

## SGA Minutes

3-7-22

### Attendance

Officers	Sophomores	Junior	Seniors	Sponsors
Nathan Kim	Wyatt Aiken	Destiny Buchanan	Sinmi Adeyemo	Mr. Barry
Saku Cui	Fiat Le	Connie Chieh	Holt Templeton	Ms. McMaken
Eugene Min	Lex Mroczko	Albert Le	Sanju Mupparaju	
Elbread Roh	Mekhi Stennis	Zoi Moon	Muhammed Shalan	
Dinali Jayasena		Jacob Schneekloth	Ella Nichols	
Ava Dowden				

### Pledge of Allegiance

### Opening Statements

Nathan welcome everyone and welcomes the arrival of spring term for the SGA.

Dinali states that nothing can stand between the voices of a million people. She encourages that we act selflessly and with justice.

### Parliamentarian – Saku Cui

Saku announces that she is the new Parliamentarian for the SGA, the first ever sophomore SGA officer.

She states that tomorrow's assembly will be dedicated to the Women of the World club, and speakers will discuss feminism and voting practices.

### Sergeant at Arms – Ava Dowden

Ava added up all the funds in the Pi Store and she has noticed some trends. The same representatives have been running Pi Store, and so she expresses that other member should run Pi Store as well. She is passing a calendar around for representatives to sign so that they can run Pi Store.

### Secretary – Elbread Roh

Elbread ecstatically declares that the second STAP group meeting was a success, with a very high turnout of people. Many students expressed enthusiasm for the program, and some even wished to have more group meetings. He will discuss the future of STAP with his committee.

Elbread also mentions that the ASMS Instagram takeover was a success. He and his committee created a checklist for the takeover representative to use, who ended up happening to be fellow SGA member Sinmi Adeyemo. The ASMS Instagram takeover went smoothly and showcased a great view of ASMS life.

Elbread also adds that he changed the SGA portal, renewing the bios page.

### **Treasurer – Eugene Min**

Eugene gives everyone the budget for the Spring term. He has reduced the CLC budget to \$500, allocating \$1,000 to club budgets. SASC's budget was reduced by \$100, and those funds have been allocated to the Executive Committee.

Zoi asks how the EC budget will be spent this term. Eugene states that it will be for flexible spending for each committee. Eugene also mentions that SASC offered to give \$100 as they did not need a \$600 budget.

Eugene makes a motion to vote to approve the budget. Dinali seconds this motion.

Vote: Approve the SGA budget

- Approved: 17
- Rejected: 0
- Abstained: 3

The motion passes with a majority vote.

Eugene moves to the second part of the agenda where he discusses voting on clubs. Two weeks ago, the SGA enacted a vote to remove certain clubs, but the vote was voided due to how SGA members did not fully read the terms and conditions regarding these clubs.

Eugene reiterates that the SGA will vote for removing certain clubs that did not meet the guidelines for being a club. There are several clubs such as Dumas Wesley, Model UN, and Ignite club which are waiting for club approval. Right now, the SGA has reached its club sponsorship maximum, so the SGA will have to either remove club sponsorships or deny these clubs.

Eugene then goes over each different club.

Eugene starts with French club. He discusses that although they had biweekly officer meetings, they failed to provide events or club meetings. However, he states that they were under a tumultuous leadership where multiple officer positions had to be replaced, and the sponsor also had to be replaced.

Ava asks what French club did during their biweekly officer meetings. Eugene responds that most of French club's officer meetings were spent electing new positions and organizing the club.

Destiny asks if removing French club will disrupt the Language Olympics since it is a group effort. Eugene states that it will be disruptive, but they will still be able to participate in the Language Olympics.

Holt asks if any of these clubs have been contacted. Eugene states that these clubs know that they are under review and cannot house any events.

Sanju asked how much money French club is asking for. Eugene states they asked for \$500. Sanju also asked if their leadership roles are set in stone. Eugene responds stating that they are, and they have a new sponsor.

Wyatt describes that considering the tumultuous state of the club, French club should be given another term to prove themselves.

Sanju asks how much money will return to the club budget pool. Eugene responds saying all \$500 will return.

Destiny asks for clarification whether the \$500 given to French Club was for the entire school year. Eugene responds stating that the budget was given to French club for Winter and Spring term.

Holt asks if the Language Olympics budget is spread between the different language clubs. Eugene states that it is, and if French club loses its budget, German and Spanish club will be allocating more funds from their budgets.

Eugene then moves on Esports club. Eugene describes that although Esports club wanted to host a couple events, they were all made impossible by the COVID outbreak during mid-January.

Destiny asks if COVID was really an excuse considering the lockdown was only for two weeks. Eugene states that

Destiny believes that COVID is an unreliable excuse and that they had enough time. Nathan adds that every other club met their requirements, and so Esports club has even less of an excuse.

Ella mentions that Esports club is very niche and has less of an audience than other clubs.

Ms. McMaken asks what Esports spends on for their club events. Eugene states that most of the money goes to pizza.

Destiny describes that if they are just spending money on pizza, they really don't need SGA sponsorship, and giving them SGA money is useless.

