

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 #30, Wednesday, April 28, 2010

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141-142	115-0910: BE IT RESOLVED THE SA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE allocate \$850.00 from Budget Increases, Account 1099 to SA Programs, Account 1002 to create a new event <i>A Taste to Remember</i> . Time and Place are pending. <i>Second of Two Readings</i>
142-145	116-0910: BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE SA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE approve the Student Association Budget for the 2010-2011 academic year, with total expenditures of \$1,201,215.38 , representing \$884,000.00 in mandatory activity fees and \$317,215.38 in other income generated from Student Association organizations and services. <i>First of Two Readings</i>
145-146	<i>New Business</i>
145	117-0910: BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE SA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE approve the realignment by Crew Club, Account 1402 to move \$500 from Line 20, sub-line <i>Entry Fee for Regattas</i> to Line 10, sub-line <i>Repairs</i> . <i>First and Only Reading</i>
145	118-0910: BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE SA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE permit any mandatory activity fee paying student to view or obtain any stipend or end of the year report from any position that receives a stipend, provided the interested activity fee paying student sign it out on the relevant worksheet and any information confidential should be taken out “at the discretion of the executive board”. <i>First and Only Reading</i>
146	<i>Open Discussion</i> Changing of the Guard
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Executive Committee

President:	Haleema Murtaza
Vice-President:	Nicholas Kaasik
Directors:	
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

PROFESSIONAL STAFF

Dir. of SA Programs,	
Personnel & Finances:	Kate Rebban
Administrative Assistant:	Nancy Chirico
Graphics Coordinator:	Kristen Fuest
Program Advisor:	Danielle Akins
Service Manager:	Dianne Krenzer

Call to Order: 6:25 PM

Approval of the Agenda: Brian – Amend 118-0910, extract “from any position that receives a stipend.” Melissa – 118-0910, add to resolution, “any info that is deemed confidential will be deleted.” 116-0910 should be second of two readings. Approval 7-0-0.

Approval of the Minutes: Brian – Minutes should be 2010, instead of 2009. Approval 7-0-0.

Updates

President, Haleema Murtaza updates: Senior gift campaign, hear more from me later.

Vice-President, Nicholas Kaasik updates: College Senate had its last meeting yesterday. Thank you to student senators who participated. They are still representatives until the end of year so if you have any concerns talk to them.

Director of Business Affairs, Mark Petrie updates: None.

Director of Inter-Residence Affairs, Melissa Kaye updates: IRC had its 3rd meeting for elections. Thanks to everyone who came to the CAA event. I want to thank Ashley for all she’s done this year as recording secretary, and sometimes I think we don’t acknowledge her enough.

Director of Public Relations, Mathé Kamsutchom updates: I hope you all enjoy the performers we have for you tonight.

Director of Academic Affairs, Brian Hartle updates: AAC had its last meeting last night. I’m happy to report a full board to start working with next year.

Director of Student Affairs, Hamza Murtaza updates: We had our last ACE meeting today, and it was really nice. The new board is getting the hang of things. Sexual Assault Awareness Week is going on, and it’s been a great success. Tomorrow night at 8pm come and support it.

Director of Student Programming, Corinthia Kotlar updates: Spring Fest this weekend, bands throughout the day on Saturday. 9pm Avatar showing on the outdoor screen.

Kate Rebban, Director of SA Programs, Personnel, & Finances updates: Last check run is May 19th, so last check requests are due on the 12th. The list of outstanding purchase orders will be up in the office if you could sign off on it. A memo will be in mailboxes Monday.

Tamara Kenney, SA Executive Committee Advisor updates: This is my last meeting after 7 years of working with SA. It’s been a crazy and fun ride. Thank you all.

Open Updates

Tamara – Rugby Team, can I see you after this meeting.

Slavic – Dinner at 6pm at the Interfaith Center on Thursday, \$3 for students.

SMA – Mozart Mania Concert on Tuesday 5/4 at 7pm in Brodie. There will be some food from CAS, please come.

Brian – I attended the fashion show, which was a great success.

Mathé - Is MTC here?

Old Business

115-0910: BE IT RESOLVED THE SA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE allocate \$850.00 from Budget Increases, Account 1099 to SA Programs, Account 1002 to create a new event *A Taste to Remember*. Time and place are pending.

Second of Two Readings

Ulyses – To those of you not here last meeting, this is meant to be a tasting event. It is student run with help from CAS for the production of food. The current location is the Knightsport. Orange infused crème brule, homemade smores, etc. and two drinks. It will be a great stress relieving event. We just want to share different types of food with the campus. I’m going to the culinary school so I have a lot of passion for this. Tickets might be \$2-\$5, or maybe it will be free. We’re looking for 100 people.

