

**STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION AGENDA**  
**January 24, 2023**

- I. ROLL CALL: Ari Bannish was absent.
- II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM: December 6th, 2022
- III. PRESIDENT'S REPORT: **Aaron Lessing**

- A. Presidents Council: No Report
- B. Items not listed on Agenda:

Hi everyone, I hope you had a great break and having a good start to your semester. I have housekeeping stuff and some updates for you all but that's really it.

I accept the resignation of Logan Terenzi as Vice President of Student Life.

I accept the resignation of Crystal Mills as Rep-at-Large.

I accept the resignation of Alannah Downs as Rep-at-Large.

I move to appoint Scott Doan as New Hall Rep for the remainder of the 2022-2023 academic year. **Motion Passes**

We are going to be sending out an email regarding having interviews for the Vice President of Student Life position, please spread the word to gather interest and if you are interested yourself, please reach out to me with any questions. I will also probably include in the same email interviews for all vacant positions to see if anyone is interested in SGA in a less intensive role as well, so be on the lookout for that. If you are on a committee that was under the Vice President of Student Life and have any questions or concerns regarding that, please reach out to me.

Dan and I met with a working group on finding and implementing a Commuter Lounge on the academic side of campus as we mentioned last semester. It is looking as though this space might not be ready until the Fall semester as it seems that it might take some time to find a space. There will be a survey going out to commuters on what they could want in this space but if you have any suggestions, please let me know. Next week our guest speaker is going to be Vice President Taksar, and possibly John Zocco and Bill Connor as they would like to discuss finalized fees for next academic year before they come present in front of the Board of Trustees. If you have any requests for guest speakers, please let me know sooner rather than later so I could possibly reach out for them to come down!

We are also looking for a representative for the Fresh Check Day Committee which helps to plan Fresh Check Day which is really just a mental health related event. The committee will probably meet once per month I believe. So let me know that you are interested.

Finally, my office hours this semester are going to be MTWH 1:30PM - 3:00 PM

- i. Chris Lannan: I think it would be beneficial if the director of the study abroad program could come down.
- ii. Aaron Lessing: Ok
- iii. Daniel Currier: This is a point of information. That individual has left the university.

- 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: No Report
  - A. Student Affairs Committee: No Report
  - B. Food Services Committee: No Report
  - 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**

Hi everyone, I hope you all had a restful break. I just wanted to let everyone know that my office hours for this semester will be Tuesday/Thursday from 11-12:30 and Wednesday from 1-2 pm. Also, the South Lot Plus parking space are now being used, so if anyone here has one and has any feedback or hears any feedback from someone else who has one, please let me know.

- i. Mikayla Evans: I have the parking pass and I really like it. I think that it's really beneficial. I just think that I didn't personally get an email about it. My roommate did and she sent it to us. I've heard that a lot of people didn't get the email and some non-residential students got the email. I don't know if they reached out to you yet just to figure out who got the email and why specific people got the email? But that would be beneficial.
- ii. Emily Fluet: I think that the email was supposed to go out to all students. But I will ask them why it didn't go out to all students.

A. Academic Policies Committee: Daniel Currier

Good evening.

The Academic Policies Committee did not meet this past Friday during the Common Meeting Time but held an emergency electronic vote on a proposal submitted by Registrar Monique Lopez to extend the Add/Drop by one day from Monday, January 23<sup>rd</sup> to Tuesday, January 24<sup>th</sup> due to outages with the web registration system.

A multitude of late-night emails were sent back and forth between the faculty members of the committee and myself on the merits of the proposal. Some faculty were concerned about catching students up on work with even more time to add and drop classes.

In the end, the committee voted 17-1 in favor of the proposal with three committee members not voting. The All-University Committee (AUC) approved the proposal as submitted by APC and has since been implemented by the Registrar's Office.

Our next meeting is scheduled for Friday, February 3, 2023, during the Common Meeting Time in Wilson 109. Should you have any questions, please let me know.