Jacob asks how much Esports requested. Eugene stated they requested \$270.

Holt asks if Unite has SGA club recognition. Eugene states that they do, but they are not an SGA sponsored club. Nathan mentions that the SGA will decide on which clubs to add after voting on which clubs to remove. Eugene mentions that today the SGA will only cut clubs.

Eugene moves to Mystery Inc club, and he states that Mystery Inc has many of the same circumstances as Esports club.

Sanju describes that Mystery Inc is a niche club, but advocates that the events that they host are creative and vastly different from many clubs. She also adds that their club president is a senior, and that seniors should be respected.

Zoi describes that AC can end up hosting Mystery Inc and Esports club events instead, considering that these clubs are pretty niche. She states these events can be hosted by other organizations.

Jacob asks how much money Mystery Inc requested. Eugene responds that they asked for about \$90.

Sanju continues, stating that Mystery Inc is not asking much, unlike Esports club, and that they spend lots of time on certain events. Eugene describes that despite this, Mystery Inc has low turnout.

Destiny describes that the priority here is to remove clubs that are redundant. AC events are planned throughout the year, and new events will be tough to plan.

Nathan states the discussion will have to end, so he asks for one positive and negative voice.

Holt speaks positively on behalf of the Mystery Inc. He stated that Mystery Inc is a different club that no other club can give you, and he believes it should not be absorbed by AC.

Dinali takes the negative voice in regard to the club, stating that AC can still collaborate with Mystery Inc if they are removed from SGA sponsorship. There can be some agreements that happen, such as turning Mystery Inc into some sort of proxy club.

Eugene moves on to Volleyball club. Eugene states that they had no events and only had three group meetings, out of a required four.

They have requested a final budget of \$100.

Destiny describes that although she likes Volleyball, Volleyball club is redundant. People already play Volleyball, and they are happy without funds.

Wyatt asks what Volleyball club would spend on. Eugene mentions that they would spend the funds on a new net and drinks.

Jacob describes that the money would also be spent on gift cards to facilitate Volleyball tournaments.

Ms. McMaken asks if maintenance would be able to support new volleyball nets. Jacob replies that he does not know if the club asked maintenance. Mr. Barry asks if the club could just use current volleyball nets. Jacob states they can, but it is a tedious process. Mr. Barry disputes this, stating that clubs have two weeks to prepare for events anyways.

Ella asks if new volleyball equipment could be a CLC endeavor. Nathan adds that the SGA has lots of money in the EC budget, and volleyball players can ask SGA for allocated funds from the EC budget without being a club.

Muhammed asks if volleyball players can just ask for money without being a club. Nathan confirms this.

Eugene reminds the SGA that reps

Nathan makes a motion to vote on the club. Mekhi seconds. The SGA proceeds to vote on four numerous votes.

Vote: Give French Club SGA sponsorship

- Approved: 15
- Rejected: 4
- Abstained: 1

The motion passes with a majority vote.

Vote: Give Esports Club SGA sponsorship

- Approved: 0
- Rejected: 19
- Abstained: 1

The motion is rejected with a majority vote, the first majority rejection vote in years.

Vote: Give Mystery Inc. SGA sponsorship

- Approved: 10
- Rejected: 7
- Abstain: 3

The motion passes with a narrow majority vote, the first nearly split decision vote in years.

Vote: Give Volleyball club SGA sponsorship

- Approved: 0
- Rejected: 16
- Abstain: 4

The motion is rejected with a majority vote.

Eugene states that PO forms come in without a description. He states that clubs and members should put in descriptions. Eugene also states that people should know to put PO forms in the PO box by the Pi Store, and they should text Eugene.

Mr. Barry describes that SGA should look forward to an electronic submission of PO forms.

### **Vice President – Dinali Jayasena**

For weekend events, this Friday there will be smore movie event at 8 PM.

On Saturday, there will be a House of Kebab and Hercules movie food event at 8PM.

For Prom, Dinali states that Prom is on March 26<sup>th</sup>, and it will be in the Battle house. Dinali posted forms on Teams which ask for outside dates and senior callouts. She also told members that the Parent Association donated funds for Prom, and there are dress and tuxedo runoffs.

### **President – Nathan Kim**

Nathan states that Mega Musical Chairs was paused, but PC will resume work. It will still be around early May, but there are no exact dates yet.

Nathan adds that representatives are recommended to reach out and ask for shadowing opportunities. Representatives should ask officers as they are now going to focus more on shadowing.

Nathan mentions that to be an SGA officer, SGA members will have to be part of the Jo Bonner Leadership Academy.

Nathan wraps up his agenda, stating that he hopes the SGA will end this year strong. He also mentions that PO forms will be due by April, and that PO forms cannot be filled during the month of May.

### **Sponsors**

Ms. McMaken commends SASC for the work they did with the Instagram Takeover, and she gives special thanks to Sinmi for participating in the program.

Ms. McMaken passes papers to SGA members which contain questions to certain SGA problems. She clarifies that she does not want this problem solved today, but she wants SGA members to interact with clubs and club members. Ms. McMaken describes that ASMS is moving towards a season of more scrutinized budgets and more audits, as well as the possibility of reduced club budgets.

