

SGA Meeting Minutes
3/30/2022

Attending: Co-President Faith Manickam, Co-President Aman Seyoum, Treasurer Angelo Olayvar, VP of Marketing Mykenzie Davis, Secretary Lindsey White, Student Life Rep. Rachel Roth Sawatsky, Student Life Rep. Shannon Dycus, Administrative Rep. Amy Springer Hartsell, Faculty Rep. Matthew Siderhurst, Ruth Abera, Isaac Alderfer,, Cindi Boyer, Ella Brubaker, Sam Craig, Adesola Johnson, Evan Kauffman, Christian Knight, Meredith Lehman, Molly Piwonka, Cassidy Walker

Absent: Hannah Beck

1. Call to Order at 8:04
2. Roll Call and Check-In
3. Approval of minutes from 3/16/2022
 - a. Merideth motioned to approve the minutes, and Cassidy seconded.

Approved: Everyone

Abstaining: 0

Opposed: 0

Motion passes and minutes approved.

4. Announcements
 - a. Masking Policy: the majority of people decided to not wear a mask and people can come talk to SGA co-presidents if they have any concerns
5. New Business
 - a. Bruce Emmerson
 - i. What is the best way to get feedback from students?
 1. Food Committee
 - a. Bruce said having a committee will be helpful more than surveys.
 - b. Personal requests are often weird because an individual is asking for what they want and it is hard to identify what the whole population wants
 2. The survey that was sent to students
 - a. People don't leave helpful information like (the food sucks)
 - b. It is sometimes hard to understand the best course of action after getting feedback.
 - c. A food committee will be helpful in addressing these concerns.
 3. SGA's Perspective and Discussion
 - a. Cindy thanks Bruce for his effort and empathizes with the frustration of this. She asks about forming a committee if we can do this.
 - b. Bruce says this has worked in the past and there is usually a lot of good energy for this but then as months go on, there is less steam. He would like to have a committee but is unsure who to ask in order to not lose momentum.

- c. Cindy mentioned maybe only meeting once or twice a semester would be good.
- d. Cassidy says that maybe shorter surveys would be helpful.
- e. Bruce said they have gotten shorter but they are no longer specialized to every school which is not as good.
- f. Bruce said that they now have the campus action plan and he hopes this will be helpful for the caf and to spread knowledge of improvements from the caf. He is also hoping that connection with the CA's would be a beneficial way to get involved, especially with first year residents.
- g. Sam said that talking to Bruce tonight has been helpful and makes Bruce feel more approachable. Cassidy and Sam say that maybe Bruce talking to students more in the caf would be helpful to make him feel more approachable.
- h. Christian says that the meet and greet table is a good idea for Bruce to meet students as well.
- i. Cassidy says that maybe posting the Action Plan on social media would also be helpful.
- j. Faith says that SGA could possibly push this as well to spread awareness of the social media accounts for the caf.
- k. Meredith says that SGA could also repost and share these stories as well to allow other students to see them.
- l. Angelo says that maybe letting students at EMU run the account for a day could be a good idea as well.
- m. Cassidy says that the "feed the royals" name might be misleading or hard to find on instagram.
- n. Sam says that once people start following it then others will also be able to find it because of mutual friends.
- o. Aman mentions that it could be good to get students excited about the caf again. The SGA pancake night was a good example of this or when music is playing in the caf. This could be a variety of things but it could then get students more excited and then share these events on social media.
- p. Bruce asks what the best amount of time for advertising is. One month? One week?
- q. Aman says that invitations to clubs & orgs is good and helpful to get students involved and not need to plan everything.
- r. Angelo says there should be incentives for taking the survey like free lunch or for den gift cards
- s. Cassidy says that maybe having the \$2 lunch on a different day.
- t. Cindy says that the \$2 commuter lunch each week is super nice instead of needing to guess if it is the correct week or not. She also asks if there can be an "open meal ticket" to use anytime during the week

- u. Bruce says that is up to the departments rather than him.
- v. Rachel says that it's hard to give constructive criticism to someone you really like as a person that is out of their control. Rachel says that there's a lot of criticism towards meal plans and there may be a deeper root of dissatisfaction with the meal plans in general rather than Bruce and the actual caf.
- w. Bruce says that EMU gets part of that money and thinks that the charge is all to the caf but it is to EMU and the caf.
- x. Rachel says that those with physical conditions or are time restricted may also add to the dissatisfaction of the caf.
- y. Bruce said he is very willing to work with what each student's needs are as long as they are willing to ask.
- z. Bruce said that you cannot group all the athletes together with what they are wanting to eat.
- aa. Ruth said that sometimes it is hard to get to the caf before the hot bar closes as well as the caf hours on the weekend.
- bb. Bruce said that is contractual with Pioneer rather than their own staff. If there is change happening, that will need to be higher up than Bruce.
- cc. Meredith said that when the caf was understaffed there were no options for athletes to get food if the caf is closed but now that the Den is open this is better.
- dd. Bruce said that the transfer meals are willing to be used later if coaches communicate with him.

