

**STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION  
THIRD MEETING  
September 28, 2008  
7:00 PM - OFFICE OF ELECTRONIC MEDIA – TV STUDIO.**

**I. Roll Call**

**Present:** President A. Rook, Vice President B. Guiliano, Secretary Y. Beamon, Sgt. at Arms L. Nettles, Treasurer C. Olivier, Trustee C. McFarland, Senator D. Felix, Senator B. Tate, Senator M. VanVossen, Senator K. Chislom, Senator G. Sista, Senator K. Patel, Senator V. Sekardi and Senator W. Kampwerth.

**Absent:**

**Audience Members:** Cynthia Thompson, Mary Umbarger, Pete Nickeas and Steven Black.

**II. Pledge of Allegiance**

- Pledge of Allegiance taken by all SGA committee members.

**III. Approval of Agenda**

- Agenda for today's meeting was approved.

**IV. Approval of Minutes**

- Minutes from September 14, 2008 were approved

**V. Administrative Reports**

- Cynthia Thompson: Welcomed the new Senators and congratulated all UIS students on a successful SGA election. The election was complaint free and encouraged students to ask for help if needed. Students should fill out 3 key requests for keys to the offices. This week is homecoming and encouraged all to get involved in the various activities for the week. Please stop by her office if there are any issues.

**VI. Office Reports**

- President – A. Rook:  
Welcomed new senators and pointed out the positions open for appointment. Senators are still needed for the Peoria Center and College of Human Services and Education. If you know of anyone please pass information on.
- Vice President - B. Guiliano

- Welcomed new Senators. SGA is currently discussing and formulating an Open Forum for students to talk to current SGA Representatives. On a regular basis this will happen so that the student body can come and express concerns and they be heard at the SGA meetings. Recently, the campus had the first Parking Appeals Board committee meeting and it went very well. Vice President Guiliano learned a lot about the parking situation on campus. The issues of parking will be addressed as soon as possible.
- Secretary - Y. Beamon  
Welcome to new senators and expressed the need to get new senator's name correct. The Committee on Admissions, Recruitment and Retention had their first meeting and there is a lot of work that needs to be done. Look forward to this year.
  - Treasurer - C. Olivier  
In the University of Illinois September 11<sup>th</sup> news release, U of I announced the approval of a natural gas-cost management plan. Under this plan, the university will save money by contracting for future deliveries of natural gas and purchasing gas when it is at its lowest market price. Also, the U-I system received a 2.76 increase in our base operating budget for the fiscal year 2009, which began July 1<sup>st</sup>. Trustees began work on the 2010 fiscal year budget request. This request will include 22.6 million for repairs and renovations on all of the U of I campuses. In order to reduce energy usage and lower utility costs.  
In other business, The Chicago Tribune selected Illinois Issues magazine as one of its 50 favorite magazines. UIS won the Excellence in Institution-Wide Online Teaching and Learning Programming award given by the Sloan Consortium.
  - Sergeant at Arms - L. Nettles  
Welcomed new senators and encouraged them to stay in touch with their constituency. Stay vocal and open communication lines between the students through out the year. The constitution and rules committee meeting discussed having a separate senators meeting to discuss upcoming issues that will be heard at the SGA meeting.
  - Trustee - C. McFarland  
Welcomed the new senators and encouraged the unsuccessful candidates to stay involved and join some of the committees. McFarland is continuously working with the Board of Trustees as far as the plus and minus grading system. Met with administration regarding campus safety and it was very productive. The board still does not have an official voting member between the campuses. The next board meeting will be November 13<sup>th</sup> on this campus. Hope to see all of you there.

## **VII. Reports**

- **Campus Senate**

The last meeting was Friday, September 22, 2008; two resolutions were passed at this meeting. One created a UIS Center for Online learning research and services. There was also a center for UIS Experiential and Service learning institute. Both of the centers are temporary. There was also some discussion of the university ethics code and UIS global campus. Global campus is the new online campus for the University of Illinois at Springfield. Currently there are 121 enrolled students and those are expected to double by January 2009. There are also 7 degrees, 8 certificates, and 4 courses so far.

