Student Government Association
University-Wide Meeting Minutes

Date: Thursday, January 31, 2018
Time: 7:15 PM
Location: Rm. 170, Urban Life, 140 Decatur St SE, Atlanta, GA 30303

Expected to be Present:
- President: Franklin Patterson
- EVP of Atlanta: Ayesha Iqbal
- EVP of Alpharetta: Alexus Seymour
- EVP of Clarkston: Christin Smith
- EVP of Decatur: Averyona Walters
- EVP of Dunwoody: Nahal Orak
- EVP of Newton: Aarjavi Patel
- Atlanta Senate: 30 Voting Senators
- Alpharetta Senate: 2 Voting Senators
- Clarkston Senate: 5 Voting Senators
- Decatur Senate: 2 Voting Senators
- Dunwoody Senate: 5 Voting Senators
- Newton Senate: 2 Voting Senators
- Student Judicial Board: 1 SJB

I. Call to Order by President Patterson (at 7:19 PM)

II. Opening Call of the Roll / Determination of Quorum
   a. 24 of the 31 seated voting member/Quorum achieved
   b. Absent
      i. Atlanta — Cherilyn Munoz, Malcolm Mondesir, Jasmine Johnson, Sheri Kearse, Morgan Tomcho, Christopher Garcia Velazquez
      ii. Clarkston - Niara Glover
      iii. Decatur - Erica Abdur-Rahim, Jordan Parker
      iv. Dunwoody - Yareli Marroquin, Eric Robinson;
      v. Newton - Seven Bush

III. Reading and approval of the minutes from the previous meeting
   a. Senator Thomas moved to approve, seconded by Senator Rahman
   b. The motion passed with 19 in favor, 0 against, 5 abstentions

IV. Special Reports
   a. University Representatives wishing to address the Senate
      i. Ryan Maltese, Interim Assistance Vice President for Student Success
         • College to Career: Quality Enhancement Plan (QEP).
         • In less than a month the university accreditation team for SACSCOC (the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges) will have a group on campus that will survey… (classes, facilities, etc.)
         • The QEP is how the university is delivering its academic curriculum to students in a career-ready space
         • Wants help with informing students what the promise is to students as part of Georgia State University’s accreditation process
   b. Student Forum – students wishing to address the Senate – None
   c. Officers wishing to address the Senate
      i. Senator Siemer – Counseling Center - Facing difficulties in recruitment, trying to hire two people.
      ii. EVP Orak - Hiring Paperwork
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1. Before consolidation, SGA officers received payment at the end of their term. It would be more efficient for officers to complete the hiring paperwork at their campus because they are getting paid at the end of their role.

2. **Point of Information, Advisor Beckwith** – The university cannot expect students to perform work without having gone through the hiring process. Federal law and HR will not allow students to complete paperwork at the end of their terms. He agreed that the current process of requiring students to personally deliver their paperwork to the HR office on the Atlanta campus (or Decatur) is efficient. He will follow-up with Nahal after the meeting.

iii. **Clarkston Finance Director Johnson** - Promotional Videos:
   1. Are there any plans for SGA promotional videos this year?
   2. Communications Director Lazare - Any promotional video must go through Creative Services

V. **Special Orders** – None

VI. Executive Cabinet reports from the EVP of each campus *(Reports sent out prior in email)*
   a. Alpharetta Campus
      i. Raising awareness on Domestic Violence and Women’s Homelessness. There will be a week-long clothing drive
      ii. Inclusion and Exposure for students to feel like they have access to the same amenities as other students.
      iii. Submitted report is below…
      iv. Beginning of the last term initiatives, survey results shown the need students wanting letters on the buildings and that dining options were the most requested. Collaborated with Fooda which can be found in the lounge area Monday - Thursday. Sustainability completed the recycling bin goal. Increased student event retention rate. Increased campus visibility on social media. The SGA wall is moving forward as well as renewable energy. Beginning to bring Atlanta Clubs to Perimeter. Creating a Job Opportunity flow with local businesses.
   v. **Core values:**
      1. Inclusivity, Creativity, Service to others means to not only me but as well as SGA is to create a bridge for all the diverse communities that Georgia State University has to offer. To develop creativity outlets for students to propel and build their career path. To be empathic and understanding of all students and to give back to our surrounding communities that contributes to Georgia’s State unique atmosphere.
   vi. **Campus Goals & Brainstorm**
      1. The goal of this semester is to bring awareness. The Alpharetta campus progression on completing the ‘Letters on the Building’s’ initiative is still actively undergoing. Before the end of Spring semester, students will be aware to differentiate between buildings. To raise awareness of women domestic violence and women’s homelessness, there will be a week-long clothing drive held on the Alpharetta campus in March and along with generous donors. Our ‘why’ for this semester is Inclusion and exposure. For students to feel as though they have the same amenities as the other perimeter colleges.
   vii. **Recruitment Update** - The Alpharetta Campus currently has a full Senate.
viii. **Election cycle & Update:**
   1. Speaker Sophia, Communications Director Chace and I are working with Senator of Student Engagement, Erika Garcia-Bonilla on recruiting next election cycle. Senator Ryan Brinza and Erika are hosting tabling events for recruitment. We are collaborating with PAC and their events for more exposing and recruitment.
   2. Student Engagement and Election Commissioner Erika Garcia-Bonilla. Erika currently has not received any updates.

