

**STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION AGENDA**  
**November 29<sup>th</sup>, 2022**

- I. ROLL CALL: Levi Ekstrom, Timothy Allen, and Nicholas Smith were absent
- II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM: November 15<sup>th</sup>, 2022
- III. PRESIDENT'S REPORT: **Aaron Lessing**  
Hi everyone, I hope you all had a good Thanksgiving and much needed break. I wanted to start by saying I apologize that I wasn't here at the last meeting as I had a family emergency and had to leave. Unfortunately, Provost Mills could not come tonight as she is attending the lecture from the guest speaker Ben Crump. I do encourage you all to go to the lecture which at 7 pm tonight.

- A. VP of SEED: Dan Forster**
- B. Thank you, Aaron. Aaron asked me to talk a little bit about my future plans. You're going to see a request from the President for service on a committee to do conduct a search for the VP of Enrollment and Student Affairs. And I just wanted to tell this group personally what I've told others who work for me. Back in August, I've been working here for a combination of about 17 years. I did 11 years here back in 91 to 2002 and then was gone for 15 years and then came back here in 2017 and have been serving and as a vice president since that time. And you may or may not know this, but I live in Worcester which is, you know, 64 miles from door to door and a little over an hour and 10 minutes commute each way and. I have a family. I have an actual life outside this place, and that was getting really hard to manage. And so I informed the President in August that I have plans to leave the university and I would do so in the spring. So I settled on a date of June 1st, but I really wanted to see this division through. This combination of areas because I think it really is the best model for Westfield State at this time and was really committed to doing that. So that's why this kind of been a delay in this. And I also said I would be willing to serve while a search was conducted. So there wasn't a gap in time here where there wasn't any leadership. So, Umm, I want to apologize because my plan was to tell you earlier than this, but, you know, kind of life and work and everything kind of got in the ay of making that formal announcement. But Aaron, thank you for giving me this opportunity to do that. I really valued the work and we'll continue to value the work over the next several months working with this group. It really is the pride of Westfield State, one of the many pride points. But you know the legacy that you guys are continuing here is really important. And your feedback for the administration and leadership is crucial to us being, you know, responsive and a great place to live and learn so thanks.
- i. Ethan Haynes: Two things, the first thing is thank you for everything that you have done for the university. The second thing is that this was the position of VP for Student Enrollment and Development correct. If we have any suggestions who should we email that too?
- ii. Dan Forster: I would say the President of the University because that is who the person is going to be reporting to and who is leading the search and that is going to be making the final decision with the advisement of board.
- iii. Chloë Sanfaçon: Thank you for everything that you have done for Westfield and for this body. We will definitely miss you.

- iv. Aaron Lessing: I'm going to echo what Chloë said. I was very excited to hear that you would be the new VP for the position because I know how much you care. So I just want to say thank you.

C. Presidents Council: No Report

D. Items not listed on Agenda:

Next, I am looking for one student that is interested in being on a search committee for the Vice President of SEED position. This is a very important position, and I am hoping to have a non-senior student that is willing to be apart of the committee, which would start meeting in the future. I was not given a start and end date for the search committee, but I imagine it would take place mostly in the spring semester.

Next, the health and counseling consultants will be holding two meetings for students to discuss the strengths and weaknesses of these areas. They are both tomorrow at 12 pm or 5pm in the Owl's Nest. I was told you need to RSVP by today at 12 but obviously that is too late, so please show up.

- i. Shannon Green: *If you are planning on going to any of those, even though the RSVP time is up, can you just respond to the Dean of Students email so that I can add you to the list so he knows who is in the space.*

- ii. Dan Forster: *I meant to say this earlier, anyone who is looking to serve on the VP search committee. I'm not going to be involved in that whatsoever but I do want to give just a small piece of advice that you can take or leave. These two areas are very different, Student Affairs and enrollment management. They also tend to be very different types of personalities associated with them. So anyone who serves on that committee, I would advise that while skills are important and a level of understanding for each area. But I do really believe that their attitude towards students is going to be really important and you need to consider if they can relate to the students in a real way.*

IV. BOARD OF TRUSTEES' REPORT: **Chloë Sanfaçon**

A. All University Committee: No Report

B. Student Advisory Council: No Report

V. VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT-STUDENT LIFE: **Logan Terenzi**

A. Student Affairs Committee: No Report

B. Food Services Committee: Logan Terenzi

Dinning Services, Food Services Committee, and I have discussed bringing a new option of food to campus, reopening Ely Harvest in the student lounge next to the gym. This would be a partnership with the company Wild Blue, the biggest Japanese food provider in the country. I am going to bring this to senate tonight for us to vote on and endorse this decision during my food services report, here is important information before the meeting (Keep in mind this is all subject to change!), but please ask any questions:

