**STUDENT GOVERNMENT BOARD**

**MINUTES**

**April 10, 2012**

1. **ROLL CALL**

President Landreneau called the meeting of April 10, 2012 to order at 8:45pm. Board members Armstrong, Genus, Hallinan, Louderback, McGrath, Murdoch, Rothenberger, and Samudzi were present. Chair members Beecher, Brown, Crawford, Held, Mallampalli, Meyer, Nites, Stavrakos and White were all present.

1. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

The minutes of April 3, 2012 were approved.

1. **PRESIDENT’S REPORT**

President Landreneau reported that this will be the second to last meeting of the spring semester. He stated that their last meeting will be held next week on April 17, 2012. If you would like to see a request submitted for this fiscal year, he would recommend submitting that as soon as possible. They will do email votes over the summer, but it might get confusing doing voting that way. He also updated everyone on the Readership Program. He stated that Kiosks were supposed to be delivered on the 9th, but he got an email from the USA Today representative saying that they will be in next week on the 16th or 17th. The 7 open swipe kiosks will be replaced with 7 swipe kiosks at that time. He also reminded everyone that one of the campaigns that they had started was a letter writing campaign labeled as the 1787 Advocates Campaign. He wanted to let everyone know that they have signing stations if you want to write a letter to a legislator throughout the meeting tonight. He also reported that if your student group is interested in going on the Panther Gold Leadership retreat this summer, please contact him after meeting. He is trying to extend it to more groups than they had previously. President Landreneau also reported that they will be having a Board discussion on the continuation of Paint the Panther this Friday, along with a vote to see if it will continue. He stated that at the moment, all the Panthers that you see on display are chipping away over the years from all the painting, and they will need to be replaced, if not this year, then next. He also reported on all of the bomb threats, or lack of today. He updated everyone that Dean Humphrey stated that if anyone wanted to come speak to her she has been making time and also has been making it a priority of hers to go from club to club to have discussions with people. She will try to have an opportunity next Tuesday for students to talk with her and Chief Delaney. He also stated that if anyone knows a friend who has had an event canceled or a possibility of it being canceled because of the new precautions being taken for non-Pitt students coming to that event, please let him know. His email is jrl49@pitt.edu and he is trying to find new solutions to still host the event off campus.

1. **SUBMITTED AGENDA ITEMS**

There were no Submitted Agenda Items.

1. **BOARD REPORTS**
2. **Olivia Armstrong**

Board member Armstrong had no report.

1. **Halim Genus**

Board member Genus reported that he looked over the draft letter for moving the voting locations for the fall national Presidential election. He stated that it looked good and that Governmental Relations chair Beecher and his committee have been doing an amazing job.

1. **Julie Hallinan**

Board member Hallinan received an e-mail update from Ted Martin, the director of Equality PA. He informed her that he and Representative Frankel are meeting with the University’s Governmental Relations office on May 10th to talk about the transgendered policies at Pitt. They are partnering with the National Center for Transgendered Equality to work with Pitt to find a solution. She met with Dean Humphrey yesterday, April 9th, to continue the discussion with administration about transgendered equality on campus. The Dean informed her that the University Senate created an ad hoc committee to research this issue further, and they will make policy recommendations for the University Senate. She hopes that we will see a lot of positive change. They are expected to start over the summer, and there will be at least one transgendered student on the committee. They are still looking for two students to provide input on this. Also, she then discussed the Service Day that Chair Beecher spoke about before; this includes a visit by the United States Senator, Bob Casey. It will take place on Friday, April 20th, and it will be with Tree Pittsburgh, Mayor Ravenstahl, and others. It will be held downtown on the Eliza Furnace Trail. She then stated that she spoke to Dean Humphrey about the bomb threats, and she assured her that the University is doing what they can. The Dean also said that whatever she knows she will make sure that the student body knows. She and Chancellor Nordenberg are always here to answer any questions students may have.

