



**Student Government Association
General Meeting
Tuesday, September 09, 2025
Meeting Minutes**

Peter T. Mazza Student Government Association Room
Ely Campus Center

A livestream of the meeting for public viewing was not able to take place.

Members Present: Justin Wald, Travis McLoughlin, Melissa Kuzmeski, Ezekiel Tamarkin, Lorraine Fernández, Jacob Constant, Barney Garcia, Dianyeliz Ozuna Sandoval, Raul Rosario, Brenna Guliani, Luke Stehley, Will Onorato, Celia Rocino, Jakob Traynor

Members Absent: Aviannah-Leigh Saulters

Also present and participating was SGA Advisor Matthew Dellea

Call to Order: President Justin Wald called the meeting to order at 5:30 pm. It was announced that the meeting was being recorded. Members were asked to review the meeting agenda, and a roll call was taken of members present (listed above).

Approval of the Minutes: The minutes from the April 22nd, 2025, meeting, were approved.

President's Report: Justin Wald welcomed the Senate and outlined the Executive Council's six strategic goals for the year. Key initiatives include modernizing SGA by transitioning to digital agendas and online binders, filling all Senate seats to ensure diverse student representation, and enhancing meetings with monthly professional development sessions, starting with an onboarding for new senators on September 30th. Wald also emphasized the importance of building stronger connections with campus groups such as commuters and student-athletes, and strengthening community ties with the City of Westfield through service and partnerships. He announced a goal to surpass last year's fundraising total for the annual Turkey Drive and concluded with a procedural update, requiring senators who wish to report to submit their items digitally by 4 p.m. on Fridays.

Student Trustee: Barney Garcia introduced himself and expressed his excitement for the academic year and his confidence in the potential of the new members of student government. He noted that while challenges lie ahead, it is important for everyone to support one another to achieve their common goals, stating he would save specific details about his plans for a future meeting. Garcia concluded by announcing his tentative office hours for the semester, which are scheduled for Tuesdays from 2 to 3:30 p.m., Wednesdays from 3 to 4:30 p.m., and Thursdays from 1:30 to 3:30 p.m.

Vice President of Student Life Report: Travis McLoughlin introduced himself and explained that his role covers all non-academic aspects of student life on campus. He listed several key areas under his purview, including housing, dining, public safety, health services, the counseling center, parking, and athletics. McLoughlin concluded by encouraging all senators to reach out to him with any questions, comments, or concerns they may have regarding these issues.

Vice President of Academic Life: Melissa Kuzmeski introduced herself and stated that her primary goal for the year is to advocate for students' educational journeys by increasing student engagement and encouraging them to voice

their ideas and concerns. She announced that her first meeting with Provost Salka was scheduled for September 10th and invited senators to immediately bring forward any urgent or pressing matters that she could raise on their behalf. Kuzmeski provided her contact email for any future academic issues and concluded by expressing her excitement to work with the Senate for a successful and eventful year.

Vice President of Finance Report: Ezekiel Tamarkin introduced himself to the Senate, sharing that he is a history education major and providing some brief personal background. He gave a general overview of the responsibilities his role entails and explained that since it was the first meeting, he did not have a full report to share but would provide more substantive updates in the future.

Vice President of Student Belonging: Lorraine Fernández reintroduced herself for her second year serving in the role. She shared that she is a senior Psychology major and a commuter who is originally from Puerto Rico, and explained that her core personal values are her heritage, culture, and sense of community. Fernández stated that she plans to incorporate these values into her projects and initiatives throughout the academic year. She concluded by expressing her excitement to begin working with the entire Senate on their collective goals.

Executive Secretary: Jacob Constant began his report with a reminder that the Fall Elections are currently underway and that the firm deadline to submit signature papers is next Friday, September 19th, by 5 PM. He announced that new technology is being implemented this year, including new voting clickers and laptops, which are still in the process of being set up. Constant concluded by sharing that his office hours for the semester will be on Tuesdays from 1 to 5 PM in the SGA room and provided his email for any questions.

Announcements: The following announcements were made:

- Lorraine Fernández explained An event for marginalized communities and infinity groups will be held on Monday, September 15th, from 5:30 to 7:30 PM in the Owl's Nest to connect them with campus-wide resources and organizations and including that there will be food.
- Justin Wald reminded senators of meeting procedures: only clap for guest speakers, and stand and raise your placard to be recognized when you wish to speak.
- Ezekiel Tamarkin reminded everyone that with a new year and a new student government, it is important for all members to feel comfortable asking questions whenever they arise.

Adjournment: There being no further business, Justin Wald adjourned the meeting at 5:51 pm.

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY'S CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of the approved minutes of the Student Government Association (SGA) general meeting held on September 9, 2025.

Executive Secretary Jacob Constant