

***General Assembly Meeting***

***September 20th, 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 7:00pm**

*-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:* (9/06/22)

-Motion: Bounds

-Second: Roy

**Caucus:**

* **Sargent Gardner**: 26 years at the university after attending ISU. Sage is in his unit and usually with one of them.
* **Sargant Nowers**: Head of community engagement. From BLONO and went to ISU. In the force for 21 years. Primary focus is reaching out to people with bad/ no relationships with law enforcement and making amends and good ties between them all. On pace for 400-500 events for this cause.
* **Gardner**: We were invited to talk about the topic of safety. As far as what we do to keep campus safe, the first thing is we try to make sure that officers are out, and we are being seen by the students and thew community. If you don’t know we have a security force that walks campus for the police department unarmed for extra eyes on campus. One new thing is a new program that we are partnering with emergency management. This is merged with a previous program named STOP. Students on patrol. This is being offered as a paid student job and to give students real life opportunities. Making this a paid position has made this job more seen by students. They do safe walks and student outreach. They do emergency management for “what-if” safety issues. Safe redbirds Ambassadors. We also have the safe Redbirds app. Basically all things safety related. The program was derived from the app. On the app, it has dozens of videos to inform students about what to do in emergencies. These are quick videos that help students with knowing what to do. The blue lights we have about 80, we have a virtual blue light button on the app. This button shows your exact location before dispatch even answers the phone. You can also request a sage visit on the app. Please do not do it all at once. The safe walks, we offer in person safe walks, where is you call the number 438-WALK there is a group of people that will come to you and walk with you to help you feel safe. Within reason. It will either be a security guard or two ambassadors. Or you can do it virtually on the app, basically it is a one time digital handshake with your phones GPS and the dispatch. If it thinks you are going off course at all, they will send you an alert and a phone call and if there is no answer then they will send police to you. You can do this with friends too. We also have a work in place. You can set your phone to check on you and if you don’t answer it then the cops will come to you. DON’T WALK ALONE!!!!! It is safe to walk in numbers! Safe Redbird app!!! Once a student was walking alone at night while he was on the phone. Someone came up and struck him and took his phone. He hit the blue light that was right there and told us about what happened. They were able to find the perp and help the guy. Stay alert! Statistics show that consistently, criminal activity on our campus is backed up by alcohol consumption. Plan the safest route to your destination, choose well lit and busy streets. The night walk is on October 2nd. This is for us to work together to walk around campus and see what safety concerns need to be addressed. If someone is bothering you in public, you need to be LOUD! This will not only startle the person attacking you but will alert bypassers. We offer self-defense classes at ISU, Aware – personal safety defense course open to all genders 2 hour course and OPTIONAL physical practice, RAD- more intensive, Rape Aggressive Defense, can only be taught to women, by women, 12 hours, physical techniques, usually 4 days of three hour classes.
* **Nowers:** ISU PD does a great job at making sure that all of the students are safe. This is why it is important to have good rapports with the ISU PD. I want you to have at least one liaison within the town of Bloomington Normal. I am another resource in the area. I was asked to give a presentation about women’s safety, I presented about the Andrew Tate’s of the world and how to watch out for those signs from men. Your Police and You. There was a separation between the police and immigrants here on campus. An hour presentation for abroad students about basic interactions with police officers that they may encounter through their day to day lives.
* **Bounds:** I wanted to ask about the advertisement for the self defense classes, I want to make sure that I fully understand the advertisement.
* **Gardner:** We do push it through a lot of word of mouth, it is also listed on our websites and redbird life, we also have social media via sage.
* **Smith:** How have you seen overdoses on or near campus?
* **Gardner:** We respond to every OD case with the fire department. We are usually there first and we deal with the situation. Alcohol you can tell by the smell and behavior, if it is another drug we keep that person under control until medical professional can help. We do have a lot of Alcohol OD’s
* **Nowers:** All police officers on ISU campus carry Narcan, we have been saving countless lives. Please be careful when you do this to others if you need to because people can become aggressive.
* **Bounds:** Do we have any flyers that are around on and off campus?
* **Gardener:** We have done those things before and haven’t seen any better results but we can always try that in terms of promotions.
* **Holmes:** I was leaving the library and there was a man sitting on the bridge facing the road on campus, so I walked down to the next blue light and clicked the button. It took about 200 seconds for someone to answer, which in my situation didn’t matter but for others it may have been an issue. They also asked me twice where I was when they were supposed to have my location already. It took 15 mins for police to show up and they seemed to not care once they got to the situation.
* **Gardner:** I have not heard about this situation and would love to heard more about it after this. We have only one dispatcher who has to answer everything by themselves. There could have been a number of reasons why it was not answered right away. We have three new dispatchers and they are all being trained, so it was my guess that there was missed information by a new trainer. The response time should be no longer than 2 minutes, it should not have taken that long. We only have 3 officers on duty, so it may be hard for us to get places some times.
* **James:** With the safe walk, you said “within” reason, have you determined what that is?
* **Gardner:** ISU has borders, I don’t expect students to know what they are but we follow the buildings on our quad.

