Student Government Association Minutes from September 26, 2012

September 26, 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, Pancak, 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 19, 2012 Meeting. (Mills, Baldassario)

Motion Passes Unanimously

Student Affairs Report

No student affair report this week.

President’s Report

The Executive board voted to give the Public Affairs committee $3,600 for the t-shirt costs, which is being split with CAN. Public Affairs will get $8,000 in total for homecoming, including the cost of the shirts.

The E-board also voted to spend $250 on stamps for voter registration cards.

There were a few Senators who went to the meeting with the mayor last week. The mayor is not willing to budge on the ordinances, but he is willing to work on developing them. They are working on getting into the writing the ability to track how many responses are to unoccupied, New Britain residents or CCSU students and how often do they then make the decision to issue to fine.

Vice President’s Report

No report this week.
**Treasurer’s Report**

Treasurer Alaimo went over the Finance Committee recommendation for the Design Club to be allocated $500 from SG9018 for their fashion shows.

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

Committee Budgets need to be in no later than Tuesday.

Sen. Baldassario: Was the Design Club an old club with no requested base budget last year?

Treas. Alaimo: Yes.

Sen. Sonet: Is the standing rule a by-law change that the Senate can overrule?

Treas. Alaimo: The standing rule is for the Finance Committee.

Vice President Braun: Wouldn’t Senate have to vote on the standing rule?

Treas. Alaimo: It’s for the finance committee, not a Senate standing rule.

Sen. Towler: Do we have to accept that in Senate?

Treas. Alaimo: It’s for the committee, not the Senate, the Senate will decide what’s appropriate.

Sen. Truex: So the Senate can overturn and vote how they feel?

Pres. Bergenn: The way it’s written the standing rules have to go through Senate because finance committee by-laws are part of the Senate by-laws. The way it’s laid out, to create a standing rule the language will have to be different for a committee.

Treas. Alaimo: The Senate can decide, we just do recommendations.

Pres. Bergenn: There’s two things that can be done, 1- add the standing rules to recommendations or 2- change them.

*Add FC13-010 and FC13-011 to New Business.

**Committee Reports**

Public Affairs:

Sen. Baldassario: With the homecoming shirts, they were able to keep the original 12, but they changed the font to the Athletics Department font.

Sen. Radden: If anyone needs to know when they signed up to help with voter registration let him know// Pep rally planning is going well. He talked with Coach Mac Wednesday morning and they decided to invite all the athletics teams, not just football.
Vice President Braun: can Sen. Radden send out an entire sign up list?

Sen. Radden: Yes.

Sen. Baldassario: Election sign up deadlines have passed, there are 10 freshmen running, 2 for Sr. class President and 1 for the rest of the positions. The senator candidates will run uncontested, but there will be voting for the 4 freshmen senator spots and Sr. Class President.

Student Life Committee:

Sen. Kitchener: The Coffee Talk for next week isn’t scheduled to happen because the food wasn’t ordered, but President Bergenn will try and help the situation.

Sen. Sonet: The RedBox Surveys: The facebook page has just under 500 likes so please share with your friends.

Internal Affairs:

Vice President Braun: The committee will meet Friday at 3p to discuss Sen. Berriault’s proposed amendment. Anyone is welcome to attend.

POI: Sen. Towler: Shouldn’t the Finance Committee standing rules go to internal affairs?

Pres. Bergenn: They don’t have to.

Academic Affairs:

Sen. Marcelli: They are trying to set up a meeting with the library, but they finally got in touch with the provost and have set up a meeting with the assistant dean. If there is anything the senators want talked about at the meeting make sure to talk to the committee. The Board of Regents plan is in the binder in the office and Sen. Marcelli encourages the Senators to look over it.

Sen. Dattilo: In regards to the Transfer and Articulation policy, the transfer portion is in the binder, they are working on the other half.

Pres. Bergenn: Will send out the October date deadline for public feedback.

Vice President Braun: Is the library meeting a separate meeting from the one with the assistant dean?

Sen. Lopez: The library meeting is about trying to get longer library hours.

Pres. Bergenn: The newly formed Student Success team, made up of Alex Lee and Cory Manento is working on getting the departments to make 4-year course maps of what students need to take each semester to graduate on time.
Sen. Towler: Is that a new committee?

Pres. Bergenn: It’s a University Committee looking to help students graduate in four years.

