Student Government Association Minutes from February 12, 2014

February 12, 2014 Attendance:
President Choplick, Vice President Anderson, Treasurer Mills, Senators Alsaqri, Berriault, Bosworth, Cahill, Cassidy, Christiano, DiBacco, Fallonca, Fernandez, Fox, Fung, Germaine, Gomez, Gregonis, Hubbard, Hudobenko, Khan, Kitchener, Lee, Measho, Moody, Moreno, Ott, Perry, Pietrycha, Rodriguez, Rongey, Sonet, Swan, Testa

Public Hearing:
Eric Szabo: Bio: I am requesting money for travel to the ECSC conference which we have been going to for 20 years. There has been a lot of turn over in our department and because of that, money we had anticipated we are no longer getting. We want to bring 52 students and we go there to present research we have been working on for multiple years.

Comm Club: we are requesting money for recording equipment. We film clubs around campus and different events but the cameras we have now are for filming and have poor sound quality.

Motion to accept the meeting minutes from 1/29 (Pietrycha, Ott)
Motion passes by unanimous consent

Dr. Bachoo & CFO James Estrada:
Dr. Bachoo: I wanted to update you on a few matters in regards to security. We have made some lock changes I the buildings and are looking to update more of them. We are working to have cameras save images for a longer period of time. We are working with a program that would allow us to send messages via the computer system that would take over the screen for 15-second increments to alert everything, which we are hoping to roll out over
the next two months. We are working on the sirens and getting the sound increased so you can hear them in buildings and we are expecting to have a drill in March or April. We will be announcing our new Chief of Police next week and have begun work on the new residence hall. This hall will be the largest in the ConnSCU system with 600 beds that will have a separate entrance away from the parking garages. We hope to be breaking ground in two weeks and after that is finished we will attempt to put the parking lot back. After that we will begin work on the up the hill food hall built into the hill between Vance and Gallaudet. That will not affect parking in Kaiser.

Perry: was there a shortage in beds?

Bachoo: our goal has been to increase bed count to 1000 so once this is open we will begin renovations on Carroll.

Berriault: in regards to the blinds what went into that decision, what were there costs and what was the rationale?

Bachoo: we want to delay the amount of time an individual has during a situation like that where they have to search if the blinds are closed. They are a delay tactic. The administration made the decision to help reduce the amount of time an individual has to carry something like this out and I do not know the cost off the top of my head but I can find out.

Hubbard: with the new residence hall, will there be an additional fee like the on in James

Bachoo: there might be.

Hubbard: for those getting relocated from Carroll, would they have an opt out option if they didn’t want to pay that fee.

Bachoo: if there are other beds available yes, we only say Carroll because they are next on the renovations list.

Ott: will there be teacher training based on the lockdown

Bachoo: we are putting a training together that we plan to put in place for faculty and staff.

Ott: why was there no student input for the blinds.

Bachoo: to be frank, there is no reason, we just felt that it was a practice that should be carried out because it makes sense to do so. I have a responsibility to safety when something happens and protocol indicated that this needed to happened and we would not have changed the decision if we had talked to students.

Sonet: the state has already begun preparations for the snow tomorrow, what are the university’s intentions?

Bachoo: once the decision is made we will notify the PR department and school president, but the responsibility rests with me. If the highways are clear and open then Central will be opened, if there is a sign of icing then we will be closing. We are actually more liberal than
the state in closing. The real world doesn’t close, when you get a job you will have to go in when it snows. We check with the DOT and campus police but our biggest hang up is New Britain works because the roads around campus are not done well. We know this is a sensitive issue and we are well aware of the concern

Measho: for training maybe there are reenactment videos that can be shown

Bachoo: we have a video, “Run, Hide, Fight” that can be made available to students

Measho: were the police calls every released

Bachoo: they went to New Britain and they will have no problem releasing them, they are public record

Measho: what were the costs of the blinds

Bachoo: I do not know the number but can get it

Choplick: what is the current policy with the blinds

Bachoo: they should generally be up and open

Sonet: what are students supposed to do if the school is open but conditions for travelling are still poor?

Bachoo: you have to make that decision for yourself. Unfortunately we live in New England and we will have inclement weather but if you have concerns I respond to my emails. I would speak with professors to let them know that there may be a day when they cannot get in

Perry: if the school is open but it’s bad out would CT Transit still run?

