

September 22, 2008

I. Call to Order

II. Pledge of Allegiance, Moment of Silence

III. Attendance

IV. Special presentation: Ms. Deborah B. Logan, General Registrar for the City of Harrisonburg

-Need to have your dorm and room number as well as JMU's address and your PO Box number.

-When you move off campus you need to change your address.

-Those who are registered at home, you can check our office for absentee ballots, and if you need them mailed then let our office know.

-If your permanent address is not at JMU, then you should not be registered in Harrisonburg, and should be registered at your permanent home address.

-If you check no, that you aren't registered somewhere else and you are then your application will be pulled.

-Any application or registration can be reversed.

-Office number is 432-7707

-Absentee ballots do count!!! It needs to be in by 7 P.M. on Election Day. The last two Saturdays before election, the registrar office is open for you to go in and vote in person.

V. Reports

-Larson Thune, President- In the last week I have had a number of people approach me about disrespectful comments made at last week's meeting-read the Mission Statement for the SGA. This mission statement explains why we exist, so as we act lets try to focus on fulfilling the mission the best we can so that our actions are aligning with our purpose. Evaluate your decisions to as if you are moving toward or away from our purpose.

-Dan Stana, VPAA- We are here to serve 18,000 students, not just those that our in the organization so lets get out their and make an impact. Lets make our actions more than words.

-Candace Avalos, VPSA- Yesterday was the speakout. In theory it was a good idea, but it didn't go exactly as we planned, but we are going to try to expand on this to make it better in the future. If you have an suggestions for it please let me know. POP Time- International week is this week (Tomorrow there is a Chinese class in Taylor 404 from 3-4, On the commons from 12-4 there is the international bazaar, Kung Fu Panda is playing in Grafton, Study abroad fair is in Festival ballroom on Thursday, Friday there is a Chinese dinner and culture show in the festival ballroom) Vote on Mr. and Ms. Madison.

Freshman report- First meeting is tomorrow in Taylor 306 at 7 P.M. Please inform your dorms and community councils about the meeting.

Sophomores- Sold 51 t-shirts. Ordering them on the 29<sup>th</sup>. Working on ring premier application which will be out October 2.

-Andy Gibson, Executive Treasurer- If you did not get a budget from me and you want one then please come see me. 29. 828 dollars is the current amount for the contingency pot.

-Tommy Bluestein, Speaker- Thank you for coming to the retreat. There were a good amount of people who did not attend the retreat without an excuse, so that will be considered an unexcused absence. We were planning on 100 people and only 60 showed up. This is an example of one of the things that this organization can do better with. You were elected be in this organization so please start getting involved. If you did miss the retreat, you still need to attend a parliamentary workshop. Don't always focus on internal business, because we are here to represent the whole student body. Committee chairs please email your availability for Friday afternoons. If you request a mass email, then please get it to Chiquita a few weeks before you want it sent out.

-Legislative Action- We are doing the voter registration drive. ON September 30, UPB is having their crazy commons day, and they want us out their doing voter registration and absentee

ballors.

-CIA- Email Sarah Pineres if you have any personals. Attendance will be posted on blackboard by end of the week. Thursday at 8:30 in the office we are having an office party to watch the premier of the Office. We are going to have food! Next Tuesday we are going to get ice cream after the meeting. Wear your SGA gear. If you can drive for that, send Sarah an email letting her know how many people you can take.

-Finance- We have two finance bills up tonight, so keep in mind that the future of the money we have is not important. You need to take these bills on a day to day business.

-Community Affairs- Have been talking to the teacher at Pleasant Valley Elementary to get the pen pal program underway, signup sheet is going around to sign up for a pen pal.

-Academic Affairs- Take your professor to lunch has started up and is going well. If you have a problem with your presentation then please see John Sutter.

-Diversity Affairs- Thanks to all who came out to the freedom singer. Each member of our committee is now going to be a liaison to each event going on with CMSS.

-FADs- Meet with Brock at the end of the meeting.

-Dave Barnes, Advisor- Passed out a handout about election information.

-Trisha Farley, Chief of Staff- Passed out the SGA handbook.

-Jordan Sollender, DIT- IF you need anything up on the website then please email me.

-Caitlin Natale- We are going to do the "SGA getting to know you initiative", Old members are going to be signing up. Commitment is to be here for whole Senate meeting and go to dinner afterwards. Old members will be placed with a new member each week and you must sit with them during Senate and then go to dinner with them afterwards. We are going to try this out for a few weeks and see how it goes.

-Jack Wickham- Amendment forms are available.

