

University of Illinois Springfield
Student Government Association
Meeting Minutes

Performing Arts Center – TV Studio

Sunday, November 17, 2019

I. Meeting called to order by President Paoletti at 6:02pm.

II. Roll Call

A. Present

- i. President Paoletti, Internal VP Cunningham, External VP Loera, Secretary Stinson, Treasurer Verthein, Parliamentarian Matthews, Senator Aviles, Senator Flaherty, Senator Valente, Senator Garland, Senator Shenoy, Senator Sherman, Senator Moseley, Senator Diaz, Senator Natty, Senator Gin, Senator Pernitsky.

B. Absent

- i. Trustee Dawoud, Senator Wesley, Senator Ebel.

III. Approval of the Agenda

- A. President Paoletti entertained a motion to consent for the approval of the November 17th agenda. So moved by Senator Pernitsky, seconded by Senator Diaz. Unanimous consent.

IV. Approval of the Minutes

- A. President Paoletti entertained a request to consent for the approval of the November 3rd minutes. So moved by Senator Pernitsky, seconded by Senator Diaz. Unanimous consent.

V. Audience Participation

A. Dr. Gerard (Jerry) Joseph

- i. Associate Provost for Budget and Administrative Planning
 - 1. Required to have an annual discussion of potential tuition increase
 - 2. Last 5 years tuition has been frozen

3. During this year's discussion, a 1-1.8% tuition increase for UIS is being entertained
4. Informational handouts given to SGA Members showing tuition and fees in comparison to other public universities in Illinois
 - a. Increase only applies to incoming freshmen and transfer students beginning Fall 2020 semester; current undergraduate students not affected due to 4-year guarantee
5. A major cause of the increase in student fees for this current academic year is due the student insurance price increasing by nearly \$300
6. Deferred maintenance that campus needs is currently figured at \$30 M
7. The University needs to replenish its reserves
8. Board of Trustees makes final decision on tuition increase
 - a. Associate Provost is hoping it passes
9. Hoping enrollment will also increase to help with funds
10. About \$1.2 M in tuition waivers given (in recent years)

VI. Administrative Report

A. Advisor Cynthia Thompson

- a. Successful Rally, Forum, and i'MPOSSIBLE Project
- b. Colonnade Lighting coming up
- c. Concerns about boredom on campus - SGA to lead the charge on this issue
 - i. Task force--"Boredom Committee"--has been created and campus survey will be created to identify how to tackle this issue

VII. Officer Reports

A. President Paoletti

- i. SGA page on UIS website is up-and-running
- ii. Boredom on campus survey link will be posted on the page when it is created and published

- iii. Met with IL Board of Higher Education Student Advisory Committee
- iv. Green Bandana program - first aid and mental health training
- v. Student insurance fee is an issue - will be meeting with HR associate to discuss how to mitigate cost

B. Trustee Dawoud

- i. No report.

C. Internal Vice-President Cunningham

- i. Reorganization of College of Business & Management - passed onto Campus Senate
- ii. Continuing to define the University's final exam policy
 - 1. Policy describes what a student is required to do during the 16th week of the semester to ensure students getting the education for which they pay
- iii. Sponsored NPR Resolution

D. External Vice-President Loera

- i. i'MPOSSIBLE Project went over very well, seemed to be effective
 - 1. 136 attendees
- ii. Green Fee Committee meeting this week
- iii. Student Advocacy Coalition - training for U of I lobby day at the State Capital next semester

E. Treasurer Verthein

- i. SOFA passed a policy in today's meeting regarding consequences for RSO's when violating SOFA's Bylaws
 - 1. 1st violation - warning
 - 2. 2nd violation - suspension of requests for funds for 2 SOFA meetings
 - 3. 3rd violation - suspension of request for funds for 5 SOFA meetings
- ii. Kristi Barnwell - President of UIS United Faculty

1. Tabling for Stars Supply Shop - goal is to increase faculty awareness

F. Secretary Stinson

- i. General Education Council is currently looking at revising First Year Seminars
 1. There was an outline of proposed revisions submitted by GEC Member, Dr. Ken Mulliken, who is the Associate Vice Chancellor for Undergraduate Education
 - a. Have started looking over that and will continue to throughout the next few months

G. Parliamentarian Matthews

- i. Library Committee meeting this Tuesday
 1. Will present Natty's feedback regarding excessive noise mentioned at last SGA meeting

VIII. Senator Reports

A. College of Business & Management Senator: Nolan Flaherty

- i. Intercollegiate Athletics (IAC) meeting
 1. Narrowing down athletic director search
- ii. Blue Crew
 1. Still assembling board and establishing themes
- iii. Still looking into Political Science courses at Capital

B. Senator-At-Large: Collin Moseley

- i. Veterans Day activities on campus were successful
- ii. UIS Coalition Builders - Senator Moseley has been placed as member and is currently acting as SGA's representative

- iii. Ride-alongs with UIS Police will be one or two times per semester, based on need
- iv. Seeks to update SGA election policies & procedures
- v. Getting more involved with Green Fee Committee
- vi. SOFA T-Shirt Resolution to be discussed in new business

C. Campus Resident Senator: Max Pernitsky

- i. Met with Director of Residence Life, Brian Kelley, regarding strengthening relationship between SGA and RHA
- ii. In contact with Lt. Governor Stratton's office regarding process of appointing new Trustee to U of I System Board; UIS desires representation on Board of Trustees
- iii. SIU once attempted to establish political science program at Capitol building; U of I system was not in favor of it
- iv. Currently exploring the idea of UIS holding political science course(s) at Capitol building, rather than SIU

