



STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION

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Ithaca College Student Government Association  
Senate Meeting Agenda  
*Tuesday, September 15, 2009 – Taughannock Falls Meeting Room*  
Dress code: FLANNEL

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- I. Call to Order. 8:16 pm
  - II. Roll Call.
    - Excused: Kevin Fish, Chris Lee, Emily Backus
    - Not Here: Mary Curran
    - Excused early: Aaron Edwards
  - Approved Last weeks minutes (Aaron, seconded by Nate)
  - III. Public Forum. (Each guest will have 5 minutes to speak, followed by a brief Q&A session. Discussion is reserved for Open Agenda.)
    - A.
  - IV. Guest Speakers: (each 2-3 minute presentation will be followed by a brief Q&A session).
  - V. Discussion and Voting
    - Brian Keefe – Possible changes to Budget Committee membership
      - Last semester when strategic planning was conducted, constitution was changed so that now budget committee is 1/2 senators. Very difficult because of how many applications he received (received 13 but could only take around 4)
      - Narrowed it down to a 10 person committee, 4 of which were senators
    - Brian Keefe – Presentation of prospective Budget Committee members
      - Asking if we can change the amendment so that it is not necessary to have 1/2 senate members
      - New amendment: 1/3 senators
        - Why? Because it will keep an active roll of senator members, but at the same time allow others from outside of SGA to enter
- Questions:
- Bree Aubrey: how would you word it?  
Brian: At least 1/3 senators—not at most
  - Will: what's the least amount of people to be on the committee?  
Brian: At the fewest, 7,
  - Bree Aubrey: In future years what do you suggest?  
Brian: The Person last year wanted a 10 person committee, but I got a lot of applications. I suggest that we have interviews with the applicants to see how many are good candidates but have at least 1/3 senators.
  - Bryan Griffin: Would you take someone off the group?  
Brian: I have four senators on the committee, but as the constitution stands I have to accept one more senator and take away one person who is

a qualified candidate but not on SGA to put a senator on it who might not want to be on it.

- Andy: Motion to change constitution so that at least 1/3 is senate members—Second by: J. Morgan Ewing Vote: 20-0-0

Sherry Shen – Use of SGA listserv

Can we use the list serve for SGA to make dead line announcements for Teach for America

Questions:

- Morgan Ewing: What would that intend?

Sherry: It would just be for the SGA listserv, not the entire student body

- Who would the Emails go to?

Sherry: For access to the SGA list-serve to give them information about Teach for America

- Brian: I suggest that you get a list of people interested and send them emails separately from the list serve

Ranu Nath: Motion to have Com Com decide. Second by: Susannah Faulkner.

Ranu Retracted Motion because there needs to be more discussion

- Bree Aubrey: Is this only for seniors?

Sherry: Mostly, but also for some juniors that are interested?

- Aaron: Could you put together a presentation so that we can see what it is and if we are interested

Sherry: Yes, I guess so, we were just trying to see who would be interested.

Vote: 16-5-2 (Motion passes)

## VI. Officer Reports.

### A. President – Jeff Goodwin

- Orientation went well. If you were not there you need to check in with Ruthie ASAP. Getting committee assignments together, going over them later tonight.
- Point of Information (Elizabeth): Did you meet with Cornell President?  
Jeff: He is really cool. It was just to see how they are set up. They are facing some similar issues, and it's interesting how they are dealing with them. We discussed how we could collaborate on ideas. I will probably continuously meet with him—the meetings are open to everyone. Presidents' meeting is not a tradition, but hopefully it will start something.

### B. Vice President of Communications – Will Mathewson

- Talked with Luke about business and communication applications. They will be online tonight. After meeting Com Com will talk about plans with the Ithacan.

### C. Vice President of Campus Affairs – Bree Bendix

- Met with Presidents of RHA. Talked about H1N1, incident at Cornell (student passed away)—wanted to explain how important it is to go to class unless they are sick and to be cautious about washing their hands and keeping clean. We want SGA to help spread the word about staying clean. Also we are going to have a H1N1 vaccine coming (free), unclear of when, but it will be here. If people come up to SGA

members about the return of paper towels—explain that it is to help prevent the flu from spreading. Also, side note: everyone in Resident halls that applied to be on a wait list is slowly being dealt with so tell people to be patient. And Also, I met with Russel today and we are going through the Forum. It will be happening on October 19<sup>th</sup> (7 p.m.) schedule has not been planned but all student organizations will be invited. It's optional, but it's a great Networking opportunity for them. Location is not decided. Russel will be sending a message. Forum is between all the IC organizations, a networking tool to maximize funds and get organizations to work together (fundraisers/ other ideas)

Questions:

- Ranu: Are the paper towels temporary?  
Bree: For now, no, because it's a health issue
- Andy: Are they going to suggest the vaccine?  
Bree: I don't think the college can do that, but it will be available
- Morgan: As SGA will we be suggesting it?  
Bree: I mean you can encourage your friends
- Elizabeth: I heard that hand dryers will be used  
Bree: I have not heard that
- Andy: I don't think that we can suggest it because we aren't doctors
- Moira: What do we do with the intercom button about "I think I have Swine Flu"  
Bree: I think that they should go online because the college wants to know but we will talk about that later

D. Vice President of Academics – Dan Cassell

- I just have to talk to the committee after the assignments. Also Prohost has emailed me about an Academics Committee, meets twice a year, so I'll have reports for that when the time comes (in October)

E. Vice President of Business and Finance – Brian Keefe

- First budget committee tomorrow night (Wed). Hearing 11 organizations tomorrow night (I had to push 5 back). Later this evening we will be voting on an amendment for the allegation handbook.

F. Student Trustee – Chris Lee

G. Residence Hall Association – Julia Dunn (President of RHA)

- RHA has first meeting. We had homecoming conversations. Business was done. If you have any questions ask

H. Approval of Officer Reports—Morgan motioned, Jimmy Seconded

VII. Open Agenda.

Nate McCoart – H1N1 accommodations

- One of the girls in T13 came to me with a complaint because her roommate was sick and she called the health center and they said that they couldn't help the roommate. How do we address this? Do things need to be changed?

Jeff Goodwin: Thanks for bringing this up. That's a good role as Senator

Kelly McK: So wait what happened?

Bree: So the health center was open but they said that no one was on staff to help?

Nate: I'm not sure

Christy: So. I'm confused. The health center doesn't want to help? Or they can't help?

Nate: I think it's more of a "we don't know what to do" type thing

Morgan: When did she call?

Nate: I believe it was Monday late afternoon

Moira: One of the girls in my class has swine flu and she said that she called and they told her to not come in because they didn't want her infecting others. Apparently there was an email about what to do, that you should go home.

Susanna: I overheard a conversation with one of my friends and they didn't really help because there is nothing she can do. They made her stay at a hotel (that was the recommendation). I feel like that wasn't helpful.

Cole: I've heard multiple people having stuff like that happen. It might not be an H1N1 issue, but also just an overall issue with the health center

Andy: I think that more information about the whole story in general is needed. We are kind of going on hypotheticals. But I agree that more should be done to help people with symptoms. But I heard that the best way to deal with it is to wait it out. That could come across as nasty and aloof but apparently that's what's needed.

Jeff: I met with Campus life and Student Affairs VP's and this came up: Brian Mac. Gave me a packet of information that has gone out: If you think you have symptoms you click on the icon online and that notifies the health center and then it sends you information on what to do. It might seem like we aren't doing much as a school but I'm pretty sure that they are actually doing what is needed. If anyone wants to see what the school is doing, I have a packet.

Julia: They are putting out posters telling people to not coming to the health center because they don't want everyone getting infected. They strongly encourage people to stay in their rooms to keep it from getting others. And the dining halls are going to get meals to go set up for your roommates to grab. There isn't really much else they can do. And yeah, I think that message hasn't been conveyed in the best way so if we can go out and let people know- do that.

Brian: Bree, when did you say the vaccine will be available?

Bree: I am not sure, I didn't get a date, but soon?

Julia: I heard Mid-to-late October

Aaron: So could we send a suggestion to the health center so that they can make the information available to others so that they understand that they won't be like attacked if they click the button online.

Bree: I think that Brian or I can address that.

Aaron: I think that it's been blown out of proportion. I don't want to scare students but just give them information.

Murmurs of agreement

Kelly: I want to also say that it's not that big of a deal.

Rachel: Yeah my roommate thinks she has/ had it. I agree with that communication is needed. Could we bring in a guest speaker to inform the SGA more? So that we know?

Moira: I am hesitating to say that SGA should say something because coming from peers it will be read more/ students will trust us more.

Cole: So can we talk to the health center?

Jeff: Why don't we move it to Campus Life Committee?

Emily Backus: I feel like we should have a person from the health center to talk to the patients so that it's more comforting.

Susannah: I was wondering if there is any info about what students should do if they can't go home? And what should your roommate do?

Bree: Stay in your room and have the roommate crash with someone else. I think that it should be taken to Campus Life committee. To avoid talking in circles.

Bryan: Regular flu shots will be given Friday at 10 a.m in the health center

Nate: same thing pretty much. I've gotten emails about it all. Precautions and things like that. I think it's been a communication mix up and that it needs to be shoved in their faces. In a nice way.