**Executive Officer Reports**

*President (E. Monk)*

* Great seeing everyone with the town of normal meet and greet, shout out to senator Tasdan. Huge appreciation to Taylor Dakers appointment tonight. We will be compiling a second phase of research with Dave Koehler, about the mental health awareness programs. We now have 6 schools apart of this program including us. We also have a free SGA breakfast before the HOCO parade for the 100th year anniversary!

*Vice President (S. DeNeve)*

* We had the first ELP meeting last week, we still have room for student leaders. External committee tabling didn’t go as well as planned. Please keep spreading the word!

*Chief of Staff (J. Ririe)*

* VPSA’s should be coming soon, I want everyone in here to pull up the current budget on TEAMS.

**Assembly Officer Reports**

*President of the Assembly (M. Fulton)*

* I appreciate all the hard work, I have heard the desire to slow down our meetings. I would like to set a report time of 2 minutes per each person, just so we can get through everything needed.

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

* Quick reminder about constituent contact, 4 hours due on September 30th. Huge point of affirmation for legislation on the floor today. I also hope you all like the new name tags!

*Secretary of the Assembly (M. Blum)*

* I just want to say a huge point of affirmation for Griffin Ogorden, the IFC ex-officio appointee, I met with him about two weeks ago to discuss the details of this job and what he can do to continue the work that Riley was doing, and he seemed excited and up for the challenge! I would also like have a point of affirmation for our secretary appointment for tonight Taylor Daker, I think she will be a great addition to our cabinet!

**Advisor Report**

*Dean of Students (A. Morgan)*

* Two things, if you have not heard from your advisor please let me know, and second GO REDBIRDS!

**Executive Cabinet Member Reports**

*Secretary of Diversity Affairs (P. Flores)*

*Secretary of College Affordability (R. Vancil)*

* Flex Dollars!

*Secretary of Information Technology (A. Ninan)*

* Please sign up for the thing I sent in your email. Please lease do this before the 26th! Most of the website has been updated!

*Secretary of Governmental Relations (S. Majika)*

* Met with everyone on town council but McCarthy, and have been working on Narcan program. I also have to work on a student advisory committee and plan to be an advising member on the Illinois teacher education board.

*Secretary of Public Relations (A. Duffy)*

* Still working on the newsletter for October. Try to get stuff to me that you want in it by this Friday! I am still working with a producer from WZND about the podcast. I am working on one of our first events for this year. The state of the student body. This is where the President addresses the student body, I would like this to be a big and notable event to encompass everyone. The bylaws stipulate that the event needs to be held in February but we want to change it.

