March 13, 2013

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

Meeting called to order at 3:08 p.m. by President Bergenn.

Motion to approve minutes from March 13, 2013 (Mills, Marcelli)

Passes Unanimously SG13-137

Student Affairs Report: none

Guest Speaker: Cindy Cayer: Director of Institutional Advancement

Scholarship Fund: Director of Institutional Advancement

SGA has a scholarship with the CCSU foundation and the foundation is a nonprofit group affiliated with the university to collect private donations for the university. One of the donations has been from the SGA so the foundation solicits contributions for different departments to benefit students and student life and all of them donations that come in are restricted to what the donor tells us what to do with it including the SGA Scholarship.

Last year the foundation collected the most money its ever collected and had assets of over $42 million, which is the largest foundation of the CSU System. $613,000 of that money was spent on student scholarships. The foundation has two types of funds an operating fund and an endowment fund. The operating fund is money that is spent this year an endowment is when the donor says this is for a restricted purpose. An endowed donation is money that will never be spent by the foundation. They secure the future of the organization. Every year there is money that comes out for SGA Scholarships that follow the selection criteria. The lifetime giving has been 13 gifts for total donations of $189,000. Of that money $143,500 is still in the endowment. The rest is cashbook earnings. Because you’ve invested your fund value is $192,749. The fund values vary with market value but this is as of last year.
Over time your savings account will continue to generate but your operating money changes with time. Last year you made a gift of $20,000 and that will start paying back so the $6000 that’s available will continue to increase and you are investing for future scholarships. Investment in endowment giving is a long term investment in SGA health.

Bergenn: we are reaching the time of year where a decision for a contribution is coming so we’re looking to reach out to Student Life and Finance to get a read on that.

**Guest Speaker: Connecticut Student Organization**

We’re an advocacy group for higher education in the State of CT. We are branching out and would like to have CT Student Organization at CCSU. the function of that would be to get the concerns and ideas of your students and bring them back to the CT Student Organization LLC. We would like you guys to be the voice of CCSU and work with us to brainstorm on how we can solve the problems and speak to the legislators. We can get you the resources you need to make a difference. Our aim is to have someone at the Capitol with the facts but we need support from students across the state.

Bergenn: this is an LLC you said? And how or where is it owned

We don’t have an office right now because we don’t have the resources but it is being funded by student donations and a lot of our own personal finances because this is an organization that is so new and groundbreaking. There hasn’t been something like this before that will go to the Capitol and stand up. We are all students and this is the first SGA meeting we’ve gone to but we have plan to go to all the colleges. By the start of 2014 we’d like to have established an organization at all the colleges

Hazan: Who is the LLC registered to?

CSO: The LLC is registered to myself (John Farrar) for banking and additional purposes

Bergenn: and you’re currently a student?

CSO: Yes, and right now it’s not like we’re generating funds but as president it’s under my name

**Public Hearing:**

Mgushi: last meeting it was made clear about my feelings towards the rally and what I meant by what was said. Tomorrow I plan on taking my car because at the other rally I didn’t like how other people were there representing us with their signs and wrong message and I don’t want to associate myself with them. We don’t need other groups to represent us, we can do it ourselves. I understand Freedom of Speech but we need ourselves to represent us

Bergenn: normally the reason for this time is for people who don’t have the right to speak during our meetings to speak.
Treasurer’s Report:

Alaimo: we’ve been doing a good job with the base budget process so far we’re above 60 clubs. We have senators going in and out to the office to help with club base budgets. I hope you all looked over your club’s budgets.

I apologize for not being here last week. we have a bunch of recommendations, a lot of line items so look them over. They’re all line items accept a base budget for ATMAE. It should go smoothly I hope

Baldassario: I notice clubs have been creating sign up times for base budgets is that something you’re okay with

Alaimo: that might have been me I added extra time slots just in case, probably an extra 15 slots because they were going pretty fast

Vice President’s Report

1. Since we passed the motion for a dress code I’m supposed to give you guidelines of what I expect and I decided to show you what I expect. I’ll be pretty lenient you can go as low as jeans and nice top or even leggings as long as the top is nice. For men I stole the chart from Matt Clyburn so I want you to be at least a four…jeans and a polo is fine. Just no hats.

Choplick: was the motion passed effective for the next academic year

Braun: I don’t believe that was said in the motion

2. Good job with base budgets. Understand it’s not your fault if the club did not get your signature in time so don’t stress out. If they didn’t contact you then it’s their fault. If clubs give you attitude please talk to me and I will talk to them.

3. We’re going to have a new liaison email sent out tonight. It’ll be one of the easiest ones. It will be short and just about club eboards running for Senate. No personalization necessary due next Wednesday at midnight. Midbreak.

