



15 February 2007
Student Senate Minutes

I. Prayer/Minute/Roll

1. The minutes will be sent out tomorrow and approved through email vote.
2. Minutes were approved through email vote.

II. Executive Reports

A. President's Report (Vincent Solomeno)

1. Thanks for coming on a snow day.
2. Welcome to our new members of the Senate.
3. We are working on sustainability. I'm not happy with the progress so far and need to talk more about it. We need more student buy-in.
4. Attorney Jones is developing 3 statements on landlord/tenant issues, alcohol, and spring break. A forum is planned for March 6 in Redington.
5. Tonight we have the revised allocation bill on the agenda.

B. Treasurer's Report (Amy McKiernan)

1. I finished the fund recovery from last semester. \$21,128.86 has been rolled back into the account. I emailed clubs and will give them copies of their budgets.
2. Open Forum Leadership Roundtable went very well. Clubs expressed interest in training sessions hosted by Student Government. For example, "How to Manage your Budget", "How to Create a Website for Club", and "How to Publicize". We will work to create these sessions for club leaders.
3. Please share your feedback today regarding the club allocation process.
4. We will meet with USPB about fall spending.

C. Director of Communication (Ian Mullin)

1. This was an off week.
2. Solomeno: There was great Aquinas coverage this week. Ian had a lot to do with it.

D. Director of Technology (Joe Casabona)

1. February newsletter went out.
2. We met with D.I.R. about iTunes U. Chris will tell you more about it in his report.
3. I am in the process of updating the website.

II. Senate Standing Committees

A. Academic Affairs (Colleen Rengert)

1. We met to discuss goals.
2. We're working on an online book exchange. We talked to Dean McShea about it.
3. We are looking into some issues with the justice system. Mike had some ideas about it.
4. Casabona: We are working on a similar project regarding book exchange. Talk to me about it.

B. Appropriations (Christy Joswick)

1. We met Tuesday.
2. The Political Society has a funding request today for a journal.

C. Ignatian Awareness (Chris Molitoris)

1. We met with Kevin and McShea regarding the hill section clean up. This is going to be a big event. We hope a lot of people get involved.
2. I met with Jerry DeSanto about iTunesU and he is going to follow through with application. We will receive word from Apple hopefully by the end of the semester.
3. Casabona: I talked to my boss of CTLE and USPB for a pilot program.

4. Solomeno: It is a good way to listen to lectures.

D. Residence Life and Dining Services (Ali Bauer)

1. We met few times and also met with SEL.
2. We came up with a proposal for Dr. Carilli about meal swipes in Hyland.
3. We talked about meal plans for next year. The 19 meal plan will be unlimited. Once you swipe on the 1st floor, the rest of the day will not be unlimited. This will be mandatory for freshman. As of now the 10 and 14 meal plans are not unlimited. I'm unsure about flex.
4. Solomeno: What is the value of the meal plans. Is it more?
5. Not really. They are lowering the equivalency.
6. G. Jones: It's a big deal. The dinner swipe at Quiznos is now \$7. This will be lowered to \$5. We pay \$1.50 extra for Quiznos. Next year you can swipe for Quiznos if it does not go over \$5. There is no extra charge, but most items will go over \$5.
7. Casey: Isn't there no more up charge because the royalty is paid off?
8. Solomeno: If the royalty expires will they introduce a new meal plan to make more money?
9. G. Jones: They'll get more profit.
10. Joswick: Is only 1 swipe unlimited?
11. Any swipe on the 3rd floor is. You can keep going any time. Once you swipe on the 1st floor, you can't swipe any more for the rest of the day.
12. G. Jones: It is unlimited any time, but once you swipe at Quiznos you can't for the rest of the day.
13. Solomeno: My concern is about meal plan changes. When was this meeting?
14. 2 weeks ago.
15. Solomeno: Can you follow up and have feedback from us?
16. I can invite Joe and Ted to a meeting.
17. G. Jones: We will look at actual pricing and do the math. It may still be less with the new method.
18. Solomeno: If it makes sense, he can explain. If not we can address it. Tell them we have concerns upfront.

E. Safety and Crime Prevention (Tim Hayden)

1. We talked last year about making cards with students' rights. I emailed Chief Pomager but we haven't met because of weather. I want to see from him what we should include. I don't want to offend him Public Safety.
2. Solomeno: Ask Attorney Jones for assistance and show Chief Pomager the proof.

III. University Wide Committees

1. The University Council met last Friday. We spoke about Freshman year experience. It was the same going around in circles as usual.

