

SUNY Cobleskill
Student Government Association
Meeting Minutes
October 23, 2018

Attendance:

Officers: Cheyanne Matulewich, Mercedes Hernandez, Jennifer McKenna, and Veronica Collazo.

Members: Sharon Restrepo, Lyndsey Wantis, Serene Boronow, Angela Armstrong, Cody Cooper, and Taylor Clerkin.

Advisor: Jeff Foote and Matt LaLonde.

Guests: Jarid Conti, Sage Blackmar, Sarah Easley, Tiarra Rosado, and Erin Denman.

Cheyanne Matulewich called the meeting to order at 12:27 p.m.

Open Floor

Scott Ferguson is the Chief Diversity Officer on campus, and has been a professor in business management for about 10 years. He spoke of the Diversity Equity and Inclusion action group and their initiatives. They aim to have more of a presence on the SUNY Cobleskill website, as well as developing a diversity component on the website. In regards to courses, Scott is working on implementing a diversity curriculum, as well as on hiring processes.

On Friday, October 26th from 12:00-1:00pm, Scott will be having his monthly program “Sandwiches with Scott.” Along with wanting to hear from students during this time, there are DEI meetings every other Tuesday at 12:20 in Knapp Hall. His own office is in Knapp 222, next to Admissions.

After stating that he would love to have an officer of SGA be very present in the diversity initiative in the future, Cody Cooper suggested that there be a separate officer position for someone that could participate in the DEI meetings every other week.

Approval of Minutes

Lyndsey Wantis made a motion to accept the minutes from October 16, 2018. Cody seconded the motion, there was no discussion and the motion was passed.

Executive Board

Cheyanne passed around a revised version of the advisor policy for members and guests to look at, stating that it is purposefully less constricting to allow clubs to meet, form, etc. This is something that would be voted on in the future. Matt LaLonde asked if there is going to be a survey for advisors, to which Cheyanne answered that she did not think it was necessary in this circumstance. She also mentioned the idea of an advisor summit to train advisors at the beginning of the semester.

Committees

Elections: On behalf of the elections committee, Veronica Collazo made a motion to recognize Taylor Clerkin as an official member, as she has fulfilled her obligations to SGA. She has attended three SGA meetings, two committee meetings or events under SGA, and submitted her new member profile. Serene Boronow seconded the motion, there was no discussion and the motion was passed.

Constitutions: There was nothing to discuss at this time.

Finance: Mercedes Hernandez had two requests to raise funds. The Ag Business club will be having a pumpkin sale for RA's and RD's, and the Dramatic Tigerians are hosting a Zombie Chase. This will take place on October 31st, from around 7:00-9:00pm outside in Fake Field. Afterwards there will be classic Halloween movies and popcorn.

Public Relations: Jennifer McKenna will be working with Mike Wacksman on Tuesday, October 23rd at 6:00 pm to carve pumpkins right outside the Bouck ballroom. Anyone is welcome to come.

Old Business

Charity Volleyball will be held on Thursday, November 1st at 7:00 pm. The team sizes are usually 6-8 people, and proceeds will go to the Charleston Animal Society. Sign-ups will be emailed out, and the price for a team to enter is \$40 for our 4-legged friends. SGA will be participating, and members and guests are welcome to join.

New Business

Leadership Summit

SGA will be co-sponsoring this event with Dr. Anne Hopkins-Gross on November 9th from 3:00-6:00pm in the Bouck ballroom. There will be workshops, speakers, and a free dinner.

Advocacy Tabling

If anyone has any worldly concerns, SGA is willing to table, advocate, and educate the community about them in an effort to make a difference. Some ideas from members and guests were: immigration, fostering, lack of literacy in agriculture for the general public, sustainability, violence (gang, crime, percentages, etc), and the opioid crisis.

Cheyenne is hoping to get clubs involved in an "Around the World" style at some point in November. Matt suggested to send a synopsis for clubs that might have an affinity for one of the topics that we want to do to help them get involved. More information will be given at a later time.

Concerns and Announcements

SUNY Assembly: November 16th-18th (SGA will be selecting members to participate)

Charity Volleyball: Thursday, November 1st at 7:00 pm in the Bouck ballroom.

Bike Repair Workshop: Wednesday, October 24th from 2:00-5:00 pm outside Bouck. This is a mobile workshop that will help and repair basic issues for free. There will be two more in the spring as well.

Adjournment

Angela Armstrong made a motion to end the meeting; Cody seconded the motion, the meeting adjourned at 1:19 pm.