D. College of Public Affairs & Administration Senator: Miguel Valente

- i. GERC - potential student survey to be released soon regarding gen. ed. requirements
- ii. Veterans Day activities were successful

E. College of Education and Human Services Senator: Natty Akpulonu

- i. SGA took a tour of the newly-renovated UIS Theater this past Friday
- ii. Discussion on tuition increase

F. Transfer Student Senator: Gabrielle Garland

- i. Wants SGA to do more giveaways to increase students' awareness

G. College of Liberal Arts & Sciences Senator: Alex Aviles

- i. Academic Integrity Council meeting - December 6th

H. Peoria Campus Senator: Angie Gin

- i. Peoria Campus meeting set for this Friday, November 22nd
- ii. Potential resolution for revision of SGA Constitution to include Peoria

I. International Student Senator: Sneha Shenoy

- i. Met with International Admissions Counselor - discussed evaluation for incoming international students
 - 1. Potential survey to understand international students' experience with yellow cards, particularly vaccinations
 - a. Will be published soon

J. Freshman Student Senator: Caitlin Sherman

- i. SGA Instagram up-and-running
- ii. Will be working with Chuck Coderko regarding salting sidewalks around townhouses and adding color to classrooms

K. Senator-at-Large: Aislinn Diaz

- i. Colonnade Lighting - November 20th

1. 4:30pm hot chocolate and cookies, 4:45pm countdown to lighting will begin
 2. President Paoletti to speak at event
 3. SGA is seeking to make this event well-attended and even bigger in future - possibly week of events
- ii. Will be meeting with Provost discussing the number of days that the University takes off for Thanksgiving

L. Graduate Student Senator: Jared Ebel

- i. No report.

M. Online Student Senator: Vyvyan Wesley

- i. No report.

IX. Committee Reports

A. Executive Board Committee - report by President Paoletti

- i. i'MPOSSIBLE Project was successful
- ii. Shelter-in-place drill this semester - request for SGA members to post informative materials to spread word
- iii. Meeting with Chancellor regarding facebook photos from UIS employees
- iv. SGA retreat will be early next semester

B. Internal Affairs Committee - report by Internal VP Cunningham

- i. Liaison tasks going well
- ii. Some departments not expressing any requests for help from SGA, Committee wants to change that and strengthen relationships
- iii. About 25 unique questions/concerns raised during the SGA Forum
 1. As a result of a question at the forum, hours for Student workers in admissions office almost fully restored - back up to 16-18

- C. External Relations and Marketing Committee - report by External VP Loera
 - i. Desire for SGA to get merchandise with SGA's logo to give away to students
 - ii. Most SGA members do not have access to create events on UIS Connection
 - 1. To be discussed/addressed by SGA's Executive Board
 - iii. UIS Police Department potentially tabling in Student Union
 - 1. Provide many resources unknown to students - for example, will help a student jump start their car
 - iv. Discussion of deadline for when professors have to post grades
 - 1. Potential for Provost to create requirement
 - 2. Next academic year, Blackboard will not be used, and therefore faculty may be more active on the next online educational platform that is chosen
- D. Rules and Constitution Committee - report by Parliamentarian Matthews
 - i. Next meeting will be working on a few amendments
 - ii. Next semester planned to be doing bigger work with amending Constitution

X. Old Business

XI. New Business

- A. Resolution 12 – Support for NPR Responsible Employee Exemption - sponsored by Internal VP Cunningham
 - i. This resolution was created to address the issue presented by NPR Illinois Reporters at the last SGA meeting
 - 1. Campus Senate passed resolution supporting issue last week
 - 2. Resolution says why it is necessary and shows support for reporters in this context so that students have the option to talk to

- ii. A motion was entertained by President Paoletti to approve the Resolution. So moved by Treasurer Verthein, seconded by Senator Diaz. 14 Aye, 1 Abstention. Unanimous Aye.

B. Resolution 13 – S.O.F.A T-Shirt Allocation - sponsored by Senator Moseley

- i. To increase visibility for SOFA members
- ii. Navy t-shirts with gold couch and white lettering - reflects UIS colors while maintaining SOFA logo
- iii. A motion was entertained by President Paoletti to approve the Resolution by roll-call vote. So moved by Senator Gin, seconded by Senator Garland. Resolution passed by roll-call vote unanimously.

XII. Discussion

A. Tuition and Fees

- i. President Paoletti personally against tuition increase because he personally came to UIS for affordability, and wants to maintain that for future students
- ii. Discussion of how tuition increase could affect maintaining student workers
- iii. Board of Trustees is leaning towards no tuition increase - per President Paoletti
- iv. Discussion of making the Student Union and TRAC to be considered non-auxiliary buildings to save money

B. Venmo for Student Organizations

- i. UIS and U of I policy says that RSOs are not allowed to link services/apps like Venmo to be linked to their accounts (policy read aloud by Advisor Cynthia Thompson)
 - 1. Cynthia plans to discuss this with the University

C. Senator Moseley

- i. Desire to revisit SGA's policy on length of discussions/cutting off debate

XIII. Adjourn

- A. President Paoletti entertained a motion to adjourn. So moved by Senator Moseley, seconded by Senator Diaz.
- B. Meeting adjourned at 7:42pm.