Student Government Association Minutes from October 3, 2012

October 3, 2012

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

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

Motion to approve minutes from September 26, 2012 Meeting. (Mills, Simms)

Motion Passes Unanimously

Student Affairs Report

No student affair report this week.

Public Hearing

Freshman candidate, Connor Fallanka stood up and introduced himself to Senate.

President’s Report

There have been a lot of survey responses and good information gathered for the shuttles, everyone has been very supportive of the idea and the Senate will be e-mailed once all the information has been gathered.

Faculty Senate positions will be in the upcoming newsletter. Pres. Bergenn is hoping they can find a better way to work and communicate with the Faculty Senate, hoping Academic Affairs can come up with some ideas.

Vice President’s Report

Over the next few weeks Vice President Braun will be visiting the different committee meetings, minus Academic Affairs because they meet during e-board meetings.
Committee sheets were included in the agenda, if there are any problems, like being listed in the wrong committee speak with her.

Start getting the individual committee meeting minutes submitted by the following Senate meeting so they can be distributed in a timely and relevant manner.

**Committee Reports:**

Public Affairs:

Sen. Baldassario: things for the elections and pep rally are done and underway. Senators should encourage the candidates to use lobby tables. Also, Sen. Radden sent out an email of times the Senators signed up for to help with elections.

Pres. Bergenn: On the last page of the agenda there is the referendum which will go on the ballot, if there are any changes to be made to it let him know.

Sen. Radden: He’s emailed everyone about sign up times and the original sheet is posted to the window in the office. Thanks to everyone who helped with the voter registration drive, it was a big success.

Student Life Committee:

Sen. Kitchener: Thanks to everyone who helped with the first Coffee Talk.

Academic Affairs:

Sen. Marcelli: There’s not much of a report, but Sen. Manento will be speaking on a proposed resolution and they would like the Senate’s support.

Internal Affairs:

Vice President Braun: The committee met last Friday and realized there won’t be enough time to get Sen. Berriault’s motion on the ballot for voting so they will be meeting again this upcoming Friday at 3p. Minor changes have been made to the motion such as the position of President, Vice President and Treasurer cannot be filled by appointment.

**Treasurer’s Report**

Oct. 5: Co-Sponsorships and Contingency Requests are due by 5 p.m. in SA/LD.

They have been having problems with committee budgets. They need to be in by Friday, after that they will be cutting them off.
Finance Committee Recommendations: They approved Line-Item changes for the Dance Team and Exercise Science Club, but asked the marketing club to resubmit their forms and come back, the Senate will be updated on that.

Sen. Towler: The latest date to hand in Line-Item changes?

Treas. Alaimo: They’re accepted on a rolling basis.

**Unfinished Business**

No unfinished business

**New Business**

**Motion to approve Finance Committee recommendations FC13-012 and FC13-13. (Mills, Hubbard)**

For: Sen. Mills: The Dance Team asked for the line item change to move money allocated for pom-poms to warm-up suits. They required both last year, but said the Athletics Dept. rarely helps them so they were given money for pom-poms but not for jackets. This year Athletics helped by buying uniforms and pom-poms so they asked to move the money for warm-ups. It’s already theirs and the $800 would just be sitting there, plus they already pay $300 at the beginning of the year.

For Exercise Science, last year they were denied because they had no information this year they returned and asked to send the 3 students representing CCSU to the conference and move the rest of the money to majors night. In the By-Laws there is nothing against asking for a line-item change for something that was denied.

Against: Treas. Alaimo: Rarely I disagree with my committee, but they were denied for a reason. The $800 the Dance Team wants is for embroidered warm-ups that they keep, to keep consistent, that’s not what we’ve been doing. I don’t recommend. This is a loop hole that the Line-Item Change can accept something that was denied, it should be consistent and we should pass a standing rule that would stop this.

POI Sen. Berriault to Treas. Alaimo: Why were the jackets denied and does the team already have uniforms?

