

Student Government Association
Assembly Meeting
November 12, 2008

Executive Present: Student Body President Mason, Student Body Vice President Flaherty, Student Body Executive Director Bixby, Secretary of Diversity Affairs Cail, Secretary of Information Technology Tortoriello, Secretary of Student Fees Cahanin, Secretary of Programming Zerfas, Secretary of Public Relations Rotz

Executive Absent:

Legislative Present: President of the Assembly Spialek, Vice President of the Assembly Krug, Senator Lund, Senator Davis, Senator Miller, Senator Ruscitti, Senator Preston, Senator Thornton, Senator Mihovilovich, Senator Carnahan, Senator Abdalla, Senator Dumelle, Senator Whittington, Senator Long, Senator Merth, Senator Hochhauser, Senator Sullivan, Senator Winzer, Senator Leigh

Legislative Absent:

Ex-Officios Present: ARH, APAC, Pride, BSU, Student Trustee Bagnuolo

Ex-Officios Absent: ALAS

Call to Order

I. Approval of Minutes

- A. President of the Assembly made a correction to the October 29th minutes. APAC was present.
- B. Senator Long moved to approve the minutes from the October 29th meeting.
- C. Sullivan seconded.
- D. Motion passed unanimously.

II. Executive Officer Reports

- A. Student Body President Mason
 1. The Safety Walk that I was working on with Michael Zajac got put on hold. It was supposed to take place this past Saturday, but due to some bad weather we had to cancel. It is tentatively being moved to this Tuesday, November 18. It looks as if this day will have decent weather for November, and thank you to those that volunteered to be involved in this.
 2. President of the Assembly Spialek and I had a meeting with Provost Everts this past Friday. The main point was to discuss his diversity initiative with her. I will let him provide the details, but she was extremely excited to see this type of initiative proposed by students, and I know she took it to the Deans in their meeting this morning.

3. I have a meeting this coming Monday with Associate Provost Jan Murphy to discuss the Collegiate Readership Program. She was involved in the talks about this year, and I think she should be able to help me with the resources that would be needed to move forward with this. She was very much in favor of this the last time it was brought up, and I know the American Democracy Project is also very excited.
4. Tonight we had several members from the Student Elections Code Commission here to go over the main changes that occurred. I would like to thank all of them again for the incredible amount of time and energy they put into revising this. I am excited that this project is getting close to being over.
5. The alumni newsletter is moving along a good pace. President of the Assembly Spialek has been designing what it will look like. Alumni Relations will be providing the addresses by Friday this week. When the resolution comes to the floor tonight, I will be amending it to incorporate 500 people to mail it out to.
6. The letter to the Academic Senate I have been working on is almost complete. There were several revisions someone asked me to make. After that is done, I will be sending it on. A letter will also be written to U.S. Senator Dick Durbin to let him know that we followed up with the letter he sent to universities earlier this year.
7. Along with that, Senator Miller reminded me today that, while in DC, we did not see an ISU helmet in Senator Durbin's office. I know former Student Body Vice President Martin tried to have athletics send one of the helmets over to Durbin's office. I am currently contacting the person in athletics to see if the helmet was ever sent. If not, I will be looking into sending one to him with the textbook letter that will be written shortly. Also, I will be looking into sending one of the helmets to President elect Obama and the new Senator the Governor Blagojevich selects in the upcoming months.
8. Thank you to those of you who provided feedback on if you would like to see the office rearranged. I have contacted facilities and they will hopefully be coming over soon to give an estimate. I truly think it is time to fix how the office is arranged because people are extremely confused about where everything is when they come in.
9. Just so everyone knows, I expect the last couple weeks of the semester to be very busy in terms of interviews for the 3 new Senators positions opening up. There will be an off-campus, on-campus, and underrepresented senator position opening. I expect a lot of ELP members to be applying for the On-Campus Senator position so there will be a lot of interviews.
10. Lastly, a date for everyone to remember is the Winter Retreat which is set for Sunday, January 11th from 12:00pm-5:00pm. It is mandatory for all members of the Association and has been on the calendar since the beginning of our term. It is the day before the second semester classes start, so everyone should be back by then.

