

STUDENT ASSOCIATION MEETING  
State University of New York, College at Geneseo



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

**MINUTES #20, Wednesday, February 3, 2009**

<i>Executive Committee</i>	
President:	Haleema Murtaza
Vice-President:	Nicholas Kaasik
<b>Directors:</b>	
Academic Affairs:	Brian Hartle
Business Affairs:	Mark Petrie
Inter-Residence Affairs:	Melissa Kaye
Public Relations:	Mathé Kamsutchom
Student Affairs:	Hamza Murtaza
Student Programming:	Corinthia Kotlar
Advisor:	Tamara Kenney
 <i>PROFESSIONAL STAFF</i>	
Dir. of SA Programs,	
Personnel & Finances:	Kate Rebban
Administrative Assistant:	Nancy Chirico
Graphics Coordinator:	Kristen Fuest
Program Advisor:	Danielle Akins
Service Manager:	Dianne Krenzer

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84	67-0910: BE IT RESOLVED THE SA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE allocate \$150.00 from Budget Increases, Account 1099 to SA Programs, Account 1002 in order to fund a start-up budget for Swing Dance Club. <i>First of Two Readings</i>
84	68-0910: BE IT RESOLVED THE SA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE approve the Fundraising Request by Amnesty International, Account 1910 to raise up to \$120.00 from selling carnations during February 8-11 for Valentine's Day. <i>First and Only Reading</i>
84-85	69-0910: BE IT RESOLVED THE SA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE allocate \$150.00 from Budget Increases, Account 1099 to SA Programs, Account 1002 in order to fund a start-up budget for Slavic Club. <i>First of Two Readings</i>
85-86	70-0910: BE IT RESOLVED THE SA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE approve the changes to the Undergraduate Student Association Elections Committee Guidelines. <i>First of Two Readings</i>
86-88	71-0910: BE IT RESOLVED THE SA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE allocate up to \$487.50 from Budget Increases, Account 1099 to S.A. Programs, Account 1002 to create a new line, Bus Trip/College Party on February 26.

*First of Two Readings*

- 88 72-0910: BE IT RESOLVED THE SA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE approve the Fundraising Request by Black Student Union, Account 1902 to raise up to \$200.000 from monetary donations, separate from ticket sales for the Soul Food dinner to be donated to *Partners in Health*.

*First and Only Reading*

- 88 73-0910: BE IT RESOLVED THE SA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE allocate \$1350 from Budget Increases, Account 1099 to SA Tech Services, Account 1004 to offset costs associated with the United States Institute of Theatre Technology Conference in Kansas City, Missouri, which runs from March 31<sup>st</sup>-April 3<sup>rd</sup>.

*First of Two Readings*

- 89 ***Open Discussion***

- 89 **Adjournment**

*Call to Order:* 6:20 PM

*Approval of the Agenda:* Approval 7-0-0.

*Approval of the Minutes:* Approval 7-0-0.

### **Updates**

***President, Haleema Murtaza updates:*** I attended the Foundation board meeting in New York City this past week. I met with President Dahl regarding the Public Higher Education Empowerment and Innovation Act. We are going to be organizing a rally once again. Another thing we are going to do is organize a regional rally by cooperating with other schools. If you are interested and would like to organize or take part please email me at [sapres@geneseo.edu](mailto:sapres@geneseo.edu). The more the merrier! It is an important issue as it affects every student.

***Vice-President, Nicholas Kaasik updates:***

***Director of Business Affairs, Mark Petrie updates:***

***Director of Inter-Residence Affairs, Melissa Kaye updates:***

***Director of Public Relations, Mathé Kamsutchom updates:***

***Director of Academic Affairs, Brian Hartle updates:*** Our representatives recently approved the second of two readings on changes to our constitution and by-laws. I look forward to presenting them to the executive board next week. Elections for our secretary position will take place at our next meeting on Tuesday, February 9. We are accepting applications for the Who's Who award through February 21. I traveled to Albany yesterday to meet with legislators and give my support to the Higher Education Empowerment and Innovation Act. I encourage you to read up on the proposal, as it would significantly alter the face of SUNY, but I think it is the best option on the table at this point in time.

***Director of Student Affairs, Hamza Murtaza updates:*** No new updates.

***Director of Student Programming, Corinthia Kotlar updates:*** February 13-19 is Winter Week.

***Kate Rebban, Director of SA Programs, Personnel, & Finances updates:*** No new updates.

***Tamara Kenney, SA Executive Committee Advisor updates:*** I do not need to receive stipend reports.

### **Open Updates**

Model UN – We just got back from a conference in Montreal. We won an award, and it was a good time.

Limelight – Harlem Gospel Choir will be coming to campus on 2/13 in Wadsworth Auditorium. Tickets are \$6, but if you go to the BSU dinner, tickets will be \$4.

Ashley, IRC– Last week we were here discussing our fundraiser for this semester called World Vision. We are now in the beginning stages of planning a pasta cook off, which will be a competition and all proceeds will go to World Vision. I have an interest sheet here if you could just sign your name and some way to contact you that would be great. Thanks!

BSU – The BSU Dinner is on 2/13 at 4PM in the Ballroom. You can get your ticket starting on Friday in the Union.

Matt- GSTV telethon will benefit a program in Nicaragua. We're looking for performers! If interested, email **mjm32**

Mark – Tech service is in the process of hiring new tech workers.

