

**Slippery Rock Student Government Association, Inc.
Minutes for the Meeting of September 6, 2016
Robert M. Smith Student Center Theater**

- I. Call to Order – President Steigerwalt at 8:45 pm**
- II. Roll Call VP Arpino**

<p><u>Members:</u> Logan Steigerwalt, President Abby Fugh, VP of Student Affairs Brian Welsh, VP of Financial Affairs Sarah Arpino, VP of Internal Affairs Sammy Hovis, VP of Campus Outreach _____, Parliamentarian _____, Speaker of the Senate</p> <p>Wendy Leitera, Business Manager Dr. Pease-Hernandez, Faculty Advisor</p> <p>APSCUF Representatives Dr. Jordan Professor Bishop</p>	<table style="width: 100%; border: none;"> <tr> <td style="width: 50%;">Senator Anderson</td> <td style="width: 50%;">Senator Montgomery</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Senator Fields</td> <td>Senator O’Connor</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Senator Fissore</td> <td>Senator OHora</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Senator Foster</td> <td>Senator Quan</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Senator Hartmann</td> <td>Senator Richardson</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Senator Heffelfinger</td> <td>Senator Sedon</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Senator Hernandez</td> <td>Senator Vogelgesang</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Senator Kerecman</td> <td>Senator Zinn</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Senator Kite</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Senator Kline</td> <td></td> </tr> </table> <p>Excused: Senator Kline, Senator Zinn</p> <p>Late: Dr. Jordan</p> <p>Unexcused: Senator Hartmann</p>	Senator Anderson	Senator Montgomery	Senator Fields	Senator O’Connor	Senator Fissore	Senator OHora	Senator Foster	Senator Quan	Senator Hartmann	Senator Richardson	Senator Heffelfinger	Senator Sedon	Senator Hernandez	Senator Vogelgesang	Senator Kerecman	Senator Zinn	Senator Kite		Senator Kline	
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President Steigerwalt announced the Senate met in Executive Session prior to the start of this meeting for the purposes of personnel matters.

III. Guest Speakers

- a. Dr. Norton**
 - i. Cabinet and SGA Eboard retreat-importance of collaboration between the Administration and SGA**
 - ii. Discussed moving forward and working to “cultivate a respectful community”**
- b. Blake Souders-student representative on SRSGA Board of Directors**
 - i. Update on Board of Directors meeting from August 29**
 - ii. Sound financial status**
 - iii. Board Secretary elected- Sarah Arpino**
 - iv. Board recommends to change Wendy’s title from Business Manager to Executive Director**
- c. Discussion and Questions about possible faculty strike-President Steigerwalt opened the floor to ask both Dr. Norton and Dr. Shaevitz (APSCUF) questions regarding potential strike**

Dr. Norton

- i. What will happen if faculty goes on strike?**
 - 1. Dr. Norton suggests to go to website for further information
 - 2. Try to keep things as normal as possible but naïve to think that will go as planned
 - 3. Aware the faculty is not easily replaced
- ii. Would students get refunded for classes they paid for but are not receiving?**

1. Dr. Norton hopes that this would not be an issue and that faculty will not strike
2. Completion of course work is key
- iii. How would substitute teachers know how to teach and grade work?
 1. Dr. Norton "Our goal is at the end of the semester you will have completed the work that you signed up for so that you can finish your classes or degree program".
- iv. If a faculty member is the only one that can assign a grade, do we have to attend that class with a substitute?
 1. Dr. Norton states that if the faculty is not teaching, faculty cannot give a grade
 2. Faculty vote on September 7, 8, 9 to see if they will authorize their union leaders to call a strike.
- v. Will this delay a graduation date and interfere with future plans being made? What is happening that is making this strike a possibility?
 1. Dr. Norton- The state system is in the most severe financial crisis it has been in since the 1980's
 2. Any change in cost might reflect what students are paying for tuition
 3. Negotiations are taking place in Harrisburg, not at the local level.
- vi. If a strike does occur what other areas will be affected other than Slippery Rock?
 1. Dr. Norton- all 14 state schools
- vii. Does it seem likely that tuition costs will increase?
 1. Decided by Board of Governors
 2. 2.5% increase this year
 3. If there continues to be a deficit, a tuition increase will most likely occur
- viii. If there is a strike, will negotiations continue to reach an agreement?
 1. An agreement must happen
 2. A strike has never occurred so it is hard to say what exactly will take place
- ix. With all the concerns from students about the strike, how will it be prevented in the future?
 1. As soon as a collective bargaining is agreed to, a negotiation should happen right away
 2. All about communication
 3. Negotiations are made in private

