

# STUDENT ASSOCIATION MEETING

State University of New York, College at Geneseo



<i>Executive Committee</i>	
President:	Brendan Quinn
Vice-President:	Jarah Magan
<b>Directors:</b>	
Academic Affairs:	Stephanie Condello
Business Affairs:	Tom Johns
Inter-Residence Affairs:	Audrey Cooper
Public Relations:	Jessica Vigars
Student Affairs:	Diana Zuniga
Student Programming:	Nicholas Guy
Advisor:	Tamara Hurlburt
<i>PROFESSIONAL STAFF</i>	
Dir. of SA Programs,	
Personnel & Finances:	Kate Rebban
Administrative Assistant:	Nancy Chirico
Graphics Coordinator:	
Program Advisor:	Joel Walker
Service Manager:	Dianne Krenzer

Student Association meetings are Wednesdays at 6:15 pm in the College Union Hunt Room. All are welcome to attend.

## MINUTES #26, Wednesday, March 21, 2007

Page	Business Meeting Agenda
105	<b>Call to Order, Approval of Agenda, Approval of Minutes</b>
105-106	<b>Updates</b>
106	<b>Old Business</b>
	None
106-109	<b>New Business</b>
106-107	<b>52-0607:</b> BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE SA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE allocate up to \$3,486.81 to Account 1004-Student Association Technical Services from Account 2000-Permanent Equipment for the construction of a "cage" in the Tech Room. <i>First of Two Readings</i>
107	<b>53-0607:</b> BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE SA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE approve the fundraising request from Account 1002-SA Programs, Student Music Association for the fundraiser "Coffee House" on March 30, 2007 to raise up to \$140.00. <i>First and Only Reading</i>
108	<b>54-0607:</b> BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE SA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE allocate up to \$600.00 to Account 1412-Women's Water Polo from Account 1099-Budget Increases for increased CWPA dues, travel, and lodging demands. <i>First of Two Readings</i>
---	<b>55-0607:</b> BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE SA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE approve the fundraising request from Account 1412-Women's Water Polo for the fundraiser "T-shirt Sale" on March 31, 2007 to raise up to \$200.00. <i>First and Only Reading</i>
108-109	<b>56-0607:</b> BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE SA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE allocate up to \$822.28 from Account 1002-SA Programs Line 20-Conferences to Account 1901-Japanese Culture Club to help fund the conference "Sakura Matsuri Street Festival." <i>First of Two Readings</i>
109-115	<b>Open Discussion</b>
115	<b>Adjournment</b>

### ***Call to Order***

The meeting was called to order at 6:15pm with all SA Executive Committee present.

### ***Approval of the Agenda***

Audrey motioned to remove reading 55-0607 from the agenda, and it was seconded. Tom amended reading 56-0607 to read “allocate up to \$997.28,” to fall in line with current working policy.

Agenda passes 6-0-1 with Tom abstaining.

### ***Approval of the Minutes***

Minutes pass 7-0-0.

## **Updates**

### ***President, Brendan Quinn updates:***

Brendan had the honor of working the airport shuttle before break. He had a meeting with Dr. Bonfiglio, Marilyn Moore, and representatives from the Crew Club about projects they are working on. Brendan and Stephanie met with the Provost. He had a CAS Board of Directors meeting on Tuesday. The executive director of CAS, Ed Abbott, will be retiring and leaving Geneseo in December. Brendan has been asked to be on the search committee to find a new executive director of CAS. He will work on that through May. The Chancellor is coming to campus tomorrow. He will be speaking at a Gold session at 12:45pm. Brendan encouraged everyone to stop by. Brendan has been working with Diana on Budget Advocacy. He wished everyone luck with registration.

### ***Vice-President, Jarah Magan updates:***

The Vacation Bus program is done for the year. Jarah is sending a survey out to those who participated last year to find out ways they can improve the program. She will be sending out the letter to book the bus company for next year. Class Council and Senate are going very well. The Senators are planning an open forum.

### ***Director of Business Affairs, Tom Johns updates:***

Tom met with the Budget Committee today, which was interesting. He spoke to a few organizations, with frozen budgets, over break. He also reviewed the policy changes for financial policy. Tom met with a candidate for his position for next year. He attended AAC and listened to the candidates' speeches.

### ***Director of Inter-Residence Affairs, Audrey Cooper updates:***

Audrey sat at the CAS Board of Directors meeting on Tuesday. IRC hosted the candidates for SA elections on Monday. It was great to have the residential population exposed to their speeches. IRC's constitution and bylaws changes went through their first week and were approved. IRC will be scooping ice cream and hosting roller skating for Siblings' Weekend in the College Union. The Hall Council Improvement Committee had its first meeting, which went well.

### ***Director of Public Relations, Jess Vigars updates:***

On Thursday during all-college free hour in Sturges Quad, the College Union Lobby, or outside Milne Library, there will be free cocoa and cookies and information about the referendum. The vote in the referendum will be held March 26-28. You can vote on Knightweb. Remind your clubs to vote. Jess passed around a calendar. She attended IRC, AAC, LSA, WAC, and GODA, which were all wonderful. She congratulated the reps of these organizations.

