

***General Assembly Meeting***

***November 1st, 2023***

**A D V O C A C Y ● U N I T Y ● L E A D E R S H I P**

**Call to Order: POA Fulton 7:00 pm**

*-Land Acknowledgement*

*“Illinois State University was built on the land of multiple native nations. These lands were the traditional birthright of Indigenous people who were forcibly removed and have faced centuries of struggle for survival and identity in the wake of dispossession and displacement. We would like to acknowledge that we are on the lands that were once home to the Illini, Peoria, Myaamia, Kaskaskia, Odawa, Meskwaki, Ojibwe, and Chickasaw Nations. Due to colonial encroachment and displacement to the Fox, Potawatomi, Sauk, Shawnee, Winnebago, Ioway, Mascouten, Piankashaw, Wea, and Kickapoo Nations were forcibly removed. We also express honor to those Indigenous people who we may have excluded in this acknowledgment due to erasure and historical inaccuracy.”*

*-Roll Call*

*-Approval of the minutes:* (11/01/23)

-Motion: Tasdan

-Second: Beddow

-Unanimous yes

**Caucus Speaker:**

- Pamela Reece & Mercy Davison

(City Manager & Planner)

* Pam: Originally from Michigan, offered a jo in the town of normal before Graduates school. Still here after 32 years because this place is great, and she grew her career.
* Mercy: Been here for 22 years, as a presidential scholar at ISU the moved to Montana. Both of her kids are students here. Originally from St. Louis. Has a BA in journalism and her degree in law.
* Pam: The town likes to say that “we plan our work, and we work our plan”. A lot of residential commitment to the plans. Making changes we are living in today. Brought the towns budget for the 5-year financial plan. In the process of planning the budget for the next 5 years. About 210 million for this year. Also, their comprehensive plan. The city council on top of this has a annual strategic plan. Lays out high priority items. What we really focus on is the quality of life for our town. We focus on what we need to have and what we are investing in solely for our townspeople now. Quality of life is the game changer for the community. Every town has difficult with sustainability. The town of normal is a part of a local economy commission. Do we have adequate housing opportunities for the people of normal to make them want to stay. What can we do to keep the brain power at ISU. One thing I touched on was the sustainability plan. This is all on mercy’s website plan.
* Mercy: Your community should have a plan and a budget if you want to see people put their plans to action and if they are being a sustainable community. Sustainability plan last was in 2011. Climate change was a lot more political then and at this point it is just reality and we are seeing events that are hard to deny. This committee is led by a great group of citizens chosen by the Mayor. We have 3 people from ISU in the committee. We have a very dynamic group of people in this committee. We will be doing a survey in February, and an in person public engagement event. We want to make sure the major input is weighed in when you are all here. At some point we need to lay out our priorities and see where we are at.
* Pam: We encourage you to highly to explore local government. We need good smart people in local government. We have everything from a water department to public safety, to accountants, we have a legal department, planners, communications and marketing, we offer internships within our departments. Any questions?
* Duffy: What is the town of normal priorities in beautification and economic development.
* Pam: we are running into issues with the economy right now which is slowing down township development and projects. We need to make sure that we have jo opportunities to make people want to stay and work here. Linked to economic development is beautification, there are certain requirements and guidelines we need to stay within the realms of. We need to reduce the impacts of climate change and our public art program will bring beautification. In 2026 we have the Route 66 thing
* Holmes: ISU has had increased enrollment, we are seeing housing shortages already, are there any plans to alleviate that stress?
* Pam: That is very much a challenge, and we very much understand that. This does talk about nonstudent renting.
* Mercy: In 2013 there was a loss in dorm living because they were torn down. There has been talk about potentially building dorms soon*,* we have been very flexible with people coming in to show student living and we are willing to work with them and be flexible. This has brought in a lot of students hosing development. There is an issue with buying land around the university because as we know there isn’t much of that. So, there is no set plan yet.
* Myers: What would you like to see in terms of student leaders about how the population is doing?
* Pam: We don’t have a good handle on the students’ visions of vehicles for the future. How does the terms of balancing that yet trying to grow our public transit system. We need a better grasp on the transportation aspects.
* Mercy: The more parking the less units we can get for students.
* Blair: With the enrollment cliff, how do you expect that to affect the market?
* Mercy: I think that ISU will do very well through that cliff, we have nothing to worry about.
* Pam: The only people we must worry about with a decline is the personal renters instead of the larger property companies. We don’t want underperforming properties!

