

STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION AGENDA
February 21, 2023

- I. ROLL CALL: Mikayla Evans, Cade Leavens, Levi Ekstrom, Isabella Catao, Maggie Roberts, Konstantinos Tasopoulos, and Alexandria Mallios were absent.
- II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM: February 14, 2023, Approved as usual
- III. PRESIDENT'S REPORT: **Aaron Lessing**
The first order of business is that I move to appoint Jack Roy as a Courtney Hall representative for the remainder of the 22-23 academic year. *Motion Passes*
I just have some quick updates on my end, please put the March 6th date in your calendar for NECHE, we are really encouraging you all to go, it is from 5:20 pm - 6:10 pm in University Hall, and bring a friend. You should have received an email from Maggie Balch about a Health Minds survey that they are doing through the JED foundation, please fill this out to help the university.
Finally, there are two Accepted Students Days tomorrow and Thursday, I am wondering if anyone would be able to assist with our table on both days, right outside this room, between 11:15 am - 1:30 pm.

A. Dean of Students: Maggie Balch
So it was 60 degrees yesterday and its 30 degrees today. How many people are going to be sick by the end of the week. *Murmurs from the senate*. I guess I'm here to impersonate Dan and talk a little bit about the displaced families conversation that we have been having. The good news is that I am probably a little bit better at having this conversation with all of you today because I was with a group of them today. A group of people from the State that are looking at Westfield to see if our campus is the best campus to be a host for these families. I have like bit more current information than Dan does because of that. I will do my best to answer your questions. I will tell you what I know right off the bat and then we can go with questions from there. So what I know is that we currently have displaced families. Displaced families could be refugees like I'm sure that months ago you probably heard on the news that they shipped a bunch of refugees up to Martha's Vineyard and then Martha's Vineyard moved them over to the mainland. They are currently living in random places around the state. Displaced families could be those people, it could be people that are housing insecure or it could be other people who just currently don't have a place to live. So the state is looking for places where they can live in state buildings of which our residence halls are. They came today to take a tour. They toured Lammers, the good news about Lammers is that it has those little cubbies with a kitchen, a lounge type area and a couple of bathrooms. So they looked at that space and think that it might work. They see some really positive aspects of that space like the larger lounges. They liked the laundry room of all things they were excited by the laundry room. They looked at dining facilities but at this point we do not know if that is an option for them. They asked for floor plans and we are going to send those over. They are probably going to go back to the state and starting asking some questions to determine whether this is the best place to have the families. What I know is that they basically live in our residence hall and they bring all of their people. I have been told and I don't know if this is true or not, that they will bring their own maintainers, security, and social workers to help them to acclimate to the area and to help them get jobs and their children into school. They kind of come and live on the campus and do their own thing with not much interaction between the groups. They did ask today on the tour about interacting with the rest of campus like

would they be on the green and able to use that space and would they be able to eat in the dining hall. We were not able to answer that question because quite frankly we don't know the answers yet. I said if we get to the point where we are the site that you are looking at, there are a handful of people who are ready, willing, and able to sit down and have those conversations do decide what is best for everyone involved. That's what I know. I know that they are doing it at one other state institution which is Salem but their setup is a little bit different because they have town houses off campus where they are living that for reference are probably about where south lot is. It's not right in the heart of campus like ours would be.