Dr. Shaevitz

- x. If we do agree to go on strike, how soon will that occur?
 1. No date set
 2. Not ready with picket lines
- xi. How did it get to this point? How has it allowed to become the norm for every negotiation?
 1. Not APSCUF responsibility
 2. They are always ready to negotiate way prior to a contract's end date
 3. Negotiations require both sides, still pretty far apart but hopes to settle it before striking is an option
- xii. If a strike does occur, how will students, parents, etc. be notified?
 1. Not up to APSCUF how the information will be dispersed
- xiii. No way to know how long the strike will last?
 1. Echo Dr. Norton- hopes the strike does not occur
 2. Hopefully negotiations go quickly
 - a. Could last a day, could last a month
- xiv. Are there other options that the union could use to speed up the process other than a strike?
 1. Contract negotiations involve both parties
 - a. Faculty working without a contract right now, faculty does not have to do that but they are
 2. Does not know what other options there are
- xv. Are the professors financially prepared for a strike/are there relief funds in the union?
 1. As an organization been proactive in ways to protect themselves
 2. Going on strike will have a direct financial impact on members, no guarantee that they will recover that

- xvi. Is there anything students can do to help the process?
 - 1. Contact governor and Chancellor Brogan's office
 - 2. Contacting local legislators
- xvii. Dr. Shaevitz- there's no need for bad blood with PASSHE
- xviii. Will not use a job action in a vindictive manner
- xix. Not APSCUF's job to make a contingency plan or to make sure the university continues to function
- xx. If faculty did go on strike would students be responsible for material missed during strike?
 - 1. Does not see how that is possible since it is faculty's position to teach and award grades
- xxi. Faculty members not a part of the union, are they allowed to come on campus if a strike occurs?
 - 1. A faculty member may continue to work whether they are union members or not, but APSCUF will encourage them not to work
 - 2. No bodily harm will occur if a faculty member crosses the picket lines

IV. Officer/Committee Reports

a. President Steigerwalt

- i. **SGA/Cabinet Retreat-opportunity to catch up on everything going on with the university and establish open and clear communication**
- ii. **BSGP President- conference call Friday with the Board**
- iii. **Parliamentarian applications on our website-Due Friday September 9th**
- iv. **Electing new senators October 10th**
- v. **Liter of the Week- Kevin Kite**

b. VP Arpino

- i. **RUN SRU shirt sale in the Bookstore was a success!**
- ii. **Pancake Fundraiser September 25th from 9am-1pm Weisenfluh**
- iii. **Committee Thursdays at 5:00 in SSC room 325**

c. VP Welsh

- i. **Conference Grant released today 9.6.16-Clubs/Orgs eligible for up to \$500 in conference registration fees**
- ii. **Scholarship information out in October**
- iii. **Committee Thursdays at 3:30**
- iv. **Budgetary Reserves: \$131,439.94**

d. VP Fugh

- i. **First Thursday of every month SGA will host a table at a variety of locations to get our name and face out to campus**
- ii. **Student Life Survey will run September 18-25**
- iii. **Student Safety Week September 26-29**
- iv. **Committee meets Tuesdays at 5:00pm in SSC 324**

e. VP Hovis

- i. **RUN SRU Event Tuesday September 7th in the quad 11-3pm**
- ii. **Clubs/Orgs can advertise before the movie series-Contact Sammy Hovis**
- iii. **Movie this weekend is Finding Dory**
- iv. **Committee Tuesdays at 5:30 in the SGA Office**

V. Open Forum

a. DeWayne Anderson

i. Peaceful demonstration

- 1. **Feels diversity here is not where it should be**
- 2. **Starting an initiative "I am the difference"**
- 3. **Not an attack towards administration or faculty**
- 4. **For those who would like to participate will meet Thursday September 8th at 12:20 on the third floor of the SSC**

b. Khahil Harper

- i. **How to change the reputation of Slippery Rock so that it is not deemed as a party school**