ix. **Crisis Training for PR uses**
   1. Due to the incident that occurred during the open forum and after, I am proposing an open discussion for a crisis control PR seminar/training
   2. I have reached out to Don Hale who is VP of Public Relations and Communications, seeking out PR seminars based in Atlanta and or that fits the needs of SGA. Here are some sites below:
      a. https://www.socialshakeupshow.com/
      b. https://conferences.ragan.com/crisiscommunications/

b. **Atlanta Campus**
   i. The Atlanta Senate held two major events this month: the Transfer Mix n’ Mingle and the Human Trafficking week. The transfer Mix n’ Mingle had a great turnout, allowing transfer and transition students to meet one another, get vital information from departments, and receive panther kits full of much-needed campus supplies.
   ii. Human Trafficking week had several events, the panel discussion by Nita Belles the centerpiece. This event also had spectacular turnout and has set in stone the foundation for such events to reoccur in the coming years.
   iii. Senators are now busy preparing for the upcoming constituency days and heading full force into the initiatives they want to see through before the term ends.

c. **Clarkston Campus**
   i. We had our first meeting on January 28, in which Dean India Blackburn was in attendance. She gave us some great updates on what was happening on our campuses, such as updates with an upcoming food pantry and new Title IX campus officials. She also answered some questions that the student body has recently posted to our administration pertaining to smoking on campus and counseling services.
   ii. In this meeting, we also solidified some more of our representation for this year’s college and campus-wide SAF deliberations, brought forward more dates for tabling for SGA info sessions in our library, and garnered volunteers for the upcoming Scholarship Fair on February 6.

d. **Decatur Campus**
   i. Held three events: Donuts with the Deans, Welcome Back Breakfast (in early Jan.) and a Black History Month canned food drive.

e. **Dunwoody Campus**
   i. Dunwoody team is currently working on several initiatives of which library hours extension is one of them. Since this initiative was started in previous semester for extension of two hours during the final exam, hence, the first action was to request student headcounts during that period and in response headcounts of over 100 students attending library after 9 pm and the related suggestion of extending for fewer hours but more days.
was suggested to the team from the administration. A team is currently working on the related proposal after meeting with the advisor.

ii. Second initiative, improving the Cafeteria atmosphere by designing the walls on B building is also being conducted as meeting with the construction manager, advisor and choosing the student body photos to be printed on the wall are in final steps. After choosing the photos, meeting with the vendor will be the next step.

iii. Third, Senator for clubs and organization Libam is working on the club of the semester initiative in which the most productive club will be celebrated and supported from SGA. Senator will be in contact with the club presidents in Dunwoody involvement fair held on 1/30.

iv. Dunwoody SGA is also working on election as a few interested volunteers are being contacted to work on planning for the event.

f. Newton Campus

i. Since our last U-Wide meeting on January 11th, we have been working on recruiting new members and volunteers. We have recruited one potential senator and are recruiting others as well.

ii. We are going to work more on our past term initiatives. Full body mirrors in the main 4 bathrooms, basketball court, and increasing student involvement. The petitions for the basketball court are still going on and we have about 150 to 200 signatures (not sure of the exact number as of now).

iii. We have also been training and solidified the representatives that will be attending the SAF deliberations for Newton campus which is on February 1st. We are also preparing for our annual Spring Fling event, though it is hosted by PAC SGA will be helping out as well in the event.

g. Communications Director

i. Setting up a meeting time with other communications directors
ii. Monday organization fair from 11 am to 2 pm
iii. Will be working on election promoting

VII. Committee Reports

a. Safety Committee: Senator Nicholson & Thomas

i. Update: new permanent signs going on all campuses (funding paid by GSU)
ii. Meeting with stakeholders, week of March 25th (Kick Butts Day)
iii. Smoking Walks
iv. Search for smoking hotspots on each campus - need involvement from Perimeter college
v. There is a specific smoking area on each campus. Currently GSU states that every campus is tobacco free.
vi. The original policy states that the University System of Georgia will not allow smoking at any school with the exception of housing. Not clear if this is an old policy.