### ***Director of Academic Affairs, Stephanie Condello updates:***

Stephanie said that the AAC constitution and bylaws are finished. They had their first reading last night. They have been planning their social faculty mixer for the spring. It will be a picnic on the discussion of Geneseo's values and the liberal arts education. It will come with a free lunch. Stephanie will have more information next week. She met with people to discuss AAC's elections. If you are interested in any of the positions, please talk to Stephanie.

***Director of Student Affairs, Diana Zuniga updates:***

Diana has been working on Budget Advocacy Day. She will be in the College Union Lobby on Tuesday with computers for students to write letters to assemblymen. This Saturday is Shakti's Dinner at 6:00pm in the College Union Ballroom.

***Director of Student Programming, Nick Guy updates:***

On Thursday, AC in conjunction with NRHH, will host a peanut butter and jelly night where they will make sandwiches to be donated to the open-door mission in Rochester. It is at 8:30pm in the Fireside Lounge. Everyone is welcome to attend. Next weekend is Siblings' Weekend. The Jabali Acrobats will perform on Saturday at 8:00pm in Wadsworth Auditorium. Tickets are \$5.00 for students. Be sure to get your tickets! AC's constitution and bylaws will be coming in a few weeks. Nick announced that he is withdrawing from the election.

***Kate Rebban, Director of SA Programs, Personnel, & Finances updates:***

During break, Kate did the first draft of the budget so that the committee could review it today. She also worked on a student activity fee audit/survey. The Program Advisor Search Committee should be meeting next week.

***Tamara Hurlburt, SA Executive Committee Advisor updates:***

Tamara thanked everyone who supported the students who went on the Alternative Spring Break trip. This was their second year, and they had a great time, even on the 22 hour bus ride. It was a very worthwhile trip.

**Open Updates**

***Club Sports updates:*** Paul announced that there is a Club Sports meeting tomorrow at 12:45pm in the basement of Schrader. Anyone is welcome to attend.

***MTC updates:*** Kristen announced that the MTC review opens next Thursday at 8:00pm. It is MTC Gone Wild. Look for posters around campus. She suggested that you come early, as the event is free. Kristin also announced that the student organization pageant will take place on April 20. She passed out details and applications.

***AC updates:*** Jess announced that AC election applications are currently outside of the AC office and are due April 3. Several positions are open and interviews will be held in a few weeks. An interest meeting will be held next Thursday. AC meetings are always open, as well. Their meeting is tomorrow at 6:30pm in the College Union Boardroom.

**Old Business**

None.

**New Business**

**52-0607:** BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE SA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE allocate up to \$3,486.81 to Account 1004-Student Association Technical Services from Account 2000-Permanent Equipment for the construction of a "cage" in the Tech Room.

***First of Two Readings***

Carey Backman, Assistant Director of the College Union, announced that part of what she does is run SA tech services. They are asking to build a fence wall in the tech room. It is a shared space with custodial services and CU&A. Thus, SA tech services cannot control everyone that goes in and out of the space. They have a key sign out for their people, but others come in and out. Much of their equipment is very portable, such as the microphone box and the microphones themselves. The partition will allow them to build a wall from the wall to the ceiling to lock the back space of the office. The keys will need to be signed out. They will get rid of the cabinets they currently have. This will give them more storage space. They will also be able to lock up expensive items. This will save them from spending money on lost items,

which will allow them to build their inventory. Last year, nearly \$5,000 was spent on new equipment. They have several cables which hang on the wall and are “portable”. They also have portable sound systems. They are looking to protect these investments.

Nick asked if there has been any loss of equipment. Carey said there have been a few attempts, in which they have been able to recover the items. They have had a few lost cables, but nothing major at this point. Jess asked if the custodial staff is okay with the addition of the fence wall in the space. Carey said they have not been informed, as it will not affect their section of the room. The fence will be built behind the custodial area, which will allow them to continue using their space. They do not use the equipment that will be locked. Tom asked if this could potentially help make the inventory for SA tech more efficient. Carey said yes, it would. They currently try to fit as much as possible in the current lockable cabinets. One goal is to remove those cabinets and have shelves built instead behind the locked fence. They would also do a thorough search of the items in that area. They will also be able to hang items behind the fence. Jess asked if everything would have to be removed from the area to allow for installation. Carey does not anticipate that everything would need to be removed. They would find another temporary lockable space for the items that needed to be removed. Audrey asked how many keys there would be. Carey said they asked for four on the request. There will be a key for each of the three tech sets and one for Carey. The College Union Manager would be able to access the cage if Carey is not around. Tamara asked if the wiring of the cage is large enough to fit items through it. Carey said it is a tight weave, designed for this type of purpose. It will also be very tight to the ceiling. They must have a double door inserted into the cage as well. Nick said that the expense is necessary for the security provided. He said it is appropriate for SA to protect its assets. Reading 52-0607, first of two readings, passes 7-0-0.

