

**Call to Order/Attendance**

12:15 - Taylor takes attendance.

**President/Vice President Address**

Steven: We had a great last meeting and this is going to be another great meeting.

 Ryan: Joe Webb, our new Student Government Advisor, is going to introduce himself.

 Joe: My name is Joe Webb and I’m the Director of Student Support Services and the new Student Government Advisor. I’m excited for the chance to work with you guys and what new initiatives you guys will bring. SGA is important when it comes to supporting your fellow students and peers. I encourage you to think of ways to contribute to the Penn State Berks community. Everyone here has the same goal to get a degree and be successful. I challenge you to do something to encourage academic success through your organization. Events and activities are fun, but you should also try to help everyone here achieve academic success. Also, collaboration is another big initiative in SGA, that I encourage, and you guys will use skills like that in the real world. My office is room 14 in Perkins. Always feel free to come see me.

 Ryan: The initiatives that I’ve seen from SGA align very well with his mindset. I was very excited to find out that he would be our advisor.

**Approval of Minutes/Agenda**

**Old Business**

Committees

 Ryan: Last week we went over committees. We talked about the voting one regarding encouraging voter registration and voting in general. Riley (Student Veterans’ Coalition) is going to make a presentation for the voting committee.

 Riley (Student Veterans’ Coalition): I’m proposing that we form a committee to encourage and support voting. There is a midterm election coming up. I hope to gain the support of the College Democrats and College Republicans. This committee would have two main goals. One being encouraging students to vote. As part of this goal, we would need to ensure that students know how to register and in what district they reside, where their polling places are, and inform them of a few basics, such as absentee ballots and special elections. The second goal would be encouraging students to research candidates before casting their votes. Perhaps create a website or distribute leaflets every campaign season with basic information on a number of political parties, with links to those party’s websites and candidate information. We would also make more specific information about candidates relative to Berks county available campus-wide and have a method in place to obtain that information for students residing in other counties or states. One of the reasons that we’re in college, one of the reasons that we’re here, representing our school and our classmates, is because we want to do something with our lives. We want to make things happen, we’re dedicated, we want to do things better. We need to take those dedicated ideas to the polls, and it is our responsibility as members of this Senate to make sure that everyone has the ability to make an informed choice regarding the future of this nation. If anyone is interested in forming or participating in this committee with me contact me at hqk5302@psu.edu. I am also often in the Veteran’s Lounge located in Gaige 325.

Ryan: The train is leaving. All aboard. Riley here is an example of a great senator. We’ll immediately go into the project plan. She mentioned a lot of high-level concepts. It’s our duty, as committee members and senators, to turn those concepts into specific objectives. You touched on some examples - you had two goals. One was knowing how to vote and the other was actually having voters research who they vote for rather than just going with their party line. We’re going to pass a paper around and you can sign it if you are interested in joining the committee.

**Open Forum**

Ryan: Anyone else have anything that’s on your mind? Let’s come up with five things that can be changed into objective that can be measurable.

Chris (Lacrosse Club): For the Voting Committee, we can have a booth with pamphlets. We can set up a stand, hand out pamphlets, and provide assistance to vote. We should have a specific location to do this. This would make the whole message less forgettable and more attainable. We shouldn’t just hand out pamphlets. We should give them an actual location to go register.

Ryan: You should all update your Outlook calendars so we can set up meetings where we can actually talk about this stuff. Does anyone else have anything?

Ife: I have a few things. The dorms are always very humid and smelly. Many students have had to purchase dehumidifiers, but students shouldn’t have to be forced to buy things to keep them comfortable. Residence Life should make this available to all students. Also, there should be printing more easily available to students in the village. Many people write things that they have to print at night, when many of the buildings on campus are closed, so it would be very convenient. After midnight, regular students can no longer get into Ivy and the desk is closed. Maybe we can start by getting a printing station in Bowman and eventually each residence hall can get one. Another small thing: we should get lotion in all of the bathrooms. They do this in Bowman Hall in the Village and we should implement this all throughout the campus.

Ryan: That’s good stuff. We can talk to the people from the Residence Halls; we are definitely trying to enhance the quality of life up there. Ife, you can make a committee and make sure everyone’s held accountable for that. Anyone else?

Kyle: Fix the air conditioner in Gaige!

Ryan: What are some things that would make you guys think outside of this room? What would make you have the passion to form a committee outside of here? The senate’s job is to write legislation to pass. We can have a proactive senate that brings down these high level ideas so we can understand it. Last year we mainly had the staff doing this, rather than the Senate, and we want to change that! We want the Senate to understand exactly how to do this. There’s a lot of people in here and we can have a lot of sway on this campus. Here’s how to write legislation: become a partner in the student executive board; just reach out to us, all of our calendars are on outlook so you can see when we’re available, so send us an invite and we will meet with you and we can write legislation together. We’re working toward a proactive Senate rather than a reactive Senate. We want the power of the Senate to be utilized to reach a greater good on campus.

Shelby (World Affairs): For a fifth idea, which was also brought up last year, we should have cameras in the commuter parking lots. People often have stuff happen to their cars and without cameras we have no proof.

Ryan: We need to write legislation on that, so schedule a meeting with one of us and we can get it done. It’s definitely possible.

Ife: Regarding my ideas, what exactly should I do? Should I petition something? Wouldn’t the computers for a printing station and dehumidifiers be a completely unbudgeted for idea? What does the legislation do? Should I get a report of how much it would cost?

