



# STUDENT SENATE



## 2016 – 2017 Executive Board

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## General Body Meeting

Thursday March 23, 2017

McGregor Conference Center, Room F

**PRESIDING:** Anthony Eid, President

**I. CALLED TO ORDER:** 6:02 PM

### II. ROLL CALL:

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ANTHONY EID        | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NIKITA KHETARPAL   |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> KRISTIAN WRIGHT    | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> GRACE ALBERS       |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> AARON SZPYTMAN     | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NATALIE STEENBERGH |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> DALIA IBRAHIM      | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> CAMILLA SMITH      |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> STUART BAUM        | <input type="checkbox"/> BHAVNA GUDUGUNTLA             |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> DAVID PITAWANAKWAT | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SAMEEN AKHTAR      |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> RYAN LAITH         | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NOURHAN HAMADI     |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> KATE PARTINGTON    | <input type="checkbox"/> JASMINE THOMAS                |
| <input type="checkbox"/> KELLEY DONNELLY               | <input type="checkbox"/> ABBASS BERJAOU                |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> GISELLE GAITAN     | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> TRINA SCHULZ       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> ALAN FOREMAN                  | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> JASMINE COLES      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> ABDUL SULEIMAN                | <input type="checkbox"/> KRISTINA CURTISS              |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ERIKA RUCH         |  |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> DANIEL KRUPP       |  |

### OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE:

**LATE:** Kelley, Bhavna

**LEFT EARLY:** Ryan

### III. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA:

Moved: Dalia

Second: Sameen

### Amendment of the Agenda:

Reason: Allow Library guests to speak before discussing BOG meeting

Moved: Anthony

Second: Daniel

Amendment Passed

**GISELLE GAITAN**

Housing and Residential Life

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**SAMEEN AKHTAR**

Senator At Large

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**IV. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES:**

Moved: Sameen

Second: Gigi

**V. GALLERY ANNOUNCEMENTS/COMMENTS:**

A. None

**VI. BUSINESS:**

A. Library Guests Jill Wurm (Marketing/Communications) and Rod Fiori (Support Services) Update

1. UGL 2<sup>nd</sup> floor collaboration study space completed, have received positive feedback
  - i. Moved Silent Study section from the 3<sup>rd</sup> to the 1<sup>st</sup> floor, environment more conducive to isolated silent self-study
2. Seeking feedback to assess past changes and to help plan proposed future changes through surveys, focus groups, and flip charts in the lobby
  - i. Seeking student testimonials regarding new collaboration space, will film and compile short video to promote
3. Implemented new convenient online study room reservation system
  - i. All study rooms unlocked with onus on students to manage system and community police each other to respect the program
  - ii. Up to three 1hr time slots per day, can reserve up to 2 weeks in advance
  - iii. New system comparable to other institutions and is already working well
4. Want one or a few Senators on space planning team for next semester, give student perspective feedback, focus on space in Purdy/Kresge Library
  - i. Meeting times flexible to schedule, have been doing bi-weekly on Fridays and will continue to meet throughout Summer, will reach out to those interested to organize time that works, understand busy schedule other obligations conflict
  - ii. Anthony- Will solicit those interested
  - iii. Kate- Interested, schedule dependent
5. Upcoming event in conjunction with COSW and DOSO on Mon 4/24 "Relax for Success"
  - i. Will have destressing dogs to make up for last semester snow day therapy dog event

**NOURHAN HAMADI**

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cancellation, many students were unhappy about cancellation so event should be a success

- a. Will provide allergy warning and hand sanitizer stations
  - ii. COSW facilitating yoga sessions
  - iii. Anthony- CAPS PG also having therapy dog event 3/30 in Bernath Auditorium
6. Stuart- Have you explored past suggestion regarding sending P.A. system announcements through Wi-Fi push notifications?
- i. Still looking into how to implement, difficult to design to work with all personal devices connected to Library Wi-Fi, but easily able to implement in Library's computers/devices
7. Implementing "Food for Fines" donation program with W Food Pantry, will have donation drop box in Library, will push out communications promoting

