

Student Government Senate Meeting *Some names may be spelled incorrectly
Thursday, February 2nd, 2017
Minutes; Ashley Vieau, Public Relations Chairman

I. Opening of Meeting

- a.) Meeting called to order 5:06pm
- b.) Pledge of allegiance
- c.) First roll call
- d.) Approval of Today's Agenda

Move to approve today's agenda. Seconded. Motion passed.

- e.) Approval of Last Meetings Minutes

Move to approve last meetings minutes. Seconded. Motion passed.

II. Hearings

- a.) Open Gallery One: SCSU for life – No one in the Gallery to speak on SCSU for life.

- b.) Finance Hearings:

Chinese Students Scholars Association – Amount allocated \$250

Society of Buddhist Red Lotus – amount allocated \$1800

Physics and Astronomy Club – amount allocated \$901

Husky Sports Band – amount allocated \$1998

Move into Discussion-

-Senator Schmidt- Move to approve all senate finance hearings. Seconded. Motion passed. All senate finance hearings approved.

-Senator Abul- Move to limit the number of questions to each candidate to three. Seconded. Motion passed.

Students United Representative Martin– question to the chair – does that include follow up questions?
VP Olson- all questions in general.

- c.) Internal Elections:

-Explanation of election process.

-Senator Abul- Move to limit the number of questions to each candidate to three. Seconded. Motion passed.

-Students United Representative Martin– question to the chair – does that include follow up questions?
VP Olson- all questions in general.

>Application for School of Science and Engineering College Senator

1. Ramme Skzusha

2. Nadika Bandara

3. Rimsa Shrestha

4. Hassan Alahneen- Not in attendance, application was reviewed on the overhead.

Move into Discussion-

-Senator Kennedy- applicant two and three gave the best answers to his question, applicant one is ineligible due to GPA. Would like to see candidates two and three voted in.

-Senator Mustafic- Agreed with Senator Kennedy's views in electing applicants two and three.

-Senator Kennedy- Move to approve applicant two and three to be college senators. Seconded. Motion passed.

VP Olson- We have an election.

Welcome Nadika Bandara

Welcome Rima Shrestha

>School of Business College Senator

1. Sandhya Shrestha

2. Eric Awale

3. Tshering Sherpa- Not in attendance

4. Rassee Shrestha- Not in attendance – did send email stating why wasn't in attendance

5. Kelisha Tuladier- Not in attendance – did send email stating why wasn't in attendance

6. Rabaam Sajjad- Not in attendance

7. Abdullah Aldaej- Not in attendance

Move into Discussion-

-Senator A. Tamang- Question that if two applicants were in attendance and two emailed who could be elected?

-VP Olson- It is up to the Senate who to elect.

-Senator Kennedy- Applicant one and five best to represent the Business school.

-Senator Abul- Agree with applicant five but thinks that applicant two would be better than applicant one.

-Chair Upreddy- Wanted to see applicant five's application again. Agrees with Kennedy with applicant five is well qualified.

-Senator Schmidt- Thinks that the first two applicants were good. Likes to give more credit to applicants who come to the senate meeting. Talked about tabling applicants who weren't in attendance.

-President Johnson- This is our fourth meeting and due to our bylaws any college positions will go to At-large positions.

Senator LaVine- I think because we are four weeks into the semester that it is important to fill these positions and thinks we should move into a secret ballot vote.

Senator LaVine- Move to a secret ballot vote. Seconded. Motion Passed.

Ballots handed out.

VP Olson- Senators can vote for up to two applicants since we have two positions open.

VP Olson- We have an election.

Welcome Sandhya Shrestha

Welcome Kelisha Tuladier.

Senator Upreddy- What is the GPA requirement for the position?

VP Olson- 2.0

>At-large Senator

1. Sunrose Maskey

2. Andrew Stoesz
3. Eric Awale
4. Rajan Giri
5. Rassa Shrestha
6. Simone Alande
7. Cyril Johnson
8. Tshering Sherpa

-Senator Schmidt- Move to table the applicants that didn't show until next week. Seconded.

-Senator Kennedy descended.

Move back into discussion.

-Senator Schmidt- I would like to table since it's already 6:30 to get the meeting moving along.

President Johnson- Point of Clarification – can review these now, and could table the ones that don't get elected today.