vii. Complaint from students that the designated smoking areas are too far.

viii. Will not change policy regarding vaping at this current time

b. Bylaw Committee: Senator G. Wright - No new news except that the next Bylaws meeting is Thursday at 4 p.m.

c. Ad-hoc Human Trafficking Committee: Senator Abraham & Mejia

i. Good turnout at Human Trafficking Panel with Ms. Nita Belles, with around 40 people.
ii. Next year and in the upcoming weeks we will have Perimeter College join in.
iii. Senator Abraham wants to be more inclusive of all campuses. Says she wants to make human trafficking more real for students. Plans on bringing in survivors.  
d. Ad-hoc Homeless Committee: Senator Munoz  
i. Will speak to homeless or students that are homeless and work towards building a scholarship that would aid them for a year

VIII. University Senate Reports  
a. Budget – Senator Siemer  
i. Convocation Center  
   1. concept design is out, waiting for budget approval in April 2019  
   2. Will take at least 2 years to build  
   3. Upper part of Blue Lot is going away, but a parking deck is being built  
ii. Kell Hall  
   1. Approved for demolition  
   2. The bidding process is open today 1/31/2019  
   3. Board of Regents must approve (March)  
   4. The goal is April for demolition  
iii. Commencement Committee – Senator Nicholson  
   1. Bachelors ceremonies will be at 10 a.m.  
   2. Official date for College of Arts and Science May 8th  
   3. All other Atlanta colleges and schools on May 9th  
   4. Associates and College of Law ceremonies TBA

IX. Old Business  
a. 89-UWB-05 Campus Retention Act of 2019 – Introduced by Senator Estes  
i. SGA Bylaws currently restrict Student Government officers from retaining their positions if their coursework for their second semester in their position becomes divided between more than one Georgia State campus  
ii. This bill would allow students who no longer take the majority of their classes on the campus where they were elected, as long as they as they continue to be enrolled in a minimum of one class at that campus to which they were initially elected.  
iii. Motion to enact 89-UWB-05 by Senator Thomas, seconded by Senator Munoz  
iv. Motion to enact approved with 23 in favor, 0 against and 0 abstentions  
b. 89-UWB-03 A University-Wide Bill to Clarify the Point System  
i. Clarifies that points do not reset and instead reset at the end of a term.  
ii. Motion to enact 89-UWB-03 by Senator Thomas and seconded by Senator G. Wright  
iii. Motion to enact approved with 15 in favor, 5 opposed and 3 abstentions

X. New Business  
a. 89-UWB-07 A University-Wide Bill to Amend Election Violation Penalties  
i. This bill will allow for an increase in more strict violations to offenders of the election code.  
ii. Motion to enact 89-UWB-07 by Senator Siemer and seconded by Senator Thomas  
iii. Motion to enact denied with 5 in favor, 9 opposed and 9 abstentions
XI. Closing Remarks
   a. Comments and announcements of the officers
      i. Senator Thomas Standing Committee for Safety Recruitment
         1. Is still looking for people on all Perimeter campuses to share safety concerns.
         2. He wants to hold classes on campus for self-defense and active shooter training

XII. Closing Call of the Roll

XIII. President’s Report
   a. Human Trafficking: The panel was successful but there is still so much more to accomplish and do. We are trying to not just raise awareness but to also find solutions. Ad-hoc committee see me after the meeting.
   b. Homelessness: We need to discuss the issue to some more individuals before we move forward in the meeting. See me after the meeting.
   c. The University is going to look different in the future, there are a lot of exciting things coming around the stadium in terms of new businesses and living areas
   d. University-Wide tradition is on track, please expect some more information on that in the coming weeks.
   e. Inclusion Week is happening, and we hope all campuses might be able to participate. The purpose of doing this is to change the definition of inclusion from being forced to do something you don’t agree with to celebrating what makes you different in the first place because that is what we have in common. The main highlights of the event are as follows:
      i. Walk in my Shoes, you can’t: Storytelling time based off who you are.
      ii. Open Discussion on Ethnicity, Race, Religion, Sex, & Gender: Open discussion
      iii. Cultural Speed Dating: Sitting across from someone different
      iv. Don’t bring that (Insert Race) girl home: Inter-racial relationships
      v. Festival of Nations: Celebration
   f. Thank you for all you have done but we are not finished yet!

XIV. Adjournment (9:03 PM)