**University of Illinois Springfield**

**Student Government Association**

**Meeting Minutes**

Student Union – Student Leadership Center

Sunday, September 23, 2018

1. Meeting called to order by President Dawoud at 6:00pm.
2. Roll Call
   1. Present: Trustee Humphrey, President Dawoud, Internal VP Cunningham, External VP Rude, Secretary Loera, Treasurer Qazi, Senator Paoletti, Senator Hunt, Senator O’Daniel, Senator Reuss, Senator Ayankojo, Senator Ogunbameru, Parliamentarian Coultas
   2. Absent: Senator Carter, Senator Sharma
3. Approval of the Agenda
   1. A motion was entertained by President Dawoud to approve the agenda of September 23th. So moved by External VP Rude, seconded by Internal VP Cunningham.

Unanimous Aye

1. Approval of the Minutes
   1. A motion was entertained by President Dawoud to approve the minutes of September 9th. So moved by Internal VP Rude, seconded by Treasurer Qazi.

Unanimous Aye

1. Audience Participation

In attendance (copied from attendance sheet): Dana Vollmen, Sage Szczypiorski, Erika Suzuki, Ashley Foyel, Aaron Shures, Daniel Maibeuco, Dominic Marchiori, Charles Perino, Joel Lemment, Kathy Dehen, Luigi Cabantog, Alex Kanai, Susan Koch, Mark Dochterman, Kelsea Gurski, Chuck Goderko, Alicia Madden, Hannah Roberts, Genna Logan, Keysen Maddey, Jim Bonacum, Kailyn Jayla, Sarah Moore, Teri Kidd, Sophia Nesselin, Jenni Rogers, Carol Saltsgaver

* 1. Chancellor Koch
     1. Attends first meetings of Campus Senate & SGA to provide updates, future projects, and hear what’s important for students.
     2. Acquisition of Innovate Springfield. downtown business incubator, as of August 1, will be part of Illinois Innovate Network.
        1. Opportunity for students interested in economic development.
     3. Reaching Stellar campaign, goal of raising 40 million dollars for university
        1. Reached 56% of goal.
     4. new search lights on roof of PAC
     5. renovation of second floor of library
     6. Sangamon lobby floor will be renovated
        1. will include staircase
     7. New field station on Springfield, multipurpose facility
        1. opens October 1st.
     8. UIS Bookstore renovation starting next week
        1. moving to old Food Emporium location.
        2. will be open before end of first semester.
     9. Improvements to campus grounds
        1. Koi pond
           1. Governor’s mansion renovated, koi fish needed home.
           2. 18 koi fish, oldest fish is 18 years.
        2. Sustainable approach
           1. Circle drive to be planted with buffalo grass.
           2. Take less care and less money to maintain.
        3. benches on quad
     10. master planning process- all year long
         1. looking 10 years out, what will we build.
     11. Division 2 athletics
         1. student athletes avg GPA 3.3, softball team’s GPA is 3.8.
         2. Baseball and Softball won conference championship.
     12. Arts
         1. Had very first theatre graduate this year.
         2. fall theatre production- “Silent Sky.”
            1. Starts Oct 19th.
         3. UIS Music- Brown Bag Recital Series
            1. Starting in Union every Tuesday.
            2. During lunch hours.
     13. Performing Arts Center
         1. Ticket prices for students are lower.
     14. Rec Palooza
         1. Over 800 students attended.
     15. Closing- Koch’s job everyday is to create a place where people want to be engaged. This includes current and prospective students, and our faculty and staff. Also she makes sure our trustees are working for us.
     16. Freshman class is 14% larger, future is bright.
  2. Associate Chancellor for Public Affairs – Kelsea Gurski
     1. Introduction- Started position in May.
     2. Responsible for traditional marketing, communications, and web services of the university.
     3. serves as Chief of Staff to the Chancellor.
     4. Graduated from UIS 10 years ago in Communication.
     5. Former journalist for the State Journal-Register.
  3. Alicia Madden
     1. President of Loud for Animals at UIS.
        1. Small animal rights group on campus.
     2. She denounces the new UIS policy against feeding feral cats on campus
     3. Claims it is unlawful to release wildlife without the approval of the Department of Natural Resources.
        1. Claims that wildlife specified are being executed.
        2. Her group demands that wildlife are treated with nonviolence, alike with cats.
     4. Loud for Animals started a petition that resulted in more than 1800 signatures, and this reflects good naturedness.
        1. She promotes student involvement to provide care for cats.
     5. Claims administration prioritized moving in non-native fish into a koi pond, instead of putting efforts into dealing with nonnative species on campus.
        1. Claims those financial resources could of gone towards a TNVR program and volunteer resources.
        2. Claims feral cats will be drawn to fresh water and food in the middle of campus where the koi fish are.
     6. Claims that while the policy is made to seem that public health and safety is what policy is about, it is about the cats.
     7. President Dawoud made it clear that SGA did not sit through policy making process.
        1. SGA represents students and advocates for them.
        2. SGA is working on public forum with administration and President Dawoud suggests bringing the issue of the campus cats policy.
  4. Campus cats controversy
     1. There were 11 speakers who are for the implementation of a TNVR program on campus and argued that the administration has not been transparent in the decision making. The argument was made that the cats on campus pose no threat and are a part of the culture of UIS.
     2. Those who spoke included a few UIS students, a faculty member, an activist from the Springfield community, a concerned community member, a graduate from UIS, a local veterinarian, a manager of a spay-neuter clinic. Refer to the list of audience participants.

