Student Government Association Meeting
Wednesday, August 27 2014

Meeting Highlights:
-Five budget requests were voted on.
-First Year elections will be taking place over Labor Day weekend.

Complete minutes are as follows:

Roll Call:
Present: Alex Severn, Jessica Schultes, Jessalyn Holdcraft, Ryan Stewart, Kelsey Wittorf, Connor McGinnis, Connor Johnson, Justin Jacobs, Nick Yeager, JJ Hanson, Ruth Ann Roberts, Ethan Fredrick, Robert Lyons, Teig Loge, Ishaya David, Tyler Stokesbary, Erica Heidler, Michael Reuter

Absent: None

Reports:
Student Body President Alex Severn: I am really happy to see you all back this year and I think that we did a good job last semester creating the structure to have a really good first semester. Last year we struggled in being proactive and getting out and actualizing our strategies. You have all probably noticed that Tyler’s is the same as last year. A lot of things have happened over the summer. I had hoped to get more done over the summer as I was expecting to have more time on campus. Also Chartwells had a hectic summer with a large turnover in management which further delayed the process. Therefore, over the summer our communication wasn’t very good because we were both very busy. We have gotten a lot of bids and the scope has gotten larger. Some of the items we thought weren’t going to be very expensive are actually going to be pretty expensive. I didn’t feel comfortable making the decisions myself because I want to make sure that we make the right change and that we are doing the right things. I want to reconvene the subcommittee I had last semester to decide to future and scope of the Tyler’s renovation.

Senior Class President Jessalyn Holdcraft: We will be hearing five budget requests and formally voting on them tonight. Tier 1 organizations get money in the spring because they do programming before SGA has the first meeting in the fall.

Junior Class President Austin Jacobs: I can’t wait to get started with my student life committee next week.

Sophomore Class President Robert Lyons: Nothing to report.

First Year Class President: (Ruth Ann Roberts reported on behalf of the First Year Class president because the position is vacant.) I worked on the student organization policy over the summer which has reached 35 pages and can walk a student who wants to create a campus organization through the process.

Treasurer Ethan Fredrick: You all received an email from me with budget information for Tier 1 organizations. I have more information that I didn’t send out if anyone wants to see it.

Manager Michael Reuter: Nothing to report.
Advisors Richard and Kristen: The link sent to the first years to sign up for SGA has been corrected. First years need to get posters approved before hanging them up in residence halls.

Old Business:
None

New Business:
WTF Budget Request: Total Requested: $18,606.15 Recommendation: $16,200.00
Ethan Fredrick: The only item to note is that they asked to fund everything they had funded last year again. The only item we took out was their request for funding to go to the APCA conference. It is a separate conference from the student organization conference that CAB goes to. WTF didn’t originally think they could go with CAB but last year we ended up sending WTF representatives with CAB. I think the collaboration went well and I don’t think the differences between the two conferences made it worth it to send them to the other conference. We took that out and told them that if they are still interested in the APCA conference that they can pursue it with a separate request. I move to allocate $16,200.00 to WTF for this event.
Jessalyn Holdcraft: I know we had an issue with some items last year. Are they in the budget request again this year?
Ethan Fredrick: No I don’t think they were included this year, but let me open the budget request and check.

Teig Loge: Just to clarify, that’s the lock picking event they wanted to do?
Ethan Fredrick: Yes, the rest of the materials were fine except for the lock picking materials.
Erica Heidler: Does this include the air brush equipment they purchased last year?
Ethan Fredrick: No, this just includes refills for that sort of equipment.
Nick Yeager: I have a concern about Cosplay Palooza. I don’t feel like it was very highly attended for how much money was spent on it last year. The dollar per student ratio was very high.
Robert Lyons: I believe that event had low attendance because the new email policy had just gone into effect.
Ruth Ann Roberts: WTF appeals to a different crowd than any other organization on campus, so yes that is a lot of money for 50 students, but those 50 students probably have a great time.
Ethan Fredrick: I want to confirm that we are not buying lock picks.
Vote: Passed

Simpson Student Media Budget Request: Total Requested: $39,000.00 Recommendation: $39,000.00
Ethan Fredrick: The budget for Simpson Student Media moved from $34,000.00 to $39,000.00 this year, mainly because they are pushing for more online services. They are realizing that some of their other costs go to forms of media that aren’t widely used by Simpson students. We as SGA really support online initiatives and have in the past with other organizations. We recommend the full amount based on the previous funds we have allocated and the presence they provide on campus. I move to allocate $39,000 to Simpson Student Media.
Ruth Ann Roberts: Are the online costs one-time costs or are they repeated costs?
Jessalyn Holdcraft: I don’t feel comfortable continually giving students salaries to run the radio station when their product isn’t closely monitored.
Ethan Fredrick: The online expenses are one-time costs.
Jessalyn Holdcraft: The radio station is not as closely watched as the other pieces of Simpson Student Media. There are still ads for programs that aren’t on anymore.
Kristen Wyse: We met with Simpson Student Media in May. They admitted that the radio station didn’t go very well last year and explained that the manager of the radio station left last year but there is a new manager this year who should do a much better job.