Radden: no hats like no top hats

Braun: right because you’re inside. I wasn’t sure what the rule was for caps but it was explained to me that when you’re inside you take off your hat

President’s Report

1. Talked to the design club and they asked about a couple of things that weren’t in the decision and I thought they were fine. Just one or two dollar items

2. Next week we’ll have Chris Galligan here to talk about Corporate Relations

3. A BOR meeting is tomorrow at ECSU if you’re interested in attending let me know
4. Updated By Laws and Constitution are available on the SGA website
5. Again without Brittany here today please take it easy on me
6. Tonight after this meeting and for however long it takes there will be an informal gathering in the office to call the people who signed up for the buses tomorrow and also create displays and signs. I wont stop anyone else from bringing their own signs but we can make our message from us with less confusion and a better image to represent SGA that way
7. I know e-board elections aren’t over yet but I wanted to thank and congratulate all five candidates who work together on senate and have remained cordial. You have no clue these people are competing against each other so it’s been an honorable job by all

**Committee Reports**

**Public Affairs:** Radden: thank everyone for helping with Devils Den we had a great turn out. With elections, thank you to the candidates, great job. We had 279 already vote so that’s a good number. Keep posted for Senate elections

Baldassario: if you would like the Senate packet they’re on the website and a stack will be available in the office. They’re due the Monday after spring break at 5p

**Student Life:** Kitchener: we’re going to be talking about the endowment today and Brian will be presenting on a plan our scholarships are due by April 5 at 5p in the SGA Office

Fernandez: when will the results be posted?

Baldassario: Monday March 25 on the website

Testa: where did the part in the packet come from about your current position and residency

Baldassario: our Constitution and by-laws

Bergenn: if you’re going from one to the other and transitioning but are right now a resident you can run for that I believe the only time you have to run for at-large is if you’re unsure of what your status with the school will be

**Internal Affairs:** Braun: there will be no internal affairs meeting this Friday and Brian informed that it was recommended that the dress code be instated next year so you don’t have to follow that but get into the habit of it because it does look nice & at our next meeting we will be discussing the endowment idea

**Finance Committee:** Mills: for finance we went over some plans for percentages of the budget and we will continue to talk about it. we have some line item changes to look over and one new base budget

**Motion to approve Finance Committee recommendations FC13-096, 097, 098, 099, 100, 101 and 102 (Mills)**

Bergenn: any other discussion?
Divide the question and separate FC13-101 (Lee, Ott)

Vote: 19Y 7N 0A

Division passes back to original motion

No discussion

Vote: 25Y (Braun, Alaimo, Anderson, Baldassario, Berriault, Choplick, Fallanca, Fellows, Fernandez, Fox, Fung, Germaine, Gomez, Hubbard, Khan, Kirk, Lee, Lopez, Manento, Marcelli, Mills, Narcisse, Ott, Sejdiraj, Towler, Zohlman) 0N 1A (Radden)

Motion Passes SG13-138

Motion to approve the History Club Line Item Change

Against: Lee: Finance approved a $2700 contingency request for the history club on Feb 13. Now the history club wants to put it toward a bus trip we didn’t see any quotes for this to go to Boston. This is not what we approved the contingency request for. We shouldn’t approve this because we haven’t seen information on this and this isn’t what the contingency was approved for. They will also be charging money for the trip so please go against this motion

POI Baldassario to Alaimo: in their base budget request did they ask for a trip to Boston

Alaimo: Boston is a new request

For: Ott: the club wanted to go to DC but didn’t realize it was in the middle of cherry blossom season so when they got their quotes originally they were a lot lower but when they went back it doubled. So they wanted to do something else with their club so they decided to go to Boston. I agree with Alex about making profit so I would advocate to amend this not vote it down

Move to amend the motion to take out “make a profit” and insert “all money to be given back to the SGA” (Fernandez, Ott)

Bergenn: the only problem with that is the motion only reads to accept the History Club Line Item Change. So it would have to be done to that wording

Fernandez: I withdraw my motion

Move to amend FC13-101 to read as follows “motion to approve item A of the history club line item change and to deny item B” (Marcelli, Fernandez)

For: Marcelli: a few people have an issue approving the second part so maybe we should cut it out. I agree with Sen. Lee on this and I think it should be amended

Against: Mills: I had the same reservation but I consulted Jim and them making a profit isn’t even an option
POI Baldassario: if line item B was dropped would they be able to have any money for the bus in the first place

Bergenn: look in the packet for a breakdown of the items, item b is travel so you would be denying the $623.50 for travel.

POI Manento: does is matter that their treasurer didn’t sign this

Bergenn: technically no

Alaimo: as long as it gets signed by the Wednesday it’s not a big deal

POI Berriault: if the senate decides to approve the amendment what would happen to the other $623, would it stay in their budget

Alaimo: the student body money was designated to go to DC if they don’t spend it it will go back into our accounts at the end of the year

POI Towler to Alaimo: would that mean they can spend it some way else

Alaimo: it says transportation to DC so they can use it for transportation to DC

Bergenn: the amendment would be to approve item A and deny item B, item B is for travel to Boston so it would only include money for tickets to Boston

POI: Fernandez: if we approve point A what would those tickets to Boston be?