- i. Ethan Haynes: Just a quick comment about this. At previous meetings where this discussion was had President Aaron Lessing mentioned that maybe just families would be able to come. Is there any update on that or is it just soley families.
- ii. Maggie Balch: What they spoke about today was a mom with three kids or a mom with two kids. Today they looked in the bathrooms and said oh we would need to put changing tables and they talked about how younger children can't sleep in the beds because they will roll right off. So it would be a mom and their kids in a crib or a pack and play in the rooms.
- iii. Chris Lannan: I want to bounce off of that a little bit and say that Lammers is a bigger space than some of the other residence halls that it is not that handicap accessible in the bathrooms. I do want to say that I don't think that Dickinson would be the best option because from my understanding that is the same layout as Davis which is very small spaces. I think that maybe another building would work better. I don't know what you think about that.
- iv. Maggie Balch: I think that you make some excellent points. I'm not really sure that I have an opinion. I think that it is hard because I can't imagine raising two children in a residence hall room regardless of what dormitory it is in. I think that there will be challenges where ever they go so I think that we just need to find out what we are dealing with. They did say several times today that there is no perfect place so they are just trying to figure out how to make the most of whatever options that we have available for them.
- v. Chris Lannan: I did want to discuss how we can educate the campus on this whether it be cultural appropriation and welcome these families to campus. I think that we are a very welcoming campus but I want to know what will happen just in case. Also just what will like safety protocols be in place for them because I know that some of them are victims of domestic violence and I want to make sure that they are safe on campus.
- vi. Maggie Balch: We talked about that a little bit today. I also got point blank asked the question today that these people might not look like your campus community. I said that we are eager to have those conversations because we do need to educate the community on this. Our founder is Horace Mann and he believed in this and we are values driven institution and I think that there are people on this campus that are interested in having that discussion to figure out how to do that and I think that people will be engaged in doing that if and when the time comes.
- vii. Justin Wald: I love the idea and think it will be great for the college and also the community. I was curious about the financial aspect would be.
- viii. Maggie Balch: I don't know. The state and Westfield state are thinking about that to find out what would make sense. I don't know if they would do a per day rate or a per month rate or even a per room rate. I just don't know at the moment.
- ix. Joseph Bonilla: I was wondering that since you mentioned the interaction between displaced families and the students if or

- when that would happen. You also mentioned Salem State is using that sort of model. I was wondering if you could give some specific insight into what that looks like specifically in terms of interactions such as are they completely consolidated into their own space or is there frequent interaction with students.
- x. Maggie Balch: What I know is just from sitting in on a meeting with my colleague from Salem and a little bit about the public safety aspect is that they are in townhouses and one family per house. The townhouses are located in like south lot so there is no interaction with campus since they are kind of off to the side. Based on the conversations today, one of the draws for Salem was that families could kind of just walk down the street and get a job. Here it is kind of isolating because it is two miles from the center of town so we would need to talk about PVTA and whether that is an option and that sort of thing.
 - xi. Aaron Lessing: Could you just talk about the possible enrollment and the impact that this could have on that.
 - xii. Maggie Balch: One of the really great things about this is that we could end up having students that are 15, 16, and 17 living in our residence hall as a part of this program becoming first year students here. It could be an opportunity for mothers since that is what we talked about today where the head of the household ends up taking classes here and ends up getting their college degree or a certificate so that they can move out and into their own apartment and have their own space. I think that it is a really good opportunity for us as an institution to really put our best foot forward and display some of our values by helping people as they sort of reinvent themselves.
 - xiii. Dan Currier: I would say that of course there are a lot of benefits to it. Of course, I want to help as many people as possible and this is a great option. My concern is that speaking strictly with enrollment, there is a potential benefit of having those families come into our system. My concern is that this gets into all the news stations which will probably happen and current high school students will see this and think do I really want to go to a campus where I feel unsafe, a campus where there are other people there that are not college students. People may not agree with that but it is just going to be the way that it is. They may not consider our campus. Salem State is separated so we would be the one and probably only campus is we accept it where it is going to be on our campus. I'm just concerned that when we are in an enrollment decline that this would push us into a further decline. I know that there are pros and cons to both sides but I am just a little bit concerned about the enrollment piece where it will hurt us more than it will help us.
 - xiv. Maggie Balch: I think that is something that may happen where we have an immediate decline. I think that is something that we need to consider. I think that it is really down to how we represent it, how we talk about it, and how we as a campus community welcome people onto campus. I think that there are a lot opportunities and there are some drawbacks. But I think that I Salem has not had any issues under slightly different circumstances but I believe that if we are chosen since it is a they have to choose us and we have to choose them situation. If that happens there will be some really bright people sitting in a room to make it go smoothly.
 - xv. Katie Egan: I know that this is all hypothetical at the moment but since we have young kids coming that I think that maybe in the past we had babysitting services for students with children and I don't know if there were to be a single mom with a baby that needs to get a job what would she do with her child for the day. I think that those services they might utilize and I think that members of the campus community would utilize too. I know

