



Student Senate Meeting
16 February 2006

I. Prayer, Minutes, Roll

- Motion to approve minutes (Meade)
- Second (Dan ?)
- All in favor, motion passes

II. Executive reports

A. Presidents Report (Solomeno)

1. We welcome guests who have joined us tonight.
2. We have worked with Dean McShea on the Legal Assistance Program, and an advertisement for the attorney position has been listed in a Lackawanna County Legal Journal.
3. We will be starting to hold on and off campus forums that will address issues with police, and our goal for creating a more welcoming environment.
4. Tonight we have the duty of filling the seat of Brian Patchcoski. It will be your duty to select the new commuter senator.
5. Shannon Sennefelder, our Administrative Assistant has taken a full-time position with the business school, and so she will be leaving us.
6. Ackerman: Who will replace Shannon?
7. Solomeno: The listing for her position has been posted on the Human Resources website
8. Rengert: How will you publicize the off-campus forums?
9. Solomeno: We will advertise the Friday before each meeting. This weekend is Clay Avenue. We also contacted the RAs about the on-campus forums.
10. Dr. Carilli: Students are invited to Shannon's going away/birthday party on Wednesday at 2:30.
11. Solomeno: At the back of your packet you will see a proposal from Dr. Baillie.

B. Treasurer's Report (Banta): I do not have too much to report. There is a letter about the allocation process. We need to focus on the importance of spending money, what we are spending it on and work on consolidation of clubs. I want feedback. There is a rough appropriation time-line in the packet and there will be a meeting in April in Brennan for the club officers.

C. Secretary's Report (O'Hagan): Over the past two weeks I've been planning the forums and making arrangements with catering.

D. Director of Communication's Report (Mullin): I met with Anitra about trying to get the meetings aired. The calendars are still on sale if you want to buy one. There will be press releases coming out.

E. Director of Technology's Report (Casabona): I added all the bills and agendas to the website and I'm working on getting the minutes up. I went to a RNN meeting to find out about getting the meetings on the website. I will be holding a class webpage workshop on Thursday March 9 in Gunster 225.

III. Senate Committees

A. Academic Affairs (Rengert): We discussed the PCPS advising. We want to send out a survey. We also have an idea regarding book buy back.

- Solomeno: Stop and see us about the PCPS advising.

B. Appropriations (Sweeney): This is an off-week.

C. Ignation Awareness: Nothing to report

D. Residence Life and Dining Services (Clark): We are ironing out a plan for a cafeteria night. We will have a survey in the cafeteria, and have some kind of prize. We just want to get the committee out there and find out concerns.

- Dean McShea: Aramark might be of help with the survey.
- Clark: We are looking for students' general needs.

E. Safety and Crime Prevention (Aughenbaugh): We are working with concerns about fire escapes in the Linden apartments.

F. Ad Hoc Committees

- Spirit Committee (Joswick): Colleen and I hung up posters. Congratulations to our swimmers who did awesome this weekend. We are throwing around the idea about a bus.

VI. Senate Forum

a. Presentation of the new student center and parking related issues: (Dr. Carilli, Marty Langan, Chief Pomager, Sharon Evans)

Dr. Carilli: (presentation of Student Center and parking plans)

- Our current building places us at a competitive disadvantage. The student center has evolved as an important recruitment element.
- The current building was built in 1960 when we had only 228 residential students. We have many more students now.
- We want to transform campus. The goal is to create and nurture community.
- The designers we chose have built 30 campus centers.
- We chose the Gunster and library parking lots as the site so that service in Gunster is not interrupted.
- The project creates campus green where the current building stands.
- The building will cost \$30 million. The basement will feature storage, building support, multipurpose room. The 1st floor will be retail dining area and seating, mail room, bookstore, convenient store. The 2nd floor will have atrium space, campus ministry, student affairs, fireplace lounge, newspaper, women's center, meeting rooms, etc. 3rd floor: residential dining program, more seating, fresh food company, all you can eat, faculty/staff dining room. The 4th floor will have a ballroom, auditorium, meeting rooms, and atrium, and patio.
- Davis: I am happy to see that there's a cross on the building.
- Timeframes: We plan to break ground this spring and it will take about 14 to 18 months. It should be completed in the fall of 2007.
- Parking is a challenge. There is no good solution about how we will conserve money and accommodate students. We will lose 194 spaces.
- Some options we have considered are: (1) lease space from city, but the spaces are too remote. (2) We could build small temporary lots, but that would remove green space, and raises concerns about distance, cost, and security. (3) Renting spaces from commercial parking, (4) limit the number of permits.
- The solution we came up with is to convert Fitzpatrick Field and Poly Hi lots for sophomore parkers. There are 215 to 220 sophomore resident parkers, and if we stop public use of the spaces, we will reclaim 198 spaces. It will cost \$264,000 to pave, and we will lose \$62,000 from renters. We will add security, lights, cameras and paths. There is not a lot of activity, so we will cover areas during high use times. The advantage of this solution is that it gives space, only sophomores are impacted, a shuttle is not needed, and public safety can oversee it at peak hours, and have a safety escort. The disadvantage is that it is inconvenient.
- The field will be converted over the summer. We can limit sophomore permits and adjust parking regulations. We will talk to students, and consider other thoughts for after construction, such as what are new regulations, building a new garage, and regulating parking.
- Joswick: What is the possibility of building a parking garage behind Redington and St Thomas? We will lose revenue each year by not renting that lot. Is there an alternate field that will be used for sports teams?
- Dr. Carilli: That is a long-term solution. The school has 3 new projects: a science center in St. Thomas parking, a new residence hall, and parking garage that will be a \$10-15 million project. This is just a temporary solution.
- Solomeno: Just to clarify, the parking is in lots and not on the fields.
- Dr. Carilli: The spaces are where you look down on Fitzpatrick Field from the Radisson. We would improve the lots.
- Dempsey: I have a concern with going down to Fitz. Will you create walking bridge over tracks?
- Dr. Carilli: We have talked with railroad authority about that.

