Student Government Association Minutes from March 26, 2014

March 26, 2014 Attendance:

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

Meeting is called to order at 3:09p by President Choplick

Motion to approve meeting minutes from March 12 (Rodriguez, Khan)

Motion Passes

Motion Passes

Public Hearing:

Zohlman: the spring concert is coming up on 4/26 and we need help setting up. This year we will be setting up Friday and Saturday so if you can sign up please do, if you can’t be there the whole time we ask that you do not sign up. If you are helping the day of you do not need a ticket

Hazan: we are entering our busy season so please confer with the clubs that no one should be coming into our office with anything new

Black Student Union Line Item:

We would like to line item for our Shimmy Like a Nupe event, we need $320 for set up, food and a photographer

Swan: why didn’t the Kwanza Ball not happen

BSU: We did a Black Tie Affair instead which was smaller and cheaper

Volleyball Contingency:

We found out Monday we qualified for the New England Championships for the first time in years and it was very unexpected. We are asking for $1069.13 for seven hotel rooms. 14 players are attending and we are intending to carpool and pay for food out of pocket

Measho: what day
Volleyball: 4/29

Alsaqri: is the whole team going

Volleyball: no, we have 14 jerseys so 14 players are going

**Student Affairs Report: None**

**COSGA Presentation:** what the senators learned from attending COSGA in Texas:

- Our finance committee is one of the best in the country
- We were thinking about giving a gift to the campus from the SGA and have students submit gift ideas, trying to start a campus tradition
- We can try and increase participation through restructuring for example, have a House of Representatives that will work with the SGA but not having voting rights
- We should work on bettering the campus as a whole, work closer with incoming freshmen and local politicians
- We can use permanent table tents to advertise, have permanent comment boxes (ours have been working well so far), regular attendance at club events on campus, have bi-weekly meet and greets with senators on a permanent basis, rather than the bulletin board have an interactive board, increase the publicity of senators and committees as a whole and just do some gorilla marketing
- We need to go to our club events
- Try to either assign seats in meetings or switch them up each week so we get different senator perspectives
- The semi-colon project in regards to mental health awareness
- We can have pins that allows students to recognize who we are on meeting days
- Improve things that aren’t necessarily broken
- Establish tradition
- The Big Event Community Service Project
- Create interest beginning with the freshmen
- SGA Mentorship with freshmen to help create a larger community
- Celebrate our history with SGA Alumni events
- Have SGA “chill” sessions, more relaxed and informal versions of our meetings
- The good neighbor campaign with the local community
- 30-minute parking spots
- The bike share program
- Reach out more to President Miller
- Continue to get the SGA’s name out there so they know who we are
- Lobby for local, state and federal politics

Perry: with the gift to the environment, any thoughts

Mills: we want to talk to people first but it can be anything from a tree to repaving the student center circle and making it look nicer

Berriault: can you email us the slideshow
Ott: yes

Testa: can you break down the initiatives by committee
Ott: yes

**Treasurer’s Report:**

1. 101 clubs submitted a base budget and there is about $790,000 in requests
2. Deliberations will be April 4, 5, 6 and if you want to participate you have to show up to at least three presentation days
3. For Use By Senate has about $40,000, $19,000 of which can be used
4. Reserves: $252,000

Swan: what times are deliberations Saturday
Mills: 10a-6p and the same Sunday if need be, Friday we will go from 12p-8p

**Vice President’s Report:**

1. Liaison emails are due next Wednesday 4/2 by 3:30p. there is information on a new club challenge so the earlier you send them out the better and copy me on them
Cahill: when are they due
Anderson: 4/2
Swan: for the club challenge does money go into the revenue account or the SG account
Anderson: revenue
Perry: the information is on the email? Are the ticket stubs attached
Anderson: no they are in SALD

**President’s Report**

1. Hope everyone had a good break, I apologize for all the emails
2. Senators Bosworth and Fox will be on the food services committee
3. In regards to the tobacco free campus initiative: there isn’t much to talk about now but I think it is something that should go to referendum
Measho: we decide?
Choplick: they are just asking for student input, I think it is large enough of an issue to go to referendum