1. Administrative report
2. Advisor Cynthia Thompson
   1. SGA elections going on this week.
      1. candidates for every position, except for peoria campus.
      2. transfer and undergrad positions have 3 students running for each.
      3. Election committee deals with complaints.
3. Officer Reports
4. President Dawoud
   1. Attended IML leadership training in Chicago.
      1. Saw real world government at work.
   2. Elections are this week, Sept 26 & 27.
   3. Elections debate on Tuesday.
      1. Hosted by elections committee.
      2. Will be held 6 pm in the Union’s sports grill.
   4. Duck Hunt Event- Putting it together and ordering merchandise.
   5. SGA working with administration to host a forum.
      1. Administrators are invited.
5. Trustee Humphrey
   1. Absent.
6. Internal Vice-President Cunningham
   1. Interviewed webmaster position few days prior with President Dawoud & Secretary Loera.
   2. Worked on first resolution regarding SGA committees.
7. External Vice-President Rude
   1. No report.
8. Treasurer Qazi
   1. No report.
9. Secretary Loera
   1. SGA hiring student for webmaster position to handle marketing of events.
   2. SGA IML training provided a great opportunity for SGA members.
10. Parliamentarian Coultas
    1. No report.
11. Senator Reports
    1. No reports.
12. Committee Reports
    1. no committee reports.
13. Old Business
    1. SGA Duck Hunt Event
       1. SGA plans to purchase 100 rubber ducks to hide around campus.
       2. Redeem at the SGA office for prizes.
       3. Goal is to familiarize students with the SGA office and representatives.
14. New Business
    1. Resolution # 003 – Committee Reduction & Reassignment
       1. There are currently 14 standing committees.
          1. Too many for SGA, members typically sit on a few committees.
       2. The resolution renames committees, rewrites bylaws so that there’s one SGA rep per committee.
       3. The only committee being eliminated is the “Committee of the Whole.”
       4. Committees will be formed after election.
       5. Comments from President Dawoud
          1. Held andrew’s position last year.
          2. Not a lot of material to cover for some committees.
          3. Combining committees will be more efficient.
       6. A motion was entertained by President Dawoud to approve Resolution #003.

Unanimous Aye

* 1. Resolution # 004 – Fall 2018 Elections Debate Allocation
     1. Funding allocation request of 200 dollars for flyers and pizza.
     2. A motion was entertained by President Dawoud to approve Resolution #004.

Unanimous Aye

* 1. Resolution # 005 – Meeting Location
     1. Senator O’Daniel
        1. Meeting in the Union has a distracting environment and the audience can’t really hear SGA members speak
        2. Meeting in PAC allowed for audience members to be closer.
     2. Senator Hunt
        1. Thinks there is a lot of interference and glare from windows.
        2. Despite previously meeting in excluded area back in PAC, participation can be improved through marketing.
     3. President Dawoud
        1. Original intent- to have meetings in the ballroom of Union.
        2. It was recommended to try the Student Leadership Center,
     4. Internal VP Cunningham
        1. Suggests tabling resolution and wait till the next meeting,
        2. Hopefully issues can be resolved.
     5. Senator Ogunbameru
        1. Thinks PAC is very hidden, perhaps setting up audio equipment differently can improve sound quality.
     6. Senator Ayankojo
        1. Believes the Union is a good location for meetings.
        2. Students see SGA and it is convenient to sit in audience.
     7. Senator Reuss
        1. Agrees with fellow senators, SLC location is more open.
        2. Solution involves getting better audio.
        3. Agrees with Internal VP Cunningham on tabling resolution until new senators are elected.
     8. Treasurer Qazi
        1. Finds issue with various noise interference.
     9. Internal VP Cunningham
        1. In a meeting with Dr. Ford last spring, she made the statement that student’s biggest complaint about SGA is that students do not know where SGA meets and who the representatives are.
        2. Dr. Ford believed SGA needed a location change.
     10. Advisor Thompson
         1. Met with Ann Comerford about alternative locations to meet in the Union.
     11. A motion was entertained by President Dawoud to approve Resolution #005.

Unanimous Aye

1. Adjourn
   1. President Dawoud entertained a motion to adjourn. So moved by Internal VP Cunningham, seconded by Treasurer Qazi.

Meeting adjourned at 7:46pm.