Student Government Association Minutes from October 2, 2013

October 9, 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 October 9, 2013 (Pietrycha, Fernandez)
Passes Unanimously  SG14-036

Public Hearing:
Alex Rodriguez: The College Democrats and College Republicans are having a voter registration drive on Wednesday Oct. 16

Guest Speakers: Tim Mallone and Kristin Hadjstylianos: Central Connecticut Regional Planning Agency (CCRPA)

We've spent a year and a half with the university coming up with a transportation plan for the university. We met with the president and talked about concerns and issues. We then conducted surveys and focus groups and the number one concern was a lack of parking. We went out counted spots at different times during the day and found that there is roughly 2000 spots open at any given time while the locations may not be ideal so we started to come up with a plan. Some of the things that came from that have been the UPass system, the Hertz Zip Cars that students can rent out, transit information in the student center and proposed parking pass changes to loosen up the flow. We're also looking to cutting down on the Ella Grasso lanes and making two of them into a multiuse walkway, getting a full time transportation coordinator for the school, secure bike parking and a bike share program.
Berriault: when the busway and railway opens there is concern for a connector between the Cedar street stop and the Amtrak line so people travelling from the southern towns can take a separate stop from the cedar street stop and not be concerned to walk between the two

Mallone: there are two locations where those two meet and one of them is the Newington Junction there will be no other Amtrak stop because of train delays but New Britain bus routes are being reworked

Choplick: with parking I know students are concerned when we have conferences here that the outsiders take up the spots is that something you looked at?

Mallone: based on the capacity there is about 2000 open spots at any given time and we didn’t look at conference days but we did look at the football game and that traffic increased only be a few hundred and once Charter Oak moves that lot will become more available to students

Student Affairs Report:

Scott Kazar: Scott Hazan will be out due to shoulder surgery for about a week and a half but we wanted to thank everyone who helped with homecoming, it was a great turnout

Treasurer’s Report

1. New Club Budget: $15,182 because of the SWE base budget and transfer of funds so we should be good for the rest of the year unless this is where we fund the musical from which I don’t recommend
2. For use by senate: we approved the rest of the Public Affair’s budget for about $16,000
3. We were automatically charged a $6400 insurance fee for the sports clubs we’re paying half while RECentral pays the other
4. I will have a list of eboard decisions for you next week

Vice President’s Report

I am upset and disappointed.

1. Office conduct: you need to step it up we are a professional organization and should act like it. Monday morning we found Stop & Shop cart in the office which has been taken care of but don’t leave things like that around and if you rearrange the tables please put them back when you’re through
2. Stop yelling things out of the window
3. Office Hours: you’re required to do two a week there is a sign up sheet by the door to get your stipend you can only miss four hours
4. Committees: respect the chairs and co-chairs they were voted to that position for a reason let them do their jobs. You are required to attend at least half of your committee meetings or events. Example with the coffee talk there was no one there from student life to help Sodexo and mainly the eboard had to get the shirts from the office and down to the field. I’m shocked of the lack of working support we have for each other because we are all so close
5. On a positive note good job with pep rally and homecoming!

Measho: can we do hours over the weekend

Anderson: yes I take the sheet down every Monday morning

President’s Report

1. The parking lot competition went well and we had about 300 people at the pep rally which is great. Shout out to Colleen Powers, CAN and Michelle Zohlman for coordinating all of it
2. In regards to our responsibilities as members of senate it’s not enough to do the required we need to go beyond that
3. We had to shut down the elections because of a problem with the eligibility lists but those are fixed now and we had a problem with some voters who are commuters and seniors when voting for senior class president but that’s fixed and the people who were affected can fill out a paper ballot
4. With Public Hearing, it’s for non-senate members but I would prefer topics that are pending with the senate not be brought up
5. If there is a problem that we can handle in-house lets do it, automatically going to the administration shouldn’t be our first option
6. Taroob Ahmad is no longer enrolled at CCSU so she is not on Senate and her seat will not count against quorum
7. The Student Advisory Committee needs an alternate member representative and the SGA is supposed to appoint that position. We need a decision this week and I believe Cory Manento would be best for the job and Sen. Lee agrees, who is our representative. I won’t motion for it but someone can
8. Public Affairs Budget: money went to COSGA, promo items such as scarves, hats, sunglasses and t-shirts. I can make breakdown of that available
9. Scott Hazan will be out two weeks, if someone wanted to make a card to sign I wouldn’t oppose it because deep down he loves us