**Committee Reports:**
Student Life: Sonet: 3/30 at 10a we will begin scholarship deliberations we have about 50 packets so please join us, we have a very busy meeting and will be making some committee motions

Public Affairs: Ott: the hats are back and we will be giving them out at every event until the end of the year/we are co-sponsoring a Blood Drive so please sign up to help

Measho: what day

Ott: 4/15 there will be lobby tables in the student center before then...we are splitting up election duties between the three on our committee who are not running and the Candidate Gallery will be 4/1 10:30-12:30

Testa: we are also co-sponsoring an event with Broadway Cares founded to help with HIV awareness it will be Monday 5:30-7:30 and we may need volunteers

Internal Affairs: Anderson: we have 2 meetings left then stipend review if you have any proposals please submit them to me ASAP so I can come up with a schedule

Fox: is it still 12p in the Office

Anderson: yes

Fox: doesn’t that conflict with base budgets

Anderson: we’ll make it work

Finance: Mills: we have a few line items that came to the eboard because finance can no longer handle them with base budget presentations. Rather than eboard decision them we thought it would be best for senate to decide. There is also a proposed by-law change that came from committee that would change the way our budget percentages work because for a long time I’ve felt they were out of date. On the winter retreat we worked on them and it would get rid of the fundraising account, instead those loans will come from the reserves since we get the money back anyway. Instead there will be a supplemental funding account and it will increase the money to clubs. We still think we should move $30,000 from reserves to club budgets like we have in the past but this will allow us to know what numbers we have to work with. // A Cappella Society came with a fundraising loan to help finish their CD the way the motion is written they will pay it back at the end of the next fiscal year because the CD won’t be done until the Fall and if they do not pay it back only Divisi will be affected. // Hip Hop nation wants to move money from speakers to their block party event // Spanish Club had money for an event to Chef Andre but that isn’t working out so they want money to go to Spanish restaurant in Hartford // tennis wants to move money from supplies to uniforms and I suggest we stipulate they be reused//Geology wants to go on a trip to NY // College Democrats’ tickets to Boston increased so the line item is in there but their eboard still wants to talk about it // SASA has two co-sponsorship requests for events that they did not get enough money for last year which we knew was going to happen in the base budget

Measho: why aren’t the line items on new business
Mills: they were given to us in the past week and finance can’t spend time on them so we thought it was best to bring them to senate

Measho: why aren’t they listed

Mills: there is no actual motion to list but now you have the information

Measho: so all we would have to do is make a motion

Mills: yes

Christiano: if we have no issue with them can we refer them back to the eboard

Mills: yes but a lot of them are time sensitive

Germaine: for the by-law is it one motion or two

Mills: one but you can split it

Measho: can we just combine all the motions

Mills: yes but someone will probably divide them

Christiano: what happened to the ad hoc committee that was supposed to present

Choplick: they were supposed to report back on 3/24 which was Monday so it was sent via email

**Unfinished Business:** None

**New Business:**

Motion to allocate $3,000 to the A Capella Society for Divisi’s Fundraising Loan going towards their Cd Productions from SG9017; with the condition that it is not due until the ending of the 2014-2015 Fiscal Year; and, in the event that the amount is not paid, Divisi will be held solely responsible. (Mills, Cassidy)

For: Mills: fiancé went over this in length and they asked to wait to return the money and that is stipulated in the motion and if they don’t pay it back only Divisi will be held responsible, they have done this in the past and raised more than $3000

POI Measho: how would we hold them responsible?

