

**STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION AGENDA**  
**April 4th, 2023**

- I. ROLL CALL: Levi Ekstrom, Timothy Allen, Haley Kane, Konstantinos Tasopolus, and Eric Hardy were absent
- II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM: March 28, 2023
- III. PRESIDENT'S REPORT: **Aaron Lessing**

Hi everyone, there is no guest speaker tonight but I do have some updates for you all. Exec has discussed that we want to make an anonymous survey for different student groups on campus as a type of reflection on our year and see what areas we lacked in and what areas were our strengths. Obviously one will be made for senate but we are also thinking of making one for clubs. If you have any other suggestions for this kind of year in review, please let me know. Next, there is an accepted student's day tomorrow from 11:30am-1:30pm on campus, so please if you are able to stop by upstairs where our table will be! Owl Appreciation Day, which SAIL is hosting, is on April 14th so please be on the lookout for that! Unfortunately, President Thompson had to cancel Chloe and I's meeting with her, Congressman Neal was on campus this past Friday and she had to attend that event, but our next meeting is scheduled in a few weeks. Springfield Thunderbird are next Friday so if you want to go please let Laura know if you are interested in going. Also please let Laura know if you are interested in volunteering to help at commencement which is on May 19<sup>th</sup>. It is a great opportunity to see your friend's graduate and I know that it was fun when I did it last year.

- A. Presidents Council:
- B. Items not listed on Agenda:

- 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: **Jack Guindon**
  - 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**
  - A. Academic Policies Committee: No Report
  - B. Curriculum Committee: No Report
  - C. Special Committee on Reforming General Education (SCORE): Chris Lannan

Good evening everyone. The SCORE committee has released and sent over their fourth review formally to AUC chaired by Ted Welsh. Tonight's report should be pretty short. I will be detailing the committee's recommendations for the model of the proposed Westfield State Journey course, a first year course, based in teaching freshmen the basic knowledge, history and layout of Westfield State University. This is a detailed shell, consisting of three main concepts, academic inquiry, caring for one's holistic self and the integrative experience. By taking this course, students will learn about their intellectual passion, and collaborative efforts with professors and their fellow students. Creative interest, in depth discussions, and building upon academic skills will critically support students as they develop the skills they need to take on their four years at Westfield State. By the end of this course, students will have learned and built on critical materials and skills that peak their interest here in their post-secondary education life. SCORE believes it is important for incoming freshmen to develop their skills and lead a holistic life in their studies, while simultaneously being in good academic standing and being well-rounded citizens in the Westfield State and greater Westfield community at large. As I always say, this is by no means a finished product. There is still a lot more that needs to be done, in time for the final proposal to be sent to AUC hopefully in December of this year. And I encourage you all to give your valuable feedback to myself, Emily, and the incoming SCORE

committee that will be instituted in the fall. Finally, just a few announcements. I want to shout out SCORE committee chair, Lynn Shelley, for being nominated for SAIL's celebration of women's event. And of course, my nominee, Laura Cafaro. Both of their hard work and dedication does not go unnoticed. And finally, as most of you all know, I will not be pursuing the representative at large position again. It was so much fun serving in this role. I encourage anyone interested in this position to reach out to myself, or any of your rep-at-larges on SGA. For anyone in the room thinking of joining SGA, I encourage the Rep-At-Large position for anyone who wants to dip their toes into all the fun adventures that SGA has to offer. Should you have any questions based on the rep-at-large position or SCORE committee in general, please seek me

out either via email or after the meeting. Thank you and have a great day.

- i. Daniel Currier: I know that you have kind of touched on this the last time that this was discussed when you talked about that initial first year course as it relates to non-academic experiences. I know that they kind of said that the rest of the campus was on New student orientation. But are they going to have any work on their part to actually get to know the rest of campus or will it be purely academics?
- ii. Chris Lannan: Yes and no to academics, I know that part of the course is going to be when it is nice out touring the campus led by the professors to get the students to engage with the campus. This is to let students know where everything is as opposed to just being in Wilson or Bates hall. I know that they are going to focus more on the community and the greater campus and what the campus has to offer as opposed to academics.
- iii. Chloë Sanfaçon: Do you happen to know what department that would fall into and what professors would be teaching that course?
- iv. Chris Lannan: I don't know the specific professors but I think that it is just going to be any professor who has time in their course load to teach the course.

D. New England Commission of Higher Education (NECHE) Self-Study Committee: No Report

E. Campus Academic Master Plan (CAMP): No Report

F. Parking Control Board: No Report

G. 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**

Hello everyone! I hope you have all taken time to enjoy this beautiful day.

As we begin the final full month of SGA meetings, we are in the midst of developing the Fiscal Year 2024 SGA Budget. This past week, Laura and I developed a form that SGA-recognized clubs and organizations can use to request line-item allocations. Later this week, we will review the results and begin setting up appointments with club and organization leaders to discuss their requests. I am hoping that these meetings will take place by April 14<sup>th</sup>, with remaining meetings occurring the following week. We will also work with other administrative staff, including Todd Ditmar in Athletics, to develop the proposed budget. My goal is to have a full preliminary budget prepared by Monday, April 24<sup>th</sup> for review by the Finance Committee. The preliminary budget will hopefully be reviewed and voted upon by SGA on Tuesday, April 25<sup>th</sup> or (at the latest) our final meeting – Tuesday, May 2<sup>nd</sup>.