Also, I am now declaring that the Winter Retreat will start off with an emergency meeting at noon. It will last no more than half an hour and it is only to appoint the three new senators we will be hiring. Ex-Officios are required to be at the Emergency Meeting, but will be able to go after that.

B. Student Body Vice President Flaherty

1. Met with the guy in charge of the shirt swap and will have the shirts out by next semester. A date has not yet been set but it will be sometime in the Spring.
2. Needs two representatives for the Student Elections Commission who are NOT running for the 09-10 term.
3. The Constitution Exam is coming along...we, including I, people from the Emerging Leader Program and others, are gathering information from other schools so we can have a report for Provost Everts.
4. Still need an SGA representative for the Exemptions Appeals Board.

C. Executive Director Bixby

1. Putting together agenda for the winter retreat so please email me if you have anything you would like to see addressed.
2. I finished up my last interview for Secretary of Governmental Affairs

III. Assembly Officers Reports

A. President of the Assembly Spialek

1. I have been transitioning the past two weeks. Last Wednesday I attended the Cabinet meeting to see how both branches can work better together.
2. President Mason and I met with the Provost on Friday. We turned in a proposal that Secretary Cail and Senators Hochhauser, Preston, Sullivan and I worked on pertaining to adding Social Justice as a general education requirement. The Provost said she was impressed. She has never had a group present something of this nature. It was passed to other members in the provost office and was discussed at the College Dean meeting today.
3. In your packets tonight, you will see a list of potential speakers for caucus. Please rank them 1-8, 1 being the speaker you would like to hear the most and 8 being the person you would like to hear the least. Turn these in at the end of the night. I will tally the results by the end of this week.

B. Vice President of the Assembly Krug

1. Look for the email tomorrow to be sent out by Friday. Look into the shared folder titled "Constituent Email Attachments 08-09" and attach the bylaws and bill. Do not forget to "cc" me and email Rick verifying you sent it!

IV. *Cabinet Member Reports*

A. Secretary of Student Fees Cahanin

1. I emailed Wendy Bates about Grant aid and Student-to-Student aid to try and get more info on that. I'd like to know who is in charge and where does the money go.
2. Had another conversation with Beth Bradford of Disability Concerns. We will be going over the actual budget next week and the requests. From there I will be able to start putting together the report for Disability Concerns.
3. Emailed several for the open position for the BRC spot for the Child Care Center. If you know of anyone, please let me know.

B. Secretary of Public Relations Rotz

1. I have been promoting Diversity Week by making fliers and making the bulletin board and putting the events on area community calendars. I've also written a press release that was featured in the Daily Vidette on Tuesday.
2. I'm working on RSO cards!
3. For next week I will be working on the certificate for RSO of the Month for October and a bulletin board in the bone for RSO of the Semester.

C. Secretary of Programming Zerfas

1. Alternative Winter and Spring Breaks will be doing our Community Clean Up program this weekend.
2. Pack the Place dates are to be set. We are targeting Women's Basketball, Gymnastics, Baseball, and Softball. Intercollegiate Athletics are also being targeted such as Hockey, Lacrosse, Rugby and Water Polo. I hope to meet with both athletic and intercollegiate marketing directors before Thanksgiving break.
3. The February 7th Women's Basketball game will be televised on ESPNU so this might be an option for our next Pack the Place.

D. Secretary of Diversity Affairs Cail

1. The Diversity Week has been off to a great start. We had around 20 attend the Town Hall Style Discussion on Diversity. The topics were on how our curriculum could focus on Diversity and whether or not Faculty are diversified and properly

trained. For the BSU's "Real Talk" event which was held on Tuesday, the discussion focused on issues between men and women. Around 70 people attended. For PRIDE'S event which was held today they made posters for Friday's rally and watched a slideshow on marriage rights. The focus was on Gay Marriage Rights.

