

# **WORCESTER POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTE**

## **29<sup>th</sup> Student Government Association**

23<sup>rd</sup> Meeting of the Twenty-Ninth Undergraduate Student Government Association

To be held in Salisbury Labs, Room 411

6:00 p.m. – December 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2019

- I. Call to Order
- II. Approval of the Minutes
- III. Public Comments
  - a. Workday
    - i. Veronica Brandstrader presented that there will be a workday demonstration on December 9<sup>th</sup> in the Hagglund room showing WPI's data in Workday. All record will be pulled from banner into workday, with all academic records. For those who cannot make it, there will be more demonstrations in the future. The plan is to have Spring Registration done in Workday, with all records and functionality in Workday. This will not be a separate entity from Workday for Student Employees. Questions should be directed to [workday@wpi.edu](mailto:workday@wpi.edu).
  - b. Office of Multicultural Affairs (OMA)
    - i. Tiffany Butler presented on the work being done in the OMA. Their focus is that higher education is necessary and provide assistance to all in higher education, define and provide access to scholarly materials, gain student feedback and provide students with the ability to have control over their education and life. The OMA's main focus is in undergraduate and graduate student programming, building relationships with pre-collegiate services, students, faculty and staff, and alumni. The OMA is being restructured and will serve under the Talent and Inclusion Office, and are in the process of hiring a 3<sup>rd</sup> professional staff in the OMA. The OMA's strategic initiatives are to establish an identity with the new structure, encompass all underrepresented students, build a foundation for sustainability to maintain the new structure, and partnering with the academic resources on campus. They are aiming for strategic hire with Assessment, LGBTQIAP+, and First Generation Students. They have created multiple advisory boards, such as the Inclusive Community Council, the Multicultural Advisory Committee, and the Diversity Equity and Inclusion Council to provide a greater structure to promote inclusion. Please direct any questions about the OMA to [tbutler@wpi.edu](mailto:tbutler@wpi.edu).
- IV. Special Orders
- V. President's Report
  - a. 29<sup>th</sup> Senate in Review
    - i. This senate, SGA changed their structure, completed 20 projects, and put on many great events. Senators learned how to act in SGA and Robert's Rules, and helped move SGA forward as an organization. On behalf of the Executive Board, President Wilson thanked all senators for their work and dedication for SGA.

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- b. Goats Head Award
    - i. The winner of the Goats Head Award is Lauren Guerrero for her hard work in Senate, Financial Board, and as the Financial Board Secretary.
  - c. Chair of the Term
    - i. This term's Chairs of the Term are Chair Cataldo and Chair Cannata for their work with running and publicizing both exec and senator elections.
- VI. Vice President's Report
- a. Senator of the Term
    - i. Congratulations to Marc Rosenthal for all of his work with the Student Life Fee project.
  - b. Study Hours
    - i. Vice President Toomey will be hosting SGA Study Hours on Thursday December 5<sup>th</sup> from 6-11 in HL 202.
- VII. Secretary's Report
- a. Guess the SGA Member
- VIII. Treasurer's Report
- a. Financial Thanks
    - i. Treasurer Candy thanked everyone on Financial Board, and to the Financial Cluster Chairs.
- IX. Parliamentarian's Report
- a. Trivia Results
    - i. This Semester's trivia winner is Senator Puhalski.
- X. Cluster Reports
- a. Student Services Cluster
    - i. Thank You – Chair Tavares
      - 1. Chair Tavares thanked everyone in the Student Services cluster for their help and patience. This was the best year for Town Halls, the most successful pep rally, and it couldn't have been done without all those who helped.
    - b. Internal Services Cluster
      - i. Thank You – Chair Cannata
        - 1. Chair Cannata thanked everyone that worked on Communications for their dedication and hard work to make this year's elections the most successful.
        - ii. Farewell Address – Chair Cataldo
          - 1. Chair Cataldo spoke to all the senators, encouraging them to run for positions they would like, and pursue changes they would like to see.
        - iii. Chair Tavares
    - c. Financials Cluster
      - i. Thank You – All Chairs
        - 1. Chair Racca, on behalf of all of the financial chairs, thanked all senators, other chairs, and Treasurer candy for their contributions in financials.