IV. New Business

A. Senbill 002.07 Regarding Appropriation of Funds to the U of S Political Society

1. Rhomene: This is part of the University of Scranton Political Society. It is organized on the base of the International Politics Club. We are asking for funds to publish the Trinity Political Science Journal with the Political Science department. This is the first time it will be published. We plan to have 450 copies. We have requested \$385, which is 2/3 of the amount needed. The department is paying 1/3 of the costs for publishing. We understand funds are not unlimited. This in tune with the University's mission and includes academics. It will benefit readers and writers.
2. Solomeno: I noticed in the bill there is a name change to the University of Scranton Political Society.
3. We talked to Tricia and she changed the name.
4. Solomeno: They initially talked about forming a new club, but merged with the International Politics Club. This is really good collaboration. The International Politics has done a lot of service. Can we add a name change line to the bill? I recommend we approve this.
5. Hernandez: I'd like to offer an amendment: "due to a change of purpose, the University of Scranton International Politics Club shall formally be titled The University of Scranton Political Society (USPS).
6. Joswick: I accept the accept amendment.
7. McKiernan: Just to clarify, anyone can submit to this, not just Political Science majors. They talked to faculty for funding which is great.
8. Motion to move to second reading (Joswick)

9. Second (Konzman)
10. Rengert: This falls in line with our mission, they are collaborating and this will enrich the community. It also provides diversity and is a great idea.
11. Motion to Approve (Rengert)
12. Second (Hayden)
13. 18 votes in favor, 0 votes against, 0 abstentions

B. Petition for Charter: Students Helping Heroes

1. Jerome Scarpati: I'm a sophomore nursing major. I work for Pat Vaccaro in coordinating service activities. I do driving to service sites. Through my experience, I have come to know the way it's done. So many students want to serve, for example ISP trips. Some students have the hindrance of cost and could have the best intentions but no funds. It is \$600 to go to San Diego over break but some don't have enough to go. I've been working on this for over a year. This will be a student organization. It is completely student run and completely fundraised. The purpose is to provide students with funds for service. It is not just ISP. It could be anyone from Scranton. If a student wanted to go clean up downtown, they could request \$100 for paint. They could petition the club and the group will have a meeting to decide. It is \$350 to go to Camden to do service, and a student wanted to go 1 step above and wanted money for extra money to buy blankets, they could request extra funds. We will give money to help students help other people. To decide who and how much to give, we will have a deadline at the beginning of the semester. Students or groups can submit a 1 page request. The club officers will limit those requests and then hold a meeting to vote on which qualify for funding. It could be a floor project or club. It could take the burden off Student Government. We're not at all asking for funding.
2. Mullin: This is a good idea. What is an example of a fundraiser?
3. Our number 1 idea is the Scranton lottery. It will be a 50/50 held at sports events and residence halls. Each ticket will be \$1 for club and will be sold weekly. We will try to get it through RNN and have a live drawing. If students bought tickets every week, it would be only \$4 a month. That is not a lot. I spoke to Dean McShea. It is not at all gambling activity and will not be displayed like that. There are 1000 freshman. If half buy a ticket each week that will raise \$250 per week. Sean Cleary and I would like to see a service scholarship for 1st semester books for incoming freshman.
4. Joswick: I love this. You have a lot of heart, energy, and ideas. You promised never ask for funds. I think you would be denied funds if you did. Are you basically just asking for a title?
5. Yes, just permission.
6. Joswick: Can we just grant you a title and have something in writing that you won't ask for funds?
7. We just want the same rights as a chartered club.
8. Solomeno: What does it mean to be chartered club? Just to get funding. You can still do this without being chartered. If we charter you today, 5 years from now the club can technically ask for funds.
9. Joswick: Our government is protected against funding service.
10. Rengert: Habitat for Humanity is good and was funded for service. This is a great idea, but why do you want to be a club?
11. Dean McShea directed us to you. On campus we need a designated party that can be identified to the student body. Being a chartered club makes us credible.
12. Molitoris: Chartered clubs have a bursar account. This is needed for the money. This is the main benefit of chartering the club.
13. We need somewhere to put the money we raise.
14. Meyer: By chartering a club, they will have more than just a title. It gives them the right to reserve rooms, tables, and royal card machines under their moderator's signature. We need to grant them a title. Their initiatives are great.
15. Hernandez: The only contention is that they will ask for funding and we can't fund service. They are asking for the rights of club and rights on campus. They already waived funding.
16. McKiernan: As a club they will have a Bursar account where they must put the money. I'm interested in the qualifications. Where are your guidelines and preferences for choosing who will receive funding?
17. It is stated in our agenda. It depends on how much money is in the account, and how much is asked. We will look at how many are involved vs. how many will benefit from the service. We will give more preference to a full floor than to an individual. We can see and decide.
18. Solomeno: How many students are involved?