2. Thanks to the few members who have been able to attend.

E. Secretary of Information Technology Tortoriello

1. It's been brought to attention that people were wondering why I am always late to assembly. The reasoning for that, as explained at the beginning of the year, I have class Monday/Wednesday from 10 AM until 6:50 PM with a single one hour break from 12-1 PM for lunch. I typically come straight from the CVA parking garage to the SSB Parking lot. Depending on traffic, and how starving I am, I always get to meetings by, but typically before 7:30. I was told this was OK because I would only miss caucus, and attendance isn't taken until 7:30. I have again since been reassured that this is fine, but it was suggested I make it known to the association, for in case people need help with anything technological before caucus, such as setting up the projector, clicker questions, or anything else. The easiest way to get these things taken care of is to come to me at LEAST a day BEFORE assembly. Please let me know if there are any concerns with this or questions.

2. All photos on the site are up to date. Rotating pictures at the top are up to date, except for 2 vertical ones. As soon as we get more pictures, I can change this.

V. *Advisor Report*

A. Advisor Olshak

1. HAPPY BIRTHDAY TED!

A. Civic Engagement Committee (Senator Lund)

1. I have recently taken office as the Civic Engagement chair and am beginning brainstorming ideas for the Town of Normal Campaign to start next semester. I have appointed Scott Preston as the ADP liaison to the Civic Engagement committee.

B. Finance and Allocation Committee (Senator Spiek)

1. Students for Sensible Drug Policy asked for \$600 for their "Know Your Rights" speaker for a forum in Spring. We approved the funds.

2. Absolute Deviation Dance Troupe asked for funds and we awarded no money for their trip to Washington D.C. . It did not benefit the campus.

3. We also didn't award anyone money to Anime Club for food for their general assembly meeting. It also did not benefit the student body.

4. If anyone is interested in joining/switching to the Finance and Allocation Committee for next semester please talk to Garrett as soon as possible.

C. Policies and Procedures (Senator Long)

1. We are beginning our review of the Student Elections Code and will have it ready for constituent feedback for the first email of the spring semester if all goes to plan. committee's bill regarding amendments to the ex-officio by-laws will be coming at the next meeting.

D. Programs and Recognition (Senator Davis)

1. RSO of the Month: Spanish Club is here to accept their award.
2. For the winter break resolution today we need food suggestions. There will be a sheet of paper being passed around.

VI. *Senator Coordinators*

A. Off-Campus Senators (Senator Miller)

1. The Off-Campus Recycling Survey results are in! Off-Campus Senators will be analyzing the data and deciding what actions we would like to take based on the information we collected.
2. In the upcoming meeting the Off-Campus Senators will be looking for a meeting request. It seems that Wednesday between 5-6 works the best.

B. On-Campus Senators (Senator Abdalla)

1. We had our East Campus event where we brought breakfast to Hewitt Hall. Approximately 170 donuts were handed out with hot chocolate and coffee. We worked with Arlene and Campus Dining to help make this event a success. We wore our T-shirts to make ourselves more visible. It really put SGA in a good light. We heard a lot of compliments.
2. Our next event which is to be determined will be in Watterson.
3. We have been working hard to build a solid relationship with the Association of Residence Halls. We believe this relationship comes with the duties of an On-Campus Senator. Hopefully, future Associations will keep to this tradition we are trying to start.
4. We have 125 smoking surveys completed. We will be handing more out on November 20th on the quad at the Smoke Out event which is being put on by ISU's Relay for Life.

C. Underrepresented Senators (Senator Whittington)

1. The Underrepresented Senators had a meeting this week to set up our November event which will be a food drive competition for RSO's. The food drive will start November 18th and end on December 5th. All food collected will be donated to Neville House, a shelter for victims of domestic violence. The RSO that donates the most items will receive a 4'x6' banner for their RSO as a prize pending approval from Executive on Monday. Donations will be taken at the SGA office in the Student Services Building Room 130 and the Student Involvement Center on the 2nd floor of the Bone Student Center. Items that can be donated include: Non perishable and non-expired food, toiletries and paper products.