- Wild blue has a 5-page menu of items this includes sushi rolls, poke bowls, salads, soups including ramen bowls, and boba tea. All these options range between \$6.99 and \$13.99 at the highest, most of the options are around \$8.99 anything below \$10 is meal swipe compatible.
- The primary way of ordering food at harvest sushi bar will be the GET app. Where you can do meal swipes or a la carte.
- Labor for this location will be provided by wild blue company with trained sushi chefs.
- Hours of operation will most likely be 11 AM to 7 PM, 7 days a week. The timeline for getting this installation up and running will be voting (tonight) November 29th in the senate then dining services will bring their contract to the company and the location ready for meals will be operational around January after Winter break.
- The partnership with wild blue will be more like Starbucks in Wilson Cafe not anything like our partnership with Dunkin' donuts so dining

services has a majority of the control over the menu and what happens at Ely harvest station.

- The split of revenue will be around 85%/25% which will cover all operational costs and expenditures meaning we do not have to raise meal plans to compensate for wild blue. The only additional raise in money for meal plans will be the yearly increase due to inflation and outside factors

Overall, this will provide a variety of options for campus as well as many vegan and vegetarian, and gluten free options for individuals. All the fish is sustainably sourced through green and sustainable companies as well as all containers and products used are compostable along with the food.

**I move to endorse the decision by Dining Services and Food Committee to reopen Ely Harvest as Wild Blue Sushi Bar, and to reevaluate our endorsement by the end of Spring 2023.**

i. Loïc Black: When I read the email earlier, I asked a few students around me their opinions on it and they thought could that possibly mean that they could get rid of Sushi days in the DC and replace that with other food?

ii. Logan Terenzi: Yes, so the days that the workers do sushi in the DC they will no longer be doing sushi at all and those workers will do something else and that manpower will be used for labor elsewhere in the DC and that station will be used for something else.

iii. Mikayla Evans: My only question is. I love the idea of sushi in Ely. I loved the paninis like make your own paninis and if we could bring those into the bistro because I know a lot of people like those.

iv. Logan Terenzi: Yeah, so we've been working for a while on bringing back the make your own panini, I think with maybe more labor force and the operations of the sushi bar in the DC being decrease that may open up more room for staff to be able to do make the paninis. I'll talk to Bill and see if we can get that back on track.

v. Aaron Lessing: I've said this before and I'm going to say it again. This is the second time that they are outsourcing something to another company. And once again the original thing is that dining services was supposed to be in house as I interpreted it. I'm not saying this is a bad thing and I told Exec yesterday that if this passes I would probably be eating there almost everyday. Keep in mind as you go through the years if future things come up.

vi. Logan Terenzi: To add onto that, I totally understand about the concern of outsourcing with it one of the things that I want to emphasize that similar to what we did with Wilson Café and Starbucks we are going to be using the products without taking on the Starbucks name. We don't advertise as a franchise location so the same thing will be the case with Wild Blue. So we are not giving them a contract and franchise spot like Dunkin Donuts where we are kind of locked in which is why you will be able to evaluate in a few years. Please reevaluate and change things if they are not working and if we have a boost to enrollment and have more student labor consider doing things more in house but right now we just can't afford things right now. That's the reason why we are outsourcing at the moment because we want to give students a variety of options.

vii. Loïc Black: So if for whatever reason there are reasons that we want it to be gone how possible is that or are we kind of contracted in.

viii. Logan Terenzi: I'm going to ask that to Bill tomorrow and see how easy that is so you guys know how to make those adjustments in the future without binding yourself in a bad way.

**Motion Carries**

I have also provided a big PowerPoint that dining sources and wild blue provided to us to show us what we would be receiving please take a look for additional information not said here.

Bill also told me that wild blue wants to bring us samplings of the food there for us to try, he said for next meeting on December 6th he can bring those. As well as for anyone not a fan of any of the options they provide I can have him bring down DC food for us too.