Bachoo: I do not know what CT Transit does but we will communicate with them

Measho: who handles the Twitter because I think last storm they were sending the wrong message to students

Bachoo: I will pass that on to Mark McLaughlin

Hubbard: with the computer alert system drill will you notify the students?

Estrada: we currently have a system that sends voicemails, emails and texts but an alternative is the altertis system through the computers. Otis has the ability to send messages on the TV screens in the student center but that is a small number, no means of communication will be 100% but with texts you can sign up for more than one number

**Student Affairs Report**
Kazar: the Subog recognition nominee forms are available in SALD or on the Link this year we have opened them up to the Student Center, RECentral and SALD staffs as well

Kitchener: point of parliamentary inquiry: how can we do new business before committee reports

Choplick: you can motion to suspend the rules

**Treasurer’s Report**

1. Remind the clubs about the info sessions
2. We will be accepting line items up until the SALD event cut off day
3. We have $26,017.21 in Contingency
4. We approved the Brazilian Jiu Jitsu contingency request
5. We have $29,916 in for use by senate but we have over $45,000 in the account because of the committee budgets
6. We have had no change in the reserves
7. With eboard decisions
   a. We approved BJJ
   b. We approved a PE line item change, they came to finance wishing to move money from registration to travel but they thought they could supplement accommodations and travel but they needed to do another line item for it which we approved
   c. We approved a NAACP line item due to the length of the agenda

**Vice President’s Report**

1. Liaison emails are due by next Wednesday by 3:30p
2. Remember, you must meet with clubs before they hand in their base budget packets, you need to sign them and look over them before they can be turned in
3. Your one page reflection on a meeting is due by the end of the semester
4. If you have meetings in the office and use the white board remember to move your information in your blocked off space to the side and leave the board erased
5. There is a lot of student traffic in the office so remember to present yourselves well and professionally
6. I am beginning to think of the SGA banquet so if you have any input please speak with me

Cassidy: what if the clubs don’t respond

Anderson: they can't turn in the base budget without meeting with you but if you are having issues come speak with me

Hazan: if you can’t get in touch with them reach out to the Program advisors

**President's Report**

1. There is a sign to put on the door for when there is a meeting going on so remember to use it
2. If a student comes in during a meeting speak with them in the UA office or eboard office
3. The IA recommendations are not in the packet but we will put them on the screen
4. Last Friday student leaders from around the state met to discuss Transform CSCU, information is in the packet

Measho: why weren't we informed?

Choplick: it was a meeting of the SAC reps and presidents

Measho: why weren't we informed and involved

Choplick: there wasn’t room for all SGA members across the state we can talk about this at a different time

**Committee Reports**

Sonet: Student Life: no meeting Friday

Motion to suspend the rules and move to New Business (Kitchener, Ott)

Vote: 27Y 3N 1A (Mills)

Moving to new business

**New Business**
Motion to Approve Winter Guard Line-item (Hudobenko, Pietrycha)

For: Hudobenko: it’s a simple line item, the raised money for uniforms and now they want to use the funds to buy flags for shows

Vote: 30Y (Anderson, Mills, Alsaqri, Berriault, Bosworth, Cahill, Cassidy, DiBacco, Fallanca, Fernandez, Fox, Fung, Germaine, Gomez, Gregonis, Hubbard, Hudobenko, Khan, Kitchener, Lee, Measho, Moody, Ott, Perry, Pietrycha, Rodriguez, Rongey, Sonet, Swan, Testa) 0N 1A (Christiano)

Motion Passes SG14-103

Motion to Allocate TEECA $2,307.75, with $1,032 going towards registration for their ITEEA Conference and $1,275.75 going towards their accommodations and deny the rest from SG9016 (Berriault, Alsaqri)

For: Berriault: TEECA wants to travel to FL for a conference in March. They asked for registration fees, hotel and accommodations but we decided it was best to funds registration and hotels to keep consistent to follow precedent. This is the closest conference in the region and the club members will be making a huge financial sacrifice to go

Against: Kitchener: this was specifically denied in the base budget, and a lot of clubs were denied because lack of funds but they don’t know they can come back and get money

For: Mills: If I had been given the chance to give my report I would have said that a lot of base budgets were messed up and this is my chance to try and correct them. Other clubs have come with requests of things we denied that we approved because it is out of a different account

Against: Lee: the club clarified that if they do not get all of the money they will have to pay over $500 out of pocket not the $350 that was originally thought, that is a lot of money to consider.

