January 30, 2013

Present: President Bergenn, Vice President Braun, Treasurer Alaimo, Senators Anderson, Baldassario, Berriault, Choplick, Fallanca, Fellows, Fernandez, Fox, Fung, Germaine, Gomez, Hubbard, Khan, Kirk, Kitchener, Lee, Lopez, Manento, Marcelli, Mgushi, Mills, Narcisse, Ott, Pancak, Radden, Rodriguez, Sejdiraj, Sonet, Testa, Towler Truex, Zohlman

Meeting called to order at 3:09 p.m. by President Bergenn.

Motion to approve minutes from January 27, 2013 (Marcelli, Baldassario)

Passes Unanimously

Student Affairs Report:

The President’s Executive Staff I preparing for the UPBC budget hearing the second week of February. There is no new money but this is very transparent budget process. The President will propose a budget and the UPBC will assess and evaluate the proposals and make recommendations.

We’re also working on getting a report together for late August for the NEASC, which credits the University. They had their 10 year visit five years ago and a report is due every five years.

Public Hearing:

Chris Marcelli via Ian Mangione:

The IRC accepts the challenge from the SGA in this Sunday’s flag football game. IRC realizes they will also be playing CAN and SUBOG, but they do not pose much of a threat. Since IRC and the SGA share the same meeting space the victors of the game can truly claim themselves as Bellin A while the losers will be noted as Bellin B. IRC looks forward to Monday when they can once again become friends with the SGA.
Committee Reports

Public Affairs: Baldassario: Public Affairs will be meeting next Monday to go over election packets. We’ll email the location of the meeting next week.

Academic Affairs: Marcelli: The schedule for Academic Affairs is on the website we’ll meet Tuesday at 6p. I will be taking Sen. Manento’s spot on the Faculty Senate committee because of a conflict he has with a class.

Treasurer’s Report

1- There is a lot of finance recommendations to look over this week
2- The only one I suggest you turn down or not bring up is the Marketing Clubs, FC13-058 because they have asked to withdraw the motion so they can hand in a new one due to some information they got at the Finance meeting
3- The Finance schedule is around campus and emails have been sent in regards to Contingency and Co-sponsorships. All requests are due this Friday at 5p in the SA/LD office.

Baldassario: Is the Phys Ed conference the same one from the Base Budget

Alaimo: yes and we did deny that

Towler: Friday what time?

Alaimo: 5P there is a folder on the desk In the SA/LD office

Vice President’s Report

1- Those Senators who are liaisons to academic clubs have officially been switched to new clubs because of the new Academic Affairs initiative
2- Updated club information will be on the website soon
3- I want to instill a bit of friendly competition and motivation. If you can do every requirement perfectly (office hours, committee meetings) you will be recognized by me at the end of the semester with a gift card. I’d also like to instill competition to see who can turn in the best committee minutes
4- Internal Affairs will be meeting Friday at 3p

President’s Report

1- There is still no answer for the Nite Life Shuttle Insurance
2- The discussion panel I talked about has been officially set. It will be March 5 at 2p in Vance 105 and I’m anticipating it to last between 1-2 hours. The idea is “Is your degree
worth what you’re paying for?” Everything is confirmed but I may come back to the Senate for refreshment money.

3- For Committee Reports: we’re going to do a new thing where all committee reports must be typed and submitted to Brittany by Tuesday night (Wednesday morning for Academic Affairs) so the report can be put in the minutes. Something like this will be easier for dates and times and to avoid redundancy. If you do not submit a report for the agenda you will have to wait to give announcements in Open Floor.

Unfinished Business: None

New Business

Move to accept Finance Committee Recommendations FC13-054, FC13-055 and FC13-056. (Mills, Choplick)

For: Mills: Public Policy requested a base budget of $500 and that is all they are eligible for anyway. The College Democrats spent less money in DC so they want to buy promotional items that are all in good fun and we denied the Phys Ed line item change because the same conference was denied in the base budget.

Vote: 29Y (Braun, Alaimo, Anderson, Baldassario, Berriault, Choplick, Fallonca, Fellows, Fernandez, Fox, Fung, Germaine, Gomez, Hubbard, Khan, Kirk, Lee, Lopez, Marcelli, Mgushi, Mills, Narcisse, Ott, Pancak, Radden, Sejdiraj, Sonet, Testa, Truex) 1N (Kitchener) 3A (Manento, Rodriguez, Towler)

Motion Passes SG13-089

Motion to approve Finance Committee Recommendation FC13-057 (Baldassario, Truex)

For: Baldassario: I know what Sen. Mills didn’t include this one but the line item is pretty straight forward. They’re not traveling so they’d like to move the money for an on-campus event which is always good.