Mills: we can take the money or not give them a budget it’s up to the finance committee

POI Christiano: would that affect the rest of the society

Mills: no just Divisi

POI Perry: who is producing the CD

Choplick: I don’t have that answer
P.O.I. Measho: will the CD be online or in hard copy

Mills: it will be on iTunes and on hard copies

Vote: 28Y (Anderson, Mills, Alsaqri, Berriault, Bosworth, Cahill, Cassidy, DiBacco, Fallanca, Fox, Frey, Fung, Germaine, Gomez, Gregonis, Hudobenko, Khan, Kitchener, Lee, Measho, Moody, Ott, Perry, Pietrycha, Rodriguez, Rongey, Sonet, Testa) ON 3A (Christiano, Hubbard, Swan)

Motion Passes SG14-145

Motion to pass the Finance Committee By-Law Changes to the Club Funding Section of our By-Laws (Mills, Alsaqri)

For: Mills: the percentage change has been a long time coming because the way we fund now is very outdated and we would be moving about $30,000 from our own accounts to club budgets. This will solve the argument that we spend too much money on ourselves

Against: Perry: I don’t think we should remove fundraising loans

P.O.I. Measho to Mills: can you clarify the supplemental loan

Mills: there is always an argument between unforeseen and supplementing the base budget to put on a new event so this fixes that

P.O.I. Swan to Mills: would fundraising loans be deleted

Mills: no they will be taken from the reserves so that way we don’t have $28,000 just sitting there

P.O.I. Measho to Mills: are the numbers arbitrary

Mills, no we went over them on winter retreat and figured in our stipends, what we pay our UA, what we spend on paper and ink all from operational and the money we need for events and came up with the number

For: Measho: they worked on the numbers and it will increase money to clubs

Vote: 29Y (Anderson, Mills, Alsaqri, Berriault, Bosworth, Cahill, Cassidy, DiBacco, Fallanca, Fernandez, Fox, Frey, Fung, Germaine, Gomez, Gregonis, Hubbard, Khan, Kitchener, Lee, Measho, Moody, Ott, Pietrycha, Rodriguez, Rongey, Sonet, Swan, Testa) ON 3A (Christiano, Hudobenko, Perry)

Motion Passes SG14-146

Motion to approve the Tennis Club line item change with $250 moving from supplies to uniforms with the stipulation that the club reuse the uniforms and not put names on them (Ott, Germaine)
For: Ott: $250 from supplies to uniforms because they didn’t anticipate the growth in the club and they need these to look like one team at competitions but it was unclear whether they would reuse them so we put it in the motion

*Move to amend to strike everything after and including “with the stipulation” (Lee, Christiano)*

For: Lee: I pleated tennis and the shirts they are getting are on the cheaper side in a year they will be done and it’s not reasonable that we tell them to reuse them

POI Berriault: can they use the laundry room in Kaiser

Choplick: I’m not 100% sure

POI Measho: can we move to table to speak to Scott

Choplick: you could

POI Kitchener: if the senate chose to ask the club for more information would the eboard make a decision

Choplick: it is not time sensitive

Against: Ott: we don’t know what the shirts look like and we shouldn’t get rid of the stipulation because of an assumption and I am not comfortable giving money for individual shirts

For: Sonet: I don’t think it’s a good idea to make assumptions every sport has different needs

POI Measho: if this is approved what happens if they need more shirts next year

Choplick: they could ask for them

*Motion to postpone until next week (Anderson, Germaine)*

For: Anderson: it is established that we want tennis to clarify some thing

Against: Christiano: we are busy coming up and we should just discuss this now

For: Kitchener: if they need to make a decision on the material they can do this when we ask them, it will be a quick decision once we have all the information

POI Fox: Scott knows the information?

