voted on by the eboard. We were originally going to go to DC but it was too much money out of pocket

Yields time for questions

Swan: why did you wait three weeks to purchase the tickets?

Berriault: we submitted the request last week and had to wait to get something in writing. This is the way we could be most efficient

POI Testa: so wait they can change travel plans after the deadline?

Hazan: we try to get all the information before Feb. 14 and if there are changes we try to accommodate them and we have met with Bobby all points of the way.

Motion to approve Item A of the longboarding line item change with the stipulation that parts and gear be used for the club (Kitchener, Gomez)

For: Kitchener: they should get their money

Against: Mills: there are other clubs with more time sensitive information

POI Testa: how many clubs do we have?

Choplick: 3

*Move to lay the question on the table (Mills, Christiano)*

Vote: 11Y 7N 1A (Hudobenko)

*Passes, Motion is laid on the table*

*Move to take the college democrats line item off the table (Lee, Testa)*

Vote: 15Y 5N 5A (Gomez, DiBacco, Fernandez, Ott, Kitchener)

Against: Kitchener: if we had issues without information we should keep that in mind

Point of Parliamentary Inquiry: Ott: how do we amend a motion that was already voted on
Choplick: you can motion to amend something previously adopted with a 2/3 vote

Vote: 18Y (Mills, Bosworth, Christiano, DiBacco, Fallanca, Fernandez, Fox, Frey, Germaine, Gomez, Hudobenko, Khan, Lee, Measho, Moody, Ott, Swan, Testa) 0N 3A (Berriault, Cahill, Kitchener)

Motion Passes

Move to approve the SASA co-sponsorship (Mills, Christiano)

For: Mills: SASA contacted me to get this on the agenda, they need more money for Holi. It’s a big cultural event every year and they weren’t given enough money in their base budget

POI Ott to Mills: how are we co-sponsoring besides money

Mills: we’re not but clubs can ask for funds

Against: Ott: that is not a co-sponsorship, my interpretation is that it is other groups working with other groups not only with us giving them money, but it is a great event

POI Measho to Mills: is this time sensitive

Mills: yes the event is 4/27

For: Measho: this is only $200 and they require assistance and they are working with another state university

Against: Christiano: this is not a co-sponsorship if we’re just giving them money

For: Mills: it’s not in the by-laws that we need to volunteer so yes this is valid. This is a big cultural event and it’s another way to get our name out there

Against: Ott: I don’t like the idea of just being a bank but this is a great idea

For: Berriault: you shouldn’t deny the event because you don’t like the method. Any club can ask for funds the best way they seem fit. We should judge this on merits not the form

POI Ott: what is the difference between co-sponsorship and contingency?

Choplick: co-sponsorship allows more than one club to put their name on the event

Mills: do we have quorum

Choplick: no it’s been lost

POI Measho: Can we lay this on the table

Choplick: it would go on unfinished business
Berriault: they are collaborating with UConn, if you read the By-Laws only student organizations can petition for co-sponsorship so maybe that’s why UConn name isn’t on the sheet

Choplick: in NACA they talked about co-sponsorship being as something that multiple clubs can have a part in but there is not definite definition clubs can contribute to events in different ways

Hazan: sometimes SGA should do itself a favor and not worry about the paperwork. It may look good for you guys to be a part of certain events

Lee: the by-laws say the co-sponsorship can’t supplement the base budget and that is what this is doing so yes this is great PR but goes against our by-laws

Mills: I changed the by-laws so we could co-sponsor events, it’s great PR and I want to help clubs that want to have events

Kitchener: the definition of co-sponsorship is too aligned with contingency. I don’t think we shouldn’t do things just for PR and I have an issue when a senator speaks on open floor for a club because we didn’t have enough info when not every club had that chance

Berriault: as the president of the Democrats I have to be loyal to my club as well as the student body but I have a responsibility and when clubs file paper work to speak for them and submit it as President but I didn’t speak during the motion and I will never act in a conflicting way

Hazan: when I talk about PR it’s not all bad, it’s about having a good relationship with the Public

Mills: for base budgets this weekend remember you have to have attended half the presentations because I don’t want people who didn’t come to show up in order to remain consistent

Rodriguez: when I spoke about college democrats I spoke as a senator

Motion to adjourn (Mills, Germaine)

Meeting is adjourned at 5:24