Measho: for office hours we can miss four

Choplick: four hours total yes
Measho: does going to other events count

Choplick: it used to be one club meeting equaled one office hour but I’d have to check the contract

Kitchener: was the alternate position advertised or did you just speak to Cory

Choplick: yes and the recommendation is an emergency situation, he needs to get signed up and certified this week

Kitchener: where was the information?

Choplick: it was not in the election packet but a description was posted and available

**Committee Reports**

Lee: Academic Affairs: next meeting is Friday at 4p

Christiano: I have been working with the Student Disabilities Center to get the name changed to something more appropriate and the woman in charge is all for it with one rule, the name be cool. She doesn’t want accessibility because it’s too main stream so I emailed three different name options and I would like a resolution to get this passed so I just wanted to straw poll to see how many were for this idea

Sonet: Student Life: the criteria and content for scholarships will be available and Competition for a Cause will be Oct. 21-Nov. 15

Ott: Public Affairs: thank you to all who helped with homecoming, we had a hiccup with the elections but now we’re back on track

Measho: for the budget, will that be public to us

Ott: yes

Anderson: when will election results be posted

Ott: Saturday

Mills: Finance:

- TEECA has a line item for a conference 23 students are attending moving $1400 from registration to accommodations with the students then paying $45 out of pocket for registration
- DanCentral: they want to line item money from entertainment to coaching because they can use Welte for free and want to bring in a choreographer for their Spring showcase. They are also asking for a contingency for hotels when they go to ACDFA
in Boston, they asked to get all or nothing but was given partial for the convention and now have the information they once lacked

- PRIDE: A $150 contingency for their ally appreciation dinner
- Musical presented but they are a special case. It was suggested they be a club but weren’t recognized in time for base budgets so they are asking for $21700 for the musical and $500 for a cabaret event. I asked finance not to motion this yet and im asking the same of senate. We had the idea that becoming a club they would get their ticket revenue back directly to theor revenue account but it can’t work like that yet so that will be coming from our reserves and they will no longer be assisted by the theatre department because they are a recognized club
- If any of the senators are planning on participating in the musical I’m going to ask you not argue either way for this based on those feelings
- There is a SWE line item change that they couldn’t get in time in finance but I will motion for it on open floor. Their registration fee was lower than expected and the train tickets went up so they want to use their extra $170 to buy a ticket

Unfinished Business: None

New Business:

Move to approve finance committee recommendations FC14-016 and FC14-017 (Lee, Mills)

For: Lee: I did these together because they’re both DanCentral, they did well and there’s no reason for both of these not to be passed

Motion to divide the question (Hubbard, Measho)

Vote: 12Y 12N 1A (Fung)

President Choplick votes yes to divide and break the tie

Motion to approve finance committee recommendation FC14-016

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

Motion Passes SG14-037

Motion to approve finance committee recommendation FC14-017

Vote: 26Y (Anderson, Mills, Alsaqri, Berriault, Cahill, Cassidy, Christiano, Fallanca, Fernandez, Fox, Fung, Germaine, Gomez, Gregonis, Hubbard, Hudobenko, Kayan, Khan, Lee, Measho, Moreno, Ott, Pietrycha, Sonet, Swan, Testa) 0N 0A
Motion Passes  
SG14-038

Motion to approve finance committee recommendation FC14-014 (Swan, Fernandez)
For: Swan: the TEECA line item is as good as it gets and it should be passed

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

Motion Passes  
SG14-039

Motion to approve finance committee recommendation FC14-015 (Hudobenko, Sonet)
For: Hudobenko: this is a great event to pay thank you to the LGBT community allies
Against: Hubbard: I am a strong ally for this community but I don't think this should be passed this would be better for a line item and I suggested that and they said contingency was the best way to go which is a bad precedent to set