Choplick: on the Kaiser washing machines

Against: Cassidy: we can’t use the Kaiser machines, I talked to Scott

POI Kitchener: what are we asking them
Choplick: there was a question if the clubs can use the Kaiser washing machines and then one about material

Vote: 10Y 16N 1A (Hudobenko)

**Postponement Fails**

Against: Kitchener: I don't think clubs should have individual shirts and we can use this stipulation for the fairest outcome

POI Sonet: if we support this stipulation how do we enforce it

Choplick: not fund them again next year

For: Berriault: we have SGA shirts what makes us different? They have to pay to wash them on their own and they will just need new shirts in a year or two anyway

Against: Mills: every club that requires a uniforms has to reuse them, soccer is the only one that doesn't because they pay for over half of them

POI Measho to Mills: is it possible to fund them this time and we add next year that they pay club dues

Mills: we can never make a club pay dues

For: Hudobenko: I don't think we need a stipulation but they should be recommended to reuse them

Against: Germaine: every sports team has jerseys that they return, in hockey we played with blood and spit on our uniforms and they were washed once a season, once size fits all. This is tennis' jersey they're a team and it needs a stipulations because it is not an everyday shirt

POI Mills: if we withdrew this and then stipulated if they pay for over 50% they can keep them would that keep things consistent

Choplick: yes

Measho: move to withdraw

Choplick: you didn't make the motion so you can't withdraw it

POI Kitchener: the stipulation would be to pay over 50%?

Mills: no they would have to reuse them unless they paid for more than 50% of them

*Lee: I withdraw my motion*

*Move to amend to insert “unless they fund over 50% of the cost” (Mills, Germaine)*
For: Mills: this gives them the choice and keeps them consistent with other sports clubs on campus

Vote: 23Y 1N 2A (Gregonis, Hudobenko)

**Amendment Passes**

**Original Motion:**

Vote: 25Y (Anderson, Mills, Senators, Berriault, Bosworth, Cahill, Cassidy, Christiano, Fallanca, Fernandez, Fox, Frey, Germaine, Gomez, Hubbard, Khan, Kitchener, Lee, Measho, Moody, Ott, Pietrycha, Rodriguez, Sonet, Swan, Testa) 0N 1A (Hudobenko)

**Motion Passes**

Move to allocate $1070 to men's volleyball towards accommodations for their championship game from SG9016 (Mills, Pietrycha)

For: Mills: they just qualified for the championship and couldn't foresee this and I rounded up to $1070 to make everything easier

Vote: 22Y (Anderson, Mills, Senators, Berriault, Bosworth, Cahill, Cassidy, Fallanca, Fernandez, Fox, Frey, Hubbard, Hudobenko, Khan, Kitchener, Lee, Measho, Ott, Pietrycha, Rodriguez, Sonet, Swan, Testa) 0N 1A (Volleyball)

**Motion Passes**

Motion to excuse Senator Moreno from the March 26 meeting due to academic reasons (Berriault, Khan)

For: Berriault: he is taking a makeup midterm

Vote: unanimous consent

**Motion Passes**

Motion to approve the BSU line item change with $320 moving from the Kwanza Ball to setup and event crew and $200 from the Kwanza Ball to Shimmy Like a Nupe (Rodriguez, Berriault)

For: Rodriguez: they changed the Kwanza Ball to a new event that was cheaper

POI Sonet: what is a nupe

Choplick: I don’t know

Fernandez: it’s a nickname of an individual in a specific fraternity

Vote: 25Y (Anderson, Mills, Senators, Berriault, Bosworth, Cahill, Cassidy, Christiano, Fallanca, Fernandez, Fox, Frey, Germaine, Gomez, Hubbard, Hudobenko, Khan, Kitchener, Lee, Measho, Ott, Pietrycha, Rodriguez, Sonet, Swan, Testa) 0N 0A
Motion to approve the Spanish Club line item request (Measho, Pietrycha)

For: Measho: it is $300 to experience a cultural dinner

POI Kitchener to Mills: do you know why it is going from conferences to conferences
Mills: that is what the original line item was under but we can put it in refreshments

Motion to amend to insert “with the stipulation no money be spent on the club advisor” (Pietrycha, Khan)

For: Pietrycha: in the email it includes the advisor but we usually do not fund them

