Atlanta Campus Senate Meeting Minutes  
Thursday, October 26, 2017 - SCW 464/466

I. Call to Order: Speaker of the Senate Anthony Jones

II. Opening Call of the Roll & Determination of Quorum: Senate Clerk Olivia Abie 7:19p.m.

(Absentees: Communications Director Moreno Duque, Finance Director May, Senator Pachon, Cruz-Hernandez, Akinola-King, Aleman, Galvis, Osilaja, Azarkhail, Perdue, Curry, Jones, Aibangbee, and Vining) Quorum achieved with 13 presently senators out of 25

III. Reading and Approval of the minutes from the previous meeting

Senator Siemer called the question to approve the minutes of October 12 meeting. The motion passed with 13 in favor, 0 against, 0 abstentions.

IV. Special Orders

a. Seating of Multiple Vacant Positions

Senator Samuelson move to strike the special order for seating of multiple vacant positions bill, seconded by Senator Cain.

V. Special reports

a. University Representatives wishing to address the Senate-NONE
b. Student Forum (Students wishing to address the Senate)-NONE

VI. Two-minute speeches by members of the Senate

a. Jessica Siemer: Transportation Update

- Mandatory fee committee thinks that transportation need a budget increase, so she set up a meeting with Beth Jones to talk about the current transportation budget.

- Transportation and parking have two separate budgets that don’t overlap together, transportation only covers buses. Georgia State used to rent turner field for the blue line which used to come out of the transportation budget, but now that Georgia State owns Georgia state stadium, Georgia State is still renting the blue line but they’re renting it from the Georgia State foundation for a much lower cost. One of the reasons they didn’t ask for an increase is because they have 400,000 dollars that they don’t have to pay anymore.

- Every college has a 5-10 years transportation plan. GSU transportation plan is called exhibit I. Since it’s not available online, Senator Siemer requested it. The transportation services are in the process of submitting their reports.

- Also talked about potentially lowering/increasing the Marta subsite, however it won’t impact many students, only 40% of users of the Marta uses the subsite. It wouldn’t make a big impact in the student body.
- Transportation services are willing to pay for the grocery shuttle out of the transportation budget if SGA can show there’s a need for it. SGA will need to get data and logistics for them.

- With the parking lot situation, transportation services has been looking into renting or subsiding them. Most of the parking lots around campus are not really willing to do discounts for students because other customers will take it and pay full price. Also, went by Realtos to look into parking options.

- As far as the late night transportation, they’re willing to reroute the shuttles since a lot of students think that they don’t stop in convenient places. Christy Star who will be rerouting those shuttles routes is asking SGA to gather information from students of which are the best places for those shuttles to run and transportation services will see if those are feasible locations.

**Senator Lakhani:** participated in the Student Advisory Council for College of Arts and Sciences. The College is highly focusing on their strategies plans to incorporate them in the University strategies plans. There are five things that they are focusing on, one of them is a new graduate program that is more flexible, so students can take classes on the weekends. The board of school is being focused on three disciplines which are humanitarian, social and medieval science, and natural and competitive science. A lot of people are happy about that because now the art part of the school is focusing on the socially aspect. Sara Rose the Dean of the Schools of Arts and Sciences informed that the passing graduation is only 54% so working on making it better. A couple of students from housing would like to have the library hours to be extended, since there are no areas in the housing to study. Only few housing have spaces open until midnight. Looking to talk to with someone from the library to see if SGA can do something about that.

**Senator Patterson:** Talked with Advisor Ms. Gail on creating perimeter transfer liaisons. Also, he has been inquiring about creating smoking areas for smokers, and putting a printer in every housing building. In order to make this initiative happen, he needs feedback from surveys, so if anyone interested contact him after the meeting.

**Senator Grand-Jean:** The SGA-Spotlight collaboration, has been put on hold. Based on research, it’s not in the best interest of SGA at this moment. He is now switching his attention to the university housing. As the former president of North, last year before the housing crisis, there was talks about building more dormitories, but they needed data analytics, and statistics to make it happen. The overflow that happened this year it’s a data that can help. SGA can look into analytics, statistics, and data to create a support resolution, which is what he’s working on right now, to create upper classmate dormitories. There’s few spaces that housing are looking to buy, he will be working with them. He will be meeting with Director of housing Mr. Randy, if anyone is interested and would like to help can see him after the meeting.

