**Slippery Rock Student Government Association, Inc.  
Minutes for the Meeting of November 20, 2017  
Robert M. Smith Student Center Theater**

1. **Call to Order –** President Lawler **at 8:50 pm**
2. **Roll Call** VP Foster

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| Members:  **Rachel Lawler**, President  **Scott Vogelgesang,** VP of Student and Academic Affairs  **Riley Keffer,** VP of Financial Affairs  **Dallas Kline**, VP of Campus Outreach  **Lexi Foster,** VP of Internal Affairs  **Josh Jenkins**, Speaker of the Senate  **Brennan Smith**, Parliamentarian  **Wendy Leitera,** Executive Director  **Lauren Moran**, Advisor  **Dr. David Kershaw,** Faculty Advisor  APSCUF Representatives  **Ms. Bishop**  **Dr. Smeak** | Senator Beretta  Senator Kostelnik  Senator Marvin  Senator Miller  Senator O'Hora  Senator Ramirez  Senator Sarver  Senator Sorch  Senator Tupper  Senator Vickers  Senator Vinroe  Senator Walker  Senator Zeni  Senator Burdick  Senator Campbell  Senator Damato  Senator Dawodu  Senator Downey  Senator Dunlop  Senator Dunton  Senator Glover  Senator Gordon  Senator Hazelett  Senator Himich  Senator Mahoney  Excused:  Senator Campbell, Senator Mahoney  Unexcused:  Senator O’ Hora, Senator Himich |

1. **Guest Speakers-None**
2. **Officer/Committee Reports**
   1. **President Lawler**
      1. Welcome to second to last formal meeting
      2. 3rd annual Suite Thanksgiving Dinner recap-thanks to Lauren Moran and Corinne Gibson for programming
      3. Finals week treats: SGA is collaborating with SPARK and UPB- Tuesday Dec 12th Baily Library to hand out snacks to students
      4. Interested in becoming a Presidential Search Committee member- talk to Exec Board
      5. Liter of week- thanks for all the help with the Thanksgiving Dinner Jake Beretta and Dallas Kline
   2. **VP Vogelgesang**
      1. Expresso Your Comments-Free coffee at 8am this Wednesday in the quad, stop by for coffee and meet your Senators
   3. **VP Keffer**
      1. New initiative requests this week: Computer Technology Club and Men’s Ice Hockey
      2. Final Conference Grant recipient for this semester-American Marketing Association
      3. Finance Committee meets every Wednesday at 3:30 in 320 SSC or email me at [rxk1023@sru.edu](mailto:rxk1023@sru.edu)
   4. **VP Kline**
      1. Booking movies for next semester- DM us at @srsga on twitter
      2. Collaborations planned for Earth Day, Women’s History Month, and more.
      3. SGA is sponsoring a child for Project Elf- please feel free to donate.
      4. In January-“Dive In Movie”. Movie at the pool in the ARC, vote for movie you’d like to see shown on twitter on an upcoming poll! (Date TBA)
      5. Club and Org Spotlight of the week- Internations club!
         1. Promote different cultures around the world. Promote things like food, dress, etc.
         2. International week just concluded.
         3. General body meetings for Internations club are held 7:30 Thursdays in the SSC
      6. Seasons of Giving- Dec 7th 11-2pm ornament decorating, cookie decorating, ugly sweater competition, etc. We will be collecting toys for stuff a van. Bring toys back after black Friday!
      7. SSC 321 Mondays at 6pm is committee time for next semester
   5. **VP Foster**
      1. Reminder to Senate to fill out the secret Santa Google spreadsheet.
      2. Recap of bonding event- played lots of games, had pizza donated by Dominoes and hope everyone had fun!
      3. Looking ahead for next semester:
         1. Will do the Dodge ball tournament February 3rd at 11 am in the ARC
         2. Annual Valentine’s flower sale for fundraiser
   6. **Speaker Jenkins**
      1. Building Senators- working on getting a table in Building A and North Hall to recruit open positions
      2. Senators participating in the development of a Care Report workshop
      3. Commuters are planning a “Cookies and Cocoa” social
      4. Planning for next semester
   7. **Parliamentarian Smith** 
      1. Graduate Senator policy- will be presenting proposed changes to the position at informal meeting after break
      2. Continued drafting of amendments for the social justice committee
      3. New club recognition (LEADS)
      4. Committee at 5pm Thursday in the Suite.
   8. **Social Justice Chair Davis** 
      1. Ongoing conversations regarding building accessibility during renovations (inspired by concerns from library).
      2. Discussing need for gender neutral bathrooms in all buildings on campus
      3. Discussing proposed amendment regarding the future of the Social Justice committee, and having 1 on 1 conversations with senators to make sure we are all on the same page moving forward.
3. **Open Forum** 
   1. Sammy Walker- Graduate Assistant in the Office of Inclusive Excellence
      1. President for Student Affairs Graduate Association (SAGA)- wanted to alert all college students on campus about bill that will negatively affect grad students if passed
      2. Over 145,000 grad students utilize tuition waivers. GA’s are also paid stipends for their assistantships. The new tax bill if passed will treat waivers and stipends as taxable income.
      3. GAs also pay other fees that often don’t go back to the graduates students directly.
      4. At SRU, GA’s are paid second lowest stipend amount in the PASSHE system, just above a university that doesn’t pay the students anything.
      5. Bill will also affect undergraduate students- room and board waivers for CA’s will also be taxable.
      6. Effects 27,000 undergraduate students
      7. Many may not be able to afford their education if this bill is passed.
      8. Currently 128 graduate assistants that use tuition waivers on this campus that will be affected by this bill.
      9. Phone number for PA Senator – encourage everyone to contact Pat Toomey tomorrow, contact the media and highlight these issues. 717-782-3951
   2. Kennedy Moore- President of Black Action Society. Earlier this semester SGA approved $5,000 for a speaker about the police brutality, Leon Ford. The date has been set for Feb 19th at 7pm in the Ballroom (free to attend). He will be talking about what he battled after his incident and he will be speaking in a criminal justice class. He just released a book and is currently on trial for this incident. Please pay attention to the news to stay updated.
4. **Old Business**-