- C. Substance Advisory Committee: No Report
- D. Student Athletic Advisory Board: No Report
- E. Veteran Affairs Report: No Report
- F. Enrollment Management Committee: No Report

VI. VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT-ACADEMIC LIFE: **Emily Fluet**

- A. Academic Policies Committee: No Report
- B. Curriculum Committee: **Emily Fluet**

UCC met on Friday the 18th. The first thing we did was we voted to reinstate the temporary core. This is the core that was established a few years ago and that will be in place until the new core is created and set up by SCORE. It expired last May and we voted to reinstate it until Fall of 2024 which is when the new core is expected to be finished by.

We approved 7 courses in the new Occupational Therapy Assistant concentration in the Health Sciences major. These are Occupational Therapy Assistant Practice courses 1-4 and Occupational Science courses 1-3. All of these were sent to AUC with minor wording revisions.

- C. Special Committee on Reforming General Education (SCORE):  
**Emily Fluet**

SCORE met on Tuesday the 15th and Thursday the 17th. We voted to submit our current model draft to AUC for their endorsement to continue with the track we are going on. They've sent the model to UCC and UCC will likely get to it on December 16th.

I ran a student focus group on Thursday and it went very well, I got lots of good feedback about the current model and the proposed changes from a student perspective. If anyone wants to see the most recent model draft just let me know and I can send it to you.

Also, just a quick little update related to academics, the last day of classes is Tuesday the 13th and finals start on the 14th and end on the 19th. I know this part of the semester can get pretty stressful so make sure you're taking the time to take care of yourself as well as your academics.

- D. New England Council of Higher Education (NECHE) Self-Study Committee: No Report
- E. Parking Control Board: No Report
- F. Parking Appeals Board: No Report

VI. VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT-STUDENT EQUITY: **Rodney Duteau**

- A. Diversity and Inclusion Committee: No Report

VII. VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT-FINANCE: **Daniel Currier**

Good evening.

Yesterday, I held a meeting with Laura Cafaro and Matt Dellea to discuss a number of items as we begin planning for the Spring 2023 semester.

Over the past several months, SAIL and SGA professional staff members and I have seen a number of issues involving SGA-recognized clubs and organizations, including, but not limited to, the use of Venmo and other unsanctioned payment services for fundraising,

bypassing SGA and SAIL professional staff members in acquiring purchase orders, and not submitting required forms. As a result, we will be holding a meeting of all club leaders on Friday, December 9<sup>th</sup> from 1:40pm-2:55pm here in the SGA Room to ensure that all clubs are on the same page regarding our procedures. Moving forward, there will be a monthly club leadership meeting on the 4<sup>th</sup> Friday of every month during the Common Meeting Time to allow for networking between clubs, reiterate key procedures, provide important updates, and foster workshop opportunities for clubs to innovate and expand programming.

We also discussed the Spring 2023 Club Fair, which is slated to be held on Thursday, January 26<sup>th</sup> from 11:00am-1:00pm throughout the Garden Level of the Ely Campus Center. Logistics, including table registration, will be ironed out at a later date. We are currently planning to offer catered food items (in addition to the traditional popcorn machine) in order to entice students to come downstairs. I will also be looking to host cornhole and other small activities in the SGA Room to keep students engaged and to get them to see our space. A table will also be available for students to get involved as orientation leaders, which I highly encourage all of you to consider.

We have also discussed the use of *The Nestwork*— our new student engagement platform. We will continue to have clubs register for this platform and market their events. SGA will continue to promote the use of this platform and encourage all students to spread the word regarding its benefits for the student experience. Although the hard launch and mass marketing campaign is currently on pause, we will continue to leverage this platform. Please stay tuned for further updates.

Finally, we discussed the proposed transformation of a space in New Hall into a student lounge. Aaron has informed me that he is working with Vice President Forster and other administrators within the Division of Student Enrollment, Engagement, and Development (SEED) to get the space ready for use by SGA. For those that do not know, I have proposed that an underutilized room off the New Hall Concourse connecting Davis Hall with the rest of campus be converted into a student lounge and entertainment space, particularly for our commuter students. When we return for the spring semester, it is my hope that we will be doing the following:

- Gathering a work group of SGA senators and Executive Council members, non-SGA students (with an emphasis on commuter students), Facilities administration, and staff members within the SEED Division.

- Organizing mechanisms for student feedback, whether that be through focus groups, whiteboards with sticky notes, or surveys.
- Completing an Innovation Fund request that will leverage non-SGA dollars to help cover expenses associated with the project.
- Developing an action plan, including items to be purchased and tasks to be completed.

It is my hope that this project, which I have colloquially entitled "Camp Westy," will serve as a starting point in reengaging our student's post-pandemic.

