

Student Government Council

University of Michigan-Flint

Tuesday, June 17, 2008

Minutes

Attendance

Executive Board

President- Owen Agho

Vice President- Nic Josey

Treasurer- Bob Routhier (absent)

Secretary- Tamera Dandachi

Representatives

Shawntae Harris- Tardy (2 pts)

Krystal Long

Martin Portillo- Tardy (1 pt)

Saad Qureshi

Absent Representatives

Marcus Batson

Matthew Washington

Fellows

Laura Adam

Jonathan Ettinger

Brian Welch

Ex-Officio Members

Sarah Alshabani—Genesee Early College

Jermaine Brown—CAB

Ashley Harwood—Greek Council

Guests

Theresa Landis

Candace Sharon

Peggy Vaughn

Bill Webb

Minutes

Meeting called to order at 2:05

Presided over by President Owen Agho

Agenda Acceptance

- Movement to amend agenda to add Candace Sharon as a guest speaker by Josey
- Seconded by Tamera

Minutes Acceptance

Guests

Theresa Landis

- Bill Webb and Peggy
- Bill- discussion is 6 weeks old. There was discussion about the increasing thefts and about where there should maybe be cameras. They started talking about how many would be needed for external entries. The discussion became energized and grew to be 8, 9 or 20 cameras. Students started to wonder how many cameras were really needed. Cameras to cover the exits would be helpful. There will not be a lot of cameras.
- Josey- do you know if the skywalks will continue to be locked on weekends?
- Bill- we are looking at what times and hours of operation we will operate under. If there are certain reasons that they should be open then they will be open. If not, they will be closed.
- Josey- most of the thefts happened during the weekend so if they are opened then we have to worry about those exits too.
- Peggy- once the classes are over in FH and MSB then safety will probably lock down that side of the skywalk and then we will lock down our side too.
- Bill- safety and security is the number one priority
- Owen- do you think that the increased student patrol will help to lower the number of cameras needed?
- Bill- the increased patrol is fairly new and there are a lot more around. There are is more patrol in groups of two. The cameras would also help to solve some problems. They are great for after the fact and you seem to get a better bang for your buck with the patrol going through.
- Owen- I think that we agreed that there is a need but as few as possible. If we say the campus is safe but people see all of the cameras then they might doubt the safety.
- Saad- what about target areas such as Clint's and the Loft?
- Theresa- I was asked to get student input and we (Martin, Owen, and Theresa) walked around the UCEN and came up with all of the possibilities. So there is a long list but we have to decide which ones if we want as few as possible. We were hoping one camera could capture several places. We found out that the picture quality would be very poor if we were to do that
- Laura- as far as the exits go, could we have exterior and interior cameras?
- Bill- I think that we should use as few cameras as possible as a starting point and that they should just be outside. If we look throughout the university there are some internal cameras that are operated by the departments, but most of the places around the university they are outside.
- Ettinger- question for the chair: do we have the full data in front of us about the needs for a camera. Can I request that council is presented with a report?
- Bill- it will take us a little longer if we go back 12 mos. Is that what you want?
- Ettinger- can we just go back to the time when the increased vandalism and theft began
- Owen- that was about 6 mos. ago.

- Josey- I think that we were the most bothered by the internal cameras. Is there a possibility of increasing the theft awareness to the offices in the UCEN as well? Can education be increased for the offices as well as an increased student patrol?
- Bill- I would like to have an increased dialog about it. Anything that we can do as a joint effort. The students, the staff, etc.
- Theresa- we need everyone to look out for each other
- Peggy- the big ticket items are headlines but there are more purses or book bags that are left unattended that come up missing.
- Laura- since the UCEN is split on the first floor, will there be cameras on all of the exits (the exits off of the Michigan rooms)
- Theresa- we were looking at just the main part right now.
- Owen- student patrol will be increased in fall?
- Bill- it is increased now
- Owen- if we could get the reports that would be helpful
- Theresa- we are going to be able to have TMP coming to campus to help make focus groups. There were emails sent out to see the availability of people but there wasn't a lot of response back from it. We want as many people involved as possible.
- Ettinger- can I request that the invitation is sent out to more groups?
- Saad is going to forward the invitation to clubs and organizations
- Owen- I think we should wait until fall to start the groups