Move to vote to table those applicants that weren't in attendance today. Seconded. Motion denied.

Move back into discussion on all applications.

-Chair McLeod- Spoke to Andrew and thinks that he would be good as an At-large senator.

-Senator Abul- Move to deny the applicants that weren't in attendance. Seconded. Motion passed.

-Senator Schmidt- Agrees with Chair McLeod, Andrew would very qualified as an At-large senator.

-Students United Rep Martin- Did we look at the applicants that weren't in attendance?

-President Johnson- Yes we did.

-Senator Abul- Can we table the applicant that emailed you or not because a motion was passed?

-President Johnson- Point of clarification we can change a motion.

-Senator Abul- I'm good with the motion that passed.

-Senator LaVine – Move to table to applications that aren't elected tonight.

-President Johnson- Point of Clarification- it's not tabling its postponed until next week.

-Senator LaVine- Move to postpone the three applications that aren't elected. Seconded. Motion passed.

-Students United Representative- What happens to those who are not elected?

-VP Olson- Email gets sent out to those not in attendance letting them know if they were elected or not.

-Senator Kennedy- Move to secret ballot. Seconded. Motion passed.

-Senator Kennedy- Question to the chair? Point of Privilege- After recess can we have some heat in this room?

Ballots passed out.

VP Olson- We have an election.

Welcome Andrew Stoesz.

All other applicants were postponed until next week and encourage applicants to come to senate meeting next week to speak again.

>end of elections<

III. Plenary Session 1

a.) Unfinished business

Banded tuition

-Speaker- Means that if you take 12-18 credits you pay the same amount no matter how many credits you take. It affects student fees in very little ways. The biggest goal for banded tuition will be for student success. It shows that students who take 15 credits have the most success. Goal is to increase student retention and graduation time within four years.

-VP Olson- We have had conversation about banded tuition this past week and called for questions to the speaker.

-Senator Upretty- in the MNSCU system are we the only one who has not adopted banded tuition.

-Speaker- Metropolitan doesn't have banded tuition.

-Senator Schmidt- Do you know the reason behind why SCSU hasn't already adopted banded tuition?

-Speaker- We are trying to figure that same thing out.

-Senator Kennedy- How do we compare to schools with banded tuition?

-Speaker- Credits 1-11 at Mankato pay \$50 more per credit than SCSU.

-Senator Kennedy- Follow up? Granted. How will this affect our student fees?

-Speaker- When you take 12 or more credits you are capped out at student fees, so won't affect them too much.

-Chair B. Uecker- What are the different models that we have looked at and what model are we looking at adopting?

-Speaker- Gave information about Mankato.

-Senator Osborne- When would this be in affect?

-Speaker- Wants student success as soon as possible so in hopes for fall term with all the approval.

-Senator Kennedy - How will this affect additional fees to tuition in the future?

-Speaker- If tuition was increased so would the band.

Senator Balmer- For your nontraditional students you said this would affect them, and we have a large non tradition population here at SCSU. Would it be counterproductive to have banded tuition?

Speaker- It will affect the non-tradition students more who take less than the banded amount of credits but doesn't think that it will be counterproductive overall.

Senator Balmer- Follow up? Granted. Success rate you say is students who take 15 credits do better and graduate sooner. Wants to know what makes this happen, with all the things going on in students' lives.

Speaker- We have looked at SCSU specifically even though it is a national statistic. They have ran the numbers and have found that those who take 15 credits do better.

Wanda- Haven't set the date but a formal proposal will be made soon. Best thing would be to write down questions that we can take to the work group that way they can answer those and have those that they have the answers to those questions when the formal proposal is made.

Senator Seo- What is the number of the students who take 15-19 credits?

Speaker- Does not know right off hand.

Senator Abol- Concerned that it's not the number of credits that's makes better GPAs but the intelligence of the students who are taking more credits.

Speaker- That's a good question, will take that question to the team.

President Johnson- When we are looking at our model what will the zone will be?

Speaker- At least the 12-18 range, could vary.

President Johnson- Follow up? Granted. Universities have reported difficulties with differential tuition, are we looking at this?

Speaker- Haven't had much discussion of this.

President Johnson- Other universities have a model that is nontraditional friendly banded tuition. Have we looked at this model for SCSU?