**Public Hearing**

No public hearings.

**Unfinished Business**

No unfinished business

**New Business**

**Motion to accept Finance Committee recommendations FC13-010 and FC13-011 (Mills, Gomez)**

For: Sen. Mills: This was an implied rule that we’ve always had, but the Standing Rule helps keep the precedent. Clubs can still come to contingency for money, while the second rule is for clubs who were inactive or irresponsible to be able to get money.

Against: Sen. Sonet: we gave new clubs $1,000, like Food for Thought. We set that standard in the spring and we should stick to that precedent.

POI: Sen. Baldassario->Sen. Sonet: wasn’t Food For Thought already a recognized club?

Sen. Sonet: Yes, retract previous statement.

For: Sen. Baldassario: In terms of budgeting in the spring, if clubs are inactive it’s unfortunate, but they always have the next spring semester. $500 isn’t the end of the world, and it is better to be fair and consistent.

Against: Sen. Towler: What is a new club needs equipment to start up, but the equipment costs more than $500, then they should get it.

For: Sen. Dattilo: Page three of the Finance minutes states they only have $3,000 in the New Club Budget due to enrollment being down as we all know. We get a lot of requests through the year and setting a particular number may be good throughout the year.

POI Sen. Berriault-> Treas. Alaimo: Is $500 for budget, or just for base budget? Are they still eligible for other requests?

Treas. Alaimo: This is about New Club Budgets and New Base Budgets, keeping an even standard, but yes all clubs are eligible for other requests.

Vote: Y-23      N-3      A-1
Motion Passes

Motion to accept Finance Committee Recommendation FC13-009. (Baldassario, Mills)

For: Sen. Baldassario: In line with the new standing rule $500 to reactivate the club still gives them their main event which is good.

Y-27 (Braun, Alaimo, Anderson, Baldassario, Berriault, Choplick, Dattilo, Fellows, Fung, Germaine, Gomez, Hubbard, Khan, Kitchener, Lopez, Manento, Marcelli, Mgushi, Mills, Narcisse, Pancak, Ott, Radden, Rodriguez, Sonet, Towler, Truex, Zohlman) N-0   A-0

Open Floor

Sen. Berriault: Went to food committee and learned the dining hall is open 9-10:30a for Saturday morning classes. They won’t have hot food, but they do have things like fruit and cereal//He encourages a fair debate for his proposed amendment, but he is asking it doesn’t get drastically changed.

Sen. Baldassario: He along with other Senate members, CAN members and big name CCSU administrators were sent this “disturbing” email from an upset student. It made him and a few others really uncomfortable, so he encouraged senators to keep an eye out around campus, but keep an open mind.

Sen. Pancak: are these accounts accessible to the public?

Pres. Bergenn: There is a contact list and it is accessible for anyone in the system, though the email seemed pretty contained.

Sen. Pancak: While it is alarming, remember the student had a right to send this out so just ignore it.

Sen. Towler: Encourage at least one of your professors if they can give a speech on voter registration.

Pres. Bergenn: A legislation has been passed for next year which will allow you to register to vote up until the election day.

Sen. Towler: What is the deadline this year?

Pres. Bergenn: In person, 7 days before, by mail, two weeks.

Sen. Mills: This Thursday at Devils Den-LASO will be doing a Karaoke night and Oct. 5 IRC is doing a fall fest followed by the LASO block party from 2-5p brought to you by Weekend Central.
Sen. Baldassario: Oct 12 is the pep rally and everyone should go to show a strong presence on campus and school spirit.

Sen. Dattilo: We can always use more hands to help. With Academic Affairs, we won’t have a ton of events, but what we do have will be important.

Sen. Sonet: He’s meeting with the Community Outreach Director of the YMCA on Tuesday for Competition for a Cause, anyone interested email him.

Sen. Radden: Encourage clubs to take part in the banner competition first place gets $500, second gets $250 and third place gets $100 to go toward their base budget.

Vice President Braun: She will not be reminding the Senators of their requirements and what they need to do and she will not be giving out alternate assignments like she did last year. Instead if you fail to meet requirements the Senators will get a notice of not receiving their stipend and they can appeal.

Sen. Fung: Will there be a paper of updates?

Vice President Braun: Yes, it will be hung in the office.

Motion to adjourn (Truex, Sonet)

Meeting Adjourned at 4:01 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by University Assistant Brittany Burke.