Alex Severn: I think the concern of quality about the radio station has been floating around. Simpson Student Media is a Tier 1 organization but I don’t feel comfortable giving them money at this time if we have questions over the quality and necessity of the radio station. I think they need to prove to us that they have a plan set in place to improve the quality. We can amend to take this out and ask them to come back to resubmit a request. That will delay the time for them to get the money but it will get us answers about the quality of the program.

Ethan Fredrick: In my opinion, the quality of the station or the music or programming has not declined. I don’t think a few old sound bites are enough to put them on hiatus for a few months.

Jessalyn Holdcraft: I would be fine taking out the salary because they are in a class and they are getting paid to take the class. The work is going to get done whether or not they have the salary. We can take out the salary and allocate it later because they have to do it for their class.

Kelsey Wittorf: We don’t pay students to work for CAB anymore do we?

Ethan Fredrick: Those who work at events don’t get paid, but executives do.

Vote: Passed

Religious Life Community Budget Request: Total Requested: $49,750.00 Recommendation: $49,750.00

Ethan Fredrick: RLC’s request is $6,250.00 more than last year mainly because they want to add more programming. After last year they still had things students were asking for. They saw major growth in Interfaith last year and want to continue on that. Last year we partially funded a renovation of the small chapel in the basement which is now a meditation room. We looked through their budget and only had one reservation which was a $10,000.00 miscellaneous appropriation. They explained that the miscellaneous funds were because they expect more students throughout the year and they want to have funds set aside for new projects. We still weren’t completely comfortable with that so we asked for a further explanation which I received. We decided that we were satisfied with their budget request contingent on their explanation. We recommend the full budget. I move to allocate $49,750.00 to the Religious Life Community.

Alex Severn: Can you qualify the miscellaneous funds?

Ethan Fredrick: Some of it is for RLC to attend college events throughout the year. Some of it is for the new staff to plan a retreat. A new student cooking night and a new student earth day celebration are also in this category.

Vote: Passed

Latinos Unidos Budget Request: Total Requested: $10,172.75 Recommendation: $9,510.00

Ethan Fredrick: Latinos Unidos is now a Tier 1 organization and we are very happy to have them. In the budget request it looks like they are asking for a UGA and a work study position. We don’t fund those positions. They are asking for a paid leadership positions in their organization. We took one of the positions out of their request because we didn’t feel like it was well defined or independent from the other position. The other position then became a programming director and someone who is in charge of maintaining the house. They have their own house called “La Casa” which is not a theme house. It is considered a multicultural center. They want to pay someone to manage maintenance of the house for minimum wage. We confirmed that this person’s pay would be comparable to other similar positions on campus. Other major events include Latino Heritage month which is something they want to be involved in. They also had some smaller events they wanted to hold at their house. The only thing we pulled out was their request to show movies about Latino culture because of copyright issues. We recommend the remainder of the budget. I move to allocate $9,510.00 to Latinos Unidos.
Erica Heidler: Have we ever hired anyone in a position like this before?
Ethan Fredrick: It would be similar to how Simpson Student Media students are paid. Walter Lain, the Assistant Dean of Multicultural & International Affairs would manage the hiring process.
Ryan Stewart: For this paid student position, doesn’t maintenance take care of yard work?
Ethan Fredrick: Latinos Unidos took care of most of this over the summer because it is not a theme house.
Kelsey Wittorf: Are we reimbursing them for their work over the summer?
Ethan Fredrick: We are reimbursing many groups because their work starts before our first meeting. It is not something out of the norm.
Ryan Stewart: Are we funding one person?
Ethan Fredrick: I don’t know who they hired, but we are refunding that person for their work over the summer.
Ryan Stewart: Would they give money to the other people who helped?
Ethan Fredrick: The four people who live there are taking care of the house but they have other responsibilities because they are students too. The staff position is someone extra.
Alex Severn: The reason they have this position is because they are doing more customized work than a traditional residencehouse. Mowing the lawn would be something that would be done through maintenance. The reason they want us to pay for this position is because they want to customize it and make it more than just a house.
Jessalyn Holdcraft: My only concern is that Residence Life is not paying it. If the college won’t pay it, why should student funds pay it? I think the work of this student is valid and it sounds like a really cool place but why is this position different from an HA in a Greek House?
Ethan Fredrick: There is a very substantial difference from an HA. This is the contact and event person for the house. They would be responsible for explaining their status as a Tier 1 group. We wanted to support this position because of the growth last year and because we feel that it will be very good for the college. We wanted to ensure that the house was in good working function before students returned.
Kelsey Wittorf: I move to table this and to ask Latinos Unidos for clarification of the position. Motion passed.

