Student Government Association Minutes (December 11, 2020)

3:00 – 5:00pm. On Zoom

1. Call to Order: President Cole Church calls the meeting to order.
2. Roll Call:

Present – Cole Church, Jenna Tast, Karyn Forbes, Tyler Purdy, Jolee Sanford, Caden Callaway, Lauren Lacey, Avery Frankhouser

Absent – Stephanie Fiedler, Sarah McMann

1. Public Input: There is no public input.
2. Executive Reports

a. President – I met with the President but we have not scheduled our next meeting. I want to thank you all for showing up and working hard this semester, and that is pretty much my report.

b. Vice President – I do not have anything to report, Melissa and I have not met. We had our last meeting the week before last week and it was just wrapping up on stuff for the semester. Melissa was just concerned with how the students and we are doing and what are some preparations/precautions we can take for the spring semester. That’s all I have.

c. Secretary – Postpone minutes to next meeting (first meeting of the spring semester).

d. Treasurer – Our budget is still standing at $22,000. As far as I know, we haven’t done the second part of our stipends yet but they should be coming out soon.

President Church: Do you know the specific date for that?

Treasurer Hensley: I do not. I didn’t get to have my meeting with Diana because it has been a busy week with tests coming up. Diana, do you know when the stipends will be coming?

Diana: Everyone who has not had any absences will receive theirs on the 15th. Anyone who has had any absences will have theirs paid out on the 23rd. Jolee, I have figured out why you didn’t get your last stipend and it is on its way. The first one will come on the 15th and the next one will come on the 23rd.

Ex-Officio Forbes: Diana, I knew that last time there were different dates for people who received paper checks and those who were getting direct deposit. Is there also a difference for the 15th?

Diana: It’s very possible, but it is guaranteed that everyone will be paid by the 23rd. If you do not get paid by the 23rd, let me know.

Senator Lacey: Diana, I have not received my first one either.

Diana: Let me check on that.

e. Liaison –

President Church: Can someone check to see if Sarah is on the meeting?

Ex-Officio Forbes: I don’t see her.

President Church: Jenna, can you reach out to her? I figure with her new position and finals, she wasn’t required to be here. If we could reach out to her in terms of next semester as well as sending over a report about the ACC campus.

Vice President Tast: I will that squared away after the meeting.

f. Ex-Officio – There is a Board of Trustees retreat and I do believe that it is scheduled for January 8th. I will be attending that so there will be things happening from now to when we come back. That’s all I have.

1. Old Business: There is none.
2. New Business:

i. Clubs and Committees

President Church: We’re going to recap the committees. I would like a committee report from everybody. Has there been a Bookstore Committee meeting?

Senator Lacey: No, there hasn’t been an email either.

Diana: Because of Covid, metrics for performance were delayed for our third party vendors. This semester, there was not a bookstore or food committee.

President Church: For College Council, I will hand the floor over to Samantha and Tylor. If you don’t have anything to say, that’s fine too.

Senator Purdy: We haven’t had a meeting since the last time we recapped. There is nothing new to report at the moment.

President Church: It is fine if nothing has been done in the committees this semester. We are in a time where next semester is the one where most everything lies within the student committees, and are due in the spring. I want to remind you which committees you have chosen to be on and remind you guys that, come next semester, I am going to uphold all of us to the requirements as set forth by our constitution for the committees. We get paid to be on committees, we get paid to do things for our committees; that’s why we’re doing a recap. I will be asking the chairs specifically and if the other members want to jump in, they can do so. For the Student Committee, Avery is the chair. Please tell us a little about the committee.

Secretary Frankhouser: For Student Committee, we’re getting ready to talk about doing Club Rush for next semester and about how the student forum is going to work. We haven’t talked about much else.

Ex-Officio Forbes: When in the schedule is Club Rush?

President Church: I believe that Club Rush is in the beginning of the spring semester. It’s a couple of weeks, if not a month and a half, after the spring semester starts.

Ex-Officio Forbes: So sometime in February?

Diana: Typically within 2 to 3 to 4 weeks of getting back. This past year, because Club Rush needed to be virtual and it will mostly need to be virtual (Zeke will be working with you on what that may look like), of all of the clubs I reached out to this fall semester, only one wanted to participate and dropped out because they were the only ones. It just depends on what Zeke does with Club Rush. There will be more information when Zeke gets back.

President Church: The student forum is something that we did not do last year. Because of Covid, it’s not surprising that we didn’t get to it with everything going on. One of the things that President Schaffer has requested was that we create a student forum of any sorts to give them feedback, especially with these unique circumstances. That is something that the student committee will do. I do want to recognize that this is of extreme importance. While it is under the student committee, it will not be a surprise if we ask more of the senate members, including the executives. For the Faculty Committee, Tylor I will give you the floor.

Senator Purdy: I believe that also takes place in the beginning of the spring semester, correct?

President Church: It can be whenever. I believe as specified by our constitution, it just has to be in the spring semester. I don’t if it’s in a specific week in the general calendar, but it probably is because there is a day for everything.

Senator Purdy: I know that it’s going to look much different than it has in the past, so that’s something we will be working on. One of the things that we did talk about was reaching out to some faculty members about what they would like to see, and I received an amazing idea from one of them about posting something for students to come forward with stories where a faculty member went above and beyond in these crazy times to help them out. If we could get video recordings of stories about their appreciation for specific individuals/situations that we can put together as a compilation or even have them submit a written story. We can post it or if we have a get together, we can play the video for them. That’s about what we have accomplished so far.

President Church: We will now jump down to campus committee. Karyn, can you give us an update?