#### VI. New Business.

-Sigma Phi Epsilon Contingency Bill-Seconded

Senator Hogan-Motion to amend-Striking Boys and Girls Club of Harrisonburg and replacing it with United Way.

-Greg Hogan- During Greek week we gave a large check to Boys and Girls Club, so we wanted to be able to help out another organization who is in need.

-Vote on amendment- amendment passes

-Amnesty International Contingency Bill- Seconded

-Bluestones Contingency Bill- Seconded

-Sigma Gamma Rho Sorority Contingency Bill-Seconded

#### VII. Old Business

-Latin Dance Club Contingency Bill

-Senator Watson- Finance committee did not pass this bill.

-Senator Micetich- Yield time to Latin Dance Club

-Latin Dance Club- We have three events called fiesta nights, and an end of the year dance. TDU is our primary source of funding, but we no longer are able to charge people while working there. We changed the name from lesson to fiesta nights to get more people to come out. Talking with various organizations for co sponsorships. Money is going towards the band at the end of the year dance and the dj, plus additional cost for advertising. We need to money in advanced for the band. Attendance for the end of the year dance in the past was about 60 to 70 people. We lost money on the t-shirts sale, so now we are trying to raise the amount of the dance lessons to earn more money. The DJ comes in to give the band a break, so that they don't have to play for the whole 4 hours. The band is \$2,300 and the DJ is \$600.

-Senator Watson- Motion to table this bill-seconded.

-Vote-Passes and is now tabled.

-Alpha Kappa Delta Phi Contingency Bill-

-Finance Report- Finance committee did pass this bill

-Senator Micetich- Motion to table this bill- seconded

-Vote-passes, Bill is tabled

-8% Contingency Allocation Change Bill-

-Senator Micetich-8% is the approximate amount of the total pot that groups were requesting. Every year we change the value, but if you made it 8% it would remain consistent every year. 8% allows us to be more flexible. It is a change that will be made for the future of our organization, so that we won't have to constantly debate the amount. We want this money to be responsibly allocated as possible. Urge you to strongly pass this bill. Total of a group's request throughout the year can total no more than 8%. This year it would make it less than 3,000 per group.

-Senator Jones- In support of this bill. Like how we can look to the future by voting on this bill. Makes sense to have a consistent number.

-Senator Westbrook-Motion to amend adding "provided the pot is less than or equal to \$35,000."-seconded. "If the pot is larger than \$35,000, the contingency pot be set back to \$3,000."

-Senator Westbrook-In the event that we have a larger pot, it provides a reasonable contingency amount.

-Senator Hollander- If we have \$40,000 and we want to give as much back to the clubs as possible, so we shouldn't make a cap saying that we can only give them \$3000.

-Senator Smolkin- Putting a cap in place allows us to reach out to as many organizations as possible.

-Senator Jones- Doesn't really solve anything except in the situation that we have a low contingency.

-Senator Watson- In the past we have never been in this position, where we have to be strict about giving out money. Contingency is for a number of groups and not just one group. It would be better to give out as much money to many different groups. Urge you to vote for this amendment.

-Senator Scott- A safe guard is not putting it in the constitution, but to implement it in the finance committee. People are going to use logic and are not going to just give out a whole lot of money. Don't like the idea of having a cap. Against this amendment.

-Senator Micetich- Against this amendment, because it defeats the purpose of putting a percent on the fund. We are still in control of how much money we allocate, and allocate it as we see fit. These numbers are just a cap value. A lot of organizations request less than 3,000. The cap is just a cap value.

-Senator Westbrook- Problem with 8% is that a group comes in requesting more than it can. They could come in with reasonable requests and we could continue to give them money. This amendment will not change the cap.

-Senator Moen- Motion to amend changing 35,000 to 37,500-second

-Senator Moen- 8% of 37,500 is 3,000.

-Vote on amendment to amendment- passes

-Senator Silver- Don't agree with this amendment because it defeats the purpose of making our constitution a living document.

-Senator Sutter- Not for amendment, because it doesn't make much sense. Making a cap at 3,000 might not be sufficient years down the road.

-Senator Richards- Not in favor of amendment. There needs to be a cap but not at this number.

-Senator Pineres- It needs to be capped, but you need to keep in mind that there

are over 300 groups eligible contingency. We should never be in the situation where we give out all our money in one semester.

-Senator Waldt- agree with what other senators have said.

-Motion to close debate- debate is closed

-Vote on amendment- Amendment does not pass

-Senator Smolkin- If we put this 8% limit, and if every group requests this amount, then it only allows us to give contingency to 12 clubs. If we have no cap, that we can only hit a dozen organizations.

