



Student Senate Minutes
2 February 2006

I. Prayer/ Minutes/ Roll

- Motion to approve minutes
- Second
- All votes in favor

II. Executive Reports

(Joe Casey):

1. Omnibus bill is not happening because of time

2. Commuter Senator Bill Patchcoski resigned because of a schedule conflict. We will be accepting nominations for the next two weeks for the new commuter senator. They will need a resume and a personal statement.

a. President's Report

i. Executive Appointments

1. We're sorry to see Brian go and we look forward to working with the new senator

2. As you all know, Tessa Kelly and Sam Barrett have resigned their positions for the semester. We have asked Noreen O'Hagan and Ian Mullin to take over their positions, pending your approval.

3. We would like to try something different today and have our executives each give a report, pending the approval of the senate.

4. Nomination on the floor to appoint Noreen O'Hagan as Secretary of Student Government

- Motion to approve
- Motion to second
- All in favor: 21
- Opposed: 0
- Abstentions: 0

5. Nomination on the floor to appoint Ian Mullin as Director of Communication of Student Government

- Motion to approve (Tim Hayden)
- Motion to second (Colleen Rengert)
- All in favor: 21
- Opposed: 0
- Abstentions: 0

6. The Heritage Committee is working on a proposal right now, and will have it in the next few weeks.

7. Joe and I met this week with the Chief of Police. We were very pleased with the outcome of this meeting. We shared concerns with creating an atmosphere of mutual respect. We will try to

become more proactive with our relationship. He provided us with information regarding policies and copies of ordinances, ranging from having indoor furniture outside, to pollution.

8. I have been working on the Student Bill of Rights with Tim. We rethought the concept, and we think it will not be a draft Bill of Rights but rather a reference of responsibilities and things for students to know. It can serve as an educational tool.

9. Joe and I attended a conference at Loyola Chicago for the Student Governments of Jesuit Universities. There were representatives from nine of the schools. The conference made us really grateful for our system. We drafted a statement at the conference about the student aid cuts, which can be found in the packet. The cuts were passed, which means an average of \$5,000 increase for each student. Our next step is to learn about consolidation and loans that are available.

10. We are working on the Legal Assistance Program and an advertisement will be published for an attorney in legal classifieds.

(Casey): any questions?

No questions

b. Treasurer's Report (Walter Banta)

- December and January have been slow months
- Liva Arts is working on their next production
- The club allocation process will be starting soon
- (Bill): when will that start?
- (Banta): You will hear about it. Maybe the first week in April
- (Dan): The International Business club money – when was it spent and what was it spent on?

c. Secretary's Report

- Noreen O'Hagan – I don't have much to report considering that I just started. I have one reminder: The annual Student Government dinner will be on April 30th.
- Casey – any questions?

d. Director of Communication's Report

- Ian Mullin – The Heritage Calendar raised \$5,000, with a cost of \$1,000, giving us a profit of \$4,000 to donate to ISP. This is two times more than Student Government gave last year. We are slowly getting new orders in and so we have ordered twenty additional copies of the calendar.
- Also, we are still working on getting our meeting aired, but there is still difficulty getting them on the station.
- Casey – any questions?

e. Director of Technology's Report

- Joe Casabona – We have launched a new press release blog. I am working on a new server with Dr. Plishka in order to have a more dynamic site. I will try to get the Senate videos online, by either using a compressed file, or having clips. Overall it should be a more informative website.
- Casey – any questions?
- (?) – aren't the bios supposed to be on the website
- Casabona – yes, when you click on the names you will see a picture and a brief bio.

III. Senate Standing Committees

- a. Academic Affairs (Colleen Rengert)
- Right now we are seeing about a CPS advisor
- b. Appropriations (Joe Sweeney)
 - Sweeney – committee has not met yet
- c. Ignatian Awareness (Tim Hayden)
 - Hayden – nothing to report yet. The committee plans to meet soon.
- d. Residence Life and Dining Services (Steve Clark)
 - Clark – The committee hasn't met yet. They are trying to improve as much as possible
- e. Safety and Crime Prevention (Greg Aughenbaugh)
 - Aughenbaugh – The committee hasn't met yet. They plan on meeting sometime next week. The main focus will be on vandalism off-campus, and they will see what they can do to help.

IV. University Wide Committees

- ? – There have been students participating in a search for a new Provost. Fr. Pilarz announced today during his State of the University address that the search is going well, and invites students to meet with potential candidates for the position.
- The future of Intersession committee has been meeting to discuss Intersession. It will be in place next year, but they will continue to examine its importance and whether or not it is worth continuing in the future.
- The University Council will meet tomorrow at 3:15 in this room.

