

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.

FALL MINUTES #17, Wednesday, December 6, 2017

Executive Committee

President:	Kaitlin Pfundstein
Vice-President:	Jarred Okosun
Directors:	
Academic Affairs:	Corey Wilkinson
Business Affairs:	Supriya Juneja
Inter-Residence Affairs:	Zachariah Barfield
Public Relations:	Barak Stockler
Student Affairs & Diversity:	Alberto Alonso
Student Programming:	Julia Sisti
Advisor:	Shawn Plummer

PROFESSIONAL STAFF

Dir. of SA Programs,	
Personnel & Finances:	Kate Rebban
Administrative Assistant:	Ashley Scutt
Service Manager:	Dianne Krenzer
Crew Coach:	Will Greene

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	38-1718 BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE SA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE allocate up to \$15,000 from Budget Increases, Account 1099, to Student Association Programs, Account 1002 to fund the graduate test prep service.
	AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT account 1002, Line 20: GMAT/LCAT be renamed as Graduate Test Prep Service. Second of Two Readings 39-1718 BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE SA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE approve the attached changes to SA financial policy.
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38	<i>New Business</i>
	40-1718 BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE SA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE approve the Student Association to transfer \$15,000 from Discretionary Reserves, Account 4000, to Budget Increases Account 1099 to replenish the account.
	<i>First of Two Readings</i>
38	41-1718 BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE SA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE allocate \$4,000.00 from Acct 4000 Discretionary Reserves to Acct 1002 to create a new line "Livingston Cares Grant" to help students who need assistance in paying for Livingston Care trips.
	<i>First of Two Readings</i>
38	42-1718 BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE SA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE allocate up to \$150.00 from Budget Increases, Account 1099, to Account 19XX to fund Beekeeping at Geneseo for an initial budget for the 2017-2018 academic year.
	<i>First of Two Readings</i>
39	43-1718 BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE SA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE allocate up to \$150.00 from Budget Increases, Account 1099, to Account 19XX to fund Programming Club for an initial budget for the 2017-2018 academic year.
	<i>First of Two Readings</i>
39	<i>Open Discussion</i>
39	<i>Adjournment</i>

Call to Order: 6:15 PM

Approval of the Agenda: Funding request for 38-1718 should read \$14,944. Text of 41-1718 should read ‘Acct 1002 to create a new line “Livingston Cares Grant”.’ Text of 42-1718 should show that organization requesting funds is Beekeeping at Geneseo. Agenda passes as amended 6-0-0.

Approval of the Minutes: 6-0-0

Updates

President, Kaitlin Pfundstein: Good luck on finals.

Vice-President, Jarred Okosun updates: Last Thursday was the semester’s last Student Senate meeting. College Senate’s last meeting of the semester was held on 12/5. Both the College Senate and Student Senate will resume at the beginning of Spring semester.

Director of Business Affairs, Supriya Juneja updates: Frozen Budgets for Semester: GSTV, Fencing Club, Figure Skating, Sports Medicine Club, Art Club, Council for Exceptional Children (CEC), Tennis. Frozen Budgets reset at the beginning of Spring semester.

Director of Inter-Residence Affairs, Zachariah Barfield updates: None

Director of Public Relations, Barak Stockler updates: SA funds the airport shuttle. On 12/19 and 12/20 shuttles run to the train station and airport. To reserve a space on a shuttle, go saticketoffice.geneseo.edu. College Express busses go downstate on 12/16 and 12/19 and 12/20 for \$75 that can be purchased on collegeexpressbus.com. I’m extending the publicity survey for clubs and organizations to be featured in the Student Life.

Director of Academic Affairs, Corey Wilkinson updates: GREAT Day will take place on 4/17. The keynote speaker will be Dr. Barbara Kellerman, Research Director of the Center for Public Leadership in the Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University.

Director of Student Affairs, Alberto Alonso updates: None

Director of Student Programming, Julia Sisti updates: A screening of *Across the Universe* followed by trivia on the movie will be the semester’s last GCAB event on Friday, 12/8 at 8PM in the Hunt Room.