**Executive Officer Reports**

*President (E. Monk)*

* Good evening, it’s great to see everyone again. I hope you are all enjoying the colder weather and had a successful trick-or-treating last night. Little bit longer of a report so apologies in advance POA Fulton. Thank you all to those who attended our Illinois Wesleyan Joint event on Sunday. It’s wonderful to finally open up the partnership with our crosstown counterparts and I hope you all were able to gain valuable insight into the inner workings of their Association to bring back to our own. This relationship will simply become the norm for future Associations and I commend you all for being the Association that begins this tradition. The Mental Health Days Commission is excited to announce State Senator Dave Koehler has officially filed a bill in the Senate to amend the Mental Health Early Action on Campus Act to grant five mental health days to all University students at public Universities and community colleges. As we are officially at step one of this project, we are coordinating with UIC, Northeastern, SIUC, and SIUE on a statewide lobbying campaign for members of the Higher Education Committee in the House and Senate, legislators with public schools in their district, sponsors of the K-12 law, and Senate and House leadership to request their support, their vote, and potentially a sponsorship. We will also be working alongside Representative Sharon Chung, our sponsor in the House, to explore filing a companion bill in the House. It should be added we will be relying on Brad Franke for each meeting with a legislator to keep the administration updated for each step of this process. Now, I’d like to quickly thank Senator Myers, Senator Tasdan, Senator Bounds, and Secretary Majka for their help in organizing our statewide lobbying campaign, but it has quickly come to the commission’s attention that this will be a much bigger fish to fry than we may have initially anticipated. Therefore, we will be expanding the lobbying team to the entire Association. If you are interested in being a part of this historic venture and meeting with legislators, please let me know, I will send you the campaign memo, policy memo, one-pager, and assignment sheet for legislators. Of course, we will pair inexperienced members with experienced ones, so you will not just be thrown to the fire. I, or another commission member, will also help prepare you for your meeting with a legislator. Session returns in January so this phase of the commission will be kicking off next semester. On the issue of mental health, I wanted to let you all know of a new project I am picking up in conjunction with Student Counseling. I met with director of SCS Carrie Haubner today to discuss a marketing campaign using my personal story to show students that mental health affects us all and is nothing to be afraid of. As apart of the Mental Health Early Action on Campus Act, Student Counseling is required by the state to provide messaging relating to mental health resources at high stress times of the year so our marketing campaign will help fulfill that goal. If anyone is interested in being apart of this, I understand it is a major ask to share personal information so there is no pressure to join but I just want to put the offer out if you are feeling particularly passionate about spreading awareness for mental health and suicide prevention and are willing to share your story, please let me know! Finally, I would like to put in a huge point of affirmation for my Senate nominee tonight. There are very few freshmen that I would trust to serve in SGA and I would not have brought her to the floor if I did not firmly believe Emma to be one of them. Her dedication and experience will make valuable additions to the Association and I encourage everyone to give her their fullest consideration. With that, I will happily accept any questions!

*Vice President (S. DeNeve)*

Congrats to President Monk and Senator Hartman on a great event on Sunday! Loved getting to talk with everyone.

ELP - going well! Went to low ropes - lot of fun

Committees- please continue to tell your friends and students you know, there are still availabilities

SEC - appointments coming soon

*Chief of Staff (J. Ririe)*

* Currently we pay 412.50 for the printer in the office but idk how many of you guys are scanning or printing.
* Tasdan: We can use the printer and scanner for SGA related things?
* Ririe: Yes
* Bever: Will it be a reduction of money if we get rid of the scanner?
* Ririe: Yes this is more for the next association. I say we downgrade on a smaller and less expensive printer.
* Myers: Is there an itemized way that we can see why we are spending the money?
* Holmes: Do we lease our printer from a company outside of the university?
* Morgan: NO
* Ririe: Ethics trainings need to be done tonight or you will be fired. And please submit your hours or you will not get paid.