### **Old Business**

64-0910: BE IT RESOLVED THE SA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE allocate up to \$61,694.00 from SA Reserves, Account 4000, to Activities Commission, Account 1302 to cover costs associated with the Spring 2010 Activities Commission Concert.

*Second of Two Readings*

The budget increase allows \$14,000 to cover the loss from last semester's free concert, and the rest would cover costs for a small/medium concert this semester. Tickets would be an SA mandatory donation to Haiti Relief funds.

Jeff- Will students be paying for tickets and then the profits go to Haiti?

Nick – Nothing is finalized, and we're looking for a free performer, but a ballpark cost is a \$10 donation.

Tom- I think it's a waste of money to take anything out of Reserves to pay for a concert we can't make any profit on. If we do, it will be donated. Taking money out of Reserves, which should be a last resort for a concert we don't necessarily need, is pointless. Students won't enjoy it if we don't get a good performer.

Brian – Do you think students would be more in support if the money goes back to us? Are you opposed to having it in general? – I'm opposed to spending money that more likely wouldn't give us any revenue.

Corey – Part of what we talked about last week was that a lot of people wanted a concert. It's an expectation for every semester, and there will always be people that love it and people that hate it. I don't think it's a complete waste to everyone.

Melissa – So we have \$30,000 to spend on an act, but Gym Class Heroes was a \$60,000 concert. I think a benefit concert might make people come.

Nick – If it were to pass, there is an understanding that a performer would be reasonably priced, and \$14,000 would go back into the account – It's an up to amount, and if we did go with a comedian, the production costs would be cut in half.

Mathé – I'm uncomfortable voting without hearing from you all first. Reserves is money we have as a last resort. I'd like to hear what you think about the concert and the benefit. It's an important vote.

Melissa, Student Court – When do you get the act? How far in advance? – We look to book in January. This would be the latest we start.

Brian – She has to wait for dates from the gym, and she doesn't have flexibility in that. You can go to the gym to get more flexibility in dates but we need that in the future.

Ray – The funds in Reserve are for SA, and the referendum is coming up this year. Reserves are there to keep us in running condition for 2 years if the referendum fails. Brian – We would be left with \$410,000 in Reserves after this. – Is that a substantial amount of money? Nick - \$14,000 must be allocated. The normal budget of SA is \$1.2 million. The service is limited to those who choose to pay the student activity fee. Some safeties are built in, but SA could never operate normally if the referendum fails.

Tom –Reserves are there to keep SA running if the referendum ever failed, in the sense to give SA employees pay checks every 2 weeks, small drawing fund to keep us on life support. If we did have the event, if people already got a ticket free last semester, they could wait for them to be free again. – Haleema- It was made clear to the student body last semester that it was a one-time deal and that it wouldn't happen again.

Jeff- It is not financially responsible to donate to charity when we could be putting the money back into Reserves.

Melissa – We would lose the \$60,000 either way if we have the concert.

Nick –Having a \$25,000 concert at a reduced price would bring about the same amount of loss if we have a bigger act. Students won't have the same reaction if they were donation tickets.

Mark – The amount you are asking for is including all tech support fees? – It is included.

Crew – I think it is disappointing to not have a concert, but it is a lot to spend if we're not going to get it back. People might not like the concert, and I think there are better ways to give back to Haiti. We could also get a good concert for next fall.

Mary – Whether or not to give money to get a concert, the need to have a concert in the future needs to be considered. Should we be debating for future semesters?

Model UN – Couldn't we have a certain percentage of the ticket sales go to Haiti, and then get some money back to SA?

Melissa – We have been talking about structuring for next semester in the future. If we had part of it going to Haiti, it still wouldn't make back the money, and we would still be losing a lot of money.

Tom – It makes no economic sense to take money out of Reserves with little to no chance of making a profit. No business organization in the world would do that. Paying \$60,000 for a concert that people will like or won't like is too much of a risk.

Crew – If we decide not to do the concert this semester, it shouldn't be taken into account for future concerts. It is still important to our school, but spending this much extra is not necessary for this semester.

Mary – We should give money to have the concert if it is important to the student body. The savings account seems to be saving money for a rainy day, and maybe that rainy day is now.

Jeff- Concerts in the past haven't generated money for the school. How much should we be losing of the money we put in? – Generally, we lose \$15-20,000 each concert. We shouldn't be looking to make a profit. We do lose money each year, we don't make money by the concert.

Corey – The purpose of entertainment isn't to make a profit.

Model UN – People expect to have the concert, and it seems like it is being taken away from the student activity fee.

Mark – That's not really Tom's point, because you still have to make the money back to sustain yourself.

Tom – This semester is different than last semester and others because the money wasn't allocated for a concert. We would be taking money from Reserves and putting it into a concerts line. It's not that \$60,000 is being sat on or taken away from the students. This money is not intended for the students. It is there if the referendum fails. \$60,000 when the referendum fails becomes a lot of money.

Elliott – When did it fail last? – Haleema - It hasn't failed yet at our school, but it came very close– When did it happen? Kate - 6 years ago.

Nick – I can't help but see Model UN's point. What will make the referendum fail?

Scott- Is this our only option? We can't get any sponsorship from somewhere else? It doesn't seem logical that this is either a yes or no decision.

Corey – It is an up to amount. We are looking for something as cheap as possible.