Treas. Alaimo: Yes, they have uniforms this is just a warm-up jacket and they were denied because we funded the pom-poms not the jackets.

For: Sen. Towler: We all have a SGA shirt for personal use, so that objective is not valid for denial.
Against: Sen. Radden: We decided not to fund clothing and asking for jackets is asking for clothing. If they returned them that’s different, but this is personal and doesn’t benefit the entire campus.

POI Sen. Hubbard to Treas. Alaimo: To your knowledge are members of the team funding parts themselves?

Treas. Alaimo: Yes, but we’re supplementing a big chunk of it.

POI Towler to Treas. Alaimo: Did anyone ask If they could not have them embroidered?

Treas. Alaimo: No we didn’t ask. The pants will cost $30 and the jackets $65, so we can at least fund the pants.

For: Sen. Mills: We tend to give athletics their jerseys. The Dance Team performs outside in the cold and the $800 is just sitting there. It’s unsanitary to pass on warm-ups. Regardless of what Treas. Alaimo thinks this should be passed.

Against: Sen. Truex: If denied in the base budget you can’t go through contingency and ask for it so why through a line-item change? It’s a loophole, if we said no why would we then say yes?

Move to amend motion to strike FC13-013 from the original motion. (Braun, Baldassario)

Pres. Bergenn: So it would be a separate motion.

For: VP Braun: some people may have different opinions for both so lets just do one at a time.

Passes

Back to motion for FC13-012

Poi Sen. Towler: Which one is that?

Pres. Bergenn: The Dance Team

POI Sen. Narcisse: If this pass can they come back and ask again?

Pres. Berg: Doesn’t stop them from coming back

POI Sen. Dattilo to Treas Alaimo: Do we know if they would completely fund it if this was denied?

Treas. Alaimo: I don’t know.

POI Sen. Sonet: Was the sole reason they were denied jackets because of pom-poms or was it between pom-poms and warm-ups.
Treas. Alaimo: I wasn’t under the impression they were going to be embroidered so it was one or the other.

POI Sen. Kitchener to Treas. Alaimo: Was this going to be funded if there weren’t pom-poms

Treas. Alaimo: We funded the pom-poms because they can be reused.

For: Sen. Towler: we should fund this because the pom-poms were already funded, the money is just sitting there and they compete representing us.

Against: Sen. Baldassario: Treas. Alaimo said there was no detail of personalization. The athletic teams have re-usable uniforms. If warm-ups are personalized that isn’t fair or consistent. Loop hole or not we shouldn’t abuse it. There’s no rush to use the $800, they can think of other things to use it on and come back.

POI VP Braun to Treas. Alaimo: can you read why we denied the jackets?

Treas. Alaimo: “Warm ups and costumes were denied because members keep those items.”

For: Sen. Mgushi: They should have them because the dance team isn’t just students who want a t-shirt. They perform at night and they represent us. No one wants to reuse clothes. They are also going to pay even if we give them the $800. We’re not talking about 200 warm-ups there is only 18 girls. We already gave them the money we’re now just giving them the okay to spend it.

Against: Sen. Berriault: according to last year’s base budget the Dance Team already had jackets that were temporary. They just want a better quality, but that shouldn’t be supplemented by the SGA.

Pont of Order: Is this against the motion? (Baldassario)

Not well taken

Point of Order: is any of this fact? (Mills)

Doesn’t matter, not well taken.

Sen. Berriault: It’s off the base budget request from last year. They already have jackets and can come back for other things.

Vote: 7Y (Germaine, Manento, Marcelli, Mgushi, Mills, Narcisse) 18N (Braun, Alaimo, Baldassario, Berriault, Choplick, Dattilo, Fellows, Fernandez, Gomez, Hubbard, Khan, Kitchener, Lopez, Ott, Radden, Rodriguez, Sonet, Truex, Zohlman) 3A (Anderson, Fung, Towler)

Motion Fails
Motion to approve Finance Committee recommendation FC13-013. (Mills, Choplick)

For: Sen. Mills: They were denied because of lack of info. The Line-Item change is to send 3 students to represent CCSU and the other $245 is for major’s night, which wasn’t denied.