- some people in my class that have babies that are having trouble with finding a place for them during the day. Just something to think about that I wanted to put out there.
- xvi. Maggie Balch: I think that is great. One of the things that I got asked today was is there a willingness to engage with the campus community. I said we need to talk about it but we have a great education program here and a great social work school. We have student leaders who are involved in community service in the community such as the pen pal program and perhaps if there is a willingness, we could talk about that and try and figure it out. I don't think it would be for everybody but there are definitely students on campus who would be interested in that.
- xvii. Sarah Harrington: Sort of going off of what Dan said, the idea of people living on campus and that being a form of enrollment. I don't know how to best say this but if they are living on campus because they can't afford housing and we want them to take classes that you have to pay for. I think that we have more possibility for incoming freshman from the outside looking in than we will from people living in this building. So again going off of Dan's enrollment idea, I kind of agree with him.
- xviii. Maggie Balch: Or even if they are interested. They may not be interested and I think that is a conversation for down the road because they are not going show up and be enrolled in classes immediately. They need to figure out of that is the right path for them and it really could be that it is a certificate program. It could be giving them skills to go out into the world.
- xix. Chris Lannan: I do want to respectfully disagree with what Dan said, I think that this is a great learning opportunity for the students that we have on campus and I am totally for it. I think we should be putting ourselves in their shoes because no one should have to go through that and it is upsetting so I think that we need to care and think about what they have been through. I think that we really need to focus on their needs.
- xx. Maggie Balch: I kind of look at this from a theoretical perspective that you need to feel safe in your living environment and if you aren't safe in your living environment you can't proceed through a self and healthy environment to take the next step. If we have the opportunity to be good humanitarians we take it. Some people are not going to agree with this direction and I know some people will not agree if we don't. We need to figure out if we are a good match and if they come we are going to welcome them and we are going to do the best that we can since that is the right thing for us to do.
- xxi. Chloë Sanfaçon: I know a few school have declined the offer due to where they would be on campus. Would you be able to speak to that at all.
- xxii. Maggie Balch: I can only speak to having been in a meeting with my peers and having asked the question of why they turned it down. It is my understanding that they declined because they don't have space while we have a vacant residence hall. I think that is the way it has been explained to me.
- xxiii. Ethan Haynes: If they come we will take them. Does that mean that the school has already said yes if they choose them that they can come.
- xxiv. Maggie Balch: No thank you for clarifying, we are still in negotiations. They came today and took a second look and seemed to like what they saw. They need to go back and have the conversation of if we are the right place and then we need to have a conversation with us to put our non-negotiables on the table and then ultimately decide if it is a good fit.
- xxv. Justin Wald: My question is what if this block students from living on campus.

- xxvi. Maggie Balch: That is an excellent question, I don't think that will happen based on the projected birth rate in Massachusetts so as the Dean of Students, I look at it from a students first perspective and don't think that we need to worry about it. I wish that we did but I don't think that we have to worry about that right now.
- xxvii. Liam Connor: We talked about them maybe being able to go to the Dining Commons, do you know if they would be able to receive services from health services?
- xxviii. Maggie Balch: That is again something that we would need to discuss and try to figure out. I think that the dining commons is that that would be a part of the package much like how you have room and board. That brings us back into the finances which I'm not sure about and I think that is in negotiation right now.
- xxix. Sarah Harrington: I was wondering if you are considering having a student panel or sending something out that students could fill out as to what students are comfortable with or after the things they are cool with them being able to do and use on campus.
- xxx. Maggie Balch: I hadn't thought about that but we definitely can think about that. They have been to campus twice and I think that when we get down to details that information may be helpful but I am honestly not sure if we are there yet. It might be too early to determine if we actually need a survey since I know that you get a lot of them already.
- xxxi. Chris Lannan: I think that it is very important to have a panel or a town hall about this. For the people that I have talked to in my circle and understanding that there is going to be news coverage and the parents and students Facebook group. I think that it is going to be very negatively received which is unfortunate because I support it but I think this is a great learning opportunity. I think that a townhall to get feedback would be best but I think that we may take harsh criticism about it but I wouldn't want to be in the position where something happens and we could have done something about it and didn't.
- xxxii. Kaolin Westcott: Keeping in mind with the community concerns, have you guys thought about making a group or a team that would be able to answer all of the concerns because working in Horrace Mann myself we get parent concerns all the time so would there be a place that we would be able to send them to get answers.
- xxxiii. Maggie Balch: I think if we get to this point there will be a group that will put together a communication plan for the campus and the community.
- xxxiv. Haley Kane: My question is a group came today would these all be people who could come to campus or would it be a split between here and Salem State.
- xxxv. Maggie Balch: The people that came today were from the state touring the facility.
- xxxvi. Haley Kane: Readdress. So do you know how many groups would come here and would some go to Salem State and some go to us?
- xxxvii. Maggie Balch: The way that I understand this is that the state is looking at a couple of different places strategically across the state and Salem is the area on the East of the State and they are looking at a school in central mass and western mass. For western mass I know that they are kind of looking at us and MCLA but it may not be mutually exclusive and is really based on the need in areas so we could both be picked hypothetically.
- xxxviii. Loic Black: I know about three students who are transferring out because of this and I am sure that there are more since it starting to spread. I know that there is a lot of concern that where we are headed is good but a lot of things are being side passed in terms of there still being a really big

