University of Illinois Springfield

Student Government Association

Performing Arts Center – TV Studio/Zoom

Sunday, August 29th, 2021

Meeting Notes

1. Call to order – 6:14pm
2. Roll Call
   1. Missing – Sarah Boyle, Dhara Patel, James Naughton, Austin Verthein, Sowmith Nagabhiru
3. Approval of the Agenda
   1. Approved
4. Approval of the Minutes
   1. N/A
5. Audience Participation
   1. Collin Moseley – Credit/No Credit
6. Administrative Report
   1. Advisor Cynthia Thompson
      1. Fall Welcome – success so far
      2. Elections – excitement for SGA
      3. Daisy, Kyle, Samantha – SGA training recognized
      4. Reach out to Cynthia for anything!
7. Officer Reports
8. President Jarrod Knapper
   1. Good Relationship with External Affairs and Staff
      1. Covid Policy
   2. How to write a resolution for new members
   3. Resolution – diversity and inclusion committee
      1. Our events, SOFA events, student events, etc.
      2. Checks the inclusivity of the event
      3. Presented at next meeting
   4. Talks with administrators
      1. Constant contact
   5. Mini series with the Chancellor
      1. Talks about her own agenda & student questions
      2. Chats with the Chancellor
      3. Under the tent (tentative)
      4. Smaller audiences
   6. Stay in contact via email & phone
9. BOT Representative Austin Verthein
   1. n/a
10. Internal Vice-President Kyle Stauder
    1. No report (introduction)
11. External Vice-President Daisy Solorzano
    1. No report (Introduction)
12. Interim Treasurer Claudia Mika
    1. SOFA Training
13. Secretary Samantha Wetter
    1. Audience Participation
       1. Push money towards this (advertise, food/drink, etc)
    2. UIS/LLCC Student Discount
       1. iCard Perks (Qdoba, Head West, etc)
          1. Sarah (iCard office)
          2. Extend to other stores (have to get permission from stores)
    3. SAC & SGA Collaboration/Event Participation
       1. Open for ideas
    4. Liaison for SAC (point of contact)
14. Parliamentarian James Naughton
    1. N/A
15. Senator Reports
    1. Campus Resident Senator: Zugey Olvera (zuu-hey)
       1. Sent out survey to on campus students about wants
          1. Ice machines, water fountain on each floor
          2. Wants support from other organizations
    2. College of Business & Management Senator: Menno Servaes
       1. Electric charging station
          1. Leaving project aside from now
          2. Open to pick up by anyone else
       2. Building College of B&M Leadership Team
          1. Connect students with deans directly
       3. Health Insurance for International Students
    3. College of Liberal Arts & Sciences Senator: Dhara Patel
       1. N/A
    4. College of Public Affairs & Administration Senator: Will Formea
       1. No report (Introduction/Comments)
    5. Graduate Student Senator: Sowmith Nagabhiru
       1. N/A
    6. Online Student Senator: Sarah Boyle
       1. N/A
    7. Peoria Campus Senator: Angie Gin
       1. Classes on ground in spring
       2. Engage students more
          1. Mostly commuters, transfers, & non-traditional
       3. SGA meeting in Peoria
          1. Spring meeting if doable
    8. Undergraduate Student Senator: Molly Harms
       1. SGA Library Representative
          1. Meetings/progress going well
          2. Contact for questions
       2. Library & Student Success Center (Tentative Title)
          1. New name ideas are welcome
16. Committee Selections
    1. Campus Senate – 5 members
    2. Student Discipline – 4 members
    3. Academic Integrity Council
    4. Academic Technology
    5. Committee on Recruitment
    6. Assessment of Student Learning
    7. Campus Planning & Budget
    8. Diversity, Equal Rights, Opportunity & Access
    9. General Education Council
    10. Intercollegiate Athletics
    11. Committee of the Library
    12. Committee on Sustainability
    13. Undergraduate Council
    14. Graduate Council
    15. General Education Review Committee
        1. Sign-up sheet with Jarrod
17. Old Business
18. New Business
    1. Credit/No Credit grading for 21/22 Academic Year
       1. Credit/No Credit established Spring 2020
          1. Lots of colleges chose to adopt it
          2. Transitioned back to not having credit/no credit
       2. Students should be receiving the same general education prior to COVID-19
          1. Want to continue pushing them in their academics
       3. No current plans to re-establish Credit/No Credit
       4. Audience Participation
          1. Can’t expect that students should be expected to perform as they would pre-pandemic