-Senator Pineres- Against this because last year our pot was higher which is dangerously close to the amount for a program grant. 29,828 is actually an average amount for the pot and is very normal. We can't talk about last year and base it on that amount.

-Senator Watson- Just because we have a lot of money, does not mean that every group will get the full 8%, that is why we have the finance committee. Vote on this because it is a great bill. Motion to call the previous question.

-Senator Waldt- Against this bill, because 3,000 is a better cap. If groups know that it is 3,000 it will make it better understandable for the groups applying. If we give them more than 3,000 then it is boarder lining program grants, which is not what contingency is for. Our job as senators is to really look at what the finance committee has presented.

-Motion to call previous question- passes

-Vote on the bill-Bill passes with more than 2/3 majority.

-Finance Reform Bill

-Senator Watson-People that meet with the finance committee must be the same people who come to Senate to present, that way we hear the same views. This will resolve an issue of clarity. In the past, there is no power for the finance committee, and it is not fair to put the responsibility on the committee and then have them overruled by senate. The committee needs more power than what they have now. Finance makes these decisions, and then if SGA really likes it then we will pass it.

-Senator Sutter-In favor of this bill, puts more emphasis on the committee and will allow finance to make decisions that we should trust. If something doesn't seem right then we can override it. Our finance committee is the expert.

-Senator Scott- Finance committee is well trained on what to do. Motion to ammend "the request can be untabled once said representative is in attendance of a Student Senate meeting.

-Senator Scott- this is so that it is automatically tabled incase a representative does not show up to finance.

-Senator Watson-Vote for this amendment.

Vote on amendment-amendment passes

-Senator Hollander- Agree with the idea that people need to be here to answer our questions, but disagree that if the finance committee says no then we have to pass it with a 3/5 vote. Finance committee should not be able to make a decision for the whole body.

-Senator Jones- Support this bill. Finance committee obviously has a relative informed opinion. This allows for an override of the finance committee. Motion to amend to strike 3/5 and add 2/3.

-Senator Jones- 2/3 is the standard in our constitution.

-Amendment passes

-Senator Micetich- Strongly support this bill, same people should be present to relay the same information. We need to trust the finance committee. If we don't pass the bill then we are questioning the speakers appointments.

-Senator Westbrook- This will increase the committees power and I support it.

-Senator Waldt-Yield time to Dan Stana- In all our cabinet retreat goals we talked about placing more emphasis on committees and the decisions that they make, so if we didn't pass this bill we would not be giving them the power they deserve.

-Senator Ferraro- Support this bill, motion to call previous question.

-Vote on the bill-Bill passes

-Motion to untable the Kappa Delta Phi Contingency bill-untabled

-Senator Micetich- yield time to Alpha Kappa Delta Phi

-Alpha Kappa Delta Phi- We are one of the nations largest and fastest growing Asian American sororities. Our philanthropy is breast cancer. Because we have more people and we want to hold bigger events we are trying to hold an event titled "Real Dukes wear Pink" charity dinner. We have done numerous previous funding to raise \$5,000. \$500 is going to publicity and \$1500 is going to help buy supplies for the dinner. The dinner will last about 2-3 hours and we are going to have special guests. We have different groups on campus coming to perform. Hoping to raise more than 5,000 to give back to Breast Cancer foundation. Raised \$2800 by selling flowers and t-shirts. Raised 2,000 by selling cookies, flowers, bagels, selling concessions, and cleaning the convocation center.

-Senator Micetich- With only 6 members they raised 2,800 which shows a lot of dedication so you should definitely vote on this bill.

-Senator Jones- I don't think student fees should go an event that will profit money for a charity. That is not the purpose of student fees.

-Senator Scott- The group went out and researched the best prices in town. It is a constitutionally sound bill, because we are not giving money directly to the organization. This is an extremely passionate group with a great cause.

-Senator Broughman- This is an excellent bill that I urge you to pass. 6 members raised 2,800 on their own which is remarkable. Urge you to pass this bill, because this group has worked very hard.

-Motion to call previous question- passes

-Vote on the bill-Bill passes

#### VIII. Announcements

-Mr and Ms. Madison nominees are Chiquita King and Andy Gibson

-Need people to sign up on September 30 to work on voter registration on the festival lawn.

-CIA is not going to meet. Office party on Thursday.

-Kangaroo is going to Trisha Farley.

-FADS won't be meeting tonight. Meeting Thursday at 5 at Gibbons entrance 7.

-1 take your professor to lunch presentation left, so please sign up. 12:30 in Memorial.

-Get your family weekend football tickets.

-Sign up for getting to know you initiative.

-This Saturday there is international festival.

-ATO Rock for RAK

#### IV. Adjournment