Bergenn: I only have the information that is here

POI Narcisse: does it say how much the bus will cost exactly and if so can we approve them for that amount so they don’t have to charge

Bergenn: no it doesn’t say that

POI Towler: is there some way we can split B for part A

Bergenn: that’s up to you not me but it is possible

Towler: I’d like to split part B into part 1 and 2 whereas part 1 allows $623.50 line item change to Boston and Part 2 to be

Point of Order

Bergenn: it’s just recommending another amendment

Not well taken

Towler: second part would be to strike “profit”
Bergenn: nowhere in the motion does it state anything on the line item request form the motion only states to approve the line item request form. The form isn’t ours to edit we’re now on points in favor of the amendment

Amendment Vote: 2Y (Baldassario, Fernandez) 21N (Braun, Alaimo, Anderson, Berriault, Choplick, Fox, Germaine, Hubbard, Kirk, Lee, Manento, Marcelli, Mgushi, Mills, Narcisse, Ott, Radden, Sejdiraj, Szabo, Towler, Truex, Zohlman) 6A (Fallanca, Fung, Gomez, Khan, Kitchener, Lopez)

Amendment Fails

Original Motion

Against: Marcelli: I don’t think we have enough information to talk about $2700. I’m not comfortable with this

For: Mills: I was against this because they said they were going to make a profit and they can’t and I was in SA/LD when they handed this in and it looks like an amazing trip. So if we deny this it will just go back into our accounts

Motion to amend to add “with tickets being available to the student body free of charge” (Berriault, Khan)

For: Berriault: there’s been concern with should they make a profit and the majority feel they shouldn’t so this makes the tickets for the student body free of charge this is the only reasonable thing to do at this point

Against: Choplick: this can also make it that the club cannot go on the trip at all I would think it’s better to limit the amount they can charge to go on the trip where they can’t make a profit but can still afford to go

Vote: 1Y 18N 0A

Motion Fails

Motion to amend to add “and the ticket price cannot result in the club making a profit” (Baldassario, Towler)

For: Baldassario: this is what we’ve been going for the entire time. The idea is not to make a profit while still being able to cover costs

Bergenn: technically we can’t do this without quorum and we are two short so Liz just left to get people from the office to come down so right now we’ll move to open floor until we get quorum back

Open Floor
Baldassario: elections for e-board make sure to vote. If you want to run for senate again pick up a packet, there are a few things new to the packet to read them over

**Committee Reports Cont’d**

**History Club Amendment**

Against: Berriault: this makes it that they can’t charge at all because no matter what they charge they will make a profit

For: Baldassario: they can charge whatever they want, the point of this amendment is to stop them from having an income from this trip. The tickets can still be free but I don’t want them to profit from this because it was a contingency

Against: Berriault: this will confuse the history club I want to make this as easy for the clubs on campus if it’s free it’s free if it costs money then it costs money but this is arguing for two different things in the same motion. We’ve said to clubs to fundraise and we have loans for that purpose so now we’re saying clubs can’t raise money so I don’t know what it is, which is it?

Bergenn: it’s rare that I’ll say something during debate but I need to clarify something, these two amendments argue the same thing

Baldassario: the issue with my amendment is they can still charge but they can charge enough to cover the trip, they won’t make money to generate a profit it will go back to their account and then back to us

Mills: this amendment does nothing correctly?

Bergenn: it does, free means free this amendment puts a range they can charge from $0-a point where they can profit

Vote: 13Y 2N 4A (Kirk, Truex, Manento, Kitchener)

**Amendment passes**

**Original Motion**

Vote: 16Y (Braun, Anderson, Baldassario, Berriault, Choplick, Fallanca, Fernandez, Germaine, Kitchener, Kirk, Lee, Manento, Mills, Narcisse, Ott, Zohlman) 2N (Fox, Marcelli) 1A (Truex)

**Motion Passes**

**Move to accept Finance Committee recommendation FC13-103 (Mills)**

For: Mills: ATMAE came in with a new base budget so we’d like to give money for membership and speakers. It’s pretty self-explanatory
Vote: 18Y (Braun, Anderson, Berriault, Choplick, Fallanca, Fellows, Fernandez, Germaine, Kitchener, Kirk, Lee, Manento, Marcelli, Mills, Narcisse, Ott, Truex, Zohlman) 0N 1A (Baldassario)

**Motion Passes** SG13-140

**Academic Affairs:** Marcelli: one thing coming up is the issue of walking during graduation without the required amount of credits. You can walk if you are missing 9 or fewer credits and plan to finish them over the summer. The academic standards committee is looking to push an initiative to bring back fall commencement ceremonies which we haven’t had in a while. So I will be bringing something forward such as a resolution in support of that.