b. SGA Day Reflection

- i. YAY!!
- ii. Faith is wanting to know feedback, comments, thoughts, and improvements for next year
- iii. Ruth said that there were way more people than she expected.
- iv. Ella said there were a lot of different options for different interests
- v. Cindy said the panel and smoothies were good. She said the dodgeball went by really fast.
- vi. Sam thought that he dodgeball was going to continue after the main event
- vii. Aman said that after the badminton requests, recsports decided to use that court for badminton rather than dodgeball. He said it was a great event.
- viii. Cassidy said time in common grounds was great and it was very relaxing and all the options were good.
- ix. Adesola said that canceling classes was a good call.
- x. Aman said canceling classes was the best way to advertise.
- xi. Adesola said that it was awesome that professors advertised and helped with that. It was also awesome that students actually came.
- xii. Cindy said proximity to everything was also helpful to keep people from leaving and keeping energy.
- xiii. Matt said that a lot of faculty were there which was surprising to him.

- xiv. Amy said she was impressed with the questions of the panel and the attendance.
 - xv. Shannon said that she was out of town but was looking online for photos. She said President Huxman texted her that night and was excited about her opportunity to play Badminton with students.
 - xvi. Matt said that we have lots of “breaks” from classes but this was different in that we had a chance to be together and part of that was that nobody knew what it was since nobody was able to make other plans.
 - xvii. Ruth said the middle of the week was also a good idea for us.
 - xviii. Cassidy said the half day was great too because the commuters were there as well.
- c. Space Updates - Shannon Dycus
- i. Shannon wants to update us on space things on campus and get feedback. There was lots of painting over spring break.
 - ii. The plan is moving forward for the summer that the transitions will begin to occur to the new spaces that are being prepared in UC. She said there has been a group talking about what the best use of the admissions space is. They decided that this will be an extension of student services including financial aid, first year advisors, coachlink, and career services as well.
 - iii. The existing common grounds space is still being determined. There is a survey for SGA to have representatives from students in the decisions of this process.
 - iv. Ruth said that last time they talked about giving an office to Jackie in DEI and was wondering where that was at.
 - v. Christian said he has responses from the open discussions and wants to know if Shannon wants those responses as well.
- d. SGA Takeover
- i. Faith said that SGA has been asked to take over the EMU instagram account for the LOVE EMU day.
 - ii. Meredith volunteered to do that.
- e. New Club: Astro Club - Karla Hostetter
- i. Karla says that the Astro Club is hoping to restart the astronomy club and recreate it a little bit.
 - ii. The club wants to be able to stargaze and go on field trips around the area to learn more about the stars and solar system as well as getting to know other students on campus.
 - iii. Cindy asks how often they would meet and what they would be doing.
 - iv. Karla said they are thinking about twice a month and seeing where interest goes after that for the members and leadership of the club.
 - v. Isaac asks if this is different than the previous club.
 - vi. Karla said she is not sure because there is not a lot of information about it and she wasn't a part of it. She said that she thought it would just be better to restart the club overall.
 - vii. Cassidy asks what social media platform they would use.
 - viii. Karla said instagram most likely.

- ix. Rachel asks if the planetarium is an interest for that space for them if they want to put the work into it.
- x. Karla said that she would enjoy exploring how or if they can use that space in the future.
- xi. Sam said the planetarium would be a great opportunity to work with other clubs on campus as well.
- xii. Angelo asks if they will be on probation for two years and that they will not receive funding for that time.
- xiii. Rachel confirms that this is true.
- xiv. Christian asks if they have an advisor in mind for the club.
- xv. Karla says Laurie Miller was the person she contacted and has some ideas for how to get started and is very excited about starting the club again.
- xvi. Ruth asks what SGA will provide for the club.
- xvii. Faith says that the first two years we do not provide a budget but just approve them to get going.
- xviii. Rachel said that since the astral society has been gone for two years they must start a new club rather than reigniting the old club.

Motion (Sam):

Evan seconds

Approve: 12

Against: 0

Abstaining: 0

Motion passes.

6. Open Floor

- a. Teachers Award Subcommittee: Cindy
 - i. Cindy said that this group met and decided on who one. There was one from each school which was exciting to see.
- b. Academic Council Subcommittee
 - i. Important curriculum changes: Faith
 - 1. Dropping prerequisite courses for some spanish classes for native speakers
 - 2. Updates on the core curriculum and ensuring they are tying in the DEI aspect of things
 - 3. Physics is now going to be offered as an algebra based course.
- c. Creation Care Council: Isaac
 - i. Proposal for a mural of diverse scientists in STEM
 - ii. Proposal for new solar panels on campus has hit some snags so that will be pushed back longer
 - iii. There is a Climate Action Meeting happening for all of campus in April on Thomas Plaza.
- d. Kittens on the First Day of May: Ella

- i. There is an option to have kittens from SGA and then the psych department is bringing dogs. We could have a collaborative event with kittens and puppies in May before finals.
 - ii. Shannon said to check in with Tyler and Anne in student programs to ask about that and see what they are planning.
 - e. International Food Festival: Cindy
 - i. GREAT EVENT!
 - ii. More time for the cooks to eat BEFORE
 - iii. Cleaning up after the event should occur more

Meeting ended at 9:26 pm

Recorded by Lindsey White