**Assembly Officer Reports**

*President of the Assembly (M. Fulton)*

* Howdy

*Vice President of the Assembly (E. Beddow)*

* Constituent contact! For November there is only 2 hours

*Secretary of the Assembly (M. Blum)*

* Send me your reports

**Advisor Report**

*Dean of Students (A. Morgan)*

* Thank you to Madi Sapp on her work on SEC and the IWU and ISU game was great. Center for civic engagement assessment, about our relationships with the community, you can win a $10 Starbucks gift cards. Also you NEED to do the ethics training. Don’t forget to turn clocks back an hour this weekend.

**Executive Cabinet Member Reports**

*Secretary of Diversity Affairs (P. Flores)*

* School street food pantry for more initiatives. Regarding native American heritage month, my email doesn’t work so regarding the movie I need help with that.

*Secretary of College Affordability (R. Vancil)*

* "Earlier this week, a few SGA members as well as myself, met with the student navigators to see how SGA can partner with them. They are going to be holding a faulty food drive from Nov 20th to Dec 1 and the food will be collected in the Dean of Students Office in the SSB. With this food, they are going to be packing bags to provide to students who need food during winter break when the university is shut down. The way that we as an assembly can help this project is on Dec 5th, which is a Tuesday, from 10 am to 4 pm the student navigators will be packing the food they receive from the drive into bags that will then be delivered to the ISU PD building. I am going to send out a signup genius form that you can sign up on if you would like to help the whole time or just part of the time."

*Secretary of Information Technology (A. Ninan)*



*Secretary of Governmental Relations (S. Majika)*

* Event on November 28th where civic involvement people come and table at the bone. We also want SGA members there to help the tables. Sam is on the sustainability committee.
* My Event ○ Tuesday 11/28 ○ SGA members needed to greet and facilitate organizations tabling in the Bone ● Steering committee ○ Sustainability-themed ○ Looking for more students to get involved ● IBHE ○ Advocating for mental health as a student issue in Illinois

*Secretary of Public Relations (A. Duffy)*

* Hope you all had a spooky Halloween, the newsletter will be delayed this week because of technical issues with my computer so this is a last call! State of the university, I am working with Sec. Daker on this event. We have not been doing this for the time I have been in SGA and we think it should happen this year. I wanted this to be a group effort because I would like this to be one of our largely attended events. Next Wednesday November 8th we will have a short meeting about this event. This will be open to the student body but we really want to recognize individual RSO’s and admin by having independent invitations.

*Secretary of Sustainability (H. Cepek)*

· Last week we hosted the campus sustainability showcase

· We also had our last Zero Waste Tailgate of the school year on Saturday

· Office of Sustainability is hosting a pumpkin compost drive until 11/17 so please compost your pumpkins

*Secretary of Programming (T. Daker)*

* SLAC event pushed back, and tomorrow google form will be sent out for thank you’s for thanksgiving

*Secretary of Non-Tradition Student Experience (P. Patel)*

*Secretary of Administrative Compliance (M. Sapp)*

* First SEC amendment going to floor tonight to change structure of committee  
  SEC changes are largely complete, going through P&P  
  Anyone particularly interested in seeing changes please reach out to me

**Internal Committee Chair Reports**

*Membership & Outreach (Z. Roy)*

* Confirmed the COB senator, really great answers! We are also needed to do a social event, so we plan on doing a sponsored thanksgiving at cracker barrel.

*Policies & Procedures (B. Myers)*

* Approved Sapp’s Amendments, had a second look at the operations manual

*Finance & Allocation (M. James)*

* New chairperson, and started the form for our fundraising event for the school street food pantry. Chipotle fundraiser.