V. Old Business (Legislation on Second Reading)

- No old business

VI. New Business (Legislation on First Reading)

a. Senbill.001.06 – Appropriation of Funds to the Physical Therapy Club

- John – The officer from last year never filled out the form for allocations. They did not require funding during the Fall Semester, but they will need funds in order to run their annual university wide volleyball marathon. The proceeds of the event are given to charities, including Ronald McDonald house and for Cystic Fibrosis and Muscular Dystrophy. They will need money for mailing and printing for the event.
- Casey – open to discussion
- Chris ? – Where is the event held?
- John – In the Byron
- Greg ? – Motion to second
- Dan ? – second
- All for: 21
- Opposed: 0
- Abstentions: 0

b. Senbill.002.06 – Appropriation of Funds to the Martial Arts Club

- Chris Molitoris – The Martial Arts Club is open to the whole university. It specializes in Tae Kwon Do every morning. The club needs money to purchase belts for those who pass tests, which is kind of a graduation from each stage.
- Solomeno – what belt are you? Just kidding.
- Casey – There has been much miscommunication. They did not have all the numbers and figures.
- Steve – How much is it for 1 belt?
- Molitoris – It is about five to ten dollars per belt, with twenty five to thirty candidates, depending on how many.
- Joe – can we table this
- Casey – They need money for belts
- Steve – Would it deter membership if members had to pay for their own belts?
- Casey – Does the club collect dues?
- Dempsey – That is an important thing to find out
- Solomeno – They contacted us two days before last month’s appropriations meeting. Everything was taken care of at that time, but because of the appropriations timeline, they couldn’t receive funding.
- Rob – Motion to second
- Christy – second
- Hayden – They already completed service.
- Christy – Motion to approve
- Ali – Second
- All for: 20
- Opposed: 0
- Abstentions: 1 (Molitoris)

VII. Senate Forums (Items for discussion)

a. Spring Semester Goals

- Solomeno – I just wanted to discuss some of the goals we have to think about for the coming semester.
 - Legal assistance program
 - Heritage week proposal
 - Going into off-campus community
- Thanks for the blue powerade
- (1)Christy – This is directed towards Colleen – You mentioned you had a desire for more school spirit. Our basketball teams are both phenomenal. Can we do something in anticipation of their success, such as organizing a bus?
- Hayden – We had a meeting with Alumni. Since we don’t have a football team, we were thinking about maybe starting a homecoming game for basketball.
- Solomeno - Would that have already happened?
- Colleen – We would want to do it at the end of February.
- Hayden – Or at the beginning of the year, so that it would take place regardless of the team’s success level.

- Steve – In past years we did things like give away shirts and towels at games. I think a bus would be a good idea
- Allie – For next year.
- Joe – during my sophomore year, there was a spirit club
- Casey – maybe we could form an ad hoc spirit club (Joe is chair, Bill, Colleen, Tim, etc are members)
- Anitra – Scranton emerging leader committee also have idea for school spirit. Maybe it can be a collaborative thing
- Casey – committee will meet with Joe after the meeting

2. (Solomeno) – as of now the Freshman are working on a calls of 2009 newsletter. It is mostly done, and they are just working on html file, which can possibly be on the student government website.

- Freshman forum on March 1
- Fundraisers – competitions between dorms
- Trying to work with Colin to plan a field day
- Work on class affinity – want to answer questions such as the new Gunster building
- Casey – commends freshman

3. (Solomeno) – we got an idea at the conference – because all class representatives are on equal footing, do you think it's important to have a class president and vice president?

- Greg – it might be better that students elect 4 separate representatives.
- Maybe for the senior class they could have 1 president and 3 representatives
- Colleen – It could be good with some classes. People don't realize when they run that they are all equal. It might be hard to change for senior year. We would have to publicize it. I have mixed feelings
- Vinny – I am back and forth with the issue. I know from being in the position that all representatives have equal responsibilities, and we see that in freshman elections that more people run for president and vice president than senators
- Kevin – come back
- Bill – I don't know about getting rid of them all together. Maybe we can get rid of running with a running mate.
- Tim – I really enjoyed having a running mate. Those two people know each other well and work together well. Maybe we could have 4 senators running together, or 2 and 2.
- Casey – Who's running for?
- Ali – instead of calling them representatives, call them by more appealing titles
- Lindsay – We could have a separate vote in May to pick the student speaker at graduation
- Steve- make more official responsibilities
- Each year there's a different interest level
- Kevin – start next year. As a sophomore it would be nice if the President and Vice President had scheduled office hours and drop in hours to have more class unity and making them more accessible
- Vinny – that's an excellent idea, and the freshman senators have already scheduled office hours

- Dan – for the voting thing, can you already say like only 2 people are running for senator, but 6 people are running for president and vice president
- Vinny – it depends on interest. One thing that stays constant is that you don't know who you're running against until petitions are signed
- Mario – having a running mate was the best thing, especially for freshman because it would be too much stress without
- Bill – I officially withdraw my comment

4. (Colleen) – I talked to you in a mass e-mail about the possibility of a Junior class website

- Vinny – class webpage section is ok. The section with the forum raises some issues on having students post freely on a University webpage.
- Colleen – will it be on the Scranton webpage?
- Vinny – we'll talk later
- Anitra – student page help with forum like freshman

5. (Vinny) – Just to recap: we want more school spirit (we'll look into a bus and the spirit committee), class officer office hours, and forums. Our community agenda is to recognize Ignation identity, promote Scranton spirit, support athletic teams, recognizing academic success, ensure student security, improve relationship with the chief of police, improve life. Please send anymore goals to move forward.

6. Chris – presentation about vision of Scranton – RA's – goal of government to get involved with community and local businesses. City of Scranton Committee – student liaison to city – local business director to attract students to businesses

- Casey – we'll do some research

VIII. Adjournment

- Motion to adjourn (Dempsey)
- Motion to second (Hayden)
- All in favor – 21
- Opposed – 0
- Abstentions - 0