Student Government Meeting  
Wednesday, October 1, 2014

Meeting Highlights:
- One budget request was passed
- A plan to get intramurals back to tier 1 status was discussed
- A survey that would allow students to select clubs they want to receive email from was discussed

Complete minutes are as follows:

Roll Call:

Absent: Austin Jacobs

Minutes from the last meeting stand approved.

Reports:
Student Body President Alex Severn: Jess and I are having lunch with President Simmons next Tuesday. Come talk to us if there is anything pressing you would like us to talk with him about.

Manager Michael Reuter: Nothing to report.

Treasurer Ethan Fredrick: We will be having one budget presented tonight from the International Student Organization for $94. We met with them and sent out a budget rational.

Senior Class President Jessalyn Holdcraft: We will be having one budget presented tonight from the International Student Organization for $94. We met with them and sent out a budget rational.

Junior Class President Austin Jacobs: JJ Hansen reported: We worked on the survey which was sent out today with some issues. The corrected version will be sent out as soon as we get the issues figured out. Our budget request for flag football should be coming soon. We will send out an email to sign up for times as soon as we find out when we are allowed to have the field.

Sophomore Class President Robert Lyons: We have four points of discussion today:
- We have started to work with Chartwells on transparency. Erica will be leading that charge.
- We are setting up a meeting with Sarah Beadle to work on nontraditional student advocacy.
- We are meeting next week with Professor Dinesen to discuss May term courses. We will hopefully have a questionnaire ready before fall break.
- We started breaking down the budget for analysis.

First Year Class President Zach Goodrich: The student organizations committee met last week with Nicole Darling and a few representatives from Intramurals who are also here with us tonight. We will be bringing that up in general discussion.
Advisors Rich & Kristen: The survey has been sent and should be approved tomorrow morning.

Food Committee Report, Erica Heidler: Here are updates from our last meeting with Chartwells:
Pfeiffer:
- Increasing gluten free breakfast options
- Bacon once a week for breakfast/brunch
- Fresh salads to the left hand side of the deli sandwiches (hot and cold)
  - More fresh/seasonal vegetables (75:25)
Kent:
- October LTO: Mozzarella sticks, chili cheese fries, chili, pizza burger
- Lauren Ulm, President EAC:
  - Keep all the lunch trash and see what we are wasting
  - Try to create more efficient recycling

Old Business:
None

New Business:
Jessalyn Holdcraft: I move to allocate $94 for the International Student Organization. This money is for materials for costumes for Yell Like Hell. They will be advertising it to all of campus. They are an open organization with open membership.
Kelsey Wittorf: How many people do they participate attending?
Jessalyn Holdcraft: This is the first time in a while that they have done Yell Like Hell. They have 15 regular members but they also have additional people involved in MSA and Latinos Unidos. They will also be sending it to all of campus.
Kelsey Wittorf: How many people will they have in their skit?
Ishaya David: The budget request has materials for 12 people.
Vote: Passed

General Discussion:
Intramurals:
Jessalyn Holdcraft: I would like to recognize the four members of Intramurals that are here with us tonight.
Zach Goodrich: We met with you guys last Thursday and there were a lot of questions that we didn’t have the answer to. Specifically about why you were knocked down to tier 2. If you have any questions, you can ask them here tonight.
Representatives: The main thing we want to know is how to get back to tier 2.
Ethan Fredrick: The decision was made by the committee last year. The metrics for tier 1 groups include immediate programming before the first SGA meeting. We want to make sure you have student leadership set up for the fall because there is less oversight and planning needs to happen over the summer. We also want there to be people staying with the program and don’t want it to have a lot of senior leadership. The final input we want to check is that the group is fiscally responsible because most tier 1 groups get their whole year budget at once. We wanted was to make sure Intramurals was growing because you are such an important group on campus. When you are a tier 2 organization you meet with the organization committee and the budget committee more often so we can make sure we are giving you the resources you need so you can grow into the role.
Alex Severn: The big thing was fiscal responsibility. We are starting to see better budget requests and I just saw a revision of what you have spent so far which is awesome. The other part that I want to see
happen is the ability for students to buy into the organization, plan events, get involved in the budgeting, and get involved in the organization. It is an interesting dynamic because we understand that Intramurals gets money from the operating budget and SGA. This might be part of a bigger conversation with the organization committee of how you guys want to structure Intramurals differently to where there is a separation between the people who are planning events and the people who are working the events. We expect that students have a pivotal role in the organization funds are being requested for.

Ethan Fredrick: The major thing I want to express is that this wasn’t seen as a punishment. Intramurals is one of the most popular groups on campus and one that students want to have the most. Our goal is to get you back on tier 1 by the end of the year. We want you guys to see us as a resource for you to get help and support. We don’t want to be a hassle for you and we don’t want to punish you. You can go to Zach and the organizations committee or Alex or Jess or anyone else in this room.

Representatives: How often would you be available to meet with us?
Zach Goodrich: We are still working on that structure because we want to meet with all campus organizations but they would be recurring and we would be able to help you with anything.

Ethan Fredrick: You will have to meet with the financial advisory committee every time a budget request is submitted. That is one of the differences that tier 1 groups get some general funding while others have to meet with us for every request. You had a general budget request passed so I don’t expect you to need to meet with us very frequently.

Alex Severn: Does that make it a little clearer why we made the decision we did last year? Do you guys have any more comments or questions?

