Springfield

Student Government Association

PAC TV Studio / Zoom Sunday, October 6th, 2024

Agenda

1. Call to order: Meeting called to order at 6:01 pm
2. Roll Call : Emma, Chris Johnson, Sri Charan, Samuel, Chris combs, Bhavana, Karac Henderson, Ganesh, John Kennedy, Alexander, Sarah, Matilda, Alora, Romina, Alaba, Timothy.

Absent – Aparna, Abhishek

1. Approval of the Agenda: Emma moved to approve the agenda, seconded by Chris Johnson. Agenda approved.
   * Approval of September 22nd minutes: Emma motioned to postpone the agenda to the next meeting, seconded by Samuel.
2. Audience Participation
3. Administrative Reports
4. Advisor Cynthia Thompson : Reminded the new members of SGA to get their photos taken on October 9th from 9 am to 1 pm or October 10th from 12 noon to 4:30 pm.
5. Advisor Steven Johnson : Update on advising survey, where the survey has gone through another review process with selected campus administrators and we are moving forward with the survey that has been approved by SGA . Cynthia and Dr. Johnson are working with assessment office, the institutional office , for that to move forward we have to fill out a form
6. Officer Reports:

Emma: Attended the campus senate and senate executive meetings. In the senate executive meeting much of my contribution is about the concern was students use of artificial intelligence, faculty are complaining that student are using AI that is not proper and there is lot of plagiarizing. The student disciplinary committee is going to work with that issue. Students are unable to find balance as come faculty are asking to use AI and some are not. Attended the alumni board and shared experience at UIS and shared some updates on student enrollment and also had follow up etiquette dinner.

Sri Charan: Had meeting with Emmanuel on deciding the internal and external affair committee and have discussed about the candidate. There has been a concern raised by students regarding the food at Student Union, there are no labels mentioned for the vegetarian food and sometimes people deny taking food from the campus due the confusing and I have reported that to the director of food department.

Matilda : Had opportunity to be the part of home coming and had meeting for choosing the people who are going to be part of internal and external committee.

Samuel : Currently in our account we have $10,000 and with the $8000 separate for the SAC. Served on the GECO committee mapping syllabi and doing learning outcomes for critical thinking. Student fee committee met last Friday and will be meeting again on next Friday, to go through the changes in student fees if there will be increases , it is an advisory body. Lot of things are far behind and not adjusted for inflation since pre covid . Lighting colony met this week and there is a progress. SOFA today had a meeting where it had 25 requests , 24 of which were approved with some amendment one was denied. $5000 or $6000 dollars were approved today for 25 events.

Chris Johnson: Tried to attend many events conducted by diversity center and agencies surrounding that. Also attended the home coming events and had conversations with international student service regarding the children center.

Bhavana : Participated in the home coming event with Romina and Sri Charan which is window painting . Attended meeting with library committee and got introduced to the board and also the resources and has a follow up meeting in the middle of October.

Chris Combs : Contacting people from rules and constitution committee and talked to the SOFA,SAC and people from student body at large to get them included on the committee .

1. Senator Reports:
2. Alaba: Had first meeting with the director of the child care center regarding the issue around the mail received to international students from ISS. Received mail from student saying that she has been charged the tuition fee twice despite paying the fee earlier. Had meeting with tuition fee committee.
3. Ganesh: Met Associate dean and discussed about the course curriculum and the grading system , the main concern regarding the grading system is that the students are not taking it seriously and students are maintaining low attendance percentage in on-campus classes. Also spoke to her regarding students being charged with online fee even though they are attending on-campus classes. Recently, a student from India reached out seeking help and he got his I20 from shorelite and to get the i20 he had to pay $500 and the visas of students who are coming from India to UIS are getting rejected(chances of getting rejected) as the in the Indian consulate UIS is black listed.
4. Alora: Attended the Stoko ceremony of investiture where we honored Dr.Hoff and during that had learned about 2 research projects that are about to take place one is about the experiences of black women and second was preservation and dissemination of African American wisdom.
5. Romina: Explained the background information surrounding the issue related to the mail sent out to the international students regarding pictures been taken at child care center.
6. Karac Handerson: Attended the campus senate and also attended the event for the high school students from Ashikago, Japan. Heard mixed opinions on food at student union , one positive is the change in hours and negative about the labeling not available and not very options available for vegan or vegetarians.
7. Sarah(disturbance on the zoom) : Met with the previous chair of the university requirements committee.
8. John Kennedy: Meeting with students if they have concerns, one concern that ICards not working at the vending machines.
9. Alexander: Working with the road committee which we are thinking to change the name to DEI committee (it is about discrimination of international students in the online space).
10. Timothy Malit: Trying to involve in the community to see how transfer student might experience UIS.
11. Old Business
12. SAC’s presentation decision

Emma made a recommendation that SGA allocate funds by giving some recommendations that will bridge the gap between online students , commuter/ transfer students and on-ground students and opened the floor to discussion. After hearing to all the conversations and suggestions SGA came to a conclusion. Samuel made a motion to approve the $8000 to SAC and with recommendations. Seconded by Karac Henderson.

**Suggestions for recommendations :**

1. To attend one NACA with more people.
2. If more people then expected wanted to attend NACA we ask them to fund themselves or by raising funds.
3. Limit the expenses on hotels and other expenses.
4. SAC continue working with Student life ensuring that their programming is more outfitted for other bodies of students, such as transfer, commuter students and online students.
5. Timely updates on what is being spent and the events been hosted with attendance.

Motion approved unanimously.

1. SGA Allocation process :

Move allocations for the semester before beginning of classes.

Application request by early April the request come-in, mid late April SGA initial round of review, May-June review questions and answers, mid-august last round of review, end of august approval of budget.

Alexander motioned to postpone the discussion, seconded by Sarah. Abstained by Chris and Sri Charan.

1. SGA Retreat Timeline

* Oct 20th  time 4 to 5pm, location Is not yet decided

1. SGA Colonnade lighting Timeline

November 15th is colonnade lighting day. Samuel and John request food and also music.

1. SGA Town-hall

Time of hosting a town hall should be post mid-term.

1. Discussion

Internal and External affairs committees have been constructed and structured.

Science coalition, they are having a student video contest. They encourage student participation.

Parking fee committee is looking for two representatives from SGA.

1. Alaba
2. Chris Johnson

Emma motioned to set SGA meetings a limit to 2 hours seconded by Chris combs.

1. Adjourn

Emma motioned to adjourn the meeting and seconded by Samuel.