**VII. Executive Cabinet Reports**

a. **Report of the Communications Director, Sara Moreno Duque**

   Senator Patton in behalf of the Communications Committee:

   - Working on DACA, partner with her sorority to see what they can do to increase awareness and inform students about what is DACA. Last year they had a DACA week, so might have one this year as well.
   - Working on ideas for Halloween, and the SGA video.
   - Will be Tabling tomorrow from 1:30p.m. – 3:30p.m. For Panther previews.
b. **Report of the Finance Director, Zuri May**

Senator Patton in behalf of the Finance Committee:
- Working on a finance event to help students learn how to save money and budget.
- Working on Tabling to inform students about the TK App.
- Have been travelling to University Wide to different campuses with her committee, and they are looking into renting SGA buses to be able to travel to different campuses. It costs 250 per bus.

- Ms. Gail Point of information on SGA budget: There’s a couple of things related to office operations that affect SGA finance. There’s an extremely high numbers of photocopies that affect budget. SGA can only print 50 copies a week for each organization.
- Also Going through an extremely amount of blue books demands, recently find out that the bookstore sends students to the SGA office to get blue books or scantrons. There’s a delivery of blue books coming next week. Looking into what the price might be if SGA had to sell blue books, but for now still handing blue books, one by one, to insure people are being conservative.

c. **Report of the Speaker of the Senate, Anthony Jones**

- Have been working on the one on one schedule to talk about attendance and committee, some of the senators have reached the three mark, where they will either get impeached or resigned, out of 25 senators only 8 or 9.
- Still planning with his church for SGA to come table, will be tabling around mid-November or towards the beginning of December
- Gathering attendance data, committee meeting also count towards your attendance, 3 unexcused for senate meetings, and 6 unexcused for senate and committee meetings, will talk to committee chairs to ensure senators are going to their meetings.
- Reset expectations for SGA officers, remember your commitment to SGA, which is to reach out to our constituents, and give them the best college experience possible.

VIII. **University Senate Committee Reports**

a. **Report of the Academic Affairs Committee Chair, Jessica Siemer**

- Contacted spotlight to have them collaborate with SGA for the finals week programming. If SGA gets another organization to collaborate with them, SGA will be eligible for student center funds, which will help cover coffee, fruit and snacks for the entire finals week.
- If any student knows or is part of an organization that would like to collaborate with SGA they can contact her about it. SGA can get as many organizations involved and they can do something that’s related to their mission as an organization. It might be loud so will have to plan it very thoughtfully, but for example if the salsa club wanted to do a salsa dance study break that would be welcomed.
- On the Friday of the finals week the Institute of Medical Science has their graduation, so they wanted to use one of the rooms.
- The floor plan for finals week programming event has been created. The Review room, which is the quiet study or group study room will have tables and chairs, there will be six white boards, three on each side. The recharge room, will have a white board, might put a question or thought
where students can write their opinions on, it’s a way for SGA to gather feedback as well. There will also be chairs in case there’s a guided meditation. The Refresh room, will have three TVs with three different study sessions/programs, and each of these clusters will have a white board.

- The finals week programming committee is working to get as many organizations involved. The chair of the programming committee, Senator Patton, has assigned people to reach out to different organization, but if anyone knows any club that would be interested in partnering with SGA for this event can talk to her about it. For example the art club could sponsor a stress free coloring session in the recharge room, it can be very creative.

Might also have therapy dogs, still have to check with the student center to see if that’s possible

- So far there has been 24 people that have completed the advising survey, would like to get at least 100 people to complete the survey.

b. Report of the Student Life Committee Chair, Joshua Akinola-King-NONE

c. Report of the Student Services Committee Chair, Alondra Cruz-Hernandez

Franklin Security task force update: meeting tomorrow for the security ad hoc committee from 12-1p.m. Georgia State Police thinks that a lot of students have been abusing the safety police escort. Students use the safety police escort for rides to get to class. Franklin is working with them for SGA to volunteer to walk students to class.

d. Report from the Vacancy Committee, Joshua Akinola-King

Speaker Jones on behalf of the Vacancy Committee:

- The vacancy committee has been experiencing lots of miscommunication.
- Speaker Jones talked with Ms. Gail about appointing a head of the vacancy committee, Senator Pachon will be a good candidate.
- Also looking into re-amending the amending of expanding the vacancy committee. Since they Vacancy Committee has been expanded to have more members, it became less efficient. The people that signed up weren’t responding or active in the Committee.
- Interviews will start next Monday, so new faces will be joining soon.

e. Report from Head Freshmen Liaison, Sai Maddali

- Working on three major initiative for freshmen liaisons specifically:
  - Spread SGA popularity among freshman - The freshman liaisons plan on hosting a freshman constituency day, at which, representatives from the head of FLCs, housing, and advising would be present for questions and concerns. The freshman constituency day would occur in the spring 2018 semester.