Kate Rebban, Director of SA Programs, Personnel, & Finances updates: None

Shawn Plummer, SA Executive Committee Advisor updates: None

Open Updates

President Battles:

Intersession: Last spring, I convened the Intersession Working Group to explore the reinstitution of an official and robust Intersession. There were a number of reasons for doing so: one unanticipated reason came in the form of the Excelsior program, which was announced in mid-April of last year, and mandates that participants take and successfully complete 30 credits every academic year, without fail. Intersession and Summer session courses count towards this requirement, and when we looked at how many credits Geneseo students earn per academic year, we realized that many complete the year just under Excelsior’s credit requirement and thought they would welcome the opportunity to take Intersession courses. The Intersession Working Group’s report was released in early fall, and I subsequently went to College Senate to suggest that they constitute a Calendar Committee to look at changes that would enable a more robust and pedagogically sound Intersession. College Senate is in the process of forming this committee, which will look back at the Working Group’s report and come back with recommendations on how our existing Intersession might be advanced. If all goes as planned with the timeline, the Senate will make its recommendation to me by the end of this academic year and changes will be implemented towards Intersession 2019.

Leadership Searches: Senior administrative position-filling and recruitment actions are currently underway. Geneseo’s Vice President for Administration and Finance, Dr. Jim Milroy, retired last week, and the Interim Vice President was introduced at College Senate yesterday. Rick Hurley, the Interim VP, has held that role at two different public institutions for more than 20 years in the state of Virginia. He retired as President of the University of Mary Washington, another member of the Council of Public Liberal Arts Colleges, last year, and will hold the position until June of 2018. The search committee for a permanent VP is composed of students, faculty, staff, and administration – including Supriya and Kaitlin – and will hopefully complete its interviews of finalists by mid-spring. Our other major search is for Chief Diversity Officer, a position established earlier this year and filled in the interim by Robbie

Routenberg. The search committee is representative, and includes student members Alberto and Theresa Robert. While the processes are confidential, they will become public in the finalist stage, which is when the credentials of several finalists for each search will be announced. In mid-spring, you will see announcements for open forums on each candidate brought in as a finalist, at which you will have the opportunity to give feedback on the candidates.

Diversity Issues: When I began as President, I approached the Commission on Diversity and Community to pose a revisiting of the Geneseo Statement on Diversity and Community. A timeline was set for doing so, but because of leadership and membership changes on the Commission, as well as because the SUNY Diversity and Equity Inclusion Policy came out at about that same time, the Commission's attention was devoted to revising Geneseo's Diversity Plan, which had a SUNY-imposed deadline, and they did not move forward on revisiting the Statement on Diversity and Community. They will be resuming that task and finishing it by mid-February.

Affirmative Action Policy: At the time of its writing, the gender-neutral language of Geneseo's Affirmative Action Policy specified alternating between male and female-based language, but did not take into account nonbinary gender identities, so Robbie Routenberg will head up a revisiting of that statement.

All-Gender Restrooms: An up-to-date map of every all-gender restroom on campus can be found on the Geneseo website. The current tally of all-gender restrooms is more than 58 facilities in 40 college- or CAS-operated buildings, leaving Bailey, Doty, Fraser, and Wadsworth as the only buildings without.

SUNY Discrimination Complaint Procedure: An investigation was launched in response to concerns raised over an incident in a sociology classroom earlier this semester, a multi-step process that takes time to work through. Because of confidentiality issues, the investigation is not something I can discuss beyond what I have said here. I bring this up because shortly after the incident, SA issued a statement on the matter which I perceived as an endorsement of the administration's ability to appropriately handle the incident.

Campus Infrastructure Project: The reason this project is being undertaken is that the underground infrastructure of Sturges Quad – power, water, steam, sewage, telecommunications – is very dated. We should be done by October of 2018, at which time we will be in a much better place as a campus. Much of the phased work will be completed by August of 2018, with Sturges done by the start of Fall semester. Milne, Newton, and the ISC will be completed by the end of the first half of Fall semester 2018. We have instituted quiet hours for the project from 12/12 to 12/19.

Corey asks what the scope of student involvement on the Calendar Committee is. Jarred explains that SA will make a recommendation on a student representative to the Committee.

