Student Government Meeting  
Wednesday, March 18, 2015

Meeting Highlights:
- Chose to not allocate $125 to Doggies@Dunn
- Discussed capital improvement projects to use our reserve funds

Complete minutes are as follows:

Roll Call:

Absent: Ethan Frederick, Mariah Young

Richard Ramos and Kristen Wyse were also present.

Minutes from the last meeting were approved.

Reports:
Student Body President Ethan Frederick: Ethan is wrapped up in budget committee meetings. He will have stuff to report back on after those meetings are over.

Student Body Vice President Sarah Beadle: No report.

Manager Mary Galanis: No report.

Senior Class President, Jessalyn Holdcraft: The Tier 1 process is underway. For the rest of the semester, my committee’s main project will be to work on clarifying our committee’s budget rationale system and improving the budget request process for organizations. Also, we will be hearing the Doggies@Dunn request.

Junior Class President, Austin Jacobs: The Student Life Committee met tonight. We discussed the projects that the whole SGA will be looking at tonight. We talked about the pros & cons of each. The committee members also talked about the projects that we submitted and prepared for the meeting.

Sophomore Class President, Robert Lyons: No report. We will be meeting tomorrow to put together the e-cigarette survey.

First Year Class President, Zach Goodrich: We are continuing to work on our ongoing projects including the StormFront student org accounts, League of Leaders, and wrapping up a few things with Campus Day. The t-shirt designs have been finalized with a cute acorn on the hip and have been sent to the printer. We actually came in $600 under budget on that. We are looking good.

Advisors Rich and Kristen: Nothing to report.
**Old Business**
None.

**New Business**
Jessalyn: I move to allocate $125 to Doggies@Dunn.
Kelsey seconded it.
Jessalyn: This will be the week before finals week. We are recommending to allocate the $125 for the lemonade, cookies, and water that is there.
Erica: I don’t go for the lemonade and cookies. Is it necessary?
Jessalyn: It started two years ago when I was the library committee rep. They wanted snacks there. There were a bunch of organizations interested in doing a de-stressing event with dogs. Syd Dyer was the first one to say the library would do it. It isn’t necessary. It has just always been that way.
Ruth: If we know it is going to happen, we should have pre-allocated. We have turned down other groups’ budget request.
Sarah: We will be setting up a calendar and budget to fix that. We will request the money at the beginning of the year.
Jessalyn: We had to get money for Campus Day and went through reserves. Doggies@Dunn shares a similar sentiment. We will be going through the Tier 1 budgeting process.
Ruth: Did we apply to be Tier 1?
Jessalyn: We don’t have to.
Kristen: We would be applying to ourselves.
Robert: Do we know how much of the food we use?
Austin: It is one thing of lemonade and one thing of water and ten dozen cookies through Chartwells. We could reduce it to $75 and see how much we get. It has always been $125. We could also look at using $100.
Molly: Are we required to use Chartwells?
Rich: Yes and no. There are certain locations on campus that it makes sense to. We don’t necessarily have to. If we bring in another company, the policy is that they are not allowed access to water, trash or clean up.
Molly: We could go to Hy-Vee for cookies. I agree with Erica that food isn’t a necessity. I can’t hold a dog when I have a cookie in my hand.
Sarah: It seems that food is an unneeded expense.

**Vote: Not Passed**

**General Discussion**
Cody: I would like to recognize Tyler Stokesbary.
Tyler: I would like to invite you guys to CAB budget planning Sunday at 4pm in the Org Suite. It will be budgeting everything that CAB does. There will be Little Caesar’s there. It is important because we are the biggest receiver of SGA funds and to understand the process of how we do things. This way you can have a better understanding instead of just giving out money. How does NACA work? What do we do at NACA? Why is it important? If you have any questions about CAB, I would be happy to answer them. The more student input we have, the better. We are doing things for students. The pizza will arrive around 5pm.

Sarah: Execs will be presenting capital improvement projects to use our reserve funds for. We will go through each proposed project. Zach and I worked on proposal 1 for Dunn Library and making it more electricity efficient. We want to add new back panels and outlets to 40 study cubicles, add charging
station behind end of front counter, provide five safety extension cords for check-out & use in library, laptop for check-out & use in library, and EAC Vending Misers (motion sensors to reduce energy costs). People use these laptops, especially international students. We budgeted for 6 of those. Sports equipment was Savannah’s project and would be available for rental in Kent by all students.