**Open Floor**

Narcisse: Academic Affairs is having a financial planning workshop Thursday at 4:30 in Vance 105, free snacks

Baldassario: I want to explain with the amendments, you can charge all our motion did was say they can’t make a profit. To do that they’d have to make more than the entire trip costs.

**Motion to create a standing rule that no motions can be made during committee reports unless it receives a unanimous consent of the senate (Berriault, Baldassario)**

For: Berriault: I brought this up a few weeks ago, when motions are made during committee reports the majority of senators miss information. The information that’s given during committee reports is important and half the senate misses it by the time we finish them. It’s not right that the information given during committee reports can’t be heard by the entire senate

Against: Truex: it’s within our rights to motion during reports and we should continue to do that. We can use some discretion, maybe if there is a lot to go over then that committee goes last however the bulk of our work is done in committees and it’s easier to make these motions during the reports

**Motion to refer to internal affairs (Lee, Fernandez)**

Bergenn: I have to check to see if we can do this…and it looks like we can

For: Lee: most of our work is done in committees whether it’s a standing rule or not I’d like to see it come out of internal affairs

Against: Mills: it’s just a standing rule. I don’t want to see it go to internal affairs and I don’t think internal affairs does either.

Vote: 5Y 11N 2A (Kirk, Fox)

**Motion Fails**

**Original Motion**
For: Berriault: it’s a pretty simple thing I’m asking of senate if you feel it’s acceptable that senators are missing vital information and if you feel it’s acceptable to make 8 motions during a committee report then vote no. but if you feel we can govern effectively by all having the same information then vote yes on this standing rule. I propose this because I care.

Against Marcelli: at no point in our conversation did I suggest chairs only make motions during reports when necessary I only emphasized that the chairs should be using discretion, as in if they thought something would take a long time then that’s how you decide whether to make a motion treasurer Alaimo agreed with me and I think Senator Mills was using his discretion because I don’t think anyone of us expected those motions to take that long today. I think a rule like this is unnecessary and doesn’t make any sense and the wording is very confusing

POI Kitchener: aren’t committee reports supposed to be reported ahead of time and in the agenda

Bergenn: I ask for that but it hasn’t been happening so I’m not going to deny the right to speak

For: Ott: I don’t have a problem waiting until reports are over, this isn’t that big a deal and I’m okay with having all the info from the reports

Against: Mills: I waited until I thought there were no more reports and I was prepared to wait. I wasn’t expecting them to take that long they’re line items and a base budget and Treasurer Alaimo specifically asked me to make the motions in the report so I wasn’t doing this to spite anybody. I’m not against this because it’s a standing rule, I’m against this because it’s ridiculous. Chairs have the right to make motions during committee reports and I’d like to keep it that way and there’s four meetings left, what does it matter?

Vote: 3Y 16N 1A (Narcisse)

Motion Fails

Hazan: I just wanted to let you know that April 5th is our deadline for student activities for all paperwork or any events to be processed

Truex: I think we should go back to being called on for committee reports and committees with a longer report should go last but we just need to use discretion when doing this. Maybe we should have a set order or ultimately just use discretion

Bergenn: I put the agendas together and I can just reorder them to work in a different way. Unless we make a motion to accept an agenda then we don’t have to stick to it so I recommend not to make any drastic changes going to the end of the year// for committee reports never mind whether or not they have a right to bring something up in a report the only difference for waiting for new business is getting a second, which you’re going to get. So unless it’s out of the ordinary or reports go under new business then there’s no advantage, it would just be confusing

Marcelli: as of 5p all last financial deadlines for this year has passed

Fernandez: the SALD deadline is April 5, can a club go to the board or a meeting
Bergenn: technically yes

Motion to excuse Treasurer Alaimo from the March 13 meeting (Choplick, Marcelli)

For: Choplick: we’ve excused people from meetings for conferences so for the sake of consistency we should do this

Vote: 20Y 0N 0A

Motion Passes

Bergenn: I got a note from the Wellness Program Coordinator who works with Natural Helpers thanking us for our support for the Alcohol Awareness Fair

Kitchener: I’d like a lot of people to come to student life to talk about scholarships and the endowment

Fernandez: although our finance committee will be busy with base budgets if a club approaches you about getting funds from SGA let them know that they can still do so by coming to the Wednesday meeting

Mills: it will be base budgets soon if anyone plans to go to deliberations I stress also going to the finance meetings for presentations and if you can’t make those talk to some finance members

Motion to adjourn (Choplick, Kitchener)

Meeting is adjourned at 5:12pm

Respectfully submitted by SGA University Assistant Brittany Burke.