Mark, Tech – Is there another way to fund it? What about asking radio stations in Rochester to pay to have their name on it?

Mark – At one of our meetings, I tossed that idea out - Haleema –It is a possibility to look into.

Mathé- This reading is not saying this is what's going to happen, it's just giving the opportunity to bargain with the performers. Emily doesn't have the money to do so now.

Melissa – It's financially not correct to take money out of Reserves, but if we didn't spend the money it would spread a negative thing. Emily has been great working with us, so it would still be a collaborative process.

Emily – If we wanted to not spend that full amount, we could look into a comedian instead. It would cut costs in half if we did.

SA Reps vote on Musical act, Comedian, or None – probably 1/3 of the votes for each.

Sequoia – This money is to give her an opportunity to try. It won't happen if we can't find anyone.

Mike – If you look at any other private college, they all have concerts. It's almost expected from colleges. It figures into the perception of the school. We also talk about having 2 concerts a year during the tours on campus.

Mark – Those expectations ended when we put on a free concert.

Shedia – I think this is a constructive conversation, but we still need the rest of the campus community to agree. I'm in favor of giving her the money to work with. The funds are there to be used. The funds won't be used if we can't find anything. Let it kill itself and fail on its own by the students. Send the idea to them and see what they think.

Pride – Where did the funding for the fall concert come from? – Haleema – It was budgeted. Emily - \$65,000 factors in the income line. Because we didn't sell tickets last semester, we overspent for the entire year, and now we have -\$14,000.

Farah – I think that it's obvious that we need to have a concert, but we haven't explored other options. Maybe we could work with other schools, we can entertain ourselves, or go to other schools and collaborate on a concert.

Hamza – Students pay the activity fee to see a concert, and previous concerts have had good attendance, but a lot of people still didn't go last semester. If there is an understanding that we wouldn't have a very famous act, attendance will not be as high.

Mark – We could work with other schools, and typically the venue would change. We can only support 2,500 students, so we'd have to bus kids out to the event, which would become a big mess.

Emily – It's too late to start collaborating because schools already booked entertainment. In the \$25,000 range for acts we have a bunch we could work with.

Kevin – I think there is a presumption that students are expecting a concert. I've heard a substantial number of people say that it's irresponsible to have the concert.

Jeff- For future concerts, maybe we could do something more involved, like a small concert at the beginning, with more money at the end of the year for a well known performer.

Hamza – Whether or not this gets passed, we will try to revamp it for future years.

Melissa, Student Court- Something we discussed last time was a showcase of Geneseo students. Those acts on campus filled auditoriums full of people listening to students. Are we focused on professional acts?

Emily – It's not really in my position to do that.

Mary – I know Coffee Talk for IRC, we always have a great turn out of Geneseo students.

Mathe – We did discuss that last time, where the opening group could be Geneseo students. We have been considering it as a possibility.

64-0910: Second of Two readings, 3-3-1, Tie so Haleema votes.

Emily - I would need full SA support at this point to go on with the planning.

Haleema – I heard a lot of what you had to say, and I also talked to outside of SA funded organizations. I took the initiative last semester to make the concert free. Putting on a free concert without a huge turnout was hard for me to see as President.

Doug – SA turnout was dismal at the concert, a lot of you didn't show up.

Mathé – This is not a debate, but at least 3 of us stayed at the front door taking tickets for about 3 hours.

Shedia - I enjoy the fact that I have the opportunity to choose whether or not I want to go to a concert.

Model UN – It will be going back to students, so it's a good cause regardless.

Nick – If this reading fails, there might not be any time to get an artist. The window of opportunity would be closed.

Sequoia – Let the reading have a chance. Give Emily the chance to find someone and ask the students. Just give it a shot, it's okay.

Hamza – Whatever decision you make, we will support that decision. You will be making friends and enemies with this decision.

64-0910: Second of two readings, Haleema fails the reading.

### **New Business**

66-0910: BE IT RESOLVED THE SA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE approve the appointments of Mary Bock, Doug Sinski, and Emily Birch as voting members for the 2010 Budget Review Committee.

- Be it further resolved that Ashley Arthur be appointed as the Recording Secretary of the 2010 Budget Review Committee.

#### *First and Only Reading*

Mark – I selected my committee. I only got about 4-5 replies. I thought the people I selected were the best, and would be a change from prior years. Mary Bock is a Junior accounting major and IRC treasurer, and I believe her contributions will be substantial. Doug Sinski is also a Junior accounting major, and is very knowledgeable. He's the treasurer for AC, The Lamron, and Crows, and he will be a vital part of the committee. Emily is not here but I had a class with her. She's been Model UN treasurer and is now the president. And Ashley does a great job with the minutes for SA.

Brian – Who were the two people you were considering? What sets these three apart from them? – Dan Bach and Megan Brill. They were both on the committee last year. I wanted to get new faces, and last year’s budget had some controversies, so I wanted the best tools I could get to have a good budget this year.

Brian – You didn’t feel Dan was experienced enough being a former DBA?– He was experienced, but I’m looking for new faces. Some things he didn’t know about the organizations. He didn’t know who Corey was or what she did.

Tamara – Who didn’t know what Corey did? –Dan, he didn’t know the position.

Nick – Motion to division of question, so we can discuss and vote on each individual member of the committee. Motion passed 5-0-2.