XI. Faculty, Institute, and Special Committees

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### XII. Old Business

#### a. S.15 Student Life Fee

##### i. **Motion to follow the recommendation of the Financial Board and keep the same Student Life Fee of \$316.00**

###### 1. **Pros:**

- Students would like to keep the same cost of the Student Life Fee.

###### 2. **Outcome:**

- **Motion Passed**

### XIII. New Business

#### a. S.16 F.175 Appeal (Students for Life, \$2,020.36)

##### i. **Purpose of Funds:**

1. These funds will go towards registration for a national conference. Part of the request was amended out due to part of the request being paid for. They misspoke and did not pay for any of the request. And therefor are appealing for the cost of what was amended.
2. Even though the hotels were booked, there were no charges. They also received a statement for registration from the conference, but it is not paid for as that statement has not been returned

##### ii. **Questions/Points of Information:**

1. Is there a difference between what was requested and what was approved?
  - This appeal is only for the two items that did not pass during Financial Board.

##### iii. **Motion to amend the conference down to 66% of the total cost, making the total cost of the conference to \$343.84**

###### 1. **Pros:**

- This motion follows our bylaws

###### 2. **Outcome:**

- **Motion Passed. Cost of the conference will be amended down to \$343.78**

##### iv. **Motion to amend the cost of the shirts and hotel down to what was heard in Financial Board**

###### 1. **Motion Passed. New Request is \$1656.16**

##### v. **Pros:**

1. This conference fulfills the purpose of the club.

##### vi. **Outcome:**

###### 1. **Motion Passed for \$1656.16**

#### b. S.17 Black Student Union (\$28,500.00)

##### i. **Purpose of Funds:**

1. Black Student Union is requesting funds for their annual BSU Fashion Show. Their programming is meant to educate campus on the history of BSU's culture. This year's theme is Night At the Museum, and will be on April 18<sup>th</sup> 2020 in Alden Hall. Many people

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were unable to attend in Harrington Auditoriu due to security, and are moving to Alden Hall. This event will have poetry, fashion, spoken word, and singing to showcase culture. They are bringing local designers, and are having designers in different styles. They would also like to have a performer. Their performers are small scale artists that are still known. They have raised a total of \$1,507 from outside sources. The total cost of the event is \$40,366.10, and already have \$9,936.59. The fashion Show this year is cheaper than last year, but the content of the event will still be entertaining.

ii. **Questions:**

1. If this request was approved, would BSU still try to reach out to other departments for more funding?
  - They have reached out to Residential Services and the OMA, and have stated that they are willing to give funding to this event.
2. Are tickets being sold?
  - Tickets for WPI students will be \$5. The after-party will be free with a recommended donation of \$3. Outside people will be sold tickets for \$10 and \$5 for the after-party
3. What is the benefit of the after-party?
  - The social event gives people a place to express themselves with black culture. This has been a successful aspect of the event in the past.
4. What is the timeline for price ranges for artists.
  - The artists are between \$15,000 and \$25,000, and are requesting now to ensure these costs.
5. How many people can attend the event in Alden Memorial?
  - 500 Students.
6. How many students outside of WPI are expected?
  - Roughly 100 outside students.
7. What has been the attendance at previous Fashion Shows.
  - In Harrington, they were unable to have their goal of 850 students due to security.
  - In Alden Memorial, they sold out the event.
8. Are ticket sales going to donations or to fund the event?
  - They will go to fund the event.
9. How much of the ticket sales are being donated?
  - Ticket sales will not be donated for the Fashion Show.  
Only after-party tickets for WPI students will be donated.
10. If BSU receives higher sales than expected, will extra ticket sales roll back to SGA?
  - We will only transfer funds for the money they spend from SGA, not including the cost from outside sources and ticket sales.