For: Ott: if you think this is a contingency you have to base it on your own merits

POI Berriault to Lee: how did you get the math for $510

Lee: it is the math the club did, they need the full amount given

Against: Berriault: if you look at the base budget it was denied to lack of funds but we approved this by a number of clubs

Point of Order: Anderson: not speaking against
POI Cassidy to Mills: do you have any information about what they asked for last year when this was denied

Mills: I don’t have exact numbers but it was the exact same conference, but we have done this with other clubs

Vote: 15Y (Mills, Alsaqri, Berriault, Bosworth, DiBacco, Fallanca, Fernandez, Germaine, Gregonis, Khan, Measho, Moreno, Rodriguez, Sonet, Testa) 12N (Anderson, Cristiano, Fox, Hubbard, Hudobenko, Kitchener, Lee, Ott, Perry, Pietrycha, Rongey, Swan) 5A (Cahill, Cassidy, Fung, Gomez, Moody)

Motion Passes: SG14-104

Motion to Deny the Social Work Club Line-Item (Khan, Hudobenko)

For: Khan: Social Work Club wants to line item for sweat shirts with money for their Halloween party which failed

Point of Order: Measho: speaking poorly about a representative

Not well taken

Khan: they said the party didn’t happen and this is not something we want to give them money for

Vote: 28Y (Anderson, Mills, Alsaqri, Berriault, Bosworth, Cassidy, DiBacco, Fallanca, Fernandez, Fox, Fung, Germaine, Gomez, Gregonis, Hubbard, Hudobenko, Khan, Kitchener, Lee, Moody, Moreno, Ott, Perry, Pietrycha, Rodriguez, Rongey, Swan, Testa) 4N (Cahill, Cristiano, Measho, Sonet) 0A

Motion Passes: SG14-105

Motion to Allocate the Communication Club $246.99 in their Other Line-Item to be used for their Sound Recorder from SG9016 (Fallanca, Cassidy)

For: Fallanca: this is a good request, they need to get devices for better sound quality

POI Measho: can I ask a question to a representative

Choplick: not in a motion only on Open Floor

POI Measho to Fallanca: is this to be used to put things up on the web page
Fallanca: it could be

Vote: 25 (Anderson, Mills, Alsaqri, Berriault, Bosworth, Cahill, Cassidy, Christiano, DiBacco, Fallanca, Fernandez, Fox, Germaine, Gomez, Gregonis, Hubbard, Hudobenko, Khan, Kitchener, Lee, Measho, Moody, Ott, Pietrycha, Sonet, Testa) ON 2A (Swan, Hubbard)

Motion Passes

Motion to allocate the Finance Association $1,618 for the Base Budget for the 2013-2014 Fiscal Year; with $975 in their Conference Line-Item and $376 in their Accommodation Line-Item to be used for their conference with the stipulation that the funds not be used for Faculty, and $267 in their Refreshment Line-item for their speaker events from SG9018 (Hudobenko, Khan)

For: Hudobenko: Finance Assoc. is a new club with a new base budge and we want them to have a good foundation. This is money for a conference and refreshments for speakers

Vote: 26Y (Anderson, Mills, Alsaqri, Berriault, Bosworth, Cahill, Cassidy, Christiano, DiBacco, Fallanca, Fernandez, Fox, Germaine, Gomez, Hubbard, Hudobenko, Khan, Kitchener, Lee, Measho, Moody, Ott, Pietrycha, Sonet, Swan, Testa) ON 0A

Motion Passes

Motion to add section 1-7 to the SGA By-laws. (Berriault, Cassidy)

For: Berriault: this is a motion entirely new to the By-Laws because in the past we've had issues of people getting sworn in then never coming back and we can't contact them, they essentially abandon office. They do not fulfill their duties and then we have an empty seat on senate. It used to be that two unexcused meeting misses and we would be removed but that changed last year but under this plan the senate can vote with a 2/3 recommendation by the eboard. It is a multistep process and we just want to make sure every seat on senate is full