**53-0607:** BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE SA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE approve the fundraising request from Account 1002-SA Programs, Student Music Association for the fundraiser “Coffee House” on March 30, 2007 to raise up to \$140.00.

*First and Only Reading*

Chris Blasting, a member of SMA, explained that they are planning to host an original music symposium from 10:30pm-12:00am in Sturges Auditorium on March 30. The goal of the event is to bring musicians from around campus who have written original music to perform for an audience. The event will be similar to an open mic, except that spots will be filled ahead of time. The event will be a fundraiser for SMA to fund future events in the fall, such as speakers. The event will cost \$2.00 at the door. No exchange of funds will take place between SMA and the performers. GSTV will be filming the event, which will help with publicity and offsetting some of the cost of the tech involved. All proceeds will go toward events for SMA.

Jess asked if performers have been lined up for the event. Chris said that they will have the performers attend their meeting tomorrow to sign up. Audrey asked what level of tech will be provided. Chris said it will be low maintenance. They will only need mics and some lighting. Stephanie asked if they were getting coffee and tea from CAS, and they are. She asked if they got a CAS grant. Chris was unsure of this. Stephanie suggested they look into this. She also asked how many will be served with the amount they ordered. Chris was unsure of this. Jess asked how the admission money will be collected. She said that they have a cash box to sign out. Kate said they need to sign out the cash box from the SA ticket office. It can be turned in that night after the event. Stephanie asked what the money for posters will go toward. Chris said it will go toward printing. Stephanie pointed out that colored copies are more expensive. Nick reminded Chris that SMA has a printing account with SA. Tom asked Kate to clarify whether the money gained from the event would go toward the income line to be used for this year, and it will. Tom explained that with any money left over in the account, they can write a memo to exec to use 50% of what is left. The remainder will go into reserves to be allocated for next year’s budget. Jess asked when they will begin advertising, and they will start this weekend.

Nick said that, as SMA is a new organization, he is happy to see that they are beginning fundraising for events already. As a representative of a fellow music organization, Kristin, from MTC, said she thinks this is a great opportunity to recognize musical students that may not be recognized by an organization. She also thinks that the informal feel of the event gives SMA a personality.

Reading 53-0607, first and only reading, passes 7-0-0.

**54-0607:** BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE SA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE allocate up to \$600.00 to Account 1412-Women's Water Polo from Account 1099-Budget Increases for increased CWPA dues, travel, and lodging demands.

*First of Two Readings*

According to current financial policy, if a presenter is not present at the meeting, the reading must be failed. Thus, the reading fails, per policy.

**56-0607:** BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE SA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE allocate up to \$822.28 from Account 1002-SA Programs Line 20-Conferences to Account 1901-Japanese Culture Club to help fund the conference "Sakura Matsuri Street Festival."

*First of Two Readings*

JCC passed out the current mail-outs from the Japan America Society. Ryosuke Komatsu, Emi Minami, Michael Yang, Humza Ahmad, and Nobu Iwata gave a presentation about the Sakura Matsuri Festival. Ryosuke explained that the festival is part of a two-week long National Cherry Blossom Festival in Washington DC. The Cherry Blossom Festival started 95 years ago. About 40 years ago, the Japan American Society had a small garage sale. 15 years ago, the festival grew larger and became the Sakura Matsuri Festival. 100,000 people came in 2005. This year, they are expecting 120,000 people. It is on April 14 from 11:00am-6:00pm. It takes place on Pennsylvania Avenue between 10<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> Streets, and on 12<sup>th</sup> street between Pennsylvania and Constitution Avenues. For more information, you can visit <http://www.nationalcherryblossomfestival.org/cms/index.php?id=421>.

Emi explained what makes up Sakura Matsuri. There are vendors, which include Target, Japanese restaurants, Japanese grocery stores, and Japanese arts and crafts stores. They are from DC and other parts of the US. There are traditional, modern, and martial arts performers. Emi explained many of the different performers that will be at the festival. She also told about the artists that will be at the festival, including the rock garden that is very important to Japan. Volunteers will also be at the event. They are people interested in the event and the average age is 20-30 years.

Michael explained that JASW is a nonprofit organization that is funded by the US government. He also discussed the educational aspects for both Japanese and American students. JCC's goals involve educating American students about Japanese festivals and educating Japanese students about the US capitol, Washington DC. Half of the participants attending are Japanese students, and half are American students. Membership for JCC is open to all students. They hold meetings each Monday where they teach people about the Japanese culture starting in the 1950s. This will be a great experience for members to learn more. This year, JCC will be doing service at the event. They will work to assist JASW with bringing Japanese culture to the people of the country at large, not just at Washington DC. They also plan on having fun during the process.

