SRSGA Formal Meeting Minutes

November 1, 2021

**Call to order - President Graziani.**

A meeting of the SRSGA was held in the Smith Student Center Theater on November 1, 2021 at 5:02 pm.

**Roll Call – VP Hood**

**Executive Board**

a) Mia Graziani - President

b) Sydney Rezzetano - VP of Finance

c) Grant Warmbein - VP of Student & Academic Affairs

d) Aiden Donnelly - VP of Outreach

e) Liz Hood - VP of Internal Affairs

f) Alexis Gish - VP of Diversity & Inclusion

g) Nicholas Condon – Parliamentarian

h) Hannah D’Egidio – Speaker of the Senate

**College of Business**

a) Senator Battles

b) Senator Brinker

c) Senator Fleming

**College of Education**

a) Senator Baird

b) Senator Froehlich

c) Senator Stiles

**College of Health, Science, and Engineering**

a) Senator Corbett

b) Senator Jones

c) Senator Sarver

d) Senator Shaffer

**College of Liberal Arts**

a) Senator Brock

b) Senator D’Egidio

c) Senator Shiller

d) Senator Warren

**Commuter**

a) Senator Resnick

**Residence Hall**

a) Senator Sones

**Transfer**

a) Senator Smith

**Veteran**

a) Senator Torpey

**Freshman**

a) Senator Burchell

b) Senator Dugan

c) Senator Hayward

d) Senator Husnick

**Graduate**

a) Senator Dang

b) Senator Draksler

**At-Large**

a) Senator Caruso

b) Senator Covey

c) Senator George

d) Senator Kennedy

e) Senator Moore

f) Senator Nearhood

g) Senator Roberts

h) Senator Tortorea

i) Senator Austin

**Advisors**

a.) Dr. Lauren Moran

b.) Wendy Leitera

c.) Dr. David Kershaw -

**Apscuf Representative(s)**

a.) Tricia Bishop -

b.) Dr. Eric Bieniek -

Absent: Dr. Kershaw, Tricia Bishop, Dr. Eric Bieniek

Excused: Senator Baird, Senator Caruso, and Senator Roberts

Guest Speakers: Dr. Behre & Trustee Ionta

**Trustee Don Ionta** – I met with the officers early about the school. I would like to tell you that I’m extremely impressed with the culture. Everyone involved has the say in developing that culture. I received some information of awards and recognitions we’ve received in the past year. I’ve counted over 55. I’m extremely proud of what you have here. The bottom line is the individuals sitting in this room that create that culture. You should be very proud of what you’ve done.

**Dr. Behre** – The trustees will begin their process of tuition in the next few weeks. The administrator makes a recommendation to the trustees. The trustees can approve or disapprove. The approval from the trustees goes to the board of governors. The board of governors can decide whether to approve or deny the recommendation. The last three years, tuition has not changed. We are going to be asking for a 2% increase, which for you guys is about $180. That’s what were proposing. That’s where we are. I’ll take any questions or feedback you might have.

**Senator Warren** – We’re running into problems on campus. Is that going to help solve these issues?

**Dr. Behre**  - The fee for Boozel is unrelated to this fee.

**Senator Warren** – Where will this money go?

**Dr.** Behre - This money will go to the salaries of all of the faculty and staff.

**Senator Brock** – Where are the cuts coming from?

**Dr. Behre** – We don’t know yet. The trustees will ask us the same question. We’ll pull up what we need to trim back. I want someone to take a guess at how much the COVID testing center costs per week. It’s $20,000 per week. We pay that with federal money, and it runs out this year. If we need a testing center next year, we will have to have a fee. That fee will be if we need a testing center. It would depend on the number of people being tested. We can figure out what that formula should be before July.

**Senator Stiles** – If it costs so much to run the testing center, has it been thought about to mandate the COVID-19 vaccine?

**Dr. Behre** – Yes. I am not sure if the legislature would have to act, or the board of governors would have to act. If you’d ask me in August to mandate the vaccine, I’d say yes. Today it’s not as clear to me. Our current vaccination rate is 54%. We’d have to make an assumption that if we mandated the vaccine, a percentage of people would leave.

**Senator Kennedy** – If you mandate the vaccine, can you exempt the people who can’t get it due to medical reasons?

**Dr. Behre** – Yes.

**Senator Brinker** – Would all students or students who aren’t vaccinated pay for the testing center next year?

**Dr. Behre** – Right now if we designed the plan today for next September, it would be for people using the testing center.

**Senator Warren** – Would you see the people also leave if you have people pay for the testing center? Would it be more or less than leaving for the mandate?

**Dr. Behre –** I think people would also leave, but the rate would be lower than the mandate.

**Senator Brock** – On top of the $180 and the fee for the testing center, did we consider students when thinking about cutting professors?

