Atlanta Campus Senate Meeting Minutes

Thursday, November 9th, 2017 - SCW 464/466

I. Call to Order: Speaker Pro Tempore Ana Pachon at 7:20PM

II. Opening Call of the Roll & Determination of Quorum: Senate Clerk Olivia Abie

Absent (Speaker Jones, Director Moreno Duque, Senators Siemer, Barry, Osilaja, Azarkhail, Perdue, transfer liaison Dominick) Quorum achieved with 18 presently senators present out of 23

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

Senator King moved to approve the minutes of the October 26 meeting, seconded by Senator Aleman. The motion passed with 16 in favor, 0 against, and 0 abstentions.

IV. Special Orders
   a. Seating of Multiple Vacant Positions- Akinola-King

   -The Atlanta Campus vacancy committee has successfully interviewed a number of candidates to fill current vacant senator seats for the College of Education and Human Development, the College of Arts and Sciences, and the Robinson College of Business

   -Hudson Holley shall be appointed as an undergraduate senator for the College of Arts and Sciences, Shareze Wright shall be appointed as an undergraduate senator for the Robinson College of Business, and Cherilyn Muñoz shall be appointed as an undergraduate senator for the College of Education and Human development,

   -Akinola-King moved to vote on the bill, seconded by Senator Jones. All in favor, motion passed.

   -The bill passed with 16 in favor, 0 against, 0 abstentions

   b. Transfer Liaison Vacant positions

   - All of the Liaison positions have not yet been filled, the Atlanta Campus vacancy committee has successfully interviewed a number of candidates for the positions available

   - Margenta Freeman be appointed as a Transfer Liaison

   -Senator Akinola-King moved to vote on the bill, seconded by Senator Cruz-Hernandez. All in favor, motion passed.

   -The bill passed with 16 in favor, 0 against 0 abstentions

   - Hudson Holley for the College of Arts and Sciences, Shareze Wright for the Robinson College of Business, and Cherlyn Muñoz for the College of Education and human development, and transfer Liaison Margenta Freeman were sworn in by Student Judicial Board Jackson
V. Special reports
   b. University Representatives wishing to address the Senate
      i. Joseph Spillane: Georgia State University Police Department
         - Joseph Spillane is the Chief Justice for Georgia State University, he’s in charge of all 6 campuses.
         - Georgia State University is accredited by the following entities:
           CALEA – Commission on Accreditation of Law Enforcement Agencies
           IACLEA – International Association of Campus Law Enforcement Administrators
           GPAC - The Georgia Police Accreditation Coalition

         - GSUPD Staffing levels: authorized strength of 184 full time sworn police officers. All Officers MUST be POST Certified in Georgia. Equipment carried daily: Radio, Handcuffs, ASP Baton, 9mm handgun, 2 extra magazines, and flashlight (optional), Taser ECD (limited).

         - Authorized Strength of 118 full time Security Guards. Main Duties are access control and security INSIDE buildings. Some are trained to patrol on campus overnight. None are armed. Equipment carried daily: Radio, ASP Baton (A few, Defensive purposes), OC Spray (A few, Defensive Purposes)

         Jurisdiction: Ga. Law states College Campus Jurisdiction Expands 500 Yards from any building owned or leased by Georgia State. Downtown Campus, Alpharetta Campus, Clarkston Campus, Dunwoody campus, Newton Campus, Decatur Campus, Robinson College of Business, GSU Stadium (68 Acres), Panthersville Stadium, Piedmont Park Tennis Center.

         - Training: all sworn police officers are certified by the Georgia Peace Officer’s Standards and Training Council. (POST). Initial Certification as a Police Officer in Georgia (8-10 weeks). Annual training requirements include 24 hours in-service, firearms requalification, Use of Force Update, Community Policing and De-escalation. GSUPD requires additional initial training and annual training. Crisis Intervention Training. De-Escalation Training. Less than lethal force training (Taser, Bean bag shotguns). Campus specific training (locations of buildings, classrooms, parks, etc.). Active Shooter Response Training. On-going Roll Call Training.