POI Measho: what's the event

Choplick: I don't know

POI Swan to Mills: what’s the event

Mills: a gathering in the Mosaic center to appreciate the allies in the LGBT community

Vote: 10Y (Berriault, Christiano, Fallanca, Fernandez, Fox, Gregonis, Hudobenko, Ott, Testa) 14N (Mills, Alsaqri, Cassidy, Fung, Germaine, Gomez, Hubbard, Kayan, Khan, Lee, Measho, Moreno, Pietrycha, Swan) 2A (Anderson, Cahill)

Motion Fails

Move to approve finance committee recommendation FC14-018 (Mills, Lee)
For: Mills: this motion is to deny the women's center co-sponsorship, this goes against our By-Laws to give money to a nonstudent organization. This is only money for t-shirts and a banner they've already bought the event will still happen but this money would go to the women's center not a student driven club

Against: Sonet: I agree with the banner, yes the Women's Center is led by Jackie but that doesn't mean this isn't a student driven event its like the idea for the healthy lifestyle challenge last year. It was done by RECentral but is very student driven

Move to postpone indefinitely (Fernandez, Christiano)
For: Fernandez: I think it’s the sentiment that we’re not against the walk but funding the shirts and denying this could give a bad perception so if we postpone it will just die out.

Against: Berriault: every club has a write to be heard and we should give them an answer.

For: Ott: everyone loves the walk idea but is sketchy to fund the department but this helps both those things.

POI Measho to Mills: how much money is in the account they’re requesting from.

Mills: this would be from reserves so $323,000

Point of Parliamentary Inquiry: Christiano: if we wanted to fund this wouldn’t we first have to change the by-laws.

Choplick: it depends on how the by-laws are interpreted.

POI Christiano: how do you interpret them.

Choplick: the by-laws say it has to be student driven so I would interpret it as okay even if it was under an organization but the eboard can appeal my decision.

Against: Anderson: this is not necessary we’ve all stated we’re for the walk but against the co-sponsorship.

Call to previous question (Hudobenko, Ott).

Vote: 19Y 3N 4A

Debate is ended.

Motion to postpone vote: 3Y 15N 2A

Motion fails.

Main motion:

POI Measho to Mills: when’s the event.

Mills: Oct. 15.

POI Mills: can you read the updated by-laws.

Choplick: Co-Sponsorship Funding:

1. Co-Sponsorship Requests, while not restricted solely to SGA Funded Clubs, are required to be student driven and organized.
2. The intent of a co-sponsorship is that the request provides for collaboration.
3. The funding is available for events or activities that are inclusive of and open to the entire campus.
4. The funds will not be used for supplementing club budgets.
5. Requests must abide by all University and State Comptroller guidelines.

Against: Moreno: we should deny this because it goes directly against the by-laws and sets a bad precedent

Point of order: Pietrycha: speaking for the motion

Well taken

POI Lee: can you explain what voting yes and no would mean

Choplick: yes is to deny no is not to deny and then you would make another motion

For: Berriault: I hate to deny but with the new by-laws this goes directly against this because we can only fund a student driven club however nothing is stopping us from making another motion to allocate them money

POI Lee: can you give an updated version of the by-laws

Choplick: this is the most up to date for Co-Sponsorship Funding

a. Co-Sponsorship funding is a collaboration with the SGA, this is not contingency funding
b. Co-Sponsorship funding is restricted to student organizations which are recognized by the university
c. The funding is available for events or activities that are inclusive of and open to the entire campus.
d. The funds will not be used for supplementing club budgets.
e. Requests must abide by all University and State Comptroller guidelines.