Motion to strike “$255 going from line-item speakers to conference for the registration fee and” so it just reads “with $245 going from line-item speakers to other for majors night.” (Truex, Towler)

For: Sen. Truex: Majors night was approved, but the conference was denied so we shouldn’t give them that money.

POI Sen. Narcisse: Are they trying to go to two conferences?

Pres. Bergenn: Only one which we’re motioning to strike out.

Against: Sen. Berriault: they were denied because of no information, but now they provided 7 pages of information which is a big improvement.

For: Sen. Truex: I applaud the extra work but it’s still a loop hole, they were already told no.

POI Sen. Sonet: the conference in general or just the registration fee?

Point of Order: Not germane to the amendment (Sonet)

Well taken

Against: Sen. Mills: In the By-laws you can’t give something that was denied through contingency and co-sponsorship, this is a line item.

For: Sen. Dattilo: this is not an amendment but it should be

Pt. of Order: it’s whether or not to separate them.

Germane to the argument’s intent.

Against: Sen. Mills: The base budget was denied for lack of information they made up for that and it should be rectified.

POI Sen. Towler: I was under the impression this was to separate not strike out, I withdraw my second.

Pres. Bergenn: you can’t do that and make sure you ask a question with a point of information.

For: Treas. Alaimo: They were denied because of information but I believe it still wouldn’t have passed. We’d be funding a conference for three students.
Vote: 9Y 13N 5A

Motion Fails

POI Treas. Alaimo: if the vote doesn’t reach half then isn’t it not the majority?

Pres. Bergenn: This is just the majority of the members

Original Motion

Against: Sen. Baldassario: If you have issues with either parts of this you should vote it down.

Vote: Y15 (Braun, Anderson, Berriault, Choplick, Fellows, Fung, Hubbard, Manento, Marcelli, Mgushi, Mills, Narcisse, Radden, Towler, Zohlman) 9N (Alaimo, Baldassario, Dattilo, Fernandez, Germaine, Gomez, Kitchener, Rodriguez, Truex) 4A (Khan, Lopez, Ott, Sonet)

Motion Passes

Move to accept the Academic Affairs resolution regarding final exam grades. (Manento, Dattilo)

For: Sen. Manento: I will be going to the Associate and Assistant Dean’s meeting and if this resolution is passed it will go to Academic Standards and then the policy would be put in place. I would like to go with the support to suggest professors be required to post final exam grades.

POI Sen. Hubbard: Would this be a mandate for only professors using online grading?

Pres. Bergenn: We can’t mandate them to do anything we can just offer suggestions.

POI Scott Hazan: grades are required to be submitted electronically

Pres. Bergenn: This is specifically for corrected final exams.

POI Sen. Towler to Sen. Manento: would this also include midterms?

Sen. Manento: No because you see the professor and can get your grade after. For finals a lot of times you’ll never see your professor again.

POI Sen. Mgushi: Can you see the paper corrected.

Point of Order: Is this a point of information or speaking to the motion? (Marcelli)

Well Taken

Vote: 26Y 0N 2A

Motion Passes

Move to accept item C (Anderson, Berriault) (Redbox Resolution)
For: Sen. Anderson: we’re trying to get Redbox on campus and this would back up our argument that students would use it and make things more official. We’ve gotten 300 survey responses with a 91% yes rate and we have over 500 likes on the Facebook page and the resolution is another way to back this up.

Against: Sen. Manento: I know I get annoyed when I go to the redbox and they don’t have my movie, with 12,000 people on the campus chances are they won’t have my movie, so there should be more than 1.

POI Sen. Truex to Sen. Anderson: Would there be any cost to us?

Sen. Anderson: No it won’t cost us anything, but they’re afraid they will lose money. We’re not gaining money but we’re improving student life.