culture problem and people aren't ready for the conversation. I myself have been called slurs going down the hallway and I know other people have experienced the same. There is really big culture issue and there is a lot of different things that need focus as well on top of this and students I feel are slipping at trying to maintain things. I think it is a good strategy with bringing people in but I think that just everything else needs to be addressed like buildings without things when work orders have been in for month and students want to leave because they feel like they aren't being heard and are being suppressed so I wanted to bring that up as well when all of this is being thought about and maybe we don't want to go to the students because we aren't sure where this is going to go but I think that we are approaching the turning point where we need to start involving the students more since at some point crisis control needs to kick in or we are going to get run over.

xxxix. Chloë Sanfaçon: Do we have any update on a timeline for decisions?

xl. Maggie Balch: I think that if we are chosen and accept that we would have families here over the summer though I am unsure if that means June 1st or May 10th. From my vantage point we should start to have those conversations soon because I think students need to be there when the discussion is had.

B. Presidents Council: No Report

C. Items not listed on Agenda:

IV. BOARD OF TRUSTEES' REPORT: Chloë Sanfaçon

Hi everyone! I hope you enjoyed the long weekend! I just wanted to give you some updates on the full Board meeting I had earlier this month (2/7/2023).

First of all, we have our NECHE visit coming up in the first week of March. As a reminder, there will be a student forum on Monday, March 6th from 5:20pm-6:10pm in the University Hall multipurpose room. If you're available at that time, please come as it's very important for the NECHE team to hear the student perspective. The forum will also count as an office hour for that week.

Keep in mind that with the inclusion of the Academic Affairs meeting that was a few days earlier, I'm summarizing information from 11.5 hours of meetings so this is a very abridged version, and I can provide additional information to anyone who is interested.

Now, jumping in: WSU enrollment is up from last year, which is encouraging. Out of our sister institutions, Salem State is the only other school whose enrollment is up from last year. Given the ongoing national enrollment concerns, President Thompson is hoping to expand our enrollment past just traditional college students and is looking at growing Graduate and Continuing Ed programs.

The Board of Trustees was really interested in the Nestwork and its benefits and is looking forward to seeing its use grow as we increase our marketing for the Nestwork and get more student buy-in.

The Board also discussed the tuition and fees increase that VP Taksar has brought to us in recent SGA meetings and voted those increases into place.

After discussing Quarter Two financials being under budget, in part due to not filling vacancies, the idea of doing a compensation study was brought up to appropriately compensate employees who have taken on more responsibilities due to us not filling vacancies. This is still just an idea at the moment to be considered in the future.

Our deferred maintenance is over \$100M. Deferred maintenance is, for example, things like old pipes that can't be replaced due to budget constraints, leading to emergency situations like bursting water lines. In good news though, we are chipping away at deferred maintenance and implementing an emergency fund going forward to deal with emergent situations. We're also getting a new round of funding for capital

projects for FY24-FY28 (expecting \$9.2M total) as well as applying for additional 2-year \$20M DCAMM (State) funding

Negotiations are continuing to restructure the University's debts with MSCBA for our residential life buildings.