In addition, we will be reviewing the Finance Bylaws this month. This Friday, a club and organization meeting has been scheduled and I hope that feedback can be gathered at this meeting from these clubs and organizations. Following the gathering of feedback, I will put the bylaws before the Finance Committee for approval. I will transmit a copy of the proposed changes

as agreed to by the Finance Committee to Parliamentarian William Connor in accordance with Article X, Section 3 of the SGA Constitution. The Rules & Regulations Committee will review the bylaws and make a recommendation based on constitutionality rather than approving or altering the proposed amendments. By the end of the month, SGA will be able to vote on this matter. Provided that two-thirds of the Legislature votes in the affirmative, then the new finance bylaws will be in force for Fiscal Year 2024.

I'm going to go a little bit off the script for a minute so sorry Adam. *Adam says it's fine.* I just came back from a meeting in downtown Westfield with the fundraising committee of the Westfield State Foundation where we had a very good conversation. So just some updated numbers regarding some of the projects. The investments lab at this time has raised \$5,380 on the website it says \$7,020 so there are still some numbers to get through. Class of 1969 raised \$5,645. There is going to be a lot more money that we need to raise so there is going to be a lot of further fundraising campaigns that you will probably see coming up in the summer. There is going to be a larger online auction. In the fall, there is our annual golf tournament in the Springfield area. So definitely look out for that information. There will be some high end items that hopefully you can send to your parents and their colleagues like wine baskets, trips to concerts and other stuff like that which will hopefully raise some money and support us. It was a great conversation. I'm also going to be working with Kevin and Heather from the foundation board to try to approach individuals about naming rights for the investments lab and getting about \$50,000 for that. So those are our next few projects

Should you have any questions, please let me know.

- A. Finance Committee:
- B. Foundation Report:
- C. ITSAC Report:

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

The senator of the week is Daniel Lyons for all of his work publicizing the drag queen bingo event. Thank you for your enthusiasm, kindness, and outgoing personality that brighten everyone's day. Keep up the good work.

- A. Neighborhood Advisory Board: No Report
- B. Community Relations/Fundraising Report: No Report
- C. Owl Ball Committee: No Report
- D. Blue Key Committee: Elizabeth Mercer

If anyone is interested in helping me to choose nominated students for the Blue Key Award please see me after the meeting.

- i. Aaron Lessing: Can you just kind of give an idea about what the Blue Key Award is?
- ii. Elizabeth Mercer: So there is I believe 13 people who are nominated for their work on campus and like how they have been successful. We usually give out like 5 awards. This happens right before the SGA banquet so it will be May 1<sup>st</sup> this year and the family can come and they have like a little celebration for them.
- iii. Chloë Sanfaçon: How many people do you need on Blue Key?
- iv. Elizabeth Mercer: We need two people from each class to serve on Blue Key.

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: Joseph Bonilla

Good afternoon, everyone! I wanted to report on the Drag Bingo event that Class Council hosted on Friday in collaboration with Title IX, QSA, and CAB. I would like to begin by saying it was an absolute success! We were able to serve well over 200 students, probably making it one of the biggest events of the year. I am so incredibly appreciative and proud of my team and collaborators for helping develop this initiative. For those of you who were unable to attend, we provided special chocolates and cupcakes, mocktails, nightcap scrunchies, condoms, entertainment, and education during this sexual health themed Drag Bingo in the hopes of sparking conversations centered around safer safe, sexuality, and so much more! I believe this kind of initiative is especially important considering all the anti-LGBTQIA+ and anti-Drag bills being proposed around the country; not only was this event educational but it was also an opportunity for the Westfield community to stand in solidarity with the LGBTQIA+ community across the country. And, I can absolutely say we did not disappoint. Lastly, a special thank you to all of those that showed up to support the event!

- 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:

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

XIV. ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Adam Carpenter: I just want to say a thank you to everyone that made it to food services committee this past week, it was very enjoyable to see more than just the committee present so keep up the good work.

Chloë Sanfaçon: Tomorrow is Westfield Wednesday and also accepted students day so make sure you wear your Westfield swag.

Joseph Bonilla: As you guys may know, QSA did an event to send emails to senators and representatives about the anti-LGBTQ bills that are being passed specifically the 450A and the 509. There is a paper sheet with links in the back to take one and correspond with them.

Nick Palumbo: We have a class of 2025 event tomorrow which is Westfield Trivia in University Hall at 7pm and also I think that we should sing happy birthday to Liam. Happy birthday to you, happy birthday to you. Happy birthday dear Liam. Happy birthday to you.

Mikayla Evans: 45 days until commencement.

XV. ROLL CALL: Levi Ekstrom, Haley Kane, Konstantinos Tasopolus, and Eric Hardy were absent.

XVI. ADJOURNMENT: The meeting was adjourned at 5:47pm until Tuesday April 11<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.*