

Central Connecticut State University Student Government Association

Meeting Minutes 10/25/2017

Meeting called to order at 3:05pm by President Kruh

Attendance: Vice President Cusano, Treasurer Cappiello, Senators: Aguilar, Angelopoulos, Begic, Bierwirth, Brasell, Britto, Butt, Carbone, Constanza, Daniels, Dew, DeVivo, Fruin, Goncalves, Gorman, Helmbracht, Hussan, Long, Maya, Mitchell, Morin, Muka, Nazario, Quintana, Ramos, Rozio, Savino, Sejdiraj, Solano, Theriault, Zukowski

Absent: Gazaferi, Thompson

Excused: Aguilera, Diaz

Acceptable of the Meeting Minutes from 10/18.

Move to accept the meeting minutes (Cappiello, Bierwirth)

Motion passes unanimously

Public Hearing:

Andrea Giachino: Graduate Intern, Student Activities and Leadership Development

Talks about the Mosaic Center initiative. They will be taking pictures of students holding up sign with micro aggressions that student have faced. She invited SGA to partake in the program. The pictures will be posted in the window of the Mosaic Center. There was an email sent out to executive board of the SGA that will be forwarded to the Senate.

Caitlin Moreau: President, Central Activities Network

Talking about the spring concert she is requesting money for the spring concert. She outlined the costs of the concert to the body, using the quotes from the previous year. There were quotes distributed to the entire senate. She is requesting a total of \$70,000 from SGA and the rest will be covered by CAN. There will be no increase cost in the concert although there was a student activity fee increase, it was not seen necessary to increase the size of the concert. She also outlines how much money would be coming back to the SGA at the end of the fiscal year from profits of the concert. Revenue back is estimated between \$27,500 and \$38,000. CAN would be able to do it on their own but the concert would have less talent because of high protection costs. She also showed a video of last year's concert.

Long: these are questions because I want a lot of transparency, you did a good job. How is the budget decided?

Moreau: So, the companies have the same price every year because they provide the same service every year. The last 3-4 years it has been all the same. The relationship is great. We go along with what has worked in the past to be successful in the past it was not successful,

Long: Why this didn't go through finance?

Moreau: I wanted to make sure that everyone saw the presentation, it would be beneficial for everyone to see it.

Long: I know there is a committee for this. How it was decided? And are the meeting public?

Moreau: The committee is made up of CAN and SGA eboard which is the same, CAN has 5 members and SGA only has 3, to make it fair this year the chairs were invited to attend. Senator Britto, counts as CAN eboard. No, because of the bidding they cannot be public, its not possible.

Long: What hat did Tory Lanez wear last year? I want it stated for the record

Moreau: it was a CCSU SGA hat.

Mitchell: Concert Ideas, is it a third-party talent agency?

Moreau: Yes, they work with hundreds of different artists and negotiate the contract with them

Quintana: What is the seating amount?

Moreau: 1700 or 1800, I believe it is 1800 last year was about 3000, due to the construction we cannot use the Gym, because there is a lack of emergency exits. We moved it to Welte for safety.

Quintana: I see the math is done for 1700 for Welte, I understand bids have already gone out,

Moreau: yes, bids are out, it is time sensitive, we needed to bid to make sure we had a artist. It takes a long time. My fault for not coming sooner.

Quintana: If the bids have already gone out did you already account for the \$70,000 for senate

Moreau: technically CAN could pay for most of the talent right now, but not 100% of it, talent cost about \$95,000

Quintana: If we had too, what amount could senate cut?

Moreau: to have a high turnout, we need the full amount

Student Affairs Report:

Dr. Triano: I felt that I haven't talked in quite a while, we have had some good committee meetings, I will get back to the Academic Affair committee. I will do my best to keep up with all the requests. We had our first division wide meeting last Friday, the programming efforts have been great the last few weeks, the turnout has been great. I know there has been conversation about whether this group should be programming. I will try to be at the Good Neighbor Event on Friday. Thank you

Presidents Report:

Women's friendship event yesterday went great, thank you for those who attended. Next time more communication. This Friday is GNC, you don't have to do it but I encourage everyone to do it. It's good to get students into the community and specially to show the residents that we do care and we do good work. This can count for community service hours for those who need them. Thursday, rally for Marino's father in Hartford, he was a senator, we have talked about standing with him. His father is facing deportation at this time, I think it is vital that we stand with them. The students depend on their parents. If you are free, I hope you can attend in any manner you see fit.

