



Student Senate General Body Meeting

UGL Community Room

Thursday, July 16, 2015

6:00pm

Presiding: William Alexander, President

- I. Call to Order
 - A. Meeting was called to order at 6:02PM on Thursday July 16, 2015 in the UGL Community Room.
- II. Roll Call
 - A. Present- S. Ahmed, W. Alexander, C. Arnold, T. Bawa, T. Bazzi, A. Bhagat, E. Diviney, A. Eid, V. Gonzales, C. Gregory, A. Harrison, A. Jaber, A. Martin, K. Reeves, Z. Rich, K. Rigby, M. Salim, K. Sopko, A. Szyptman, D. Walz
 - B. Absent- R. Chhaya, F. Dubaybo, M. Mohan
 - C. Late- S. Enaker
- III. Approval of the Agenda
 - A. T. Bazzi- Amendment to adding Festifall and Move-In under business.
- IV. Approval of the Minutes
 - A. Moved: A. Harrison
 - B. Second: E. Diviney
- V. Business
 - A. WSU President M. Roy Wilson
 1. Z. Rich- Can you update us on the new lobbying with the metric system, and tell us if you have encountered any challenges?
 - a. Wayne State is high in research category which puts us with schools that have similar goals and standards. Now, we are not the only one who is recognizing variances with the Metrics system, and there is a bias with research universities within the metrics system. We are working to make sure graduate students are considered within the metrics system. It has been challenging once a system is put in place because those institutions that benefit from it don't want change, but those who do not do seek change.

2. A. Eid- Can you talk about how the proposed 1% sales tax increase in Michigan has affected the metrics system.
 - a. No, as of now it does not, but in the future it may.
3. Z. Rich- In the Budget Committee that reports to Mr. Robert Kohrman, we have learned about the Plateau Tuition Model, do you see this functioning at Wayne State?
 - a. There are some advantages to it, so it is definitely an option we would like to explore. There are advantages such as taking more credits but not receiving any additional charges; while the disadvantages include more students taking the additional credits and it end up costing the university more.
4. Z. Rich- Could you give us updates on the Wayne State Political Action Committee (PAC)?
 - a. When we need to endorse money we put it through the Pac....our Governmental Affairs consultant, Patrick Linsley is comfortable with this plan of action.
5. Z. Rich- For confirmation purposes. We would like to ensure that there will be a new hire of a full time LGBT Assistant Director position in the office of Multicultural Student Engagement, as promised last semester.
 - a. When I talked to PROVOST, we do hope there will be a hire that will fulfill that position but will not be only for LGBT. We are looking into hiring a Director, which will hopefully start in the fall. Right now, we do not have the resources to dedicate a position solely to LGBT but once the director is hired, that is the next hire we hope to make.
6. Z. Rich- Our Spirit Committee has been working closely with Dr. Strauss and Nicole from Athletics. We are interested in hearing about why it is not possible to have the Wayne State "shield" idea for incoming freshmen that was proposed by the Warrior Zone group? The students involved in this committee saw that as one of the best ways to create tradition and were upset that this was not implemented.
 - a. The first time I heard about the "shield" was today, and I commend the students for having this Spirit Committee. I did do research into the "shield" and there is a feeling that it needs to be thought out a little bit more. The question right now is that if this we really fulfill the purpose it is supposed to achieve, and what else can be done. It's not about the cost, if this is the right thing to do, then I will take whatever the cost is

to make sure that it happens, as long as this is really the thing that we want to do. If the final decision is yes, then we will not worry about the cost.

7. Z. Rich- Can you give us any updates on the smoke-free campus?
 - a. I have with me a press release that will be going out next week, which says that it will be effective August 19th. I doubt that this would have happened if this was something that the Student Senate had advocated for. There will also be a transition period for people, with resources to make.

8. W. Alexander- I have recently encountered students from Lake Superior State University where they have a unique study abroad approach where they have a classroom setting, and the lab is where you actually study abroad, is this study abroad model possible here at WSU?
 - a. We really want to enhance and increase the study abroad experience and double the opportunities within the next three years. What we can do is look into Lake Superior State University and make sure we are adequately giving students the experience here, and see if we can take anything away from their program.

9. Z. Rich- Could you speak to any scholarship money that seniors might have access to if they do not have the means to finish, especially if they only have one or two classes left before they can graduate?
 - a. There are a couple of resources I can shed light on. After I learned about a lot of students who were unable to register for their last semester of classes due to previous semesters debt. We immediately raised the Hold amount on accounts so they could finish. There is a scholarship called Crossing the Finish Line which is for seniors who live in Detroit with a 2.55 GPA or higher. I started a new scholarship, called the Presidential HIGH scholarship to aid those students who do not meet the requirements for Crossing the Finish Line, which is available to students who have unexpected expenses. It has grown from the original budget of \$25,000 to now \$100,000.