B. Curriculum Committee: No Report

C. Special Committee on Reforming General Education (SCORE):

**Chris Lannan**

Hi all! The Special Curriculum on Reforming Education, SCORE, met today January 24<sup>th</sup> between the common meeting times of 9:45 am to 11:00 am. This was my first SCORE meeting I have attended since I became the student representative for SCORE. This meeting served as a welcome back meeting for the semester. SCORE is made up of ten plus educators and department chairs from all different departments on campus. In today's meeting we talked about reshaping the FY24 common core for incoming future classes. This will not impact anyone in this room and will start when the class of 2028 arrives on campus. The main topic for the day was adding an advanced writing class in the humanities requirement. This discussion was talked about at length and the energy was split among half of the representatives. On one hand, some educators thought this would be a good idea. On the other hand, some thought it would be

a bad idea. We generally all agreed that this would not be popular among students who would have to take the FY24 common core, and must take two writing classes, composition one and an upper-level writing class. I suggested that while this might not be a well-liked idea, that maybe it would be beneficial for students who have more intensive writing majors. Whether all or some majors would have to take this upper level writing class, learning advanced writing schools would nudge students in the right direction towards pursuing their majors and future careers. In the end, we decided to finish discussing this at Thursday's meeting. Tonight, I wanted to gauge the student government opinion and see what y'all thought about it. Would this be a good or a bad idea? SCORE is open to feedback and would love to receive feedback. If you have any feedback or comments, please reach out. If you need further information, my email [isclannan2075@westfield.ma.edu](mailto:isclannan2075@westfield.ma.edu) and you can reach me during my office hours, which are Fridays 1-2 pm in the SGA room. Thank you all and have a great day.

- i. Daniel Currier: I would encourage the use of that upper-level writing course. I know that from earlier discussions, SCORE was supposed to be major specific. Like for instance, for business, I had to take Business and Tech writing and for a biology major, there is writing for biology, so it is more of an upper-level major specific thing. It is important that any college student know how to write and with Covid that has gone done so we need to bring that back up again and also make sure that students are able to access resources. It seems that many students are unable to even write a simple research paper. So making sure that research is integrated in that class is a must.
- ii. Aaron Lessing: I think that it is important to have a second writing course, but I think it should be up to the majors and not the common core itself because I think that some majors frankly aren't going to need to write as much as others are so I think that might be something that they leave out of the common core and give to specific departments. Then, departments can decide whether they need to have another intensive writing course instead of adding the burden to the department if they don't need it.
- iii. Adam Carpenter: I want to sort of echo the same type of thing that Aaron said. There are some departments that are very tight as is so adding to the common core would make that more difficult. I know that as an Education major it is strict about keeping on path or you are in trouble so if we could be given a little more wiggle room that would be ideal, but it just isn't something to be put in the common core.
- iv. Loïc Black: I think that it should be major based.  
D. New England Council of Higher Education (NECHE) Self-Study Committee: Daniel Currier

Good evening!

I am pleased to report that after nearly two years of meticulous planning, evidence gathering, writing, and community engagement, the self-study report has been submitted to the New England Commission of Higher Education (NECHE). This report - over 300 pages long - represents a combined effort by faculty, staff, students, and administrators to improve as a campus through 2030 and beyond and will help to inform the next campus strategic plan.

I do want to alert you that our NECHE Site Visit is scheduled from Monday, March 6th through Wednesday, March 8th. Please be advised that there will be a student open forum at TBD time, and I encourage all students in this room and throughout our campus community to attend this session and provide their frank and honest feedback to the visiting team. The SGA Executive Council will also have the opportunity to meet with the visiting team for about an hour as well.

Should you have any questions, please let me know.

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**

Dan gave a Presentation

i. *Ethan Haynes: How did we miss that \$35,000?*

ii. *Daniel Currier: When I created the budget earlier this year, I was given an amount of money for salaries. I assumed that it included fringe benefit. I was looking at that amount and I assumed that it included fringe. So, we found out in Banner when we were doing budget updates that there was that \$35,000 charge that came up. But we do have the money to pay for this, we had a lot of administrative costs, and we have some other funds that we can tap into. We have the money that we need to tap into.*

iii. *Aaron Lessing: Just a point of information, regarding that. We had a lot of new people come into roles with the retirement of our last person in SGA. I believe that she handled a lot of that, so we have a lot of new people budgeting wise. It was a mistake, but we were able to figure out where we went wrong and fixed it.*

A. Finance Committee: No Report

B. Foundation Report: Daniel Currier

Hello again!

The Westfield State Foundation Fundraising Committee will be meeting this Thursday, January 26<sup>th</sup> at 4:00pm at 2 Broad Street in Downtown Westfield. The Fundraising Committee is composed of alumni, community partners, and former Vice President for Student Affairs Carlton Pickron.