Ms. McMaken states that as leaders, SGA is expected to act as leaders. ASMS will be accredited in four years, and so Ms. McMaken wants changes with clubs and club budgets to prepare for accreditation. She wants to make sure that SGA is on the loop, and so she asks SGA to help out with thinking about a new plan which provides the most efficient use of club budget funds. Spring term will be the only time which SGA can work on these issues.

Mr. Barry wants to make sure that clubs are contributing to the mission of ASMS, and that he wants clubs that serve the student body and represent ASMS well. The Leadership team wants to develop a system where clubs are supervised and organized. This may come from reducing the number of clubs, as well as making sure club meetings have more substantial meetings. The Leadership team wants to make sure that clubs do not spend their club budgets solely on food and other related items.

Ms. McMaken describes that Prom and Winter Formal is underfunded, but club budgets have risen in budgets, and so there needs to be a better use of money allocation. Ms. McMaken wants the SGA to explore a better evaluation system for clubs. There have been plans to require clubs to have plans for the future.

Mr. Barry adds that the Leadership team has discussed giving sponsors more scrutiny and possibly more training.

Although Eugene likes these ideas, he feels that adding more scrutiny would be too much work for treasurers and Campus Life Committee.

Ms. McMaken asks SGA officers to reevaluate their clubs. She throws around the idea of Policy Committee changing to Initiative Committee as an example. She wants committees to improve upon their systems and to possibly rehaul things to adjust to these new changes.

Nathan asks for the sponsors to talk about the recent changes with the officer positions. Ms. McMaken states tough decisions have to be made. She cannot give much detail. She states SGA must move forward despite change. What basically occurred was that the Vice President of the SGA was removed from their position after disciplinary violations. Dinali has filled the role of Vice President, and Saku has filled the Parliamentarian role.

Ms. McMaken is happy to answer any questions if members come in individually to ask.

Ava states that the new officers do not meet the requirements for SGA elections in regard to the SGA Constitution.

Ms. McMaken states that although the SGA Constitution is important, the handbook rules above all.

Nathan asks what SGA members should avoid in order to not get removed.

Ms. McMaken states that SGA members should follow the handbook, or else there will be consequences. She states that SGA members should adhere to dress code, show up to class, keep up grades, and evaluate their behaviors.

Mr. Barry states that SGA members should maintain a higher standard, and that they are expected to be leaders, and to hold integrity.

Ms. McMaken states that being a worker and being an SGA member is a privilege.

Dinali asks if Saku is co-Parliamentarian or full Parliamentarian. Mr. Barry replies that Saku is full Parliamentarian, and Dinali is full Vice President.

Mekhi asks if there should be a new sophomore position filled up. Mr. Barry and Ms. McMaken believe that it is not necessary.

Nathan recalls that Mr. Barry stated that SGA should go toward a more democratic direction. Nathan asks if the SGA Constitution should be amended where the handbook has a final say. Ms. McMaken states that the SGA does not have a say with discipline. Mr. Barry asks for clarification, and Nathan states that the constitution allows for SGA to vote on removing members. Nathan asks if this clause should be removed, considering that it is redundant by handbook hierarchy.

Mr. Barry states that the SGA should retain the right to remove members, and they should have that right. However, SGA sponsors have full authority to kick out SGA members under disciplinary reasons. Mr. Barry mentions that the decision to remove the former Vice President was above the SGA sponsors.

Sanju asks if there is a clear guideline for SGA disciplinary removal. Mr. Barry states that there aren't guidelines, but future ones could be added. However, he doubles down and states that SGA disciplinary removals are not within the right of the SGA, and only with the SGA sponsors or in positions above.

Ms. McMaken and Mr. Barry state that there are procedures to remove students, but these committees take charge above the SGA sponsors. Ms. McMaken adds that the SGA needs to trust this process, and they must trust that the Disciplinary Committee has the students' best interests.

Sanju states that the handbook is unclear with its repercussions and punishments. She claims that the disciplinary process is not transparent. Mr. Barry describes that the disciplinary process has to be transparent due to privacy.

Ms. McMaken states that the handbook has to be vague in order to be flexible. Most disciplinary cases go case-by-case and have many different factors to take in. She also mentions that if the handbook were more straightforward, students would find loopholes to go over rules.

Ella thinks that there should be a spectrum of transparency, as now there is a disconnect between the student body and the Leadership team. She believes that the SGA should act as a bridge between the student body and the Leadership team, and that more transparency will lead to greater cooperation.

Mr. Barry is surprised that the SGA does not know the disciplinary process and the Disciplinary Committee. Ms. McMaken mentions that the Disciplinary committee is different from the Leadership team. She states that transparency cannot be established because students undergoing a disciplinary hearing need privacy. She also states that she does not want to make this meeting any longer.

Holt asks if students without questions or concerns relating to this situation can leave. Ms. McMaken states that SGA members are dismissed, and the members still interested in the discussion can stay. Before this, the SGA takes a group photo with their SGA T-shirts. Afterwards, the discussion does not continue, and the meeting is adjourned.

### **Closing Remarks**