Student Government Association Minutes from October 2, 2013

October 2, 2013 Attendance:

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

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

Motion to accept the minutes from September 25, 2013 (Pietrycha, Lee)

Passes Unanimously  

SG14-028

Public Hearing:

Kim Towler: Jumpstart is a volunteer program that has you helping preschool children. It pays a stipend or work study hours and you get a free t-shirt so if you’re interested please sign up or let me know

Student Affairs Report: Dr. Tordenti

None

Treasurer’s Report

1. I misread the amount we had in reserves during finance we have $338,000 which is still a healthy amount
2. We have motioned to move $15,000 from the reserves to new club base budgets because this year we got rid of the $500 new club precedent and only have $3082 which isn’t enough
3. I wanted to address something, it was brought to my attention that a senator gave a club the wrong information to a club about a motion while I was in the office. If a student comes in with a financial question find me or make sure you have the correct information before answering them
**Vice President’s Report**

None

**President’s Report**

1. Last week people expressed frustration over an email sent by Sen. Testa in regards to Devils Den sign ups but I wanted to let everyone know that I stand behind her and support what she sent out
2. Devils Den was awesome we had 350 people so I’d like to give a shout out to Public Affairs
3. We still need a senate representative on the club sports board they meet every other Monday 6:30-7:30

**Committee Reports**

Sonet: Student Life: the next Coffee Talk will be from 11a-1p at homecoming/ there was still some confusion about the endowment and scholarships. The university has an Endowment and a portion of that is allocated for SGA Scholarships, it’s the interest that we get from it. there are two sides from the debate of just using the interest or using additional student activity fees to supplement the scholarships. I wanted to have this debate before we make a recommendation so if you have any questions talk to me, the eboard or senators who were here last year

Kitchener: is the endowment made just for scholarships or anything

Sonet: just scholarships

Lee: Academic Affairs: our next meeting will be Friday at 4p in the 1849 room if you know of any academic concerns let the committee know

Ott: Public Affairs: thank you to everyone who helped with Devils Den/ we have Pep Rally on Friday from 5-6:30p and would need people there to help beginning at 4:45p/ the homecoming game is this Saturday we’re going to have the t-shirt cannon, face painting and other fun things. We want all of senate to get a shirt but we want you to come to the events wearing them and showing your support

Mills: Finance: there is a TEECA line item change they want to move $1355 from registration to travel to cover a bus to their conference because they feel it will be easier for students to pay their own registration/ DanCentral had one fee raised and one lowered so they want to move money to match that/ SWE has a new base budget and we are recommending $2900 for travel to a two-day conference, the registration and refreshment money for two speakers we felt travel for the speakers was unnecessary/ the A Cappella Society has a line item change for $1000 from conference to other for live sound and recording, TGFI a sub society felt they didn’t want to go to the conference the money was allocated for so this would be a better use of the money

Kitchener: for SWE they’re paying $62 for the hotel then food

Mills: yes
Christiano: do you have a breakdown of the A Cappella Society intent for the $1000

Mills: TGFI was using the money and now three of the groups will be it’s not important to know how each will be used individually

Choplick: if you turn to page 8 in the packet the question was answered by Sen. Swan

Anderson: Internal Affairs: we met last week and had a productive meeting we added a by-law change and our second moment is contingent on that and it has to do with the election of co-chairs and chairs. This was sent out beforehand and we got little response so if you have an issue with it remember it’s wise to speak up beforehand

**Unfinished Business:** None

**New Business:**

**Move to accept IA14-02: Motion to add Section 3-2 under “Title 3: Senate Committees” to the SGA Bylaws (Berriault, Christiano)**

For: Berriault: there is no process like this in the By-Laws and the way in Robert’s Rules isn’t effective it’s our goal to add this process. The only way it differs from what we do now if the voting is like running balloting with rounds for if there are more than three people running because in that case it will be hard for one person to get the majority

Vote 19Y (Mills, Senators Alsaqri, Berriault, Cahill, Fallanca, Fox, Germaine, Gomez, Hubbard, Hudobenko, Kayan, Kitchener, Measho, Moreno, Ott, Pietrycha, Sonet, Swan, Testa) 2N (Fernandez, Lee) 6A (Anderson, Cassidy, Christiano, Fung, Gregonis, Khan)

**Motion Passes SG14-029**

**Move to accept the finance committee recommendation to transfer $15,000 from our Reserves account, SG9010 to our New Club Base Budget Account, SG9018 (Mills, Swan)**

For: Mills: this year there is no $500 standing rule for new club base budgets and it was suggested funds get moved to the new club account to anticipate the number of clubs that will be requesting funds and if SWE passes and this doesn’t we’d only have $80 in the account

Vote: 26Y (Anderson, Mills, Alsaqri, Berriault, Cahill, Cassidy, Christiano, Fallanca, Fernandez, Fox, Fung, Germaine, Gomez, Gregonis, Hubbard, Hudobenko, Kayan, Khan, Kitchener, Lee, Measho, Moreno, Ott, Pietrycha, Swan, Testa) 0N 0A

