Student Government Meeting
Wednesday, February 25, 2015

Meeting Highlights:
- Discussed changes to the Finance Code.
- Discussed May Term options that Ethan can bring back to the budget committee meetings.
- No meeting next week due to Campus Day!

Complete minutes are as follows:

Roll Call:

Absent: Mariah Young

Kristen Wyse was also present.

Minutes from the last meeting were approved.

Reports:
Student Body President Ethan Frederick: No report.

Student Body Vice President Sarah Beadle: No report.

Manager Mary Galanis: No report.

Senior Class President, Jessalyn Holdcraft: This week we revised the Finance Code. We will present the changes tonight.

Junior Class President, Austin Jacobs: The Student Life Committee met and discussed the pros & cons of each of the capital improvement projects. We came up with a good list for all the projects. Ishaya David then updated us on his transportation project & said he has been working with Jim Hayes and eventually the new Transpiration UGA. We will continue to update you on our projects.

Sophomore Class President, Robert Lyons:
Survey Monkey Results:
Would you like to include electronic cigarettes in the smoke free campus policy?
- 70% Yes // 30% No

Proposed Smoke-Free Campus
- 75% Yes // 25% No

Completely Tobacco Free Campus
- 75% Yes // 25% No

*We are currently looking at tweaking our proposed policy after communicating with Iowa State University activists in order to make sure there are no loopholes. In addition, we’re contemplating
assisting them with their legislative efforts at the Capital to include e-cigs in the Iowa Smoke Free Air Act.

*Additionally, after examining the comments on our survey, we will be writing an op-ed piece for the Simpsonian to try and educate the public about the negatives of electronic cigarettes.

**Campus ID Policy**
In working with Residence Life and Campus Security, our committee has made it so that all Pi Phi’s, Tri-Delt’s, and residents of theme houses have access to all residence halls and apartments between the hours of 8:00 am and 10:00 pm like regular students. This change has already been implemented and will continue every year so long as problems don’t arise.

**Bullying/Harassment/Social Media Policy**
We conducted research at our last meeting of other college’s policies and have amalgamated our own version. We will be presenting this to Luke Behaunek for input in the next week.

**Parking Lots and Garages**
Now that the weather has cleared up (for the most part), our committee will begin work on exploring parking lot efficiency and garage usage.

Olivia: Iowa State in February suggested an anti-e-cigarette policy to their administration. It passed their student government and is waiting on their administration. They want us to join them in going to the state legislature about it.

**First Year Class President, Zach Goodrich:** We are continuing to work on our projects. I have worked on students keeping their meal plan dollars.

Cody: For Campus Day, Ruth and I have made many phone calls. It will be April 1 from 1-3pm. LoL had our best attendance of the year. I am on a new initiative to find presidents of every student organizations to get them to come to the next meeting. We talked about a survey for accreditation and they will be stopping people on campus to ask them questions about the college. There will be an email from President Simmons about this in the near future.

Cody: Food committee met today. ABP keeps messing up orders. Charles said students are confusing with their orders. If there is a mistake, they will fix it. They are trying to do more training with more staff.

Erica: For people keeping their flex dollars, when moving meal plans, you are only billed for what you use. Does that help?

Jessalyn: No. If they move out of their residence hall, they lose all of that Flex.

Cody: They only charge you for what you use.

Ruth: A typical student’s flex would roll over.

Cody: The money you don’t use in your flex doesn’t get charged to your account.

Olivia: Why if you move from fall to spring can you not keep the flex for the next semester?

Zach: I contacted the keeper of the contracts for the college.

Erica: I would talk to Luke about this.