*Secretary of Sustainability (H. Cepek)*

* Cepek*:* Film for sustainability and another movie about climate change will be shown. Also another zero waste tailgate this Saturday and it will be fun! Behind Redbird row would be. All food is free and usually vegan

*Secretary of Programming (T. Daker)*

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

* There is already a dormant RSO about international engagement and getting the RSO up and running again. I wanted to share some tragic news, a couple of days ago, international student in Seattle was run over by a police car, and the police chief has been heard laughing about this saying her life was “insignificant”

*Secretary of Administrative Compliance (M. Sapp)*

* No Report

**Senator Group Coordinator Reports**

*On Campus Senators (L. Bounds, N. Lummis, B. Gonzalez)*

* No report

*Off Campus Senators (M. Blum, E. Bedow, B. Myers, Z. Roy, A. Schoth, C. Blair)*

* No report

*Academic Senators (J. Holmes, M. Fulton)*

* No report

*Student Life Senators (T. Bever, P. Hofstetter, R. Russell, K. Tasdan, M. Blum)*

* 24-hour notice work and know your lease progress!

**Internal Committee Chair Reports**

*Membership & Outreach (Z. Roy)*

* I sent out a calendar invite for prep this Friday, actual family weekend is on Sunday. Thanks to Senator Hartman we have a tailgating spot!

*Policies & Procedures (B. Myers)*

* We approved Senator Blairs Amendment with one slight amendment to make the language more clear and we passed the amendment of the bylaw change. We also made a full schedule for our revisions of the governing documents.

*Finance & Allocation (C. Blair)*

* Hartman: I have been involved in a lot of crowd funding campaigns and we have access to something called Hatch. We should try to target people to fundraise money and get the funds for SGA up a bit.

*Civic Engagement (K.Tasdan)*

* Dems VS. reps debate in October and thinking about future spring events!

**Ex-Officio Reports**

*ALAS (J. Zarco)*

* No Report

*PRIDE (L. Bonilla)*

* Pride had a Crispy Crème fundraiser and they made more than 400 $. All funds will be sent to a charitable cause for suicide awareness. Please also keep updated with our picnic coming soon.

*APAC (A. Martil)*

* First meeting of Dialogue board event. Hosting a cultural game night in the multicultural center. Plenty of games and fun times!

*BSU (J. Wilburn-Johnson)*

* Last week we had BSU jam packed with different volunteer and civic events to showcase our RSO. The overall week was a huge success and we are getting ready for homecoming!

*ARH (Stuart)*

* Watterson representation on the exec board but still looking for spots to fill. We have our first coffee and community tomorrow during our GA meeting. We will be having Elizabeth Reed come in to talk about sustainability in residence halls. Two more events coming up. Photo scavenger hunt and get to know you games.

*CPC (J. Rizzi)*

* Always keep eyes and ears open on the quad because we are always on the quad raising money!

*IFC (G. Ogorden)*

*Student Trustee (A. Ebikhumi)*

*SERC (Mackey)*

* We have take back the night soon, please come, it is a lot of fun. I brought up the night walk to SERC and they love it.

**Ex-Officio & Secretary Appointments**

IFC (Griffin O’Gorden)

* Griffin: Junior Poli-Sci major, I want to be more involved that the previous member of my position. I want to be able to do more with my position.
* Motion to move to debate: Myers
* Second: Tasdan
* Blum: Point of affirmation
* Russel: He seemed very interested in this positions and very good at what he does in his job positions. He is a very personable guy.
* Motion to end debate: Myers
* Second: Blair
* Vote for Griffin: Unanimous Yes

Secretary of Programing (Taylor Daker)

* Taylor: Sophomore psych major, this job has been months in the making. She started in ELP last year. I want to work for the student body and I attended most of SGA’s events last year. I am also in a sorority and a community assistant for cardinal court. I have made sure to schedule my work out with this commitment in mind. She is inspired by everyone she has talked to so far about this job. She also wants to put herself out there more with SGA. Has many ideas with other RSO’s about civic engagement. Willing to put in the work as she is behind.
* Russell: could you explain more about the student success program?
* Daker: I think being able to get tips and tricks from honors frats and sororities about resume builders.
* Motion to debate: Fulton
* Second: Bounds
* Tasdan: Huge point of affirmation, last year she had her stuff down with what she was doing with her job.
* Motion to end debate: Blair
* Second: Bounds
* Vote on Taylor: unanimous yes