**B. BOG Meetings 3/24**

1. Budget and Finance Committee Meeting- Aaron
  - i. Proposal to let President Wilson extend credit line for construction
  - ii. Proposal to increase funding for new housing construction by \$5.1 mil (or 4.6%) since discovered increased costs when editing 1<sup>st</sup> phase of construction
    - a. Anthony- Met with Academic Senate Budget/Finance Committee, told that proposal to increase funding since wanted closer to Parking Structure 2 but realized main water line leading to Oakland County in the way so now building 3 (instead of 2) structures skinnier and taller to hold same amount of beds as agreed to with Corvias, and will be using smart funding model with low risk bonds at high interest rate
    - b. Grace- Will instead be building over Parking Lot 41, will move St. Andrews statues
    - c. Anthony- 2<sup>nd</sup> phase will be to tear down Deroy and potentially make into greenspace, 3<sup>rd</sup> phase is to remodel Chatsworth

- d. Kate- Concern whether building housing in hopes of attracting residents or already enough demand?
  - 1. Aaron- 10 year study projected growth of residential students so need to respond to demand, past years already had to rent out St. Regis Hotel due to excess demands
  - 2. Kelley- By increasing the amount of housing pricing should go down in keeping with occupancy rate
  - 3. Anthony- Housing already at capacity, must also compensate for tearing down Deroy with new units
- e. Dalia- When complete?
  - 1. Aaron- Starting this Summer, all phases should be completed by 2021
- f. Daniel- Possibility of extending grandfather rate to current Deroy residents?
  - 1. Anthony- No, since still paying to reside in new housing
- g. Dalia- How accommodate for loss of Parking Lot 41, would have to eliminate Freshman free parking pilot program?
  - 1. Anthony- Heard that Freshman free parking pilot program will likely not be continued, refer to Alan on committee to update on status of parking
  - 2. Aaron- Asked about parking when initial construction plans approved, currently no plan to add parking spots
- h. David- What happens if we vote no?
  - 1. Aaron- If no increase in funding then will have to stick with old plan
- i. Nourhan- Concern that Administration/BOG not appreciate parking issue, simply view students as being lazy and unwilling to park further away
- j. Vote on whether to approve proposal at BOG meeting:

1. Vote Passed
  2. 2 opposed
- iii. Proposal to build new comprehensive weight room addition for Matthaehi Center
- a. Requesting funding for \$2 mil budget for design/construction of facility, if want to spend more need BOG approve again, temporary funding will come from WSU cash and permanent funding will come from the next WSU bond issuance
  - b. Trina- What do they currently have?
    1. Aaron- Existing weight room configured from former racquetball courts but is cramped and has inadequate ventilation, can't use any other existing space so need to build new structure
  - c. Facility will serve the 400 student athletes that are members of the 18 varsity teams
    1. Stuart- Concern not allow non-student athletes to access/use, perhaps ask if willing to allow club sports players to use?
    2. Kelley- Concern limited students benefit, understand athletes bring in revenue but concerned whether fair to spend so much on small select group of students
    3. Gigi- How much do collegiate sports bring in, factor think about return on investment and revenue generated by sports, will it actually help student athletes?
      - i. Daniel- Sports generally not turn profit/generate revenue but pay for self/cover own costs
    4. Erika- Told power lifting banned from Mort Harris Rec Center, perhaps allow them access more robust facility and thus spread benefit
    5. Natalie- Other student groups such as Dance majors currently have inadequate facilities, would they also be able to benefit?

6. Jasmine C- Perhaps spread benefit by open facility to use by all students for certain amount of hours on regular basis as compromise
- d. Dalia- No problem investing in students if return worth it but concern WSU lack funding for project, keeping in mind lessons learned from Lobbying Day
- e. Kate- Building such facilities for athletes not out of ordinary/ common practice for D1 big schools, though more rare for Wayne State
- f. David- Concern who is actually lobbying for this/ where this proposal came from, history of cutting sports teams due to budget in '00s yet still don't have the money to fund
- g. Stuart- Primary concern should be with the restricting of the benefit and the amount requested, take issue with mentality of students having to pay for enhanced service to determine whether deserving of Senate's support, Senate should support students' requests regardless of whether makeup cost as long request legitimate
- h. Kelley- Motion to close the speakers list
  1. Moved: Kelley
  2. Second: Ryan
  3. Motion Passed
- i. Aaron- If building facility not cost students more through tuition then would Senate vote in favor? Since long term plan to use bonds for funding
  1. Anthony- Raise questions to BOG, Senate vote now on proposal as it stands
- j. Vote on whether to approve proposal at BOG meeting:
  1. Unanimous vote against
- k. Dalia- Concerned that regardless of how Senate vote then will just be overruled by rest of BOG
  1. Aaron- Senate's questions will help, BOG value/listen to student