**Motion Passes SG14-030**
Move to accept the finance recommendation to approve the TEECA line item change moving $1355 from registration to travel (Hudobenko, Alsaqri)

For: Hudobenko: it’s easier to pay for registration out of pocket than it is to pay bus fees

Vote: 25Y (Anderson, Mills, Alsaqri, Berriault, Cahill, Cassidy, Christiano, Fallanca, Fernandez, Fox, Fung, Germaine, Gomez, Gregonis, Hubbard, Hudobenko, Kayan, Khan, Lee, Measho, Moreno, Ott, Pietrycha, Swan, Testa) 0N 1A (Kitchener)

Motion Passes

SG14-031

Move to accept the finance recommendation Move to approve the DanCentral line item change (Mills, Alsaqri)

For: Mills: it’s only to move $50 because one fee was lowered and one was raised so it only makes sense

Vote: 26Y (Anderson, Mills, Alsaqri, Berriault, Cahill, Cassidy, Christiano, Fallanca, Fernandez, Fox, Fung, Germaine, Gomez, Gregonis, Hubbard, Hudobenko, Kayan, Khan, Kitchener, Lee, Measho, Moreno, Ott, Pietrycha, Swan, Testa) 0N 1A (Sonet)

Motion Passes

SG14-032

Move to accept the finance committee recommendation to allocate $2900 to SWE with $1400 going to the conference line item, $300 going to refreshments to their two speaker events, $1200 going towards travel for their amtrak train fees and to deny the rest (Hudobenko, Sonet)

For: Hudobenko: it’s for a club that’s reactivating and they’re taking a good initiative to get more women involved in the field, they want to travel and have speakers it’s a good thing

Motion to amend to add at the end from account SG9018 (Mills, Swan)

For: Mills: we should have which account it’s coming from

Vote: 27Y 0N 0A

Amendment Passes

Original Motion: Move to accept the finance committee recommendation to allocate $2900 to SWE with $1400 going to the conference line item, $300 going to refreshments to their two speaker events, $1200 going towards travel for their M-Track train fees and to deny the rest from account SG9018
Vote: 27Y (Anderson, Mills, Alsaqri, Berriault, Cahill, Cassidy, Christiano, Fallanca, Fernandez, Fox, Fung, Germaine, Gomez, Gregonis, Hubbard, Hudobenko, Kayan, Khan, Kitchener, Lee, Measho, Moreno, Ott, Pietrycha, Sonet, Swan, Testa) 0N 0A

**Motion Passes**

Motion to accept IA14-03: Motion to strike subsection d from Title 3, Section 3-1 of the SGA Bylaws. (Fox, Christiano)

For: Fox: Sen. Berriault proposed this and when we anticipated passing our first recommendation we looked at what would be repeated and this is the only thing so we felt it best to strike it out

Vote: 27Y (Anderson, Mills, Alsaqri, Berriault, Cahill, Cassidy, Christiano, Fallanca, Fernandez, Fox, Fung, Germaine, Gomez, Gregonis, Hubbard, Hudobenko, Kayan, Khan, Kitchener, Lee, Measho, Moreno, Ott, Pietrycha, Sonet, Swan, Testa) 0N 0A

**Motion Passes**

Motion to accept the finance committee recommendation to approve the A Cappella Society line item change with $1000 moving from conferences to recording and live sound (Mills, Fallanca)

For: Mills: one of the sub-organizations decided not to go to a conference and instead they want to use the money for recording and live sound, it will be for three out of the four groups

Against: Christiano: I’m in the society but I don’t believe we should give them this money, we’re rewarding the organization for poor behavior and giving them more money to record

POI Sonet to Swan: why did TGFI forgo the trip

Swan: the request states the lack of interest but there were several reasons with the main being lack of interest I can’t speak for the whole group but getting into trouble last year could have had an effect on it

POI Berriault to Swan: is the person who got in trouble still a part of it

Swan: I don’t see that as being relevant

For: Hudobenko: we thought it was good for TGFI to recognize that another conference may not be best for them and now with this change three groups can use the money and only Fermata the Blue is using it for recording the others will be for live sound
Against: Berriault: we should not award them if they are no probation I asked another senator a point of information and he did not answer if the girl is still in the organization because at that point they should not be benefiting and it was brought up that they may profit. I don’t like being mislead that can always go to another conference this is not good to pass

Move to postpone until the next regularly scheduled meeting (Lee, Berriault)

For: Lee: it’s better to get this all clarified from the eboard and I’d like to point out they were not put on probation by SALD but by the A Cappella Society eboard we don’t discipline clubs and there is too much false information going around right now

Against: Fernandez: this can be resolved today

For: Berriault: we need more information and I haven’t been able to get the info I want

Point of order: Testa: attacking another senator

Not well taken

Berriault: I don’t have the info to make a decision and I don’t want to make a vote if im not confident

Against: Mills: this is unnecessary I could give you all the facts right now if you have questions this is doing the club a disservice and slandering their name