**Information Items**

**Bill#4 – Bill Allocating Funds for SGA College Democrats vs College Republicans Debate**

* - Tasdan: This is for the SGA debate, I wish it was cheaper. We tried minimizing the cost with the EMDH person, but it was a no go.
* -Roy: Do we want to make this an emergency piece so we can save time.
* -Tasdan: Okay
* -Roy: I motion to make this emergency leg
* -Myers: Senator Tasdan would consider it legislation
* -Motion: Tasdan
* -Second: Lummis

**-Amendment#8 – Amendment to the Legislative Bylaws to Update the Constituent Contact Absence Policy**

- Beddow: Basically for constituent contact there is currently no penalty in our governing documents if you don’t do it. There should be a penalty is someone doesn’t do this job. We all worked on this to come to a .5 unexcused absence for every hour missed.

Motion to action item: Myers

-Second: Holmes

-Unanimous yes

**-Constitutional Amendment#9 – Amendment to the SGA Constitution to Establish**

**Referendum Approval for Constitutional Amendments**

- Blair: Mostly the same but some changes in semantics for us now and in the future. Walks through the changes shown throughout the document on TEAMS regarding the language changes that were made. There is also a spread sheet calculator in our files.

- Motion to move to action: Fulton

-Second: Tasdan

-Vote: unanimous yes

**-Resolution#4 – Resolution Urging Illinois State University Event Management, Dining, and Hospitality to Change the Purchasing of Flex Dollars**

**-**Vancil: When you purchase meal plans there is a set amount of dollars you can choose for flex dollars. But this is not very affordability friendly for students for multiple reasons. This just asks EMDH to look at the meal plans for the next year to implement this.

-Roy: I recommend that you Amend the language in line 6since you did not interview students.

-Motion to action item: Fulton

-Second: Schoth

**Action Items**

* **-Bill#4 – Bill Allocating Funds for SGA College Democrats vs College Republicans Debate**
* Motion to end debate: Myers
* Second: Hoffstetter
* Vote: Unanimous
* **-Amendment#8 – Amendment to the Legislative Bylaws to Update the Constituent Contact Absence Policy**
* Myers: Point of affirmation as former VPOA, it is scary enforcing something that wasn’t there and now we have a backup for making sure it gets done.
* Motion to end debate: Fulton
* Second: Lummis
* Vote: Unanimous yes
* **-Constitutional Amendment#9 – Amendment to the SGA Constitution to Establish Referendum Approval for Constitutional Amendments**
* Roy: when Cobi first sent the idea, I was not in favor, but I think over time it has been collaborated on well and I think it is awesome!
* Holmes: Do we vote on this as an action item?
* Myers: technically it goes through being two action items
* Blair: that’s not right, we are technically on the 4th reading, you are thinking of another thing.
* Holmes: What I am reading in the constitution is not lining up.
* Blair: So that assumes that it only comes up for one reading, this has been here for several weeks so hence we don’t have to wait another two weeks to vote on it.
* Motion to end debate: Fulton
* Second: Holmes
* Vote: unanimous yes
* **-Resolution#4 – Resolution Urging Illinois State University Event Management, Dining, and Hospitality to Change the Purchasing of Flex Dollars**
* Amended language
* Motion to amend the 6th where as: Roy
* Second: Blum
* Myers: I think this is really good piece of legislation!
* Bounds: I was buying others Starbucks left and right last year so this will be great for students!
* Motion to end debate: Fulton
* Second: James
* Vote: Unanimous yes

**Adjournment of the Meeting:**

Motion: Holmes

Second: Rizzi