We previously met on Thursday, December 19<sup>th</sup> via Zoom to discuss Give a Hoot Day, which is scheduled for March 22<sup>nd</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup>, and potential challenges to host on that day, the Westfield State Golf Classic, the Florida Gold Tournament & Alumni Engagement Trip, President Thompson's "1,000 People \$1000 Campaign," and the Interfaith Breakfast.

I have offered feedback to the committee on engaging students through Give a Hoot Day. My idea was a 'high five' or 'helping hand' campaign whereby students are asked to give \$5 to the Student Emergency Fund and assist their fellow students, with potential prizes (such as WSU swag) as an incentive. If 200 students simply contributed \$5, we would provide the Student Emergency Fund with an additional \$1000.

The next Board of Directors meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, February 22, 2023. Should you have any questions, please let me know.

C. ITSAC Report: No Report

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

Hey Guys,

*I hope that you all had a great break. This semester, I'm looking for new committee members for the Owl Ball and Blue Key Committees. If you are interested in planning the spring dance or the award ceremony at the end of the semester, please see me after this meeting.*

The senator of the week is Kaitlyn Egan for her work on the luggage drive. We are so proud of you and your efforts to help support people in the community through all the donations you and your class council have gathered. Good job Katie and keep up the good work class of 2024.

- A. Neighborhood Advisory Board: No Report
- B. Community Relations/Fundraising Report: No Report
- C. Spring Semiformal Committee: No Report
- D. Blue Key Committee: No Report

IX. EXECUTIVE SECRETARY REPORT: Adam Carpenter

Hello Everyone,

This is sort of an impulsive report that I'm writing during the meeting because it was originally an announcement before I realized that it has been a while since I have made a report and thought it would be beneficial. First off, a quick reminder on how to report. Send me the report before 2pm on Tuesdays and use the form that exists for it because that is very helpful when it comes to formatting the minutes. Secondly, my office hours for this semester are Tuesdays from 9am to 11am and Wednesday from 2pm to 5pm though in all honesty I'm here most of the time so it would be fine if you came at other times. And lastly and most importantly, the joke of the week. What does a panda fry its bamboo in? Anyone anyone Bueller? The answer is a pan, duh!

- i. Joseph Bonilla: I think that the joke of the week should be an all the time thing.
- ii. Adam Carpenter: It will be.

X. PARLIAMENTARIAN REPORT: Liam Connor

- A. Rules and Regulations Committee: No Report
- B. Constitutional Review Committee: No Report

XI. COMMUTER COUNCIL AND CLASS COUNCIL REPORTS:

- A. Commuter Council: No Report
- B. Senior Class: Mikayla Evans

I accept the resignation of Ari Bannish as a Class of 2023 Representative to SGA.

I also would like to report on some things that our class council has been up to. We have planned our 100 Days to Commencement Event, and it is scheduled for February 9th from 6-9pm at the Westfield Brewing Company. We will have food catered from the DC and are in the process of creating a playlist for the event. If anyone has any requests, you can tell me after the meeting. We are also in the process of planning senior week and selling class T shirts so stay tuned for more information!

- 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 New Business

XIII. NEW BUSINESS: (Requires majority vote to be opened)

XIV. ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Dan Currier: My office hours in case you ever want to visit me are Monday 10 to 12 Tuesdays from 4 to 5, Wednesday from 10 to 11. Stop by if you ever want to talk about finances or whatever.  
Rodney Duteau: Just to remind all of you, LaRue our vice-president of JEDI, emailed everyone talking about how he now has

a JEDI advisory group. It is open to all students, and we are trying to max at 25 to be a part of this group. This group has the goal of advocating for justice, equity, and diversity on campus and doing those sorts of initiatives on campus. Let me know if you are interested or have any questions.

Elizabeth Mercer: The Girls Ice Hockey Team is playing on Saturday at 3pm at Amelia and I would like you guys to go.

Kaitlyn Egan: Please donate to the Luggage Drive. It's going until the end of the month and it is going to women and children in need. Also stop by our table at the club fair on Tuesday and you can get a raffle ticket to win a free shirt.

Dan Currier: Please volunteer at club fair, I will send out an email with details tonight.

Mikayla Evans: There are 115 days until commencement.

XV. ROLL CALL: No absences.

XVI. ADJOURNMENT: The meeting was adjourned at 6:01 until January 31<sup>st</sup>.

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