

**STUDENT GOVERNMENT BOARD
MINUTES
November 15, 2011**

I. ROLL CALL

President Stieber called the meeting of November 15, 2011 to order at 8:45pm. Board members Gayman, Hasley, Hoover, Jentleson, Landreneau, Riehle, Weber, and Zimmerman were present. Committee Chairs for Allocations, Elections, Environmental, Governmental Relations, Public Relations, Transportation and Safety, and Webmaster were present. Committee Chairs for Academic Affairs and Judicial were excused.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of November 8, 2011 were approved.

III. PRESIDENT'S REPORT

President Stieber stated that the debate went well. She encouraged everyone to go out and vote in Thursday's election. She encouraged all student groups to go out and vote for the candidates that they feel would be most in line with their group's interests. The public meeting for next Tuesday, November 22, 2011 will be cancelled. She stated that, constitutionally, they have fulfilled their requirements with the number of meetings. She also reported that if you are planning on submitting allocations requests, please still do so this week. They are due Wednesday by 5:00 p.m. If the allocations request is time sensitive, they will still be having a planning session on Sunday, so if there is anything they need to vote on, they will try to do so during that session and get word to the groups as soon as possible. If it isn't time sensitive, she encouraged groups to wait and that they will look at it as soon as we get back from Thanksgiving break.

IV. SUBMITTED AGENDA ITEMS

There were no Submitted Agenda Items.

V. BOARD REPORTS

A. Ryan Gayman

Board member Gayman reported that the most important thing they can talk about is the election this upcoming Thursday, November 17, 2011. He stated that the Elections Chair, Kari Rosenkaimer, has set the voter turnout bar at 25% and that they, as a Board and Committees, can't obtain that alone. It is about getting out there and voting, and encouraging those around you to do the same. He reported

that it is also that time of year that if you did not decide to run for SGB there are still plenty of opportunities to get involved in, with positions such as Committee Chairs depending on what you are interested in, or just serving on a committee. You could have a direct hand in SGB in making decisions that will affect the student body at large. He once again he encouraged every to vote and to get involved with Student Government Board.

B. John Hasley

Board member Hasley reported that a few weeks ago it was brought to his attention by the president of Rainbow Alliance that some of the members of the organization were having issues dealing with University housing policy on transgender students. He has initiated some conversations with SGB's Advisor, Kenyon Bonner who is the Director of Student Life and the Associate Dean of Students. They also brought in the Director of ResLife, Dr. Shawn Brooks, and proposed a case by case process on handling these cases. He reported that he thought this was the best way to handle these issues due to the fact that if every one of these cases is different, you would not want to treat them all the same. They want to handle all of them with a keen eye and address all the different details that come up. He reported that they will be moving forward with this in the upcoming week, and hopefully, they will be able to break the helm on these concerns that students are bringing to them.

C. Emily Hoover

Board member Hoover reported that a student came up to her last Wednesday and voiced her concern about the lack of self-service printing in Sennott Square. She reported that she contacted someone in CSSD about this issue, who forwarded this information to the self-service printing team. She has yet to hear anything back, but she is hoping to hear soon. She also asked the member of CSSD to follow up with her, because she knows that there are more places that also do not have self-service printing stations. She believes it is a great service that we have here at Pitt and she wants it to be more assessable. If anyone has any ideas as to where we should try to lobby to get self-service printing stations, please let her know. She also reported that she sat down quickly with Kristen from Sodexo today to discuss the things that are going to be set up for tomorrow's Meet the Candidates. She encouraged everyone to come out to Market Central on Wednesday to hear more about the candidates and their platforms. She also reported that this Thursday, November 17, 2011 is Thanksgiving dinner in Market Central.

D. Lauren Jentleson

Board member Jentleson encouraged everyone to please vote on Thursday.

E. James Landreneau

Board member Landreneau reported that last spring during the Blue Stars Red Carpet awards, and there were 70 OCC completers. Only 14-16 students picked up their green cords and attended the ceremony. He is happy to report that with the new OCC Honorary Society, there already has 47 new honorary members, and there have been close to 100 people who have been identified as completing the new OCC curriculum. On December 2, 2011, there will be an initiation to the new OCC Honorary Society. He has been working very closely since April with the OCC Student Advisory Committee. Right now, they are in the process of electing an interim board for the spring. He encouraged everyone to get involved with this, and that if you have any questions, please see him.

F. Matthew Riehle

Board member Riehle thanked Elections chair, Kari Rosenkaimer, for doing such an amazing job of putting this year's election together. He extended the thank you to all of the committee chairs. He also encouraged everyone to vote this Thursday and to encourage everyone you know to vote. He asked groups to get the word out to all of their members, and for the members to get the word out to their friends about voting.

President Steiber remarked that even though you endorsed a candidate, you shouldn't stop there. She encouraged all groups to continue to get the word out to all of their group members to vote for the people which they endorsed.

G. Zach Weber

Board member Weber reported that President Stieber and he met with the representatives of the Panther Readership Program this past Friday. They gave them the rundown of how effective the program has been. They stated that about 98% of students have been picking up the papers every day. The program is being utilized, and he encouraged the incoming president and Board members to renew the program for next year.

President Stieber mentioned that something she wanted to do this term, but was unable to, was to get the swiping systems for those papers. She stated that they are going to be setting a date for the representatives of the Panther Readership Program to come back to pitch the program to the new Board and to really allow them to back the decision on whether to keep the program or not.