Vice President Report:

I sent out a liaison email, please send it out by Friday, cc' me in the emails. Amanda Perdue would like to know who wants to be on the Benefit Concert Committee. That's it.

Treasurers Report

Account Balances:

SG9016 \$58,739.10
SG9017 \$17,722.98
SG9018 \$0
SG9195 \$46,098.57
SG9120 \$75,307.26
SG9010 \$124,976.00

Good afternoon everyone, just a few things. First, I know the question was asked during the presentation about the spring concert why the request did not go through finance. I reached out directly to Caitlin Moreau and suggested that she come right to senate. I know that many people would have questions and I did not want to have her present twice. Additionally, I will

be talking to the chair of the public affairs committee regarding the conference. It is my understanding that there is only 13 people going on the conference. We had budgeted for 30 people to attend so I would like to return any extra money into the accounts. Additionally, two clubs have requested base budgets since last week. I have reached out to them and informed them that we are not accepting base budgets at this time and if anything changes I will reach back out to them. I have received no answer from either club as of yet. That is all.

Committee Reports

Public Affairs: Fruin

We accepted 13 applicants for NSLDC out of 18 to go, the conference is next week. We will keep you updated. The GNC initiative is this Friday, a volunteer sheet is going around, if you can make please sign up. It is at 4:45 we are meeting in the office. Thank you everyone for the idea to do multiple events regarding GNC, Town and Gown is November 13, 5:30-7:00 in the NBPD community room.

Student Life: Britto

Last week was mental health week and it was no ideal. We talked about what we want to change. There is a quality assessment for student life that will be sent to Danni. The women's center event last night was good thank you. Scholarship expectations have been talked about. Competition for a Cause goes until 11/17. There is a November coffee talk. The ugly sweater social meeting will occur soon.

Constanza:

Last week we pinpointed people to reach out to each department, many people did not know what they were doing. So, I decided to start surveying people on campus about each department. I will be designing a survey to give out at coffee talk. I will also be going out around campus to get opinion of departments we have a giant input and I want to know what to attack first. My goal is 1000 opinions campus wide that way next semester we know what to hit.

Academic Affairs: Dew

The student leadership council, which was on the back burner is now being brought up again. I saw the idea of the liaison that student life is doing, so I am copying that to be liaisons to different area schools. The results of the coffee talk and reviewed them it has been quite a hassle at this point. The results are being sorted through. On interesting question 69.3% say they don't use their textbooks. Total cost 5.8% spend over \$600 on textbooks this semester. They rest were split up pretty evenly. The open syllabus we are meeting with department heads and deans to gauge interest. Also dealing with the technical issues and how it is controlled.

External Affairs: Solano

An email was just sent out from 1-6 there will be tabling at hilltop and mem for voter registration, yesterday was pretty decent for a last-minute idea. I am looking for help. The sign up that went around was for senate. EA will not be meeting tomorrow

Long: So do you know how many registered to vote?

Solano: I am not sure for certain

Finance Committee: Cappiello

Good afternoon again, we had 4 items on the agenda for Monday. Only two of the items made it out of committee. I will talk about those two first. Ultimate Frisbee club came back after we tabled their motion about 3 weeks ago. They are asking for the same thing, there just provided better clarity to the committee about what they were asking for and how it will affect the club. Next was Habitat for Humanity, in their base budget we cut travel due to lack of information for their mission trip each spring break. They were able to provide quotes for the trip and it was actually less money that what they requested in their base budget. That passed with 8 in favor and 1 abstention. Next Computer Science had their request for a contingency tabled until next week. Mainly because we did not know what they were using about \$2100 of their budget for. The contingency request consisted of \$2600 for refreshments for various on campus events, the rest of their request was for money to go on a bowling trip, laser tag and a Virtual Reality Arcade. The bowling trip was eliminated due to by law restrictions and the committee agreed to cut both the VR and laser tag. There was much debate about what to do with the food request so the committee decided to table that motion. I will be reaching out to the club. Next A Cappella Society came back for the same contingency they had requested the previous week. For the BOSS conference, it appears they were now requesting 4 groups to go instead of 3 and additionally they adjusted the numbers of members. This was also debated about for a long time, mainly the debate consisted of should we fund it in some amount or deny it. A motion was made to deny it and that passed with 4 in favor 3 opposed and 2 abstentions. We also assigned audits to 12 clubs per our bylaws we must do 8. We decided to audit 12 clubs, these audits aren't a form of punishment and are selected randomly. The following clubs will be audited this semester: Fashion Design Club, Men's Club Soccer, Accounting Society, SASA, Table Top Games, Criminal Justice Club, Physics Club, Winter Guard, Marketing Club, MSA, Ice Hockey and Pre-health society. Are there any questions?

