

# STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION

## AGENDA

Tuesday, November 7<sup>th</sup> , 2023 @ 5:30 pm

Ely 017 (SGA Room)

I. ROLL CALL: Anderson Dallaire, Eri'Yan Baker, James McDonald, and Daniel Lyons was absent.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM: October 24, 2023

III. PRESIDENT'S REPORT: Jack Guindon

A. Cheif of Public Saftey: Tony Casciano

Good evening everyone this is Lieutenant Ernie St. George he's the second shift supervisor so he'll be up here we have you know afterwards we have questions and we'll take your questions good evening everybody thank you for giving me the opportunity talk to you tonight as you know there's been several incidents of vandalism and thefts taking place in the South lot I understand your frustration that everyone is having and I want you to know that I'm also very frustrated what is going on down there and you can see incidents are curing at other colleges and in towns in Massachusetts and neighboring states it's most likely that the people involved aren't connected to to each event but I want to make it clear that my number wrong number one priority is Westfield state so I'm here tonight to work with you listen to your concerns take any ideas that you may have my office is in the White House next to the commuter lot encourage you to either e-mail me you could call me or stop by if you have any questions and would like to talk want to just mention that there's a lot of misinformation out on the social network media and This is why I encourage you if you have any questions come and see me come and see my staff we could probably help you out and and clear up some of those questions this time I just wanted to do a summary of innocent incidents that we had at the South lot there's been five incidents since September 20th during this time five cars have been classified as stolen out of those five two cars were and two cars were entered but the the suspects did not drive the vehicle out of a lot so they got into the car and started driving it stopped it and took off two cars have been recovered and by other police agencies and there's still one car that has been had that has not been recovered so that's the the information that about the cars we also had 41 cars with their windshield smashed out my belief is that they're smashing these out just to see what's inside if there's any valuables in that so we had quite a few of those that had happened in the lot we were finding that the people involved in these incidents they're stealing cars from Connecticut and other towns in Massachusetts and driving to campus and then trying to trying to get another car you know damaging our vehicles and taking a car from our lot I did check around there's a lot of stuff going on down in in Connecticut and in the local areas the same things that

are happening so last September 30th we made one arrest we recovered the car and the person that was arrested was a juvenile the other one was able to get away and coming up coming out of the lot and maybe we're going down the western Ave. very fast and we have another incident in the South lot the officer working a lot interrupted 5 suspects breaking windows when he saw these individuals the officer approached suspects that they left a lot of the high speed and continue to go down western Ave. So the next day a vehicle entered the lot at 6:00 AM when the driver observed the police cruiser in the lot the vehicle turned around very quickly left the lot and once again joined down western avenue a high rate of speed. That vehicle was later determined that the vehicle was stolen from another nearby town in all these cases the speed of the fleeting vehicles approaching between 90 and 100 miles an hour because of safety reasons that's why all the chase was discontinued and stop the pursuit was stopped we did bring in the Massachusetts State Police crime scene unit to assist us in processing the cars they took fingerprints photographs if any of the prints are clear enough they can put it into the automated fingerprint system to see if any matches occur and can identify a person once again fingerprints must be into that system to come up with a match so let me talk about some of the actions that we've taken and in the South line we have increased patrols on all shifts to the South lot and also the other lots that we have on campus we have reviewed and changed our protocols for patrolling the S lot to increase surveillance surveillance efforts we have installed two additional white towers in the South lot one in the upper lot 1 in the lower lot we now have Westfield city police radios in our cruisers this will give us the capability to and when in our dispatch I'm sorry that we can contact the Westfield police officers directly if we have something going on and make them aware before we'd have to call their their dispatch center dispatch center would really relay that information to that the city of Westfield police chief has instructed their patrol unit assigned to the western zone of the city to check the church lot and also swing by the South lot and their patrols we also had the Massachusetts State Police they have done some passes through the South lot over the past couple of days today captain Foyle Lieutenant Hastings myself had a meeting with the director of facilities to look into fencing and access control in the South lot meaning the gate and director Philip facilities working with contractors that gets quote quotes and she's also going to change some of the older lights that are in the South lot to LED lights which make it a little brighter and along the walkway and going up to to western Ave. Southwest shuttle service continues to run to 2:00 AM in the morning but that's available for everyone after two 2:00 a student would call the university Police Department 413-572-5262 and an officer if he's available if she's available we'll come to the South lot and transport you to your home on campus and lastly you know I've been here 28 years I consider all of you part of my family and I hope we work together on these issues to make our campus safer thank you.

- i. Jack Guindon: I was just wondering so I know some towns have cameras that contract like if a car has been stolen and recorded I just wanted to know if Westfield has that and if so are you guys able to contact Westfield police to see like if there's one coming towards area?
- ii. LT. St. George: Westfield does not have a we're looking into getting one here we do have a plate reader for the cars that go down you're not all connected

- at the procedures is the statewide computer system that that that we're looking into connecting that yeah West Springfield does have one so you've reached out to them and ask them if they have any cars on route 20 any cars on route 20 that are heading westbound so notify us because chances are every corner that's come in here to do anything really they've all been stolen from somewhere else it would be above West Hartford come here and do the damage so we've asked them to notify us we will in turn notify Westfield and if they can find them even before they get here all the better the end of the day if we can just get these guys out of here make ourselves a harder target that's what we're looking for.
- iii. Chief Casciano: Westfield they have increased their patrols they this past week and they had some it was an unmarked car that was driving around in the neighborhood and that because they had concerns for their neighborhoods still so so I I I am in communications with the chief quite frequently throughout the week and he he he's he's frustrated too he knows what's going on he had that happen in his in his town and he's easier to support us whatever we need which is nice.
  - iv. Lt. St. George: I was working down there this weekend because the chief has put out overtime for all the officers so we could specifically you posted there and not be pulled away to other calls leaving that unattended so I was working at the Sergeant came down and Sergeant from Westfield and he was back this is my automatic he said half the guys that work in this department are really upset about this and the lot I I was there for the four hour stand alone was flooded with our cruisers Westfield cruisers and when I was leaving I saw state police cruisers sitting in the dollar a lot as well so the word is out there and everybody's on board like I said the officers in the area not just from here are taking the personal.
  - v. Brandon Rita: I just want to say thank you so much for coming I'm a representative and I just wanted to ask if the idea if a South lot officer booth or mini station or just anything where it shows that police or the officers are always there just as you said to make us a harder target or any idea like that could be implemented.
  - vi. Chief Casciano: I met with the director of facilities along with the gate there's you know we're looking at other things too or as you know booth right now and we're trying to get least get the gate up right now and and and take care of the issues that are happening now maybe in the future you know we could do this in a couple phases type thing so you know that's why I'm here and you know I'm talking to everybody you know trying to get you know suggestions ideas and that and your help is greatly appreciated so that that that may be something down the line.
  - vii. Brandon Rita: So I used to go to a previous school, Curry College, and our parking lot just an idea there was a toll booth with an officer in it and then you would present them your ID or scan in and then you'd be allowed in and out if that would be an idea.
  - viii. Chief Casciano: that's one of the you know the things that we're looking at you know you have to have your ID just like if you're going into your hall yeah