Mary – With Dan Bach, he questioned why IRC had a drawing fund last year, and that’s what we do. It’s out of the question to cut it.

Kevin – I didn’t know about this reading but I am also an accounting major and I think Doug and Mary would be great.

Tamara- I would hope that questions of critical analysis would happen at the meetings.

Jeff- I don’t think character of the candidates should be coming into question. We should be talking about if the people on the list are unqualified, not about other people.

Doug- Who are you calling into question? Who are you looking at? – Haleema-We’re not targeting anyone or anything – Doug- These issues are important to address. Haleema- I feel like you’re targeting us now.

Melissa – Should we just start with each person?

Ray – This is the same thing as with Tom with Student Court. I don’t understand why there’s an issue, just accept all or none.

Jeff- It doesn’t make sense to treat them all as a whole.

Discussion of Mary Bock –Jeff- She’d done a great job in IRC. Nick Spengler – She would be great in this position.

Vote – Passes 6-0-1.

Question of Doug Sinski - Nick – Your outburst on the budget process when you said Dan Bach’s “ignorance baffles me”: would you continue that demonstration? Doug- I think we already discussed Dan, he didn’t ask the right questions. I oversaw the process, and I heard how much he didn’t know, and I think it was important to call him out on it. I think I’m very qualified. I apologized to him afterwards. It wouldn’t happen on the other side, because I know the questions to ask. I’ve seen almost every organization, I wouldn’t condescend on others. Haleema – The questions Dan raised were legitimate questions to ask. They were very relevant.

Discussion on Doug - Tom – As the treasurer of AC, he deals with the largest single budget other than SA and does it with such ease. He has it down to a science, even Nancy has tried to mimic his organization. He is one of the most qualified on this campus. Scott – I don’t understand why personal character is coming in to effect in ability to correlate a budget. Nick Spengler – Just taking qualifications into consideration, he is by far the most qualified. Vote – Passes 3-1-3.

Question of Emily Birch - Nick – Do you think through Model UN qualifications –She has been part of Model UN for a bit, and she was treasurer now she’s president.

Discussion on Emily - Model UN – She’s been great, she’s qualified through treasurer and as president. Vote – Passes 5-0-2.

Question on Ashley Arthur - Jeff- Have you been recording secretary before? Ashley – I was Secretary for IRC last year also.

Vote – Passes 6-0-1.

66-0910: First and Only, reading passes.

67-0910: BE IT RESOLVED THE SA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE allocate \$150.00 from Budget Increases, Account 1099 to SA Programs, Account 1002 in order to fund a start-up budget for Swing Dance Club.

*First of Two Readings*

Kate, Co-president – The Swing Dance Club has been college recognized for 10 years. It has been low key and low budget but last year we did a big dance in the Ballroom with food. We’ve had a really good turnout with our events. We want to be SA funded to meet the response we are getting.

Brian – Is there a dancing component to your presentation?

Nick – Have you thought about CAS grants for food expenses? – We’re planning on that.

67-0910:First of Two, reading passes 7-0-0.

68-0910: BE IT RESOLVED THE SA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE approve the Fundraising Request by Amnesty International, Account 1910 to raise up to \$120.00 from selling carnations during February 8-11 for Valentine’s Day.

*First and Only Reading*

Jeff- Amnesty International is planning a flower fundraiser for Valentine’s Day in the library so people can come by and buy a flower. They are \$2 each and will be delivered to the recipient on Valentine’s Day. The proceeds go to Amnesty International for Haiti.

Hamza – Will you deliver off campus? – We haven’t figured it out yet but we’re trying to.

68-0910: First and Only, reading passes 6-0-1.

69-0910: BE IT RESOLVED THE SA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE allocate \$150.00 from Budget Increases, Account 1099 to SA Programs, Account 1002 in order to fund a start-up budget for Slavic Club.

*First of Two Readings*

Mike, president and cofounder – Slavic Club was started last semester and is officially recognized by the college. Our mission statement is “to broaden the multicultural knowledge of the students of SUNY Geneseo by acknowledging and embracing the linguistic, historical and cultural traditions of the Slavic peoples of Russia and Central and Eastern Europe.” We have 54 members on

Facebook right now, and we sat at the student organization expo today. I have a more detailed version of our budget, and advertising is most of the costs.

Hamza – Are you looking into joining ACE? – Yes, we need SA funding first, but we want to be in ACE in the future.

Crew – How many students are in your club now? – We have 55 members on Facebook and many signed up at the expo today.

Nick – It may not be possible, but would you first consider CAS for food expenses? – I’m not sure because of the uniqueness in food we would want to serve.

69-0910: First of Two, Reading passes 7-0-0.

70-0910: BE IT RESOLVED THE SA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE approve the changes to the Undergraduate Student Association Elections Committee Guidelines.

*First of Two Readings*

The document reads the same as at the last meeting when it failed. I will go over the changes that were made since then.