D. Graduate Senators (Stephanie Winzer)

1. On Thursday, November 6th, the Graduate Student Association (GSA) Reactivation Planning Committee met with Dr. Nance, director of the graduate school for background information on GSA and suggestions for reactivating the organization.
2. Senator Winzer and Senator Leigh held a GSA Reactivation Planning Meeting today with the next meeting scheduled for next week on November 29th at 4:00pm. Brittany and Lisa will not be able to attend. The focus of today's discussion was revising/restructuring the constitution before reactivating the organization.
3. Senator Winzer received an email from the Office of Finance and Planning stating that the decision has been made to extend Redbird Ride to Shelbourne Apartments. Senator Winzer is still waiting on a follow-up email to state the exact date that the expanded services will begin.
4. Senator Winzer and Senator Leigh are planning an event for graduate students to provide a social opportunity and a forum to voice needs of graduate students including the reactivation of GSA. This event will be held November 16th from 4:00pm-6:00pm. It's going to be a Sunday dinner at Alexander's Steakhouse located on 1503 E. College Avenue in Normal, IL. All graduate and future graduate students invited to Sunday dinner. You can enjoy your choice of 5 student specials for just \$9.99 or 6 early evening specials for just \$10.99 to order from the regular menu. Please RSVP to this email or (318) 453-0559 by November 15th by 5:00pm if you would like to attend.
5. Trying to get a third party vendor agreement for the event has been an interesting journey and a learning experience. I verified with Suzzette in Community Rights and Responsibilities that the report is needed if any one buys alcohol at the event, but I have talked with the assistant manager and if a waiver is not granted for the form then the server will be informed not to serve alcoholic beverages to the SGA event party.

VII. *Ex-Officio Reports*

- A. ALAS
 - 1. Showed up Late
 - 2. Tomorrow we will be having our Diversity Week Event which is a potluck in the SSB in room 375 at 6:00pm.
 - 3. ALASCommunity@gmail.com is an email we have started to make ourselves more available to our constituents.
- B. APAC
 - 1. Last week we had our Japanese night. It was a big success! Everyone wanted to make Sushi.
 - 2. Our last meeting of Chinese Night has been postponed.
 - 3. We are losing half our membership next semester and are hoping to get representation in various areas around campus.
- C. ARH
 - 1. Working with the On-Campus Senators to improve relations.
 - 2. This weekend we will be attending GLACURH where we submitted a bid for Large School of the Year and Student of the Year. We were finalists in both.
 - 3. Our Diversity Week event will be Friday where we will have Henna and free Indian food on the Quad.
 - 4. Shelves in East and West Campus as well as the Soccer/Fitness Channel did not pass in Room and Board Fee Review. So only the operational costs will increase next year.
- D. BSU
 - 1. February 7th, 2009 will be our next event.
 - 2. Our Diversity Week Event "Real Talk" was a huge success.
- E. Pride
 - 1. We had our Diversity Week meeting based on Gay Marriage Rights. This was decided before Proposition 8 passed.
 - 2. This Friday we have a "Support the Love" rally which has been organized to stand out against Proposition 8. We have nearly 200 confirmed on Facebook. It starts 7:00pm on Friday at the flagpole.
 - 3. Next week we have a speaker coming in to discuss resume building.
- F. Student Trustee Bagnuolo
 - 1. Approved naming of the new UCLA center.
 - 2. Discussed the agenda of their last meeting.
 - 3. At the retreat in Oakbrook this following weekend we talked about ways to make the transition easier for the Trustee and making the Student Trustee

VIII. Information Items

- A. Spanish Club RSO of the Month Presentation
 - 1. Senator Davis acknowledges Spanish Club and thanks Senator Miller for her help.
 - 2. Senator Davis reads the Resolution.
 - 3. Spanish Club is recognized as the RSO of the Month and is present to receive the certificate.