         Patrol equipment utilized: marked Patrol Cars, unmarked patrol cars, motorcycles, Segway’s, Bicycles, Golf Carts, Foot Beats. I am committed to going as “green” as possible on campus. This means strategically parking the cars and patrolling by other methods. This puts police officers in the community positively interacting with the faculty, staff, visitors and students. Visibility is a key component of this strategy.

         Services offered:

         - Police Safety Escort Service. New golf carts are used to provide safety escorts around campus. Transitioning to Officers providing this service instead of security guards. Safety escorts now drive patrons to their car in the decks or on the street. Safety escorts will take
patrons to buildings around campus. Separate from “Panther Patrol” which is limited to a specific “Route”. Download LIVESAFE App or call (404) 413-2100.

- Vehicle Service: Provide battery “jump” service. Will assist with changing flat tires.

- Overarching themes:

- Partnerships: A focus on partnerships runs throughout the report. Partnerships may take a formalized structure, and should be a regular part of informal interactions with individuals and groups throughout the community. Community members and leaders. Leaders exist throughout the community in both formal and informal roles. Other Agencies and Organizations. Law enforcement officers are called to deal with an increasing number of situations. Educational Institutions. Schools within a jurisdiction provide a great opportunity for many types of partnerships. Businesses. Businesses have access to expertise and resources that can support operations and services of the law enforcement agency.

- Culture: culture will always trump policy, strategy, or any other guidance put forth by an agency. Changing culture takes patience and perseverance on the part of all leaders in the organization. Culture plays a role in how many issues discussed in the task force report are received by the law enforcement profession as a whole and within an agency. For example, the mindset shift from warrior to guardian requires a cultural shift.

- Communication: Aspects of communication to be considered during all interactions, especially with those who are not in the law enforcement profession. Know the audience. Tailor the language and tone used so it will be received in the best way possible. Keep language simple and clear. Many people who do not operate in the law enforcement field on a daily basis do not have an understanding of police procedures, tactics, and processes. Use words to build, not divide. Think about how the dialogue is framed and conducted. Be aware of the nonverbal. Nonverbal communication can convey just as much information as what an individual says verbally.

- Conclusion: Law enforcement has entered a new era of policing, requiring a new mindset around police, operations, and culture. While many of the ideas and themes set forth in the 21st Century ask Force report are not new, some of the recommendations may be unclear, uncomfortable, or even difficult for some to operationalize. The International Association of Chiefs of Police and other organizations are working hard to support agencies and officers as they grow and adapt to this new environment. The Georgia State University Police Department fully supports the tenants of the President’s Task Force on 21st Century Policing.

- Looking forward to create more programs with the students, movie night in the park for example, he will provide police presence and security, need SGA comments and ideas.

c. Student Forum (Students wishing to address the Senate)-NONE

V. Two-minute speeches by members of the Senate-NONE

VI. Executive Cabinet Reports

a. Report of the Communications Director, Sara Moreno Duque-NONE
b. **Report of the Finance Director, Zuri May**
   - Budget update: 16% have been spent, 84% remaining. There’s $63,570 left out of $75,935.
   - From her committee meeting, they discussed restructuring how the SGA senate retreat work to get more of a community field going between all senators and representatives.
   - Discussed with her committee about reallocation within budget, talked about the budget set up between committees, finances, fixed expenses, and office expenses.
   - Discussed with her committee about an idea from Senator Siemer to offer scholarship for conference attendees and graduate students, looking to bring this incentives for senators, hopefully will be able to start this initiative in the spring semester.