Humza went over what they will be doing at Sakura Matsuri. They will be volunteers at the event. Humza explained that he spent time in Washington DC over spring break. He had the opportunity to deliver their volunteer applications to Japan American Society. He had been in touch with them before, and they were excited that JCC had a relatively large amount of people volunteering. They sent approximately 24 applications. He learned that the survey section was in the most urgent need of volunteers. They were looking for approximately 400 volunteers, and had only received 60. Humza showed a map of the festival and pointed out each area of the festival, and explained where JCC volunteers will be located during the event. They will take surveys and receive information for the Japan American Society. Humza said he thought this was a great way for them to volunteer, as there is so much need. He also provided additional information about the site of the festival.

Nobu provided the funding details for the trip. There are 24 members attending the festival. They plan to take 4 minivans for 3 days, for \$55.23 per vehicle per day. The trip will take 722 miles round-trip. They will have 6 hotel rooms for 2 nights, with 4 people per room. Nobu explained that there are cheaper hotels around, but this hotel is in close proximity. The cost is \$115.99 per room per night plus tax. Parking will cost \$7.00 per vehicle per night. Humza showed several pictures of the event, such as a picture of the Target mascot dressed up in a kimono. There were pictures of a woodcarver, volunteers from previous years, and a dance.

Humza also discussed one issue to be resolved for funding. He pointed out that the total transportation was changed to \$110.00 and their current total is \$997.28. He explained that policy states that SA will only fund up to \$55 per vehicle per way. The total money needed for transportation is \$718.76. SA will fund half of this and the other half is paid by members. Half of transportation cost is \$359.38, which means that SA would fund \$44.92 per vehicle per way ( $\$359.38/4 \text{ vehicles}/2 \text{ ways}$ ). Therefore, Humza requested that the number be changed back to the original \$1,126.66.

Nick asked if JCC had plans for bringing information back to the campus at large. Humza said that part of the goal is to find different presenters to bring back to Geneseo. JCC also plans to show a slideshow of the event at an SA meeting. Audrey asked if Enterprise would know that JCC is an SA funded organization. Humza said they would just need a check from SA. He provided a confirmation email from the branch manager of Enterprise at Geneseo. Nick asked why they were not requesting any money for meals. Humza explained that they decided that this would be too large an amount of money. Jess asked Humza to clarify the total mileage of the trip. Brendan explained that, in response to the transportation request, it is in the wording that SA will only fund up to \$55.00. He explained that this is a cap, rather than a guarantee. Kate asked which 4 people were driving. Humza, Dan FitzGerald, Zach Nichols, and Ryosuke Komatsu can drive, along with a few others. They hope to have as many alternates as possible. Audrey asked Kate about the discrepancy between \$55 per student per way and \$55 per vehicle per way. Kate said this was probably taken out of transportation. Nick said it is per person for plane, train, or bus, but per vehicle if they are driving.

Nick moved to amend the reading to read “up to \$1,126.66.” Nick explained that SA read policy wrong, and there is no reason to allocate the wrong amount of money. Jarah said that she did not understand why it was wrong. Nick explained that it is actually less than \$55 per vehicle per way, as Humza explained. Audrey seconded the motion. Nick said that Humza’s math is correct, and therefore they should not be penalized. Humza explained how he got his figures. Jess said that she was confused, but now supports the change. Jarah asked for clarification on the motion. Motion passes 7-0-0.

Jarah said that this looks like an amazing conference where JCC will be both learning and volunteering. Nick said that AC attends a conference to see different performers each year, and this conference will be similar for JCC. Tom was concerned about how the conference will be educational when they are completing surveys. Stephanie explained that while they are completing the surveys, they will be witnessing Japanese culture to bring back to campus. Humza said that the volunteer coordinator encouraged very strongly that they do not work for more than 4 hours, but experience the festival as well. Jess said that she attended a JCC meeting and they spend a lot of time educating their members. She congratulated the e-board for this and encouraged them to put together a presentation to share with campus when they return. Kate explained that other groups turn in registration forms with their “conference request”, and asked if JCC received confirmation since their forms have been turned in. Humza said they could do this. Kate explained she needed confirmation of who was volunteering. Reading 56-0607, first of two readings, passes 7-0-0.

### **Open Discussion**

Each candidate for SA positions was given the opportunity to speak and answer questions during open discussion:

Director of Inter-Residence Affairs (IRC): Vinita Mishra, Matt Thackston

Director of Academic Affairs (AAC): Diana Zuniga

Director of Business Affairs (DBA): Brian Reilly

President: Brendan Quinn, James Bryant

Director of Student Programming (AC): Jessica O’Connor

Vice President: Jarah Magan

Director of Student Affairs:

Director of Public Relations: Chad Salitan

**Vinita Mishra:** Vinita is running for Director of Inter-Residence Affairs because she has been on IRC for 3 years and has a lot of experience that she would like to incorporate into the position. She is currently the Chair of the Public Relations Committee for IRC. It is part of her job to bring concerns to the e-board and assembly to discuss. She is Co-Chair of the Hall Council Improvement Committee, which is working on the sustainability of hall councils. Vinita is Secretary of IRC this year and an RA in Steuben Hall. She currently serves on the budget review committee. She has attended two NEACURH Conferences from which she has brought information back to Geneseo. Some of her goals for the position include collaborating with organizations and working with other SA directors to improve academic qualities and use them as resources. Vinita would also like to use the standing committee as a means to make the voices of the 2900 on-campus students heard. As Director of IRC, she would be a voice for all on-campus students, and would work to bring that voice to SA.