Nick – Did you look into getting vegetarian stuff? Are you changing the menu? – I had a meeting with CAS, I’m looking to do a risotto dish that will be vegetarian but not vegan. I’m sure it’s going to be really good.

Corey – So you're unsure about the price? – It depends on market prices, the original price was a little high. To cut the costs down, we might be making portions smaller, I'm not sure yet. – So the \$850 doesn't include an income line? – No. – But regardless it will be \$850 or less? – Yes. And a \$200 CAS grant as well.

Hamza – I'm sorry if I didn't catch this, but what is the admission price? – It's tricky because the purpose of the event is exposure. We're looking to charge something, but something that they can pay for, almost like a cultural dinner. If we wanted to make a profit, it would have to be something like \$8 or \$9. It will most likely be \$2-\$5 depending on market prices.

115-0910: Second of two, reading passes 7-0-0.

116-0910: BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE SA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE approve the Student Association Budget for the 2010-2011 academic year, with total expenditures of \$1,201,215.38, representing \$884,000 in mandatory activity fees and \$317,215.38 in other income generated from Student Association organizations and services.

Second of Two Readings

Mark – Mostly everything is the same as last week. For updates, take out PSA's and GOLD brochures from the budget, and increase the ACE budget.

Nick – How does the mandatory fee allocation come out to a decimal? – I'm not sure – Kate- It's based on average annual FTE's.

Corey – Another thing was the program advisor, and right now it's not on the budget.

Tom – When I heard that the program advisor was going to be cut, I wanted to ask why because people with direct contact with the PA, there is a growing consensus that its' vital as to how a program should be run. They serve AC and ACE, and by end of year, tons of people are going in and out of the office. What are SA plans as to who is taking responsibility for that job? Those who can are very busy. Are we losing the service, and forgetting about it completely?

Corey – It could be better organized, but I know a lot of people have worked with the PA. It could be a really beneficial resource. I guess if it was remarketed it would be to all the groups. We would have the money available to the next SA board if they wanted to remarket it to student groups.

Brian – Point of clarification, we didn't cut the Program Advisor, we just received a budget without it.

Nick - \$24,000 a year goes to the PA, and the discussion was whether to change the role of Dianne in Ticket Office, or whether we want everything to be online. This is a multiyear process, and its not just this board's ideas. We are not unanimous either way. Should we allocate \$24,000 from Reserves to have it available? Do you think it is a good use of fees?

Melissa – As far as the multiyear discussion, people I've talked to didn't feel that it was.

Nick – To the knowledge of the president and vice president of last year.

Brian – Can we have a show of hands who used the PA or who would have used the PA if it was better advertised?

Crew –Is this person a student? What do they do? – Mathé – Normally the PA is a recent graduate who lives in the Union to take care of contracts for AC and ACE. They are a resource for programs and the groups. What we've been seeing is not working to full potential. Up to the board's discretion or leave it out? She's on the third floor next to the SA office.

Adele – I'm sure she's a capable person, but I've never seen any group ask her to do anything. I'm wondering if the ACE groups should talk about it.

Haleema – Who has used the PA?

Tom – We're getting to a discussion revolving around a question...but the fundamental issue is the fact that the majority of people raised their hands saying they don't know who the PA is. It is a reflection on SA's duties to market their services. Do you think \$24,000 is too much for a resource that's readily available, with the PA who goes to every event SA sponsored, available 24 hours a week, and helps AC and ACE countless hours more than paid for?

Chris – I had no idea who the PA was, but people who have used her, has she been beneficial in the past? If she's useful, just advertise it more.

Mathé – Danielle has done a great job to put herself out there and help others, she's always accessible, so it's not a problem with how she is being marketed.

Nick – Some responsibilities would shift to another member of the staff, who would still be available but not like nothing of the position would be still around.

Brian – There is a pile of applications of students to form groups, and it is difficult to effectively monitor all the groups. In terms of facilitating things like Ulyses' group for example, this is the avenue to go about that.

Melissa – It is SA's responsibility to market things like this, and if people don't know about resources, that's a problem. If the PA is in the budget, it gives SA time to find a good candidate, gives them more of a chance.

Mark – At big shows on campus, Danielle is a very useful contact with the groups and dealing with issues that come up, she is always helping. For this position that's what's been done in the past, one person to coordinate is really helpful in not trying to find someone to deal with an issue at hand.

Mathé – I wasn't saying it is not our responsibility, just to point to what a good job Danielle is doing.

Chris – If she's doing a good job but still all these people don't know about the position, another person who is busy would be counter productive.