Savannah: For the computers, there is already 2 or 3. Is there a demand? I worked in the library and no one seems to use them.

Zach: They currently have 6, and they are five years old. They are also the old staff laptops. They need to be updated. We talked to Syd Dyer and she said students use them a lot.

Cody: What is the sports equipment?

Savannah: Unless you bring a basketball to school, you can’t play basketball. There will be tennis rackets and tennis balls. If we have sports equipment that is easily accessible, students would use it. It would be available at the Information desk. It won’t cost $500 because intramurals donated more than half of the equipment I was looking for. It will be $200 at the most.

Sarah: The next proposal is by Jessalyn and Robert.

Robert: It is a project that has been brought up in the past. It is for security cameras around campus, the Parking Protection Plan. We want to put them in the parking lots by the baseball fields and fraternity lots because they see a lot of local activity. There are many accidents. Security cameras would help insurance companies.

Jessalyn: We divided campus into 3 sections. They are as follows: west side which is the highest traffic area (Baseball fields, fraternity lots, Buxton and Picken), central campus (Clinton, Hamilton and faculty lots) and the final section is Colonial, Washington and the Goodwill lot.

Robert: It will be a phase project because it is expensive. Chris Frederich talked with us and he has had a guy come in and give him a quote. We would have to buy all of the software and hardware first. It would be a one-time cost. First, we would get that hardware and software and complete the west side of campus. There is someone willing to come in and give a demonstration. He just completed a project at Wartburg and is with the same company that did the cameras in Kent.

Ruth: Do we have any idea of who will cover cost for annual updates? Will it be us? Is it per camera?

Rich: Depends on the package you buy.

Nick Y.: Why is the software for Kent different than the outdoor cameras?

Robert: They are outdoor specific and better resolution.

Nick Y.: That is hardware. Software should be the same.

Rich: It is a completely different system. In this building, we run on Access. Outdoor has to have heated cameras as well.

Nick Y.: Is there a way to use the same software we already have?

Rich: Access software only works for Access cameras. We should be able to get Access cameras for the outdoors.

Cody: Where is this coming from?

Jessalyn: The reserve funds. Every year, we estimate how much we need for the student activity fee. That is where we get the $350,000 from. We can’t go over it. The reserve funds come from the $6,000 that is left over from the end of the year because we didn’t know it existed. Every year the carry over fund is created. A few years ago, the fund ballooned to $60,000, which was a Business Office error. Over the last four to five years, we have tried to cut down this fund. Right now, it is about $24,000.

Robert: One of the things we were looking at is just getting the hardware and the set-up downstairs, which would be $12,000. It also includes storage capacity. We will need a lot of storage. We would buy larger so we could keep adding cameras to the network. We could say $7,000 is allocated each year for the next camera phase.

Cody: Are we going to vote on doing one of these proposals?

Sarah: We will be voting in a few weeks.
Ruth: Have we talked to security about implementing this system?
Robert: Security is ready and excited for it.
Jessalyn: There has been resistance in the past, but Chris thinks it is a very good idea. They already have cameras they watch.
Savannah: Would we be paying the annual $12,000?
Sarah: That price doesn’t include the annual service fee.
Jessalyn: The $12,000 is the cost of the software. We don’t know the price of the service fee.
Zach: Was Simpson planning on implementing security cameras in the next few years?
Rich: It has been talked about. There is a large cost.
Zach: Are they looking at all of campus?
Rich: I don’t know.
Robert: It has been brought up on the student level.
Zach: Maybe they would be more apt to do it if they saw this plan to do it in phases.
Molly: Is there software backup?
Jessalyn: It is in there.