Meeting attendee asks what the status of the lead-contaminated water is. President Battles responds that the situation was monitored and there are no lingering issues.

Barak asks if Dr. Battles has an idea of when students can expect a response on the bias incident. President Battles responds that confidentiality must be maintained, and that a conclusion can be expected to be reached on the SUNY Discrimination Complaint Procedure by the end of the term, but there will be no large divulgatory announcement.

Meeting attendee asks if there is conversation within the administration about hiring new Psychology or Biology professors. President Battles explains that Academic Affairs is the division that annually looks at staffing and makes hiring decisions, and are doing so under our new Provost.

Meeting attendee asks if Dr. Battles is aware of the issue of construction-related fumes in Sturges. Dr. Battles responds that work has been done to mitigate the issue and point people have been designated to alert academic departments of changes.

Supriya asks if Dr. Battles is aware of the changes in Milne Library which have eliminated study space due to construction. Dr. Battles responds that she does not know the details of the timeline on those upgrades.

Meeting attendee asks for concerns about Geneseo's increasing acceptance rate and decreasing high school GPAs and test scores to be addressed, and asks about how admissions quotas can be met while preserving the college's reputation. Dr. Battles explains that one of the challenges that Northeast colleges including Geneseo face is that demographic changes put New York population of 18- and 19-year olds at a historic low. Geneseo draws a very traditional student population -- the college's bread and butter are 18- and 19-year old high school graduates from New York State -- and there is a smaller population now to draw from. The college is looking to grow only very gradually, and has employed innovative techniques for doing so: in the New York Metro area, the fastest-growing region of the state, Geneseo has hired a recruiter for that area. The North Country and Western New York, on the other hand, present challenges. Our average high school GPA and ACT scores have held steady, although SAT scores have vacillated. Research at Geneseo has shown that SAT scores, however, are not as good an indicator as high school GPA for future success, although Geneseo's evaluation process is holistic. As for the college's reputation: U.S. News has ranked Geneseo #1 in Undergraduate Academic Teaching for the last 7 out of 8 years; *Washington Monthly* has ranked us #1 for students' contributions to the public good; Geneseo is a top Peace Corps-generating institution. We are in a good position at Geneseo in terms of the institution's reputation and regard.

Old Business

38-1718 BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE SA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE allocate up to \$14,944 from Budget Increases, Account

1099, to Student Association Programs, Account 1002 to fund the graduate test prep service.

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT account 1002, Line 20: GMAT/LCAT be renamed as Graduate Test Prep Service. Second of Two Readings 39-1718 BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE SA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE approve the attached changes to SA financial policy.

Second of Two Readings

Corey: We looked into Wiseant and Linda.com as alternatives to Kaplan and they offered self-directed courses and books, as well as bussed-to courses at RIT, but found that Kaplan was the best option. We still haven't gotten a definite budget breakdown, but have tentative figures beyond the GRE. Kaplan can offer 3 MCAT packs to us at a rate of \$249, which we can pay part of. LSAT packs are prohibitively expensive, but there are books and guided practice exams they can offer.

Supriya asks whether an application process based on need might be considered. Corey responds that a first-come first-served basis strikes him as more fair.

Kate mentioned that other SUNYs are looking to SA as a model to implement test prep at their own schools.

Corey expanded and said it was discussed at Student Assembly.

38-1718, Second of Two Readings, passes 6-0-1 with Corey abstaining

39-1718 BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE SA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE approve the attached changes to SA financial policy.

Second of Two Readings

Kaitlin: Some of the changes include not having policy approved every semester and having it approved only in the event that policy is changed, and changing wording that changes are made on an academic basis to say that changes will be made on a semesterly basis.

39-1718, Second of Two Readings, passes 5-0-0

New Business

40-1718 BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE SA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE approve the Student Association to transfer \$15,000 from Discretionary Reserves, Account 4000, to Budget Increases Account 1099 to replenish the account.

First of Two Readings

Supriya: Now that 38-1718 has passed it cleans out our entire account, so I am moving \$15,000 from our reserve back into Budget Increases so that if clubs request funding it will come out of that account.