- you know key in tech in whatever we're calling it the gate will go up and then you could go in same thing when you come out you know we're looking at you have to put your card in to get out and then you know they'll be lighting and some other some other technology let's say down in that area.
- ix. Sarah Harrington: I was just wondering if you guys have found or given students any resources to students who have had their cars broken into. Like is there anything being provided for students who might need their car but no longer have access to it due to a car break in? Like what have you provided students just to give us some insight.
- x. Chief Casciano: yeah if you didn't you know if you're windows being broken the crime we're going down we're helping you know the quick fix put some plastic on the windows and stuff to protect the inside of the car there are a lot of crime prevention devices out there if you Google you know goes to the club is one of them OK so it's a device that you put on your steering wheel doesn't allow you to if someone tries to take it doesn't allow you to you can't steer there's quite a few other devices that are on out there you know obviously if you could park on their lightness is anywhere just not here you know if you if you're going anywhere this information you know you park under a light so your car is illuminated there's also something other devices that that's out there well some of the other things is valuable don't don't leave them in your car OK so people can see that especially now you know here you don't want to leave computers laying around or anything like that if you're out shopping same thing trying to hide them put them in you know something to notices put them in your trunk so these people what what they do it's quick OK they're looking if there's nothing there gonna go to to somewhere else some other car and make sure you try you know to turn this to lock lock your doors on your cars if you can you know most most cars you can do that obviously they're breaking the windows on on on some of these cars but what if it if it's locked they they go by they just try try the doors and if it's open you know jackpot let's see if we can get in that that makes it quicker than you can get through some more things and then and just a lot of these there's like 3:00 to 5:00 what we've been seeing about three to five people showing up so so they always have one driver and then the other is go out and try and see what they can get so they want to be in and out so that's why you have a cruiser there lit up. It's a deterrent like we found out you know when last week when they came down and the officers were sitting there.
- xi. Lt. St. George: the smashing grabs happen very quickly we have tools that they could just pop the windows very little noise last falls down and as chief said if the value will start to put somewhere else they're not gonna risk it because really no point so we we've kind of I guess maybe maybe get the message out a little bit better to to to hide those valuables make sure they allow the doors and so forth like you said real quick they'll take a chance and looking through maybe grab a cup full of change or whatever happens to be there but if there's nothing there chances are they move along.
- xii. Chief Casciano: And a car alarm isn't a bad idea either OK. Because when when you start messing around with the car I don't everybody's car alarms

- that's gonna make sound the the bad guys they don't like they don't like noise the quicker the quicker the better it is for them so that that's another option that that is out there but like I said you you can you know you can do some researches there's tons of products out there if you're you know if you have any questions you could see myself see see the Lieutenant will help you out if you're not sure.
- xiii. Desiree Brown: have you guys put any thought into putting security cameras into the parking lots.
- xiv. Chief Casciano: OK we had quite a few cameras throughout the campus and we do have cameras but they're not someone's not sitting there 24/7 looking at them they're being recorded and and and that's that's how a lot of the crimes are are solved here and everywhere else that has cameras and just about every place you go right now you know there there's cameras all over so we do have the cameras down there that plate reader to tell unfortunately the plates that we're getting are stolen so it is hard to track if it was someone's car OK we could you know at least notify where that car is from but in this case they're bringing cars that are stolen and but we do have we have we have over 600 cameras around campus and we're put in 2018 start.
- xv. Elizabeth Mercer: yes thank you so much for coming down i appreciate it I was just wondering for students who may not feel safe like coming back or like parking and cars back in like south like what would you like tell their students or like could they park somewhere like closer like Dower lot?
- xvi. Chief Casciano: so we've had this in many years we have we have the the the owl shuttle our shuttle service that runs till 2:00 in the morning and we always tell students that if you're coming late at night you know have our phone number first of all in your phone alright and make sure it's 413-572-5262 just a story one time someone tried to call us and you know we got a complaint that no one ever picked up you know no one at the police station picked up that person used their 6617 area code so that the number didn't come into us so when you're putting our number in make sure you have the four on three and that theory code that you're living in so so back to your question yes we we have the owl show you could come in we will tell you to you know if it's late at night call sit in your car number down there we have all the all the all the rolls are number you can say I'm in row #10 you know and and when you see the shuttle coming or you see the police officer coming you know you can get out of your car like your lights and they'll they'll come in and and get you but we do have that you know that's a service that is provided for that many years.
- xvii. Elizabeth Mercer: the students that like may not have like financial like for students who are like financially insecure is there like any like thing that we can do to like help them like pay for their windows that if they were smashed or is there anything that the school can do to support students you may not be able to like pay for the damages?
- xviii. Lt. St. George: I will say this, you have to have you have to be insured to be here and in Massachusetts compulsory insurance covers we'll cover glass and there's no deductible for it so for those folks contact your insurance

- company and they'll either come out and replace it or they'll have you bring it to them and take care of it.
- xix. Daniel Currier: so you noted on the 30th that you rested word department arrested juvenile connection with this you may not be able to give away this information but have you been has it ever like questioning or interrogation of that suspect as to maybe who they might be involved with is that could probably give some answers.
- xx. Chief Casciano: we we didn't speak to this person that was arrested we did get some other names that we through some of the part of the investigation there was another incident where where the car was in an accident located so we were able to get some names here we did interview people but we really didn't get too much to animals they're tough you know they have to have a parent there and they have to talk to them but yeah we didn't we didn't get any information on that and we we're we're hoping that's you know maintain a little bit of time but through through communications with other departments incidents that happened in another area may be able to trigger and solve many cases. And it's just just one incident one arrest or a group that you get that will be able to you know solve solve these these crimes that are occurring.
- xxi. Lt. St. George: vehicles that have all the stolen and those that have come here that have been stolen or all of your hyundai or KIAS and they've got some kind of a security glitch in their software and there is an update available however backlash they can't tell by looking at it if it's having software update or not so a couple have been broken into but they weren't able to start those vehicles to drive them away so you can't tell just by looking there's no sign on the window says hey I've had my security update me alone but yeah I know unfortunately they they dropped the ball with that said every time that's come in here every part of this going out it's been Hyundai or KIA.
- xxii. Chief Casciano: you know unfortunately tick tock shows shows a lot of things how to do things and this is this is a challenge or what's going on but it's it's out there.
- xxiii. Jack Guindon: I would like to remind our non-SGA folks out there, that you can also ask questions.
- xxiv. Bryan Brown: I was just wondering if you guys had considered allowing high risk cars to maybe park in the commuter lots it might or may not be an option but at least having it in an area that's closer or around more people might make actually help because as you said they are targeting those specific cars and there is enough spots for those cars in those lots.
- xxv. Chief Casciano: So we're looking into everything at this time I don't know if that's going to you know if we can do that right now because we have our we have our patrols down in the South flat keeping people around and we have other spots we have to worry about so if we you know if we concentrate on the South lot have our people there do our controls we're hoping that that this can solve this problem for now you know who knows what will happen in a couple months OK that's a that's a good question I'll write that down and we'll maybe address that take a look at it.

- xxvi. Laurentina Quintana: I have a question, how are you dealing with students who are getting pulled over, that are in that same area like in South Lot. Is there a way that you can tell that they go here if they are driving through south lot. I know that there have been a lot of students getting pulled over and being told that they look suspicious.
- xxvii. Lt. St. George: I want to say that is one of those rumors that has been going around.
- xxviii. Laurentina Quintana: It happened yesterday to one of my friends who was dropping me off in South lot.
- xxix. Lt. St. George: They were pulled over just because they were suspicious?
- xxx. Laurentina Quintana: Yes because their car was suspicious.
- xxxi. Chief Casciano: What time?
- xxxii. Laurentina Quintana: This was like 9 o'clock, so I was just wondering because they were a student here.
- xxxiii. Lt. St. George: That's surprising to me because most times there is a motor vehicle stop it is because there is a reason further than looking suspicious such as speeding or a headlight out. We have done that if someone is showing some behavior that is extremely suspicious though. Then we may do an investigatory stop. Just to make sure given everything that is going on at the moment. We are trying to be diligent and make sure that everyone is safe.
- xxxiv. Laurentina Quintana: They just said there was a suspicious and she said that I'm just dropping my friend off and that I go here and they were just saying they saw her going around.
- xxxv. Chief Casciano: They were driving around the lot?
- xxxvi. Laurentina Quintana: They were dropping me and then left.
- xxxvii. Lt. St. George: Did. They just drive through the parking lot and head out. They probably didn't notice that. It's a parking lot so the typical behavior is driving the car in and then getting out and going somewhere. That's what the bad guy vehicles have been doing where they go into the lot and if they see a police vehicle they turn around and head out. That was probably it.
- xxxviii. Laurentina Quintana: I was just wondering in general if students get pulled over what was.
- xxxix. Lt. St. George: There's always a reason why but stops of students do happen.
- xl. Isabella Moniz: I was just wonder people who are coming here may have some sort of connection to students that go here that could be aiding them in some way?
- xli. Lt. St. George: Those who we have talked to have no connection to the institution. I think this problem is so widespread that if they see a soft target like a lot of cars in a more isolated place it is very attractive for them.
- xlii. Chief Casciano: we have to think like the bad guys when we're doing this stuff and you know you hey stay away from Westfield OK so that that's there they have their network OK just like we have our network you know anyone they do the same and and like like Bernie said they're looking for a soft target and to get out real easily.
- xliii. Ethan Haynes: I was wondering as you were talking about the gate. How realistically soon could a gate be erected?