**Motion # -** That SRSGA approves the Computer Technology Club’s new initiative request of $325.00 for speaker fees and food.

**Sarver/Marvin**

**Discussion-** VP Keffer explains the group hosted a keynote speaker. They have been invited to Senate twice to present this new initiative, so I recommend we vote on it.

*Motion Fails with one abstention (Vogelgesang)*

**Motion #2 –** That SRSGA approves the American Marketing Association’s conference grant application of $500.00

**Burdick/Dunlop**

**Discussion**- President of the AMA Christian Alesius presents. The AMA is a professional organization that provides opportunities for marketing students to attend a conference in New Orleans. Attendance has been beneficial for networking opportunities. Last year, SRU won 5 awards and received an honorable mention. The registration fees have gone up by 15 dollars from **$**200 to $215. The students who worked on the case are the members invited to go.

*Motion passes with one abstention (Sarver)*

1. **New Business-**

**Motion # 3-** That SRSGA approves the minutes of November 6, 2017

**Sarver/Walker**

*Motion passes*

**Motion #4**- That SRSGA approves LEADS as a recognized organization.

**Vickers/Miller**

**Discussion**- Greg Vurgich (President) presents – We are working on creating a leadership organization to provide students with skill building opportunities, opportunities to network with other professionals, serving all students looking to be civil servants in their communities. (Focused on not only the business aspect, but also looking towards getting involved in the community). Leadersip Development Society is what the acronym stands for. There are 15 interested members. They will be using the club and organization fair. They would like all students in all majors to participate. Meetings have been in Spotts 101 to orient new members to what the club’s purpose and goals are.

Senate discussion- Sarver recommends senate approval. Senator Glover has expressed that these members have been proactive in reaching out to leadership minors and getting the club off the ground.

*Motion Passes*

**Motion #5-** That SRSGA approves the Men’s Ice Hockey Club two New Initiative Requests of $8,250.00 for referee fees and $1,350.00 for CHMA league dues, totaling $9,600.00

**Glover/Baretta**

**Discussion-** The Secretary of the team presents the new initiative. Hockey Club has difficulty covering these costs. For fundraising, they sponsored a golf outing and this money covers equipment costs, team buses, hotels, per diems if the stay is extended, etc. It will benefit players. Out of pocket costs are roughly $3000 per player. The representative is asked if the team has a self-support account; the team does have a self-support account but the majority of their fundraising money and player dues are in a separate bank account. VP Keffer comments the finance committee had this discussion and expressed the off-site account can be risky as it is not run by Co-op and their advisor does not have oversight.

VP Keffer moves to table the motion until their funds are moved back to the Co-op.

VP Vogelgesang opposes motion.

*Motion tabled*

**Motion #6-** That SRSGA approves the SGA scholarship recipient as presented by Wendy Leitera.

**Keffer/Sarver**

**Discussion:** Wendy Leitera presented the scholarship results. 6 applications were submitted. A committee of 4 professional staff evaluated the applications using a scoring rubric. Wendy announced the application receiving the highest scores and the recipient of this year’s scholarship is SGA Senator Nikol Damato.

VP Keffer moves to friendly amend the motion to read that SRSGA approve Nikol Damato as the recipient of the SGA scholarship. Senator Gordon seconds.

*Motion Passes with one abstention (Senator Damato)*

**VIII. Advisor’s Comments**

1. **Wendy Leitera-**
   1. Please seek out information presented about the tax increase, educate yourself, and contact your Senator. The tax implications are huge.
   2. Any student who takes out student loans is also affected.
2. **Lauren Moran-**
   1. Happy Thanksgiving! Be safe.
3. **Dr. Kershaw-**
   1. The best thing you can do for any issue you care about is to visit the representative. Show up to their office. Write personal letters. Be aggressive. Seek out house representatives**.**
4. **Ms. Bishop-**
   1. Please reach out to your senator and send a postcard.
   2. Would like to recognize the Internations club for the International dinner as an outstanding event at Slippery Rock. It was quite impressive. Happy Thanksgiving!
5. **Dr. Smeak**
   1. Happy thanksgiving! Put cell phones down while driving.

**IX. Adjournment**

**Motion # 6-** That SRSGA adjourns this meeting at 9:46 pm.

**Vinroe/Dawodu**

*Motion Passes*