Meeting attendee asks how much is in the reserve account. Supriya says that there is "enough." Kate clarifies that there is about \$45,000 from unallocated activity fee money, and another \$300,000 that can be pulled from that particular account.

Corey asks where the \$15,000 number has been derived from. Supriya responds that the money will be enough for several more readings so that money does not have to be reallocated for each reading.

40-1718, First of Two Readings, passes 6-0-1 with Supriya abstaining

41-1718 BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE SA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE allocate \$4,000.00 from Acct 4000 Discretionary Reserves to Acct 1002 to create a new line "Livingston Cares Grant" to help students who need assistance in paying for Livingston Care trips.

First of Two Readings

Marie: We are asking for \$4,000 due to airline ticket price increases so that more students can have the opportunity to go on Livingston Cares trips in the future.

Barak asks how many students usually go on Livingston Cares trips every year. Marie explains that there are anywhere from 9 to 12 trips every year, with 7 to 14 students on each trip.

HOPE Youth Mentoring Representative asks if any trips are going to Puerto Rico. Marie responds that there will be two.

Kaitlin moves to waive a second reading. Motion passes 7-0-0.

41-1718, First and Only Reading, passes 6-0-0

42-1718 BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE SA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE allocate up to \$150.00 from Budget Increases, Account 1099, to Account 19XX to fund Beekeeping at Geneseo for an initial budget for the 2017-2018 academic year.

First of Two Readings

Beekeeping at Geneseo President: Our top priority is safety, and we would like funding to keep our safety where it should be.

Supriya asks for a description of what the club does and why they should be funded. President elaborates that Beekeeping at Geneseo serves several functions apart from honey production, including education on the importance of pollinators on our ecosystem and imparting apiary as a life skill that one can make a living from after college. We do off-campus educational trips and community outreach, and have 25 active members. We've been in communication with the Office of Sustainability, and have partnered with educational programs for underprivileged children.

Supriya asks for a budget breakdown and fundraising ideas. Treasurer explains that proposed budget will go towards safety equipment, including veils, gloves, and smokers. Fundraising ideas include partnerships with Yankee Candles, Yoberry, and sponsorship by local businesses. Also in terms of fundraising, the organization attends a yearly conference called the Geneva Bee Conference at which it has its own stand and receives donations.

Shawn asks what happens to the honey the club produces. President explains that many local businesses have expressed interest in selling the honey, but the club's plan is to work with CAS to sell the honey so that it will go back to Geneseo students. Since the club has not been able to harvest any honey this semester, it has not been a foremost concern.

Julia asks approximately how much equipment costs. President responds that gloves are around \$20, while veils are around \$35, and a smoker costs around \$65-75.

Zach asks for clarification about dues, since the club states it does not have dues but that only dues-paying members may serve as officers. Supriya explains that a clause about associate members must also be removed, and this should be done for the second reading.

Kate explains that SA-funded clubs that make profits have those profits put in their SA account and may not hold them in outside accounts, and asks how profitable honey production is. President explains that if everything goes ideally, 20 to 40 pounds of honey would be produced that would sell at \$10-15 per pound.

Jarred asks what the plan is for maintaining hives during breaks and over the summer. President explains that for the next two years there are club members who live in the area and can maintain the hives, as well as that the club's advisor has offered to take care of the hives.

Supriya expresses SA's concerns about the longevity of Beekeeping at Geneseo and what will happen to the bees if the club goes through a lull in membership. President explains that there is a club binder with a clear contingency plan on what will happen to the bees in such a situation.

Zach asks for a formal document detailing club-dissolving procedure.

42-1718, First of Two Readings, passes 5-1-1, with Jarred against and Barak abstaining.

43-1718 BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE SA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE allocate up to \$150.00 from Budget Increases, Account 1099, to Account 19XX to fund Programming Club for an initial budget for the 2017-2018 academic year.
First of Two Readings

Supriya moves to table the reading because Programming Club has failed to submit a budget.

Open Discussion

Photography Club's Winter Showcase will take place on 12/7 in Bailey 105 from 6 to 9 PM.

Adjournment

7:28 PM

Respectfully Submitted,

Noah Mazer
Recording Secretary