



## Student Senate General Body Meeting

Student Center Room 285

Thursday, September 3, 2015

6:00pm

Presiding: Tarek Bazzi, Vice President

I. Call to Order

A. Meeting was called to order at 6:03 PM on Thursday September 3, 2015 in Room 285 of the Student Center.

II. Roll Call

- A. **Present:** S. Ahmed, C. Arnold, T. Bawa, T. Bazzi, A. Eid, S. Enaker, G. Freeman, V. Gonzales, C. Gregory, A. Harrison, M. Ibrahim, A. Jaber, M. Mohan, E. Perry, K. Reeves, Z. Rich, M. Sali, K. Sopko, A. Szytman
- B. **Absent:** F. Dubaybo, K. Rigby
- C. **Tardy:** A. Bhagat
- D. **Reinstatement:** W. Alexander, E. Diviney, A. Martin

III. Approval of the Agenda

A. Motion made to amend the agenda to move the SAM Presentation before the Jeri Stroupe Presentation

i. Motion Passed

IV. Approval of the Minutes

A. Moved: G. Freeman

B. Second: M. Mohan

V. Business

A. Student Association of Michigan Presentation

i. Kenneth Mazur-SAM is the voice for all of the students at 15 universities across the state of Michigan. My role is the Board of Governors representative for Wayne State. This year, SAM aims to increase voter registration in order to increase voter turnout for college students. I work with W. Alexander to make issues we encounter known across the state.

ii. Questions:

1. T. Bazzi- what initiatives do you hope to accomplish for the year?

- a. We hope to address state funding, and how Wayne State tends to get “shorted” in that area. We aim to draw attention to the variety of students we have at Wayne State and how we don’t have traditional students, as well as working towards voter registration.
2. A. Eid- Who is on the SAM delegation?
  - a. For now, it will be myself and T. Bawa, as well as W. Alexander
3. C. Gregory- Is SAM aware of the democratic working groups for the AmeriCOMPETES act?
  - a. TO the best of my knowledge, no we are not aware.
4. G. Freeman- Are you hoping to work with other organizations on campus to increase voter registration?
  - a. Yes, SAM will be in need of help and manpower to increase voter registration.
5. S. Enaker- Is there also a goal to get students to vote aside from just getting them registered?
  - a. As of now, our primary goal is voter registration.

B. Jeri Stroupe, Senior Project Administrator - Office of Economic Development

- i. Jeri Stroupe- I was asked to be here today to give an update on the Office of Economic Development. We work to catalyze business activity in the surrounding area. We work with DOSO to coordinate events that are happening in Detroit, we have a Deals and Discounts Guides which allow you to show your OneCard and save money. We have a placemaking initiative in place to lighten up campus, but we need ideas from all of you, on what you want on campus. Our current criteria are; short term, low/no cost, and has a learning feature to it. We just opened up a survey for the month to all of the student body on what they want. We will be bringing back Park(ing) Day on September 17<sup>th</sup>-18<sup>th</sup>. We have gotten free DDOT bus passes for 1-month to all students that live on campus. Update on the Regional Transit Authority (RTA) which will present a proposal for voters regarding rapid transit in the four-county area in southeast Michigan. Coming in Spring 2016, Public Bike Share will be coming to Detroit, which provides 350 bikes at 35 locations around the Great Downtown Detroit Area.

1. Questions:

- a. G. Freeman- Do students on campus get an M-1 rail pass like they do for the buses?

- i. We have talked with them, but we don't have any answers yet.
- b. A. Jaber- Is there any push to have undergraduate students live in Midtown?
  - i. The Live Midtown program is coming to an end, we have 97% occupancy right now, and University Housing is on a waitlist. We're open to ideas on what kinds of housing options students want to see.
- c. C. Gregory- Would international student find it easier to live off campus with a rapid transit system in place?
  - i. The connectivity to outer areas is good, as long as there are investments made here to make this a desirable place to live. The ease of flow for people to come back and forth would be a good thing.
- d. C. Gregory- Are there any sort of chances to bring families into the city?
  - i. I do think there are other programs and initiatives that work towards highlighting those other jobs/talents.
- e. Gallery- While there is a Bike Share initiative, is there any way of looking into a Ride Share program?
  - i. We are a commuter school, and the SMART survey we sent out in the spring also looked into it. A lot of students carpool, and I think it would be a wonderful opportunity to look in to. Right now we don't have a program but the Parking Website allows for students to enter in their commute route to coordinate with other students in the area, but many do not use it.

### C. Reinstatements

- i. William Alexander
  - 1. Senator W. Alexander reinstated by paper vote.
- ii. Elizabeth Diviney
  - 1. Senator E. Diviney reinstated by paper vote.
- iii. Arielle Martin
  - 1. Senator A. Martin reinstated by paper vote.