Stephanie asked Vinita if she has any goals for SA. Vinita said she would like to work with the other directors on SA events. She had the idea of having a student athletic tournament on campus. This would be something for many students to get involved in. She would also like to continue the work taking place this year and make people more aware of what is going on in SA. Jarah pointed out that Vinita is currently on an e-board and not running one. She asked what qualities she possesses that will help in running the IRC e-board. Vinita explained that she is chairing three different committees at the moment. She thinks this has given her a lot of executive experience. Part of her job as an orientation advisor this summer was to run sessions, meet new students, and help students to prepare for college. She thinks this has helped prepare her in running her own e-board committee. Audrey asked how Vinita sees herself transitioning between running an e-board and being a member of an e-board. Vinita said that her experience has given her a lot of practice with this. As a part of IRC, she has been on the executive board and running the public relations committee. This has allowed her to understand the different roles of running a committee and being on a committee.

**Matt Thackston:** Matt is running for Director of Inter-Residence Affairs because his involvement in IRC has helped to develop him as a leader. He would like to give others a chance to develop their leadership skills through IRC. He has experience as a Hall Council President, a delegate to a NEACURH Conference, an RA in Steuben Hall, taking part in IRC leadership training, as a conference committee chair, as a member of the National Residence Hall Honorary, and his current position as Campus Relations Coordinator. His leadership positions have given him a lot of experience in running meetings and working with other individuals in different positions. He has also gained insight as to what goes on in hall councils, which will help him solve many of the problems they face. All of these qualities are critical to the Director of Inter-Residence Affairs. Matt plans to work with the IRC e-board to develop their respective positions, strengthen IRC training, work with other campus organizations, improve hall councils, and continue to build a strong working relationship with NRHH. As Director, Matt would work with the NCCs to continue to improve Geneseo's image in the region. At conferences, he will network with other schools to learn how to perfect our school. He would also work with the rest of SA and use his power to vote judiciously to ensure that mandatory activity fees are used to fund quality programs and items that benefit all students. One of the people he admires most, Harry Truman, said that it is amazing what you can get accomplished when you don't care who gets the credit. He believes wholeheartedly in this philosophy and intends to follow it. Matt wants to be the Director of IRC so that IRC can flourish and improve life for all students on campus.

Stephanie asked why Matt wants to be on SA. Matt said that he believes SA provides many opportunities for students on campus. He also believes not many people know about these opportunities. SA provides so many critical services that not all students know about. He wants to make sure that clubs know they have these opportunities. James asked Matt what part of a bicycle he would be and why. Matt said he would be the handle bars because he likes direction, organization, and knowing where he's going. Jarah pointed out that Matt is currently on an e-board and not running one. She asked what qualities he possesses that will help in running the IRC e-board. Matt said his experience as Hall Council President allowed him to work with an e-board, treasurers, and different groups. Also, as Campus Relations Coordinator, he is the chair of Campus Roundtable. He works biweekly with all of the presidents. They are putting on Double Dare on April 27, which will be amazing. Therefore, he has had a lot of experience as a leader. Alicia, from GEO, asked Matt what goals he has for other organizations. Matt said he thinks IRC can work with other

organizations for programming. For example, right now IRC is working with GEO on the Residence Hall Energy Conservation program. He thinks this is a perfect example, as it combines other groups with IRC to have a good impact on both campus and in the community. Audrey asked how Matt plans to transition from leading an e-board to being a member of one. Matt said that this year, as Campus Relations Coordinator he chairs Campus Roundtable, acting as an executive. But at the same time, he serves as a member of the IRC e-board. Therefore, he has had experience with this type of transitioning.

**Diana Zuniga:** Diana is running for Director of Academic Affairs and has several goals for next year. She would like to continue working on PAC, President Academic Cabinet. This is something that Stephanie started this year. The purpose of PAC is to focus on the clubs themselves, to make sure they understand AAC policy, and to work on issues such as keeping membership. Diana's second aim is to add more student-faculty mixers. She would like to work with PAC to start a campus-wide student-faculty mixer in hopes of better club collaboration and understanding of policy. She will make sure that all of this is followed through.

Stephanie explained that each year, there is a main academic issue that the school focuses on. This year, the issue was academic advisement. She asked Diana if she knew what the focus would be for next year. Diana said that next year's focus would be a review of all curriculum. Nick asked Diana why she is making the transition from Director of Student Affairs to the Director of Academic Affairs. Diana explained that this year she dealt with many different aspects as the position fluctuates. She worked as a voice for the multicultural organizations and was very interested in doing that. Diana decided that for next year, she is interested in representing students on the academic level. Pat, from AC, asked Diana what she meant by planning on creating more club collaboration, such as through her example of the campus-wide student-faculty mixer. Diana explained that this is something she would focus on next year and does not have any current plans yet. Jarah asked Diana if she has spoken with the current Director of Academic Affairs to discuss the position. Diana has spoken with Stephanie and plans to continue the work she has done this year. Stephanie explained that communication between departments and organizations is something that AAC deals with. She asked Diana if she has any ideas for how to improve this. Diana said that she would work with PAC to do this. However, she has not come with a solid plan of how to do this, but has given it a lot of thought.

