

SGA Senate Meeting

Place: Gleeson Hall 104

Time: 3:12pm -4:15pm

Cervantes

Meeting called to order by: Vice-President Edward Tully

Date: February 11, 2013

Minute Writer: Maria

Members Present:

- Vice-President Edward Tully
- Secretary Maria Cervantes
- Senator Josue Sencion
- Senator Laura Urena
- Senator Michelle Gonzalez
- Senator Vianna Reyes
- Senator Elvis Batista
- Senator Angiulina Magdalena
- Advisor Eunice Ro

Late:

- Senator Larry Chow
- Senator Aleyca de Leon
- Senator Penelope Cruz (Had an important meeting)

Excused from Meeting:

- Senator Lisa Millstein (Was at the Farmingdale Radio Station release)

Approval of Minutes: motioned by Senator Michelle Gonzalez, Unanimous

Approval of Agenda: motioned by Senator Vianna Reyes, 5 in favor, 1 against

Room Change Week: Senator Michelle Gonzalez went to Residence Life to ask about why there was not going to be a room change day for resident students. Residence Life says that the reason is that there were two days for this last semester. Vice-president Edward Tully will talk to Angela about this topic.

Finance Committee Meeting: Since the Finance committee has been having trouble to set up a time where all members can meet, Senator Michelle Gonzalez motioned to approve that the finance committee meets Tuesdays at 3:00pm on the weeks the senate does not meet. There were 7 votes in favor, 1 against, and 1 abstained.

Senate leader Elvis Batista appointed Vianna Reyes, Michelle Gonzalez, Laura Urena, Josue Sencion, and Aleyca de Leon for the finance committee, there were 8 votes in favor, and 1 abstained.

Larry Chow motioned to revoke the motion that the finance committee meets every other Tuesday at 3:00pm and there were 7 abstentions.

Penelope Cruz motioned that the finance committee meets at the time agreed on the doodle poll that all senators are supposed to complete by February 11 at 10:00pm. This was unanimous.

Senate Committees: Senators Penelope Cruz, Elvis Batista, and secretary Maria Cervantes worked on this proposal for the senators:

This initiative to establish new committees is to aid the legislative branch of the Student Government Association in the development of its responsibilities. Many of these committees will only meet when issues arise since most of them will focus on specific tasks. The Student Senate identifies the need for having these committees already set up in order for us to address problems in a more efficient and timely manner.

The people being proposed will serve as leaders; they will delegate tasks among senators and the cooperation of the latter is expected.

It is asked to all Senator to please have the approval of these committees as a priority since the retreat is coming up and the members of the committees should have an opportunity to get to connect with each others' ideas.

Therefore, we propose the creation of the following:

- ❖ SUNY Student Assembly Conference (**Penelope Cruz**, Vianna Reyes): This Committee will be in charge of arranging everything related to attending SUNY Student Assembly conferences.
 - Transportation
 - Hotel
 - Activities
 - Silent Auction Items, etc.
- ❖ Promotions (**Michael Garite**, Josue Sencion, Laura Urena)
- ❖ Charities (**Joshua Biebling**, Elvis Batista, Lisa Millstein, Penelope Cruz):
- ❖ Food Services: (**Josue Sencion**)
- ❖ Commuters: (**Larry Chow**, Aleyca de Leon)
- ❖ Residents: (**Lisa Millstein**, Joshua Biebling)
- ❖ Programing and Activities: (**Angiulina Magdalena**, Vianna Reyes, Michelle Gonzalez)
- ❖ Academic Affairs: (**Aleyca de Leon**, Peter Saenz)
- ❖ Social Media: (**Laura Urena**, Angiulina Magdalena, Michael Garite)
- ❖ External Relations: (**Michelle Gonzalez**, Larry chow, Angiulina Magdalena)
- ❖ Legislative: (**Peter Saenz**, Elvis Batista)
- ❖ Internal Affairs/ Government Operations: (**Elvis Batista**, Penelope Cruz)

****Bold:** proposed as Committee Chairperson*

The proposal was tabled to be voted on next meeting. Penelope Cruz motioned to approve the SUNY SA conference committee, there were 8 votes in favor, and 1 abstained.

Senate leader Elvis Batista appointed Vianna Reyes and Penelope Cruz to be part of the SUNY SA Conference committee, this motion had 8 votes in favor, and 1 abstained.

Charity: Help The Homeless: Senator Penélope Cruz Pérez brought a charity opportunity to SGA about helping the homeless. The activity is going to take place in Roosevelt on April 8th. She needs volunteers to help her bring letters to places like Walmart, Costco, Dunking Doughnuts or any place that can donate. For more information please contact her. She has letters, flyers, and a list of supplies to spread out. Volunteers are needed for that day. Please help the homeless and also help put SGA's name out there!!

