**University of Illinois Springfield Student Government Association Meeting Minutes**

Performing Arts Center – TV Studio Sunday, October 6, 2019

1. Meeting called to order by President Paoletti at 6:00pm.
2. Roll Call
   1. Present
      1. President Paoletti, Internal VP Cunningham, External VP Loera, Secretary Stinson, Treasurer Verthein, Parliamentarian Matthews, Senator Valente, Senator Flaherty, Senator Akpolonu, Senator Garland, Senator Diaz, Senator Moseley, Senator Sherman, Senator Wesley, Senator Ebel, Senator Shenoy, Senator Gin, Senator Pernitsky.
   2. Absent
      1. Trustee Dawoud, Senator Mustafaoglu.
3. Approval of the Agenda
   1. A vote was entertained by President Paoletti to approve the agenda of October 6th. So moved by Senator Diaz, seconded by Treasurer Verthein.

Unanimous Aye

1. Approval of the Minutes
   1. A motion was entertained by President Paoletti to approve the minutes of September 22nd. So moved by Senator Flaherty, seconded by Senator Diaz. Unanimous Aye
2. Audience Participation
   1. Chancellor Susan Koch
      1. Attends SGA Meetings as necessary/as invited and keeps in touch with SGA leadership
      2. Campus Leadership
         1. Ninth year as Chancellor of UIS
         2. VP of University of Illinois System
      3. UIS Strategic Compass 2028
         1. Before meeting, handed out copies of booklet to SGA members
      4. $66.5M in appropriations was granted by the State of Illinois in May for campus projects
         1. $5.5M dedicated for new public safety building
            1. Hoping to break ground this year
         2. $35M dedicated for new library and learning center
         3. $11M for deferred maintenance across campus
         4. $15M dedicated for project in downtown - UIS hub of the Illinois Innovation Network
      5. U of I System received 4.5% increase in operational funds this year
      6. Campus stats for this year
         1. UIS ranked top regional public university in Illinois, and also ranked 4th in Midwest
            1. Highest ranking UIS has ever received
            2. Helpful for recruitment and retention
         2. Freshman class grew by 18% this year - record-breaking
         3. Overall campus enrollment down again for 3rd year in a row
            1. Graduate enrollment is a challenge, especially international students
      7. Professor Deborah Anthony and students who worked on Mexican border with Dilley Pro Bono Project - provided legal advice to refugees seeking asylum in the U.S.
         1. To be featured in State Journal-Register next Sunday
      8. Advocated last month in D.C. for U of I with UIS Students, including President Paoletti and External VP Loera
      9. Natalie Kerr - Senior, Chemistry major at UIS, won the lab competition at UIUC this past week
         1. Advances to global competition in Berlin next week
      10. Division II Athletics
          1. Cross Country took titles at UIS Home Meet
          2. Volleyball 12-4, undefeated in GLVC currently
          3. Women’s and Men’s soccer also doing well in their conferences
          4. Appreciation for coaches
          5. Currently searching for new Athletic Director - hoping to hire one by early November
          6. Capital Campaign - goal $40M
             1. $31.4M raised so far
             2. 80% will be met by the end of October 2019
             3. #1 goal of this campaign is scholarships
      11. Budget is currently a challenge as a result of Illinois budget crisis a couple years ago
          1. Full confidence in leadership team
      12. Encouragement for student participation in performing arts
   2. President Paoletti - question for Chancellor Koch on maintaining scholarships regarding budget reduction
      1. Chancellor Koch:
         1. Recognizes money and financial aid is a major factor in UIS students’ decision to attend the University
         2. UIS was able to foresee the budget reduction and planned for that
         3. Plans to build reserves back up
   3. Treasurer Verthein - question on retention efforts and retention rates
      1. Chancellor Koch:
         1. Finishing school is important; money can be a major barrier in graduating
         2. STARS - special retention initiative for students coming from more challenging backgrounds
         3. SGA can help retention efforts by inform UIS faculty students’ points of view
            1. ACT entry scores are stronger and continue to increase
            2. Visibility is a challenge for UIS due to being only 48 years old