Against: Berriault: it is a fixed price no matter what for 15 people

For: Anderson: then those 15 slots can be used on students

POI Christiano: is it clear we don’t fund advisors

Choplick: there is nothing in our By-Laws

POI Cassidy to Mills: how many members are in the club

Mills: 10-11 regular members

POI Ott: how we make our advisors pay

Choplick: we pay for them

POI Anderson: do other clubs pay for their advisors

Choplick: no because other club advisors play a different role than ours

Vote: 12Y 13N 0A

Amendment Fails

Original Motion

Against: Anderson: they want to take money from a cooking demonstration to go eat, this is not a cultural experience and the other purpose while it isn’t happening, was better

POI Hubbard to Mills: didn’t French Club do that

Mills: yes

POI Swan to Mills: can you speak towards the event

Mills: I am part of the club but not going, but they plan to speak to the chef and waiters in Spanish to practice
POI Hudobenko to Mills: is it true we funded French club to do more than eat

Mills: yes this is a similar request

For: Sonet: part of learning about another culture is eating another culture’s food so saying this isn’t a cultural experience is wrong

POI Kitchener: can we ask the club to do something or does that have to be a motion

Choplick: anyone can do anything but coming from the senate would be a motion

**Kitchener: move to amend to add a stipulation that the club ask their advisor to pay for their own dinner**

Point of order: Berriault: this is similar to the motion that was just rejected

For: Choplick: I will allow it because this isn’t stipulating this is asking

**Against: Berriault: appeal the ruling of the decision of the chair**

**President Choplick Passes the Chair to Vice President Anderson**

For: Choplick: the first was stipulating the advisor not be paid for this is asking the advisor not use Student Activity fees and pay for their own dinner

Against: Berriault: they have the same intent with not wanting the advisor meals not paid for

For: Pietrycha: they are different the second gives the option for them to still use SAF if they say no to the suggestion

POI Ott: what does a yes vote do

Choplick: sustain my decision no is to appeal it

Against: Berriault: it is unfair, this was already voted on and it failed, this is not democratic of us

For: Christiano: we should take each motion as it comes and as a new motion

Against: Rodriguez: they are similar if you don’t agree with it then ask the club on your own

Point of Parliamentary Inquiry: Berriault: can we do this by roll call

Anderson: yes

For: Kitchener: this gives them the option to say no

Against: Germaine: we will never actually know if the advisor pays it’s on one bill

For: Choplick: the first motion says they cannot be paid for the second one is to ask the club and say, hey, these are SAF you probably shouldn’t be using them
Kitchener: what does a yes vote do? Uphold? And a no vote appeals?
Choplick: yes
Pietrycha: what was the first vote count?
Choplick: 12Y 13N
Fox: we can’t amend a committee recommendation but we can amend this?
Choplick: the committee recommendation was worked on and okayed by the group, ones made today are first only approved by two people
Fox: do you agree the majority did not want the advisor paid for
Choplick: I agree but also disagree because this is a new amendment
Vote: 8Y (Cahill, Cassidy, Christiano, Fallanca, Khan, Kitchener, Lee, Pietrycha) 12N (Berriault, Bosworth, Fernandez, Fox, Germaine, Hudobenko, Measho, Ott, Rodriguez, Sonet, Swan, Testa) 1A (Choplick)

**Decision is overturned and the amendment is not heard**

**Original Motion:**
Against: Kitchener: I am not in favor of SAF being used on advisors
For: Christiano: the advisor is taking time to go with the club it is the least we can do
POI Kitchener: do faculty advisors get paid
Anderson: no
Against: Choplick: we are stuck on the singular issue, whenever another club wanted to bring an advisor they needed to pay their own way but now we are saying ok? I don’t know how good a use of SAF that is. When we bring our advisors it is for a specific role and a lot of time it is presenting at a conference, also this is for a dinner. How many clubs did we deny club dinners for?
For: Fernandez: I disagree we have our advisor go to COSGA and they individually benefit from that and we spend about $2000 on that trip, $300 won’t make or break us
Vote: 12Y (Berriault, Bosworth, Cassidy, Christiano, Fernandez, Germaine, Hudobenko, Khan, Measho, Ott, Rodriguez, Sonet, Testa) 6N (Choplick, Fox, Kitchener, Lee, Pietrycha, Swan) 2A (Cahill, Fallanca)

Motion Passes

Vice President Anderson Passes the Chair to President Choplick
Motion to approve the Geology and Planetary Science Line item change (Germaine, Pietrycha)

For: Germaine: they want to go on a trip

POI Ott: where are they going

Choplick: I don’t have that information

POI Measho: is it $1900 or $190, should we table?