On Thursday, I will be attending a meeting of the President's Council where we will be undertaking a workshop on institutional culture and values led by Associate Vice President for Human Resources Trish Bonica.

Should you have any questions, please let me know.

- i. Chris Lannan: Is there any way that the commuter students in New hall will be able to get into the building.
- ii. Daniel Currier: Yes, that it on the concourse which is a room on the walkway between New hall and Davis hall. This is an unused room which was previously a computer lab and last year was a space that was used for Covid testing. That space is open to all students.
- iii. Sarah Harrington: That room do you need like a key to get into New hall?
- iv. Daniel Currier: Good question. That room does not have any sort of access to the student rooms in New hall. It is only on the first floor and can only be accessed from the outside.
- v. Loïc Black: Is it a possibility for a few computers to be looked at being put in there because if they need print something at 3am it would be great if that was available for them.
- vi. Daniel Currier: That is definitely something that we can look into. We are going to be looking for the feedback from commuter students and also residential students. So we will definitely take all feedback under consideration.

A. Finance Committee: **Daniel Currier**

Good evening.

The Finance Committee met yesterday to review one finance proposal submitted on behalf of the Dance Company. In accordance with the SGA Finance Bylaws, the Finance Committee has rendered an advisory opinion on this finance proposal. The sole power to accept, deny, table, or amend lies with the Legislature. Tonight, you will have the final say on this proposal. I will detail the finance proposal in full and will

make a motion based on the Finance Committee's recommendation. I encourage you to ask questions and provide comments after I make the motion.

Tonight, we will discuss Finance Proposal F22-006, which was submitted on behalf of the Dance Company, which currently has a balance of \$11,680 in their club account. The Dance Company is requesting \$5,399 to cover the costs associated with a trip to see the Rockettes Christmas Spectacular in New York City on Saturday, December 17, 2022. The request includes two line-items, the first for coach bus transportation (which SGA may cover at up to 50% per the Finance Bylaws) at \$1,214 and the second for ticket costs (which SGA may cover at up to 100% per the Finance Bylaws) at \$4,185. Upon discussion, the Finance Committee developed three alternative options, all of which sought to bring the total allocation by SGA down to a reasonable amount. The majority of the Finance Committee agreed with an alternative whereby SGA would cover the \$1,214 transportation charge and \$2,435 of the \$4,185 ticket expense amount. The Finance Committee, by a vote of 3-1, agreed to endorse the proposal as amended. **Therefore, I move to accept Finance Proposal F22-006 as amended and to allocate \$3,649 to the Dance Company.**

- i. Chris Lannan: It's worth noting that the Dance Company does a lot of fundraising and the money that they are asking for I think we all thought was a little bit much. Also they weren't really specific enough at least for me about what they wanted.
- ii. Adam Carpenter: I do want to take a moment to address the counterpoint that we discussed in Finance Committee, that we shouldn't be punishing clubs for being good at fundraising because there are a lot of clubs who struggle with it so to not give people money because they are good at it is not what we should be doing from some members of the finance committees opinion.
- iii. Ethan Haynes: Can you remind me of what the original amount that was requested is?
- iv. Daniel Currier: \$5,399
- v. Ethan Haynes: And the amended was \$3,649?

#### **Motion Carries**

The remainder of our meeting focused on the SGA Finance Bylaws. Over the past several meetings, we have discussed proposed updates to the Bylaws to align with current University policies and realities posed by declining SGA revenues. Upon discussion, the Finance Committee

unanimously voted to endorse the proposed changes to the SGA Finance Bylaws and to transmit the SGA Finance Bylaws to the Rules and Regulations Committee for review. Liam will be providing more information as we look to have this body approve the proposed changes.

Should you have any questions, please let me know.

B. Foundation Report: **Daniel Currier**

Hello again!

The Westfield State Foundation Board of Directors held its second meeting of the academic year on Wednesday, November 16, 2022 in the Horace Mann Center.

I have provided each of you with two documents from this meeting. The first document is my Student Director Report, which provides all members of the Board with a brief update on the student experience here at Westfield State University. I highlighted how SGA is working to *build the nest* and engage our student body post-pandemic. The second document is the Institutional Advancement Dashboard for the first quarter for FY23, which ended on September 30<sup>th</sup>. We have seen increases across the board in terms of the number of donors, gifts, and amount of donations. We were able to raise \$170,495 in the first quarter - an increase of 11% from the first quarter of FY22, with \$65,811 going to support student scholarships.