- xliv. Chief Casciano: engineer that came in OK had all the plans on this this engineer had worked with other locations in the area I don't know the time frame because he's he still has to do he's going to be drawing some things up and and you know he has we have to purchase that we have to get purchase orders everything you know is going to get we're gonna try and push this through as quick as we had and clear ministration is you know is shaking so hopefully we give this push through this this is a you know it's a it's a safety issue so I think we need to you know the university is looking at that and we're going to move forward with that.
- xlv. Ethan Haynes: you don't know exact timeline is there any way we could get a patrol cruiser down there to have restricted access into south lot to protect our cars?
- xlvi. Chief Casciano: Well we have one down there from 11 to 7:00 in the morning Thorne during the day we have the officers making checks they do like every they stagger you know hour or half hour go from there they call it in same on the 2nd shift so so we're you know we're getting I have a small department OK and then we're down a couple officers so so we're trying our best to to make sure that we have people down there visible that's the thing they're visible it's gonna go somewhere else so that's what we're you know working on right now that's the ideal to have someone sitting there but you know hopefully we get these gates in and that'll help out a little bit.
- xlvii. Joseph Bonilla: Do you think that it is a delinquency type of thing or more of an actual threat where people are trying to steal cars because if it's the second one that's probably a lot more long term.
- xlviii. Chief Casciano: There have be more windows broken here and stealing cars and I'm not sure if that's I'm not sure why they want to steal more cars they obviously you know could have the opportunity to do that so I I don't I'm not sure this window thing is it's bugging me why it was smashing once I said earlier maybe they're looking you know they're taking a car here a car there like even some of the other local colleges it's it's not a lot of cards at to take it but they're they're they're getting the same thing they're smashing smashing
- xlix. Lt. St. George: Reports from other departments do you believe that it is delinquency. And the people on the camera have appeared to be very young.
  - I. Chris Piro: I just want to ask the question, there is nothing saying that this isn't going to extend to other lots on campus so what is the plan if that starts to happen?
  - li. Chief Casciano: coming along we may have to do the same with the we're doing down in the South lot but we are you know I encouraging the telling my people you know we need to check all our blocks that that we have our cars are parked we have a lot of a lot a lot of cars on campus so that does happen we have to you know sit down again and come up with a plan see what see exactly what's happening where it's happening and put all that together and try to you know stop it.
  - lii. Lt. St. George: There is no way to guarantee that your car is going to be safe because its theft and that's just not possible. As chief said we have a very limited department and it is always life over property. Once again we were



- posted down there the other night but then we had a report of a missing student which takes precedence. Unfortunately the S lot went uncovered for about an hour an hour and a half we were able to find the student everything everything worked out OK and then the officers went back to their normal patrol and the officer posted off back down there again but we've got to prioritize those and people people over property every day this week and unfortunately there's no way to guarantee there's no way to guarantee that it will never happen because you know people have free will and doing what they're gonna do our best efforts may go thwarted from time to time.
- liii. Chief Casciano: The story I like to tell is the chief of the city of Westfield they had some issues I don't know how long ago but he had quite a few of their officers out throughout the city and because they were having incidents like this and nothing happened enough so it's it's it's a cat mouse game that that we're playing they're trying to you know get get one on us and we're trying to deny that.
- liv. Bryan Brown: So you had briefly mentioned that the primary targets of these attacks are secluded parking lots so I'm curious why are we expecting our students to continue parking in a high risk location when there are other lots on campus?
- lv. Chief Casciano: As I explained earlier, clear that that's where we're we're concentrating our efforts for security wise.
- lvi. Bryan Brown: But if it's a high risk area, why don't we move some of the students out.
- lvii. Chief Casciano: So if we move cars to different lots, this could happen in that area and we have the lighting down in there and we have our patrols down there. We have someone down there at night. So right now that's where we are concentrating to control this.
- lviii. Bryan Brown: But it hasn't happened in any of those other lots so I'm curious why we haven't moved other cars to those lots.
- lix. Lt. St. George: Because if we do that we are spreading that out if if everything's done on the South left that's easier for us to concentrate and so we're putting all our efforts down there to make it no longer a high risk spot and if we have an officer posted down there the the the risk has been minimized not 100% you can't do that but it's been minimized tremendously so it's no longer that high risk if that makes sense.
- lx. Isabella Moniz: I know we have been talking about patrols down there. I was wondering the possibility of getting an unmarked car down there?
- lxi. Chief Casciano: For now, we are going to keep the marked car down there and and concentrate you know so they they they move on OK they move on we do have some other things that you know we have available but for now we're going to keep the mark card there we're going to the lights on and we saw that they came down and saw the cruiser got you know they they left so we're trying to protect our assets right now and that's that's the the method we're going to use for now that's saying you know down the line there's other things could could happen OK.

- lxii. Tim Allen: I just had a quick question, Church lot has also been broken into correct?
- lxiii. Chief Casciano: there's there was once stolen you know one one car stolen there and and I believe one vandalized so we you know the the church lot is a private area we do Drive bys if we see that the city also will patrol that if there's an incident in that area the city will have to come and do the report because we that's not our our area so but if you know anything happens in there you give us a call we can you know contact the city and and and you know do what they they could set one up and and take the report and help out.
- lxiv. Brandon Rita: I just had a question about the shuttles, I know that it is very important for students to get back to campus but some nights are just super busy like especially on Sunday nights, when everyone is trying to move their car and its not the blame of the shuttle because it fills up and legally they can't put more people on it but would it be an option to have two shuttles on Sunday nights.
- lxv. Chief Casciano: I will definitely look at that and get back to you. The shuttle is run by our student safety assistants and right now we have like 11 and we are trying to get a couple more. It is a good idea and it makes sense.
- lxvi. Lt. St. George: Are you thinking like 8 to midnight?
- lxvii. Brandon Rita: Around that time.
- lxviii. Lt. St. George: Is that when you notice it being the busiest? I'm looking for a time frame.
- lxix. Brandon Rita: The busiest time period is from 8 to 9.
- lxx. Joseph Bonilla: Just to make sure that we are all on the same page. If this keeps going on is there any action plan for how to mitigate this situation.
- lxxi. Chief Casciano: what we're doing seems you know hopefully that having the officers down there it's going to take care of this you know this may stop but they start up again find that it's not doing one supposed to do but we're gonna sit down talk about it and come up with a better plan.

## B. Dean of Students & Assistant Dean of Students: Maggie Balch & Shannon Green

Maggie and Shannon gave a presentation

- i. Ethan Haynes: Can you submit a report anonymously
- ii. Maggie Balch: You absolutely are capable reporting anonymously and just make sure they put as much information in there as possible and the other thing that I would say is Shannon said this and it's a it's an excellent point is and your report may not be the only report that we have so Ethan you may say i'm gonna submit a report and I don't want to put my name on it I'm gonna have to do it and be done with it but Gavin has submitted a report already and Austin has submitted the report and we compare all the information so please don't be shy about submitting a report even if you do it anonymously.
- iii. Isabella Moniz: I know that situation may vary but I would just like you to give us an idea of what resources are available for students in these situations.