VII. University Senate Committee Reports

a. **Report of the Academic Affairs Committee Chair, Jessica Siemer**
   Senator Patton in behalf of Senator Siemer:
   - Working on finals week, contacting different departments of school like study abroad to get more people involved, the finals week will be from December 5 to the 8th, 8-9pm, will need lots of help.

b. **Report of the Student Life Committee Chair, Joshua Akinola-King**
   - Working on promoting the SGA Student Talk program which is scheduled for November 13 from 5:30-PM at the urban life area. SGA representatives are welcome to come, please wear polos and name tags. Tell friends and other people to come, this is a great opportunity for students to discuss current events, will provide light refreshments
   - Also next Wednesday November 15 from 6-9PM, Senator Osilaja will be conducting “piece of mind” at the student center east, court salon. This is an event focused on mental health and traumatic experience.
   - Meal plan initiative going really well, right now getting reports and research on various schools. Will be meeting with Ms. Leonore to finalize things, and come out with a new meal plan for GSU.
   - Getting ready for organization of the game for the basketball season, having organizations to be able to sell concessions for profit at the game.
   - Working on a student organization guide to hand out to student organizations that has a list of different resources that can help them with funding and planning an event.

i. **Report of the Athletic Ad-Hoc Committee: Noah Samuelson**
   - On October 27 they had their first committee meeting and discussed ways to engage students in the athletic program, and promote communication between SGA and the athletics.
   - Their work is going out into the community, Senator Samuelson is working directly with the Athletics committee, Senator Contreras Murillo is working with the student organization Greek life, Senator Siam is working with Student Alumni and Panther activities, Senator Patterson is working with Georgia State University media and Senator Patton with the athletes.
   - Also had their second university wide athletic meeting, 13 of their Georgia State University have outperformed for their sports GPA wise. Will be meeting next Friday.

c. **Report of the Student Services Committee Chair, Alondra Cruz-Hernandez**
- This week was supposed to meet with an organization to discuss collaboration events to bring awareness to the pads and tampons initiative on campus, the meeting has been reschedule for next week.
- Groceries shuttles will be happen, met with RHA President Brandon to discuss logistics, will be available for all students, including commuter’s students.
- Transportation shuttles have extended their hours to midnight.

d. **Report from the Vacancy Committee, Joshua Akinola-King**
   - Still have vacancies, for the College of Arts and Sciences, the College of Nurse and Health Professions, the College of the Arts, the School of Public Health, and transfer liaison positions.
   - Resigned from the Vacancy Committee
   - Senator Akinola-King moved to add Shareze Wright to the vacancy committee, seconded by Senator Aleman. The motion passed with 16 in favor, 0 against, and 0 abstention.

e. **Report from Head Freshmen Liaison, Sai Maddali**
   - Looking deep into student and SGA issues. Recently, they’ve created new initiatives and have furthered progress on old ones.

   - Organizationally, they have decided meetings will be every other week on Thursdays at 5 – 6 PM during the weeks that alternate with the weeks of the Atlanta SGA Senate meetings.

   - Volunteering – Since all six freshman liaisons live on campus, they’ve decided to have a weekly volunteering partner with which they would do whatever services necessary for the organization. To be an organization of good fit, organizations must be accepting volunteers, within a mile of housing, and also be doing social work (ex: a business society would not be a good fit even if non-profit and accepting volunteers). The organizations, so far, that have been identified as good fits are… “Stand Up for Kids”, “Southern Center for Human Rights”, “Atlanta Children’s Shelter”, “Atlanta Center for Self-Sufficiency”, “United Way Atlanta”, “Atlanta Habitat for Humanity”. Currently, they are contacting and figuring out which organization would be the best fit with timings and work needed. We’re open to any new organizations to reach out to if given.

   - SGA Volunteer Process – In our last meeting, they discussed the opportunity that students at Atlanta Campus have to join SGA committees regardless of being a senator or liaison. Why don’t we have more of these students in our committees? One hypothesis from us is that there is nowhere that these students get to assign responsibility to themselves to feel as though they are a part of SGA enough to join a committee. To combat this illusion, the freshman liaisons would like to create a systematic process for students to sign up for committees and be given volunteer opportunities. We will be modeling this after Spotlight’s volunteer process, since their organization is the inspiration that we strive to achieve with this initiative. First steps include surveying students to understand why they haven’t joined an SGA committee and meeting with a Spotlight representative that could help discuss how they’ve achieved what they have.

   - Freshman Constituency Day –Discussed having the constituency day within the week of March 12th – March 16th in one of the Student Center East rooms. They brought up the idea of having it on an orientation day to get feedback from rising freshman as well as current freshman.
-Freshman Survival Guide – For this project, Peter and Nawar are working on creating a survey on what type of information is most relevant for this. Will be meeting with the New Student Orientation office on what information they relay during orientation.

