



10-4-23  
5:30-7:00  
Great Room

## Minutes

### **I. Welcome-**

### **II. Position Reports**

#### **A. Standards**

#### **B. Finance**

- Three votes today - MTA, DCF, MALT

#### **C. Campus Engagement**

- MUHLENBONFIRE TOMORROW! Be there! Come hang!
- Fall fest is coming up on October 14th from 11am-1pm, we need people to table for that event as SGA is having a booth/table
- 8 volunteers needed for fall fest

#### **D. DEI&B**

- DEI&B met this week and discussed more ideas for their event
- Tens Across the Board is Nov. 12 at 7p
- They got an updated from the President Diversity Council
- Next week, DEI&B will not be meeting in person, however they will be meeting on Zoom and working on SGA diversity statement

#### **E. Institutional Committees**

- Curriculum Committee met and they are looking to have SGA help with PR when it comes to promoting the new curriculum

## **F. AD-HOCs**

- Vivian met with Tim about things that she is hoping to have for The Commuter Lounge which will be in The Taylor Basement
- They are working with a contractor to help speed up the process
- Vivian set up a when2meet to commuters to fill out to see if they are interested in joining the Ad-hoc
- Vish and Andrew are sending out a survey in case we have any questions that we want to

## **G. Recording Secretary**

- All ambassador program assignments have been finalized so please reach out and meet with your clubs and fill out the tracking form for each meetings

## **H. Director of Communications**

- Continue filling out Margery's form for the Instagram
- DJ Ginger will be in the house for MuhlenBonfire
- We are tabling with some of our new merch including chip clips
- Over the weekend, four members of Exec went to a conference at Washington College and we had some great discussion and learned how difference colleges SGA are structured
- E-board has a lot of information that we will be implementing over the next few weeks

## **I. President**

- Conference was great! E-board was invited to a conference in November, the weekend before thanksgiving, and we will all be going
- At the conference, we learned about how other SGAs do office hours and we will be starting that

- Jake started the President Support group and the hope is more presidents attend in the future
- We met with Ashley from housing about AC in Mile Area,
- Senior staff meeting is this Friday at 2pm
- Next week is our first ever SGA town hall. Wear something that makes you feel comfortable and confident, and also look a little bit nice
- The Representative Engagement system outlines everything representatives should be doing. This includes tabling, signing up for event, as well as being apart of institutional committees
- Most of our tabling E-board has been present, however it is everyone's responsibility to table
- There is a space on the College committee on technology and digital learning! Reach out to Jake if you are interested; They meet Wednesday from 10-11am

### **III. New Business**

#### **A. MTA**

- THE MTA is requesting \$1,567 for their red door play festival. It is a series of 7 plays, and the cost is for the rights of all the shows combined as well as their production budgets
- Cast of each shows range from 2-8 actors and are a maximum of 30-35 minutes but most shows are shorter in length
- There is an estimate of 150-200 people who come to these performances that happen in the red doors
- The red door play festival is something the MTA has done for many years, and their hope is to expand it so that more students are able to get involved in theater.

- The red door play festival allows student to gain the confidence and experience performing in a theater-like setting
- The finance committee recommends we approve this request, as the Red door play festival allows many students to get involved in theater performances
- They try to make distinctions between when they want to use their fundraising account versus when they are requesting funds from SGA
- The MTA looks at the semester overall to determine when it is appropriate to request funding
- **VOTE: PASSES**

#### B. Planned Parenthood Club Approval

- Planned Parenthood was started primarily last semester
- They are looking to start a planned parenthood escort program to allow students to assist other students with going to planned parenthood
- The national organization got them a grant for \$2500, and they are looking to do some sort of volunteer event
- They have 12 who are trained to be a volunteer and they have over 1000 people on their email list
- They want to be volunteering to be able to escort people into the planned parenthood clinic; They would take the bus to go into downtown Allentown to volunteer ideally once a week
- **VOTE: PASSES**