Austin: We have these numbers from Rich. It is for 5 TVs and 5 digital signage systems in Kent for groups to come and advertise. We could do Simpson sports and watch TV. This would be at 5 different places downstairs. The digital signage systems cost $2300 and TVs will be around $1000 each.
Erica: Is this the closed circuit TV?
Rich: It is a combo of both. It can be closed circuit streaming. It is more for video messaging and digital signage.
Molly: What places downstairs in Kent?
Rich: You can see them. There are cable outlets on the wall. There is two on the wood wall outside the Black Box, one by the mailroom, and one in ABP and Tyler’s.
Robert: These were planned?
Rich: It was built into the construction of the building but at the time of construction, the funds weren’t available.
Jessalyn: I am hesitant that it was originally in the plan. This should be coming from the Kent building fund and not our reserves. We shouldn’t be having to pick up their slack.
Kelsey: I understand where you are coming from. It was brought up because of the email policy and organizations having trouble advertising. They could log on and submit an ad, Rich would approve it and it would go up.
Teig: Why are TVs $1,000?
Rich: That was an estimate.
Teig: I feel like that is a high price.
Rich: They would be whatever is cheapest.
Tyler: This is similar to the CAB TV. That cost us about $700 with the stand.
Rich: This is different because it is a network based program so it can be accessed anywhere in the world.
Tyler: That TV cost us $700 and it is a 45”.
Robert: Rich, you used to have something similar in the old student union?
Rich: It is no longer in place. We need something more robust. This is why we chose this software. This gives you many options. The same messaging on the TVs can also be on the lab computer screensavers. There could also be emergency alerts. Everyone would be on the same system.
Dani: If this is for advertisements, this is a very expensive way to fix the email policy. Our committee has talked about changing the email policy. Do we need 5?
Rich: You could do any number of TVs.
Sarah: After the meeting today, I will send out these numbers with the notes. We will let these sit for a couple of weeks and then revisit them and have more discussion and finalize what we want to pursue.

Erica: We have $24,000 in the reserve fund. Are all of these projects under that number? One of them looks to cost $41,000.

Robert: That is for the whole project. We are proposing a phasing plan.

Conner: You said something about a study place for commuters. Ethan said something about the internet. Why weren’t either of those in any proposals?

Sarah: The internet has been addressed. It is budgeted for the fall to increase.

Conner: Can we use XBOXs on it?

Sarah: I don’t know about that. XBOX is more of a luxury item and not for academically based things. You should talk to Ethan about it.

Conner: What about the commuter lounge?

Sarah: Jim Hayes has made a committee for it with Murphy Waggoner and two of my SC students. It will happen in the next year. They are getting some sort of space with lockers for them to store their stuff.

Conner: Why aren’t we setting money aside for that?

Sarah: This is because that is something that has been deemed such a necessity that it does not need to come out of the Student Government fee.

Jessalyn: We have $27,000 in the reserves.

Austin: Right now we have one wireless network. We have to run our network with similar security as banks and other financial intuitions. If we wanted to support XBOXs, we would need another network.

Conner: What would that cost?

Austin: Another $60,000 per year.

Robert: Did we cut out the chairs in the science building?

Sarah: That cost $50, so it can get tacked on as we need it. These are just preliminary options.

Austin: It is $20 per month to get your own internet in your room.

Sarah: They are looking at saving fees by **possibly** cutting out cable. If students wanted cable, they could buy it. They could put that fee somewhere else. They can’t put $60,000 into internet. We have beautification projects that will benefit the most students. The college can’t put money into these projects right now because they are trying to build a new academic building.

Ryan: What if we don’t spend it?

Sarah: It will keep collecting.

Ryan: Can we give it to student organizations?

Jessalyn: We don’t really know what to do with it. We have saved it for special projects. It was used for Dirlam Lounge. We could keep allocating it. We just don’t have the reserves like this every year. We would like to zero out.

Zach: I am for using some of the reserves. Maybe not all of them. What if something similar to what happened this year with Campus Day coming out of the reserves happens again?

Jessalyn: From now on, SGA will be acting like a Tier 1 organization. What happened this year with Campus Day coming out of the reserves won’t happen again.

Ryan: Can we have Proposal 4: Give it to student organizations that request it?

Jessalyn: In the Finance Code, it now says if we ever want to update the Student Org Suite that will be pulled from the reserve fund.

Dani: About proposal 4, we have already denied a group money. Would it be fair?