  - Improving GSU 1010 – their team intends on working with the head of FLCs and GSU1010 programs, to create a more uniform structure and experience for them. They will connect with students to learn more about their concerns with GSU1010.

Other initiatives that have yet to be discussed further are:

- Printers in dorms, Recycling bins in dorms
- Transparency and communication b/w student organizations
- Being able to take food out of the dining hall at specific times
- Monthly blood drives
- Freshman Survival Guide
f. **Report from Head Transfer Liaison, Dominick Fabian**

- First meeting, talked about the things what transfer liaisons liked from their past schools to bring it to this school. Some of the topics they talked about was financial aid, housing, advisement, documentation, and SGA portrayal on campus.

- SGA portrayal on campus: The survey that they did shows that majority of students do not agree that SGA does anything significant on campus. We had the idea of writing legislation that would require any member of SGA that gets something done, to broadcast that achievement through our various media forms (e.g. The Signal, SGA webpage, Instagram, Newsletter). This way students will be aware of the work being done and hopefully their view on us will change.

Financial aid: They consider financial aid one of our top priorities since on the survey they did, majority of student responded “yes” when asked if they thought they were not going to be able to attend GSU because of struggles with financial aid. We want to fix their call hold times, Customer service skills, making sure they are paying attention to individuals’ payments and a better training of their staff.

Housing: At Georgia College, there was free printing for housing, working to incorporate printing in all housing, which will mean to also increase the $3 for printing to at least $6 per semester. We also wanted to fix the fact that transfer students do not get the same greeting into the school like freshman students do, so we wanted to see if housing could give us a list of the students that are transferring to the school each semester, with their living arrangements and shirt size, that way we can place a GSU shirt and letter from housing in their room with a map of the school that shows where all the classes are located.

Advisement: Transfer Liaisons are wondering why so many students had their advisors switched multiple of times. Also, they feel like a lot of advisors do not know about specific majors, so working on how to fix that.

Documentation: They want to execute an initiative that would make it easier for different departments to do their job. They want to have a section in Georgia State University website that has options for what type of student you are and a down bar to all the documentation that type of student needs. This would be of great help since the representatives of the GSU departments would just have to lead our students to that website instead of memorizing everything.

IX. **Old Business—None**

X. **New Business—NONE**

XI. **Executive Vice President’s Report, Yann Mondon**

- Wrapped up the hurricane drive today, still waiting on few items from athletics and housing, but it’s pretty much ready to be shipped.

- Make sure you’re sending your absences to Speaker Jones on his speaker email which is sgspeakeratl@gsu.edu

- Will be sending out an event form, which is a tool to relate to our student body about exactly what SGA events are about, as well as dates, times and locations. It will also be helpful for the executive reports for the University Wide meetings. These event forms will start in November.
XII. President’s Report, Corey Gray

-President Gray informed that he hasn’t been able to attend the Atlanta Senate meetings because he has class from 7:15 to 8:30 p.m which is at the same time of the SGA senate meeting.

- President Gray informed about his role on the Atlanta campus, as the University Wide President, he serves 20 office hours throughout the week. He spends 8 hours in the Atlanta office, and 12 hours travelling to perimeter campuses. 40% of his time goes to Atlanta campus and 60% to Perimeter campuses. His office hours are from 9-1 p.m. or 8-12 p.m.

-President Gray is very proud of all the work and the new transfer and freshmen liaisons as well as the initiatives about meal swap plan and transportations. If anyone has an inquiry or would like to contact him can send him an email at sgapresident@gsu.edu

- If anyone needs assistance, EVP Mondon can help, as he has a great work ethic, and leadership skills.

-Next semester, he will make sure that’s his schedule don’t overlap with the SGA meeting times.

-The Last university wide meeting would be next Thursday, November 2 at 7:15 PM at 25 park place, room 2608, and he’s looking forward to see all SGA representatives there.

XIII. Closing Remarks

a. Comments and announcements of the officers
   Speaker Jones: signed up for one on one meeting, remember why you sign up for SGA, and the platform you serve.
   EVP Mondon: if you know you have been late a few times contact Anthony to discuss about it
   President Gray: Looking forward to see everyone at the next University Wide meeting next week.

b. Closing Call of the Roll: Senate Clerk, Olivia Abie

(Absentees: Communications Director Moreno Duque, Finance Director May, Senator Pachon, Cruz-Hernandez, Akinola-King, Aleman, Galvis, Osilaja, Azarkhail, Perdue, Curry, Jones, Aibangbee, and Vining)

XIV. Adjournment

Senator Lakhani move to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Senator Barry at 8:47 p.m.