Crew – To add to the point of more advertising, I was in her office at the beginning of the semester to get a contract, and I had no idea PA was there, I didn't know who she was. If I had known the other services she provided I would have used her more as a resource.

Chris – Getting rid of a position at the end of the year and so abruptly seems silly.

Mathé – The decision was made early on in the year as part of a four-year process, of whether it should go in the budget. The future board could put out applications to find a new one next year. We're not trying to have something over your head or anything.

Danielle – PSA has been taken out of the budget? – Nick - Yes, based on what we voted on last week, to remove PSA's from the budget, but until we pass it this week, it's still a draft and new amendments could be made now.

Danielle – I have some points to clarify about PSA. They are not the police, we are a student run organization out on Thursdays, Fridays, and Saturday nights observing campus. Safety is first and foremost. We're not looking for illegal things. We do have walkie-talkies to call in to UP. We don't like to call in things to UP. It is important to have peers out there, as members of society our job is to look out for others. We look out for other students, and for property.

Adele – I'm concerned about this attitude that PSAs are upstanding citizens, I do know a PSA who's not an upstanding citizen. It's hypocrisy.

Nick – Responsible citizen yes, but paid employees for \$15,000, I'm not sure.

Brian – A lot of what you said helps our argument. For personal responsibility, I don't think we need to have mandatory fees going to a group of students to ensure responsible behavior. It can be accomplished without having an SA sponsored group.

Janine – I want to share something I saw on CNN.com last night. A woman in NYC was attacked by a man with a knife, and another man stepped in to help her and was stabbed. A surveillance video showed 20 people who kept on walking, and no one stopped to help this hero and he died there on the street. There is a good chance no one will call UP if someone is in a serious condition. This man died when someone could have done something. It is important when media violence is in this culture so much. It's the bystander bias you learn in psychology classes, people are reluctant to do anything.

Jeff – Geneseo is different than NYC. PSA's are good but not for SA mandatory fees. PSA's are not a proper use of the fee.

Tom – The debate whether PSA's are useful is not what we should look for. SA fees go to entertainment and programming, not going to protecting students. It's not in financial policy.

Doug – As an intro to programs like Sexual Assault Awareness Week, the drive to make students more accountable towards each other, you're not going to see someone walking by doing something bad, and we don't need someone being paid to do so.

Mathé – In terms of history, the program has been flawed, and students have been slacking. For the record, us deciding they shouldn't be in the budget didn't happen in 5 minutes, we thought about all the things you mentioned. The program is still flawed, there is not that much substantial evidence of what they actually do, and talking to students and the PSA's were things we did and that was the conclusion to remove them from the budget.

Nick – This amount of money to have it be known it's about the role of PSA and the activity fee. We do have control over where it should go. Other student opinions are helpful, and we've done our best. The overwhelming sentiment in the room last week was that it shouldn't be included.

Brian – Doug Sinski suggested let the market work, and there are not many times when I would agree with Doug or the market.

Hopefully that doesn't result in a death, but considering their scope and their pretty poor track record, there is no way to track what incidences they report. RA's write incident reports, but there is nothing of that nature with PSA's and no sort of route they would take.

Dr Bonfiglio – The role of SA is to advocate for all aspects of the student experience. It is very narrow minded to only fund activities. PSA has a long history of benefiting all students and there have been no bad apples for 30 years. Average number of UP on other campuses is 13, and the average on our campus is 9. PSA's stepped forward to help out in the best interest of the students. They help people who are injured, who are drunk, and are extra eyes for the police. Make sure people know that SA is a full partner in college community and considers itself more than just funding activities.

Crew – I hadn't heard of or seen PSA's until they came here, and I'm not sure about their scope on campus. I don't think there is a shortage of UP on our campus, I see them all the time. There have been times I've helped people who are drunk get back, I don't need to get paid to do something like that. What's provided by the police and students isn't necessary.

Sequoia – We do walk around, and yes we're doing bystander bias and most don't help others. Our job is to make sure that they're ok. Make sure no one is throwing up, our responsibility is to help the students.

Melissa – I looked at 9 schools with varying features, all SUNY, and 7 had nothing like this, 1 was funded by a different source. I believe not everyone will stop but as a whole people will. This service existed for 25 years, but Geneseo is different now, and the majority of people I've talked to are not in favor of this. I'm still conflicted myself. There are parallel arguments for PSA and the PA. The one school that had this also had training for them. One thing to think about is to put money there for the PSA's, and then maybe the new exec board could come up with solid solutions.

Haleema – In the event of time, we had a few things for Open Discussion. If your statement has already been said, please refrain from saying it, and make comments as concise as possible.

