

**STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION
SECOND MEETING
SEPTEMBER 14, 2008
7:00 PM - OFFICE OF ELECTRONIC MEDIA – TV STUDIO.**

I. Roll Call

Present: President A. Rook, Secretary Y. Beamon, Sgt. at Arms L. Nettles, Treasurer C. Olivier, Senator D. Felix, Senator B. Tate, Trustee C. McFarland.

Absent: Vice President Guiliano, Senator VanVossen

Audience Members: Cynthia Thompson, Steven Black.

II. Pledge of Allegiance

- Pledge of Allegiance taken by all SGA committee members.

III. Approval of Agenda

- Agenda for today's meeting were approved.

IV. Approval of Minutes

- Minutes from August 24, 2008 were approved

V. Administrative Reports

- Cynthia Thompson: SGA Elections started Wednesday September 17th and will run through September 18th. They start at 10am Wednesday morning and end 4pm Thursday evening. The election is completely online. Some students don't have access to computer and are encouraged to ask for assistance from the Student Center Staff. There should be no one unable to vote because they did not have access to a computer.

VI. Office Reports

- President – A. Rook:

The "GO GREEN" Bike Program is being sponsored by the Division of Student Affairs. The division is taking donated bikes, painting them green and loaning them out to people to ride around campus. If anyone is interested in using this program or donating a bike, contact the co-sponsors TRAC and Diversity Center. JT Timmons or Jeannie Jones. We have been discussing with the Editor in Chief of The Journal Amanda Dahlquist about potentially doing an occasional SGA column in the newspaper. The column would highlight SGA matters. This would be a great way to publicize events that SGA is participating in and highlight issues

that students should be concerned about. All material would be due on the Thursday before the next issue would come out. Rook is interested in writing an article on voting matters.

The newly elected Senators will be installed at the September 28th SGA meeting. We will be taking pictures as a group and individually that day, reminders will be sent out. Charles and Ashley were involved in a press conference with Senator Dick Durbin about text books. The press conference went really well. The bill discussed is about more transparency in text book practices. Charles had nothing to add.

We are still in the process of planning a SGA leadership conference. The conference would highlight Robert's Rules of Order and practical skills we would need as SGA members. The date is to be determined after the installation of the new senators

➤ Secretary- Y. Beamon

Did not have a formal report. Just encouraged everyone who participates in the SGA meeting to speak clearly. It is very difficult to decipher through information for the minutes if it is unclear.

➤ Treasurer- C. Olivier

Also did not have a formal report but the past week he attended a U of Illinois Connection Advocacy conference. Received more information for the budget for the entire school. A more formal officer report will be given at the next SGA meeting. UIS received an inflationary budget increase of 2.76 but due to the loss of UIS graduate students the campus budget will potentially cut.

➤ Sergeant at Arms- L. Nettles

No report

➤ BOT C. McFarland

The Board of Trustees passed the operating budget for the school system. All three campuses and global campus and all administration will be operating off of a 4.2 Billion dollar budget. Trustee McFarland spoke with Rick Shell, the head governmental relations person for U of I. We are in the process of planning a U of I lobby day "Illinois Day" at the State capital to lobby for the university. It is important that UIS have a presence there since we are in Springfield.

UIS Public Safety Building is ranked number 4 on the list of U of I properties that they want to build on the campus.

Talked to Ashley before the meeting and discussed the enrollment of over 1400 online students. These students do not have representation on SGA, possibly an online Senator on SGA to represent the students. This would have to be put into a

referendum and voted on by the students. President White was excited to find that UIS students are getting involved on campus and was impressed to hear that there were 15 candidates for SGA positions and a 7-way race for SGA Senator at Large.

VII. Reports

➤ Campus Senate

At the August 29th meeting there were various “first readings” of resolutions discussed eliminating Community Arts Management Concentration. This is part of the MPA program which has been defunct for a while. There was also a resolution for reducing the number of credit hours from 39 to 36 in the MBA program which would make it more competitive. There was also discussion and resolution to add a Management Minor to the College of Business and Management. All of these were just first readings.

At the September 12th meeting the Provost mentions the issues with enrollment again this year. Over all the enrollment has been pretty good but first year, transfer and graduate student is up. However the area of concern is continuing students. The figures given by the Provost is that we are down 125 graduate students and that is 25% of the population. This lost of students creates one and a half million dollar short fall. This is something we should take-up in our Senator work and on the CARR committee.

The resolutions that were passed were the number of credit hours for the MBA major and the Management Minor to the College of Business Management.

➤ Renee Rathjen, ICCB Chair

Rathjen discussed a basic report of ICCB as it stands. It is broken down into three sections, membership, by-laws, and budget. Currently have 6 members on the board and we should have 8. The treasurer keeps track of all of the money allocations.

The bylaws are the most important goal this year. The board is creating 5 large event grants. Food expenditures were 65% of what the ICCB budget last year. The current budget is 35,825.02 and is split in half for the two semesters. These funds being split will leave approximately 15412.52 for each semester for general funding requests and 2500 for the large event grants.

VII. New Business

➤ *Transportation*

Transportation on this campus has been an ongoing issue on campus. Brett Tate met with the Director of SMTD. A student fee might help cover a bus route custom for UIS students. Suggested that a survey be conducted asking why the students don't use the bus route and where the students want to go if they had a bus route. Town hall meetings and a variety of brown bag discussions were

suggested to find out how student really feel. We will contact Lincoln Land student government to see if they would be interested in the negotiations for the bus route.

➤ *Campus Committee on Committees.*

There is a brief list of Campus committees on committees in your packet. The committees are comprised on one chair and four members. The SGA Secretary will serve as the Chair of the committees. This committee just serves as way to make sure that members are going to their committees as they are suppose to. This ensures that all of the information that you are receiving in these meeting are being distributed properly. There will be 4 committees to each member of the committee on committees. Kathy Rutherford is the campus senate secretary and she in charge of the committee meetings and dates.

➤ *Office Hours*

Senators have 4 office hours and Officers have 6 office hours. Stick around after the meeting for assignments.

➤ *Rules and Constitution Committee*

Constitution has not been undated since 2004. Latrice would be the chair and there would have to be 4 voting members. Oliver and Felix were interested in serving on this committee.

VIII. Old Business

➤ *Voter Registration Drive*

Brandon and Ashley have met with some executives of the different partisan groups on campus. With the upcoming election it is apparent that voter registration is paramount. SGA should play an active role with getting information out to people on campus. We will be setting up a voter registration drive. The plan is to combine voter registration with homecoming week. All registration information needs to be in by October 7th. Having a voter registration table that the various event such the bon fire and soccer game. You need to have 2 forms of ID and we should let student know that when they attempt to register. This would be combined with College Dem, College Reps and Campus Greens. There will be an educational component and potentially hosting local candidate debates on campus. Hosting debates depend on candidate and homecoming schedule.

➤ *Fall Elections and Appointments*

The candidate forum is this upcoming Tuesday and start at 4:30 in the Food Emporium. If anyone is interested in supporting these candidates that would be great. The elections will be this week and we will have the results by Friday. The inauguration will be October 4th and the Soccer game and the Senators will be formally installed at the September 28th meeting. There is a pretty good response on appointments there is an enclosure in the board packet of the appointment timeline.

VIII. Audience Participation

X. Adjourn

- Next Meeting on September 28, 2008