Feedback Day: The Feedback days scheduled for February 18th was canceled until further notice. The incorporation of the new fees has been delayed, when there is confirmation about these possible new fees, SGA will make sure to set up a space to hear back from students.

Economics Club: Ivan Kim, president of the Economics club came to the senate meeting to talk about issues his club is having. Even though the club submitted a budget proposal last semester, any of the representatives has received approval or disapproval for it. The club needs the requested money primarily to fund an international economics honor society that needs to have an induction ceremony this semester. Advisor Eunice Ro will follow up in this case.

Photography Club: The photography club has approximately between 50 and 55 members. The club requested funding, but still has not received an answer. The president Rafael Rivas said the club has a lot of pressure to start making activities.

ASGA: Proposal by Senator Penelope Cruz

Why Join the American Student Government Association (ASGA)?

A strong Student Government will make our entire institution stronger. If we evolve and improve our Student Government we can help our school recruit new students, retain existing students, and improve student and alumni involvement.

Through ASGS, some of the things that we will learn are to:

- Enhance our image
- Find out how to maximize our budget
- Get the average student to care about Student Government
- Get commuter students involved
- And more

In addition, being a member of ASGA has the following benefits (but not limited to):

- Access to their database where we can find information on every collegiate Student Government in America (constitutions and bylaws, finance codes, student activity fees, and structures., etc)
- ASGA conference and promotional materials discounts
- Consulting and training
- Nationwide networking

How to join ASGA:

1. Fill out the registration form that can be found at www.asgaonline.com
2. Pay the membership fee (\$497 for 1 year, \$447 for 2 years, each year; and \$397 for 3 years, each year as well)
3. Enjoy the benefits! :)
- 4.

For more information please visit <http://www.asgaonline.com>

SASC: Student Affairs and Services Committee Meeting held on February 6, 2014

Last Thursday, Senator Elvis Batista attended the meeting of the Student Affairs and Services Committee in representation of the Student Government Association. All the members of the committee were very pleased to finally have a representative from SGA in their meeting. They expressed their desire to keep having someone from SGA participating with the committee. Senator Elvis Batista accepted to attend and participate of the meetings.

It was informed that there is a student willing to run for office as Senator of the School of Health and Science for the upcoming SGA elections after her advisor was able to move this student's clinic's hours to a time that does not interfere with the regular meeting time of the Senate.

It was also informed the intention of the school authorities to increase the Student Activity Hour from one to two days a week for the next school semester, which was positively perceived by everyone in the room. However, school authorities seem to be making the changes on stages, since it looks like activity hour will remain the same time (3:05-4:20pm). Members of the SASC expressed they would like to know SGA's position about this topic.

After being questioned about possible issues negatively affecting the student body of FSC, Senator Elvis Batista informed that SGA is currently working with a list of significant problems that the students expressed to some SGA officers through a random and informal survey performed during winter break. SASC members were informed that SGA is working on the creation of committees/task forces that will focus on dealing with specific areas of the issues presented to the student government, such as food service, physical infrastructure, and student housing.

SASC members also expressed their concern regarding the amended by-law where it states that Executive Board members must have served two consecutive semesters as senators to be eligible to run for office. They recommend that section of the by-law be amended one more time before the upcoming elections, as they consider this requirement goes against SGA Constitution and also limits potential and qualified candidates from running to be part of the Executive Board. Written recommendations were provided to SGA during the meeting in this regard.

Also, SASC members have concerns regarding the election process of SGA. Among other things, everyone in the room agreed that the Angel platform makes it too difficult for students to cast their votes; and candidates' profiles should be presented to the student body during campaign and not right before they vote on Angel. Eunice Ro, Director of Student Activities Office, will be invited to the next meeting to be informed of these concerns.

Finally, SASC expressed their desire to be more involved in SGA's activities and projects. They are willing to cooperate with the student government in whatever they need, especially anything related to solving the issues presented by the students to SGA officers.

Old Westbury Student Government: A representative from Old Westbury Student Government talked to SGA advisor Eunice Ro, because he wants to reach all SGA members of Long Island. More details will be provided later on.

Adjournment: Motioned by senate leader Elvis Batista, it was unanimous.

Announcements: SGA retreat February 21, from 10:00am to 4:00pm. Place is to be determined.

Charity, Help The Homeless event April 8, Roosevelt Hall.

Next Meeting: February 25