Eve: I don't think that students understand that it's not as scary as we think it is

Aaron: Motion to move this to Campus Life—Seconded by Christy

Emily: I am concerned that students with pre-existing conditions are not getting priority.

Morgan: Amend motion to include what Emily said. Seconded by Jimmy.

- vote: 21-0-0

Movement to Close Open: Morgan. Seconded by Nate

#### VIII. Committee Assignments and meetings

- Brian is going to present the amended allocation handbook

Brian: So basically we went through the handbook (During Spring Budget Process), and we changed a few things. Original-Retreats that exclude some members will not be funded by SGA. Some organizations will come in and want E Board to go to a national meeting, and it saves money because it not including every member but they get good information. So we want to change it so that they can get funding even if not all members are included (not all of them, they still have to be approved). Steps after the event must be taken to show what the members have learned. The SGA will not allocate funding for travel events that will not help the IC community/ organization.

Andy: How do we access that it will be helpful information?

Brian: The budget committee will be responsible for determining. The organizations will present budget and tell them what they want funding for/ description of event. Committee can ask questions to make sure that it is needed.

Elizabeth: How much of travel expenses will be covered?

Brian: only partial coverage. Up to 2500\$ (not always that much). There is a list of things that they fund.

Nate: So these organizations are coming back after to prove what they spent the money on?

Brian: Yes, they present what they did during the event. What was accomplished, and how it can help the campus at large.

Moira: What does this fall under? Do they have to pay it back?

Brian: The lending aspect of the committee comes into play during fundraising.

Aaron: So Organizations will show (after) what they got out of the event. Will this affect future allocations or the allocation for that event?

Brian: Well they will have been paid already so no, but if it turns out that they didn't use the money wisely then that info will be taken into account for the future allocations.

Aaron: Renu and I just thought about is there a cap on how many trips they are allowed to take?

Brian: They can take a max of 1 travel event per year?

Nate: So there is a presentation before the trip (to the budget committee) and after?

Brian: There is always one before any group wants any money, and if the Budget committee requires them to do a follow up then they will.

Morgan: Motion to vote on adding this into the handbook, seconded by Carter.

Vote: 18-0-2: motion passes

- Budget Committee Presentations:

Brian: You have the responsibility to vote in the members.

Jimmy Knowels- Soph Senator, Brian said it was the bee's knees and far out and I heard that it's a great way to spend Wednesday nights, and I want to get involved. Yeah. That's uh, that's it.

Ruthie: What's your major

Jimmy: Integrated Marketing and Communications

Elizabeth: What other activities do you do?

Loud Laughter

Jimmy: I uh, am VP of Ithacapella, presidents host (tour guide) and a proud center. I'm going to sit down now.

Emily Backus: Jr physics major/ Business major. I recently declared concentration in corporate accounting and finance

Jamie Hom: Senator Freshman, Exploratory. I want to be in the committee to learn how it works/ I am interested in being a business major.

Cody Anderson: Minor in Comp Science. I'm into finance and want to know how it works.

Dan Mahoney: Jr music education major. NOT a senator. Has been on budget committee for the past two years. Wants strong representation from campus body.

Will: Dan is really great and I love him.

Max Bernstein: Business major. Freshman. Not on SGA. I want to learn about the clubs/ other things.

Natasha Peterson: Soph Bio Major. Budget is far from science and I wanted to try something new.

Christina Camaro: I want to get involved with the school and think budget committee is cool.

Question: Will: Did these candidates come to you?

Brian: Yes

Cole L.: Sr Bio Chem major with a minor in marketing. I have a dream of being in the budget committee. I have gotten involved in helping Brian and I know I'd be good

Steph: Environmental studies major minor in Econ. At home I'm into budget stuff and want to be in SGA and this seems cool.

Morgan motions to vote: seconded by Susannah.

Vote: 15-0-4: motion passes

- Jeff wants to add something before moving to adjournment. The best way to communicate with an E board member is NOT to text. How to reach them: Jeff: Email or call. Will: Never in the office Tuesday and Thurs. Call him. Bree: I check my email so much. It's bad. I loose my phone a lot. You can text me too. Ruthie: I check my email religiously. My phone is attached at my hip. Except in SGA meetings. I have office hours. I am willing to text. Brian Griffin: I live in the SGA office. And other means of communication. Dan: Call email text carrier pigeon, Morris code. Lilly: Whatever.
- Look up committee assignments if needed.
- Committees meet whenever the leaders tell you to. They change drastically.
- Ruthie wants to apologize for point of disorder. Clarify motion stuff: The way we were doing it was right, so To make a motion you get called on, then someone seconds it, then it is open to discussion. Then when discussion is over we move to a vote. No motion to close discussion.

IX. Adjournment.9:52 p.m.  
Morgan motions Christy Seconds.