- iv. Maggie Balch: great question the resources really depend on the situation right so if a student comes in and says um the student comes in and says yes I was you know I have this pellet gun with me because I'd like to scare somebody because I have a no contact not a no contact but a restraining order from somebody back home I'm really worried I'm really nervous about that I pretty much connect them with the counseling to see what kind of support they need or that they can provide and I also connect them with the university police to kind of walk through that process it depends on what the situation is and what they're talking about in that space some of this stuff with artwork you know artwork and writing a lot of that stereotypically speaking has to deal with trauma and expressing themselves and so kind of making sure that they're connected in that space.
- v. Isabella Moniz: Do we have an crisis clinicians on campus that are able to help students in times of crisis in the evening hours when the counseling center is closed?
- vi. Maggie Balch: We don't have crisis clinicians on campus after hours all of our clinicians in the counseling center are trained in trauma induced counseling and we do have thank you for bringing this up because we do have an app called Telus health if you have not downloaded it I would encourage you to do so it gives students a 24 hours a day 365 days a year multiple languages access to a therapist and plug in that you'd like a crisis counselor and it will do the best to get you connected with one.
- vii. Chris Piro: I did want to go off of what Isabella said about students who have presented disturbing essays or artwork. What are the resources which are available for those students especially in the off hours where the counseling center is closed or you guys aren't here.
- viii. Maggie Balch: access or support after hours we do our best to direct them to the telehealth app we do have a counselor on call 24 hours a day from out of our counseling center but after hours they pretty much do a crisis evaluation right so are you safe right now BC for 10 minutes will you do you need to go to the hospital and so if you end up reaching out to talk to the counselor on call it's really to do a quick evaluation of how do we how do we hold you together that take you together until the next day and sometimes that's not possible sometimes people do need to go to the hospital so I would say after hours contact Telus health the Telus health app or if you need to do a quick assessment if it's if it's emerging and emergency situation we generally have the counselor on call connect and then oftentimes when they're going to the hospital chosen more.
- ix. Justin Wald: You could also direct friends or anyone else to Ras because we have most of the numbers for people to call and we are a great resource if you don't know where to get help for others yourself.
- x. Maggie Balch: That is a great point, so there are Ras on duty in the night. They do community walks in the areas which they are responsible and they direct access to a residence life professional who is on call and a senior student affairs person who is on call. I am always on call and we can get you to resources if that is necessary. So if it is 2 o'clock in the morning and there

- is a STAT situation get to your RA and they will get to the REslife people and they will put the necessary action into action.
- xi. Adam Carpenter: Just as another point of information from the RA perspective. We also have the duty phone which you can call so you don't need to run to find the RA such as if it is something that you can't really leave the situation such as if it were to be a person having like ideations, you don't want to leave them alone so that is an option to reach out to Ras
  - xii. Chief Casciano: You can also call us because we have numbers for everybody.
  - xiii. Maggie Balch: It's always a fun day when I talk to Tony before 6am so it does happen occasionally I you know we've stood up here and we've talked a little bit about the kind of the not so great things about college life and so I apologize about that but I think it is really important one of the things that is important to me and one of the things that Shannon laughed at me about when I did orientation that year because I did her slides for orientation and she's the conduct person so she was supposed to talk about conduct and I was supposed to talk about conduct as a result I did not talk about conduct what I talked about was when I talked about was taking care of each other and that's really important and we can't do what we do without you taking care of each other so if you are concerned about your friend if you are concerned about your roommate if you are concerned about your classmate please please please take the time to listen to them take your time to direct them to the resources that we have available on campus and raise your hand and let us know this is a community that's what we do we're here to support each other we're here to listen to each other and we are here to fill everybody out to be successful and so we can only do that if we're constantly looking out take care of each other.

#### IV. BOARD OF TRUSTEES' REPORT: Daniel Currier

As you know, my focus this semester has been on a project to centralize student job postings on our campus. I am pleased to report that thanks to the leadership of Junior Delgado and Giselle Frechette from the Career Center and the support of Financial Aid, Human Resources, the Division of Enrollment Management & Student Affairs, and others, the University will be posting all student jobs on Handshake by Spring 2024. At this time, the Career Center is working with TRiO and the Counseling Center to pilot the posting of student jobs on Handshake. If successful, the Career Center will host trainings for staff across the University prior to the end of the semester. These trainings will allow staff to understand how to post work-study and trust fund student positions to Handshake. Additional information should be provided to students in the near future.

I will be meeting with Jack this Thursday to discuss one of my next projects, which is to effectively market intramurals here at Westfield State University. Similar to the issue we have experienced with job postings, each individual intramural sport is in its own bubble

and is not effectively marketed to current or prospective students. In my conversations with Jack, we will discuss working with Athletics to update the intramural webpage and utilize the Network for intramural sign-ups and marketing. I will also be interested in learning more from Athletics on the use of the Parenzo Gymnasium and how that space will be used to foster camaraderie amongst our Westfield State students. Although this is one project I am looking to work on, I am looking for further ideas and seek your input on strategic initiatives.

Finally, Sarah, Jack, and I will be meeting virtually this Friday regarding our proposal to codify common hours into University policy. Our proposal will be that, in addition to a common meeting time for critical governance and departmental meetings, that a separate common hour be designated for student extracurricular and co-curricular involvement and academic support. Our meeting will be devoted to refining our draft Common Hour Policy, revising our proposed letter to governance explaining our proposal, relooking at the data that we will need to substantiate our proposal, and determining how best to secure buy-in from key stakeholders.

- i. Kaolin Westcott: Do you mind just explaining to us what a trust fund job is and who it is available to?
- ii. Daniel Currier: So the distinction between a work study job and a trust fund job. For work study you need to qualify for federal work study and that would be a part of the aid that you receive from year to year on that report so you would need to work through financial aid to get that information. Trust fund positions are available to anyone and they are taken out of the university budget so you are working lets say for dining, you are getting paid out of the trust fund for dining and the university budget for that job. Federal work study is all federal funding which is why there is that distinction there.
- iii. Chris Piro: I was wondering if when the job postings are on handshake if you will be able to distinguish between what is work-study and what is non-work study. I would also like to ask when you think it is best to have the second common hour that you are working on?
- iv. Dan Currier: For your first question yes there will be a clear distinction between work study and non work study jobs. It was also a main focus to ensure that language is consistent between postings from job to job. You may no that some jobs only have one sentence while others have a whole paragraph. We will make it more specific for what is expected for employees. For the common hour, it is really up to governance to decide that. In the draft policy that we currently have it the proposal that it would be restricted for a general common hour between 10am and 2pm under our draft policy and it is best to give governance and faculty some ownership into this process as well because it is really down to them for what they would like to do from year to year restricted within that time period when most students are on campus.
- v. Sarah Harrington: Correct me if I am wrong but I believe that currently if you apply to any dining location that you just apply to dining as a whole. I think that it is important that separated when you are uploading it to handshake so that people can apply to the location that they would like to work at

specifically. And then my question is that when you are working on the intermural website are you also thinking of expanding to have more intermural available on campus because we have a few but it would be nice to have more.

- vi. Daniel Currier: For the first thing, I have also talked about that and urged them to be specific as to what would be expected for that position and that it would be more laid out so that it would not just be a general application to dining as a whole. We are trying to remove the reach out to this person for any and all positions but making it refined to exactly what you are applying for. For intermurals, the conversation at this state is mainly around the marketing of it because currently you have to contact a random student and that does not make sense at all. I've had parents complain as well where they say hey my kid wants to sign up for this and the information on the website is from 2019. Overall there has been a lot of turnover in that position and intermurals has kind of gone away for the most part and we are trying to get it back to where it should be. I know that last year there was a conversation about whether we want to apply a recreation fee to all students instead of the waive-able fitness center fee but for campus recreation in general as something to discuss. It may be too late for next year but it is something to discuss.
- vii. Ethan Haynes: Hi Dan, first off, I love the idea and the proposal for all university jobs on handshake. That is a massive win for students. My one concern with it is that trust fund jobs may be a term that students don't recognize. Is there a different label that could be under or will it be trust fund as the only option?
- viii. Daniel Currier: So in my discussion with the career center was discussing the definition of each so my hope was that on our university website as well as other universities with a system like this that there would be a clear distinction between the two types of jobs on campus. The only really difference is the funding and that there may be more restrictions. For example, for federal work study you are unable to work during the class period and that's an issue that they need to encounter.
- ix. Isabella Moniz: I love the idea of having handshake for jobs. I also love the idea of improving marketing for intermurals, as a student who has helped run an intermural sport for about a year and a half, if you need any help, I am a resource that you can reach out to.