- B. Student Elections Code
 - 1. President Mason is willing to answer questions.
 - 2. Senator Lund asks if we are making suggestions. President Mason says that if you have suggestions send them to him and he will filter them. Send them on preferably by tomorrow.
- C. Suspension of the Bylaws
 - 1. Vice President of the Assembly Krug hopes to suspend the bylaws where it states the Vice President of the Assembly needs to serve as a member of Academic Senate due to academic endeavors.
 - 2. Senator Lund asks if someone would replace the vacant position.
 - 3. Senator Abdalla asks what exactly would be suspended. Section 1, Letter B, Number 6.
 - 4. Senator Lund motions to make this an action item. Vice President of the Assembly seconds.
 - 5. Motion passes.
- D. SGA Alumni Newsletter Resolution
 - 1. Will be changing the cost to \$600.00
 - 2. President Mason motions to make this an action item.
 - 3. Motion passes.
- E. Collegiate Readership Program Committee
 - 1. This went to administrators two Associations ago.
 - 2. Basically the resolution is to establish a group of people to look into it more to see if constituents would like to see something like this and if they are willing to pay for it.
 - 3. President of the Assembly Spialek moves to make this an action item.
 - 4. Senator Abdalla seconds.
 - 5. Motion passes.
- F. Winter Holiday Party for Internal Programming
 - 1. The date will be Saturday, December 6th, from 4-7. We will be bowling from 4:00pm-6:00pm and will then go back to the office to eat.
 - 2. Senator Lund moves to make the Holiday Party and action item.
 - 3. Motion passes.
- G. Secretary of the Assembly Nominations
 - 1. Senator Sullivan is nominated by Senator Mihovilolich. Senator Sullivan accepts.
 - 2. Senator Hochausser is nominated by Senator Abdalla. Senator Hochausser accepts.
 - 3. Senator Abdalla is nominated by Secretary of Public Relations Rotz. Senator Abdalla declines.
 - 4. Senator Preston is nominated by Student Body Executive Director Bixby. Senator Preston accepts.
 - 5. Senator Long moves to make this an action item. Senator Carnahan seconds.

IX. *Action items*

- A. Suspension of the Bylaws

1. Senator Lund moves that we suspend the bylaws as long as actions are put in place to find a substitution or find a liaison. Vice President of the Assembly Krug seconds.
 2. Senator Long is in favor because academics should come first. Moves the previous question. Senator Carnahan seconds.
 3. Motion passes and bylaws are suspended by majority vote.
- B. SGA Alumni Newsletter Resolution
1. Student Body President Mason motions to approve the resolution.
 2. Student Body Executive Director Bixby seconds.
 3. Trustee Bagnuolo moves to friendly amend line 48 to say "3-5 members" not "at least 5" and the amendment is accepted.
 4. Senator Abdalla moves to friendly amend that there should be a clause included that states "at least two non SGA members will serve on the committee.
 5. Student Body President Mason does not accept. However, he is willing to take two if they can find two people but if they cannot, he did not want that to be reason the committee fails.
 6. Senator Winzer moves to friendly amend line 48 to say "at least 3". Student Body President Mason accepts the friendly amendment.
 7. Senator Long moves the previous question.
 8. Motions passes
 9. Resolution is approved by majority vote.
- C. Collegiate Readership Program Committee
1. Senator Davis moves to approve the resolution.
 2. Senator Mirth seconds.
 3. No debate.
 4. Resolution passes by majority vote.
- D. Holiday Party for Internal Programming
1. President of the Assembly Spialek moves to approve the resolution.
 2. Senator Spiek offers friendly amendment to lower the budget to \$499.99. The friendly amendment passes.
 3. Resolution passes by majority vote.
- E. Secretary of the Assembly Nominations
1. Senator Sullivan gives speech which is followed by questions.
 2. Student Body President moves to postpone debate until after speeches.
 3. Senator Ruscitti seconds. Motion passes by majority vote.
 4. Senator Hochouser gives speech which is followed by questions.
 5. Senator Preston gives speech which is followed by questions.
 6. Debate begins
 7. Senator Abdalla moves the previous question. Vice President of the Assembly Krug seconded.
 8. President of the Assembly moves to use paper ballots. No objections.
 9. Voting takes place.

10. Tie between Senator Preston and Senator Sullivan
11. Second vote
12. Senator Sullivan becomes the new Secretary of the Assembly.

X. *Adjournment*

- A. President of the Assembly Spialek motions for adjournment.
- B. Senator Miller seconds.