Unfinished:

New:

Motion to allocate the Ultimate Frisbee Request in the amount of \$2450 from SG9016 (Long, Helmbrecht)

Long:

It is a very good motion, they came in and we talked. They are getting a good deal on their coach that will help them with their winter league. The coach is an alumnus, that wants to help the team and watch them grow. The club has leadership issues and he wanted to stabilize the team. This should pass.

Y: Vice President Cusano, Treasurer Cappiello, Senators: Aguilar, Begic, Bierwirth, Brasell, Britto, Butt, Carbone, Constanza, Daniels, Dew, DeVivo, Fruin, Goncalves, Gorman, Helmbracht, Long, Maya, Mitchell, Morin, Muka, Nazario, Quintana, Ramos, Rozio, Savino, Sejdiraj, Solano, Theriault, Zukowski

N:

A:

Motion Passes

Motion to allocate Habitat for Humanity's request in the amount of \$6,414.00 from SG9016 (Quintana, Begic)

Quintana:

Habitat goes a lot of good work both on and off campus and this motion should pass.

Y: Vice President Cusano, Treasurer Cappiello, Senators: Aguilar, Angelopoulos, Begic, Bierwirth, Brasell, Butt, Carbone, Constanza, Daniels, Dew, DeVivo, Fruin, Goncalves, Gorman, Helmbracht, Long, Maya, Mitchell, Morin, Muka, Nazario, Quintana, Ramos, Rozio, Savino, Sejdiraj, Solano, Theriault, Zukowski

N:

A: Britto

Motion Passes

Open Floor:

Dew:

Motion to move into executive session (Dew, Cappiello)

Kruh: this will be to speak about matters of the senate, no minutes will be taken, nothing talked about will be public and you can be penalized for it. We can decide who gets to stay and who must leave.

Y: Vice President Cusano, Treasurer Cappiello, Senators: Aguilar, Bierwirth, Brasell, Butt, Carbone, Constanza, Daniels, Dew, DeVivo, Fruin, Goncalves, Gorman, Helmbracht, Hussan, Long, Maya, Mitchell, Muka, Nazario, Ramos, Rozio, Savino, Sejdiraj, Solano, Theriault, Zukowski
N: Senators: Begic, Britto, Morin, Quintana,
A: Senator Rose

Motion Passes

At this time, the recorder was turned off and executive session was entered at 4:15pm

Scott Hazan and Danielle Alaire were allowed to stay in the room by a unanimous decision of the Senate. Everyone else including the Student Center Tech, left the room. The Student Center Tech Assistant went into Alumni Hall in case the Senate needed his assistance

There were no votes taken in Executive Session and conversation was limited to internal senate matters and the Senate exited executive session at 5:12pm

Motion to Leave Executive Session (Mitchell, Long)

Y: Vice President Cusano, Treasurer Cappiello, Senators: Aguilar, Angelopoulos, Brasell, Butt, Carbone, Constanza, Daniels, Dew, DeVivo, Goncalves, Hussan, Long, Mitchell, Ramos, Rozio, Savino, Sejdiraj,

N: Senators Dew, Fruin, Gorman Hembracht, Nazario, Solano, Theriault

A: Senator Britto

Motions passes

Motion to allocate \$70,000 to the Spring Concert (Cappiello, Cusano)

This event is the single largest event on the campus, this event will affect 1800 students. I don't know why people think we can't afford this because we can. Yes, we will have less money for base budgets but we will still be giving out more than \$500,000 in base budgets. This is way the whole campus can unwind the week before finals and an event that every looks forward to each year.