A. Student Advisory Council: Daniel Currier

The Student Advisory Council will meet virtually this Thursday, November 9<sup>th</sup> for a workshop on student basic needs security. This workshop will provide student government presidents and student trustees from across the Commonwealth with the knowledge necessary to develop programs and initiatives designed to address this pressing challenge

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

## A. Food Services Committee: Adam Carpenter

The food services committee met on Friday during the common meeting hour. I will quickly run you through some of the things that we discussed during the meeting. The first thing that we talked about was the thoughts on the open forum and some of the key takeaways from that from the perspective of dining. Some of these are that we are going to do work on fixing the Nestor plan, keeping the 15 meals a week plan, the gold 10 plan will transition to a block plan, the cost for a hoot 7 plan is being priced out, a dining dollar only plan for commuters is being looked into and priced out, and finally that the A and B versions of dining plans are going to be developed in order to allow people to get more dining dollars on meal plans with more meal swipes. It also seemed as though there would no longer be restrictions on meal plans by class once you have become a sophomore as long as you have a kitchen in your room. The other main thing that I want from this report is to solicit feedback from all of you about the Owl café. They are looking to expand the options which are offered in that location to have more actual food there and are looking for ideas as to what the student body is looking for. At the moment the first consideration that they floated was grinders but they are looking for your feedback. That's all I got.

- i. Daniel Currier: I would love if we had the food which was once in Ely Harvest back. Like the sandwiches and the salads you know kind of the healthier foods. I know that a lot of us miss those types of foods that were once upstairs so if we could bring those back.
- ii. Adam Carpenter: Thank you Dan
- iii. Brandon Rita: I was just wondering if we would be able to use meal swipes in the owl café if they started service more actual food there?
- iv. Adam Carpenter: I'm guessing that the answer to that question is most likely no as that is sort of the model that they have right now and honestly I'm not sure how financially viable that it would be in terms of the dining budget.
- v. Austin Morgan: Would it be possible to get chocolate milk in the Owl café for breakfast?
- vi. Adam Carpenter: I did bring it up and we are working on it.
- vii. Austin Morgan: To readdress, I remember my first year that they did chicken wraps, in the owl café and I was curious if those could be brought back as well.
- viii. Adam Carpenter: They are also considering the return of the twister wrap to that location.
- ix. Chris Piro: I was wondering what the deal is with meal swipes at wildblue? Is that ever coming back because a lot of students have been asking me?
- x. Adam Carpenter: The answer is most likely no.
- xi. Jack Guindon: I think that we should bring Paninis to owl café instead of like grinders.
- xii. Kaitlyn Egan: I remember at ELY harvest that they had Bento boxes so it was a protein, a cheese, and some type of fruit and that was really fun so that could be a really good grab and go option especially for commuters.
- xiii. William Connor: Freshman year we had double cheeseburgers in the bistro, can we bring that back please?
- xiv. Adam Carpenter: We can talk about it.
- xv. Sarah Harrington: This isn't answering the question that you asked but bistro is the only place that you can grab food and go unless you bring an to-go-container but those aren't really hand food. If we could just add a few more things to bistro that would be good to improve accessibility to food like

- especially between classes or like before going to a placement. Just more options to grab and throw in a bag would be nice.
- xvi. Adam Carpenter: I'm going to put you on the spot. Any specific suggestions?
- xvii. Sarah Harrington: Salads that are preboxed, some handheld wraps and things like that. Also I did notice that they put in the new toppings bar because I did like that so thanks.
- xviii. Joseph Bonilla: I was eating a bowl in bistro and realized that they don't have the pickled onions anymore and I was really sad. I don't know if bringing them back is a possibility if you have time to bring it up in your next meeting.
- xix. Adam Carpenter: I'll look into it but I think that it may have been part of the rice bowl meal swipe slash because we definitely limited a lot of the options in terms of toppings in order to actually get them to come back to the bistro. But I am happy to bring up that specific option. I know that it was not a very popular item by the majority of the student body.
- xx. Joseph Bonilla: I only ask because they also took out the tofu and as a vegetarian it is kind of limiting with the stuff that they have so adding more options in that sense. But I get that its whatever is economically possible.
- xxi. Adam Carpenter: I'll ask about it and we'll see what we can do.
- xxii. Chris Piro: I want to go off of what Sarah said about Salads in the bistro, I think that is a really good idea. I would also like to ask about the feasibility of Chicken nuggets in the bistro as a lot of students have asked about that as well? Like smaller chicken tenders but like chicken nuggets
- xxiii. Adam Carpenter: In all honesty, I think that it is kind of redundant as we already have chicken fingers. Chicken nuggets are kind of the same deal. I mean like we can look into the pricing on it but I am guessing the answer will be that we already serve that at that location. It is just in finger form instead of nugget form.
- xxiv. Kaitlyn Egan: Hi Adam, going back to your question about the owl café, I know that there are get well meals in the marketplace that a lot of people don't know about. You kind of get a lot of bang for your buck. You get soup some crackers and some fruit. I think that maybe if that was in the owl café and not the marketplace it would take so stress off the market place where there is a smaller staff and also that it may be more utilized if it were to move to that location. It may be another option for someone who wants some soup.
- xxv. Adam Carpenter: I think that is a really good idea honestly, I know that at one point in our time as we are in the same class that they did have them there and they moved them over to the market place but I'll see the feasibility of moving them back.
- xxvi. Loic Black: As a point of information about the chicken nuggets, they said that they were kind of trying to stay away from compressed meats so that is why they are sticking to tenders.
- xxvii. Adam Carpenter: Thank you Loic, I didn't remember that.

## VI. VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT-ACADEMIC LIFE: Sarah Harrington

### A. University Curriculum Committee: Scott Doan



UCC meet last Friday 11/2/2023, to discuss a few of the initial actions to the agenda of that day. Where we discussed moral basis for three new undergrad programs in Criminal Justice, are vision to undergraduate course, CRJU0361 and had a discussion of the New General Education course inclusion forms for SCORE GenEd Model. With the Concentration in Criminology, discussions and changes to course description and credit applications to surrounding courses and acting internships, were applied. Subject was then approved. With the Concentration in Rehabilitation and Restoration (Criminal Justice), subjects of prerequisites courses, course requirements and qualification matters were revised. Subject was then approved. With the Concentration in Law enforcement and Homeland Security, discussions and changes to course requirements were also reviewed and revised. Along with format matters and grammar matters. Subject was then approved. With the undergrad course of CRJU0361, Theories of Crime II, questions of course basis were asked and a concern to a certain prerequisite was brought forward. Where the course title was then revised and approved to Contemporary Theories of Crime. With the New General Education course inclusion forms for SCORE GenEd Model, grammar and descriptions morals were reviewed and revised. Subject was then approved.

- i. Daniel Currier: Would you please explain what a course inclusion form is for SCORE?
- ii. Scott Doan: Well, from what I have written down in my notes, when we went over that we talked about college descriptions and area descriptions, practice standards and internal use forms for proposals. I don't know if that is specifically answering your question but that is what I have here. Also they talked more about governance and reports to student accounts and more student work questions were brought up but I hope that answers your question.
- iii. Joseph Bonilla: I wanted to follow up because I know that UCC was in conversation for three concentrations in the psych department, I was wondering if that was on the agenda or if that's been discussed.
- iv. Scott Doan: It has not been discussed and it is not on the agenda so far.
- v. Joseph Bonilla: So what I mentioned was that UCC was working on it last year and they never voted on it and as far as I was told by the chair of the psych department they are still pending approval.
- vi. Scott Doan: I'm assuming that they are waiting on psych courses to be reviewed too as I know that the economics department is having that same issue right now.

## B. Academic Policies Committee: Brandon Rita and Joseph Bonilla

Hello, everyone! My name is Brandon Rita, I serve as a Student Representative on the Student Government Association. I am an accounting major here at Westfield and I also serve on the Academic Policies Committee (APC).

A subcommittee of the Academic Policies Committee (A.P.C.) on the current academic dishonesty policy and Artificial Intelligence (A.I.) in the classroom met on Friday, November 4th during the common meeting time of 1:40 – 2:55 PM. The subcommittee is currently composed of myself, Joseph Bonilla, the Vice President of Student Equity, Dr. Pierce, the Vice President for Justice, Equity, Diversity and Inclusion, Nicole West, the Director of the Course Achievement, Retention, and Engagement Center, and faculty members Karsten Theis and Robin White.

The current concern with the aforementioned policy is that it is confusing, unequitable, and outdated. The policy states that students will be charged as having academic dishonesty and, subsequently, are brought into the trial process without needing informal conversations with faculty members first – which would safeguard the student's ability to learn from the situation and the faculty member's ability to assess the situation. A further concern is the ability of a student to have an advocate or interpreter available throughout the process as some marginalized identities can be disadvantaged by this policy (e.g., international students, students with visual and/or auditory impairments, second language learners, etc.). The goal of this revision to the current policy is to effectively outline the process going forward without any confusion and unequitable practices (i.e., removing vagueness).