Additionally, we received presentations about the Schools' Academic Master Plan (SAMP) in relation to the Campus Academic Master Plan (CAMP). There were a lot of big asks but a lot of innovative ideas as well.

I ended my report with an ask for the university members to continue making progress on working together across departments to ensure that we aren't working in silos and are efficient in our work campus-wide
I hope you all have a great rest of your week!

- i. *Daniel Currier*: I would echo your concerns, from watching that meeting I could tell that some things were not being told to other people and some asks were just too high. I think that what we need to do especially from a board perspective is make sure that things are reasonable. Especially in like the presentations from academic affairs in making sure that they are reasonable and also that they are communicating with Steve and others. I don't want us to be limited in our progress as a university because we are just not talking to each other. If we can just have open discussions about where we want that money to go with Academic affairs. We can't waste our time things that are never going to happen but instead focus our resources on things that are within reason.
- ii. *Chloë Sanfaçon*: I discussed things other than academic affair in terms of working in silos so just kind of emphasizing the need to communicate across departments across the board. We are doing that but we want to just keep building on that communication.
 - A. All University Committee: No Report
 - B. Student Advisory Council: No Report

V. VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT-STUDENT LIFE: **Jack Guindon**

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

Food Services last week was definitely one of the more fun meetings because we were able to taste food from Joseph's Gourmet Pasta which was quite frankly delicious and is an option that we are considering pursuing. We were able to taste a deep-fried jalapeño, vegetarian, chicken and spinach. My opinion was the chicken and spinach were fire. This is the exact reason why you show up at the food services committee. Better signage for worry-free is going be a thing soon which I think is good. Cold cuts and hot subs for late night are supposed to be coming soon but I was not given a date on when exactly that would be. Tender tossing at latenight is something to request speaking of late night, I have been informed that it was moved to be only on the GET app which was something that I am interested in hearing feedback from students about. A few quick things are that for a bread option in the DC grinder rolls are pulling up, and the hours for Wild blue are from 11-7 Monday to Friday.

- i. *Loïc Black*: I was unable to make our last food services meeting, did they give you a date for when Wild Blue is opening.
- ii. *Adam Carpenter*: So it's the same as before as far as I am aware so I guess it is now one week. That is what I was told and also that they will do a little countdown to its opening before it does to build some hype for it.
- iii. *Chris Lannan*: I just wanted to bring up that there was dinner on Thursday night for Black History Month that a lot of students were unaware that it was in collaboration with BSU. They now know that it was it I would like to say that in the future it should be more clearly advertised that it is in collaboration with BSU or any other affinity group for whatever month because I know that there was a lot of flak for dining because people thought

that they were just going ahead with it without collaborating with anyone.