**Brendan Quinn:** Brendan is a political science and history major with a minor in public administration. He is a junior this year. Brendan explained what he did before he was SA President. He served simultaneously on IRC as NCC and on AC as the Kino Coordinator. He was also the chair of a committee which rewrote the constitution and bylaws for AC. In his positions as NCC and on AC, he was able to attend over 8 regional and national conferences. He worked with other students and represented Geneseo, which he feels was great experience. He was an orientation advisor in the summer of 2005. He was a tour guide and lobby host for 2 years. He is an active member of NRHH and was in GSTV freshman year. Brendan also shared some of the accomplishments he is proud of as SA President this year. He has made substantial reforms to election policy and implemented them. He has worked on changes to financial policy. He reformed the evaluation process for SA staff and believes the morale is better around the office. Brendan feels that meetings run smoothly and orderly, and are livelier than they have been in the past. Brendan plans to continue persuading the college to publish a booklist, integrating textbook exchange as an SA service, and continuing certain reforms.

Stephanie asked what Brendan's largest challenge has been in running an e-board. Also, does he feel he has grown in this area. Brendan explained that he has learned the importance of the President being neutral both in SA and exec meetings. The President needs to be neutral at meetings so that clubs and organizations have someone on exec to go to if they are upset about something. Brendan has given control over the discussion of the readings more to the DBA, as the President does not cast a vote. If you are a strong personality and have a firm grasp on policy, it is important to make sure exec is within the parameters of policy. The President should also steer away from swaying. This was a challenge that he feels he has improved on. Kelly, from GODA, pointed out that last year Brendan ran on a ticket. She asked how he would handle working with new people that he may not yet have a relationship with yet. Brendan said that the ability to get along is very important on exec. He said that there is a ticket again this year. It was not about the other students, but rather a group of people who believe in each other who would like to come

together and do it again. Brendan explained that elections are political and chaotic. When exec comes together and starts making policy it is important for the President to make them realize that they are all one SA. It does not matter how you got elected, because if there is a weak link in the chain, then exec is going to stumble. Brendan would make sure that it is a strong expectation for those things not to carry over. Paul from Club Sports asked if Brendan has any special plans for Club Sports next year. Brendan explained that one question he has about Club Sports is why it is its own organization, electing its own officers, and interpreting policy for itself and SA only has oversight. Whenever they delegate that authority, there is always someone on SA exec. This is not Club Sports' fault. In a lot of ways, Club Sports is policing itself, which makes Brendan uncomfortable. He will be looking into this and thinking about it. Brendan believes that Club Sports Association should be maintained. One thing they need to start to build this relationship is to have representatives come to business meetings from Club Sports. He explained that Club Sports should be integrated not as a standing committee, but an unofficial committee that is a responsibility of one of the directors. He explained that this may not happen while he is at Geneseo, but he would be interested to starting necessary steps.

Pat, from AC, explained that he believes SA is more than a policy interpreter, but also a resource for groups and organizations. He asked how Brendan plans to make SA more of a resource. Brendan said that Pat is right: SA is more than a policy watchdog. He has spoken about policy because this is something that affects the groups. However, as they continue to work on policy, the best thing for the President to do is make sure that SA is strong and unified. Each of the directors sits on the panel as a representative for student groups. SA is designed so that all directors are covering the issues. Brendan explained that he would like to avoid duplication of effort. He does not want to step on the toes of directors. Rather, he would like to make SA clear and functional so that directors can interact with student groups. Brendan explained that he has chosen the two main issues he feels are a problem for students. One is the booklist issue, which he has been working on with the Provost and Academic Affairs. He would like to make this available like other schools have done. He would like this to be integrated into the duties of an SA staff member. Therefore, there are many ways the President can help clubs and student life in general. Alicia, from GEO, asked if Brendan has goals for increasing communication with administrators. Brendan explained that access to administration should be there for every student. One way SA can make this available is by having administration speak at open discussion. For example, Dr. Bonfiglio spoke earlier, and they plan to invite other administrators. Brendan explained that he would reach out to more administrators and have them speak at SA meetings. Jess, from AC, asked what Brendan's greatest accomplishment has been for this year, having run on the Students First ticket. Brendan said that he convened a special meeting not long after he was elected last year. He asked exec to consider a technology proposal. After meeting extensively with media groups and Jess Rood, and calling the meeting to have technology updated, he felt this was a great first step. He thinks this has continued to help the way SA operates. Stephanie asked Brendan to state the three main reasons why he should be elected. First, Brendan said he has the best experience of all, which is having done the position this year, so they would not be starting from scratch. Second, he feels he has proven himself affective for the student body and will strive to continue that. Third, Brendan has extensive experience with student groups, both from before he was President, and now that he has held the position.

