**STUDENT GOVERNMENT BOARD**

**MINUTES**

**March 22, 2011**

1. **ROLL CALL**

President Stieber called the meeting of March 22, 2011 to order at 8:45pm. Board members Gayman, Hasley, Hoover, Jentleson, Landreneau, Riehle, Weber, and Zimmerman were present. Committee Chairs for Academic Affairs, Allocations, Elections, Environmental, Governmental Relations, Judicial, Public Relations, Transportation and Safety and Webmaster were present.

1. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

The minutes of March 15, 2011 were approved.

1. **PRESIDENT’S REPORT**

President Stieber greeted everyone and spoke about the Student Advocacy Forum that they had held earlier in the night. She stated that they had a guest speaker, Chancellor Nordenberg. She reported that they had about 200 students in attendance and one of the biggest things that the Chancellor said in his speech was that the funding cuts proposed by Governor Corbett are disproportionate and damaging in regards to Pitt. She stated that she feels these are two very important terms that you can think of. The Chancellor’s message to students is to take those disproportionate and damaging proposals personally and make that your personal story and show how it is damaging to you. She stated that that is how you can make your personal story when you either speak at the rally that will be held on Pitt’s campus on the William Pitt Union lawn, or when you go to lobby in Harrisburg during *Pitt Day in Harrisburg.* She also stated that everyone needs to be, like Chancellor Nordenberg said, respectful. She stated that you should think about it all as if someone was coming to you to try to change your mind about something. You would not want them to be disrespectful; you would be more likely to change your mind if you had someone who was very respectful speak to you. She stated that she herself would be more likely to change her mind if someone came in and gave her a touching story about how this was going to change their life, change how Pitt is for them, change their Pitt experience, and maybe state they will not be able to return to school if these cuts occur. She encouraged everyone to attend the letter writing workshop from 8:00 am to 6:00 pm tomorrow in the Lower Lounge, the rally on March 30th on the William Pitt Union lawn at noon, and they are looking for anyone who wants to perform at the rally. Finally, regarding attending *Pitt Day in Harrisburg* on April 5th, the easiest way to register for this is on Facebook.

1. **SUBMITTED AGENDA ITEMS**

There were no Submitted Agenda Items.

1. **BOARD REPORTS**
2. **Ryan Gayman**

Board member Gayman had no report.

1. **John Hasley**

Board member Hasley reported that he met with the chair of the History department on Monday, and he was able to get support for his Professors Survey project. They are the docket for the next departmental wide meeting in April, where they will discuss it as a department.

1. **Emily Hoover**

Board member Hoover reported that she has been concentrating on getting the word out about *Pitt Day in Harrisburg* and the budget cuts. She met with Holland Hall last night and a couple other Board members went up to Sutherland tonight. She encouraged everyone to spread the word about *Pitt Day in Harrisburg*. She and her intern are taking pictures of students holding a white board that says “if you cut our funding \_\_\_\_\_\_\_”. They are trying to compile as many pictures as they can so that they are able to give it to legislators on April 5th. If you have any ideas please share them with her.

1. **Lauren Jentleson**

Board member Jentleson had no report.

1. **James Landreneau**

Board member Landreneau reported that this Friday is the Food Committee meeting with Sodexo at noon outside of Market-To-Go and next week he will be meeting with Jim Earle to discuss student swipe in at dorms.

1. **Matthew Riehle**

Board member Riehle will be trying to go to different students’ organization meetings with Elections and Governmental Relations chairs to try and talk about Mercy Week, elections for the fall and *Pitt Day in Harrisburg.*

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1. **Zach Weber**

Board member Weber reported that next, Thursday, March 24 from about 2:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m., *USA Today* and *The New York Times* representatives will be on campus with them handing out things for the launch event. They we be located most likely in Posvar Hall or the Union. He encouraged everyone to keep a look out for them next week.

1. **Alex Zimmerman**

Board member Zimmerman he will continue to meet with professors and department chairs to get more professors to have more courses that fulfill more general education requirements with the Academic Affairs chair Pooja Patel. He also has gotten a lot of support from the History department, and he would like to thank them. At the end of next week, he and Board members Landreneau and Hoover will be meeting the chair of Pitt’s Alcohol Task Force to discuss their perspective on having an amnesty policy at Pitt.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

1. **ACADEMIC AFFAIRS**

Pooja Patel, the Academic Affairs Committee Chair, stated that if anyone has any ideas of specific courses that they feel should fulfill general education requirements, please let her or Board member Zimmerman know. Also, she has a meeting scheduled with Dr. Larry Feick from the UCIS department next week.

1. **ALLOCATIONS COMMITTEE**

Allocations Committee chair Bane thanked everyone who turned in a budget for the next fiscal semester. They are now available to be picked up in the Allocations office, and you can sign up for an appeal on Sunday starting at 9:00 am.