Jessalyn: I will advocate for proposal 4 not to happen. It is hard but the reserve fund isn’t always there. I have never seen a budget request that doesn’t at least deserve to be heard by the Senate. We shouldn’t rely on it because it isn’t always there. We should be using our student activity fee. If we see ourselves continuing to zero out in February, we should look at increasing the student activity fee.
Ruth: Maybe we should add that we can allocate 25% of the reserve funds for student organizations and keep 75% as a rainy day fund. If we are in this position next year, we could spend some of it.

Ishaya: I agree with Ryan. Student funds are meant for students to use. If we use this for these projects, the school should be taking care of these projects.

Nick Y.: When I look at reserve fund projects, like Dirlam, it is used regularly, like the curtains in the Black Box to help with the noise. The Black Box is used all of the time. The student activity fee is being used to affect them positively and by a lot of students.

Molly: I agree with Nick. The school cannot afford to fund these projects. It is valuable to use SGA funds to benefit students on an everyday basis, rather than a one night program.

Savannah: When giving it to organizations, how much will organizations ask for in the next 6 weeks? I doubt it would be $27,000. The first proposal benefits lots of student daily. Maybe we should split the budget.

Zach: Proposal 1 can benefit students for many years to come. These capital investments have a value and we can diversify what SGA does with their money.

Sarah: When we met with Syd Dyer and John Harris from facilities, they said the projects for the library keep being put off. This will provide a temporary solution to a long term problem.

Ryan: All of these projects are good things to do. I like Savannah’s idea. We shouldn’t demean programs because we have these other ideas. We should think about how we spend our money.

Erica: I think there could be a nice balance. I think it should be able to go to space where students have activities.

Jessalyn: I am not demeaning programs. We have $350,000 to allocate to student programs. We should allocate our carry over funds to capital projects. $34,000 is 10% of that budget, which is the only money we are looking for to use for capital improvement projects.

Conner: Dirlam was the most successful thing done with the reserves. We should look at doing something like that, maybe at Hopper.

Sarah: This list came about from execs and looking at a list of things we could do. We wanted to consider the projects that would benefit the most students. We cut out things that cost too much.

Robert: We did look at that project in Hopper. We did try a Campus Bookstore in Dirlam and it failed. We could bring back the idea of a Lightning Bear Lounge in Hopper and maybe talk about the bookstore.

Ruth: There was a group of us that spent a lot of time putting together a renovation plan for Tyler’s and it still looks the way it is. We have talked about these projects for three years. This is the farthest we have gotten. Let’s do something.

Rich: Your purpose here is to ensure students have a great experience while at the college. This organization has funded many things like the wireless network and the $30,000 Dirlam project. We get caught up in the notion that we want things to happen now. Nothing up there will happen overnight. You have to keep that in mind. We don’t have to spend the money any certain way. We have been talking about these projects for years. You need to come together and realize what is best for the campus community. When thinking about using all of the reserve, if any student organization goes over budget, they have to zero out and it comes from this organization. It is best that we keep some funding in there.

Robert: I am a big fan of capital improvement projects and retention. Students bring up facilities on campus when they leave. If we put our money towards these, we can up our retention rates. Then, it is a domino effect. If we can make the student experience better, students will stay.

Sarah: A general consensus is to give back to groups and to create a rainy day fund.

Ishaya: If we decide to give money to organizations, we shouldn’t do it this year because we have denied some groups already.

Rich: That is the only way you will be able to implement this. It won’t be able to be voted on for three weeks.
Announcements
Erica: Popcorn, cotton candy and face painting at the KKG Open House on Thursday from 4-6pm.
Conner: Mr. Simpson is Monday at 8:30pm in the Black Box.
Robert: Friday at 7pm is the Nostalgia Dance. Rotaract is meeting tomorrow from 8-9pm with a presentation on how to properly use and set up your LinkedIn account along with our normal meeting. We have three position open right now for a project from 9am-1pm on Saturday at Goodwill.
Cort: Outside Scoop is opening this Friday at 6pm.
Cody: CAB has Bingo on Friday and Branches (a band like Mumford and Sons) concert on Saturday.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:05pm.