Tom – I agree in current sense, as it stands now, I don't think it should be funded. SA has no over-say over it, and they work alongside UP. No one has direct authority. Very easy in life and SA to make things out to be more difficult than they actually are, and lose sight of what we're arguing about. Could be a valuable resource if we change factors like SA oversight, better training etc. These can be things they could be open to. We can fund them for next year and see what we can do.

Hamza – As far as the organization is flawed, what has SA done to look into this? It's our service and we provide it, we should fix it. Give it one more year and see if we could fix it.

Ben – I am the PSA captain, and I think education is a good idea. Two weeks ago I saw someone climbing up the thing in the ISC, and his friends stood there to try to take pictures. I still think there's a need for us there. Some of us are RA's, and as far as hiring I'd love to work with the board to reform that aspect of PSA. For the scope on campus, we haven't had a full staff in a while, which is hurting your ability to see us out.

Justin – UP puts forth funding for this? – No. – I don't think it's a good source of funding, it takes away the opportunity to spend the money on programs etc.

Janine – Even if the budget cuts PSA, will it dissolve completely? – Haleema – as a service, it would be unless they wanted to have a volunteer program.

Lucas – I think taking the year off and seeing if incidents increase is dangerous thinking. What if someone did pass away on campus that could have been prevented by PSA. I think they should phase down a bit in the future.

Chris – The student activity fee is not just for activities, the money circulating to all of us. Geneseo has lots of things that other schools don't have. Getting rid of it is going to be a detriment and we have an understaffed UP that are already having issues covering their jobs.

Mathé – I wanted to say that what I originally thought was that PSA's have been functioning a really long time, but haven't been a presence on campus, with an inherently flawed system, and I think completely funding them for next year without a plan is not comfortable. Make sure students are held accountable, have better routes, etc. to make sure are they really working for students the best way they could?

Ulyses – How many staff? – Currently we have 6, and we recently hired 3, without having interviews. – \$15,000 going to about 6 students - We've had 20 people, getting \$7.25 an hour so we're not using the whole amount. That's what's put aside for each year, not come close to that.

Doug – What I think is to keep them off the budget right now, but over summer draft something that guarantees controls, shows proper oversight, and then they can ask for the ability to have funding, and prove to us why they should be funded. In the interest of all students, see some sort of plan. And I think we should have a PA.

Tamara – This is an SA service, SA needs to make the first step.

Nick – Mishaps and tragedies there have been PSA's, which is the most important point. It has been overwhelmingly demonstrated that PSA's are not an effective use of money. I haven't found a student that thought they do believe in PSA's.

Mark – As a budget review committee, we didn't think it was right to just delete them, so we said we would try to work with them but we really have not. I would like to take PSA's on as a project, and a call a motion to add PSA's back as presented, seconded by Hamza.

Discussion on the motion –

Nick – I think it's a bad idea.

Mathé – I think that they could be a substantial element of our community. I agree that SA should be accountable, and that we haven't taken the steps for them to be reworked. More than happy to work with them to make something work. But there's no clear plan right now.

Hamza- It is not reasonable to say that the overwhelming majority don't want this. This service is most important to freshman and sophomores, and usually not a lot of them are here at the meetings.

Mary – I think its worth it to put them back in, helping them to not make them not jump through too many hoops. This is the reason why half the board sits office hours over the summer, and can help it get ready, allow them to work on that versus putting in the work not knowing if they could even be back into the budget.

Jeff – This has been the point of discussion for years in SA, it has to stop at some point. If they have something new after being out of budget, it's going to go the same way.

Joe VanRemmen – I'm the PSA advisor. I've talked to the captains about this, and they are more than willing to work with the SA board. I want to see a closer collaboration. I am more than happy to have the SA board talk to us about issues. Incident reports we could consider. We are welcoming the idea of educating others. As far as the inherent flaw, they've done great work over the past years. Students not doing well is the same for all organizations represented here.

Melissa – I really think this is the first time people are putting effort in to fix it. This at least gives them a chance.

Brian – I don't think we should reinstate it for them to fix it over the summer. You can be overwhelmed with everything else that you're doing next year. Inherent flaw is inappropriate but if there was a record of the incidences we would have concrete examples, let them earn their positions, prove themselves over the summer.

Ben – In terms of names, we haven't taken that step yet, but I'd love to work with you guys.

Mark – Why cut it completely, just cut it down so they have the chance to fix themselves, how difficult is it to reinstate a service? – It's just money from Reserves, it would just be a two week reading.

Corey – Its also part of it, if you don't recruit people you don't get people. There's a parallel there to put both PSA and PA back in there.