**Advisors Rich and Kristen:** Nothing to report.

**Old Business**
None.

**New Business**
Jessalyn: I move to amend the Finance Code.
Robert seconded it.

Jessalyn: We are back to the Finance Code. Starting the Tier 1 budgeting process, we saw that people had a misunderstanding about the Finance Code. People thought Tier 1 meant they were a better organization. The Tier 2 expectations are going to be added to the requirements of an organization. Tier 1 and Tier 2 are gone. It reopens the thought that any group can ask for student salaries. There will be year round programming and meeting requirements.
Ruth: So anyone can put in a year-long budget request in the spring?
Jessalyn: You are applying for immediate funding.
Olivia: This year or next year?
Jessalyn: It will be applied next year. We are doing wording changes. Tier 1 is being changed to immediate funding. There is no longer a tier process. Anyone can apply for it. We have to approve them. Many groups have the misconception that becoming Tier 1 makes them a better organization. The original thought of creating the Tier 1 process was that so groups could ask for funding in the spring for the fall.
Sarah: We had smaller groups ask for one or two programs to be funded immediately.
Jessalyn: The biggest indication is student pay. It used to be that you had to be Tier 1 to ask for student pay. Now it is going to make it that anyone can ask for student pay at any point in the year. It will be up to our committee and the Senate if that happens.
Ruth: Can we make that less gray?
Nick L.: That is what the added requirements are for. We are looking for more ideas about that. We were unsure how to define it.
Jessalyn: My committee is hesitant on student pay in general. More groups will have the opportunity to ask for student pay. It takes up 4% of our budget. We want it to be black and white for the rationale process. Having the Tier 1 requirement was the most restrictive we have ever had student pay.
Molly: What groups do we give student pay to?
Jessalyn: They are in an Excel document. Currently, we allocated $5,200 to SGA for student pay. It is $400 different than the last few years without Treasurer. CAB receives $1,600 for the school year for its eight positions. Simpson Student Media gets $6,000 for three positions. Latinos Unidos got $1,106 for work Ulices did over the summer. That was a one-time thing with Latinos Unidos. It might not have to happen in the future. The most consistent were CAB, SGA and Simpson Student Media. We will be adding more changes to the Finance Code. I would move to table these until next week.
Nick L. seconded it.
Vote: Passed

General Discussion
Ethan: A question has been coming up in the All Campus Budget Committee that I serve on with Alex Severn. I would like to check in with you guys. We have been evaluating how many May Terms you have to take until you graduate. Simpson is trying to evaluate if the structure makes sense. Would students like the new structure? We are looking at limiting May Terms to 2. We could not have May Term and move it so you could have more classes during the semester. We could have the 2 May Terms and that is it. Do they sound realistic?
Nick L.: With students graduating in three years, they are taking their May Term after they walk. If you limit those, with the amount of advertising we are doing with Simpson in 3, I feel it is hypocritical.
Ruth: If we are looking at budget issues, that isn’t a good idea.
Nick L.: They just pushed a huge advertising campaign for Simpson in 3.
Ethan: This is more general. What do students think is essential about May Term?
Jessalyn: May Term should be a priority. It sets us apart. To suggest we have to take more than two May Terms, we have to pay, is idiotic. You never know where the trips abroad are going. That seems unfair. Not a fan of doing away with May Term either. We advertise it too much. Hard no for none of the options.

Zach: What other areas is the college looking at?

Ethan: We are looking at every line item of the budget. We are looking at the last few dollars that we need to change for the budget for the next two years. They asked if student life would be affected. Any other suggestions, let me know.

Conner: Do you have to take 2 for every four years?

Ruth: It is 1 for every 2 years you are here.

Conner: Have they ever looked at any other options? My best experiences have come from May Term.

Ethan: We are investigating it. It is complicated. We aren’t sure if we save money having tenured professors fit their 6 classes they are required to teach during the semester term. I just wanted a better answer to bring back to the committee about May Term.

Molly: It helps us get our semester done earlier. Our seniors get out on the job market sooner. May Term is awesome.

Nick Y.: When I was looking at colleges, I really wanted a J-Term or a May Term. I wanted the experience outside of my major. It is a selling point.

Austin: I needed the May Terms I have taken for the designations.

Ethan: I wanted a number of how many students go beyond the two. What if we came back with a report that only 50 students went over 3, would that make sense?

Sarah: Would that be in effect after we graduate?

Ethan: These are long term changes.