Yield my time

Swan: with this if someone is elected in spring and leaves will that seat be available for the fall

Berriault: yes

Sonet: are you opposed to laying this on the table?
Berriault: no

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

Vote: 24Y 0N 0A

*Motion passes*

*Motion to Allocate $3,033.33 to the Biology Club for travel with the stipulation that faculty pay for their own bus fare (Mills, Sonet)*

For: Mills: Bio was one of the worst phrased base budgets I have seen and they are now asking for travel and some accommodations. They usually get the dean's help but he was promoted and the money is now going elsewhere. They want to bring 57 people on a conference. You can argue we only funded TEECA hotel and registration fees but not travel, but TEECA asked for a whole conference they are asking for this specifically.

Against: Kitchener: I want to fund this but this is not the right way. They were denied this in the base budget and it is possible to work around this. I want to give them money but in the right and fair way and we should ask them to change it a little bit.

POI Measho to Mills: is this time sensitive

Mills: yes, SALD has a deadline for travel

For: Hudobenko: they need to submit their abstracts by early March and SALD needs to approve all paperwork and they have nothing they can cut

Vote: 23Y (Anderson, Mills, Alsaqri, Berriault, Bosworth, Cassidy, Christiano, DiBacco, Fallanca, Fernandez, Fox, Germaine, Gomez, Hubbard, Hudobenko, Khan, Kitchener, Lee, Measho, Moody, Ott, Pietrycha, Sonet, Testa) 2N (Kitchener, Swan) 0A

*Motion Passes*  
SG14-108

*Motion to Allocate NAFME $500 with $300 going towards refreshments and $200 going in their Other line-item to be used for their Piano Accompanist from SG9016 (Mills, Khan)*

For: Mills: they originally asked for $1200 for these clinical they’d like to put on. They asked $400 to give to the composers, $200 for an accompanist to play all day and $600 for refreshments and they are expecting 60 people. We decided the stipends were not good to fund because they were just honoraria, we want to approve the $200 for the accompanist
and they only had 30 people last year so we cut refreshments. They didn't ask for this in the base budget because they were asked to host it by their governing board.

Vote: 23Y (Anderson, Mills, Alsaqri, Bosworth, Cassidy, Christiano, DiBacco, Fallanca, Fernandez, Fox, Germaine, Gomez, Hubbard, Khan, Kitchener, Lee, Measho, Moody, Ott, Pietrycha, Sonet, Swan, Testa) 1N (Hudobenko) 1A (Berriault)

**Move to take item B from the table (Berriault, Cassidy)**

Vote: 21Y 0N 1A (Fox)

*Motion passes*

**Motion to add section 1-7 to the SGA By-laws.** (Off the table)

Against: Pietrycha sup

Point of Order: Fox: not germane

Well taken

For: Lee: this is significant for senate, to be able to remove someone from the senate, it requires seven calendar days and a 2/3 vote

Yields time

Measho: there are not mentions of what happens if they are present after the decision has been made by the eboard

Lee: then they are no longer abandoning their position

Swan: would we be able to have a special election

Lee: yes

Mills: is there a process now

Lee: no they would still be on senate even if they never show up and we have no ability to put that shop in the election

Sonet: can you explain “reasonable effort”?

Lee: we wanted it vague for interpretation of the VP

Christiano: if it doesn’t meet the 2/3 vote can we bring up the motion again
Lee: yes

Hudobenko: does public affairs have the ability to run special elections at any time
Lee: yes

Against: Kitchener: a lot of people are missing so we should wait to vote on the issues
For: Anderson: this is more than we had in internal affairs and we have quorum so we can conduct business

POI Measho to Ott: can PA run a special election

Ott: I would go by what we have historically done and vote them in with fall and spring elections but we can technically run elections whenever we want

Against: Mills: I don’t care for this I think the point is to get someone on Senate but this process is too slow. It is very drawn out we should want this as fast as possible and I am uncomfortable with the eboard having to recommend this

For: Berriault: for us to have to vote someone off is a big deal. The students elect us all and we must have a delicate balance of checks and balances. If you left without contacting anybody then you cannot properly serve the students. We don’t want this to be quick and easy. Yes this is a 2-3 week process but it is a happy medium

