

Penn State University, Berks Campus

Student Government Association

Minutes February 15, 2017

Call to Order

-12:18p.m.

President/ VP Address

(Anna takes the attendance).

Joey: Hi, everyone. The following clubs are now on the borderline of becoming inactive. Just be mindful of that. One more absence than your clubs will not be a part of the GA. If you're not here, please have your proxy sit in.

Approval of the Minutes

- Kyle (Honors): approve the minutes

- Troy (Chamber Choir): second

No discussion/ opposed/ abstentions

Approval of the Agenda

- Amanda (Collegiate FFA): approve the agenda

- Dylan (Ag Club): second

No discussion/ opposed/ abstentions

Old Business

Joey: Reminder, the budgets are due March 20th, Monday by 5pm. Either to Admissions or Campus Life. They are time stamped, so we will know when you hand them in. If you have any questions, we have a new Financial Manager, Brandon. He will be working alongside of Ryan. We also have Megan. She is the new Community Service Co-Chair and will be working with Michelle. After we hear from Sharon, we will have discussions about the Election.

New Business

Sharon (Multicultural Coordinator): My name is Sharon and I am the Coordinator for Diversity and Intercultural Students. My office is in the 3rd floor of Gaige. My job is to support students who are from the U.S., from the minority background, from LGBT, and from the outside of the U.S. I also do training for diversity and help the campus become more welcoming. I report to Joe Webb and he then reports to Teri. To start, I would like to do an activity.

(Activity Time).

This activity helps you think about how students feel when they come to your club meetings. This is a clear example of why diversity and inclusions are important. So you have to think about who is involved, who is not involved, who should you be planning for, who should be planning it.

(Ask for club members from the GA to be a volunteer).

Innovation comes from different people. Value and practice diversity is important in college. Diversity is not optional as you go about planning your organization and clubs as well as in classrooms. To learn and be willing to adjust to the diversity of the campus. If you have any questions, please stop by my office. Leave a note if I'm not there.

Joey: We have two people running for Faculty Senate. Anh Duong and Charles Miller. Charles is at UP for the Career Fair. If you have any questions for Charles, I can give you his email. We also have one person running for Financial Manager, which is Manpreet.

Anh Duong (Academic Co-Chair): Hi, everyone. I'm Anh and I'm a First Year Student. The reason I am running for Faculty Senate is because I'm already in SGA and I feel that this would be a great opportunity for me to get more involved. What I will do is to represent all of your thoughts, concerns, questions, and opinions when I go to the Faculty Senate meetings.

Manpreet (Pre-med Society): Hi, everyone. I'm Manpreet and I'm a Biochemistry major. I am running for the Financial Manager position because I want to get more involved and SGA seemed like a good fit. I spoke to Ryan about this idea of implementing electronic systems for the budgets, since everything is heading towards the technical side.

Ryan (CAB): Would you be doing Google Forms?

Manpreet (Pre-med Society): Possibly Google Forms, but there are also other ideas that I hope to try.

Mike (IT Chair): Since you're heading towards technology, would you be working with the IT Chair next year?

Manpreet (Pre-med Society): Yes.

Joey: All of you should know that last semester in the Fall, SGA did Treats for Troops; where we successful sent over eight boxes overseas. I had the privilege to visit Glenside Elementary School, over at Reading. I was talking to Tracy Blunt, a Faculty member here, and she was expressing how all the students are struggling with getting supplies. She also mentioned that Penn State has partnership with Glenside, where we have five student teachers over there. Something that I noticed is that a lot of public schools are suffering from not being able to have enough supplies for school. For example, the national average income in Reading is below many other cities. What we're going to do is do the same system as we did for Treats for Troops. One bag of school supplies will equivalent one hour of community service, and you can only get up to four hours of service. We'll take all the supplies during the SGA meetings, and the deadline is Wednesday, April 5th. However, if you want to donate more supplies, please feel free too. We can always send them over the next Fall semester.

Troy (Chamber Choir): Is it still four bags?

Joey: Yes, because we don't want you to buy your community service hours.

Troy (Chamber Choir): What is the date for the SGA Banquet, so Chamber Choir can send in the pictures?

Kelly Ann: April 29th is the banquet.

Joey: Since we're on the topic for the banquet, please make sure you send all the pictures to Anna. Her email is ak15213@psu.edu.

Robert (Bowling Club): This Sunday we will be having Glow Bowling.

Staff Reports:

Michelle (Community Service Chair): There will be not be any community service event this weekend. But the following weekend, there will be one at Country Meadows, on Saturday 2:30-4:30. The residence there made the comment that they wished for people to come out every Saturday.

Club Announcements:

Ryan (CAB): Tonight, in the Auditorium, we have a Hypnotist at 9pm and then we have Pinterest night coming up. Sign- ups are in Campus Life, so we have a head count.

Ridhima (International Klub): We are hosting a Chinese New Year dinner. If you would like to sign- up or have questions, please see Sharon.

Mike (IT Chair): Today, we have the Dancer's dessert in Tully's. Then tomorrow is the Dancer send off in the Lion's Den. If you have any questions, come out to the meeting in the MPR tonight.

Campus Life Reports:

Kelly Ann: I am approaching the end of my time at Penn State Berks. I got a job offer closer to where I live, so my last day will be February 28th. I know Campus Life will be working hard to find someone to replace me as soon as possible. welcome to come out to the Farewell gathering in the MPR from 3-5pm. But as you continue with your club activities, someone from Campus Life will be overlooking the works and will approve them. It has been a pleasure of working with all the clubs.

Teri: Just a follow up on what Sharon is talking about. There is a committee on campus called the Diversity Committee. We would really like to open this up to students and have you participate. I'm going to stay after today to take down contact information for those who are interesting. I will say that there is a meeting in the library at 10am. If you can go, you are welcomed to do so. This is all part of Sharon's position, to make the campus welcoming and inclusive. Penn State also has an initiative called All In. So, we are trying to collaborate with UP as a whole and make these events and activities happen.

Adjournment

-Amanda (Collegiate FFA): Motion to adjourn.

-Dylan (Ag Club): Second.

No discussions/ opposed/ abstentions