**James Bryant:** James explained his goals for the position of SA President. He is currently involved in the SUNY Student Assembly and holds the position of Director of Student Government Relations. He works with all 64 student governments of the SUNY system. If they have a problem with administration and student relations, they go to James. He is very up to date with SUNY bylaws. He has learned a lot about what is going well on campuses. His three main focuses are leadership, communication, and empowerment. He would like to see a president's corner in The Lamron. This would encourage more students to learn about SA. James would like to increase the coordination between clubs on campus and across the state. He quoted Ella Baker, in that he believes that true leadership is not that which creates followers but which creates fellow leaders.

Stephanie asked James what he has done for Geneseo, being that he has worked with many other schools. James researched the book exchange issue at Geneseo and spoke with UB about their book exchange program. He explained the list serve that they created. He has also been involved in understanding how SUNY administration affects Geneseo. He compares the workings of other student governments to Geneseo's student government. Pat, from AC, asked which of his experiences has most prepared him for

the position. At FLCC, James sat on the Board of Trustees. He said that this was the most intimidating position he has held. He learned to interact with people and learned to express student interest in a way other people can understand. Also, the position he holds now on the state level has prepared him, as he is able to work with each individual student government. He said that the problems we face at Geneseo are not always unique to Geneseo. Communication is always an issue. Each campus deals with similar issues and comes up with unique ways to address problems. James has created a webpage that is a method for schools to talk to each other.

Stephanie explained that part of being President is knowing what each director is doing and what their job is. She asked if James has talked to any of the current directors of SA. James said he has not spoken with current directors, as he had a stronger relationship with the previous directors of SA. He learned a lot about SA through that group. The idea of directors was new to him, as he was used to the President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer set up. He is very interested in how the directors work. Stephanie asked if James could state the main jobs of the Vice President. James explained that they lead senate. They are also the guiding member in college senate. He said that this is their main focus. He said that Jarah does much more, as well. Stephanie explained that they also do student government. Nick asked James what experiences he has that qualify him as SA President. He asked what experience he has with SA policy, groups, and the culture off SA. James explained that the culture has not changed that much since last year. He has a great relationship with LSA, and speaks with members of AC. He has been following the workings of SA. He decided in January that he wanted to take the focus in working on Geneseo. James explained that working with other student governments has helped him understand schools across the board. He is able to pinpoint things that happen here across the state. Matt asked James what part of a unicycle he would be. James said that he would be the tires. He sees the President as someone who runs around a lot. Each time you come into the office, it is something new. By the end of the day, you will be run tired and will have felt a bunch of bumps. Without the strong tires, the student government will be much slower moving.

Jess, from AC, asked James to expand upon his philosophy in creating other leaders and how he will apply this in working with organizations. James explained that he would like to listen to what people are working on and ask them questions. He may offer different avenues to pursue and ask how he can be of help in achieving their goals. He explained that in this case, he would ask how SA can help. He would like to increase the President's involvement in clubs. He would like to give organizations ways they can help themselves. Kari asked James what makes him think he can handle this position based on his experiences at Geneseo. James said that in his first semester here, he was elected to the CRC position of IRC. He was also serving on Judicial Affairs and was a College Senator. He was pledging Alpha Phi Omega, a service based group. He was also still involved with the state on Student Assembly. He worked 20 hours and took 17 credits. He also worked with Livingston CARES as a founding student member. He realized that he needed to pinpoint the area he wanted to be involved in and focus on. He focused on Livingston CARES as they needed help in starting up. This year, James has decided to focus on SA and remained involved on the state level. Tom pointed out that there is currently an SA staff member, the Program Advisor, whose job is to sit down with organizations and discuss issues. Tom asked how James would work with the Program Advisor for next year. James explained that he would not be stepping on that person's toes, but would like to work with them. This would give him a broader knowledge of what is happening on campus. He explained that many of the problems on campus have warning signs. He would like to encourage organizations to use the tool of Program Advisor. There are many tools available to organizations and students that they are unaware of.

Stephanie asked what James sees as a main issue on campus. James said that the fight against racial equality was part of the deliberative dialogue. He explained that it seems that the college often gives the impression that things are being done to create a sense of community, but that there is little action. He explained that there is a group on campus that feels there is discrimination on campus. One issue is that there are no African American faculty members. He explained that this is a problem. There is a portion of campus that feels ostracized, and that this happens with other groups as well. He would like to make the campus more welcoming. Xiomara asked James how he would bring in something different to SA for the multicultural groups. James said that he would like to work with Dr. Bonfiglio to bring in provocative speakers for students to see what actually exists out there. This shock value may encourage students to get

more involved with multicultural organizations. He would like to see how UB has created a campus focused on diversity and multiculturalism. Diana asked if there is a reason James has not come to speak with the current directors of SA. James explained that he was focused on other things earlier in the semester. He is also very busy. He would come to the e-board more when he had a definite project. He was previously more focused on working on the state level. Stephanie asked if James thought it would be a good idea to meet with them if he were elected. James plans on doing this. Stephanie also asked what he would change with policies and how organizations are organized. James said that there should be concern placed on academic organization in AAC. He thinks that class organization should also be looked at. James said that he could not think of changes to be made to policy, but that he would be looking into this. He would make sure that Geneseo is up to date with following SUNY policy. Jess asked James if he feels that changes can be made given his experiences with different organizations and past SA boards. James explained that this is why he is running. He feels he can bring something new and innovative to the position. He views student government as very important in our education and in the future. This is why he would like to focus on student government.