- Meade: With the current parking system, you can park in any University lot with your sticker. Will sophomores have different stickers?
- Dr. Carilli: People will be classified into 2 categories.
- Molitoris: Where do commuters currently park?
- Evans: Commuters can park in the garage or in other lots.
- Davis: Will students have to walk on the tracks after parking in the lot? It is bad walking bad from practice at the field. Can we use something else?
- Chief Pomager: We will fix the area's lighting, and add emergency phones, and security.
- Davis: When we leave practice we lock the gate to the field.
- Clark: Sophomores will not be able to park in Redington?
- Chief Pomager: There will be a special decal for each.
- Clark: I am concerned about safety. I don't think it will be safer with more lighting.
- Chief Pomager: The lighting issue came up in the past and we only found one place on campus that needed more lighting. We will work on the blue light issue.
- Clark: I am very concerned. Who uses the escort program?
- Dr. Carilli: Safety is high on our list, but we have no better solution that meets our needs. We will eventually think about working on a new garage.
- Meyer: I have a lot of safety concerns. Can we look into something constant, like a guard point or public safety station to monitor the lot? Will students have to show Royal card or sticker, and can we always have someone there? We already have the staff.
- Chief Pomager: We will look into that. We will have to add more staff.
- Meyer: Even if we add staff, it is worth it to have safety.
- Davis: The corner of Lackawanna Avenue is a shady area. For safety, maybe we should collaborate with the Scranton Police. It's not the greatest of areas.
- Ferrise: I know at Fordham they have their own security service with fenced in lot and gate. Can we do something like that? Is the lot fenced in?
- Chief Pomager : There will be a fence.
- Solomeno: Thanks for coming. I understand this is the best for the situation. Will there be blue lights?
- Chief Pomager: Yes and camera coverage.
- Solomeno: I know there is a reality of budget, but if possible can cameras cover the whole lot?
- Chief Pomager: Each lot is different. We'll have zoom capabilities and whole lot coverage. We will continue to upgrade our cameras to color, zoom, and tilt.
- Solomeno: Will there also be someone watching the cameras from the office?
- Chief Pomager: Yes, officers can watch.
- Solomeno: Will there be an increase in the price of permit?
- Dr. Carilli: As of now, no for students. There might be an increase for faculty.
- Solomeno: What is the long-term solution for sophomore on-campus parking? Will there be a new lot?
- Dr. Carilli: Yes, it might be a lot in the future. Our focus is on the Madison lot. There is a potential 1,200 cars in a garage in that location. The only question is what to do with the surface lot while building the garage.
- Akerman: What is the timeline for building a new lot? It will get worse as more students enroll.
- Dr. Carilli: Enrollment is steady. Our next project after the student center is to start work with a new thing like science center. Then we need a permanent solution to parking. It will be number two compared to more important projects.
- Davis: When my parents come to visit, they park in Gunster. Will this effect them?
- Dr. Carilli: There are visitor spots around campus. On weekends there are less parking issues.
- Rengert: Will the Redington lot become a commuter lot?
- Dr. Carilli: It will be for anyone but sophomores.
- Rengert: Commuters wouldn't be there on weekends, so can sophomores park there over weekends?