*Civic Engagement (K. Tasdan)*

* Thanks for stopping by last week at our SGA debate, we hope you had a great time seeing both sides hash it out. We have quite a few initiatives underway here in Civic Engagement now: Our SGA Town Hall is now in the works as we seek confirm a date with EMDH, we’re looking at March 25th/26th that Mon/Tues. Last week me and some other senators, secretaries, and ex-officios met with the School St Food Pantry to see how we can collaborate further. Combating food insecurity is a high priority for us, let us know if you want to join in and help. Our SGA Lobby Day is in the works for most likely February, as we are being assisted by Brad Franke and the Alumni Engagement office to have a more official and efficient trip. Lastly, I’m sure you all saw in Senator Hofstetter’s email we want to sponsor children as a part of the CCE’s Holiday Helper. If we each pitch in $4 or $5 then we can have enough to sponsor at least a couple kids. Traditionally, the Dean of Students then matches that price we raise – so don’t you fret Dr. Morgan, we’ll be sure to keep it competitive! Dr. Steinbach from the CCE said to give the money in either cash or Venmo to me and then I can file the sponsorships through their system. The most fun part is then shopping for the gifts ourselves! Let me know of any questions! Thanks y’all, and I’ll defer to Senator Hofstetter for volunteering.
* Hoffstetter: Volunteering is a huge thing for this event, I hope we can all sign up even if it were just for an hour each. You can also donate socks!

Fee Board: Blair

* Amendment updates and tabling events.

**Myers: Off campus**

* Normal town council will consider a 12 hour notice Monday the 6th at 7 pm!!! This can be counted as constituent contact and shout out to POA Fulton to the fantastic marketing!

**Ex-Officio Reports**

*ALAS (J. Zarco)*

*PRIDE (L. Bonilla)*

*APAC (A. Martil)*

* High diverse turn out at last event! Looking forward for more events. MCC has a speaker event to meet Lola Tomorrow an ISU Alumni! Thursday Nov. 2nd at 7 pm Brown ballroom 1!

*BSU (J. Wilburn-Johnson)*

*ARH (Stuart)*

* Ex-Officio Report for ARH: "I want to talk about a couple of things today like ARH's recent trip to Western Illinois University for the GLACURH regional conference which for those who don't know stands for the Great Lakes Affiliate Conference of University Residence Halls. We had three students including myself present educational sessions and all students got Top 10 and got to present a second time and get awards. As an institution, we won the Commitment to Justice and Equity Award and the Most School Spirit for a large institution beat out schools like Purdue and UIUC so we were very excited about those. Another thing I want to talk about is that we finally have a full executive board with our recently elected National Communications Coordinator, Lilly Graham. I also am actively looking for students to be ARH's representation to the Student Elections Comity."

*CPC (J. Rizzi)*

* Hi guys!! There are some events coming up in the CPC community that I wanted to share! ADPI and Tri Delta – hosting corn hole for the Ronald McDonald house of central Illinois and St. Jude children’s research hospital!
* Zeta Tau Alpha – is having Pinktoberfest tomorrow at their house! They are supporting breast cancer education and awareness! They will be selling pizza and other goodies!
* Alpha Omicron Pi – having their annual jingle bell run November 12th at Heartland Community College!
* Alpha Gamma Delta – AGDillas from 5-7pm at their house on Friday! Come get some quesadillas, chips, and salsa! All proceeds go towards fighting hunger!
* If you want to check out or sign up for any of these events links are in their bios or on the ISU Panhellenic Instagram! Thank you!

*IFC (G. Ogorden)*

*SERC (B. Mackey)*

* We have started handing out cup covers and they seem to be a hit so we are going to continue to hand them out and see if people are still interested and then start handing them out more often next semester

*Student Trustee (A. Ebikhumi)*

**Senator Appointments**

-COB Senator: Emma Meyers-Hoops

- When she was 14 her sister was diagnosed with stage 4 cancer and when trying to fight the failing health care system she say the difficulty within it all. Was in the YMCA youth governors program. Intense program and heavy work load for this senate job. Continued to teach swim lessons and Spanish tutor in high school. This year works with a senator as a note taker. Helped a water crisis in Lake Zurich. I have been shown the insights with the COB students and know what I need to do to help. Devoted to role as a student leader. Overall plans are working on EKG’s, the growing concern with student involvement of RSO’s. Freshman candidate.

Myers: Has there been any indication that you would serve on the mental health commission?