1. **ELECTIONS**

The Elections chair, Kari Rosenkaimer, reported that if students are interested in becoming part of SGB, they can email her at [sgb.elections@gmail.com](mailto:sgb.elections@gmail.com).

1. **ENVIRONMENTAL**

The Environmental chair, Rebecca Schroeder, reminded everyone that Pitt is still participating in *Recycle Mania* and that it ends on Saturday, April 2nd. She encouraged students to recycle a lot before then. Also, the Board passed a resolution at the last meeting supporting the American College and University Presidents Climate Commitment to making a climate action plan and she will be passing around the petition to sign. She has also been looking into getting recycling for student organizations, and she has already gotten the okay from Facilities Management and she is still waiting to hear back from reservations.

1. **GOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS**

The Governmental Relations chair, Kyle Miller, thanked everyone for coming out to hear Chancellor Nordenberg speak and he reminded everyone that there will be letter writing available in the Lower Lounge tomorrow night, and there will be a rally on March 30th. He reported that *Pitt Day in Harrisburg* is April 5th and that registration is through Facebook or at [pittdayinhgb@eventbrite.com](mailto:pittdayinhgb@eventbrite.com) . There will be an info session tomorrow night at 5:30 p.m. in room 837. He reported that the College Democrats, College Republicans, and Pi Sigma Alpha will be hosting a gun panel on March 23rd in 120 David Lawrence Hall at 9:00 p.m. There will also be a health care press conference on the William Pitt Union patio on Friday, with people speaking about the new health care benefits for graduating seniors.

1. **JUDICIAL**

The Judicial chair, John Cole, had no report.

1. **PUBLIC RELATIONS**

The Public Relations chair, Alex Amati, he will be writing up press releases to advertise and spread the word about *Pitt Day in Harrisburg*. If anyone wants to get involved please email him at [sgb.publicrelations@gmail.com](mailto:sgb.publicrelations@gmail.com).

1. **TRANSPORTATION AND SAFETY**

The Transportation and Safety chair, James Snow, reported he will tabling in Towers lobby to hand out the Riders Guide, to let student’s know about the changes in the bus routes.

1. **WEBMASTER**

The Webmaster, Matt Schroeder, reported that there are links to register for *Pitt Day in Harrisburg* on the website.

1. **NEW BUSINESS**
2. **Allocations Recommendations:**

**#6705 American Institute of Architecture Students - $938.60**

Allocations recommendation was to approve $868.57 and deny $70.11.

The motion was seconded.

The motion carried.

1. **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

There is no Unfinished Business.

1. **OPEN FLOOR**

Angela Miller MaGraw from the division of Student Affairs, has been working with Dean Humphrey on the Hesselbein Global Academy for Student Leadership and Civic Engagement and they are trying to create a program that will serve Pitt students who hold leadership roles around campus and give them an opportunity to connect with other student leaders around the world, as well as mentors. The Student Leadership Summit is July 23rd to the 26th. The application deadline is May 1st and they only select 50 students throughout the world, and provide free room and board as well as giving them up to $200 for travel expenses. She encouraged people to apply and applauds the SGB for the action they have taken regarding the budget cuts.

Chris Shape, who works for Pi Kappa Phi fraternity, spoke. They are new fraternity that is petitioning to come on campus. He discussed the founding of the fraternity and that they are one of the top fraternities in the NIC in terms of leadership development conferences and they offer two to three national conferences a year. They have an opportunity to focus on their skills and what they will be able to do later in life. They also own and operate a non- profit. If you know anyone who will be interested in becoming involved in Pi Kappa Phi, he left information cards to fill out.

Rebecca Schroder announced that next week is Veg Week at the University, and she encouraged everyone to go vegetarian or vegan for the week.

Pat Mactrier spoke from PennPerg, and announced that last week they had a petition sent around petitioning the raise in the student activities fee and were able to get 2,000 signatures. PennPerg is a state-wide student consumer environment group and they conduct various campaigns. They want to provide a source of student mobilization to the Pitt campus. They are talking to various student group leaders now, and hope to talk to SGB soon about coming to campus.

Board member Hoover announced that she will be around after the meeting for anyone who would like to take a picture with her white board.

James, the president from Rainbow alliance spoke about Pride Week next week where they will be hosting different events every day.

1. **PRESIDENT’S REMARKS**

President Stieber remarked how important *Pitt Day in Harrisburg* is and encouraged everyone to please sign up and help spread the word.

1. **ADJOURNMENT**

There was a motion to adjourn the meeting.

The motion was seconded.

The motion carried.

The meeting adjourned at 9:15 p.m.

cc: Student Government Board Members, Student Government Board Committee Chairs, K. Bonner, K. Humphrey, J. Giangarlo, T. Milani, L. Williams-Moore