Ex-Officio Forbes: As we all know, I did send out that email to the club advisors that will be asking for SAFAC funds. I did receive a couple responses that were just “thanks for the reminder” and “I look forward to hearing more from you”. There were a couple advisors that had co-advisors for their club who were not on the list. They took it upon themselves to forward their information and from co-advisors to clubs that wish to be on the email list in the future. Zeke also did respond, so I have been in contact with him. He will be putting together the registration when he gets back, and it will be over Zoom. We will get together to prepare before that day.

President Church: We will now jump down to Community Committee. Jenna, I’ll give you the floor.

Vice President Tast: I have been in contact with East, Central, and South. I have not heard back from Triumph. Last year, I did hear back but it was very minimal. They have a new principle, so he has not been in contact with me, but East, Central, and South have. They would love for us to come in the spring. They are taking proper precautions; you have to wear a mask, you have to do social distancing, so it may not be the whole officer team and it may only be two or three of us. They want to meet with me at the start of the spring semester.

President Church: The Community Committee is responsible for doing a community service project each semester. We changed it to once a year. A big idea from last year that has carried over is getting in contact with the high schools and being able to be almost a liaison. To explain what a community college really is, I know there is a lot of bad rap when it comes to community colleges. More people want to go to a big university so hearing from students who go to a community college and are involved is helpful.

Ex-Officio Forbes: Is there going to be restrictions from the college for us leaving campus to go to these high schools, being an SGA sanctioned trip?

President Church: We will most likely have to go through some protocols, I don’t know for sure. We will most likely have to get in contact with someone from administration.

Ex-Officio Forbes: I’m just concerned with Covid, and that the college wouldn’t want us leaving.

Vice President Tast: I haven’t gotten that far yet since it isn’t spring semester yet and I was waiting until Zeke came back.

President Church: If we can’t get off campus, we could have a Zoom meeting. Thank you all for your hard work and dedication. I know that SGA is made up of all of us, and you guys have come through no matter the situation. We are going to transition to clubs. Karyn, at the end of this meeting or sometime before next week, can you send out a general email to all of the clubs concerning advocacy? I know that a lot of clubs have not responded to emails or have not regular meetings. I would ask that you guys continue reaching out to your clubs. Something that Tylor has done is he picked something that they are trying to do and is supporting them. E-gaming is trying to have a fundraiser and use the money to buy a computer. He has also offered to join them. Make to be contacting your clubs and be an advocate (showing up, etc.).

Ex-Officio Forbes: On this list, I am counting 15 clubs. In our discussions, there have been 16 clubs. Should I include them in the email even though they are not on this list?

President Church: Did this club ask for money last year?

Ex-Officio Forbes: I can’t find it in my records, so I am not sure. I thought they did because it sounded familiar.

Treasurer Hensley: I can look it up in my folder.

President Church: I won’t be surprised if some of these clubs don’t ask for funds. Go ahead and keep them on that list, and I’ll explain to them that there was a miscommunication if they reach out saying they don’t have one.

Treasurer Hensley: Wind Smith did ask for any money, you are correct that there were 16 clubs. The 16th club that you were thinking of was the Student Veterans of America.

Ex-Officio Forbes: I did include them in the email.

President Church: I can say that what you guys are doing matters and is making an impact, whether you see it or not. Keep working hard and we’ll pick this back up next semester.

ii. Pathway Coordinators

President Church: Diana, were you able to get a list of the pathway coordinators?

Diana: I saw your email but I have not done that yet.

President Church: If I send you guys an email concerning your pathways and the person you can reach out to, would you guys reach out to them and explain our situation when it comes to not having a full senate? We are looking for people to join senate, and one of the best ways we can do that is through pathways.

Senator Purdy: Absolutely.

Ex-Officio Forbes: I have a clarification question. SGA is based around the schools and not pathways, so is it going to fit in with the pathways of those schools and then next year, there will be a more clear understanding? I’m not in a pathway because I graduated, but I’m in a school because I have a degree.

President Church: The reason we are reaching out to the pathway coordinators is because instead of reaching out to the Deans (then to faculty and then to students), pathway coordinators take out the middle step. We are going right to the people connected with the students.

Ex-Officio Forbes: I’m confused with the assignment of the pathway coordinators.

President Church: As of right now, we are solely going off of the schools. We just need senate members to make a full senate. I have a list of the pathway coordinators and it is the virtual office, we will sign up for a coordinator.

Berry, Ty: Karyn

Boughton, Carole: Jenna

Hanson, Sheridan: Cole

Jensen-Ryan, Danielle: Avery

Morrell, Trenton: Tylor

O’Brien, Joshua: Samantha

Perriton, Caleb: Lauren

iii. All-In Initiative

Senator Purdy: Dr. Schaffer wanted us to get other schools to sign a pledge. I’m writing a call-to-action letter that I’ll be able to send. It is just about getting people involved (in our local elections as well). Just educating and getting people registered to vote. I will have that letter that I can give to everybody at the beginning of next semester and I will reach out for help at that point.

President Church: The 22nd is an important day where we will be discussing the SAFAC meeting and will be the first SGA meeting for the spring semester.

iv. List

President Church: SGA will put together an end of the year report at the end of next semester. We include the liaison position, the food pantry, etc. I want you guys to make a list of things that you think are important and what we have accomplished so far.

Ex-Officio Forbes: I make a motion to postpone the minutes.

Senator Purdy: I second that.

Sarah: I have no report, but there has been talk of getting a printer, a scanner, a microphone, and a green screen. A hangout spot and somewhere professors can record lectures.

1. Ex-Officio Forbes: I make a motion to adjourn today’s meeting.

Senator Purdy: I second that.

Meeting Adjourned.