3 changes – Article 9, Subsection E, Subsection 2, “Mass emails and use of list serves must adhere to all USAEC guidelines and be forwarded to the Chair of USAEC prior to its publication and/or distribution for review by USAEC,” which takes out the clause regarding Facebook, but candidates are still held accountable for their actions. Article 1, Section F – “Disclosure of Relationships” for USAEC and candidates, SA President and SA exec, Chief Justice and Student Court. This is so the committee knows of any personal relationships and you can take yourself out of the voting processes regarding that person. Article 6, Section A – applies to SA Exec version of the guidelines, where candidates sign a Conflict of Interest form (from SUNY Purchase’s guidelines). This is so candidates agree to not use their elected office for personal gain, wanted to implement it somewhere in SA, not going in there because its easy to do. At other colleges, the candidate could technically be removed from office for violations. It is appropriate to put it in here. The form will be kept on file in the USAEC file and copies will be kept with SA director (Kate) if anything goes wrong.

Melissa – I’m confused by the clause “no computer can be used for” – The red font is what was there and what is being stricken, so it will read “during the duration of voting” – Additionally, are the acknowledgement form violations at your discretion? – Yes, I brought this up myself, I agree that there is no sort of command and control structure that we can apply. Understand that in order to receive discipline action you would have to have 2/3 majority of USAEC, because you can foresee every instance. You would have to convince 2/3 of the committee to agree that you acted unprofessionally.

Mathé – I’m wondering what the value is that students can’t have their status say “vote for me”? – I understand, we were thinking of instances that could happen. When it was put together we went to other SA election committees including Buffalo and Purchase. To take it out of the game completely made enforcement much easier, and lessened the stress on the system. It eliminated the temptation to manipulate for personal gain or against rivals. We wanted to make that as minimal as possible for 48 hours, and it’s easier to interpret. Makes it simple and black and white. – Facebook is the easiest advertising outlet. – 1<sup>st</sup> when we say it makes our job easier, it sounds conceited, but when USAEC is easy you get results quickly, and you won’t find USAEC being brought to court, etc. Elections must happen within 2 weeks of registration for fall classes, and the election week is after spring break. March 30<sup>th</sup> is registration for fall break. Wednesday and Thursday would be the time to count votes. To challenge the interpretation, technically it must be done on those 2 days. Everyone would be protected on both sides. Candidates would be able to campaign within 50 feet of polling places instead. Campaigning would be broadened on the campus, so if you see people yelling and screaming on campus, it will be effective. Try to do the maximum amount that we can. We’re trying to streamline the process and make it as exact as possible. – I guess I was wondering why no computer is allowed, and why Facebook is detrimental to the process, I don’t know any times when it’s been an issue besides last semester.

Nick – With regards to 9E2, just a clarification on “mass email”, a Facebook message to lots of people wouldn’t be construed as a “mass email”? - As long as it’s not within the voting period, yes.

Nick – Is the acknowledgement of “professionalism” a necessary clause? Detrimental to the process? - When that was put up on the screen last spring, it was up to interpretation, but it is there because of a certain degree in which you are expected to act. As long as you are respectful, yes your opponent can come to us, but just like Facebook we can’t come up with a list of everything that someone can say about someone. Use your own judgment. If someone said that about you, would you like it? That’s what I would say to the election committee.

Model UN – For how long will the conflict be on file and who would have access? – We would keep it on file for 2 years typically. It would be there so future members can look at them. It would be kept with Kate, until they are out of office or graduate.

Melissa – What qualifies as conflict of interest? Stipend you get paid? Going on conference? – The stipend replaces the salary you could have received from holding a job. An example would be people taking bribes for votes. It is something to protect the institution that the auditor wanted to see being taken care of.

Tamara – It could also be a vendor.

Ray – Can you make these proposed changes available to us? – If you email saelections, I’ll forward you everything.

Brian – Active campaigning outside of buildings, but why the distinction between active campaigning in person or through social networks like Facebook? Article 9 section I, or E2, I see them both as forms of campaigning. – You have to login to Knightweb for elections, so its to make sure that the last thing they see isn’t a “vote for me” status on Facebook. Active campaigning is being stricken from the clause. – Say I’m yelling 51 feet outside a building, Facebook is more of a problem? – The system isn’t perfect. You have to come up with something as a committee that you think serves the most people beneficially. During voting Facebook isn’t allowed, but it’s not to make everyone happy, in the interest of entire student body. It’s the most logical choice taken on by other schools. – How many times did you meet last semester? How many people were at the meeting? – I’m thinking this question goes towards how they

were made, and it has already been accepted by the Student Court. I used email because our committee couldn't meet, and also some random meet ups for lunch to go over things, so the amount of meetings varied 4 or 5 meetings for elections of class officers, and one after the election in October. No one on the committee has expressed stress or frustration as to how they were compiled. They were not given a set meeting time. The committee is 100% in back of me as they said in Student Court.

Jeff- As far as the internet, if a candidate receives a Facebook message during the election period asking are you running for this position and they respond, are they in violation? – That's too much of a hypothetical to even judge on. Is it one instance or many? Is there a pattern? We are charged with investigating. Remember that 2/3 have to agree to take action, so that means you did something wrong.

Nick – Article 9, J, Can you read that as amended. –“Subject to possible” is stricken, so you would be disqualified if there is a 2/3 majority vote. Not “subject to” because you could take personal things into account, etc. It's not evil, it's just giving power to the committee where power is needed.

Tamara – Before tomorrow, can you send an email to the executive committee and myself? – Yes, no problem.

Nick – Article 9, J, as a past example, say party X leaves a banner, in these rules – a 2/3 majority vote would disqualify you.

Jeff- It is my belief that these guidelines make elections harder, not easier. With changes people can look for little things and bring it to USAEC and be disqualified.