Nazario: Why aren't the meetings public?

Cappiello: Is it not true that artist require 100% confidentially until they authorize it to be released to the public?

Kruh: Yes

Long:

Motion to amend that ticket prices will be set at \$20 for students and \$30 for guests (Long, Solano)

Long: This is important because we need to do a spring concert. In the further I think we need to get out of the concert business. With the ticket prices set at this, I understand that there is a small budget crisis, but this allows more money to come back to the reserves. 100% of the profit goes back into the reserve. I have a headache, I am open for someone to table it for next week. I encourage, the discussion to happen after the amendment.

Kruh: Senator Hussan, please put your reading materials away. That is a point of order.

Kruh: No points against, onto roll call

Motion to amend that ticket prices will be set at \$20 for students and \$30 for guests (Long, Solano)

Y: Vice President Cusano, Treasurer Cappiello, Senators: Aguilar, Angelopoulos, Brasell, Britto, Butt, Carbone, Constanza, Daniels, Dew, DeVivo, Fruin, Goncalves, Gorman, Helmbracht, Hussan, Long, Mitchell, Nazario,, Ramos, Savino, Solano, Theriault,

N:

A: Senator Rozio

Amendment Passes

Motion reads:

Motion to allocate \$70,000 to the spring concert from SG9010 with the stipulation that ticket prices are \$20 for students and \$30 for guests. (Cappiello, Cusano)

Points Against the motion

Morin: Yeh umm, I know this has been a controversy, I don't feel comfortable to spend \$70,000 on a one year event. I feel like this should go to next year's base budget. We are not a concert venue. I believe the concert is also open to the public, so it won't affect all students, some of those who attend the concert are not students.

Dew: I support the concert. The university has been under construction since 1849. Yes, a large majority of the tickets go to none students but this event is catered to students and puts CCSU on the map. As states that is a cost that has never changed. It has always been \$70,000 each year. I will not take out the effects of the mistakes last year. The spring concert needs to carry

on, regarding the budget the finance committee should discuss that. The treasurer will take care of that. We need to remember that there will be money coming back from the Student Conference, now even more money will be coming back to the SGA. With the money coming back from the conference \$10,000-\$15,000 and the \$38,000 from tickets sales, the cost of the concert is the same as previous years. We can manage that, at this time. The overall budget situation has improved 75% of base budget requests are fulfilled, that way they can function better as a club. There was always the expectation coming into this year, seeing that clubs received a lot more money. We are scrutinizing over the new request because the clubs need to have responsibility over their budget, that's why we got rid of line items. It's the clubs issue if they spend the money on something and then want a contingency, that's on them and not our problem. With that the spring concert should go ahead regardless of how many throw up or get thrown out.

Morin: Explain the bid? And voting what does voting mean?

Kruh: A bid was extended without a motion, it was the fault of the members of the committee more specifically the members of the committee who are also on senate, if the senate votes no CAN will have to cover the entire cost of the concert, if it passes the costs will be split. It would be completely under CAN and CAN with my understanding would have enough money to cover it if they deplete their reserves. But it will completely destroy any relationship we have made with CAN over the last several years

Angelopoulos: How typical is it to spend all \$70,000

Kruh: Almost every year

Point Against

Brassell: Allow CAN to do what they are supposed to do and then let SGA do what they are supposed to do. I have been talking about this a lot. A senator told me it was not our business to know what is going on. I don't like that answer, I have not been informed and we were elected to serve the people. I understand we can't break confidentiality. I would like to be informed that bids are going out. I saw the senate tear itself apart from \$700. Hijacking normal procedure for what? All the points being made are problematic. We did it before is not an excuse we struck down tennis club. If it is not okay for \$700 then why is it \$70,000. It is misguided that a concert was enriched by concerts, I have never felt that way. I am not a better student because I saw a concert. Clubs on the other hand increased money to clubs have put us in that situation. We don't subsidize CAN or entertainers. Clubs enrich our clubs more than a concert. We are now losing money that can be spent on base budget or scholarships. At best we break even, we can polish a turd to a sheen that should be flushed before washing your hands. I am not an idiot, I feel that over the next couple years we should work our way out of the concert. We govern, CAN programs.