Candace Sharon

- We need some people to help on July 26, a Saturday. It's a consumer picnic, so it's for the consumers of our facility. If you volunteer there is a confidentiality issue. It's a very large event and we will need help in the parking lots and with vans. There will be free food and probably a t-shirt. Just call (810) 257-3705
 - Josey- do you need donations?
 - Candace- well probably not money, but supplies
 - Josey- yeah, any supplies
- We're looking for about 30 people and I'll be going to Greek Council as well
- It runs from 10-2 or 3, but we need people to set up and clean up too.
 - Welch- have you gone to social work yet?
 - Candace- no, but I plan to
- Location: Kearsley Park right down R.T. Longway across from Mott CC

Constitutions

Officers' Reports

Student Relations

- The website is up
- If you want anything on it let me know. I have an event page up and I'm going to start working on recruitment and dorm oriented things.
- If anyone wants to talk about the voter drive Proffer, Shawntae, and I will be talking after the meeting.
 - Josey- I have 6 incoming freshmen who are interested in SGC. Do you want to contact them or do you want me to?
 - Krystal- I can

Student Organization Partnership Board

- A lot of people don't know what SOPB is so the first fall meeting I'm going to explain it to them.
- I have a constitution for Brian or Shawntae to look at from volleyball club

University Affairs

Government and Legal Affairs

- It looks like our chancellor is going to be at July meeting

Treasurer

Secretary

- No Report

Vice President

- I will know tomorrow morning what Ann Arbor is going to offer us for the retreat
- I need a few more schedules from people
- Can we be more on time to meetings?

President

- We need to be on time. I didn't have too many calls but there were a lot of people late.
 - Being on time is one of the first things about being professional. I could send out emails reminding you but you need to be responsible for being on time
- We went to Dearborn on Friday and met with their CAB counterpart and the VP on the campus. They are doing a rock the vote campaign and it's really nice.
 - I talked about the collaboration about Mfuse II and they are excited about working with us
 - They are able to talk to their mayor and have a good relationship with him
 - They are going to have housing built by the city
 - He often attends or sends someone to attend their meetings
 - Their goal is 1000 for Rock the Vote. We should set a goal too but maybe not as high
 - They are also rewriting their constitution so we are not alone
 - They're going to send us a copy of their new constitution
- I talked to Jessie and we have some issues with our constitution

Advisor Brian Proffer

- Add ex-officio if you are going to have them
- I am getting with the libertarians, democrats, and republicans to talk about the Rock the Vote
- Remember to think about where the grads stand in the bylaws and constitution
- The meetings need to be posted somehow
- Probably should add "Director" for officer reports
- You are late on your budget. They should have been in Owen's hands 14 days before the last day of spring term.
- Fellow bylaw? Where is it?
 - Who are your fellows?
- Roberts's Rules has a quorum.
 - Your bylaw says that you need 10 elected individuals to start the meeting

Advisor Jessie Hurse

- If you say that there is no set quorum during interim council then that means that one person could be here and make decisions and have quorum
 - Welch- it contradicts itself
- I am sitting in your meeting with flip-flops on. Maybe I need to be a better influence. I expect for everyone to be here 30 minutes early unless there is a really good excuse. We are going to tighten it up.
- During the meetings we can't call Sarah names and we have to treat her with respect.
- I noticed that Bob is not here. Does he have work?
 - He has a standing work conflict.
 - We can request that Bob writes us a report and someone delivers it
 - Owen can you get on him about the stuff that is in direct correlation
- How far away is your birthday, Proffer? We are 2 weeks away from July. We have a month to get everything ready for august. I am leaving to go out of town from Thursday until Tuesday and we need to get things rolling.
- I haven't heard anything about any notices. I talked to Dave about having Brian or I sit on funding board. I need to get in touch with Bob about that
- I would rather not touch the constitution, but we are being biased toward the students that we are being sworn to serve. Do we have permission to proceed?
- We can either go and fix it, or redo the whole thing?
 - Ettinger- if you think about it, if there is anything worth keeping then it goes into the new one
 - Articles 2, 3, 5, 8, and 9 are all problems
 - Ettinger- even if you just amend 2 small pieces it has to go up for a vote. We should realize that there are
 - Welch- I think that if we go from what's there it will take 80% of the work. There are also going to be 4 student governments on campus that has never been before. We have to figure out who is the top student government. The problem is that if we make amendments that contradict other parts of the constitution. We would be better off to rewrite it.
 - Josey- I also think that we should start from scratch, but it scares me that some things this summer have taken too long to achieve and we should set deadlines.
 - Saad- it worries me that we are already working on the bylaws so that they don't contradict the constitution
 - Welch- any constitution that is put in place, but the processes are pretty simple and universal. It might take a meeting to do it, but not too much longer
 - Owen- how long does it take to write a SGC constitution?
 - Welch- we should be able to do it over the summer. It would be best to have it done by September to vote on.
 - Ettinger- I am going to recommend that we have council assembled for several hours for several days to do it.
 - Josey- I think that we should maybe make an ad-hoc committee and give people time to get their schedules in order.
 - Ettinger- under the way that council interim board runs everyone sitting on the left can vote
 - Owen- I want to call for an informal straw poll: all in favor of rewriting
 - Vote: All in favor (everyone but Jessie)