-Improving GSU 1010 - For improving GSU1010, Bri’a is heading that initiative and first steps include meeting with the head of GSU1010 to discuss why there aren’t concrete syllabi and similar-level teachers. They will create survey for this as well to gain more information that they hope will be shared during classes before the end of the semester.

-Twitter Communication Trend – their Twitter account isn’t active, but Twitter is an excellent channel to continue communicating with constituents. Discussed about creating a twitter trend in which students could tweet things wrong with GSU with a certain hashtag that would allow them to collect information on new initiatives that students would want. Ideas for hashtags include: #GSUprobz, #SGAlistens, etc.

f. Report from Head Transfer Liaison, Ana Pachon on behalf of Dominick Fabian

-The transfer liaisons as a whole, had a meeting through Groupme on Tuesday November the 7th, around 5pm. We discussed the meeting I had with Gail and mentioned the survey that will be presented on the last senate meeting. We discussed the main things we want to work on for upcoming semester. With all the issues surround the transfer students at GSU and the student body as a whole, we definitely have more goals but we want to start off with three proposals and work from there. These initiatives are detailed below:

-Transfer Welcoming: Met with Ms. Gail who proposed him to speak with Ms. Walker, who is the person in charge of orientation. Hopefully, we can get information on the transfer student orientation that they offer and some changes that can be done. We also will be asking for permission to obtain a list of the people transferring and see who will be staying on campus housing. If this is achieved we then proceed to speak with housing to provide us with access to these rooms. The welcoming gift will include a GSU shirt, a letter from housing and a map of the school for directions. For transfer students that are commuters, we will send out an email that says they have a gift waiting for them in the SGA office, this way they know where the SGA office is located and can express their interest in joining if they have an interest.

-Financial Aid: Want to work with Alondra and her initiative in improving financial aid. Transfer liaison Martinique is part of her committee, and they will be communicating through her and seeing in which way they can help. Also, they will be developing a list of questions that they have and giving it to transfer liaison Martinique alongside with our concerns with financial aid to see if they match.

-Mixer: Interested in hosting a mixer for the transfer students. There would be food and information about different clubs and organizations they can join and how to get involved, also representatives of places like the law school would be present so they can speak on what GSU offers and basically all they can do at Georgia State.

-All these ideas will hopefully become reality by the next semester, any help will be well received.

VIII. Old Business-NONE
IX. New Business
   a. Bill to Amend the Vacancy Committee By-Law
      Akinola-King report:
      - This legislation adds a committee chair to the vacancy committee to have the committee run effectively
      - Failure to attend a scheduled interview will count as an absence from a committee meeting.
      - Senator Samuelson moved to debate for 5 min, seconded by Senator Aleman
      - Senator Akinola-King calls the question. The motion passed with 18 in favor, 0 against, 0 abstentions,

X. Executive Vice President’s Report, Yann Mondon
   - Sent an email about the event reflections form which are essentially to inform the university what SGA has been doing. Will be sending event forms to head senators for constituents’ day coming up next.
   - The Activity fee committee will be meeting tomorrow at 2PM at student center, 464.
   - Applications are now available for Spring 2018 Atlanta Election Commission, the deadline to apply is Nov.16. The Roles include the Atlanta Election Commission Chair, a Vice Chair for Marketing and a Vice Chair for Logistics. If you run for this position, you can’t run for office for 2018-2019.
   - There’s a vacancy position for the College of Arts and Sciences committee.

XI. Closing Remarks
   a. Comments and announcements of the officers-NONE
   b. Closing Call of the Roll: Senate Clerk, Olivia Abie
      Absent (Speaker Jones, Director Moreno Duque, Senators Siemer, Barry, Osilaja, Azarkhail, Perdue, transfer liaison Dominick)

XII. Adjournment
   Senator Akinola-King move to adjourned the meeting, seconded by senator Cruz-Hernandez at 8:37PM