Representatives: How would you recommend getting students involved since we have work study students?

Alex Severn: I think this goes back to how you organize intramurals. You need to have key people that are working toward certain goals. In SGA we have a finance committee that works on the budget and then brings it to the larger group for a vote. We have an organization committee that works with organizations and gives them resources. Different committees work on different key areas. I think that is what you may try to do so that everyone is not working on the same thing and everyone doesn’t have to be trained on everything.

Representatives: We do have a structure already with mentors for new students and supervisors at every event. We also have our undergraduate assistant who is the president.

Alex Severn: We understand that side but there needs to be another side where you guys have a say in the planning and the programs that are going on around campus.

Ethan Fredrick: At no point was the participation of students questioned.

Rich Ramos: While you have paid positions, not all of the ideas need to come from people in paid positions. There can be another group of students that can bring forward new ideas and plan events.

Representatives: We could have monthly meetings that are open to the public.

Alex Severn: We are always open to the public. All campus organizations need to be open. I like that you guys are questioning and want to see what you can get out of the organization. We understand that you guys are a pivotal part of campus and that your programming is extremely important. You are one of the organizations that most people partake in on campus. We want to help you guys to have a say in what is happening on campus. For us as SGA, we need students to have a say in what is going on. We think that is pivotal because it allows students to gain very important roles. It is also important because it is part of our finance code that these things need to be happening. This discussion needs to continue with the Student Organizations committee. It is not a punishment we are trying to put on you guys even though it may seem that way. We are trying to help you guys help us enjoy intramurals even more.

Representatives: We appreciate you guys helping us get back to tier 1 status. We talked a little about creating a special category for us since we have work study students and other members. Is that something that is going to be possible?
Ruth Ann Roberts: We have not presented that to everyone yet but we will be discussing it with Alex after the general meeting.

Ethan Fredrick: The really specific stuff can be talked about more with the student organization committee.

Representatives: We are completely open and anyone can participate or work in Intramurals. Also, anyone can participate or be an instructor with Simpson Fitness.

Jessalyn Holdcraft: I would like to say that you guys are doing exactly what you are supposed to be doing.

Alex Severn: Please send any further questions to the student organization committee and they will continue working with you.

Survey:

Ruth Ann Roberts: Last week I sent out a survey monkey to SGA asking for feedback. Alex recommended that we put descriptions on the survey.

Alex Severn: We have a lot of first years on campus that don’t know what any of these organization are and I think they should know what they are signing up for. I want to know what way we could do this so that it is not extremely cluttered because no one would want to take the survey. I think we could attach an extra document to the survey with information about all of the organizations.

Ruth Ann Roberts: I don’t see why we couldn’t attach a document to the email that gets sent out with the link.

Kristen Wyse: You can also attach things to a survey so it could be right in the survey monkey.

Conner McGinnis: Could you just put a link to the list of all the clubs and organizations on the Simpson website.

Alex Severn: I’m concerned that list may not be up to date.

Ruth Ann Roberts: The list I am using says 2014 but it could still be a few months out of date.

Kristen Wyse: Obviously you could link it to all of the clubs and organizations but I think the question was what do the organizations do which is not on our website. If you want details you need to create a document.

Jessalyn Holdcraft: I think something else that could be done is to list past events that the clubs have done. Some organizations have very fluid leadership and it just depends on the year whether they are active or not.

Robert Lyons: When we add all these groups it is going to be a long list. Can we see several different styles? I also think we should sort the survey by tier level. There is voter fatigue and I don’t want people to miss our tier one organizations because they are hiding at the bottom of the list.

Olivia Anderson: We can just ask all of the organizations to send us a 100 word summary of what they do and ask if they want to be included on the survey.

Ruth Ann Roberts: I am copying the descriptions they use when they register to be a club.

Kristen Wyse: You can also create multiple pages on a survey so groups can be categorized. Then there won’t be mass overload.

SGA Website:

Jessalyn Holdcraft: One of the things the finance committees talked about was transparency and making all of our documents more accessible. Ethan and I talked about utilizing the simpson.edu site as our homepage instead of the WordPress site. This would include redesigning our portion of the website and including the minutes there so they are easily searchable.

Alex Severn: This is something Michael and I have met on and discussed. Our page on the Simpson website is terrible. We thought of a couple ways we would handle this. We could get our own domain
and route the SGA link on the Simpson page to our own site. We could also continue with our WordPress but it doesn’t sound like the finance committee thinks that is the right option.

**Jessalyn Holdcraft:** I think having an external site is the issue because then it can’t be searched from our own website.

**Alex Severn:** The problem is that if we do all of this on our current website, it is very difficult to change.

**Jessalyn Holdcraft:** It is not impossible to change.

**Ruth Ann Roberts:** I think it inappropriate for us to be using an outside source.

**Olivia Anderson:** Would it be a difficult process to post the minutes every week if they were on the Simpson website.

**Rich Ramos:** It would be a little harder to give a student access to a certain section of the Simpson website.

**Announcements:**

- Friday, October 3rd, 7:30pm: Holy Grounds Concert Series: Canby
- Saturday, October 4th, 11:45pm: Midnight Breakfast in Pfeiffer
- The Simpson Debate tournament is this weekend so there will be about 400 high school student on campus.
- If anyone needs any volunteer hours you can contact Robert through the Rotaract club.