- iv. Matt Dellea: It was on all of the advertising for the dinner so it was publicized that it was in collaboration.
- v. Adam Carpenter: Yeah that's kind of what assumed was the case but honestly I haven't been to the DC in a few days now so I couldn't state for a fact on that question.
- vi. Emily Fluet: In terms of Late Night just being on the GET app, my personal opinion is that I would prefer to have the option to order in person and I think that the reason was because of stealing but I think that you could probably still steal stuff.
- vii. Adam Carpenter: I have a two point response to that. The first is that I agree and think that a lot of people will not be happy and the GET app functions in a very idealized version of the world where it is actually accurate all the time and it is going to be a really big point of emphasis for me that the GET app needs to be accurate all the time and not the 50-50 being right policy that we have been running with lately. The second thing is that I think that stealing will actually increase because it is way easier to steal a bag than ordering and sneaking it out the door but that's just my personally point of view but I will bring it up. So hopefully it will get fixed.
- viii. Aaron Lessing: I know with the GET app there are only a certain number of orders per time frame so that is another way to make the students that would have just walked over to get their food wait longer. To be honest, the GET app crashes all the time and is not the best so I would rather just not have the GET app.
- ix. Adam Carpenter: I have a long conversation with dining planned for food services.
- x. Daniel Currier: The dishwasher has been offline for about a week now. I thought that it was just a valentines day thing but it has been off for a week and we paid a lot of money for it over the summer.
- xi. Adam Carpenter: I have not met since it has been offline to ask but I meant to bring it up last week since I noticed it as I was grabbing food during food services but then because of our little taste testing that the meeting was a little rushed and that meant that we didn't have a chance to ask every single question we had. I'll ask this week. I have two theories, one being a staffing issue and the other being that the dishwasher is somehow broken, which I am afraid of.
- xii. Sarah Harrington: The GET app, if we move completely to the GET app, with the meal exchange if I order at 9:01 is it now just no longer a meal swipe?
- xiii. Adam Carpenter: I'm going to say yes because I know that it is like a cost wise why they don't just have a meal swipe all the time because bistro food and late night food is more expensive on the whole is the answer that I am always given when I ask about that concern so I'm guessing that will be the case. But I'll ask specifically if that would be something that you would like.
- xiv. Chris Lannan: Two things about Bistro. The first is that I agree with both Emily and Aaron that the GET app is glitchy and it is not necessarily the most ideal way to order food. One other thing about the bistro is that I was sitting in the bistro the other day and the people that I was sitting with were saying that they would like to see the chicken tenders that are in the bistro in the DC whether that be on the regular or having the fries from the bistro in the DC because I have heard that the bistro fries are better. I think that consistency between the two would be good I don't know what you think about that.
- xv. Adam Carpenter: I have a couple points on that. For the fries specifically, those do not allow for people with celiacs disease to eat them because the breading that is on them is not able to

- be eaten by them without messing up their stomach so it's kind of limiting their options in the DC. In terms of the Chicken, chicken is expensive so bringing it over to the DC in an all you can eat style would be very cost prohibitive. When you make a decision like this another area is going to suffer so we would need to have a further discussion before we would make that kind of decision.
- xvi. Loïc Black: I know that we have worked with this before with online ordering. I think that it could be there but I think that it should also be like owl café with the register because I know that it does take away some anxiety for students to be able to just go in and pick up their order instead of being standing there in like a group of 20 people waiting to order with no one knowing what is going on. It does really help with that so I think it is good.
- xvii. Adam Carpenter: I want to be very clear that from my point of view that I'm not saying that GET app should dip but I'm saying that both should be an option in my opinion because sometimes you don't plan ahead for your meal and then all of the orders have filled up and you don't get food and I honestly don't think that is fair but I understand the anxiety component especially in our current generation that I know that it is super important to acknowledge.
- xviii. Joseph Bonilla: Sort of a point of information on Sarah's question earlier. Some of my friends and I were playing with it the other night. They still have their meal swipe from 8-9 thing or whatever and then there is a separate option for the late night for dining dollars.
- xix. Adam Carpenter: So you are saying that there are two sections where you have late night offerings for a la carte and for late night meal swipe. That's what I figured that they would have two defined sections for the GET app but I hadn't had the opportunity to play with it yet so thank you Joseph.
- xx. Joseph Bonilla: Another idea with the bistro late night with the 8-9 ordering time if and I don't know if it is possible financially but if they could widen their horizons in terms of what's it called versatility by far because I am vegetarian so all I can get is cheese pizza and I don't want that. I think that we should look into some financially sustainable options.
- xxi. Adam Carpenter: One thing that I will say that I have been saying for some time is that we should bring the stuff from the salad bar over to the Bistro since I don't think that its that much of an ask to bring it over. It has been at least a semester long battle but I will keep fighting for the vegetarian options and just the more healthy options because I'm not going to eat fried food every night.
- xxii. Justin Wald: I know that we've all had problems with the GET app. The first time I used it two other people and I ordered at the same time and I got my food but neither of them got theirs. They had to wait for 25 minutes. I just want to make sure that the potential backlog of orders is mentioned at the meetings of food services so that we address it before we have 200 people waiting for their food to come out.
- xxiii. Adam Carpenter: That's another angle that I think needs to be considered. Honestly, I'm going to be careful with my words here, why I think that we have to have a further discussion on whether our current option is our best option.
- xxiv. Liam Connor: On Saturday, there were meatball subs over by the pizza and they should do that more often.
- xxv. Adam Carpenter: Was that a lunchie time thing?
- xxvi. Liam Connor: No, it was at dinner.
- xxvii. Adam Carpenter: It was a dinner thing that's wild. Awesome idea though thank you for something positive.