- Chief Pomager: That is a good idea, but we have a hard time with snow bans. If everyone followed the rules, there would be no problems.
- Dr. Carilli: It is a good idea, but there will be problems Sunday night if they don't move.
- Rengert: There won't be problems if you're consistent with tickets.
- Clark: I think you should really listen to Kevin and Mario. You are asking someone to be down there all the time. It would be important to trade off inconvenience with having good security.
- Solomeno: I understand but the reality of a guard is costly. Resources could be better spent. Chief, how often to you patrol?
- Chief Pomager: During peak hours, evening and weekend. An escort is always available. Students can call from Scranton Expressway, and have an officer waiting for them in the lot.
- Solomeno: You should put up big sign telling about escort. Could you put in a gate that would open with card?
- Chief: What is the good of that?
- Solomeno: There would be less theft, and serve the purpose of deterring bad people.
- Dr. Carilli: People could still walk into the lot from bad areas.
- Solomeno: It would be more difficult.
- Chief Pomager: The types of damage we see are broken windows and grab and go thefts. There hasn't been dedicated effort to steal stereos. We'll look at possibilities of a gate.
- Solomeno: We haven't experienced these in the past, but we've never had a lot like this.
- Meyer: What's the point of a fence without a gate.
- Molitoris: In the campus center theatre, is there stadium seating?
- Dr. Carilli: The seating is scalloped. It is sloped, but not steep.
- Webby: Will the Liva productions be moved?
- Dr. Carilli: No, there's a stage but not a fully functional stage.
- Ferrise: What will the bookstore be converted into? Could it be a parking lot, or used for class space?
- Dr. Carilli: We have not gotten to that yet
- Meade: In the campus center will there be opportunities to purchase something like the bricks by the fountain?
- Dr. Carilli: We have thought about it, and may have something we can engrave inside.
- Clark: What is the cost of a new public safety staff member?
- Chief Pomager: About \$50,000 - \$55,000. It would cost \$200,000 plus, for 4 employees
- Clark: How does that compare to the price of a gate?
- Chief Pomager: It would probably be about \$75,000.
- Clark: If the University is willing to spend \$240,000 for parking, it should spend \$200,000 on safety.
- Solomeno: It is \$60,000 for new staff member? What is the average salary for a public safety officer?
- Chief Pomager: \$9.50/hour
- Solomeno: That doesn't add up. The campus center retail dining, will it be a la cart, flex and cash, or incorporate the meal plan?
- Dr. Carilli: It will not be an equivalency, but rather an exchange. It will be a possibility to use the meal plan, but it will be a little different than we have now.
- Pacheco: Is it possible to have 24 hour staff only on weekends?
- Rengert: I support Steve. No one will want to come here if safety decreases. In the new cafeteria, is it all you can eat? I live off campus, and do not have a meal plan. Sometimes I have lunch in the cafeteria. Do you have to pay the full \$8 to eat lunch there?
- Carilli: Yes, but you could get a block meal plan like 30 meals a semester.
- Rengert: Will there be meal plans like that?
- Carilli: Yes, there will be block meal plans of meals per semester, rather than meals per week.
- Ferrise: This is a private institution. Is there any way to secure grant money through the state to get security, like at Scranton High School?
- Dr. Carilli: There is a program like that that we will research.

- Bauer: With the new meal plans, will students have a greater amount of flex because of the wider variety of options?
- Dr. Carilli: Yes, the meal plan will change.
- Solomeno: Thanks for keeping us involved.
- Dr. Carilli: You had some good suggestions that we will explore. This is a great project with some inconveniences but the end result will be phenomenal.
- Casey: Thank you for coming.

VI. New Business (Legislation on First Reading)

A. Petition for Charter - Roller Hockey (represented by Chris Walls)

- Walls: Thank you student government for allowing me to come here today. We would like to start a roller hockey club because there is an interest for it, and it is less expensive than ice hockey. Ice hockey costs about \$500 to play, and roller hockey will be around \$200. We will also collect member dues. The club is open to women, and we have no women's ice hockey team. It is a growing sport with high interest.
- Molitoris: It is about \$1,000 to play ice hockey. Where will the team play?
- Walls: There is a roller rink at the Ice Box which is \$150 per hour to rent.
- Bauer: There are no women's names on this sheet. Will they join?
- Walls: There is a roller hockey facebook club, and there are girls in it. Many people don't know about it. I want to pass out flyers, and advertise in the Aquinas.
- Banta: Is there a league that you would play other schools?
- Walls: Yes, there is an Eastern Region League. Binghamton University plays at ice box once a week and they are willing to split time. I have a friend who plays at Albany and they always are looking for teams to play.
- Pacheco: Do guys and girls play together?
- Walls: Yes, we would follow league rules. We will play 4-on-4, non-check.
- Rengert: You say that you will collect dues. You will use money from dues quickly. When you
- Walls: We will be self-sufficient, and have fundraisers.
- Joswick: Thank you for sitting here all this time. How many people will be involved?
- Walls: About 16 people, and more people are interested. There will probably be about 30 people.
- Solomeno: Thanks. How has it not taken off already? Do you need a charter to play?
- Walls: A group used to play at the tennis courts. I just started to look into it.
 - Motion to approve (Clark)
 - Second (Joswick)
 - All 15 votes in favor, motion passes
- Dean McShea: The club needs a new charter petition with names because of an ineligible student. As long as he re-submits with accurate names it is fine.