1. **Gordon Louderback**

Board member Louderback stated that two weeks ago, he, Board member Hallinan and Environmental Relations Chair Meyer had a good meeting about GFAB the Student Advisory Board and its future. Amongst the students who were there, there were also administrators like Kenyon Bonner, and a representative from Purchasing, Facilities, Management and Housing. There are no definite details at this point, but it is a work in progress. He hopes that they will be able to provide a permanent solution in the near future.

1. **Megan McGrath**

Board member McGrath had no report.

1. **Alex Murdoch**

Board member Murdoch thanked everyone who attended the Pitt Pride Day they hosted last Monday and for signing the Pitt Police banner. This week he will continue with the eight sports club meetings he has. Lastly, he addressed questions he received about the O’Hara student space. He went through the process, picked the ten groups, and he will be meeting with John Hoehn this Thursday, April 12th to confirm those groups for next year. He also encouraged students to attend the Blue Stars Red Carpet ceremony on Sunday, April 22nd.

1. **Natalie Rothenberger**

Board member Rothenberger reported that something that she and the Board are going to try to do in response to these bomb threats is to keep normalcy and maintain Pitt pride and energy, as they did at Pitt Pride Day. She said if anyone has any ideas of any cool things they can do on this campus to pump everyone up, then they are to please let them know. She then added that the Food Committee will be meeting on Friday at 1:00 pm outside of Market-to-Go. Also, they had to temporarily cancel the barbecue for the Food Club, but they are looking into having it next week.

1. **Zoé Samudzi**

Board member Samudzi reported that she met with the procurement director and they discussed the proposal they are creating on the Conflict-Free Campus Initiative. She also met with the Academic Calendar Committee about potential reading days on April 18th. Additionally, she met with SGB Advisor Kenyon Bonner about getting our networking group institutionalized. She wanted to reiterate what her fellow students are saying about the bomb threats on campus. She encouraged students to keep up with their normal daily routine, stay calm and rally together for support.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

1. **ALLOCATIONS**

Chair Nites had no report.

1. **ACADEMIC AFFAIRS**

Chair Stavrakos reported that one of his projects is to get syllabi of classes with course descriptions online. He’s been meeting with some administrators in Arts & Sciences before the semester ends and, hopefully, by the time students are registering for classes for 20/13, it will be up and running and you will be able to see it online. He and Zoe will be meeting with the Calendar Committee on Reading Day and, finally, they are trying to set up a meeting with the Academic Resource Center to work with them on a project for students who are coming in for tutoring so they can put them together in study groups for the same subjects.

1. **COMMUNITY OUTREACH**

Chair Mallampalli reported that she has a meeting later this week with Kevin Stiles in the Office of Off-Campus Living. There will be planning and development officers there too and they will be discussing ways that Pitt can provide better ways to provide more accessible programming to students to better educate students on how they can be better neighbors, how to know their rights, and to know what they can demand from their landlords, etc. She also has a meeting on Thursday with the administration to discuss Pitt Make A Difference Day. It will be on October 20th. If anyone has ideas for that day, please let her or a committee member know. Finally, Oakland Planning and Development is offering a paid internship for students who will be working with Oakland residents in the Taskforce.

1. **ELECTIONS**

Chair Brown had no report.

1. **ENVIRONMENTAL**

Chair Meyer reported that the Sustainability Symposium was put on by Environmental Studies this Friday. It was originally supposed to be in the Union but it is being moved to CMU because of security issues. She thought it was in their student center. If you are interested, it is on Friday from 8:30 a.m. until 4:00 p.m. There will be presentations from students in the class, and the Environmental Committee and GPAC will be there. The presentations are around 11:00-12:00, with lunch at noon. In the morning, there will be speakers also.

1. **GOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS**

Chair Beecher reported that the Advocacy Campaign for Student Letter Writing on the budget cuts is in progress. If students have time now or later, we are trying to get as many people involved in this as we can. This is a really a fast and effective way for students to have their voices heard. They are happy to email it out if students are interested, or if you want to stop by, they have it already set up. In terms of voter polling booths in the Union that Board member Genus has mentioned, he is very excited to say that the elections director is in support of this initiative. As far as the service project with Senator Casey, as Board member Hallinan mentioned, we are all set to go with that. This will take place on Friday, April 20th on 1250 Second Avenue. It will be very flexible. Anyone who wants information on this, please stop by. It will be great way to interact with elected officials like Mayor Ravenstahl and Senator Casey, as well as some of the city of Pittsburgh workers. It will be put on by the Dept. of Parks and Recreation. It will be a really great way for students to interact in community service while working with some of their elected leaders.