xxviii. Chris Lannan: I do want to bounce of what Joseph said there should be more vegetarian options and even vegan options. I know that there are a lot of vegetarian students and a lot of vegan students so we have to have more options for our pescatarian students it would be nice if there were baked fish instead of fried fish. We need more vegan options because they can't eat much.

xxix. Adam Carpenter: What I'm going to say is that if you know people who are vegan send them to dining because that is what they tell me to do and tell people. So send them to dining and they will be happy to hear them out about things that they are requesting. I haven't requested things so I am not too familiar with the process from the inside so I can't comment on the success rate. I suggest that you come to food services to ask the question directly so you have a more direct channel to them and I would be able to get some insight behind the scenes.

xxx. Sarah Harrington: Can we get garlic knots on chicken parm nights.

xxxi. Kaolin Westcott: I actually have requested things from the DC be changed because when they changed the water with fruit over to the fountain thing a lot of them had Red dye which I have a serious allergy. So what you do is go to the back office or you can email and set up a meeting time to try and figure out what is the best option and they are pretty good about it.

C. Substance Advisory Committee: No Report

D. Student Athletic Advisory Board: No Report

E. Veteran Affairs Report: No Report

F. Enrollment Management Committee: Jack Guindon

I have a few things to report.

An update on the Chinese students will be soon. We are expecting them for the fall, and it is about 20-30 students.

- There might be some Chinese students that might be here during summer but no confirmation on this yet. It would be a 2-week program, two weeks on campus and dining.

- Will have more information on this going forward.

- Working to find new emerging markets.

- The Worcester area is down but we are preparing to do ads there for new applications.

- The accepted student day is tomorrow the Feb 22nd and 23rd.

- My goal is to come up with a new student tradition going forward.

- i. Aaron Lessing: I'm just really curious if they had and I know this isn't really enrollment management but they mentioned the students coming from the University in China. Do you know if they've talked about the cultural differences since it was mentioned that some of the students were Australian and even then there are still differences and I'm assuming that they are not all Australian.

- ii. Jack Guindon: I was only told about Chinese students but I can ask.

- iii. Aaron Lessing: I think that it is a great idea but this is a conversation that needs to be had with questions like having their family on campus and just keeping that in mind.

- iv. Jack Guindon: I'll bring it up at the next meeting.

- v. Matt Dellea: I actually have an answer to that. The students who come in through the international programs have to go through a training about how to enter our culture. We are going to have the person in charge of international relations on our orientation program group and we are looking to design a section of first year orientation about it and interacting with international students.

- vi. Emily Fluet: This is a point of information. Provost Mills has told me that they are from a Chinese University but I don't think that they are all Chinese students since the school has a lot of

international students. I may have misinterpreted her but that is my understanding.

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

A. Academic Policies Committee: No Report

B. Curriculum Committee: Emily Fluet

Hi everyone, UCC met last Friday, and we approved a lot of different things from a lot of different departments. For communication, we approved the change of the course title Issues in Advertising to Advertising in Society and the addition of more elective options for the journalism concentration.

We also approved a change in the course requirements and number of courses required for the Earth System Science minor.

We approved the deletion of 6 math courses because they were part of a program that no longer exists.

We also approved the removal of a prerequisite for 2 management courses and 4 marketing courses. We approved the removal of one prerequisite and the addition of another for one marketing course, and lastly, we added a new undergraduate course in the marketing department called Segmentation Strategies for Unique Groups. This used to be a special topics course, but it will now be offered on a regular basis.

C. Special Committee on Reforming General Education (SCORE): No Report

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**

A. Finance Committee: Dan Currier

The Finance Committee met today to review one finance proposal submitted on behalf of the Music Therapy Club. 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 S23-002, which was submitted on behalf of the Music Therapy Club, which does not currently have a balance in their club account, but they have received a \$2,000 grant from the Westfield State Foundation to be transferred soon. The Music Therapy Club has requested \$2,903.60 to cover costs associated with their trip to the New England Region of the American Music Therapy Association Conference slated to take place between Thursday, April 20th and Friday, April 22nd at the Stoweflake Mountain Resort in Stowe, Vermont. The \$2,903.60 covers three separate line-items as follows:

· \$743.60 to cover costs associated with hotel accommodations for sixteen students. Students will be divided into four rooms. SGA may cover up to 50% of hotel expenses.

