May 1, 2013 Attendance:

Present: President Choplick, Vice President Anderson, Treasurer Mills, Senators Ahmad, Alsaqri, Berriault, Cahill, Christiano, Fallanca, Fox, Fung, Germaine, Gomez, Gregonis, Hubbard, Hudobenko, Kania, Kayan, Khan, Kitchener, Lee, Measho, Moreno, Ott, Pietrycha, Rodriguez, Sanchez, Sonet, Swan, Testa

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

Motion to accept the minutes from 4/24 (Ott, Gomez)

Passes Unanimously

SG14-004

Student Affairs Report:

None

Guest Speaker: Dr. Chris Galligan, VP of Institutional Advancement

I wanted to come here and talk about just a few things today. First off what we do in Institutional Advancement is we are responsible for nontraditional revenue, i.e. donor revenue. We also are responsible for alumni affairs and marketing and connecting with the 70,000 active alums we have in the state. We also keep track of the SGA Giving, as I’m sure you are all aware of the endowment. So far the SGA has given $190,000 to the University since it’s first gift of $6000 in 2000. You also have $195,000 in the scholarship fund which we are told you want to be putting more into.

I was told this year of a community task force committee formed by the former President to go out and connect with local businesses. My office handles all corporate affairs and I’d really like to build a relationship with the SGA to help advance that. I would like to sit down with my staff and the E-board/senators and come up with a collaboration. We have 120 corporate sponsors on campus and a lot of them are trying to find ways to connect with the students. It would be easier to approach these businesses on a collaborative front then having 10 different people from the same university knocking on their doors.
Our goals next year are to increase the endowment, grow the amount given to the University and increase generated money. We have about 4400 donors to the school but they are all alums of the older classes. We’re having a hard time connecting with the graduates from the 80’s, 90’s and thousands. We can get million dollar donations but it’s the donations of $1000 or less that are tough. We want help. We need people who understand the younger generation to help connect with these alums and bring them back to the university. We want to grow the number of donors but we need to connect with the younger classes.

Fernandez: from what I’ve been hearing from the alumni I know is that they aren’t hearing of any alumni events and then are getting letters asking for money so it becomes a bit of a turnoff.

Dr. Galligan: we do about 30 alumni events a year but that brings us to ask if we are doing the right ones. We are going to get the older generation but how do we get the younger ones? If you have any suggestions please email me at galliganc@ccsu.edu or visit my office in Davidson 106.

Measho: I think it’s hard because a lot of recent graduates don’t have that set career yet so it would be harder for them to give money but maybe talking to them at things like the tailgates will help.

Dr. Galligan: it’s hard to get the alums to come to things like football games because if they weren’t connected as a student it would be even harder to be connected as an alumni.

Measho: maybe having the corporate sponsors set up booths at alumni events will help.

Dr. Galligan: we need to talk to present day students to get an idea of the things they would value as an alum.

Mills: I know you focus on athletics but maybe focusing on club events will help too because I know a lot of clubs have alumni come back and participate.

Fernandez: how is the alumni association run?

Dr. Galligan: it is a separate entity with its own president and finances but it collaborates with my office. I would love to have the President or someone from the senate come and speak to the foundation to build a relationship.

Moreno: I would recommend putting more time into social media to get your messages across.

Dr. Galligan: that’s what we struggle with because mass communication is getting outdated but it’s still very much needed.

Sanchez: what kind of help is your office looking for?

Dr. Galligan: we need and like student workers so if you’d like to volunteer or are interested in helping please let me know.
Christiano: have you hosted or thought about hosting class reunions

Dr. Galligan: we do but we find it generally happening for the older classes because the younger generations are becoming less associative with their year

**Treasurer’s Report:**

I looked over the accounts and reserves is still very healthy with $250,000. At the end of the year all club accounts are wiped clean and any extra money is put back into our reserves and then our accounts are wiped clean for the start of the new fiscal year

We sent out an email for clubs to verify if they’ve seen their base budgets so if you get any angry or inquisitive emails please forward them to sgafinance@ccsu.edu so I can handle it

We have to pass the budget for next year so please don’t leave after new business, open floor is important