Ray – I commend you Tom, but last year Dean said the more restrictions you have the more problems you will have. Dean said people's character will show through, and that's what happened last year. With Facebook, it is a limit of expression and speech, and is a big no. You will cause tons of problems that way. It should be more relaxed, Dean said their characters will show through, and you should listen to that.

Shantell – I think you're too stuck on Facebook for campaigning, but he said in general for campaigning. It's not the only thing you can use for the Internet.

Tom – For the argument that USAEC is limiting a candidates' rights to free speech and freedom of expression, when this was tabled and we went to lawyer, he had no problem with this, because you are agreeing to run under a standing committee, you are submitting yourself to the rules and guidelines to become part of the system. If you are entering into a system where you could possibly be sitting on a board and controlling SA, you are held to a higher standard. He said it was constitutional to limit freedom of speech in some respects for the betterment of the people. Bans upon election parties is no longer an issue as well, so that freedom is still in tact.

Looking at it not phased by your own opinions, look at what we are given to work with. It is expected because we are appointed that we act responsibly on behalf of the student body. We did everything we could possibly do.

Melissa – This is the problem with 9, J. I think you could change the wording to make it better. Maybe you could rewrite it to say “If they violate any restrictions to the degree that it compromises the integrity of the election” – This doesn't apply to the whole document, it only applies to the 3 violations mentioned above.

Nick – I agree with Melissa, it's different than what you say it is. It reads differently than you say it does. Tom – Even if I put those words in there, it is up to us to decide to what level it has destroyed the integrity. Detrimental because those words would cause more problems. It isn't supposed to be that complicated and it only applies to the 3 lines above it.

Tamara – In the condition of time, can I suggest that the exec committee could work on language and compromise with you? They haven't had a chance to look over everything. – I'd be more than happy to go over it. But they did have the opportunity to look it over.

Jeff- I think many amendments are in response to last year's election, maybe we shouldn't have to reword so many things just because of one election last year.

Nick – I will meet with you this Sunday, with the idea that I have current issues with it, but I hope there are ways to improve it.

Mathé – Within the midst of us disagreeing and switching wording, I'm glad to see that some things we discussed were amended.

Corey – Hopefully we can have some agreements, but pushing this back effects all organizations and all their elections as well.

Tom – If this is not passed within next 2 weeks, we will revert back to the original guidelines and I will be forced to comply with them  
70-0910: First of Two, Reading passes 3-2-2.

71-0910: BE IT RESOLVED THE SA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE allocate up to \$487.50 from Budget Increases, Account 1099 to S.A. Programs, Account 1002 to create a new line, Bus Trip/College Party on February 26.

#### *First of Two Readings*

We want to attend a college dance party in Rochester. There will be a bar there, but they have strict rules for the college students there, and they will have wrist bands and marks on hands so they'll make sure you don't get any alcohol. We're asking for money towards the transportation to Rochester for the party. We have 4 different bus companies listed, but we are trying to push for a specific bus company. The ticket price is \$5. Students will pay about \$16.75 total for admission and the bus. Original price was \$10 for admission but they lowered it to \$5 for us.

Nick – Are any other student governments busing kids there? – We haven't seen that for this event but for past events they have. One bus picks up from each school for past events.

Corey – What do you see as the benefit to the students? – No educational benefit, just networking benefits and a fun time.

Jeff – Can you explain what will happen? – It's just a dance party with different sets of Caribbean music like Haitian and Jamaican. It will open up more genres of music for us. A lot of historically Latino and Black fraternities and sororities will be there and we can network with them.

Crew – Have you found interest? – First we made an interest group on Facebook which has about 30 people, and we also have a list going around for interest.

Melissa – On numbers alone why would you pick that bus company? They charge more money and have less total seats.– Their availability is better so we have more chances we can get the bus. If the 55-seater bus company said they don't have it we can fall back on the cheaper bus.

Hamza – Did you randomly pick February 26? – It's an open party on that night, its not just a random date – Is there a specific theme? – A Song by TreySongz, I Invented Sex.

Melissa, Student Court – Why don't you just drive there? You could save money. – Most people don't have cars to get to the event. A whole bunch of people want to go to the event. I believe in safety in numbers with a definite safe ride there and back.

Tamara – Since this is a college night, is there a flyer or something? – Yes but we don't have it right now. It is on the Facebook group.

Jeff- What about taking our Rochester bus? – It doesn't go to the venue after 1, but if they would work with us we would. They said they can't deviate from their set schedule.

Tamara – So you could take the bus but not after 1? – The bus couldn't pick us up. I'm not sure when they would come to Rochester to pick us up.

Shantell – The location of the bus drop-off is nowhere near the venue.

Ray – What about the incidence last semester?– The reading was failed because there wasn't enough time for the paperwork to be signed before the event.

Mike – I'm not too clear but does SA pay for leisurely trips for random groups of people? – Nick – Our specific mandate is broad, typically just leisurely trips would go through Upstate Escapes, but we do fund things like this.

BSU – I just want to address the way he asked the question. We are a group of students who asked for something, not just a random group of people. Mike – I didn't mean to offend anyone.

Brian – Have you talked to Carey Backman? – The amount of money they would allocate is only \$300 but also timing is an issue.

Nick – Would you use Upstate Escapes also? – We would be willing to work with her, we can go to her if this reading passes.