· \$2,160.00 to cover costs associated with conference registration for sixteen students. SGA may cover up to 100% of registration expenses.

Transportation is slated to be covered by the Music Department and arranged this week through the SAIL Office, but we will remain in contact with the Music Therapy Club as arrangements are finalized. Two advisors will be in-attendance and they have agreed to pay out-of-pocket for their costs.

Upon discussion and consultation with representatives from the Music Therapy Club, the Finance Committee believed that given the large amount of funding the club has received from the Westfield State Foundation and potential amounts they are likely to receive as part of a fundraising effort this Friday, we should reduce the amount given to the Music Therapy Club by SGA. We agreed to give the Music Therapy Club up to \$1,250.00 for registration and \$743.60 for hotel costs to ensure shared financing between SGA, the club, and use of the grant. The total out-of-pocket cost for students is anticipated to be approximately \$50.00 provided that roughly \$1,000 of the grant is used. Since we are anticipating a number of finance proposals to funnel through the committee over the next several months, we want to ensure that all clubs have equal access of funding.

Therefore, I move to approve Finance Proposal S23-002 as amended and to allocate \$1,993.60 to the Music Therapy Club. Motion Passes

The next meeting of the Finance Committee will be this Monday, February 27th at 3:30pm. Should you have any questions, please let me know.

- i. Chloë Sanfaçon: Do you know how long they have the grant for and if it rolls over?
- ii. Daniel Currier: It does roll over and it is not an expiring grant, they need to put it into their banner account because it is currently just sitting there so they are going to work with Laura and then it will stay their account for perpetuity. We have asked them to use \$1,000 of their grant to help get this as a part of yearly allocation so that they can use the grant for other club purposes.

B. Foundation Report: Dan Currier

Good evening, everyone!

On Wednesday, February 15th at 4:00pm, I met with my colleagues on the Fundraising Committee at 2 Broad Street in Downtown Westfield to discuss Give a Hoot Day and other fundraising campaigns organized by the Westfield State Foundation and the Division of Institutional Advancement.

We first discussed the communications and marketing strategy for Give a Hoot Day. Institutional Advancement has sent a 'save the date' to prospective donors along with a letter from Athletics and a letter to alumni from the Class of 1969 for a Class of 1969 Endowed Scholarship. Moving forward, we will need to work with Marketing on a digital-first strategy surrounding the campaign for an investments laboratory on-campus. I will meet this Friday with Fundraising Committee Chair Heather Witalisz to develop a cohesive strategy for success that will also involve students, including you all. Please stay tuned for more information.

I will be meeting with the Westfield State Foundation Board of Directors tomorrow at 4:30pm in the Horace Mann Center. I will be discussing how students are working to adhere to the IDEAs framework adopted by President Thompson this year.

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: No Report
 C. Owl Ball Committee: No Report
 D. Blue Key Committee: No Report
- IX. EXECUTIVE SECRETARY REPORT: **Adam Carpenter**
- 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: 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:
 Emily Fluet: Honors and Banacos Students you pick classes this Friday so make sure you have had advising.
 Kaitlyn Egan: The class of 2024 is having a Coffee, Calm Strips and Catch up even on Sunday and we are giving out free doughnuts, coffee and calm strips and you can paint a kindness rock. It is for the class of 2024 but I'm going to extend the invitation to all of SGA.
 Chloë Sanfaçon: FAFSFA is due on March 1st so make sure that you do it if you haven't yet and also tell your friends to do it.
 Joseph Bonilla: The class of 2026 next event is in 13 days.
 Chloë Sanfaçon: 87 days to commencement.
- XV. ROLL CALL: Mikayla Evans, Cade Leavens, Levi Ekstrom, Isabella Catao, Maggie Roberts, Konstantinos Tasopoulos, and Alexandria Mallios were absent.
- XVI. ADJOURNMENT: The meeting was adjourned at 6:35 until Tuesday February 28th.

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