10. A. Jaber- Recently, I have heard about the Medical Schools Accreditation Probation and am curious as to how it will affect the school and the students?
 - a. It won't affect the medical students at all. The reason why this happens is because they don't look at the outcome and how well the students are doing. They don't tell you what the change in demographics and

target number or percentage to increase diversity. Our focus has been taken off of diversity in the past five years. We also need to have the appropriate amount of space for classes, which is around 290, where the auditorium only seats roughly 280, but it is an easy fix. I have put together a task force to work on becoming more diverse, and a few recommendations have already been implemented, including a Vice Dean for Diversity. We have missions' practices that are very outdated, there are plenty of students that would have made great doctors, but because our mission practices are very arbitrary, they were never given that chance. Dr. Baker is here for two years to work on Diversity. Next year, we have allocated \$350,000 for Diversity initiatives through the Medical School.

B. Audra Kovalchuk, Director of OneCard & Parking Services

1. Kendric Largent- Xerox still manufactures, but we are geared more towards a consulting company. We have turned towards aiding universities in printing. Each year, a university clears 9 acres of forest through printing. Universities buy equipment in order to hopefully cut cost, but we provide it as a service. OneCard is looking to revamp their printing services. We have been given a clean sheet to essentially revamp printing. Our goals are to lower cost, enhance technology, improve sustainability, have a greater flexibility, and improve security. The new devices are smaller, reduce carbon footprint, can print, copy, scan, and a mobile printing feature. The program was designed to be cheaper and more user friendly.

a. Z. Rich- Is there no change in the cost for black and white?

- i. No, the trend for printing has gone down due to increase in technology. Color printing is increasing every year, while black and white is decreasing slowly.
- ii. As scanning volumes increase, we will be able to reduce the cost.

b. T. Bazzi- Can you shed light on the training process?

- i. We do provide training, and those that need it most are typically faculty and admin, not the students.

c. S. Enaker- What is your protocol on repairing, and how fast does it take?

- i. The devices are connected to a server on-site and provide status updates every five minutes. There are two print engineers on campus to address the machines and any problems they encounter.

d. K. Reeves- I was wondering if you had a printing system in the College of Nursing, because it has been an issue in the past?

i. Yes there is one, up and running.

C. Appointments

1. There are no appointments today.

D. Academic Senate

1. T. Bazzi- While I do encourage new senators to join this committee, it is an excellent opportunity to get involved and become aware of issues on campus. If you have any questions or concerns, let me know.

E. Public Relations Campaign

1. W. Alexander- The Executive Board has been working to get the word out there about who we are and what we do. It has been brought to my attention that our advertising is hindering our attendance at meetings. We are hoping to get large displays for our college appointees within their respective colleges. We are hoping to initiate a Public Relations Committee to reach out to other students on campus, and create a video to get our name out there. We also would like to get our name and pictures out there on some banners.

2. K. Reeves- I was given display access within the College of Nursing which would be a good place to advertise.

3. S. Enaker- What is the roll out date for this?

a. W. Alexander- We hope to have this out before the semester starts, but we need help.

F. FestiFall & Move-In

1. T. Bazzi- the budget for Festifall and move-in is close to \$2,000. Any expense over \$1,000 must be approved by the general body. We plan to have a variety of giveaways for Festifall and move-in.

a. A. Eid- What percentage of that expense is of our total budget?

i. D. Strauss- it is roughly 13% of last years budget. The new budget goes into effect October.

b. A. Eid- How much of that budget is remaining?

1.A. Eid- the Diversity and Inclusion PG has met and set goals for the year which includes our LGBT Initiatives from last year, as well as the preferred Name Policy. Our big goal that we wish to take on is an initiative that K. Rigby has brought to our attention.

a. K. Rigby- The goal is to address the black student and faculty population and target the problems they encounter and hear what they have to say and to identify key problems they feel they face that aren't being acknowledged.

2. A. Martin- The Financial Aid PG is fairly small and one we get a few more members, we will utilize PR to get more students involved.

3. T. Bazzi- The Budget Committee is meeting with Rob Kohrman next week.

4. S. Enaker- Parking and Transportation PG has narrowed down goals, which include addressing the meters, the app to check on parking, and weekend shuttles, as well as the free parking initiative.

a. A. Martin- I sit on a committee that is looking directly into the free/included parking initiative.

5. S. Enaker- Campus Pride PG has made goals which include revamping Warrior Wednesdays, attendance to events, and communication of events, the "shield" idea, and tailgating initiatives.

C. College Representatives

1.A. Martin- I will be meeting with Dean Heron in the coming week.

2.K. Rigby- my meeting with my Dean has been postponed until August.

D. Senators-At-Large

1. Z. Rich- Since our last general body meeting, we have had a Board of Governors meeting, and we have succeeded in getting the cut in differential tuition for Nursing.

E. Advisor

VII. Announcements

A. W. Alexander- The sign-up for festifall and move-in is up, you must sign up today.

B. W. Alexander- PG Minutes need to be posted to BlackBoard.

C. W. Alexander- Instead of having speakers for the remainder of the summer, we will be implementing Senate Development.

VIII. Gallery Comments

IX. Adjournment

A. Meeting adjourned at 8:22 PM on Thursday July 16, 2015 in the UGL Community Room.