perspective, may convince them otherwise

- iv. Proposal to raise '17-'18 room rate by 5% across the board and to increase meal plans by around 3% overall
  - a. Corvias contract clause cap future increases at rate of inflation, contract go into effect once break ground, this one-time increase would be decided beforehand
  - b. WSU still in middle/slightly below average room rates compared to other public universities
    - 1. Daniel- Will residents in old housing still pay more for housing, why benchmark rate to new housing, concern will overprice and lower occupancy rate
      - i. Anthony- Asked Academic Senate, they foresee no problem filling housing due to excess demand, still under market rate, Corvias will ultimately fix/renovate existing housing with own maintenance team under contract
    - 2. David- If already under market rate then should stay under
      - i. Gigi- Clarify, would remain under market rate even after increase?
      - ii. Aaron- Yes, after increase would still be under market rate when compared to new housing in Midtown Detroit
  - c. Typical freshman will experience a 2.27% increase taking room and meal plan together, incorporating new 15 weekly meal swipe and 100 warrior dollar meal plan option
    - 1. If freshmen choose new meal plan with 15 weekly meal swipes and 100 warrior dollars then will save money compared to unlimited meal plan

- d. Daniel- Concerned will be overruled even if vote against, need to publicize BOG votes to students so they know Senate supports them
  - 1. Aaron- No guarantee that Senate will be overruled either way, in past have been the deciding vote
- e. Vote on whether to approve proposal at BOG meeting:
  - 1. Vote in favor, slim margin
- 2. Academic Affairs Committee Meeting- Ryan
  - i. Proposal to establish new academic programs/degrees/certificates
    - a. Anthony- New programs not controversial, do you know whether funding for new programs come from Department housed in or some other source?
    - b. Ryan- Proposal does not specify funding source, will ask at BOG Meeting
  - ii. Proposal to discontinue International Studies Co-Major
    - a. Proposal already approved by department chairs/program directors/college dean/provost
    - b. Students currently in program have until end of Fall '17 semester to graduate, otherwise have been told to switch to Global Studies Minor to accommodate for previous coursework, new students have not been allowed to declare International Studies Co-Major since Fall '16 but instead have been told to take Global Studies Major/Minor
      - 1. Daniel- Believe HLC accreditation mandate must continue programs until all students in them have completed them, can't mandate deadline
        - i. Stuart- Could compromise by just allowing students to graduate with "International Studies" on degree?
        - ii. Daniel- Accreditation mandate there must be a corresponding academic



- program to degree, can't just use name
2. Jasmine- How similar are the two programs? Concerned those unable to graduate on time due to valid reason then forced to pay for extra credits when forced to switch program
    - i. Ryan- Unsure, will ask at meeting, also concerned
  3. Anthony- As long as all students in program allowed to graduate through program (without deadline) then should vote in favor, if not then should vote against

### C. Appointments

1. BOG Student Affairs Committee
  - i. Kristian- Nominate Stuart to rise from alternate to main representative to replace Chris
    - a. Stuart- Accept nomination
    - b. Vote in favor of nomination
  - ii. Kristian- Nominate Sameen to replace Stuart as alternate representative
    - a. Sameen- Accept nomination
    - b. Vote in favor of nomination
  - iii. Anthony- Committee not meeting tomorrow but will likely meet at next meeting scheduled at end of April

## VII. REPORTS AND UPDATES:

### A. Anthony-

1. HLC accreditation forums successful, appreciate senators that attended, unsure yet about result but expect to be re-accredited
2. RA job description issue regarding counting RAs as part time job, HR now not allow work other part time jobs alongside being an RA as a result, Provost has been briefed on issue and was discussed at HLC forum, RAs and Housing are making progress, hope to ultimately change RA position from job (that already has no set hours and receives no paycheck/W-2 but just compensation with free housing and meal plans) to student activity position given housing and meal plan in form of activity award