**Dr. Behre** – We need to pay salaries. That’s the situation we’re in.

**Senator Hayward** – Would work study get cut?

**Dr. Behre** – No. If anything, they’d shrink a bit. I’m not anticipating much of a cut that’d be noticeable.

**Parliamentarian Condon** – Long term, do you see SGA involved and how so? Just in case you come back.

**Dr. Behre** – The vast majority of people abstain. I would like feedback. No one wakes up and says, “please increase my college costs.” If you don’t have an increase in revenue to pay your bills, you have to increase costs.

Officer/Committee Reports:

**President Graziani**

​Green Bandana Project ​– it’s about creating peer mental health advocates

Email mlg1028@sru.edu​

Office hours: Tues & Thur 1:30pm - 6pm and by appointment

**VP Warmbein**

SAA Committee Meetings: Thursday's @ 3:30 in SSC 325​

Office hours: Mon: 2-4, Tu: 2:30-5, Wed:2-5, Thurs: 2-3:30 & 4:30-5, and Friday 12-1 (virtual)​

Email: gjw1004@sru.edu​

Phone Number: 412-722-3448​

Set up meetings with Deans (have at least two scheduled before the end of the semester)​

SLS Presentation: November 29th​

Ad Hoc Update: Food Service

**Senator Stiles** – For the committee update, we changed it to Mondays at 4 pm. It’s starting on November 15th. I was able to get ahold of the food contract between Aramark and SRU. We are going to be meeting with a few executives, Dr. Cole, and Dr. Mohomidy on Wednesday.

 **VP Rezzetano**

Hello Everyone!​

Committee Meetings are Thursdays at 4:15pm in SSC 246​

Office Hours are Tu/Th 3-4pm & by appointment​

Email: slr1021@sru.edu​

Phone: 717-860-2224

**VP Donnelly**

Committee meetings Tuesday at 5 in the Suite​

Office Hours are T/Th 7pm-8pm​

Email:Ard1022@sru.edu​

Phone: 603-568-5154

**VP Hood**

Hi friends!​

Last home game of the season is this Saturday @ 1 pm!​

Next bonding event: Flag football from 3 pm – 5pm at the MAC fields & game night from 5pm – 9pm at the ski lodge on November 13th!​

Committee meeting in the Women's Center on Wednesdays @ 4 pm​

Office Hours: Tuesdays during common hour or by appointment​

Email: erh1010@sru.edu​

Phone: (724) 766-3249​

As always, GO ROCK

**VP Gish**

Committee!!​

 6:30 Tuesdays Women's Center! ​

Email: Ang1012@sru.edu​

Phone: 724-614-0334​

National Councils Honors College Social Justice Response Plan

- Review Presentation 11/2/21 SJC ​

SRSGA/SJC Sponsoring: ​

* FMLA’s Take Back the Night.​
* This Thursday (Nov 4th) at 8pm in the Quad

**Parliamentarian Condon**

Office Hours: Mondays from 3:30-5 PM and Thursdays from 1:30-3 PM​

Email: ndc1008@sru.edu​

Phone: (724) 409-7364​

Deliberative event with Stanford this Saturday!​

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**Senator Froehlich:**

Rules and Policies Report:​

One new bylaw amendment to our vacancy, dismissal, and impeachment policy is being proposed​

The previous bylaw amendment is going to be coming back up​. It was about e-board disclosing other positions.

TEAM ROCK is coming to the floor for SGA recognition​

Committee Meets: Tuesdays at 5:30pm in SSC 325

**Speaker D’Egidio**

Three office units are required per senator per week.​

Please read VP Hood’s emails!​

If you know you won’t have enough office units, or if you have to submit late, please let me know ASAP​

Diversity event requirements will be submitted with office units!

As Speaker, my biggest duty is to the senators. If you have any questions, concerns, or suggestions regarding SGA, please feel free to reach out.​

Office hours: T/Th 3-5​

hmd1009@sru.edu​

724-777-6233

Commission Reports:

**Senator Froehlich** – I sit on the GEISO commission. There are 3 new queer courses being in the Spring.

**Senator Shaffer** – I sit on the sustainability commission. We’re going to reach out to Aramark in the spring to sit on our commission. The Boozel issue came up, and we talked about how it’s a staffing issue. We are looking at compromises. We’re using paper plates instead of Styrofoam plates. We’re looking at composting as well.

**Senator Tortorea** – I’m sitting on the commission of disability issues. They are adding COVID-19 as a disability service now.

**Senator Stiles** – University Seminar is now called Foundations of Academic Discovery.

**Senator Brock** – I sit on the Women’s commission. They wanted to promote Take Back the Night. It’s from 8-9 this Thursday.