Emphasis on being only university in Illinois’ capital

* 1. Senator Moseley - question on tuition freeze the past five years
     1. Chancellor Koch
        1. Tuition rates are a decision made by the Board of Trustees
        2. Personally hoping for modest tuition increase
           1. Faculty evaluations
           2. Does not foresee negative impact on enrollment
  2. Senator Moseley - question about how wage increase for student workers would be influenced by potential tuition increase
     1. Chancellor Koch:
        1. Decision would be to either have an increased number of student workers, or increased wages and less employees
  3. Senator Diaz - question about student workers’ hours cut in Admissions office
     1. Chancellor Koch:
        1. Unaware of student hours being cut in Admissions office, plans to follow up, concerned with student employment due to it being a form of financial aid
  4. Senator Natty - question about expansion of departments/programs at UIS within new master plan and budget, and potential future influx of international students
     1. Chancellor Koch:
        1. Partnership with UIC’s Nursing Program - great influence on community due to top employer being healthcare
        2. Open Doors organization - comprehensive informational resource on international students and students studying abroad
  5. Chuck Coderko - Presentation on 2020 UIS Campus Master Plan
     1. Master plan website:
        1. [https://www.uis2020masterplan.com/](http://www.uis2020masterplan.com/)
     2. Master plan’s goals:
        1. To create premier educational experience
        2. Vibrant campus life and culture
        3. Implement growth strategies
        4. Foster partnerships
     3. Senator Diaz - question if there are plans to renovate elevators due to frequent breakdowns
        1. Chuck Coderko: Plans do exist to renovate the elevators.
     4. Senator Natty - drainage problems on campus
        1. Chuck Coderko: $30M in deferred maintenance will go toward repairing those areas, plans are in the works
     5. Peoria Senator: plans to demolish or keep “old-campus” temporary buildings?
        1. HRB and WUIS to be demolished
        2. Other four old campus buildings planned to be kept and renovated. Facades on the buildings will also be worked on to make them more appealing

1. Administrative Report
   1. Advisor Cynthia Thompson
2. 73 student organizations registered for this year
3. Homecoming weekend - October 11-13th
4. Fright Night/Haunted Library - October 18th
5. Officer Reports
   1. President Paoletti
6. Thank you to Production team
7. Emphasis on advocacy
   1. Students advocated in D.C. for UIS last week
   2. U of I day at IL State Capital next spring
8. Software updated for vending machines, issue with I-Cards is being resolved
9. SGA office is able to be used for storage for things like merchandise or other
10. LAS Senator - position still open
11. Facebook page, and UIS Connection page all updated; SGA website still a work in progress
12. Increased accessibility and use of shuttle by giving out phone number
13. UIS pins to be given out to SGA members soon
14. Renovated Performing Arts Center on campus
    1. Internal Vice-President Cunningham
15. Working with students doing marketing for SGA, in particular for SGA’s Facebook live for meetings, to increase views/engagement
16. Had undergraduate council meeting - reviewing final exam policy
17. Had first Internal Affairs Committee meeting - discussed later in meeting
    1. External Vice-President Loera
18. U of I System day in Washington D.C. about a week and a half ago - advocating for UIS and overall U of I system. Spoke with many representatives about UIS
19. Suicide awareness event name changed to “The Impossible Project”;

off-campus partners will be tabling at event to bring awareness to students about corresponding resources that exist in regards to suicide awareness

1. Will be working with Chair of Green Fee Committee on funding for some projects
   1. Treasurer Verthein
2. “99 Problems, 1 Solution” program - attempt to reinstate, last ran 2013
   1. Public internet forum for students to voice their opinions, ask questions, etc.
3. Recycling issue with on-campus housing, especially in apartments and townhouses
   1. Secretary Stinson

a. Attended SAC Meeting today as assigned liaison from External Affairs Committee, established relationship with them for any future communications