Ryan: I would suggest that you make a one page summary going over the high level issues and scenarios and present it right away. The petition will just reinforce that it is an issue for many students across campus, while the summary will actually explain what’s going on. Maybe you can even create some sort of poll to further your point. You can than meet with us and use that to make the actual legislation. Once we make this specific legislation, we can pass it on campus at the meetings. Last year they always wanted more facts and data to prove that the issues are things that we actually need to be changed. Once we have all of the specific information we can actually go to administration and make our case. This is how things will get done.

Chris (Student Veterans’ Coalition): Regarding the cameras: I am still working on it. Many of us have issues parking. I was talking to the technology club to come up with some sort of solution. At airports they often have these screens that show how many spots are available per parking lot and whatnot. I’ve been doing research on this, as we’d like to implement this on our campus. Hopefully it would cost less than ~$10,000. We can put cameras on the light poles and have some sort of A.I. to be able to see how many parking lots and spaces are available. It would be really helpful.

Ryan: $10,000?

Chris (Student Veterans’ Coalition): We don’t know the exact budget, but I think we can do it for way cheaper than that. The cameras for security would cost more, but that’s not a problem.

Ryan: Could we double dip and have the cameras act for both security and parking?

Chris (Student Veterans’ Coalition): We could, but it would be more expensive. We could look into it. The earliest we can do it is having it by next fall.

Ryan: Maybe we can pull $10k out of the student facilities fund. We can flush out the details. By December 14th (the end of the semester) we should have a proposal done for this.

Chris (Student Veterans’ Coalition): I’d have it done by then. Hopefully we’d make progress by then. An outside contractor would probably come in.

Ryan: We should get three contractors. Let’s do it. It’s a committee!

Senator: I live in the Residence Halls. It’s very hard to find parking and to drop off luggage in the Woods. We should alphabetize the parking lots, so you can only park in a certain zone. We should divide the lots up even more than they are now.

Chris (Student Veterans’ Coalition): For the parking lot cameras, we’re going to be doing only the commuter lots for now, because it’ll be cheaper and it’ll just be a test in the beginning. If it ends up working out, we’ll also, eventually, be putting cameras in the Residence Hall lots as well.

Joe (Aviation Society): Parking is really bad for those who live in the Woods. Maybe we could do parking according to what hall you live in. For example, only those who live in the Woods can park in the lot closest to the Woods and those who live in the Village can park in the one closer to the Village.

Ryan: The whole goal for this has to be realistic. Our end goal is to have the proposal done by December 14th. We just have to work backwards. We need to implement stuff where it needs fit. Maybe we’ll just do a pilot set of cameras in the commuter lot and see how it goes and move from there. This is a high priority for the Senate, as many of you do have parking concerns. We need to address this in a thoughtful manner. Who wants to be part of the committee? Put your schedules in your Outlook calendar so we can have meetings for it. If you need to contact me here’s my number: 267-402-7659.

Senator: Are we doing the GroupMe again?

Ryan: We can have the GroupMe if you guys want. We’ll add everyone into a new one.

Joe (Aviation): If we’re going on a trip, do we HAVE to be reimbursed for gas?

Angie (Campus Life): You don’t have to if you don’t want.

**Club Events**

Shannon (CAB): Today Cracy Bob’s Cash Cab happened. Volleyball will be tonight at 7. Tomorrow tie dye will be from 4-6 in Perkins Plaza. Community Connection will be at 5 on Friday.

Joe (Bowling): Our first glow bowling will be Sep 16 at 9:00. The games and shoes are free if you have your PSU ID.

Ife: For Christian Student Fellowship - the guided paint night on Friday still has some available spots. It’s at Kissinger Church. At 6:30 there is a dinner and then the painting will start at 8:00.

**Campus Life**

Angie (Campus Life): Homecoming is coming! We did get some sign-ups, but definitely not enough. This is a great way to expose and get people talking about your club. Participate in the homecoming parade. The club fair is Saturday. Unity Day is September 19th, right before homecoming. It’s during common hour. We are still looking for people to have tables. If you are interested email sup373@psu.edu.

Steven: The Student Government meeting will be cancelled for that day so you can all go to Unity Day.

Angie (Campus Life): You can also sit on the Diversity Committee if you’d like, so you can also email her and join that. On October 19th we will be having a 60th Anniversary Fall Fest. This is another opportunity to expose your club. If you guys are interested in making your club stand out from the rest these are the things that you should be doing. We will be inviting the whole community to the Fall Fest. You can decorate your table. It’ll be a contest. You will have to purchase your own candy, but there will be other food. After that we will move on to the scary part where the Lion Ambassadors will give tours.

Dan (Theatre Society): What do you do on the haunted tours?

Angie (Campus Life): We will be asking the drama people to come and volunteer their time to scare people on campus.

Campus Life Intern: We sent out emails to people who signed up for Club Fair and Homecoming. Make sure you email us back to confirm, because only one club responded.

Chris: What are the prizes for the parade?

Angie (Campus Life): You can win money prizes for your club.

Ryan: One last thing: All-U Day! The tickets are still being sold. It’s a great deal. The game is next week. $40 for the ticket and $5 for transportation. We’re selling them at Campus Life and at the table outside Tully’s during common hour. If you applied for one of the positions for SGA, Tahj will send you an email. Please apply on the website.

Stephen: The positions that are available are Freshman, Sophomore, Junior, and Senior Representative, Community Engagement Chair, Media Management Chair, Student Engagement Chair, and Student Life Chair.

 Ryan: Do we have a motion to adjourn?

 Joe (Aviation Society): \*so moves\*

 Ski and Board Club: \*so seconds\*