SGA Meeting Minutes

For October 09, 2012

**Call to Order:**

The meeting was called to order by Vice President Riggs at 5:30 pm

**Invocation:** Given by President Prokopis

**Roll Call:**

There were (5) executives and (14) Senators present

**Approval of Minutes:**

A motion was made to pass the minutes as unread. Motion passed without debate.

**Officer Reports:**

President – Informed senate of the recent executive meeting with SC Administration to discuss student concerns. Presented unofficial copy of SC’s projected academic calendar for the next four years, and addressed concerns in regard to future scheduling of homecoming and fall break.

Vice President- Informed senate that with the help of STUFU President, Erin Morton, headshots and bios for the final homecoming candidates will be posted by the following day. Offered apology for the previous slip up on former ballots, and assured senate that it would be corrected. Reminded the senate to stay healthy.

Treasurer Lyons- Reported that he has been working on the compilation and addition of homecoming receipts. STUFU President Morton inquired whether any changes were made to the budget. Treasurer Lyons informed Senate that the executive conference money was removed and set aside for next spring. Concerns regarding the necessity, costs, benefits, and projected date of the executive conference were presented. Senator Buster expressed notable upset from students in response to allowing a $5000 budget for the conference. Senator Bruton raised a concern about deducting the projected cost from the current semester’s budget if the money will not be used until the following spring. Treasurer Lyons reported that setting aside the estimated conference allowance will not harm the final budget, but a final budget cannot be compiled until a projected budget has been passed. He also clarified that the estimated conference allowance is being taken from the operational fund and the allocation’s budget will not be affected. Senator Buster asked if the budget is made available to students for review. Treasurer Lyons informed the senate that the budget is available to everyone upon individual request. President Prokopis reassured the senate of the executive board’s desire for transparency, and this could be supported by her efforts to individually walk students through the entire budget during her time served as treasurer for SGA. Senator Bruton suggested that remaining conference funds be used for college events. Senator Buster questioned the purpose of the conference, and raised concerns on what the executives have to show for their time spent at conferences. Lai’ L Clemons asked the senate what they think the students would like to see. Brandon Hessing commented on the benefits of attending outside conferences and remarked on the difficulty students have in visualizing their importance. Hessing further added that conferences offer students a unique perspective, which allows them to think outside the box. STUFU President Morton reinforced Hessing’s comment, and reminded the senate that the tiered system for organizational funding was a concept taken from previous executive conference. Senator Bruton reasserted his concern with setting aside money that is not being spent until next semester. Vice President Riggs clarified that the money would be used to pre pay for transportation and room costs as soon as a conference venue is confirmed. Senator Buster restated her concerns with passing the budget as is, and without first informing the students of the estimated budget for the executive conference. Senator McGuire asked if the information could be offered in the Jinx Tale. Vice President Riggs assured that it could. Senator Buster moved that the budget be tabled until next week. The motion was seconded and went into further debate. Senator Buster readdressed the need for a conference so late in the year, especially considering that 3 executive members would be graduating shortly thereafter. Senator McGuire commented on STUFU’s ability to convey the knowledge gained from previous executive conferences. Senator Buster asserted that the student body would feel a lot more comfortable if SGA executives would at least provide a simple explanation of their goals and undertakings. President Prokopis asked what motion was currently on the floor. Vice President Riggs reminded the senate that the motion on the floor is to table the budget, and asked if there were any more questions before we took a vote. In the absence of further debate, the motion to table the budget passed.

Secretary Rupert – Reported that she has been working diligently to get up to speed on the

procedures and current undertakings of SGA.

Student Conduct Advisor McIver – follow up on concerns-   
Reminded senate of the recent meeting with administration, and informed students of Dr. Pleas-Baily’s support over cafeteria concerns. Wifi: Conveyed President Merriman’s knowledge over the aspects of bandwidth, and ensured the senate that changes can be expected soon.

STUFU –President Erin Morton – Reminded senate that homecoming is here. Reported that members have been busy decorating windows down town. Reminded senate to continue checking the Jinx Tale in order to stay updated on upcoming homecoming events. Affirmed that dodge ball was a success. Reminded Senate of the possibility of rain during Saturday’s events, and clarified that the parade will only be cancelled in the event of lightening. Informed senate that the bonfire is finished being built.

**Intro:**

02.10.12International club: Southwestern College International Club would like to hold an event on Halloween in which they are requesting $150 for supplies and candy. Senator Buster moved to pass the allocation as read. Motion was seconded and went into debate. Senator Bruton asked if all residence halls will be involved in giving away candy. Lai L’ added that pumpkin painting would also be offered. The motion to allocate $150.00 dollars to the International Club’s Halloween event, passed.

**Final Action**

1.10.12 Manistry Mancakes: Senator Buster moved to pass as unread. Motion was seconded. President Prokopis reminded senate that MANistry would like to host a weekly breakfast of pancakes, a.k.a. mancakes, from October 12, 2012 to December 7, 2012, and MANistry is requesting a total of $180.00 to fund the weekly breakfasts. The motion passed without further debate.

**Business From the Floor:**

**Voting**

T-shirt voting is in. We have selected the first option that was presented on the list.

**Committees:**

**Open Period/Announcements:**

* Homecoming
  + Reminder to vote for the final round of Homecoming King/Queen candidates.
* Senior Gift
  + A group of 15-20 juniors are projected to meet in the near future to discuss a gift for seniors.
* Continue Celebrating Hispanic Heritage month by attending the Hispanic art gallery tomorrow in the Java Jinx
* Department Chairs
  + Reminder that it is part of the Senator’s responsibilities to meet with department chairs.
  + Music department is currently working on obtaining feedback on music and theatre programs.
* Jinx Tale
  + Concern that it isn’t being released at a consistent time.

**Adjournment:**

Senator Buster moved to adjourn at 6:31. Motion was passed with no debate.

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