

Student Government Association

General Meeting Tuesday, April 15, 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: Joseph Bonilla, Justin Wald, Sarah Harrington, Lorraine Fernández, Jacob Constant, Nicholas Palumbo, Anderson Dallaire, Travis McLoughin, Brenna Guliani, Jakob Trainor, Cody Hoisington, Barney Garcia, Christopher Lannan, Ali Sutherland, Ethan Haynes, Raymond Croteau, Isabella Centrella, Sophia Rebenciuc, Benny Rosas, Daniel Currier, Austin Morgan, Isabella Moniz, Melissa Kuzmeski, Evelyn Aiello, Mariza Monteiro

Members Absent: Raul Rosario, Dominic Zajko, Aviannah-Leigh Saulters, Troyelle Nosal, Puru Sharma, SAAC Representative

Members Excused: Ethan Mallinson, Angelina Cassella, Irini Mahida

Also present and participating was SGA Advisors Matthew Dellea, Shannon Green, and Ryan Meersman.

<u>Call to Order:</u> President Joseph Bonilla 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 8th, 2024, meeting, were approved.

<u>President's Report:</u> Joseph Bonilla gave a brief report explaining that the team bonding trip was cancelled for tomorrow. Then gave information regarding that the SGA Banquet, explaining that is an expectation that everyone goes, as there will be awards, and a great dinner.

Then Joseph gave some remarks explaining that this year was a great year and touched that this year has been a great year explaining that everyone has very grown.

Then finally Joseph went into his farewell portion of his report, thanking the ones that have been close to him since he has been in the Student Government Assocation.

Student Trustee: Student Trustee Daniel Currier began his report with three updates: the Board of Trustees will meet next Tuesday, April 22nd, with the schedule forthcoming from the President's Office; he acknowledged the 12th anniversary of the Boston Marathon Bombing, honoring the five lives lost and expressing solidarity in being "Boston Strong"; and he thanked those who assisted him at Owl Ball when he wasn't feeling well. He then delivered his farewell speech, reflecting on his journey from a small charter school to finding community and friendship at

^{*} Missed first roll call

^{**} Missed second roll call

Westfield State, particularly through SGA. Daniel expressed gratitude to members of the Executive Council and advisors, with personal acknowledgments following his remarks. He offered advice to future SGA leaders, emphasizing advocacy and accountability as the core of student leadership. Drawing on a quote from Bill Belichick, "Do your job," he encouraged members to recognize their roles and work diligently for the student body. He highlighted the importance of continued advocacy, urging future SGAs to keep pushing for initiatives such as the proposed common hour, slated for potential implementation in 2027–2028.

Then Daniel went into his farewell portion of his speech.

- Nicholas Palumbo thanked Dan for getting him involved in SGA.
- Ethan Haynes thanked Dan to being on of the first to congratulate him on becoming Parli.
- Christopher Lannan thanked Dan for being the big reason why he is on SGA.
- Anderson Dallaire explained that if it wasn't for him, he wouldn't have joined the class council and SGA.

<u>Vice President of Student Life Report:</u> Justin Wald reminded everyone about the Dance Company event. Then reminded everyone about Elections.

<u>Vice President of Academic Life:</u> Sarah Harrington explained that Dan and herself sent out 2 forms and reminded everyone to fill them out. Then she asked for 4 volunteers to help Dan and herself on Friday. Sarah then went into information regarding Anti-SGA.

Sarah then went into her farewell portion of her report.

• Joseph Bonilla gave a Point of Information in the middle of the report giving additional information regarding the banquet and anti-sga.

<u>Vice President of Finance Report:</u> Austin Morgan let everyone know that the SGA Executive Council increased the line item for the SGA Banquet, so we can go big this year. Then he went into an emotional farewell report.

<u>Vice President of Publicity Report:</u> Elizabeth Mercer explained that Owl Ball was great, and the Blue Key committee met last week then went into her very emotional farewell report.

- Zara Rivett thanked Elizabeth for allowing her to sit on Owl Ball committee.
- Christopher Lannan thanked Elizabeth for being a big reason why he apart of SGA.
- Joseph Bonilla gave a point of information and gave a story about a good time that they have had.

<u>Vice President of Student Equity:</u> Lorraine Fernández reflected on the success of Unity Week, thanking everyone who contributed and attended. She highlighted the Cultural Takeover event hosted by MSO, LAFE, and FACES, especially a moving moment where the Muslim Student Organization taught a traditional dance. Lorraine also shared updates from her recent meeting with the Office of Belonging, Inclusion, and Learning, including the start of Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month celebrations, which will run through April 23rd and conclude with a gala on April 24th. She has a meeting scheduled on April 22nd with Jenyka and Jane to discuss marketing and recruitment strategies for the SGA Standing Committee on Belonging and Inclusion. She reminded everyone that Fresh Check Day is tomorrow from 1:00–4:00 PM in University Hall, where she'll be volunteering at the Office of BIL's booth focused on empowerment and identity. Lorraine closed with her farewell report, expressing gratitude for her first year in SGA, the relationships and growth she's experienced, and her hope to continue serving next year as the Vice President of Student Belonging and Inclusion to further advance inclusivity and community on campus.

<u>First-Year Class Council Report:</u> Jakob Traynor gave a brief report talking about how their Jar Wars event ended last week and they raised a total of \$90.15! Then explaining that Courtney Hall won the Ice Cream Social. Then gave a brief farewell report to all the Senior.

• Anderson Dallaire asked when the Ice Cream social will be.

Announcements: The following announcements were made:

- Justin Wald asked if the members of the Special Committee of Club Relations and Celebrations would come to see him after the meeting.
- Daniel Currier talked about his Accounting and Finance event that will be held tomorrow morning in the Commuter Corner.
- Joseph Bonilla reminded everyone about elections and voting.
- Sarah Harrington reminded everyone about sending Elizabeth and herself the pictures and videos for Anti-SGA
- Ali Sutherland reminded everyone about 2 upcoming events from the office of Veteran and Military Services.
- Joseph Bonilla reminded everyone that next week will be a dress-up meeting.
- Nicholas Palumbo stated that there are 31 days till Commencement.

Adjournment: There being no further business, Joseph Bonilla adjourned the meeting at 6:50 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 April 15, 2025.

Executive Secretary Jacob Constant