For: Sen. Berriault: this isn’t about personal preference, the closest redbox is in Newington. We’re trying to get students better services, especially on the weekend. I think students will use this and this resolution shows it.

POI Sen. Baldassario to Sen. Anderson: where does the 18,000 come from in the fifth clause?

Sen. Berriault: it’s a combination of undergrads and workers on campus.

Against: Sen. Dattilo: we’re giving an outside business the chance to do business on our campus and it’s not specifically for students and we’re not exactly in the business of providing services to non-students.

For: Sen. Sonet: we’re hoping to collaborate with Faculty Senate and we’re just saying yes to the student portion

POI Sen. Towler: will it be for the greater good?

Sen. Sonet: Yes

Vote: 25Y 1N 0A

Motion Passes

Motion to create a standing rule that “No clubs may request a line item change to create or move funds to another line item event that was originally denied in their base budget.” (Truex, Kitchener)

For: Sen. Truex: In the By-Laws contingency and co-sponsorship cant supplement something that was denied in the base budget but not Line-item changes. It’s a loop hole but it shouldn’t let you take funds from something approved to something that was denied. No means no.
Against: Sen. Mills: This is awful, it was mentioned in finance that this would be too rigid. It has no flexibility. It was a bad idea in finance and it’s a bad idea now.

Move to refer motion to Internal Affairs committee (Fernandez, Simms)

For: Sen. Fernandez: Internal Affairs can come to a compromise to make the decision right so it’s not too abrupt.

Against: Sen. Mgushi: there is no point to go somewhere else other than finance, that’s what we do.

For: Sen. Berriault: it was brought up here not in finance.

Against: VP Braun: Finance didn’t think it was a good idea and I trust them.

Vote: 10Y 13N 2A

Motion Fails

Original Motion

For: Sen. Baldassario: I don’t see a difference from when we deny them something in contingency or co-sponsorship. It’s a loop hole we don’t want that can be abused. Close the loop hole for now and then review the by-laws.

Against: VP Braun: The motion itself is iffy. We just denied jackets for the dance team and that’s not an event. We shouldn’t be that strict with club e-boards, we shouldn’t act that way. We would sound power hungry. It’s too rigid and we should allow for change and improvement.

For: Sen. Baldassario: maybe we want to improve but then finance doesn’t have to deny so specifically. I agree the wording can be fixed. We don’t want to be too rigid but we have been like that.

Against: Sen. Hubbard: It takes out the discussion from Senate and Finance, two bodies that I instill full trust in. The club or organization was denied for a specific reason isn’t true, example the dance team wasn’t denied for a specific reason.

Call to Question (Mills, Radden)

Vote: 13Y 11N

Motion fails

Move to amend the motion to strike out the word “event” and insert “request” to read “Motion to create a standing rule that “No clubs may request a line item change to create
or move funds to another line item request that was originally denied in their base budget”  
(Truex, Dattilo)

For: Sen. Truex: Whether or not you agree with the motion this amendment makes it clearer.

**Vote: 12Y 8N 1A**

**Motion Passes**

**Original Motion:**

For: Sen. Truex: This is a loophole and it should be closed.

Point of Order: Third time speaking (Radden)

Not well taken

Sen. Truex: Yes, it’s their money but we said no specifically so why then tell them yes.

POI Sen. Manento: can the senate or finance committee vote down the request if taking advantage of the loop hole?

Pres. Bergenn: Yes

Against: Sen. Marcelli: If you take away their flexibility you take away ours as well.

For: Sen. Kitchener: Once finance votes it down I think it’s disrespectful to reask for it.

Against: Sen. Berriault: there’s a reason the loop hole hasn’t been closed in the past. Base budgets are done in the spring and by fall there could be new e-boards and they think differently. Line items don’t cost us anything like a contingency would and if the Senate thinks it’s appropriate just vote it down.