Vice President’s Report

The retreat dates have changed to August 9, 10 and 11

We’re talking about having a new senator training over the summer so please continue to check your CCSU emails

**President’s Report**

Sen. Cassidy is again excused because of class

The way we are going to do nominations for committee chair and co-chair is we are going to go committee by committee, chair and then co-chair. To win a nominee needs to get the majority of the assembly which would be 17

**Unfinished Business:** None

**New Business:**

**Public Affairs:**

*Chair:*

Sanchez: I nominate Sen. Rodriguez for Public Affairs chair

Accepts

Nominees: Ott, Berriault, Rodriguez
Ott: students on campus are not always aware of SGA or what it even stands for and that’s not their fault that’s ours. We haven’t done enough to work with the students and we want them to come to us with any issues. I want to get out and meet the students. I’ve worked with Legairre and went with him on a lot of his meetings so I’ve met a lot of his contacts already and I think it would be good to have someone with a pre-established presence

Berriault: I care about the student body and I have experience on a lot of SGAs at different schools. I know what it takes to lead. This is my last year here and I want to work hard and do all that I can. We had a lot of accomplishments this year and I made sure to go to every hall council on a listening tour. I don’t know what’s best but I want to engage all of the students. I helped with voting in the elections this past year and I helped get students registered in New Britain who wouldn’t have been able to vote before. I’ve worked with IRC and I want to continue to work with the other major governing bodies on campus and I want students to feel comfortable coming here and being a part of this committee even if they aren’t on senate

Rodriguez: this is my third year on senate, I’m President of LASO, I know what works and what doesn’t. Public Affairs deals with conferences, elections and promotions, something I am very good at. I want to work on getting clubs to care about what we do, because we don’t just give them money. I am persistent and I want to engage students and I want to work on getting the SGA a new logo. I work for the provost so I know a lot people and administrators on campus and I want to help make the SGA awesome.

Vote 1:

Ott: 14 Berriault: 5 Rodriguez: 3

Choplick: to win it would need to have 17, the majority of the assembly so if no one wants to take their name out of the running we will vote again

Vote 2:

Ott: 14 Berriault: 5 Rodriguez: 5

Choplick: because we still have no winner I’ll open the floor up for each candidate to answer two questions

Mills to Ott: have you had any training from previous Public Affairs chairs?

Ott: yes I have but we want to take the committee in a new direction but the biggest thing Legairre taught me was to go out and meet the people

Hubbard to Ott: what is something you have in mind to help promote the SGA
Ott: it’s all the small things like showing up to events in our senate shirts to talk to the people and show them they are who we are here for. I also want to launch an ad campaign about who is SGA?

Hubbard to Berriault: same question

Berriault: I’ve gone to the resident halls and I’m the only senator to do so. I want the Blue Devil Social at the beginning of the spring semester not the end of it and I want to raise awareness about student activity fees. I want this to be a vigorous committee with multiple people working on it just not the chair

Mills to Berriault: do you have any experience on Public Affairs

Berriault: I’ve gone to a few meetings but I was assigned to finance

Hubbard to Rodriguez: same question

Rodriguez: I think word of mouth is huge as is social media. I have the twitter password for the SGA account and I tweet constantly. I also want to get more into tabling and have daily activity logs and no matter what I will work on that.

Vote: Ott: 15 Berriault: 7 Rodriguez: 3

Berriault: I withdraw my name

Vote: Ott: 19 Rodriguez: 5

Sen. Ott is named Chair of Public Affairs

Co-Chair:

Alsaqri: I nominate Raul Gomez for Public Affairs co-chair

Accepts

Nominees: Testa and Gomez

Gomez: I learned a lot from being on the committee this year and I want to keep putting the work in and keep helping it improve

Testa was excused for class so she couldn’t speak

Vote: Gomez: 14 Testa: 11

Choplick: we’ll vote again and if it’s not the majority then we’ll wait until the summer retreat

Vote: Testa: 7 Gomez: 15
Choplick: we’ll hold this vote until the retreat

**Academic Affairs**

*Chair:*

Nominees: Lee

Lee: even though I wasn’t on this committee I worked with them and I presented at COSGA with them and I want to continue the work that we started