* Hoops: I have not heard anything about this yet, I am trying to get my two insights in on the bill Pres. Monk has.
* Holmes: Motion for debate
* Hofstetter second
* Unanimous yes

Debate:

* Blair: Point of affirmation, this seat is very important to me as an accounting major, and I had a chance to speak to her and I will say I am deeply impressed. I think she is very professional and I love the dedication she has to this job. There is a story as to why she is here, I encourage you all to vote yes.
* President Monk: If confirmed she will be brought on board to lobby
* Martil: As someone who was thrown into SGA will she be prepared for the job?
* Monk: I am not too concerned due to her knowledge of politics prior.
* Holmes motion to vote
* Hofstetter second
* Unanimous yes
* Vote on Hoops:
* Unanimous yes

**Information Items:**

**Amendment#11 – Amendment to Clarify and Change the Student Election Code Membership Section**

* Sapp: This is to make the committee smaller because 7 people was too hard to coordinate with. This makes quorum easier to make. Cut it down to 1 student instead of 3. If ARH can’t find anyone it would just be another student body member.
* Holmes: Is there a reason why it was reduced?
* Sapp: yes, coordinating with 7 people is incredibly difficult and this also cuts quorum down.
* Bever: Worried about certain language
* DeNeve: We will have to approve all 5 people
* Bever: I am concerned who selected the people I think the language is off putting
* Sapp: that is Sarah’s discretion as to who is apart of SEC
* Holmes: Is there a reason why we took 2 people from the student body?
* Sapp: It is easier to find members of the organizations than it is to find a student member. More potential for Bias with your student body friends that may have been selected.
* Myers: Motion to move to action item
* Second: VPOA Beddow
* Unanimous yes

**Amendment#12 – Amendment to the Legislative Bylaws to specify procedures in Amending the Legislative Operations Manual**

* As POA that’s chill
* Roy: The leg operation manuals are still non-binding correct?
* Myers: no this makes it concrete
* Duffy: As a previous POA there is a lot of flexibility within the leg manual, so could the POA change the manual after it was voted on?
* Myers: senator Blairs amendment does a great job amending that
* Holmes: Can a committee co-sponsor a resolution
* Myers: it says no where that we cant
* Motion to move to action item: Blum
* Second Smith
* Unanimous yes

**Action Items:**

**Amendment#11 – Amendment to Clarify and Change the Student Election Code Membership Section**

* Motion to end debate: Smith
* Hoffstetter second
* Unanimous yes
* Vote on amendment: unanimous yes
* PASSES

**Amendment#12 – Amendment to the Legislative Bylaws to specify procedures in Amending the Legislative Operations Manual**

* Roy: I think I misunderstood this, I thought the manual would be non-binding, I think binding rules should be only in the bylaws. I don’t think its bad other than that one aspect. Can you explain the need for it?
* Myers: The reason why is because each POA is different in the way they see the leg branch but we need to have consistent rules but I think this manual can be a rules package that we can go through and have an outlet form more firm but what we want to make change when we do procedures
* Fulton: One tricky thing is the lack of documentation that this can help resolve!
* Blair: Motion to amend leg with the accordance highlighted text
* Myers : that is friendly
* Blair: I really think it should be a majority because of its nature as it being the nitty gritty, it should be much more of a living document and should be easier to change so I would like to amend to back to majority
* Myers: possible counter as maybe majority or 2/3rds? I don’t think its necessary
* Roy: Point of negation for it being not 2/3rds, the only thing we do majority on is non-binding, big decisions should be 2/3rds
* Myers: I probably will deny the majority compromise but if we want this to be a serious document we want people to be able to change it, so we want to make sure we are all on the relative same page
* Holmes: I’m confused about why it should majority and what is this manual going to do?
* Fulton: it just countifies our nit picky processes like the employee side of it, ex: how to time in and what not
* Blair: I would be more amendable to the 3/5ths , I am on the interpretation that this said we all need to make sure we are on the same page as the POA, I am not opposed to this but with my lack of reading the manual I am giving a point of neutrality
* Roy: Can we include something in this that has a hierarchy?
* Fulton: That is already mentioned
* Myers: The leg manual is actually in article 8 section 3 of the constitution as a document!
* Motion to vote: Holmes
* Second: Tasdan
* Unanimous vote yes
* Vote on amendment: 24 yes
* 1 abstention

**Passing of the Gavel**

* **Holmes: change the time of SGA**

**Adjournment of the Meeting: Fulton**

**Second: Blum**

**Adjourn: 8:45 pm**