If you have any questions please feel free to reach out to either Joseph @vpequity.sga@westfield.ma.edu or myself @brita5341@westfield.ma.edu or after this report.

Now that you have listened to my report, I'd like to please turn our attention to Joseph to show you the current language used in this policy and proposed flowchart so that we can assess the student perspective, outside of our own, regarding this policy. Please let us know your thoughts.

*Joseph gave a presentation*

- i. Sarah Harrington: Would this policy also cover graduate students?
- ii. Joseph Bonilla: The conversation will only cover undergraduate students so we may need to expand that policy in order to expand the whole policy to cover graduate students as well.
- iii. Daniel Currier: I was on APC last year and it should have been revised but you know the university, there are policies everywhere that don't make sense. It was supposed to be an undergraduate academic honesty policy and it was supposed to be directly in the course catalog so I was a little bit confused when you showed that first time saying academic honesty policy because we revised it last year to be only for undergraduates with a separate policy for graduate students.
- iv. Joseph Bonilla: There is some confusion on the committee about that. But at the moment it is only undergraduate.
- v. Sarah Harrington: If you could ask at the next meeting and come back with it just to get clarity.
- vi. Kaolin Westcott: I know that I have been talking to Jess Tansey about graduate concerns and they are very involved in that so maybe reach out to them and see what they say in terms of having any information on that before the next meeting.
- vii. Jack Guindon: I was just a little confused is this issues about AI or plagiarism as well.
- viii. Joseph Bonilla: I think that the word issue was used in order to have some vagueness in the policy in itself but I think it would be in general and not just AI.

## V. VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT-STUDENT EQUITY: Joseph Bonilla

Thank you for coming down today. I have some really exciting news to share with you all today.

After meeting with Dr. Pierce, our Vice President for Justice, Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion and a few calls later, I have confirmed that a full launch of Banner 9 is scheduled to be released on Wednesday, November 15, 2023. Both the Registrar and IT have agreed to this date seeing as Student Registration ends on Monday, November 13.

You may be wondering what this launch means for the Preferred/Chosen Name Change process. Changes in class rosters, grading lists, and display names on emails are ongoing and are expected to be done with this launch. Unfortunately, this does not mean that Preferred/Chosen names will be on every application campuswide as some require third party vendors to opt in and work with the registrars office to get the appropriate information transferred over into their respective systems. That being said, these changes may not be seen in some of the third party platforms that we use in our institution, however, an

email communication has been sent to a first round of third party organizations asking for the implementation of preferred and chosen names. Pending their response, we will gameplan and see what will be necessary to see this implementation.

At the current moment Dr. Pierce is working with Marketing to develop a Preferred/Chosen Name webpage with a directory. Additionally, a Technical Writing course has been recruited to develop a series of FAQ's with regard to this process and the Preferred/Chosen Name Committee will be working with them to further develop and finish these FAQ's so that they can be displayed on the aforementioned webpage.

Finally, following this rollout, third party vendors will continue to be contacted and a rollout of Banner Registration is expected to begin in January.

Please feel free to let me know any questions you may have either after this report, during my office hours on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 11:30 AM – 1:30 PM, or via email at [vpequity.sga@westfield.ma.edu](mailto:vpequity.sga@westfield.ma.edu)

As always I will leave you with a quote. In their book, *Make Trouble: Standing Up, Speaking Out, and Finding the Courage to Lead*, Cecile Richards says “ Don't sit around and wait for the perfect opportunity to come along – find something and make it an opportunity”.

- i. Jack Guindon: I don't know if I missed it but is there any timeline for the roll-out of banner 9?
- ii. Joseph Bonilla: So as I reported they have entered a testing process to rollout the illusion experience which in my understanding would eventually replace myWestfield from my understanding. It will be more updated and easily manageable. Both Dan and I looked at it and enjoyed the personalized experience that it provided and now this is really just the consolidation phase so the date it would be happening is November 15<sup>th</sup> so next Wednesday.

## VII. VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT-FINANCE: Kaolin Westcott

My report today is to talk with senate (all of you) about the student activity fee and to gather your thought and opinions. To start off here is a little background. For numerous years the Student activity fee was stagnant and wasn't reevaluated each year leading to issues when it came to funding finance proposals. This led to a jump a few years ago to our current student activity fee which is at \$81 a semester and yet again we are running into similar issues as before with having to be more frugal with finance proposals and line-item allocations.

It is my suggestion to increase the student activity fee to \$100 a semester to get back on track with inflation and sense this is a constitution year I will be making the suggestion to add yearly reevaluation of the student activity fee to the VP Finance position to mitigate the need for larger increases in the future.

- i. Jack Guindon: Could you elaborate more on in the constitution how that would work like would it be based on how inflation is and would it change from fall to spring or just flat for the year.
- ii. Kaolin Westcott: So how it stands is that in order to make these adjustments we have to put in a lot of paperwork with the administration and finance for the entire university with Steve Taksar and he has advised me that you kind of make the decision based on the increases in the fall. So it is something that is reevaluated at the beginning of the academic year. Some years it may be that we don't have to increase it while others it could be a few dollars based on the inflation percentage. It really depends on and is at the discretion of the VP of finance, senate, and our thoughts for that year.

- iii. Daniel Currier: at one of the schools that I audited and I don't know if this would ever happen at our university, they had all students pay for their yearly amount in one payment and not splitting it between fall and spring and thing that is very beneficial with that is that there is usually a spring melt and with the current system we don't capture that revenue just for context we had a pretty sizable drop off and we had a problem with the budget as a result. It was a different university but its an idea.
- iv. Kaolin Westcott: This is something that we have taken under consideration. My one worry is that we nay get some push back from students because they may only be there for the fall and they are confused why they are paying for the whole year.
- v. Brandon Rita: I just wanted to ask if you think that this raise will be the solution to the financial problem that we have. I know that as a member of finance club that these are hard times but was curious if this was the solution.
- vi. Kaolin Westcott: I think that it will give us more wiggle room and then the reevaluation each year will help to keep us stable so we don't have years where we need like a 20 dollar jump.
- vii. Benjamin Burnham: You said that it varies from year to year, what specifically about this year is necessitating that increase?
- viii. Kaolin Westcott: This year we have had to decrease the amount that we have allocated for finance proposals. We have had to edit every proposal that we have seen so far this year and we have barely been able to give out line item allocation. We have had to limit our support across the board due to finances.

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

Thank you to everyone who participated in the Turkey Trot. This week is the Turkey Drive, SGA's annual donation drive to benefit Westfield's Salvation army. SGA members are visiting all buildings on campus and tabling the DC to collect cash donations, we thank all donors in advance in helping us support our local Salvation Army. Thank you to SAIL for including a donation option when runners registered for their Turkey Trot, they helped us raise over \$1,400 so far!

Tomorrow from 2:30-4 in the Ely Library room 230, the CARE center will be hosting an event to learn about relaxation techniques, breathing exercises, and mindful activities. On Thursday, from 6-7, New Hall lounge will be having donuts and stress management. Also, I meet with NAB on Thursday at 4pm, anyone is welcome to come.

### A. Neighborhood Advisory Board: Haley Kane

I hope you are all doing well and adjusting it to getting dark at 4:30 now. Anyway, today I met with Laura to discuss the newsletter for NAB. For those who were not here a couple weeks ago, the newsletters is a project that I'm working on. These newsletters will be sent to the residents who live near the university and will inform them about campus updates. When I met with Laura today we discussed important notes to include in the newsletter. We want to include an intro to explain what NAB is, the members and how to contact us. There will also be a welcome from President Thompson (especially since when these newsletters were last sent out, she was not the president). We will be highlighting new campus projects including Parenzo Hall and the commuter lounge. We want to showcase how Owl's stay connected and engaged with campus (this will include CAB programming, SGA accomplishments, clubs). We will include the dining common hours as dining wants to be more welcoming to guests. Finally, we will include events they are welcome to attend such as sporting

events, plays, breakfast with Santa, Interfaith Center's Pause for Peace, Spirituality in Nature. Also, the newsletters will be highlighting the December 9th open house if they know of interested high school students. NAB is meeting this Thursday at 4:00 and we will be presenting these ideas to the rest of the members and discussing next steps. I would hope these newsletters will be sent to residents prior to Thanksgiving break. Please let me know if there is anything else that we are missing. Thank you!!