Melissa, Student Court – I've gone on a trip through AAC, so if we were a group of students, could we technically come to SA to ask for money? – Nick – Per SA guidelines, any group can come to SA for funding but there is no rule against it. Non-funded groups can also come to us, but obviously the value of it is something that should be considered. Melissa – It's not them coming with their friends, they are a non-funded group. Kate – I guess I just need to bring up alcohol at an event in SA policy.

Jeff – Will there be alcohol available? – At the bar, but the person who is running it is coming next week to clear up any details. There will be a sectioned off bar, but there are 3 bars in the venue, and we will be where one bar is. If you have a mark on your hand you can't drink, and you will be kicked out because people will be watching.

Model UN –So you're looking for SA to fund just transportation? – Yes.

Brian – Section 4, E considering funds that are only used for transportation, it is not in direct conflict with the clause to fund them.

Mike – If something were to go wrong and someone got kicked out, would SA be responsible? – Yes we would be liable, you'd have to consider the liability of SA. The fact is that someone could obtain alcohol.

Model UN – No advisor? – No. Brian – Through Upstate Escapes you would need an advisor. – We'll think strongly and pick an advisor we want. Mathé – Have you thought about a particular advisor? This weekend Fatyma Rodrigues went with the Step Team to an event. – We do have someone in mind, the RD of Genesee. We haven't asked her yet but we will.

Jeff- It seems like alcohol will be a major part of the event, and there will be people who are 21 drinking. SA would be sending them there. Is this against policy?

Corey – I want to be honest in why I feel like I might not pass it. I checked out the website and everything was advertising about alcohol and drink specials. – It is a college party so they understand the ages of college students, but they have set things in place so that those who aren't 21 don't drink

Melissa – In response to Jeff, once we're funding a portion of the event, they shouldn't drink because it would be an SA event. There is a liability for SA so that's not the best for us to do.

Crew – I've been to that club in Rochester and it was a good time, but I don't think it's contributing anything to the campus, and not a good use for SA funds. Jason – I do think this party will enrich the campus because it's allowing us to see things like Greek life that's not here on this campus. Alcohol is not the incentive, and they will be more restrictive.

Mike – What would happen if situation does happen? – Nick –In the concept of the bus trip, there would be considerable protection for SA, and we have insurance for that. There is concern for safety and Genesee's reputation and liability risk.

Model UN – A specific club can get transportation through a department, so that might be a viable option. Model UN had funding through an academic department.

Shedia – I can see concern because it's not an educational experience, but personally I see it adding value to the campus. Many minority students express interest in transferring because what they consider having a good time isn't present on our campus. They want to go to other campuses because the party life is completely different here. As college students, alcohol consumption is a concern, and pending approval of this reading, we will get some kind of statement from Chip Matthews because he's approved things like this before. We can find out how he coped with liability concerns, and he could be an additional resource to cut costs.

Brian – Assuming you get an Upstate Escapes grant, it would cost \$187.50 for this. A lot of the problem is people not being able to put themselves in their shoes. They've been trying to get a bus group multiple times, and this time there is no contractual problem, so I see this as spending a small amount for a good thing. The RD of a residence hall will be accompanying them. Why would they screw up? From here on out they would have no chance to get money again if they did. It provides something that is lacking on the campus.

Ashley Jonson – I actually am one of the students who wants to transfer, because any time we want to expose people to what we feel, we cant. We want to broaden people on our experiences.

Tamara – If this is approved, is it possible that no alcohol be consumed by anyone going? – I couldn't really tell you. – Have you had a discussion to bring them here to our campus? – They don't want to come here, they have tried to come here but if we have anything at the Knightsport people don't come out.

Brian – Consuming alcohol is not so much an issue for football games, etc. Tamara – It specifically says alcohol is a stumbling block to this.

Mathé – I understand both sides, and personally speaking I know that there is a distinct cultural difference between how minorities party and how the majority parties. The outlet to dance and have a good time is not there. Alcohol from my experience is not a big component at these dance parties and Caribbean parties. Tamara – It's not about drinking, I get it.

Nick – I appreciate your persistence. I agree with Brian, it is something that SA should seriously consider. Please understand that you are asking us to go to a bar. We do have to answer to other authorities. I agree with what you are bringing here.

Shedia – The majority of ACE groups do their best to put on parties like this. It's not too far fetched to ask them to not drink at the event. To define what the real mission is, an extreme value would not be taken away from the experience, and it wouldn't be a huge loss to not drink.

Farrah – I appreciate Brian and Nick for understanding. Personally, it's not just a party. It is an experience that I don't get here at Geneseo. It shows how much we want this and how much it is needed. I have not been this passionate about anything like this in the past. Please support me and what I need.

Brian – From personal experience, alcohol is much less of an issue at parties like that.

Melissa – I'd feel better if they agree not to drink – Last time we agreed to that and said we'd have people sign so they don't drink.

Scott – It's important to know that other colleges do send buses for these events.

Mathé – A clarification, if this does pass, you are willing to send out a sheet saying they will not drink? – Yes.

71-0910: First of Two, Reading passes 4-2-1.

72-0910: BE IT RESOLVED THE SA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE approve the Fundraising Request by Black Student Union, Account 1902 to raise up to \$200.00 from monetary donations, separate from ticket sales for the Soul Food dinner to be donated to *Partners in Health*.