President Thompson gave her report at the meeting and indicated that all four associate deans will be engaging in a training focused on fundraising over winter break. President Thompson said she will hold each of them to account in providing more fundraising dollars for their respective schools. She has already given each school \$50,000 as seed funding in order to innovate and provide a return-on-investment for the University. She hopes to see further innovation over the course of the academic year.

Finally, I would like to mention that today is Giving Tuesday. I recognize that we already give thousands of dollars to this institution; heck, I paid my bill today and my bank account has already waived the white flag. But during this season of giving, we should look to support our fellow students who are less fortunate. You are able to allocate funds specifically to the Common Goods Food Pantry, the Interfaith Center, the Student Emergency Fund, and much more. Please consider making a small gift to help your fellow students.



The next meeting of the Westfield State Foundation Board of Directors will be held on Wednesday, February 23, 2023 at 4:30pm in the Horace Mann Center. Should you have any questions, please let me know.

C. ITSAC Report: No Report

VIII. VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT - PUBLICITY: **Elizabeth Mercer**

A. Neighborhood Advisory Board: No Report

B. Community Relations/Fundraising Report: **Haley Kane**

Hi Everyone!

I hope you all had a nice Thanksgiving break. Thank you to everyone who participated and donated to the Turkey drive for SGA. We raised a total of \$707.23. We put aside \$100 so we could purchase items for the Common Goods Food Pantry. We asked Tom Convery for a specific list of items that the pantry needs. Carlie was able to go shopping and donated items such as laundry detergent and paper towels. She donated the items last week! The rest of the money will go to the Salvation Army. We decided to write them a check so they can purchase the items that they need. Thank you again for participating! It makes my heart happy knowing that we are going to help an amazing organization. Have a great rest of your week!

C. Spring Semiformal Committee: No Report

D. Blue Key Committee: No Report

IX. EXECUTIVE SECRETARY REPORT: **Adam Carpenter**

X. PARLIAMENTARIAN REPORT:

A. Rules and Regulations Committee: **William Connor**

The Rules and Regulations committee met today in fact November 29<sup>th</sup>, 2022 to discuss the Fun filled Finance bylaws which will be presented next week by me to the legislature for approval. To date we have approved the following Constitutions:

**The Westfield Voice**

**The Westfield State Veterans Association**

**Asian and Pacific Islanders Student Union**

We have also rejected the **Student Honors Association Constitution** for not being open to all students and faculty, and the **Music Therapy Club** for not directly electing their President and will be working on the **Dance Company Constitution** next week.

- i. Dan Currier: This is a point of information. You have all gotten little packet of the finance bylaws. It is ten pages. If you have time please review that in full and find the things that you don't understand. We added a few sections like the budget and made it more clear. Please review them if you get a chance.

B. Constitutional Review Committee: No Report

XI. COMMUTER COUNCIL AND CLASS COUNCIL REPORTS:

A. Commuter Council: No Report

B. Senior Class: No Report

C. Junior Class: No Report

D. Sophomore Class: No Report

E. First Year Class: No Report

F. Apartment Complex: No Report

G. Courtney Hall: No Report

H. Davis Hall: No Report

I. Dickinson Hall: No Report

J. Lammers Hall: No Report

K. New Hall: No Report

L. University Hall: No Report

- XII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS: No Unfinished Business
- XIII. NEW BUSINESS: (Requires majority vote to be opened) No New business
- XIV. ANNOUNCEMENTS:  
Logan Terenzi: For the December 6<sup>th</sup> meeting it is most likely going to be pizza as the option other than sushi so let me know if you are looking for something other than pizza from Bill.  
Jospeh Bonilla: I don't know if I am the only one here who is vegetarian but if there were some of those options that would be great.  
Alan Blair: Westfield Wednesday tomorrow wear your swag.  
Adam Carpenter: As the semester is ending, I want to give out a quick reminder on attendance. There are a couple of people getting close to the four absences. So just be conscious of that, I don't want to have to hunt anyone down.  
Aaron Lessing: On Thursday, Health services is working with Tapestry in the Dc from 11-1 to talk about HIV and AIDS awareness. Wear red to that. Ben Crump will be tonight at 7 in Scanlon so if you are interested go to that.  
Mikayla Evans: 171 days to commencement!
- XV. ROLL CALL: Nicholas Smith and Timothy Allen were absent
- XVI. ADJOURNMENT: The meeting was adjourned at 6:07pm until December 6<sup>th</sup>.

*Please also note that for accurate record keeping purposes, SGA meetings are recorded and kept on file by the SGA Executive Secretary.*