- i. Sarah Harrington: Is the Newsletter physical or digital?
- ii. Haley Kane: I believe that it is going to be digital. Last year we sent out a postcard to let them know who we are and what we do and I think they will be sent out to everyone. I know that in the past marketing has used their own software for that.
- iii. Daniel Currier: I would encourage postage because a lot of these people are in their 70s and 80s and don't know how to use an email.
- iv. Haley Kane: we mentioned that one of the nab meetings but then I learned that it's illegal to like put things in people's mailboxes without them knowing I did not know that so I learned that day but I don't know.
- v. Daniel Currier: I mean political campaigns give out stuff. Just send it to the address.

## IX. EXECUTIVE SECRETARY REPORT: Adam Carpenter

## X. PARLIAMENTARIAN REPORT: Ethan Haynes

Good evening, everyone. The rules and regulations committee met today. We reviewed two constitutions. First, the diversity in healthcare club. This constitution was approved after changes were made post-committee meeting October 24th. We also reviewed the crochet club constitution. This constitution is getting sent back to the club organizers for revisions and edits.

The next rules and regulations committee meeting will be held on November 14th at 3 pm in the SGA conference room.

If you need to reach me individually, my email is [parli.sga@westfield.ma.edu](mailto:parli.sga@westfield.ma.edu)

and my office hours are:

Monday 12:30-1:30

Tuesday from 12:45-4:00

Wednesday 12:30-4 pm

## XI. COMMUTER COUNCIL AND CLASS COUNCIL REPORTS:

### A. Dickinson Hall Representative: Gavin Fazio

Good Afternoon, I have an idea I wanted to pitch to you all, and given this is my first time at this podium, forgive me if there is any unprofessionalism, but feedback is welcome! As you may know, there are many issues people run into while doing laundry on campus, and one that I had to run into recently was taking someone's clean laundry out of the dryer because it had been there for too long, and though it wasn't my fault, I still felt quite bad, and I've talked to many people throughout the semester and have heard many stories of people feeling and experiencing exactly what I dealt with, and I wanted to see if I could help this

problem. My idea is that we install small bins numbered with a corresponding dryer. For example, in Dickinson Hall there are 10 dryers labeled from 71-80, so in the dryer room there would be 10 bins lined up labeled from 71-80, and if someone's laundry is in, say, 75 for too long, then you can take theirs out and safely place it in the bin labeled 75. This will help dried laundry that is taken out from being stolen, dirtied, or lost if someone has to take it out. I had this idea for Dickinson Hall and had a conversation with the RD of Dickinson Hall, Sydney, and she recommended I get feedback and pitched this to be applied all around campus. It is a small issue, but one that I have been approached about with complaints, and an easy, cheap fix may be all we need to fix this small issue. Given that it is a simple solution, I'm willing to take any feedback, ideas, or criticisms for this idea, either now or after our meeting, thank you!

- i. Sarah Harrington: First off congrats on your first report. My only concern with that is that it would need to be a last resort since you don't want to promote touching other peoples clothes because that's a big ick for a lot of people. This should be like a after ten minutes type of thing rather than right away.
- ii. Gavin Fazio: Absolutely that is an issue that we touched on for a little bit. There are some little kinks that we would have to work out. For example, for me when I did it, I waited for 15 minutes at each of these. There are people who would take the stuff out right away and we will need to think of a way to prevent that.
- iii. Elizabeth Mercer: I know that when things are up on the couter than people are less likely to steal them but if they are in a bin they may be more easily stolen. Maybe have the bins be clear or by the doors or something.
- iv. Gavin Fazio: That is something to consider, I know my original idea was a counter of loose piles of laudry being easier to steal.
- v. Chris Piro: Hi, I really like the idea, the only thing that I worry about is where the bins would go because I know that a lot of the laundry rooms are smaller so where would you put the bins. I only know about Dickinson as that is the only Laundry room which I have been in there is the main laudry room and an empty corner where you can use the space.
- vi. Joseph Bonilla: I think that I have a little suggestion that takes into account everything people have said. I think using those bins but maybe you need to go to an RD or an Ra to get those bins and put it in like the move in bin location.
- vii. Gavin Fazio: I think that would be an amazing idea because it would make the person getting the laundry would need to go back to the RD and say hey this is my laundry that got put in here.
- viii. Joseph Bonilla: I also think that creates a sense of agency because if you have to go to an RD or an RA to get the bin then it would prevent people from taking so long to get their laundry.
- ix. Justin Wald: I like the idea but I personally wouldnt want someone to call the duty phone at like 1 or 2 in the morning to get their laundry from experience from Davis at least Ras or RDs aren't always in the building so like that could be an issue.
- x. Gavin Fazio: That is a good point.
- xi. William Connor: If they waited 15 minutes don't feel bad because they knew what they were getting into.

## B. University Hall Representative: Loic Black

Met with Mark the RD of University Hall, working to establish an art wall of sorts located outside of the laundry room across from the game room on the first floor. There will be shadowboxes located on this wall showcasing one shadowbox which would represent the community at large within University Hall; one section would be reserved for Performing and Fine Arts, Jedi, and Honors housing while another section of it would be left open for students residing in University Hall not in a specific community to sketch something within, maybe someone's favorite animal such as a bird, or a milkshake from Bistro or anything they feel represents them and makes them feel most at ease when residing in University Hall this is planned to change yearly to represent the building's changing community. In the lobby starting

sometime in the next few weeks be on the lookout for the community canvas that will be open to be collaborated on to represent University Hall Students. The other shadowbox will be updated bi-weekly or monthly (Subject to change based on volume of interest) with new artwork produced by art students and allow their work to be showcased for all of University Hall to observe. A QR code will be generated and posted on the shadowbox itself allowing those interested to sign up.

- i. Joseph Bonilla: I think that I just have a clarifying question. So for each one of those shadow boxes which represent a living community are they supposed to be specifically themed or are they just for the people in that area in general?
- ii. Loic Black: It will be one box for the three communities. Like for instance JEDI they could put the word JEDI in whatever configuration they felt best represented them with the stipulation of it being appropriate of course. It could be the individuals in it and that goes for every theme. But each part of it would be one of the LLCs. Then another part of it would be students who are not in the themed housing so that those students could also be represented in their housing.
- iii. Joseph Bonilla: I think that I would caution against creating a certain theme just because be myself a student in JEDI think that I can create something that represents all of JEDI, it could be counterproductive and it could have offensive representations of the community from an uneducated individual.
- iv. Loic Black: The idea was to ensure it would be appropriate, it would be equal in size regardless of which group was being represented.
- v. Laura Cafaro: Loic is working with the department of residential life and Mark who will insure that it is an appropriate representation and that they represent the students in that community.

#### C. Class of 2027: Benjamin Burnham

Hello sga committee I wanted to inform you that the class of 2027 student council has officially set up a date for our recycle event. Our event will be hosted in the owls nest on Thursday November 30th, from 7:00pm-9:00pm. This will be a competition contest with one winner out of the 8 recycle bins we have received for this event. We will have hot cocoa and football playing on any streaming devices provided like a tv or projector. We were even suggesting inviting Linda Thompson. We were considering asking sail for a tarp to make sure we keep our area clean where paint and other materials will be. This event is based upon trying to make our environment cleaner so no one leaves trash on the green or on the paths there will be more recycle bins accessible. We thought of marketing ideas like Thursday night clean up like Thursday night football.