Choplick: you should try to get as much information as possible

POI Ott: do we need the faculty signature to accept it

Choplick: once we've accepted it it is something we need to deal with

POI Kitchener: if we tabled this would it be an eboard decision

Choplick: if it’s time sensitive yes

Against: Ott: I am not comfortable without all the information

Move to postpone indefinitely (Lee, Measho)

Lee: withdraw my motion

Germaine: withdraw my motion

Move to approve the South Asian Student Association co-sponsorship request of $1000 with $400 going to events, $100 going to recognition, $400 going to food and $100 going to accommodations from SG9016 (Berriault, Christiano)

For: Berriault: this is something they do every year, it’s a special cultural bazar used to raise money and they need money for a DJ, decorations and refreshments as well as money for student center events management. They work hard and with the co-sponsorship they can succeed. It is open to the campus and something we have done in years past

Yields time

Ott: is there anything to signify that we are co-sponsoring this

Berriault: I’m sure there will be

Against: Ott: this is a great event but the fact that we’re only paying for it is troublesome

For: Berriault: co-sponsorship is funding for collaboration with SGA that is not used to supplement the budget, it does not go against our by-laws and is open to the entire campus. Don’t vote against it because you think it should be on another form

Against: Lee: I agree this is a great event but it supplements the current budget
POI Fernandez: do we know if the event was asked for last year
Berriault: they didn’t get enough money for it in the base budget
POI Ott to Fallanca: would this be heard as a contingency
Fallanca: there are so many different views on contingency
POI Cahill: what is the event date
Choplick: 4/12
POI Kitchener: if we wanted to add the stipulation to do something else could we
Choplick: you’d have to vote this down then deny the co-sponsorship
Berriault: can you read their allocated base budget
Choplick: does over SASA’s 2013-14 base budget
Fernandez: Point of Order: quorum
Not well taken because we can still argue, but we cannot vote
Berriault: point of parliamentary inquiry: does quorum count for those still in senate now or the ones who resigned as well
Choplick: currently on senate
For: Fernandez: it it’s against our by-laws then the individuals in favor need to reconsider, this is a beneficial event but moving forward we should have them comeback the right way

**Question is laid on the table**

Christiano: if I make a motion would It just go on unfinished business?
Choplick: yes

**Motion to excuse Sen. Frey from the Feb. 12 Senate meeting (Christiano, Germaine)**

For: Christiano: she couldn’t help not getting here due to transportation issues

**Open Floor:**

Berriault: SASA needs the co-sponsorship because they were denied the funds in the base budget because of lack of funds// College Democrats and Republicans will have a debate on 4/23 from 8p-9p and we will be having a voter registration drive coming up

Fernandez: my fraternity is having its annual lambda week and Friday is the Rep the Yard event at 7:30, we will be raffling concert tickets
Anderson: I got a bunch of liaison emails but read the instructions and don’t just forward my emails, try and make your clubs feel important// try to lessen the texting and phone usage during meetings we want to try and look professional

Choplick: the Snapchat story really? Also, remember I can also excuse people and I will do so for medical and school purposes

Cassidy: I am shaving my head in less than two weeks for St. Baldric’s and if you want to donate that would be awesome

Kitchener: in regards to the co-sponsorship, we’ve approved things that have been denied in the base budget before even though it’s not right

Motion to adjourn (Germaine, Cassidy)

Meeting is adjourned at 5:51p

Respectfully submitted by SGA University Assistant, Brittany Burke