LSA- As an RA I see how understaffed UP can be, and the PSA's have great potential to help UP. It is a great way for people to get help and not be scared.

Nick – I think we are doing the student body a disservice to fund this.

Jeff – In favor of limited time, I'm asking the board to call to question.

Chris – This is completely ridiculous, we've sitting here for a long time, and it's a clearly unprofessional way of going about this when we were prepared to perform for you all. MTC is leaving now.

Mathé – I'm so sorry, I can't predict how these conversations go.

Chris – Maybe plan better next year.

Brian – This shows the importance of a pre-meeting.

Haleema – The budget is at the end for the student groups, we're up here to serve you guys, we were elected by you to do this.

Crew – I just want to reiterate that I asked other people and most of my friends didn't know such a thing existed. The majority of those backing PSA support are the ones who are getting paid for this service. We need to do something now to fix it.

I've been in contact with plenty of PSAs, and I think it's unfair to completely get rid of it, and not say anything or warn them for doing something wrong. I agree with the motion to make this work, because as a freshman PSA is something I would like to see, I feel secure with them.

BSU - I think the fact that PSA is not known is a good thing. If you know they're working you're going hide. You won't know when they're coming. Maybe it should be discrete to have someone lurking around.

Sequoia – Just to clear up my understanding of the motion, the budget would be there, and they would work over summer to improve it and then would get the money? They're working to change it? What happens? – Mark – My work at the beginning of the year is light, and I think it's not fair to cut the program, we just said it's not working out really, but no one has stepped up to make it work, I personally would like to work with it, I'd like to get something done. It's not that big of a deal to me, that's why I called it to motion.

Lucas – Next year's Eboard is already showing support for it. Not all of you.

Nick – I don't think the student body wants to pay that kind of money for people to be lurking around.

Crew – I've probably seen UP twice on campus, debate of funding PSA, or funding UP?

Ben – If we don't improve it, by all means cut it. There is incentive to make it better.

Vote on motion to keep PSA in the budget, motion passes 4-3-0.

Corey – I think PA is something important, not to have it be something it's been in the past, motion to put around \$24,000 into the budget for the PA – Discussion on motion.

Nick – AC has worked in the past before without it.

Corey – Not about AC, it's a good resource for everyone.

Doug- It is the job of the PA to know how to program. The PA could be used more effectively, and if any student group has a question, they have the number of organizations that they could need, it takes a lot of stress off of transitioning eboards and makes things easy at the beginning and the end of the year. It's worth the money, take initiative as a board to make them more of an asset.

Melissa – It wouldn't just be a reading to put them back, putting into the budget gives them opportunity to find someone, give chance to put in hard work.

Nick – I don't think we should spend money with hopes that it will work. Students have been able to put programs on in the past before it.

Mathé – Call to question on the motion, seconded by Corey – Vote on motion to put PA position back in budget and take from Reserves, motion passes 4-2-1.

Corey – Talking as a board, I motion to add \$150 for fax line. Motion passes 6-0-1.

Mathé – Call to question again, seconded by Corey.

116-0910: Second of two, reading passes 5-2-0.

New Business

117-0910: BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE SA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE approve the realignment by Crew Club, Account 1402 to move \$500 from Line 20, sub-line *Entry Fee for Regattas* to Line 10, sub-line *Repairs*.

First and Only Reading

Crew - We spent a lot of money repairing boats this year. It's a safety issue for a motor that broke, so we're asking to put the race fund money into the repair account so we can fix the boats.

117-0910: first and only, reading passes 7-0-0.

118-0910: BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE SA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE permit any mandatory activity fee paying student to view or obtain any stipend or end of the year report, provided the interested activity fee paying student sign it out on the relevant worksheet and any confidential information (copy codes and passwords) should be taken out "at the discretion of the executive board".

First and Only Reading

Brian - Any student can sign out the stipend of any position and have access to the report. This will be of benefit to the successor to the position, while also increasing the oversight of stipends.

Nick – Move to amend the reading to "at the discretion of the executive board"

Brian – Things like login, passwords.

Melissa – It's hard to list everything that would be confidential, and I think we can trust the board to not hide things but take out what they think is confidential.

Nick – I think confidential should be limited to things like copy codes and passwords.

Vote on motion, Motion passes 5-0-2.

Melissa – I would urge the future board to change financial policy for stipends and the required formats for them. It should be to document the work you did, and there should be a procedure to enforce it.

Mathé – Call to question, seconded by Nick.

118-0910: First and only, reading passes 6-0-1.

Open Discussion

Changing of the Guard
Performances by G-Steppas and Swing Dance Club.

Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 8:43PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Ashley Arthur
Recording Secretary