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11. Can we ensure that ticket sales would offset the cost of non-WPI students?
  - SGA cannot ensure that. Tickets could be sold out to only WPI students, but we cannot guarantee that?
12. What was the cost of the artist last year?
  - They only had a host, not an artist. That host costed \$10,000
13. What cost of the after-party is in the funding request?
  - The cost of facilities, security, police, and EMS. They also have a separate cost for the after-party's DJ.
14. Have we funded the after-party in the past?
  - Not directly. SGA paid for food for the volunteers, the stage, and lighting. We already paid for those, so they could have been used for the after-party
15. How would this after-party be different than other events like this?
  - We have not funded this kind of event with other large-scale events.
16. Campus Police has a minimum cost. Would the length of the event reach that minimum cost?
  - The event would run long past the minimum.
17. What is the total occupancy in Alden?
  - 500 people. This event would
18. Why does BSU want to hire 3 WPI police officers and 3 Worcester police officers?
  - If there are not enough officers from WPI to help, they will need to pay for Worcester Police Officers.

iii. **Points of Information:**

1. The suggested donation is different than the ticket costs for the event.
2. We shouldn't correlate two different events.
3. The After-party's donations are going to a good cause.

iv. **Pros:**

1. BSU have put in a lot of work in the past for this event, and the event has gotten serious recognition and awards for the event.
2. This large event would satisfy students who want large campus-wide events.
3. This is a cultural event, and having a cultural event without music would not make sense. The cost of this request is reasonable as well.
4. Art will also be highlighted at this event, which is a great way to showcase culture as well as music.

v. **Cons:**

1. There is no point of the after-party.
2. It is not a good idea to pass this event when we just denied Big Show, a similar event.

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3. SGA funds should not go towards an event for people outside of WPI.
  - vi. **Outcome**
    1. **Motion Passed**
  - c. S.18 Financials 101
    - i. Treasurer Candy stated that this document summarizes all relevant financial information to serve as a tool for clubs who deal with funds from SGA.
    - ii. **Motion to approve the Financials 101 Document**
      1. Senator Guerrero asked if stickers will be included?
        - Treasurer Candy answered that the decision of stickers is one for the next financial Board.
    2. **Pros:**
      - Financial Board has put in lots of work to best provide information to clubs on how SGA financials works.
    3. **Outcome:**
      - **Motion Passed**
  - d. Senior Sendoff Presentation
- XIV. Questions, Comments and Ideas
- a. Treasurer Candy is looking forward to the 30<sup>th</sup> Senate. Elected Senators should fill out the forms Vice President Elect Serven has sent out. Anyone interested in being in SGA should fill out an application on TechSync. Anyone interested in being the Technical Coordinator, Accountant, or Financial Board Secretary should reach out to Treasurer Candy.
  - b. Senator Puhalski is looking for someone to help out with the newsletter project. Anyone interested should reach out to Senator Puhalski
- XV. Announcements
- a. Chair Tavarez announced that tonight at 9PM in the CRC will be the Russian Midnight Breakfast.
  - b. Thank Kap Its Friday will be on Friday December 6<sup>th</sup> from 8AM to 1PM outside the campus Center.
- XVI. Advisor's Remarks
- a. Today is Giving Day, and Advisor Sharry suggests students should donate to different challenges to raise more money for WPI. She also wishes everyone a great break. She thanked everyone for their work, and has loves seeing all the works senators and Cabinet has done for campus.
- XVII. President's Remarks
- a. President Wilson, in her final remarks, encouraged all senators to get to know faculty and administration, make new connections, and have fun doing the work in SGA with incredible people. She thanked the seniors for their work and impact on SGA, and encourages all to stay in touch.
- XVIII. Adjournment

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