#### D. Class of 2026: Justin Wald

Our class council has made some decisions regarding our weeklong event in the end of November. We will be doing a "What are you thankful for?" poll and video on Tuesday, a writing workshop Wednesday, and the full big event Friday. As of right now Monday and Thursday have not been decided yet, but I did speak with Chris from ResLife about the potential of a ResLife hosted event one of the two days if they are interested, to get other sectors of campus involved. We also made decisions to have the teams be halls; Davis, New, Courtney, Uni, and the Apartments plus Dickinson along with the commuters. We will also have drop boxes in Ely and the DC to make it so faculty, staff, and the public can donate if they want. I also spoke to Bill from dining about the event in regard to the dining aspects of catering and otherwise and also to get more collaborative partners in on this event. At the meeting he brought up the idea of

potentially closing late-night Friday Dec. 1st and just having the event in the DC where they would serve breakfast food (with toppings) and have hot chocolate (with toppings) where students could get in for free or with a meal swipe. I was told to report this one to get SGAs full thoughts on this idea before we move forward on it. I would also like to report on the provost search committee and let you all know that I am open to any and all student opinions you want to share. I am on the committee to represent the student voice and I can't do that without input from all of you. So please if you have anything just talk to me anytime or email me!

- i. Elizabeth Mercer: What food are you closing?
- ii. Justin Wald: Bill suggested that for our event that they shut down late night for the night of our event which is Friday December 1<sup>st</sup> Instead of having the event be catered so it would cut down on cost and fully staffed. It would also make it easier as the event would be centralized somewhere.
- iii. Daniel Currier: Thank you for mentioning the provost search committee. Could you just provide an update as to what has been going on with that committee?
- iv. Justin Wald: so I'm still a little confused on what I can and can't share yeah because it's kind of like the terminology in the confidentiality thing that I signed is very confusing but I think the applications went out November 1st and that's really it I did fight a change that somebody wanted to make that would essentially negatively impact students so I'm I'm proud of myself for that I'm I'm proud of them for actually listening to me but no it's going really well bold committee is just really excited to get this going and I think they want to get you know a good you know full time Provost and not make the same mistakes that we made last time.
- v. Daniel Currier: Can we just get a student centered provost?
- vi. Justin Wald: That is the whole thing that I fought for. I don't know if I can exactly talk about it like what the change was but they wanted to remove something that was focused on communication with students and other sectors of campus that I did not agree with.
- vii. Joseph Bonilla: Back to your thing, I remember you mentioning donations where are they going to?
- viii. Justin Wald: I know that in the past they had a bin in the lobby of each reshall and each member of my class council will be given a building to catalogue what has been given each night and some people will be assigned to ELY and the DC and then I am going to reach out to the RDs to see if we could find a place to safely store the donations.
- ix. Joseph Bonilla: What are you looking to donate?
- x. Justin Wald: We are mainly focusing on canned goods and nonperishable goods, and clothes. I will reach out to shelters in Westfield to try to get a focus on what they need.
- xi. Sarah Harrington: For your event regarding shutting down late night for the evening, my only concern despite thinking that it is a good idea is that you would get backlash from students to get attacked by students who are hungry at 9pm. If you did do it you would have to let a lot of people know about it. Also athletes may be upset about it.
- xii. Justin Wald: I know somebody can correct me if I'm wrong but I think somebody mentioned to me that they did something like this before where they closed late night and did like late night breakfast I think.
- xiii. Daniel Currier: point information breakfast with the president last year did this.
- xiv. Chris Piro: I just want to say, now that breakfast is in the DC every Thursday night the thing with the meal swipe being having to swipe into the DC for late night for our event, we shouldn't have to since we can swipe into the DC to get it on a Thursday and also meal swipes aren't taken at late night so why are we swiping into the event.
- xv. Justin Wald: Like I said, this is a potential thing, Bill and I talked about it for maybe 5 minutes and it was an idea. We don't know if it would be free or not and we could also put our money towards it to make sure that it is free. I think that a meal swipe is better than nothing if we cant make it free.
- xvi. Adam Carpenter: Just as a quick point of information cuz I was there for Justin's conversation with Bill. He was kind of operating under the insinuation that it would be beneficial to students as they would be able to use a meal swipe at late night and that would be a special thing. As opposed to not being able to use a meal swipe at late night which is the typical experience at late night. So he thinks that students would be more happy about that.



- xvii. Justin Wald: We did have the discussion of less traffic days for like the DC and the Bistro to see what would work best and I don't know if Friday would work best but it would have suggestions I'm trusting him on it rather than going off of my own ideas.
- xviii. Joseph Bonilla: I move to end debate. *Motion passes*

## Class of 2025: Nicholas Palumbo

Hey everyone, I just wanted to thank everyone who came out to our halfway there lua Friday night it was very successful and it seemed like everyone had a good time celebrating friendships made along the way. Thank you again to Katie and her class council for bringing this tradition back last year, and I look forward to seeing what the next class does for their halfway there event. Feel free to reach out to myself or my class council members and we are more than welcome to help you to keep this tradition going. That being said we are also open to possibly doing a collab event with one of the other class councils at some point this semester so I will be reaching out to you. But As for what's next for us, we are playing around with apparel, and fundraising ideas for right now and we will have a more firm direction on what we are choosing next week. That's all I got Thanks.

- i. Sarah Harrington: Who is the apparel for?
- ii. Nick Palumbo: The apparel is for the class as a fundraising option and the class council is going to pay for our own which will be customized with their positions.
- iii. Justin Wald: I sat in on their meeting and the apparel looked good.

## E. Commuter Council: Desiree Brown

The Commuter Council met Friday, November 3, at 12pm in the Commuter Lounge. Abby Glasheen, Gage Glanville, and myself (Fabian Morales), as well as Laura Cafaro and Kaolin Westcott were in attendance.

The November 14th Commuter Appreciation Day has been postponed to Tuesday, November 28th from 10:00am-1:00pm. The change of date was due to needed materials being unable to arrive soon enough.

Items such as umbrellas, car fresheners, stickers from the bookstore, earbuds and dongles have been ordered, to give to commuter students on the day of appreciation. Catering has been decided upon as breakfast style, with muffins and waffles.

We have interviewed, and added our newest Council member, Samya Robles, as the Publicist for the Commuter Council. With that, our Instagram page will be up and running soon. We are still searching for a secretary, so the position remains vacant.

Finally, we have decided to “chalk” commuter parking spots and bus stops, to show our appreciation and market for the 28th. We will be chalking on two different dates prior to Commuter Appreciation Day. Those dates are Wednesday, November 15th at 3pm and Monday, November 20th at 4:30pm. We invite anyone from SGA to help us chalk these spots if you are available.

## F. Community Relations and Fundraising Report: Haley Kane

I just want to thank everyone for their participation with the turkey drive. I will be at the dining commons tonight collecting money and also on Thursday from 2:00-4:00. If you would like to help and/or have not helped out yet and are free these times, we would appreciate your help. Please also check out the group me as it has the picture of the signup sheet in case you were looking for another time to go around to buildings on campus or sit in the dining commons. This drive goes until this Thursday. At the NAB meeting, I will be mentioning the turkey drive again and seeing if any of our members would like to donate. Also, thank you to everyone who participated in the turkey trot and/or donated. The turkey trot

raised \$1,460. Again, thank you for everyone's help and please let me know if you have any questions! Have a great rest of your week.

- i. Daniel Currier: It is an expectation of senators to take part in the turkey drive. We don't want it all to fall on just Exec so we want you all to give an hour of your time to help out.

## XII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

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

## XIV. ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Daniel Currier: We have an event with the CEO of Westfield Bank tomorrow, please be there if you can, I would rather have a large audience for it.

Kaolin Westcott: If I could speak to finance committee after the meeting quickly that would be great. Also everyone remember that the trip to the thunderbirds game is next Friday and Laura will be reaching out with more info tomorrow.

Elizabeth Mercer: Professional headshots will be available in the Owls nest tomorrow.

Isabella Moniz: If you are a New hall resident check your emails for an email from Sam about an event we will be doing on Monday.

Chris Piro: The viewing of National Treasure that is being hosted by the history club has been moved to Tuesday November 14<sup>th</sup> at 7:30pm in the Wilson Auditorium.

Sarah Harrington: Just a reminder please say the point of information when the point comes up so that it isn't lost in the conversation.

Kaitlyn Egan: Please don't pack up until after Adam is done taking roll call and I 192 days until commencement.

XV. ROLL CALL: Anderson Dallaire, Eri'Yan Baker, James McDonald, Daniel Lyons, Abby Glasheen, Isabella Catao, and Fabian Morales were absent.

XVI. ADJOURNMENT: The meeting was Adjourned at 8:11pm until the next meeting which will take place on Tuesday November 14<sup>th</sup> at 5:30pm.

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