Speaker- We are looking at that model.

- President Johnson- The price difference between tuition and banded tuition?
 - Speaker- Doesn't know off hand.
 - President Johnson- Can you come with the percent of the students that come within the band and not within the band?
 - Speaker- Yes can come with that information when return with formal proposal.
 - Chair B. Uecker- Wants to know that the revenue change would be for the university?
 - Speaker- Hoping to have those answers in the next couple of weeks.
 - Senator Schmidt- Have you been in contact with other universities using banded tuition to know what is working or not working?
 - Speaker- Gave information on other schools banded tuition. They have more exploring to do to know what is working and not working.
 - Senator Kennedy- Will this benefit the students or the university more?
 - Speaker- Hoping the students more, but it matters how many credits students are taking as it will affect students more negatively if they don't take the banded amount of credits. Student success is the goal.
- Call for Questions.
See None.

b.) New business

- Senator Schmidt- His committee was going to bring the bylaws to the senate today.
 - President Johnson- Not on the agenda but she received an email. Since Chair Shelley isn't in attendance she thought we would present them next week.
 - Senator Schmidt- Okay with not presenting since other committee members not in attendance.
 - VP Olson- Did not receive the email to put on the agenda today and since Senator Schmidt is okay with not presenting today we will not present the bylaws today.
- Last call for New Business.
See None.

Move to recess at 7:06pm

Meeting re-called to order after recess: 7:26pm

V. Officer Reports

a.) President

- Husky spirit week- asking if members are interested in participating in the events.
 - Lip Sync
 - Celebrate through service
 - mocktail wars
- Senator Balmer- what is mocktails?
- President Johnson- Trivia and making kiddicocktails.
 - Human Battleship
 - Atwood Afterdark
 - Sledding with Huskies
 - Winner announcements
- VP Olson- Those not at delegates should come to the SG Alumni event on Saturday and after we can go to the Hockey game.

-New Member Maka- What is delegates?

-President Johnson- Explained what delegates is and how it works.

-Confirmed members that signed up to go to Delegates

-Will send an email to those who signed up to go to Delegates

-Gave information and proposed Students United Statements and explained what they are

-Women's March – was given little letters to pass out to students to fill out with issues that we could give to the Representative

-At Delegates there will be a career focus group that one member attending delegates needs to sit on, asked for those interested in this

-Wednesday feb 22nd Pred Vaidya is having donuts – will be in the howler

-Reminder to the Senate to read the Howler which is the email that we send out each week

-Students United- Advocacy Day- Interested in going to the capital to talk about higher education? If interested let President Johnson know. The deadline for sign up is tonight.

-Chair McLeod- Are the Students United Statements that are on the projector the current statements?

-President Johnson- No the current statements are more complicated, they wanted to simplify them and this is what they came up with.

-Senator Schmidt- Doesn't like the word agitated in the statements.

Members giving different suggestions of different phrasing for this as well as the actual definition of the word agitated.

Call for Questions.

See None.

c.) Vice President

- Reminder to Senators to do your office hour

-Reminder to Chairs to send out their committee reports to President, VP, and executive assistant

-New members will be assigned within the next couple of days to their committees

-In addition to office hour and committee, it is Vice President's job to inform new members what their role is and educate them on Student Government and will be doing that soon.

Call for Questions.

See None.

c.) Chief Justice

-No Report

Call for Questions.

See None.

d.) Students United Rep

-Will be emailing those who signed up on the list for delegates

- President Johnson- Got a confirmed list on who is attending delegates, and will give the updated list to the Students United Rep after the meeting.

-Tomorrow there will be an informative meeting at 4pm, Google Hang out. Be in the Student Government office at 4pm if you are able to attend. Encouraging as many members who are going to delegates to come to the Google Hangout meeting.

Call for Questions.

See None.

RHA

- Refrigerator to be included in rooms.
- Senator Kennedy- RHA plan to do with ...?
- RHA Proxy- No plan in motion.
- Senator Kennedy- Why is there no plan in motion?
- RHA Proxy- Focusing on other things.
- Call for Questions.
- See None.