#### D. Homecoming Discussion/Vote

- i. It has been proposed that we deviate from the traditional Homecoming King and Queen, and instead work towards having a court of 10 individuals to be more gender inclusive.
- ii. Questions:
  1. Z. Rich- In the current application, does it say the Homecoming King/Queen must be male/female?
    - a. D. Staruss-No it does not, it's just an underlying assumption. Our goal is to just have a court made up of 10 individuals.
  2. Z. Rich- Can you ballpark how many apply for each position?
    - a. D. Strauss- It's not very popular, last year 8 women applied and less than 5 men applied. The goal is to make it more prestigious and a bigger role to be a representative of Wayne State.
  3. W. Alexander- Regarding the application, I don't have a problem with identifying male/female on the application, what's the push?
    - a. D. Strauss- I don't think we should have to prompt an individual to make that decision on an application.
  4. E. Perry- Is there a specific student who prompted this push for a change?
    - a. D. Strauss- Nobody has come to us with this.
  5. K. Donnelly- On the court of 10 people, is there a winner?
    - a. D. Strauss- No, the court will be recognized as a whole?
  6. A. Martin- In the past, there have been more females than males, will the court be filled with more females than males?
    - a. D. Strauss- In the past, I've been very disappointed with the whole process, it's not been taken seriously and it lacked integrity. I want to shift the paradigm from popularity to highlighting students on their excellence.
  7. A. Eid- As chair of the Diversity and Inclusion Project Group I am all for it.
  8. G. Freeman- Will this be nomination based?

- a. D. Strauss- The other models I have seen have been a faculty nomination based, but the student must seek the nomination and fill out their information and turn in the rest of the required materials.

9. A. Harrison- What kind of qualifications are you looking for?

- a. D. Strauss- I have asked my staff to look into other models at other universities as to what we would compile a list of what we're looking for.

10. A. Harrison- I know you said you wanted them to have a bigger role, what would they be?

- a. D. Strauss- We hope to have them work closely with Alumni and be ambassadors for Wayne State University.

iii. Vote of Confidence on Topic

- 1. Moved: A. Eid
- 2. Second: Z. Rich

iv. Motion Approved for Student Senates Vote of Confidence on the Homecoming Court Proposal.

E. Appointments

i. SAM

- 1. **Board of Directors:** Kenneth Mazur

ii. Academic Senate

- 1. **Student Affairs:** Aashna Sahi

- a. Approved

- 2. **Faculty Affairs:** Abdulrahman Suleiman

- a. Approved

- 3. **Curriculum/Instruction:** Leah Lowenberg

- a. Approved

- 4. **Research:** Jessica Istifan

- a. Approved

- 5. **Facilities, Technology, and Information Technology:** Tarek Bazzi

a. Approved

6. **Budget:** Laksmhi Nerusu

a. Approved

VI. Reports

A. Executive Board

- i. W. Alexander- I'm c=working with Tim Michael to finalize our meeting locations.
- ii. W. Alexander- I'm discussing parking initiatives with many students and getting opinions form the student body.
- iii. T. Bazzi- Great job with Move-In and Festifall, we got a lot of students signed up to get involved. I will compile them all and send them to the appropriate Project Groups.
- iv. A. Martin- I met with Jeri Stroupe earlier today to discuss student engagement around campus.
- v. A. Martin- I've been meeting with a lot of students to discuss the new parking initiative.
- vi. A. Eid- My report is available on BlackBoard. The website is up to date.
- vii. A. Eid- I've met with Kristen Palm to discuss future PR efforts on campus.
- viii. Z. Rich- I looked at the sign-up sheets from Festifall and will be reaching out to those people very soon. If anyone is interested in the Bylaw committee let me know.
- ix. C. Arnold- Make sure you report during meetings at the appropriate time, and when asking questions, make sure they are in the correct format.
- x. W. Alexander- If anyone has anyone they would like to bring in as guest speakers, let me know, as I coordinate that.
- xi. W. Alexander- We will need to discuss if we will be funding the Weekend Shuttle.

B. Motion made to table the remainder of the reports until next meeting.

- i. Motion denied.

C. Motion made to limit report to 1 minute, unless requested.

- i. Motion passed.

#### D. Projects Groups

- i. T. Bazzi-Our minutes can be found on Blackboard from our meeting.
- ii. A. Szyptman- Food Advisory has met with Aramark to discuss food recovery.
- iii. C. Gregory- We are waiting to set a meeting time, as well as looking into getting food trucks on campus, as well as looking into extending food eatery hours.

#### E. College Representatives

- i. W. Alexander- I am working with Housing and Jeanine to update the volleyball courts.
- ii. A. Martin- Now that school is back in session, meeting with the Honors Dean, Dean Herron will be much easier.
- iii. A. Harrison- I met with my Deans, and we discussed working on our community engagement as well as looking into an entrepreneurship class. We will also be looking into increasing attendance at CFPCA activities such as plays and musicals.
- iv. K. Reeves- I met with the Nursing Dean, she has an open door policy which is a new initiative for increasing communication with nursing students.
- v. S. Ahmed- I will be meeting with the Dean of College of Education next week.
- vi. M. Salim- The medical school is very interested in reconnecting with main campus. If you have any ideas on how to connect the two campuses, let me know.

#### F. Senators-At-Large

- i. E. Diviney- The Welcome Center has hired a new Admissions Director will invite them to a future meeting
- ii. C. Gregory- In the future, I would like to be able to discuss what AmeriCompetes needs from us to discuss the bill proposal.

#### G. Advisor

- i. D. Strauss- I've hired new staff who will be beginning over the next couple of weeks.

#### VII. Announcements

- A. W. Alexander- We are all doing a great job. Go Team!
- B. W. Alexander- Look for an e-mail and sign-up regarding Student Org Day.

VIII. Gallery Comments

- A. Andrew- A lot of students that I've talked to feel as if they are being treated unfairly due to the fact that there are no designated smoking areas.

IX. Adjournment

- A. Meeting was adjourned at 8:54 PM on Thursday September 3, 2015 in Room 285 of the Student Center.