B. Discussion & Vote on Commuter Senator Vacancy

- Casey: You will find cover letters and resumes of each candidate in your packet. The senators that submitted their nomination will speak on the behalf of their candidate. Minutes will be waived during this part of the meeting.

VII. Senate Forum

- Solomeno: We have some things to discuss, such as the Ignatian College proposal, clubs, and dead week. I would like to open the floor for discussion about Dr. Baillie's proposal.
- Dempsey: What are we talking about? Do we advocate it?
- Solomeno: I just want to open a preliminary discussion and we will submit a resolution next time.
- Dempsey: I think it is good.
- Aughenbaugh: We should refer this to the Ignation Awareness Committee for their thoughts first.
- Joswick: I'm pre-law, and we have a weak advising program vs. pre-med. If this helps it along, I think it's great.

- Clark: I saw the article in the Aquinas against it. I think this is a great idea, and is what our University is all about. It is working together to streamline concerns, and will develop into something crucial for University. We should pass something for the Provost.
- Olechna: I agree with Christy that we should do something like this.
- Molitoris: I read the article. It says it will be costly and this is something that should have happened already. It goes beyond getting programs together, it's about advocating for programs so they run well. I support it and think Student Government should respond.
- Searles: Are there any volunteers to work with Ignation Awareness Committee?
- Solomeno: Do you think you could write legislation for the next meeting?
- Dean McShea: This is a wonderful opportunity to explain this to the student body, and talk this up to your fellow students.
- Dempsey: Maybe we should wait before writing legislation. We will need more feedback before the next meeting.
- Solomeno: We can't depend only on surveys. I think it's important to have legislation for the next meeting.
- Dempsey: We can meet sometime in the middle of next week. Please e-mail any feedback.
- Joswick: Colleen and I are writing a counter argument for the Aquinas.
- Molitoris: Tomorrow Dr. Baillie is available at 8am.
- Dean McShea: Tomorrow is his interview for Vice President of affairs.
- Solomeno: Tonight we chartered the roller hockey club. Walter pointed out that we are running out of money. We need to talk about changing practices because we can't continue to sustain clubs the way we are now. Chris said he won't ask for funds but at some point, they are eligible to receive funding. We need to keep in mind the idea of consolidating clubs.
- Clark: My suggestion would be to make a rule that if a club is chartered, they can't ask for money that semester, or even extend that until the end of the budget year. We can also make it a more scrupulous process to re-charter.
- Molitoris: If a club asks for money, and we approve it, why is there unused money?
- Solomeno: They just don't use it.
- Molitoris: can we re-claim money
- Casey: We do.
- Molitoris: Can we institute a type of debit card system?
- Banta: Student government money is all in the same account. We reserve money for different things, but the money isn't transferred. They use a purchase requisition form, and if they don't use the money, they lose it.
- Molitoris: Do you have a concern of over allocating?
- Banta: We do over allocate, but they don't spend it or they lose track. Personally don't agree with over allocating
- Dempsey: We could have an end of year allocation. We could charter some clubs in the 1st semester, some in the 2nd, to discourage less enthusiastic clubs.
- Webby: Some freshman might be able to start clubs at the beginning of the year because it takes a while to find people who share your interest.
- Clark: If you know what you're doing, you'll ask for more money than you need for a cushion.
- Ferrise: Can we have penalties for clubs who don't meet their service requirements?
- Banta: I would have no problem with that
- Ferrise: We could make harsher penalties.
- Banta: I think they should receive no funding at all.
- Aughenbaugh: Clubs that do not complete their service become inactive and then re-charter next year, and get funds. It becomes a cycle.
- Joswick: We should be stricter with clubs and see who is serious. We can increase number of club activities to make them show they deserve.
- Solomeno: We were misled when we made the change last year to decrease service requirements. If you're a hockey club, how much service can you do a year before it becomes a service club?
- Clark: We should bite the bullet about over appropriating. Do not fund clubs 1st semester that deactivated the year before. Wait a semester to see if they are serious.

- Joswick: Part of this school is Jesuit service. It should be a requirement that clubs fulfill hours before they recharter.
- Aughenbaugh: Nothing will be resolved right now. These are all good ideas, but in the interest of time, we should refer it to committee.
- Solomeno: Forward any other suggestions to Walt, or me and Joe. The next meeting will have a resolution reminding professors about dead week.
 - motion to adjourn (Rengert)
 - second (McManus)