1. SGA will get back to you with ways to further this
- c. Odell Richardson
 - i. BAS collaboration cookout Saturday September 10th at the ARC 3:30-8:00-Free food
- d. Richelle Fuller
 - i. VP of ARHS
 - ii. Wants to reach out to all on campus students for an informational session tomorrow at Watson Hall 8:00pm
- e. Abby Fugh
 - i. Thursday at 12:00 meet in the ballroom to take a picture for a front page website photo
- f. Logan Steigerwalt
 - i. Introductions
 - ii. Dr. Wilmes- Director of Student Success
 - iii. Dr. Watson – chairman of BOD
 - iv. Dr. Jordan- APSCUF Rep
 - v. Professor Bishop- APSCUF Rep
 - vi. Dr. PH- faculty advisor
 - vii. Wendy Leitera- Business Manager

VI. Old Business- none

VII. New Business

Motion #1 -That SRSGA approves the minutes of April 25, 2016 parts 1 and 2.
Welsh/Fugh
Motion passes

Motion #2 - That SRSGA approves personnel items regarding staff increases as discussed in Executive Session.
Kite/Montgomery
Motion Passes

Motion #3 - That SRSGA approves SRSGA Board of Director's recommendation to change Wendy Leitera's title from Business Manager to Executive Director.
Vogelgesang/Sedon
Motion passes

Motion #4 - that SRSGA approves the new initiative request for \$1,487.00 for Club Golf.
Vogelgesang/O'Connor

1. Club Golf Eboard was in attendance to present and answer any questions regarding the allocation of these funds

Motion passes

Motion #5 - that SRSGA approves the new initiative request for \$11,595.35 for the "Dear World" event.
Heffelfinger/Sedon

1. Photoshoot taking a photo of someone every minute showcasing different stories
2. Collaborative event with the President's Commission on Race and Ethnic Diversity
3. Second floor of the SSC in the commuter lounge
4. All the footage will be shown at 7pm on October 13th in the ballroom

Motion passes

Motion #6 -that SRSGA recognizes the Gender Studies Club as a new club
Montgomery/Heffelfinger

1. Academic club for the Gender Studies program
2. Hopes to attend conferences
3. Good way for people in the club to get funding for experiences since the major is so small

Motion passes

Motion #7 – that SRSGA recognizes Next Gen climate SRU as a new organization

O’Connor/Fissore

1. Goal is to make legislators know that students do care about climate change
2. Providing transportation for students to voting polls

Motion passes

Motion #8 - that SRSGA recognizes B.O.L.T as a new club

Richardson/Kite

1. Promote self love and a way to find yourself during your time at SRU

Motion passes

Motion #9 - that SRSGA recognizes Environmental Education and Interpretation Club

Kite/Vogelgesang

1. Expose members to hands on experience with environmental education

Motion passes

Motion #10 - That SRSGA opens the floor for Speaker of the Senate elections. The Senator with the most votes will be Speaker of the Senate.

Heffelfinger/Sedon

Senator Hernandez and Senator Foster applied for the position.

Roll Call Vote

Elizabeth Hernandez is elected the new SRSGA Speaker of the Senate 15-2 with 2 abstentions.

IX. Advisor’s Comments

a. Dr. Pease-Hernandez

- a. Take a snapchat in your mind of tonight’s meeting and compare to your final meeting
- b. Share in class that you are in SGA
- c. Really reach out to constituents in a variety of ways
- d. Be mindful, be intentional

b. Wendy Leitera

- a. Great audience for our first meeting
- b. Ask yourself as a student “What CAN’T I do?”
 - i. Ask more questions, take it to another level

Dr. Jordan

- c. Engagement
 - i. Not only look at what you get out of the organization but what you give to the organization and how you can improve it as a whole
- d. Don’t assume that everyone understands what SGA is
 - i. Reach out to all of SRU Community so that they can exist with you

c. Ms. Bishop

- a. First meeting ever, new to position
- b. Observing and taking it all in

d. Dr. Watson

- a. Huge responsibility
- b. Remember your platform what you ran on and develop activities this year that align with those planks
- c. SGA Tattoo- who is noticing it?

e. Dr. Wilmes

- a. Ask questions to inform yourself what the strike is actually about

X. Adjournment

Motion #11- that SGA adjourns the meeting at 10:33pm

Vogelgesang/Richardson

Motion Passes