POI Berriault: if a motion failed and another was brought up and it passed would you be forced to veto it

Choplick: if it was a co-sponsorship yes but you have the right to motion to allocate money at any time

POI Measho: how can you create a motion for funding

Choplick: I hadn’t realized this was co-sponsorship or I wouldn’t have let it be heard in finance but you can allocate from another account

Germaine: Point of Parliamentary Inquiry: what is quorum
Choplick: 15

Vote: 11Y(Anderson, Mills, Alsaqri, Berriault, Cahill, Fallanca, Hubbard, Hudobenko, Lee, Ott, Pietrycha) 5N (Christiano, Fox, Germaine, Measho, Testa) 2A (Fernandez, Sonet)

Open Floor

Move to approve Cory Manento for the alternate to the Student Advisory Committee for the Board of Regents (Lee, Hubbard)

For: Lee: Manento is a former senator, former on the academic committee who ran last year and wasn’t reelected this is in case I can’t make a meeting, which if I’m chair won’t happen much, but if I do miss we would still have a voting member present

Yields time

Hubbard: how involved with the board is this

Lee: very little you have the power to vote within the committee but not the BOR and this has to happen this week because the elections are Friday and we need to have an alternate listed and he is most qualified

Berriault: if nominated as chair would he take your spot

Lee: no we still only have one representative

Measho: so you and the alternate can vote

Lee: one of us will either be there or not

Against: Ott: I think Cory is great but I don’t like the way we were told about this and I think it should be elected in spring

For: Lee: SGA has the ability to elect and appoint, electing a rep in the spring is only done because we choose to do it that way

POI Measho: is it a permanent seat

Choplick: it’s two years like Sen. Lee’s is

POI Measho: can it be put in the packet in the future

Choplick: if Public Affairs wants to

Vote: 17Y 2N 0A
Motion Passes  

**SG14-041**

**Move to approve a line item change for the Society of Women Engineers with $170 moving from conference fees to travel (Mills, Sonet)**

For: Mills: I mentioned this earlier they had $1400 for conferences and $1200 for travel but registration went down and travel went up

Vote: 19Y (Anderson, Mills Alsaqri, Berriault, Cahill, Christiano, Fallanca, Fernandez, Fox, Germaine, Hubbard, Hudobenko, Lee, Measho, Moreno, Ott, Pietrycha, Sonet, Testa) 0N 0A

**Motion Passes  

**SG14-042**

Move to approve $1436.50 for t-shirts and $69.90 for a banner for the Women’s Center Walk of No Shame event from account SG9010 (Berriault, Measho)

For: Berriault: this was on the table as a co-sponsorship but it’s against the by-laws but I still think it should be funded and is a good event to raise awareness

**Move to amend the motion to strike out “and $69.90 for a banner” (Sonet, Berriault)**

Choplick: I’m not going to hear that motion because it changes the original intent of the motion

Against Mills: absolutely against this entire motion, the event is still happening they just won’t have t-shirts. We don’t even give clubs t-shirts and I am uncomfortable funding something that’s already been paid

**Berriault: I withdraw my motion**

Anderson: everyone should read Robert’s Rules and if you have any questions please come to us. I will have updated By-Laws for everyone. I think it’s awesome that people have been speaking up against finance motions it’s good to trust them but we should still look things over and pay attention we need to talk about things. Finally there will not be Internal Affairs this week

Mills: I agree with Vice President Anderson it is beneficial to scrutinize our motions before making your decision

Fernandez: the finance minutes aren’t long we get down to business so take a few minutes to read them

Hudobenko: we shouldn’t just pass line items because they’re easy

Moreno: or you can go even if you’re not in the committee, stay informed

Sonet: Student Life, Friday 4-7p

Rodriguez: is there a list of committee times
Choplick: on the site

Moreno: I’m having a get together at my house tomorrow at 7p if you’re playing soccer come over after

Berriault: there is an ordinance passed last year by the city that is causing problems for students who live off campus. It specifically targets students and says that when renting a house it has to be one room and one parking spot to a student so if there are more than that living in the house the landlord gets charged and that effects the yearly rent so I want to work on a way to right this whether it’s appealing it or adding another section

Sonet: student life is interested in this so if you can stop by our meeting that would be great

Berriault: I haven’t been around to clean the office as much and the flies are back so lets be careful and keep food covered

Motion to adjourn (Pietrycha, Alsaqri)

Meeting is adjourned at 5p

Respectfully submitted by SGA University Assistant Brittany Burke.