Campus Activities Board Budget Request: Total Requested: $163,969.00 Recommendation: $153,150.00
Ethan Fredrick: CAB requested $163,000.00, we are going to recommend $153,150.00 which is still about $20,000.00 more than was appropriated last year but less than the year before. Ruth Ann Roberts will explain and answer questions about this budget request. I move to allocate $153,150.00 to CAB.
Jessalyn Holdcraft: What was cut out?
Ruth Ann Roberts: Those of us who went to NACA wanted to bring someone else to campus. We found a group that would have cost about $10,000.00 but we were going to let the campus vote which is why it was marked as miscellaneous. Due to this designation the finance committee was not satisfied in approving it. We plan on taking a vote, getting exact costs and re applying for funding.
Alex Severn: We are in full support of this event but we just don’t want to appropriate until we get an exact cost in case the person that gets booked is actually a lot less expensive. Otherwise the excess amount would sit in CAB’s account, to which we could not take back.
Connor McGinnis: The Labor Day activities funding says “cost will depend on activity.” Has that cost since been set?
Ruth Ann Roberts: We are spending that money on prizes for the scavenger hunt, the free late night movies, the 75 Adventureland tickets that we purchased, and the magician on Monday night. WTF is
also collaborating on a “How to do Magic” session. We will have a little money left over but you will be able to see how we spent this money at the end of the year.

Vote: Passed

**SGA Budget Request:** Total Requested: $1,342.00 Recommendation: $1,342.00

**Tyler Stokesbary:** I move to allocate $1,342.00 for a popcorn machine. The need for a new popcorn machine was brought up last year, but the current popcorn machine is now broken so this is more urgent than it was last year. The amount listed includes a cart which we may not even need. If you do allocate the full amount we could buy extra materials such as popcorn and bags that could be used for a very long time.

**Jessalyn Holdcraft:** This is an SGA budget request so the money will stay in the account if it is not used.

Vote: Passed

**Latinos Unidos Budget Request:**

**Kelsey Wittorf:** I move to bring the Latinos Unidos budget request back to the table.

Motion passed

**Jessalyn Holdcraft:** I move to amend the amount appropriated to Latinos Unidos to $8,350.00 which excludes the paid position.

Vote: Passed

**Connor McGinnis:** Why did we not approve this budget request when we appropriate funds in the same way for RLC interns?

**Alex Severn:** We weren’t sure about the actual duties of that position and what the duties of Residence Life are and why we should fund it as student life.

**Connor McGinnis:** A lot of what this person would do is what the RLC interns do.

**Jessalyn Holdcraft:** RLC has multiple budgets and their interns are paid through UGA.

**Connor McGinnis:** With regards to Residence Life, CAs and HAs aren’t responsible for keeping up a culture on campus.

**Alex Severn:** The question is whether or not maintenance should be paying for some of the work this person is doing.

Vote: Passed

**General Discussion**

**Alex Severn:** We have a slew of people to elect to committees but I would like to wait until next meeting because the first years will be here then.

**Jessalyn Holdcraft:** Can we go ahead with the food committee?

**Alex Severn:** Yes, that committee will be responsible for taking care of student needs in regard to food service.

**Jessalyn Holdcraft:** Food committee is now electable. There are several other committees that are combinations of students that are and are not on SGA. (See our wordpress for all committees. If interested contact alex.severn@my.simpson.edu or an SGA representative.)

**Alex Severn:** Be thinking about who you want to nominate to committees. I will send out the list of all committees and who is needed for each one. Student Conduct Board also needs to be included. We will continue electing students for this because we didn’t receive enough applications last year.

**Erica Heidler:** For the food committee, do you want people on SGA?

**Alex Severn:** It doesn’t really matter but I think a combination would be best.

**Robert Lyons:** Did we notify anyone about this change?

**Alex Severn:** I have talked to a few people but hopefully everyone else will read this in the minutes.
**Announcements**

- David Cook will be coming for homecoming instead of the previously scheduled act.
- Women interested in going Greek can sign up for recruitment at this link: [https://smpsnc.icsrecruiter.com/pan/enrollment/Registration.aspx?UID=smpsnc](https://smpsnc.icsrecruiter.com/pan/enrollment/Registration.aspx?UID=smpsnc)
- Men interested in going Greek can sign up for recruitment at this link: [https://scstudentactivitiesandorgs.wufoo.com/forms/z7p7s5/](https://scstudentactivitiesandorgs.wufoo.com/forms/z7p7s5/)
- Thursday, August 28, 7pm: Why be Greek session
- Thursday, August 28, 8pm: Pitch Perfect will be shown on the football field with cotton candy.
- Friday, August 29, 6:45pm: Home Cross Country Meet at Pickard Park
- Wednesday, September 3, 10am-2pm: Exploring Faith Community Fair—your chance to meet with people of many faiths around Indianola and the Des Moines area.