POI Ott: is the club treasurer and president on senate

Choplick: yes

For: Kitchener: we have to discuss this and the merits of the request

Against: Ott: we always do this, all of finance is here, along with the president and treasurer of the A Cappella Society lets get it done today

POI Germaine to Mills: who are the president and treasurer and were they at finance

Mills: Yes and Sen. Swan is President and Sen. Hubbard is treasurer

Vote: 2Y 21N 2A (Hubbard, Swan)

Postponement fails

For: Mills: granting this line item is not rewarding the club it’s taking unused money and letting them use it for something beneficial for three of the sub-organizatons they can go to
this conference but are choosing not to and they would not have asked for it but it was after base budget deliberations we want to benefit other members of the group

Yields time for questions

Ott: part of the money is going to recording

Mills: yes

Kitchener: has SGA funded a club that’s made profit in the past

Mills: yes but there’s a difference between an event and a CD

Lee: can you define a profit for a nonprofit organization

Mills: no

Christiano: isn’t there a Divisi album on iTunes

Mills: yes

Germaine: where do the profits go

Mills: back to their revenue account

Ott: so student activity fees are used to make a profit

Mills: yes but it’s been done

Moreno: shouldn’t that come from a fundraising loan then

Mills: it’s an option

Fallanca: do they do this every year

Mills: yea

Hudobenko: and only one group is using it record

Mills: yes

Christiano: what about live sound, what is it

Mills: 2 are using it for live sound for concerts and 1 is using it for recording

Christiano: can’t they use events management

Point of order: Kitchener: arguing not questioning
Not well taken

Mills: if the clubs want to bring outside sources to better themselves then that’s fine

Measho: which club will profit

Mills: Fermata the Blue

Measho: have they done this before

Mills: they’re new but the other groups have

POI Berriault to Swan: what happened at the conference, what put TGFO on probation and are they banned from going this year

Swan: last year three groups went to a conference in Boston and there was an after party at a bar for those who were of age, I told them not to get drunk and we talked about it in our meetings, one girl got heavily intoxicated and had to go to the hospital. We dealt with it as an eboard and put them on probation they are not on probation from the school it was decided that if they want to go to a conference this year they need to bring their program advisor and pay for their expenses out of pocket

Against: Ott: I’m not comfortable allocating money for the club to make a profit even if it happened in the past we should motion just for live sound

For: Sonet: this is way too unnecessary we need to look at the quality of this request, the mission statement of the club and see if they match, they do. Three groups will use this money to either record or get livesound we are just giving them the opportunity to make profit that doesn’t mean they will

Call to previous question (Hudobenko, Hubbard)

Vote: 21Y 4N 0A

Debate is ended

Original Motion Vote: 21Y (Anderson, Mills, Alsaqri, Berriault, Cahill, Cassidy, Fallanca, Fernandez, Fung, Germaine, Gomez, Gregonis, Hudobenko, Kayan, Khan, Kitchener, Lee, Measho, Pietrycha, Sonet, Testa) 4N (Christiano, Fox, Moreno, Ott) 2A (Hubbard, Swan)

Motion Passes: SG14-035
**Open Floor:**

Kitchener: you put senators in awkward positions asking them to speak on behalf of their clubs during debate, other clubs don’t get that opportunity so let’s be fair and remember we all wear different hats in here we’re senators

Mills: with club profit they have to make more than what we allocate they’re not allowed to profit unless they make more than that

Hubbard: I want to address publicly made comments against me by Sen. Berriault. He stated that I misused student activity fees by making flyers in the office. On Saturday I met another senator in the office to hang up posters and he made that accusation based on assumption and I was never contacted to clarify. He slanderously attacked my character. I have nothing negative to say about any of my opponents but Sen. Berriault put his comments in the Recorder, a public document in which we falsely accused me by name and states it’s nothing personal yet attacks me and my representative directly. I will continue to run my campaign professionally and respectfully.

Berriault: I’m glad the worst that happened to me was I got screamed at...

Point of order, move to go to executive session

Choplick: that’s a point of parliamentary privilege

Point of Parliamentary Privilege: Move to go to executive session (Lee, Hubbard)

Choplick: if this passes all non-senators must leave the room

Vote: 23Y 2N 0A

Passes

Choplick: if no one objects Scott Hazan and Scott Kazar will be invited to stay

Fernandez: I object

Vote: 15Y 8N 3A

*Move into executive session*

*Executive Session is ended*
Fernandez: when we call for executive session all nonsenators should have to leave, we’re kicking out the people we represent and yet people we don’t get to stay?

Choplick: you have the right to invite anyone to stay

Testa: I just need a quick hand vote to see who is not applying to COSGA because we’re having a problem in public affairs

Point of Order: Hubbard: too much side chatter

Well taken

POI Gregonis to Testa: what time do you need people to pass out shirts

Testa: 12:30

Measho: what’s COSGA

Testa: a conference in Texas each year but we need a certain number of people not applying to go through the applicants, deadline is in December

Motion to adjourn (Pietrycha, Cahill)

Meeting is adjourned at 4:31p

Respectfully submitted by SGA University Assistant Brittany Burke.