**Jessica O'Connor:** Jess is running for the Director of Student Programming. She is a junior and has been on AC since she was a freshman. She has served as the Limelight Coordinator since then. This past semester, she served on the budget review committee. She has enjoyed listening to organizations discuss their plans for next year. Jess feels that there needs to be more collaboration between organizations and SA exec. She said that she would have done some things differently this year if she were on SA. There needs to be more of an environment where students like to come to SA each week. She explained that she is frustrated by people thinking that there aren't things to do on campus. She wants to be a resource for organizations to come to and will be there for students every step of the way.

Stephanie asked what Jess would have done differently this year. Jess said that she is not sure that she has ever felt like students are welcome to come and talk to SA. James mentioned that he is not close with the SA board, and Jess feels that it is unacceptable for any student to feel that way. She wants people to understand that SA is voted in as student representatives. She thinks that people should recognize SA Directors as they walk around campus. Jess pointed out that as an RA in Onondaga, over 700 freshmen could not tell her what the referendum was or what the \$85 in mandatory student activity fees were. There are also several groups and organizations who are not aware of the services provided for them by SA. Jess wants to be that friendly face that can stop and talk to anyone who has a question. Nick asked Jess what she feels is the one most important quality the chair must bring to the AC e-board. Jess said it would be an open and easy form of communication and a listening ear. She said it is important to remain impartial, as there are 18 different people on the e-board with different goals. She thinks it is important to establish team unity. Jess would like to establish a buddy system where new board members are paired with veteran members. She thinks that opening the lines of communication between exec board and the programmers is very important. Jess worked in Onondaga for a year and a half with a staff of 14 people, so she feels prepared to do that. She has also seen 3 chairs in action and knows what works and what doesn't.

**Jarah Magan:** Jarah is the current SA Vice President, and is confident she can handle the position again next year. She informed us about the ticket that is running for this election. She explained that they are 5 individuals who are coming together because they want the same things, but are also individuals who plan to challenge each other in their positions. Ultimately, they want what is best for the school. They want to utilize student activity fees and be a voice for the students. They would like to reform policy and listen to concerns, and they are willing to do this together. Jarah encouraged everyone to vote Students First.

Stephanie asked how it worked out having been elected on a ticket this year. Jarah said that there were people elected both on and off the ticket. They got together on retreat in the summer and came together as they all wanted the same thing. This gave them a chance to get to know one another better. She explained that there is a ticket running for this election because they believe in each other and want the same things. New people are, of course, always welcome. They would make sure that the board is one cohesive unit. Pat asked Jarah if she had any plans for the vacation bus program for next year, as this year, prices increased and the buses came later. Jarah explained that a lot of the changes were not under the control of SA. Jarah and exec decided it was important to provide the service, despite these changes that were out of their control. For next year, they plan to create a survey for students who have participated in the bus program,

along with the entire student population, to ask questions such as how much they are willing to pay for the program. She explained that there are different bus programs that provide different things. For example, some programs allow their drivers to drive at night and some do not. These are things they will be looking into.

**Chad Salitan:** Chad is running for SA Director of Public Relations. He started as the Director of Public Relations of the International Relations club. This year, he is one of two Publicity and Promotions Coordinators for AC. He is also involved in campus life through intramurals, being a Gold mentor, and is the founder and president of the American Red Cross club. Chad is running for this position because he has an interest in staying involved with student affairs. He likes the work that SA does and the professionalism the directors display. He has been doing public relations work in all of his years at Geneseo and would like to bring his experience to the position.

Stephanie asked Chad what his goals are for the position. Chad explained that they are obligated to let students know what SA offers, such as organizations, services, and events that SA sponsors. Because students pay a mandatory activity fee, it is important that SA informs students of what is going on. He would also like to continue what Jess has done this year by being the friendly face of SA. He plans on going to meetings and being a resource for students. Jess asked Chad if he has any specific plans for next year, whether it may be PR events or other ways to advertise programs. Chad said that one of the duties of SAPR is to help out with Budget Advocacy Day. Chad was a part of this during his freshman year, so he has experience with it. He plans to focus on diversity in advertising. He offered a few ideas, such as fake money bags, to tell students to go to the College Union for Budget Advocacy Day.

#### **Adjournment**

Thanks to everyone for coming! The meeting was adjourned at 8:50pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Lindsey Monnat,  
Recording Secretary