*First and Only Reading*

In light of Haiti, we changed the dinner to be a benefit banquet. We will be taking \$25 from our budget to buy buttons we can sell, and people can donate money at the dinner as well.

Nick - \$25, where is it in your budget? – Under programming budget, taken straight from that line.

72-0910: First and Only, Reading passes 7-0-0.

73-0910: BE IT RESOLVED THE SA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE allocate \$1350 from Budget Increases, Account 1099 to SA Tech Services, Account 1004 to offset costs associated with the United States Institute of Theatre Technology Conference in Kansas City, Missouri, which runs from March 31<sup>st</sup>-April 3<sup>rd</sup>.

*First of Two Readings*

Mark – There is a conference held every year with a collection of people in the tech theater field to come together. There are maybe 3 major conferences and this is one of them. There are different techniques, new technology, and we can learn from it. In such a rapidly changing field, it's important to keep up. We have it in our budget but we need to bring the total up to \$3,000. This covers travel, food, and conference fee. We will pay our own membership out of our pockets. Basically this is one of the biggest things we can go to and bring it back to our campus. Our staff and anyone else who's interested can really benefit from what we learn. Limelight/Accents and the Theater Department can also benefit.

Nick – What do you think of sponsoring SA with concepts of half of a conference? Is it too expensive? – Personally for some, we will go no matter what, but it's \$750-900 a person and some cannot afford it. We're asking for most of it but not all of it. – Can you maybe send 2 people instead of 4 people? – It would benefit either way. More sessions can be attended if more members go. There is a stage expo with different technology, over 100 booths, and networking with people in the field. Personally I'm looking to get into the field, so if I meet someone there, it could be crucial. There's more we could pull out of it if more people go because the sessions overlap. Brian – So 2 people, if we only funded half, would be unable to go? – Yes.

Melissa – Since the conference is already in the budget, and there will be personal gain and Geneseo gain as a whole, we should support it.

Nick – How this is going to go, regardless 2 people going to the conference, so what if this is somehow reduced and we absorb some type of the costs. – It's an "up to" amount, we'll take what we can get. Last year we were able to drive, but this year we have to fly. There are always new things coming out that we can get demonstrations on. It is good to have the full amount to benefit as many people as possible. Scott – As an SA group, we benefit every other SA group. Tech is at almost every event. We can better produce for you this way. Ray – Spring semester last year, SA sent one student to NYC just for the reputation of the school, so taking 4 people for the benefit of the school, I see no harm in giving them more than half, and also they're coming back in plenty of time to share their experiences with who they are working with. This would not be a loss for the school.

Farrah – Anything to put our school's name out there is a good thing.

73-0910: First of Two, Reading passes 6-0-1.

## Open Discussion

SA Tech Service - Scott and Mark

Mark - All events listed tonight, we work with almost all the organizations on campus. The lights, sound, staging and projection in all buildings on campus are handled by Tech Services. In the Ballroom, we help group's dinners, with really cool lighting, but we can't do very much with lighting in the ballroom. We do what we can with what we have. This is a 2 way process, and we know what we're doing. Jake's done this for 4 years. Organization is really important to having an event run smoothly. Email us or come to our office hours and we'll take care of it. We'll help you figure out what you want and work with you.

Scott - If you email a request, you are talking to me. I'm there for you and to see what we can work out. We charge \$11/hour per person for the event, and our system is very self-explanatory. Our job is to make you happy, we sit down and both parties are adequately happy. We work on fixing problems also.

Nick - It's good to figure out what you want to see on campus. Is there anything you really want on campus?

Mary - I know we had a program and someone showed up late. Is there a way to have a contact person for our event person to have? - We've been talking to Chip about having our numbers given to the College Union Managers just in case. We send out multiple emails to those working the events. We try to make sure they are there on time. We're there to help you and get a system in place.

Mark - At KASA night, one person was in charge of tech, so one person knew everything that was going on. The tech representative knows the ins and outs of the program. Scott - The more communication, the more you'll understand what you're walking into.

Events with the most organization run the smoothest.

Shedia - Do you have turn tables? - We do not have any. Chip had some in the past. We can look every year to see what we need and what we can get. We've got that built in our budget for purchasing new things.

Corey - If one group is doing a fundraiser, I know Tech offered to do it for free because of the fundraiser but they couldn't. Do you think you could ask to change that? - We're working for SA so we can't do anything without approval. People can volunteer but they couldn't do anything tech wise. There is a procedure to go through, because we're a business. It goes against certain laws in place. It's unavoidable. A bunch of things we do work for are fundraisers. It's one thing that can be looked at, with reduced fees or something like that. With rental fees and things like that, we are trying to keep fees down in different ways. Once a person is paid from the crew, but there's nothing saying they couldn't donate their paycheck to the fundraiser.

Nick - There's no way we could think of abandoning the business aspect of it. We couldn't figure something like that out. Some sort of grants program could go towards tech, and it's something we could see in the future.

Jason- I've worked with student tech and they always do a great job and tell us what they can do. When we had the BSU Fashion Show they really worked for us. Thank you for what you do.

Henna for Haiti! Come to the Union tomorrow and Friday to get Henna Tattoos! \$5 donation for a small tattoo and \$7 for a large one.

## Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 9:41PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Ashley Arthur  
Recording Secretary