19. There are 10 people on the list. We don't need a lot of members. I have no problem going out and fundraising.
20. Solomeno: Can it run out of community outreach in case you leave Scranton and it doesn't stay active.
21. I'm a sophomore. I still have 2 more years. I have a freshman who is involved which ensures 1 more year after I leave. Especially if we start a scholarship we are will have 1 more person involved. I can't say for but I really think it will take off.
22. Hayden: Also, if does die out, they aren't asking for money. What's the worst that will happen? There will be at least 3 years of helping others.
23. Solomeno: Any charter allows the club to ask for funding. Liva Arts said they would not need funding, but they came back and asked for money. Things change. You need qualifications for receiving aid. Be more specific in terms of how to determine how you give out money and lay out standards.
24. Probably with getting to specifics, we will approve funding as long as it makes the University better. After that, it is the decision of club officers and then the club. It will be very democratic. We will have an open vote. People in this club have the best intentions.
25. Bauer: The club knows it can't ask for funding to have for future. If you get members of the cura personalis dorm involved, you can work together to have more members.
26. D. Jones: Having Pat Vaccaro as a moderator is great. It will help pick the best recipient.
27. Meyer: It's evident that the Senate wants something more in writing. Maybe we can table the petition and meet with Pat Vaccaro, club members and a Senator. In 2 weeks, you can come back with something more concrete about it. I will work with them between now and the next meeting and share Student Government concerns, especially about requesting money in the future. I think people are getting hung up on it.
28. I'm confused about money. Christie distinguished that we wouldn't be eligible. Down the line requests would only be funds for service which would make us ineligible.
29. Solomeno: Five years down the line the club can come back and ask for \$300 for a bus trip, \$50 for a reception, and \$100 for frisbees. These are things that could be approved. I like the idea of tabling this because we want to charter you.
30. McKiernan: I second this. I can't see why we wouldn't fund bus trip. This is a good club, with a good mission. You just need to set out goals and objectives. It could be a good example for other struggling clubs. Sit down with me and Kevin.
31. Casey: 3 weeks from now we can put this back on the agenda.
32. Motion to table (Molitoris)
33. Second (French)
34. 18 votes in favor, 0 votes against, 0 abstentions

C. Senbill.001.07 – Appropriations

1. Casey: This bill is currently on second reading.
2. McKiernan: There have been significant changes. I would prefer if we sit and read bill before we discuss it.
3. Hayden: I like the clarity. You tell them exactly what you want.
4. Joswick: I have one question. Under line 7, should we add that the Appropriations Committee trains the new members?
5. McKiernan: This bill pertains more to clubs, not the Senate.
6. Joswick: We are doing it this year. That will make sure it stays like that.
7. Casey: I'm not sure this bill is the place for it. It would be new legislation and a change to the constitution.
8. McKiernan: The most interest I have is in the areas that say we give preference to. Do we want this to be revisited every year?
9. Solomeno: I think the bill in total is straight forward and to point. I think we should keep it very succinct. Amy's work is great. The brochure Ian and Amy are working on is key.
10. McKiernan: We pulled this from the strategic plan. If you think it's vague we can clean it up. I like the word examine. Sustainability is one of our goals. Not just environment but with work of clubs.
11. Joswick: Excellent job. I see nothing wrong with it.
12. Molitoris: #5 under appeal. How do this work?
13. Casey: Basically everyone is required to appear before Appropriations and then has the option to go to the Senate.
14. Molitoris: Is it an option? Right to appear before or will appear before?
15. Casey: Anyone has the right. We can strike the or.
16. G. Jones: What does 6.i. mean about seeing another Senbill?

17. Solomeno: New clubs are limited to \$1,500.
18. McKiernan: That number decreases as year goes on. We'll get exact numbers.
19. G. Jones: What about any club making requests?
20. Solomeno: What if club comes with great idea? Carnival with horses \$30,000. We can't fund that.
21. McKiernan: I can't see why not in the Spring request. Tough. Not sure what should be ruled.
22. Casey: Senbill read: 062.05
23. Meyer: It states new clubs. What if already chartered this bill doesn't pertain
24. G. Jones: It says being treated like new club.
25. Casey: The same standard is applied.
26. Solomeno: Write in. however any additional funding request. Be it for new or existing clubs will be held to the same timeline as established in section 3.
27. Solomeno: campus community. Promote initiatives that support mission and diversity
28. Molitoris: In section 4.a #2, who establishes the date?
29. Casey: The Treasurer.
30. Solomeno: It's on the calendar which the Secretary makes.
31. McKiernan: Elections are in March. There is a last possible day given. It will be in the pamphlet and a budget kit will be given for clubs to fill in blanks.
32. Solomeno: Can we amend the title to "Student Senate Resolution Revising Club Allocation Process."
33. Motion to approve (French)
34. Second (Hayden)
35. 18 votes in favor, 0 votes against, 0 abstentions
36. Solomeno: Call the Aquinas and tell them we approved this.
37. McKiernan: We'll make sure its beyond clear in the Aquinas.
38. Solomeno: The brochure will be good.