Points in favor:

Begic: I cannot stand the spring concert. You have to understand this collaboration all the negative that I see are coming from newer senators. You have to understand it's a large cost, and yes, we give it out every year. Yes, there is a committee and sorry they don't share its called keeping up the hype to get people interested and trying something new on the campus. I don't really care about the concert. Why would you want to break apart something the two groups have been working on so hard together? We have to govern, CAN has to program, then why do we give out co-sponsorships, if we only govern we might as well stop all co sponsorships includes Phi Delta whatever that frat's name is. Laugh at me I don't care, you are going to meet people outside of SGA, SGA has come such a long way that we know program events. We might as well stop all collaborations if you make that argument. They like hearing about these guessing games, the shirts and hanging out with their friends. Do not try to break this apart. This is such a good even. What more do I have to say to convince you, new senators don't see the relationship we have built.

Solano: Senator Mitchell Would you mind sharing your findings of the calculations you have been working on?

Mitchell: Our IRR is -45% based on the amendment and money coming back

Point of Parliamentary Inquiry

Long: Can I make stipulations that effect next year's senate?

Kruh: No

Sederaj: How will the seating happen?

Kruh: First come first serve, my understanding is no one sits, rather they all rush the area in front of the stage and pack in pretty tight. Concerts have been held in Welte before.

Points against

Mitchell: I do understand that we spend the same amount of money for something that only affects less than half the students. We should not be spending all that money on talent that only affects a smaller number of students. I am not comfortable at all. We should spend no more than \$40,000 on this event.

Point in Favor:

Long: I agree with the points, if I think about this now then, I am going to talk and try to get you on my side. Bids have gone out, that does not mean we have follow them, I don't like the spring concert in principle. I was going to say we cannot give them the same amount next year but I cannot do that. I would suggest that last year we did that this year. It is important and we should allow everyone to vote on this. I know some feel they don't have enough information

we are all senators here and need to vote with our own minds. I don't want to punish CAN for this year, that's on us. We should have told the committee before they even met. The conversations did not happen until after the fact we need to reach out ahead of time. We never told CAN we would not support the concert. I am very happy we were able to have a discussion

POI Sejdiraz —Will standing on seats cause them to break?

Kruh: SA/LD is not worried about it. But it was brought up in the committee meetings.

POI Mitchell: This relates to what you said, would we get the same voter turnout if we did not participate?

Kruh: the number one thing they ask us when they vote, is what the spring concert is and what the decisions are, if we don't have a hand in it the students wouldn't be happy

POI Long: Even if we do believe the SGA should fund the spring concert in the future we don't have to?

Kruh: Correct

Quintana POI to Scott Hazan

Quintana: what is the SAF of CAN?

Hazan: I believe \$248,000, let me confirm

Carbone: What is the SAF?

Kruh: It's the student activity fee it was \$70 we just increased it to \$100 per semester

Fruin: How much money do we have?

Kruh: 4 times the amount, based on the numbers Scott gave.

Parliamentary Inquiry- Quintana

What is the motion?

Kruh reads the motion aloud for the body

Points Against

Quintana:

Funding it in full would be irresponsible to an organization that has \$248,000 in their budget. We reject clubs base budgets, we don't fund budgets 100%. I don't want them to have more money when they have more money than last year and can afford this. We are running out of money and we can't do this because we are running out of money. Ladies and Gentlemen I cannot reconcile that. I urge rejection

POI

Begic: did you think about less amount would be acceptable like \$40,000 or \$50,000?

Kruh: Yes, a variety of different amounts, but we decided to keep it at the same amount, with talent costing \$100,000 and there may be a lesser cost because of Welte and audio-visual equipment.

POI

Long: We might not use all \$70,000

Kruh: Very possible.

Kruh: We are out of time, it is 5:55 and I have to leave for class and the Vice President has already left for a work obligation. Unless the treasurer wants to chair the rest of the meeting we will end it here. Actually, I will not be passing the chair to the treasurer, we will be ending this meeting now and the motion as reads will be placed under unfinished business for the start of the next meeting.

Motion reads:

Motion to allocate \$70,000 to the spring concert from SG9010 with the stipulation that ticket prices are \$20 for students and \$30 for guests. (Cappiello, Cusano)

--This motion has neither been approved nor denied it will be brought up next meeting for a vote--

Meeting ended 5:55pm