➤ **Mary Umbarger, SAC Chair**

Briefly updated the association on the activities presented by SAC. There have been quite a few events and there has been record number attendance for these events. The campus is getting more active and more involved. There are many openings on the committee and they are looking to fill them. There is a much stronger general interested. Homecoming events are starting this week and there is utter excitement about the week ahead.

➤ **John Ringle- Director of Housing**

There was supposed to be a discussion of the laundry rates. There was a motion to suspend the rules and move John Ringle's report to the end of old business.

## **VII. New Business**

➤ *Civic Engagement*

There have been concerns from students about being penalized academically for missing class on Election Day. Ashley spoke with Provost Berman to address these issues. There is no time or ability to change academic policy to let everyone off on Election Day. We can pass a resolution through SGA to strongly recommend that professors allow students the opportunity to make up the work that they missed and not be penalized. That could hopefully get cosponsored by campus senate.

➤ *University Ethics Code*

The ethics code as it stands right now can severely affect student workers and how they participate politically. There is a considerable list of activities that limits any chance that students may have of being politically active. This is a big concern with the student workers. As it stands now, the issue is not advocating for a political candidate while at work but the university ethics office points out whether one can have a bumper sticker on your car or whether you can wear candidate paraphernalia to work. Issues of such can potentially cost a student his or her job. The ethics office is not clear as to what applies to student worker and what does apply to student workers. There needs to be definite clarification to make sure that students have the right to participate and be engaged. The U of I Ethics officer was contacted and has not gotten back to Trustee McFarland.

➤ *Resolutions*

There are two resolutions both on first readings. The first is a resolution on the creation of a Committee on Transportation. A motion and seconded was proposed to consider this resolution. There was a meeting with SMTD and was given a lot of helpful feedback on the survey in progress. It is clear that there needs to be a committee to tackle a lot of the issues.

The second resolution was on the creation of a committee on Campus Safety. A motion and second was proposed to consider this resolution. The campus police and administration is willing to work with SGA in trying to get some of the safety renovation done. There is an issue of lighting, sidewalks and code blue on the route from West side Housing to the TRAC and East side Housing to the TRAC. The building and grounds was contacted and asked to price the amount of the cost for getting the lighting and necessities needed. Chief Mitchell is very supportive in facilitating ride along and safety walks.

## **VIII. Old Business**

### ➤ *Voter Registration Drive*

A voter registration drive has been set up for the week. There is still a need for volunteers and deputy registrars to staff the tables. There is alternating table between UHB lobby, Food Emporium and the Residence Halls. We are hoping a strong support and strong campus support. A suggestion to put a table in the Housing Commons was considered but due to very light day traffic it may be ineffective to put a table there. A table at the Homecoming BBQ was also considered.

### ➤ *Transportation*

Transportation on this campus has been an ongoing issue on campus. Brett Tate met with the Director of SMTD. There was a survey put together that may be distributed at various town hall meetings or through web tools. The discussion continued with extensive discussion in regard to SMTD potential route changes. THE SMTD consultant is coming in to discuss the potential rerouting of the bus services. The survey will be used to gather data in regard to why students do not use the bus services and if they do where do they go.

### ➤ *Office Hours*

Senators have 4 office hours and Officers have 6 office hours. Stick around after the meeting for assignments. There is 18 open committee positions please sign up for the committee of your interest. A mobile office is considered to set up office hours for students to work at the Food Emporium or Mary Jane café.

### ➤ *Rules and Constitution Committee*

Constitution has not been undated since 2004. There was a discussion of articles in the constitution and bylaws that do not apply anymore. There was discussion of position requirements. An article will be added that addresses the duties and requirements of the SGA as a whole. These will be finalized by the time of the

next meeting. A senators committee will be considered to build communication a between the executive board and the senators.

## **VIII. Audience Participation**

### **X. Adjourn**

- Next Meeting on October 12, 2008