V. Senate Forum

1. Solomeno: We are talking about having a day of Prayer on campus to reflect on the war. We notice students are so busy and there is a lot going on in the world. It's convenient to put it out of mind. How do we refocus ourselves? This relates to social justice and mission. We want to have a day in March, which is the 4th anniversary of the war. We will have a special Mass and discussions and activities focusing on how to get to peace. Fr. Devino is involved in this. Regardless of politics, we all want peace.
2. Hayden: I like the idea of peace. It might be more productive if we don't focus on just Iraq. There are other issues. Look at Africa or North Korea. There are so many.
3. Hernandez: We should cater to the spiritual needs of all students. Look into having something that is not just Christian, but all faiths.
4. B. Kelly: Is there a debate?
5. Solomeno: We talked about having an afternoon mass, but Fr. Devino wants it at night. We would start at Gunster and proceed to the chapel. We were thinking of having a discussion similar to roundtable instead of a debate. We will ask clubs to host a discussion.
6. Hayden: As far as debating, nothing is getting done. There is the same outcome. We should look at the bigger picture. This will be a chance to get together and actually listen.
7. McKiernan: This is really important and we're looking at more. I don't think it is outside of our realm to ask professors to mention it in their classes. It is not just a student affair.
8. Meyer: It affects all majors. As an education major, it is important to address how to bring in world issue in way you teach. Something should go on in each different school. It should be campus wide.
9. Solomeno: Colleen will talk to the Provost. The date is possibly March 8th. We will have the Student Senate debate a resolution on the sense of what the student body thinks is important. This will be an opportunity to showcase the Senate. We are going to have a second meeting with Fr. Devino. This will bring Ignatian Awareness, USPB, and club members together to work towards mission and identity. Does anyone have any good ideas?
10. Joswick: It should not be just once. Make a Scranton Peace Day.
11. Molitoris: I had a conversation with Dean McShea regarding consequences of judicial policies, specifically with alcohol below .08%, and providing a site. In these cases, a letter is sent home and a \$50 to \$300 fine is given. Other institutions impose mandatory community service. It is not the University's policy to make service mandatory. What is more beneficial to help them? Instead of fining students, is community service better?

12. Hayden: It was brought up at the President's Cabinet meeting. They stood firm against mandating service.
13. Solomeno: It isn't realistic. They are thinking about money. That's why I don't think this will change.
14. Patro: What about the case of service learning? That is mandatory service.
15. Hayden: They say you know what you're signing up for.
16. Molitoris: Make an option to take the fine or go to a formal hearing. Money collected is used on educational programs and alternative programs from the RAs.
17. Joswick: I agree with Vinny. If sense of student body is that we should implement community service, we should express it even if the administration won't listen.
18. French: With a fine, students pay but don't learn. We should have formal writing and say this is what we feel. Service betters the community.
19. Hernandez: We should look at the punishment. Students who are cited have to take an online alcohol awareness course. Most students do not get anything out of it. Maybe the punishment needs to be more effective, like having students go to an AA meeting. We should address education.
20. D. Jones: I agree with the idea, but who is going to give out the service? I think we need to iron this out before having a bill and submit an idea of how it is decided.
21. G. Jones: Jesuit value for service. Make it an option.
22. Kelly: Many freshman have the fine given to parents who get angry.
23. Meyer: When a student gets in trouble in the City of Scranton, usually their fine is reduced and they are given community service by the Magistrate. Maybe we should follow this example.
24. Miguens: I think it's a good idea. It would benefit the community. Some people get cited who are not necessarily bad. It is not a punishment for some people.
25. Hayden: My concern is it will be a lot for Pat Vaccaro. Would need to hire someone new.
26. Solomeno: It was brought up at the meeting and there was real resistance on the University's part. We need to do our homework. This seems like a long term goal, maybe for next semester.
27. Solomeno: Did Public Safety increase the price of a parking permit?
28. Molitoris: It is \$200 for the year. It was \$150 last year.
29. Solomeno: They said they wouldn't increase the price.
30. Solomeno: I have good news in terms of money. Last March, we met regarding the budget. Tuition increased 8%. Before last year, there was an average of 5% each year. 26% over four years a lot for students to bear. Our recommendation was that they meet with students and adopt a differential tuition plan. Christy and I met this year with Dave Christiansen. Fr. Pilarz announced differential tuition will be implemented. This shows what happens when students have a say. The Senate was certainly a voice in the amount of money saved.

VI. Adjournment

1. Motion to Adjourn (Joswick)
2. Second (Patro)