POI Measho to Anderson: this proposal has the eboard making the recommendations, what happens if there are three individuals

Anderson: we would treat them like any finance motion and do them separately

Against: Kitchener: I am not strongly opposed to this but the students were elected by the students and we are giving ourselves power to remove them

For: Fox: this is a good compromise and we can be more efficient this way

Vote: 17Y (Anderson, Berriault, Bosworth, Christiano, DiBacco, Fallanca, Fernandez, Fox, Germaine, Gregonis, Hubbard, Kitchener, Lee, Measho, Moody, Ott, Rodriguez, Rongey, Swan, Testa)1N (Mills) 3A (Cahill, Hudobenko, Khan)

Motion Passes SG14-110

Berriault: postpone C to Feb. 19

Choplick: you can only postpone something if it is on the table
Motion to add section 5-4: BOR Student Advisory Committee Membership Election to the SGA By-laws (Lee, Khan)

For: Lee: we ran into this situation where for SAC if I am not there we would need another alternate voting member. It is a big voice to have and right now we have no process to get them into the position. It used to be the person with the second highest number of votes but we feel that the students did not vote that person for specific reasons. This makes it so the eboard advertises the position, interviews people and recommends them to senate. It is a very simple process to fulfill but it is important to have in place. I’m not comfortable with the President just appointing someone and we should avoid it. Oct. 1 is the date because October is when we start our terms.

Yields time

Measho: is it open to more students

Lee: it is open to everyone

Kitchener: is that the process that was for the fall

Lee: no this is more official

Kitchener: how would they advertise?

Lee: it is vague, only the site is specific

Fox: does it say how they are elected?

Lee: it would be like a normal motion

Khan: if the BOR rep leaves is that the second person

Lee: if on our side then someone can be elected but if I were to drop out the alternate would step in

Berriault: what is the term limit

Lee: the term is two years with no limit

Sonet: why is the alternate picked by the eboard and not just have the runner up?

Lee: it was our fear that that the students did not want the runner up for a reason

Sonet: was the idea thrown out that the representative would pick the alternate?

Lee: no but the alternate has to come from the SGA

Ott: do we have to amend D so it can read just advertise

Lee: yes
Motion to strike from D “on the SGA website” (Ott, Kitchener)

For: Ott: the site isn’t the only way to advertise so I want to take that out

POI Measho to Ott: this is very vague, would this mean they can advertise anywhere

Ott: yes I don’t want Public Affairs and the By-Laws to clash

Against: Kitchener: we are missing 10 people right now

POI Anderson to Ott: do you think there should be some more standardization for this

Ott: I don’t want people to just settle on the website, this is easier

Anderson to Ott: is there currently a way you need to advertise elections

Ott: only thing we have to do is promote them

For: Hubbard: I could care less, this is semantics at this point if it was left in there they could only advertise on the site and that would be it as much as we want to standardize things we should have some interpretation

Against: Fox: not saying where you need to advertise the original at least says the site; we should keep it like it is or edit it another way

For: Sonet: it’s not a big deal. Yes it is vague but there are a lot of vague things in the by-laws

Vote: 18Y 2N 2A (Khan, Cahill)

Amendment passes

Motion to postpone until next meeting (Kitchener, Khan)

For: Kitchener: I don’t want to fault people who had to leave for class

Against: Anderson: no one comes to IA so we have more people here to talk about it

For: Testa: we had to skip committee reports and we need to get PA stuff done so lets wait

Against: Anderson: we’re just waiting time we could have been talking about this and if things for PA needed to get done they should have been on the agenda

For: Mills: finance isn’t meeting next week we will have a lot of time to talk about this next week

Vote: 15Y 5N 1A (Sonet)
Motion is postponed

Motion to create a Standing Rule for the 2013-14 Senate Session so that the Public Affairs: guidelines must be approved by the majority of Senate with no less than 6 days prior to campaigning. (Ott, Pietrycha)

Appeal to the consideration of the motion (Lee, Christiano)

Mills: Point of Parliamentary Inquiry: if it’s not heard can it be heard if it’s brought up again
Choplick: in the future I would not consider it