Vote: 31Y (Braun, Alaimo, Anderson, Baldassario, Berriault, Choplick, Fallonca, Fellows, Fernandez, Fox, Fung, Germaine, Gomez, Hibbard, Khan, Kitchener, Kirk, Lee, Manento, Marcelli, Mgushi, Narcisse, Ott, Pancak, Radden, Rodriguez, Sejdiraj, Sonet, Testa, Towler, Truex) 0N 2A (Lopez, Mills)

Motion Passes SG13-090

Move to accept Item B (Marcelli)

For: Marcelli: President Bergenn sent us an email over the weekend about the BOR policy on IT management. The policies give them a large amount of power to log in and monitor the networks active under the entire BOR. The university already has this power and while it is not a policy they have it to comply with investigations. The BOR has no need for this power and it is a
concern for the Faculty Senate. This resolution is in support of Faculty Senate. Just because we’re students doesn’t mean we shouldn’t be concerned with this. We shouldn’t ignore other university issues. This is a privacy issue and while it’s unlikely that they’ll pull up any of our records they’d still have the ability.

POI Germaine: doesn’t this violate one of our amendments?
Bergenn: I’m not a constitutional lawyer so I won’t interpret this but it has weird implications

POI Choplick to Marcelli: since this was postponed are there any Faculty Senate updates?

Marcelli: this has been around for a while so the only new thing was their passed resolution

POI Mgushi to Marcelli: in the Faculty Senate resolution they still seem unsure, so why are we supporting this if they are even uncertain?

Marcelli: it’s not that they’re not sure this resolution is to support a stance on an issue. It’s less they are unsure and more to see what happens is the policy gets changed

Vote: 30Y 2N 2A

**Motion Passes**

**Open Floor**

Baldassario to Braun: what happens if someone switches off or on to Academic Affairs? Would the clubs get moved around again?

Braun: we’re going to wait to see what happens I don’t like switching clubs but I like the Academic Affairs initiative more, but I have no plan for that right now

Marcelli: it’s like this right now because we’re still building relationships in the department. Once the relationships are built we’re hoping we won’t have to have the liaisons be on the Academic Affairs committee-the liaisons aren’t necessarily a long-term part of this

Rodriguez to Marcelli: is this something the clubs wanted or something Academic Affairs wanted?

Marcelli: Academic Affairs

Baldassario: The Fridays we wanted for the Blue Devil social aren’t going to work out so it looks like we’ll be having it on a Thursday which actually works better for the student body

Motion to adjourn (Mills, Zohlman)

Division
Vote: 24Y 10N 0A

Meeting is adjourned at 3:45p

Bergenn: I had something I wanted to say before the meeting was adjourned so if you want you can stick around to hear it but you don’t have to. During the retreat I said where I stand on scholarships. At this point it is best to let Student Life do what they need to do but I wanted to explain my position. I try to adhere to the moral values of Gandhi so it would be against what I believe not to share my beliefs. I will sign this motion regardless. I like that money is put into a fund at the end of the year because it’s money that will not be used, but I don’t like the idea of having to explain to clubs why there is less student activities because we’re using student activity funds for scholarships. The argument of using the money for stipends and a retreat is irrelevant. Demand in terms of money is irrelevant. No matter what amount we give out the demand will always exceed the amount. 400 applicants is not a good sign because that is about 5% of the student body. There is no possible correlation between scholarships and other things we do because while scholarship applicants have gone up voter turnout has gone down. We have no way to help peers because due to FERPA we can’t require a GPA, social or monetary status. I disagree the welfare statement because we can’t provide help to the people who need it. This is an arbitrary redistribution of money and we can spend the $15,000 in better ways than a writing contest. We’re not helping people stay in school and we’re not helping graduation retention rates. If you want to argue against me, okay, but you cannot possibly stay on topic and prove me wrong. I will help student life with these but keep in mind for the future we can change things to fix the problem because right now it’s not being used how it was intended.

Respectfully submitted by SGA University Assistant Brittany Burke.