1. **JUDICIAL**

Chair Crawford had no report.

1. **PUBLIC RELATIONS**

Chair Held had no report.

1. **TRANSPORTATION AND SAFETY**

Chair White reported that the recent string of bomb threats has taken its toll on the university. It has produced a spectacle that is indeed hitting the character of this university. Many students in off-campus housing have opened up their houses to students who don’t feel safe staying in their dormatories. He asked the Board members and fellow students to join them in the See Something, Say Something Campaign. He encouraged vigilance on everyone’s part, and asked everyone to forward any information about these threats to the proper authorities. He reaffirmed that they should be assured security measures are in place all around campus. Pitt Police and the federal authorities continue to search for the person or persons responsible for these threats.

On the transportation side of his report, they continue to search for alternatives if Port Authority eliminates service. On a personal note, this is his last public meeting of the semester, since he has another commitment during next Tuesday’s meeting time. He wished everyone a very happy and productive summer.

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

**#7143 Russian Club - $2,485.00**

Allocations recommendation was to approve $1,230.00 and deny $1,255.00.

The motion was seconded.

The motion did not carry.

The Board recommendation was to postpone.

The motion was seconded.

The motion carried.

**#7148 Pitt Ballet Club - $525.00**

Allocations recommendation was to approve in full.

The motion was seconded.

The motion carried.

**#7149 Pitt Cycling Team - $4,311.43**

Allocations recommendation was to approve $3,264.66 and deny $1,046.77.

The motion was seconded.

The motion did not carry.

The Board recommendation was to approve $3,414.66 and deny $896.77.

The motion was seconded.

The motion carried.

**#7150 Panther Women’s Rugby - $2,022.72**

Allocations recommendation was to approve $1,155.84 and deny $866.88.

The motion was seconded.

The motion did not carry.

The Board recommendation was to approve $1,733.76 and deny $288.96.

The motion was seconded.

The motion carried.

**#7155 Ignite: InterVarsity - $1,432.00**

Allocations recommendation was to deny in full.

The motion was seconded.

The motion carried.

**#7152 Women’s Fastpitch Softball Club - $634.28**

Allocations recommendation was to approve in full.

The motion was seconded.

The motion carried.

**#7153 Session: Middle East - $2,346.00**

Allocations recommendation was to approve in full.

The motion was seconded.

The motion carried.

**#7155 Americans for an Informed Democracy - $625.02**

Allocations recommendations was to approve in full.

The motion was seconded.

The motion carried.

**#7156 Lady Panther Lacrosse - $13,785.94**

Allocations recommendations was to approve $8,907.20 and deny $4,878.74.

The motion was seconded.

The motion did not carry.

The Board recommendation was to approve $12,961.94 and deny $824.00.

The motion was seconded.

The motion carried.

1. **Other New Business**

There was no Other New Business.

1. **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

President Landreneau announced that next week, Chair White will be speaking on Resolution 0018. The Board members will be placing their votes.

1. **OPEN FLOOR**

A representative of WPTS spoke about Wednesday’s interview with Robert Hill, Vice Chancellor of Student Affairs. Topics include bomb threats and the University’s reaction. He then mentioned other topics that WPTS will be airing. He urged everyone to check out the schedule online.

Chair White announced April 15th, Tax Day, is postponed until April 16th, to file your taxes or to file for an extension due to calendar events.

A representative of the Student Honors Activity Council spoke about their mentoring program, and they are still accepting applications until April 30th. They will also be holding their final event from 1pm-4pm on Saturday, in front of Forbes Apartments.

1. **PRESIDENT’S REMARKS**

President Landreneau announced the Pirates are currently 2-2.

1. **ADJOURNMENT**

There was a motion to adjourn the meeting.

The motion was seconded.

The motion carried.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:07 p.m.

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