* 1. Parliamentarian Matthews

1. Had first meeting with Library Committee
   1. Budget cuts in library did not affect materials, but two full-time faculty positions cannot be filled currently
   2. Peer reference team - easier for students to approach peers rather than only having librarians for help
2. Senator Reports
   1. Senator Flaherty
      1. Blue Crew - standing committee to be made in Athletics
      2. SAC Tailgate next Friday
      3. Will be meeting with Dr. William Klein, Chair of the Department of Business Management
      4. Exploring idea of Political Science course being held in capital building; would increase connection to downtown
   2. Senator Valente
      1. Working on improvements in academic technology with committee
   3. Senator Moseley
      1. Code Blue lights
         1. Current renovation project in the works
      2. Flagpole outside
         1. Met with Director of Student Union, Ann Comerford to split expenses between SGA and Student Union
            1. Director Ann Comerford to take resolution to Vice Chancellor’s Office
   4. Senator Pernitsky
      1. Water fountain issue in Founders Residence Hall
         1. Project to replace all water fountains in residence halls in the works
   5. Senator Natty
      1. Middle elementary program meeting last Friday
   6. Peoria Senator Gin
      1. Future SGA meeting on Peoria campus - planning on Sunday, November 17th
   7. Senator Wesley
      1. Met with Equal Opportunity, Access, and Diversity Committee on September 30th
         1. Discussed committee’s mission to help align efforts
      2. Met with online coordinators, got an email sent out to some online students to introduce herself and her goals as online student senator
      3. Spoke with Career Development Center as liaison to establish relationship
   8. Senator Garland
      1. Transfer Student Week - October 21-25th
         1. Exploring idea of SGA meet & greet at some point during the week
   9. Senator Ebel
      1. Student discounts - currently exists with many larger chain businesses, but exploring plans to reach out to smaller businesses downtown to see if they would be interested in partnership as well
         1. Idea to use numbers from Facebook statistics to encourage businesses to participate in the discount program
      2. UIS Instagram - to be created and also possibly utilized to advertise the businesses who offer the student discounts
      3. Idea for “UIS Students Welcome” signs for businesses to place in their windows
         1. Application for businesses currently only online
   10. Senator Sherman
       1. Freshman Town Hall residence hall event
       2. Wants to get more decorations and color in residence halls, per requests of students
   11. Senator Diaz
       1. SGA Portrait dates: October 23rd 12-4:30pm & October 24th 9-1pm
       2. Plans for SGA online forum in the works for students to voice what they want to see SGA work on this year
   12. Senator Shenoy
       1. Spoke with International Student Services about how to encourage participation in upcoming international student festival
3. Committee Reports
   1. Executive Board Committee - report by President Paoletti
      1. Desire to schedule individual meetings with members in the near future
      2. Members should expect some “runaround” when contacting people with SGA matters
      3. SGA Members can miss no more than 3 meetings per semester
      4. Needs student representative for Campus Senate’s General Education Council, which meets every other Wednesday at 10-11am
   2. Internal Affairs Committee - report by Internal VP Cunningham
      1. Assigned members to be liaisons between departments to establish relationships
      2. Next meeting is October 15th
   3. External Relations and Marketing Committee - report by External VP Loera
      1. Exploring idea of putting students’ artwork in UIS tunnels
      2. Window signs or stickers for small businesses to be discussed with Campus Services
      3. UIS Instagram will be established soon
      4. Meeting on Peoria Campus - to be coordinated; perhaps “special” meeting rather than at time of the routine Sunday meeting
      5. Campus forum - Chancellor and Department heads will be there for students to ask questions
         1. Idea of the forum being transmitted over intercom
            1. Senator Flaherty noted that it may not be best to broadcast over entire intercom due to some students studying in the Union, which may deter them
   4. Rules and Constitution Committee - report by Parliamentarian Matthews
      1. Needs more members - currently only has two
4. Old Business
   1. Monetary resolutions need roll-call vote
   2. Resolution #2 – Portrait Allocation
      1. A motion was entertained by President Paoletti to approve the constitutional amendment. So moved by Senator Flaherty and seconded by Senator Diaz. Unanimous Aye
5. Resolution #3 – Business Cards
   1. A motion was entertained by President Paoletti to approve the constitutional amendment. So moved by Treasurer Verthein and seconded by Senator Diaz. Unanimous Aye
6. Resolution #4 - Boost Facebook Posts
   1. A motion was entertained by President Paoletti to approve the constitutional amendment. So moved by Senator Flaherty and seconded by Treasurer Verthein. Unanimous Aye
7. New Business
   1. None
8. Discussion
   1. None
9. Adjourn
   1. President Paoletti entertained a motion to adjourn. So moved by Treasurer Verthein, seconded by Senator Pernitsky.

Meeting adjourned at 8:06pm.