             1. Mitigations and limitations still in place from pandemic despite more opportunities opening up
          2. No guarantee that UIS won’t change mitigations in the coming months
          3. Policy made based on mental health struggles (affecting all types of students on a general basis rather than case by case)
          4. Not as though students have to choose Credit/No Credit, but it gives them the option for those who are struggling
          5. Without policy, it’s up to the professors
       5. Open Floor
          1. Time to go back
             1. UIS is trying to go back to being as normal as possible
          2. Still isn’t normal
             1. Some in person classes were moved to remote
             2. Unfair to assume that everything is “back to normal”
          3. No power to change the policy (non-voting), but input can be addressed
          4. Not everything is normal, but normal has changed
             1. Try to get back to normal even if we aren’t “back to normal” (ie pre-pandemic)
             2. Moving grading scale would bring back a sense of normalcy
          5. Students taking a class as credit/no credit is not ideal
             1. Especially for grad students
          6. Some students have only had one semester of traditional grading
          7. When is normal going to come back?
             1. Currently not foreseeable
             2. Help students get reacquainted with traditional grading
          8. Important to have students to have a normal grading scale
             1. More important to do this when a better sense of normalcy is established
             2. Grading scale itself is not changed
          9. Some programs don’t accept credit/no credit, but that doesn’t mean credit/no credit should be abolished
             1. Some students need the stress alleviated
             2. Not every student will go to grad school
             3. Present credit/no credit as an option, consult your advisor with help in making those decision(s)
          10. Grad school clear up – in favor of keeping credit/no credit
              1. Trust the student to make the right decision for their program
              2. Students who want to go to grad school will avoid credit/no credit
          11. Balance between too much support and not enough support
              1. Too much support – stuck in their ways
              2. Not enough – frustrated, stressful
              3. Better to have credit/no credit rather than nothing at all
    2. Elections
       1. Elections are open for students to apply
          1. Fall elections
             1. Transfer Student Senator
             2. International Student Senator
             3. Senator at Large (2)
             4. Education & Human Services Senator
             5. Freshman Senator
          2. Encourage students to apply
          3. SGA needs to promote unfilled positions
          4. Stronger when there are several candidates
          5. Taking place Sept 22 & 23 (online)
             1. Closing date for applications Sept 10
       2. Candidates Meeting Tues Sept 14th
    3. SGA Training
       1. Training Session Sept 26th
          1. Training that afternoon to install new members
             1. Position roles
             2. How to write a resolution

Pre-recorded video sent via email

1. Discussion
   1. Collaboration with Diva Cups
      1. Available for all female & female identifying students
      2. Using some SGA budget & partnering with Period, Women’s Center, Health and Services, etc.
         1. Women’s Center will house the cups
      3. Vending machines for more accessibility
      4. $15, everything included (need to order in groups of 6)
      5. Send out survey to female & female identifying students to judge interest
      6. No current set date/resolution
      7. Contact Jarrod for questions/involvement
         1. Preferably a female leader for this project
      8. Menstrual Map project was a success, so interest will be high
   2. Look at previous/current issues, figure out how to mitigate them
      1. Here to improve & sustain the student experience
         1. ie Stars Supply Shop, Food Pantry support
      2. Look at where we’re at and see what we can do to best serve our students
   3. Business cards traditional, open to new ideas
      1. Linq
         1. has RFID code for $9.99, free app give you QR code
      2. Beneficial if talking to constituents
      3. Not many students take business cards, a bit expensive to print, etc.
      4. Open to print if needed
      5. Pre-cut printable business cards a possibility
   4. Head Shots
      1. Resolution TBA
   5. Name Tags
      1. Resolution TBA
2. Adjourn – 7:41