Committee Reports

e.) Academic Affairs

- Bill idea that would give student leaders after receiving approval from advisor to get addition credits for being a student leader
- Continuing to work on the digital bill catalog
- Working on the survey also
- Call for Questions.
- RHA Rep Proxy- Would the leadership be only for those in student government or other organizations?
- Chair B. Uecker- Not specific to student government but other organizations as well.
- Call for Questions.
- See None.

f.) Campus Affairs

Senator Kennedy spoke on behave of the Committee

- The Chair and he will be meeting to talk about goals for campus affairs. Campus cleanup again hopefully.
- Call for Questions.
- President Johnson- Have you worked anymore with the menstrual products initiative?
- Senator Kennedy- Yes has a meeting next week to move forward on that initiative.
- Senator Balmer- Questioned if Campus affairs can address the lack of garbage cans on campus because of budget cuts.
- Senator Kennedy- Fighting for a garbage can in front of Garvey for a while now.
- Senator Balmer- Has noticed that there are much less garbage cans on campus. Doesn't understand why they would cut this from the budget.
- Senator Abul- Agrees with Senator Balmer, gave possibilities on causes on that issue.
- Call for Questions.
- See None.

g.) Cultural Diversity

- Goal is to promote cultural diversity on campus
- Call for questions
- See none.

h.) Constitution

- Goal to shorten the constitution
- Will bring the bylaws with the changes of the constitution

- Meeting next week at 12pm
- Takes a long time to amend the constitution
- Reminder that any other committee is able to propose amendments

Call for questions

President Johnson- More of a comment/suggestion to bring in the suggestions to the senate to get ideas/feedback.

Call for Questions.

See None.

i.) Elections Committee

- Will be having first meeting tonight after senate meeting
- Will go over our goals

Call for Questions.

-VP Olson- Questioned about the signatures needed for the President/Vice President

Candidates.

-Chair Smith- Signatures need to be students and gave all the information needed from each student with the signature.

-President Johnson- Suggest to finalize the election timeline for Public Relations and the Howler purposes.

-Chair Smith- Will bring concrete dates to the Senate meeting next week.

-Chair O'neil-come- Can the signatures include Faculty?

-Chair Smith- No, the signature have to be students.

-Senator Abul- Announce a nice email about elections and why they should vote and getting professors to allow time for them to vote during classes.

-VP Olson- how many weeks would those emails be sent out before elections

-Chair Smith- A few weeks before elections. Putting something on the table during tabling times that informs students on what student government does for them and why they should vote.

-Senator Schmidt- Could this include a whiteboard for students to write on what concerns they have about campus.

-Chair Smith- Great idea!

-Senator Elected Last Week? –Students can say what issues they have through a suggestion box

-Chair Smith- Suggestion box is what he was thinking for this

-President Johnson- With elections committee will you be going through the rules on the packet?

-Chair Smith- Gave information on qualifications to run in the elections.

Call for questions

See none.

j.) Executive Council

-No Report

Call for Questions.

See None.

l.) Legislative Affairs

-Bill to change our mascots name was passed last semester and will be working on learning who to have a conversation with to put this bill into action.

-Also working on increasing voting by looking at what referendum questions should be asked/have been asked in the past

Call for questions

President Johnson- Gave Chair information on who to contact about putting the mascot name change bill into effect.

Call for Questions.

See None.

m.) Public Relations

-First Committee Spotlight will go out tomorrow

-Tabling will be done every other week, with the idea that we would table every week closer to elections, tabling dates and times are subject to change

-Will be passing around a sign-up sheet at next week's meeting for the following weeks tabling time

-Thank you to everyone to participated in tabling this week and reminder to those who didn't follow through with tabling after signing up to try their best to stick to the commitment of the time slot that they sign up for

Call for questions

See none.

n.) Senate Finance

-No Report

Call for Questions.

See None.

o.) Student Services

-Listed meeting that will be held next week for Student Services

Call for Questions.

See None.

p.) Technology Fee

-Gave meeting date and time

-Working on roadblock in the survey

-Working on strengthening wifi

-EAB- committee voted on different clauses, read clauses to senate and gave information on EAB.

-Senator Kennedy- Questioned the placement of the revised date on the document.

-President Johnson- Point of Clarification- Stated why it's placed where it is.

Call for Questions.

See None.

q.) Urban Affairs

Senator Schmidt spoke on behave of the Committee

-Passed bylaws in our Committee will be brought to the senate next week, explained what the bylaws does.