Jessalyn: They were changing the class schedule my freshmen year. They were surprised at how many students continued to take May Term after they reduced the requirement. The number of students that take 4 may be less than 200. I am hesitant to limit it.

Conner: We don’t know what classes will be in advance.

Savannah: I have to take two May Terms that I need to graduate that aren’t offered throughout the regular year.

Jessalyn: That is something that is important to note. Music and Education rely on May Terms to get requirements in.

Ethan: We talked about that.

Molly: When I went to the budget meeting with Allison Wolf, she said we need to attract students and focus on our academic program. Even if there is a report that not all students use all 4, it is still not a smart idea.

Olivia: Not all students can pay to study abroad, so you can stay here to get designations and take interesting classes.

Cort: As a winter sport athlete, I don’t have the option to study abroad over a semester. I would have to do May Term.

Erica: Would it affect tuition?

Ethan: I don’t know. First we decide if it is an essential part. Our first two priorities is recruitment and the quality of our academic program. First thing we look at is it successful? Then, we look at is it revenue
generating? Then if it is none of those, we start discussing ways we need to restructure it. If there was a change, it wouldn’t affect anyone in this room.

Erica: If you tuition is less and you have to pay for a fourth one, that evens out.
Sarah: It won’t be as revenue generating.
Savannah: Education majors can only study abroad during May Term and people who double major. It is their only time to study abroad.
Ethan: We have internships, traditional classroom and study abroad. It has been brought up to just have internships and study abroad. Do we feel the classroom setting is essential?
Collective says yes.
Ethan: Thanks for the input. I will keep you updated. These are the kinds of questions that come up at the All Campus Budget meetings. Go to those meetings!
Jessalyn: I have sat in on Board meetings. Can we motivate students to go to these things?
Erica: I would say informing students beforehand of what will be talked about.
Molly: What is wrong with saying we may cut May Term? I don’t want to cause mass panic, but we should be honest about issues.
Ruth: My only concern with that is the whole point of the All Campus Budget Meetings is to make things informative.
Nick Y.: We need to recruit people to go. We need to reach out to students.
Sarah: What would make you guys go to a meeting?
Ruth: I would be comfortable with more students there.
Conner: We preached earlier about wanting to be transparent. We can’t we tell them?
Ethan: The reason I am phrasing it the way I am is because we don’t know the recommendation we will make. We are only looking at May Term. We are adding money to some programs. What is recommended in April will be public knowledge. If you were at the All Campus Budget Meeting, you would know what is up for discussion.
Molly: If we took what was talked about at the last budget meeting, they may be more apt to go.
Robert: We did publicize the last meeting. I wrote about it in the Simpsonian.
Ethan: Hearing Molly’s input, I have the information. I could pull it up now or email it out to SGA. We could decide to look at it at our next SGA meeting.
Erica: We should have it emailed out and talk about it at our next meeting.

Cody: Those capital improvements projects, I have an idea. Why don’t we hire someone to make a better StormFront?
Zach: It is already happening. It is going to be called SC Connect. We are going from 2004 software to 2013 software. The reserves aren’t an ongoing thing. IT already has people working on it.

Announcements
Sarah: Elections will be April 13-17. Applications due April 10th. It will be the same for Student Conduct.
Erica: On Campus Day Eve, there will be an Outdoor Lau put on by ResLife. I am on the group that is putting it on! It is 5-7pm.
Ethan: We don’t have meeting on Campus Day.
Jessalyn: On Campus Day Eve in the Black Box will be the PRIDE Drag Show, hosted by Ian Applegate at 9pm.
Robert: Rotaract will meet tomorrow from 8-9pm. Next Monday at 7pm, Bollywood instructors are coming for Dance Club. On Wednesday Campus Day morning, there is a Poverty Simulation from 9am-12am. We need more people to join!
Molly: I still want your bags!
Ruth: Campus Day committee meeting tonight at 7pm.
Cody: Lip Sync tomorrow at 7pm in the Black Box. April 9 there is the Fashion Show for PRSSA.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:50pm.