Vote: Lee: 25

Sen. Lee is name Chair of Academic Affairs

*Co-Chair*

Lee: I nominate Sen. Kitchener

Accepts

Kitchener: this is going to be my third year on senate and I joined to help retention rates and I want to continue that while helping all of you

Vote: Kitchener: 25

Sen. Kitchener is named co-chair of Academic Affairs

**Student Life:**

*Chair:*

Nominees: Sonet

Sonet: I think consistency is necessary with this committee because it is a train wreck of responsibilities between scholarships, reach out, coffee talks and competition for a cause-all things I want to continue and improve on

Vote: Sonet: 24

Sen. Sonet is named chair of Student Life

*Co-Chair*

Kitchener: I withdraw my acceptance

Kitchener: I nominate Sen. Fox

Accepts
Gomez: I nominate Sen. Sanchez

Accepts

Fox: I have been on this committee and I have a lot of ideas. I want to work with Simms, he was my OL and the reason I ran for senate. We’ve talked about a late night food truck among other things and we’ve already started planning for next year

Sanchez: I’d like to withdraw my nomination

Vote: Fox: 23

Sen. Fox is named co-chair of Student Life

Finance

Co-Chair

Choplick: just so everyone knows, we’re only doing co-chair nominations because the treasurer is chair of the finance committee

Gomez: I nominate Sen. Berriault

Accepts

Lee: I nominate Sen. Fernandez

Accepts

Nominees: Fallanca, Fernandez, Berriault

Fallanca was excused for class so could not speak

Berriault: I want to get involved and I care about the clubs I think I would bring a balance to the committee as someone who believes student activity fees should be spent on student activities

Fernandez: this is my fifth year on Senate and three of those years have been spent on finance. I’ve done base budget and was there at the beginning of talks for the club sports board the first time around and think we should talk about raising activity fees. I’m here for the students and clubs so please put your trust in me

Vote: Fernandez: 7 Berriault: 5 Fallanca: 5

Choplick: we still need the majority so if we don’t get that next vote we will wait for the retreat

Vote: Fernandez: 7 Berriault: 5 Fallanca: 5
Open Floor:

Motion to approve the current budget for the Fiscal Year 2013-2014 based on the estimated enrollment number of 14,500 students a year paying $44 for student activity fees. With this budget to be distributed based on the SGA constitution and the Finance By-Laws with any additional money needed to cover base budgets be taken from SG9010 at the beginning of Fiscal Year 2013-2014 (Mills, Fernandez)

For: Mills: we need to do this budget or we can’t do anything next year. I spoke with Scott and SALD and they spoke with other departments to get the enrollment number so this needs to be done

Sonet to Mills: how many are enrolled

Mills: 14,500

Measho to Mills: $44 is non-negotiable

Mills: right they can’t change as of now

Vote: 21Y (Anderson, Mills, Berriault, Cahill, Christiano, Fernandez, Fox, Germaine, Gomez, Hudobenko, Kayan, Kitchener, Lee, Measho, Moreno, Ott, Pietrycha, Rodriguez, Sanchez, Sonet, Swan) 0N 0A

Motion Passes SG14-005

Hazan: the 14,500 is based on an estimated enrollment of 7250 each semester, it’s easier to do 14500 x 44. The student activity fees can’t go up or down because that is built into tuition and fees and to petition that would have to go to the Board of Regents with no guarantee that it would pass.

Sonet: please get to know me now that I am chair again. There has been a lot of work done for a Sandy Hook memorial on campus, the SGA donated money for a bench so if you are interested in helping build the memorial please talk to me I have a sign up sheet

Measho: can you email the list to the student body

Sonet: I’m not leading the project I’m speaking to the SGA because we are in a meeting and I have connections with you all, but people are reaching out to the students

Swan: what days

Sonet: Thursday and Saturday 9-3p

Motion to adjourn (Pietrycha, Mills)

Meeting is adjourned at 4:36p

Respectfully submitted by SGA University Assistant Brittany Burke.