H. Alex Zimmerman

Board member Zimmerman reported that he was at his Senate sub-committee meeting and they were talking about OMETs and the possibility of making it a more electronic process. This way you will fill them out online instead of taking class time to do it. That hasn't been decided yet, but they have begun discussions.

He also reported that he is hoping that by turning this into an electronic process, it would make the OMETs more visible by publishing it and to see some of those results.

He also reported that it is very important that you vote, but that there is always room for you in Student Government. He stated he got his start as a Committee chair and he wouldn't be where he is without that start. He encouraged everyone who is interested to look into becoming a part of SGB.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. ACADEMIC AFFAIRS

Academic Affairs chair, Pooja Patel, had no report.

B. ALLOCATIONS COMMITTEE

Allocations Committee chair Bane reported that Allocations applications are still available and that they are due next Monday, November 21, 2011 by 5:00 pm. He encouraged people to please come pick one up, and that if you know anyone who is interested in joining SGB or Allocations, please tell them to pick up an application. It is a great way to get involved with SGB.

C. ELECTIONS

Elections chair, Kari Rosenkaimer, thanked everyone who came out for the Presidential Debate. She reported that tomorrow night from 5:00-7:00pm they will be in Market Central for Meet the Candidates; you will also have the opportunity at this time to meet not only the Presidential candidates, but also the Board candidates. Thursday, November 17, 2011 is Election Day. You are allowed to vote from 8:00am to 8:00pm. Currently, you can go on the my.pitt.edu portal and you can view everyone's statements as well. Besides voting online, you can come to 3 different voting poll stations to cast your vote. The poll stations will be from 9:00-11:00 am in Towers Lobby, from 11:00am-3:00pm in Sutherland right outside of the Perch, and from 5:00-7:00pm in Market Central. She encouraged everyone to please vote. She stated that it is her goal to get 25% voter turnout, and that she needs everyone's help to do it.

D. ENVIRONMENTAL

Environmental Chair Schroeder announced that the first environmental podcast is posted on the WPTS website under "news", and that they discussed the Keystone Excel Pipeline.

Chair Schroeder also announced that the Student Sustainability Committee got aerators installed in all three Tower buildings. It has saved the University 20% in

water funding. Also, the University is setting up a Hydration Station in Sutherland Halls.

E. GOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS

Governmental chair, Kyle Miller, announced that the committee started a new Pitt College Blog on the Internet. Chair Miller announced that the Governmental Relations Committee has started writing letters to Senator Toomey about the deficit funding.

F. JUDICIAL

There was no report.

G. PUBLIC RELATIONS

Public Relations chair, Zach Scheiner, urged everyone to vote for SGB candidates this week during the elections.

H. TRANSPORTATION AND SAFETY

Transportation and Safety chair, James Snow, announced that he would be ordering the bike kiosks this week.

I. WEBMASTER

Webmaster, Matt Schroeder, announced that a link for the candidate videos is on the SGB website, pitt.edu/~sgb.

VI. NEW BUSINESS

A. Allocations Recommendations:

President Stieber announced a vote on fall student budgets. The Board approved this motion. The motion carried.

#6910 Students for Life - \$2,023.00

Allocations recommendation was to deny in full.

The motion was seconded.

The motion carried.

#6911 Asian Student Alliance - \$2,406.15 Budget Modification

Allocations recommendation was to approve in full.

The motion was seconded.

The motion carried.

#6915 Pittsburgh Club Baseball - \$1,600.00

Allocations recommendation was to approve in full.

The motion was seconded.

The motion carried.

#6916 The Tennis Club - \$5,039.76

Allocations recommendation was to approve \$2,720.00 and to deny \$2,319.76.

The motion was seconded.

The motion carried.

#6917 Some of God's Children Gospel Choir - \$1,900.00

Allocations recommendation was to approve \$1,700.00 and to deny \$200.00.

The motion was seconded.

The motion did not carry.

The Board's recommendation was to approve in full.

The motion was seconded.

The motion carried.

VII. NEW BUSINESS

There was no New Business.

VIII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

There was no Unfinished Business.

IX. OPEN FLOOR

Zach Scheiner, the Public Relations Chair, encouraged everyone to follow SGB on twitter at twitter.com/pittsgb.

Board member Landreneau, wanted to congratulate Eric Murtz. He conducted the Tobacco Awareness week on his own. Activities will be held this week in Towers lobby.

Trisha, the President of Rainbow Alliance, announced that this Sunday, November 20, 2011, will be Transgender Remembrance Day. To pay tribute to those affected, the club will be watching the documentary, *She's the Boy I Knew*. She encouraged all students to attend the meeting in room 540 of the William Pitt Union at 8:45 p.m.

James, President of Omicron Delta Kappa, announced that the society will be opening it's recruitment for the spring semester.

X. PRESIDENT'S REMARKS

President Stieber announced that the SGB meeting for Tuesday, November 22, 2011 is cancelled. She also encouraged everyone to vote for SGB. The election results will be announced at 9 pm in Nordy's Place.

XI. ADJOURNMENT

There was a motion to adjourn the meeting.

The motion was seconded.

The motion carried.

The meeting adjourned at 9:23 p.m.

cc: Student Government Board Members, Student Government Board Committee Chairs, K. Bonner, K. Humphrey, T. Milani