University Committees

- Saad—Parking Committee
 - I went to the parking committee today and the 100 that we talked about last year got voted down. We voted for getting 100 spaces in the faculty lot and getting 100 for faculty in the pavilion. Staff and student council voted for it and faculty voted it down so it was left to the committee.
 - Owen- what was the motive?
 - Welch- for the staff in the pavilion the pavilion ramp is closer and for students the faculty lot is closer
 - Saad- their concern was that there will be less spots available for students
 - Laura- didn't council discuss making signs for this?
 - Saad- they just asked about what we thought of it and we gave our approval
 - They went over the biking racks. The idea was to try to get students to bike to campus instead of driving.
 - There is a software program that would get students to find students nearby to ride with them.
 - Ettinger- I think that it would be good to get the same grant that the Ann Arbor students have to ride the buses for free. I think that free bus rides would make it more accessible.
 - Owen- we can also ride the buses for free
 - Saad- I didn't really think that the Green Ride program would work
 - Josey- there are places online where people can find nearby people to share a ride
 - Ettinger- can I request that there is a presentation prepared about the software?
 - For the buses, they said that the times are going to possibly be changed from 8-10 and they are thinking about getting spring and summer

Ad-hoc Committees

New Business

Fall Welcome Sponsorship

- There are 3 full weeks of activities. There is the welcome back picnic, a community business crawl, Meijer Madness, a comedy show, a tailgate party, a movie on the lawn event, international tastefest, and more. The total budget that is going to cover this is \$36,500. What I am asking SGC for is \$4,000. CAB is contributing about \$5,000.
 - Owen- I want to table this for today so that I can talk to the treasurer
 - Jessie- I'll bring a more extensive report of the breakdown
 - Josey- it seems like there is a drop off after 3 weeks
 - I need you assistance for ideas for events. Don't sit back and wait for something to happen. We are planning it right now, so be vocal
 - Jermaine- I think that the issue is getting events on campus during the day
 - Laura- I would suggest going to the clubs that do those kinds of things
 - Josey- can you go to the clubs and see if they have schedules done yet

Dining Services Representative

- The café will be open soon and they are looking for a student rep.

Student Leadership Conference

- I was hoping that Bob would be here, but the conference is going to be in collaboration with EOI to provide our students with workshops. The date is September 19 which is a Friday. The speaker is tentative, but we are looking at Tim Wise who is an author. He was a part of David Wilson's documentary. He has a lot of information out, but we are looking at him. I'll bring this back up.
 - Welch- it seems that a lot if students complain that there is too much focus on underrepresented students. Will there be more general focus than just on underrepresented students
 - Jessie- The reason that we were looking at Tim Wise is because he is Caucasian and he talks about a general focus.

Old Business

ITS Scanning System—Tabled

Cameras—Tabled

Public Comment

Sarah—Genesee Early College

- We are looking at getting orientation ready for the fall

Jermaine—CAB

- We are looking for more ideas
- Our Dearborn counterpart is working off of \$92,000 and they need a lot of help.
 - Is the murder mystery thing a big hit?
 - He was suggesting it. I need feedback on it.
 - We need to help them out a lot. They don't have parties...

Welch- book buying for students. Are we still doing that?

Krystal- did we hear back about the book scholarship?

Owen needs to talk to Johnny about the money

Jessie- I know that we don't have foresight about when meetings will be in the fall, but we need to figure it out so that we actually have the rooms reserved

Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 3:36pm