#### C. DCF

- DCF is requesting \$1963 for 17 student to attend the fall DCF conference in Harrisburg PA

- SGA would be covering 70% of the total cost per trip policy
- Student would be covering 30% of the cost
- 9 out of the 17 members will be attending their first DCF conference
- They plan to attend two more conferences this year
- The club has 65 active members and over 125 people on their email list
- This is a great opportunity for people in the club to get a weekend away and meet other people in the club, and form relationships with other members involved in DCF
- They have 8 people on their student leadership team who are going, and the 9 additional people are looking to grow into leadership roles in the club
- Over 400 students from colleges all across PA come to this DCF conference as the Muhlenberg club is excited to meet people from other college
- The finance committee recommends we approve this request as it will be a good opportunity for the club to grow as an organization
- They will be asking SGA to fund the other two conferences they are hoping to attend
- Currently we have spent 16k out of 102k
- The second conference is always on the smaller side, and the third conference is more expensive
- Some of the things they take away are little icebreakers, but also the bigger picture is for the younger members to know

older students in the club and on campus; It is about cultivating those relationships

- In terms of events at the conference, they bring in international organizations to talk about post graduate opportunities

#### D. MALT

- MALT is requesting \$995 to purchase custom shirts
- Throughout the year, MALT chooses one game per team per year through their initiative called “PACK THE PLACE.”
- The shirts are handed outside a table of the sporting event, and they are working to increase student engagement
- The t-shirts are for the entire student body and they are trying to increase the cohesion between the student body when it comes to promoting engagement at the game
- The finance committee recommends we do approve this and the shirts are a way to increase engagement on this campus
- MALT is usually advertised through Instagram, and the club would love more help with the marketing perspective
- For each event, they typically allot shirts for different events, and it comes out to engagement. For example, a football event may have more shirts than a tennis match which may have less attendees
- It is mostly first come first serve, and people have even gotten to the event before it even starts
- They have an ample amount of each size and want extra shirts to help increase engagement
- **VOTE: PASSES**

#### E. Abstention Conversation

- The idea behind abstentions is if someone is too close to the vote, this would be an opportunity to abstain. Some people may abstain if they do not have enough information
- Last week, there was conversation about the abstention and why people may have abstained
- We are all elected officials and take a stance on these votes, as to whether we say yes or no. While the votes may be tough, we were elected to do the tough jobs. Unless you have a concrete bias, it would be helpful to vote “yes or no”
- If there are a lot of people in the room, that may be intimidating, but we ARE the elected officials
- Our names were broadcasted to the entire student body when the election concluded
- Last week, people may have genuinely not known due to the fact that their questions were not answered
- If people do not feel like their questions are being answered, we can always push a vote to the next week
- There were some members who may have had a personal connection, and in the future we could allot more time to votes like these
- Having 20 plus people in the back is intimidating for a specific vote as some people may feel uncomfortable
- Nobody wants to come across as the bad guy! There could have been some reluctance due to the amount of people in the room
- We need to make it more known who the representatives of a club are if they have support from multiple parties

- Due to our bylaws, we are not allowed to say people cannot enter. However, if we set up constituents in a different way, they are not breathing down their neck.
- If they are up front, rather than onto the side, it could be intimidating for them knowing we are voting and making decisions right behind them: Unsettling?
- We want constituents to be able to come and comment when necessary on our agenda, however we have to make it clear that the voice of constituents matter
- The idea of having constituents in front of us could add a sense of welcoming ness knowing that we are facing each other; it could be confusing for constituents to have to walk across the entire room; Conference style?
- Nameplates or name tags?
- If you abstain, you do not have enough information to potentially vote either way, being yes or no
- If you do not know the answer of how you are voting, however if they do not know how to answer our questions it is a bigger issues
- All of our votes are public and anybody can see anyway we as SGA vote; You are elected and have to have an opinion
- The idea of a new arrangement could be problematic when it comes to voting and if a bias were to be present; If you are confused is it better to say no
- Clubs approval versus finance votes is different especially when finance votes comes to money