- i. Daniel- Due to union representation and FLSA standards can't be listed as employment?
  - ii. Dalia- Especially necessary since RAs use other on-campus job to pay other expenses besides housing/meal plan
3. Sent out state of senate address, encourage students to run for Senate elections
  - i. Officially 40 people currently running, 2 initially dropped out and 1 application still pending, larger than usual amount of candidates is a testament to Senate's work, know will be a good race, wish luck to those on Senate running for election
  - ii. Regarding Slate issue- in keeping with spirit of rule change should not run together but by self, will help everyone campaign fairly/successfully
4. As referred to earlier, met with Academic Senate regarding upcoming BOG Budget/Finance Committee Meeting

B. Gigi-

1. Housing-
  - i. Working with RAs regarding HR/job description policy change
  - ii. Having Lil' sibs weekend event
  - iii. On 4/4 will hold rest of RHA E-board elections, including Student Senate liaison
  - iv. Summer RA applications open now
  - v. Will have ground breaking ceremony for new housing on 4/21
2. Green Initiatives-
  - i. Coalition met 3/20
    - a. Making informational posters for recycling bins, will move bins to better locations near building entrances/exits
    - b. Honors college looking at recycling policy changes
    - c. Detroit Biodiversity Network holding greenhouse workshops
      1. Drafting proposal for new garden space since lost garden space at St. Andrews during new housing construction, perhaps looking into creating garden space at Keast Commons between Towers but concerned about access to sunlight

- d. Holding April “Earth Month” events, including 4/15 Sierra club green bike ride tour and composting workshop
- e. Meeting with Prof. Richard Ellis to consult on potential green practices for WSU to adopt
- f. Drafting solar panel proposal for new housing, meeting with Business Operations/Corvias to discuss
- g. Will propose funding request to Senate to purchase additional recycling bins, Office of Sustainability already found between 60 and 100 additional bins currently looking to place around campus, will figure out cost and quantity to draft budget proposal
  - 1. Also looking into getting small blue bins for offices
- h. Job opportunities: alternative transportation internship and bike share ambassador through OED
- i. Office of Sustainability putting recycling gondolas around campus for plastic bottles
- j. Electronic recycling event with Recycle Here, part of Recyclemania
- k. Participating in Belle Isle cleanup on Earth Day

C. Camilla- QWSU

- 1. Resource packets being sent to Office of Diversity/Inclusion
- 2. Holding webinar for LGBTQ Allies
- 3. Discussing potential membership in Consortium of Higher Education LGBT Resource Professionals
- 4. Pride week upcoming

D. Erika- 3/8 Academic Senate Curriculum/Instruction Committee Meeting

- 1. Following presentations deciding between different LMS, currently leaning toward Canvas, Blackboard trying to sweeten the deal and give alternative workarounds but offer still not good enough, beginning negotiations with Canvas, Canvas is simpler and provides less opportunities for classes to customize their pages

E. David- Lobby Day

- 1. Don’t think will get funding asked for, should continue to write reps/senators in your districts and throughout the state

- i. Stuart- Unsure about metrics system changes, but will likely get requested Capital Outlay funding
  2. Pretty good student attendance (though not as many showed up as signed up for), a lot of grad students and alumni as well
  3. Anthony- Excited had first lobby day, hope to have more in future
  4. Dalia- Felt lobby day was successful, thought was smart to have students use home addresses to meet with reps/senators outside of Detroit, believe attendance drop-off not due to lack of interest but because bus left early and promptly, felt was well organized and was well prepared/briefed for meetings
- F. Daniel- Was told that Senate had no authority to appoint Senator to Library Dean Search Committee since already had student on, will look into further
1. Anthony- Doesn't make sense, was specifically requested by Committee to send representative
- G. Dalia- Honors College round table forum discussion being held next Wednesday at 9AM

#### **VIII. ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

- A. Trina- CAPS week next week, want Senators to help organize/promote and to attend events
  1. Gigi- Do you have a schedule to share?
  2. Trina- Yes, Kelley gave Kristina social media info to post
- B. Natalie- Graduating at end of term, in contact with College of Education Dean and will help pick out replacement, will contact students that apply for position to let them know the work/commitment required
- C. Anthony- DS was not able to come to this meeting, chose name of food pantry "The W Food Pantry", didn't want negative connotation of pantry term so instead name after mascot, will open 4/12
- D. Kelley- Panhellenic collecting pantry donations of canned food and feminine hygiene products, unsure whether should collect clothes

#### **IX. ADJOURNED: 7:29 PM**

Moved: Daniel

Second: Grace