**Vote: 3Y 22N 0A**

**Motion fails**

Motion to create a standing rule that, “No financial paperwork (Base Budgets, Contingency requests, Line-item Change requests, fundraising loan request, Co-Sponsorship requests, etc.) shall be accepted without the proper signatures required on the form.” If for whatever reason the request is accepted by whomever it was given to, it is to be denied by Finance Committee.  
(Truex)

No second, motion doesn’t make it to the floor.

**Open Floor**
VP Braun: next club sports board is Monday at 6:30p in Kaiser 128. I would like to see Senators and especially liaisons there.

Sen. Sonet: Student Life Committee will be breaking down Competition for a Cause. If anyone is interested come to the meeting or email me. The meeting with the woman from the YMCA went well. Second, if you know what people on Senate are working on and you have something against it talk to them because that makes life easier to work things out.

Sen. Mills: I’m a little disheartened. Finance spent two hours discussing the recommendations if you have issues with them come to a meeting.

Sen. Ott: People still don’t know what SGA stands for so I’m formally kicking off a PR campaign “What is SGA.” It’s having more than one SGA meet and greet, wear our SGA shirts at events, posters etc. and I want help from the Senators.

Sen. Radden: Time for the Club Sports Board?

VP Braun: 6:30p in Kaiser 128.

Sen. Towler to Sen. Ott: Student life is also putting on transfer Thursdays in November to help transfer students get involved.

Sen. Truex: The second motion wasn’t accepted, but we need signatures to show people in the club back up the paperwork. It’s a book keeping issue and I’m tired of getting paperwork with no signatures, signatures show that something is well thought out.

Pres. Bergenn: Hold people to a higher standard. I agree with requiring signatures, but don’t deny them something because of a clerical error, be careful with how you create a rule.

Sen. Mills: if we accept something we can’t deny because we accepted it.

VP Braun: I’m just confused with Transfer Thursdays is it different than Transfer Tuesdays?

Sen. Towler: Transfer Thursdays is new and similar to Transfer Tuesdays but this provides way for transfers who work during the day to still be involved.

VP Braun: What office is this through?

Sen. Towler: In collaboration with the transfer office.

Sen. Kitchener: If you have something to say, say it. Don’t be afraid to speak in Senate.

Sen. Mgushi: We’re having for events for the debates, where we watch the debates on a projection screen in semesters. The next three will be Oct. 11,16 & 17.

Sen. Sonet: Oct. 21 on Vance Lawn will be a cardio dance workshop and Oct. 5 is the Fall Fest.

Sen. Rodriguez: The bus passes are close to being finished also LASO will be having a block party Friday Oct. 5 2-5.

Sen. Choplick: For the Club Sports Board liaisons try and show up and email your clubs.
Sen. Dattilo: Don’t misuse the clickers

Sen. Towler: Make sure to tell your classes about the debates.

Motion to create a standing rule for the 2012-2013 Academic year that states “No financial paperwork (Base Budgets, Contingency requests, Line-item Change requests, Fundraising loan request, Co-Sponsorship requests, etc.) shall be accepted without the signatures being required on the form.” (Truex, Marcelli)

For: Sen. Truex: There are issues with the paperwork and this makes it that we have to hand the paperwork back so they can fix it and come back.

POI Sen. Towler: We already have info sessions so is this necessary?

Pres. Bergenn: Yes we do and we still get forms without signatures.

POI Sen. Narcisse: what would happen I the club don’t get the signatures from the President or Secretary, is it still invalid?

Pres. Bergenn: Have to sit down with Treas. Alaimo to change forms to require SA/LD and Liaison signatures.

Against: Sen. Berriault: It’s case by case, I don’t know how many more standing rules we need to make.

For: Sen. Baldassario: Having the proper signatures needed will save time.

Vote: 18Y 1N 2A

Motion Passes  SG13-030

Motion to adjourn (Mills, Berriault)

Meeting adjourned at 5:15

Respectfully submitted by University Assistant Brittany Burke.