-Questioning the idea about having a survey on the students safety outside of campus, gave background information on the idea

-conversation about landlords making residents recycle

Call for Questions.

See None.

r.) University Committees

-None

Call for Questions.

See None.

VI. Plenary Session II

a.) last call for business

Safe Walk Program

VP Randy Presented on the Safe Walk Program and what it is about

-Gave background information on how the Safe Walk program came to be with the me3tro bus hours getting cut back late at night

-This program is volunteer based

-Gave background information about why this is directed highly towards Greek Life due to the need for Greeks to do volunteer hours

-The program perimeter is larger than public safety's perimeter

-The resources would be provided by Public Safety and DCI

-Training will be provided by Public Safety

-Explained process of the program

-Require two volunteers, one male and one female

-Program ensures student safety

Call for questions

-Senator Bodel- Will there be any vehicles involved in the process of the program?

-VP Olson- No, vehicles are too much of a liability so they will not be used.

-Senator Bodel- Follow up? Granted. Since no vehicles will be used to transport students, what will the time look like for transportation of students?

-VP Olson- Gave info on perimeter and the walking times from end to end

-Senator Balmer- Explain more about the Safe house?

-VP Olson- Gave some info on the Safe house and what it is.

-Senator Balmer- Follow up? Granted. Is the Safe house an actual house?

-Wanda- It's not an actual house. The city foundation bought a house and it's a place where police will be.

-Senator Seo- How many volunteers would you expect or need for this program?

-VP Olson- Would like about seven available during the program running time. This number is strategic to have three males, three females, and one other student to hang back at the station at all times.

-Senator Kennedy- What would happen if there isn't enough volunteers on given night?

-VP Olson- This is one reason why we are starting with Greek Life since it is a larger community to be able to provide students that need service hours.

-Chair McLeod- Have you looked at other Universities if they have a program like this?

-VP Olson- Yes, we have looked at other Universities that have programs similar to this

-President Johnson- Are all the Fraternities and the Sororities on board with the program?

-VP Olson- All the Fraternities are on board but we are still waiting on confirmation from a couple of the sororities for confirmation on the trial run.

-President Johnson- Have you thought of a way that students can give feedback or evaluations about

who they walked with or the program as a whole?

-VP Olson- Others have asked this question, and they have had conversations about a survey they could provide to students to get that feedback because we would want that feedback

-Senator Andy- Will there be background checks for the volunteers in the program?

-VP Olson- Yes, we don't know what the background checks will consist of as of yet or what they will look like but there will be some sort of background check done on the volunteers.

-President Johnson- Do you have an idea when the program would start?

-VP Olson- Training should start this semester.

-President Johnson- Follow up? Granted. After the trial run will the program open up to other organizations for more volunteers?

-VP Olson- Yes, once the trial run is over they will be seeking more participation from organizations like Student Government.

-Senator Schmidt- Will it cost anything? Or will it impact Public Safety's budget anyway?

-VP Olson- Public Safety offered all the services and resources that were presented on so they must see the cost benefit of the program.

-Senator Schmidt- Follow up. Granted. If metro buses hours were extended again will it affect the program, or will the program continue?

-VP Olson- That is a conversation that we will continue to have in the future.

-Senator Schmidt- Follow up. Granted. Where would the volunteers be stationed until they received a call to escort a student?

-VP Olson- Atwood or Public Safety.

-Senator Upreddy- What will happen if a student needs to go beyond the perimeter of the program?

-VP Olson- We will have to follow and stay within the perimeter of the program to ensure the safety of all students and volunteers.

Call for Questions?

See None.

-VP Olson- Thank you for letting me present on this program and we will be seeking help and volunteers for this going forward so please reach out if you are interested.

Last Call for Business

-Senator Schmidt- Limit open statements to thirty seconds. Seconded. Motion passed.

-Students United Rep Martin- Thirty seconds total or per person?

-Senator Schmidt- Per person.

VII. Closing of Meeting

a.) Open Gallery II

-None

b.) Open Statements

-open statements are a time where you can talk about your week or little fun facts about you, a chat session.

c.) Last Roll Call

d.) Adjournment.

-Meeting adjourned at 9:20 pm.