Lee: I withdraw

Ott: I withdraw my motion

Choplick: I standing rule cannot supersede a by-law
POI Pietrycha: in order to keep the campaign dates we need this done, how can we do that
Choplick: remove the by-laws
POI Christiano: do we get kicked out of here at 6p
Choplick: yes
POI Measho to Testa: when do you need this motion by
Testa: yesterday, I don’t know what to do at this point
Lee: I think we can move to ratify the guidelines
Choplick: this ratified before two weeks of campaigning and you still have time
POI Pietrycha: doesn’t campaigning start as soon as they hand in their packets
Berriault: Point of Parliamentary Inquiry: do we have quorum
Choplick: yes
POI Hubbard: what if you do something that goes against guidelines before the guidelines were ratified
Choplick: they need to be followed once they are posted
Berriault: point of parliamentary inquiry: if you approve the guidelines
Anderson: point of order: noise
Well taken

Berriault: can we approve the guidelines before they are written?

Choplick: we can do whatever we'd like but I would be more comfortable if they were written

Move to ratify the 2013-14 election guidelines (Ott, Christiano)

For: Ott: I misread the by-laws, if we still give them two weeks of campaigning then we are good!

Yield time for questions

Against: Mills: I disagree with the guidelines

For: Testa: I'll just go over them all

1. No campaigning until the application has been turned in
2. You can only sign up for a lobby table twice a week
3. Clarifies what permission you need to hang posters
4. You or anyone with your campaign cannot tamper with another campaign
5. You have to ask permission from the res life staff and student center staff to hang posters
6. You have to ask professors before making class announcements
7. You cannot campaign in front of the voting center
8. Do not student worker privileges by sending out mass student emails
9. Public Affairs will promote elections in the media but individuals shouldn’t
10. No using voice amplifiers the day of election
11. No slamming other senators
12. If you find any campaign violations they have to be submitted in writing 24 hours after the elections end
13. You cannot commit any acts that would break state/federal laws

Yields time

Measho: so we can’t write about ourselves in the paper

Testa: according to this no
Measho: but that attacks the first amendment rights

Testa: we can continue to discuss this

Choplick: we lost quorum

POI Hubbard: do we have options

Choplick: we cannot vote and we cannot make an eboard decision on this

Sonet: how quickly do we need to do this?

Choplick: Tuesday

Testa: can we have a special meeting?

Choplick: we still need a third and quorum

POI Christiano: can we vote to take 9 out

Choplick: we do not have quorum

Motion to recess (Christiano, Ott)

Recess

Return from Recess

POI Measho: are we voting to accept this now

Choplick: yes

Cahill: point of order: noise

Well taken

Against: I am not in favor of this motion I still have some issues can we postpone it

For: Christiano: just say yes

Move to postpone the motion until the next meeting (Berriault, Measho)

For: Berriault: yes this is time sensitive but we have some things we still need to talk about and that we aren't comfortable with. We were just thrown this and they should be emailed to everyone. People should be able to advertise in the newspaper, number 9 violates freedom of speech

Lee: Point of Order this is not relevant
Well taken

For: Berriault: we should postpone this, there is no issue too time sensitive to address in this manner. We don’t even have this on paper and we can’t even read it all on the screen

Vote: 3Y 13N 2A (Lee, Gomez)

Motion fails

Original Motion

Move to strike item 9 from the Public Affairs guidelines (Testa, Measho)

For: Measho: my biggest concern I have is the first amendment rights not to be able to advertise myself in any student-run publication

Against: Pietrycha: we should at most just strike self advertising because you don’t want to be able to target others

POI Measho to Pietrycha: isn’t that covered under no bashing...

Point of Order: Hubbard: no making a point in a point of information

For: Sonet: slander is mentioned so we can just push this through

Call to previous question (Christiano, Hubbard)

Vote: 6Y 0N 1A

Debate is ended

Amendment Vote:

Vote: 17Y 0N 1A (Lee)

Amendment Passes

Call to previous question (Berriault, Khan)

Vote: 16Y 0N 2A (Lee, Gomez)

Debate is ended

Original Motion
Vote: 17Y 0N 1A (Lee)

Motion Passes  SG14-111

Motion to adjourn (Hubbard, Berriault)

Meeting is adjourned at 6p

Minutes are respectfully submitted by University Assistant Brittany Burke.