Rock of the Week: Gabe Stiles!

**VP Warmbein** – So this person has gone above and beyond without me asking. Constantly stepping up in committee to make sure issues on campus are resolved. Recently took on the Ad-Hoc committee. The rock of the week this week is Gabe Stiles!

Open Forum:

**Senator Draksler** – I wanted to take time to discuss something that has been a recent point in the graduate student committee. Who has been positively impacted by a graduate assistant? It’s not surprising to me that many of you have been impacted. I fully support the fight to raise student wages. We ask moving forward, that graduate assistants can be included in the fight. No one’s work ethic should be valued below $8. Graduate assistants are expected to perform at a professional level but receive minimum wage. Saving money is not the same as making money. Graduate assistants have to take out thousands of dollars in loans to pay for housing, bills, and tuition. We have a net monthly loss due to our low wages. Are we really saving if we’re at a net monthly loss? There is currently a group of 37 graduate assistants that are having this type of conversation. I’m speaking on behalf of them today. Thank you so much for your time.

**Senator Moore** – So the Diversity events we have to attend, it’s just diversity and not mental health? And is it per year or semester?

**VP Warmbein** - It is two diversity events per semester and one mental health training. It’s two separate Bylaws. Try and spread your areas for diversity events.

**Senator Resnick** – Adding on to that discussion, last I heard about mental health training is that they’re working on it.

**VP Warmbein** – We’re working with Dr. Moran and Karla Fonner about the training. When we get more information, I’ll share it with you all.

**Parliamentarian Condon** – A lot of this has been discussed. Make sure you attend those events. We will not leave you in the deep end. We want to have this conversation with you all.

**Senator Brock** – Can they be previous diversity events from this semester?

**VP Warmbein** – If you have proof of attendance and give a little summary about it.

**Leif Lindgren** – Thank you to the senate and SGA for granting the ASSP conference grant. Thursday is SOL is having a Day of the Dead event at 4 pm. Next week is Veteran’s appreciation week.

Old Business:

Motion #1: I move to take from the table, the motion to amend the Bylaws Article IV, Section 3, Subsection A, Sub-subsection VI to read “Must disclose to the student body before being elected or voted on any prospective or current executive position(s) in any other campus organization(s).

First – Senator Froehlich

Second – Senator Jones

**Senator Froehlich** – We are taking it from the table.

Motion passes to remove from the table!

Debate and discussion for motion:

**Senator Brock** – Are we voting on this now?

**Parliamentarian Condon** – Yes. This is what will actually be changed within our Bylaws!

Motion: I move to amend the Bylaws Article IV, Section 3, Subsection A, Sub-subsection VI to read “Must disclose to the student body before being elected or voted on any prospective or current executive position(s) in any other campus organization(s).

Nay – Senator Brock

Motion passes!

New Business:

Motion #2: I move to approve the minutes from the October 18th formal meeting.

First – Senator Corbett

Second – Senator Husnick

Motion passes!

Motion #3: I move that the SRSGA recognized TEAM ROCK as a new student organization.

First – Senator Tortorea

Second – Senator Hayward

**Senator Froehlich** – We talked to them about their constitution and gave them changes. They are ready for you guys to approve.

**VP Donnelly** – What is TEAM ROCK?

**Senator Froehlich** – It’s a sports organization that deals with teaching the Bible to people who play sports. It’s voluntary. It’s people who play sports and want to learn about the Bible.

Nay - Senator Smith, Senator Stiles, and Senator Warren

Abstention – Senator Resnick

Motion passes!

Motion #4: I move the adoption of the resolution relating to amending Article VII of the SRSGA Bylaws on Impeachment, Dismissal, and Vacancy as recommended by the Rules and Policies committee.

First – Senator Brock

Second – Senator Burchell

**Senator Brock** – Yeah I read through this. I think this process would be better. It’s clearer than our previous amendment.

**Senator Froehlich** – We agree that this would be clearer to get things across.

Motion was tabled!

**Parliamentarian Condon** – Since it is a Bylaw, it gets tabled until our next formal meeting.

Motion #5: I move to confirm Nathan Maggi as an At-Large senator.

First – Senator Brock

Second – VP Donnelly

**VP Hood** – I approved Nathan’s application this morning and sent it to you guys a few hours ago to go over.

**Senator Brock** – Can he speak on it?

**Parliamentarian Condon** – We had it so people a part of student organizations can speak.

**Senator Brock** – I thought Robbi got to speak, so I’m confused.

**Parliamentarian Condon** – It’s not stated anywhere.

**Nathan Maggi** – Last year I was an At-Large senator. I have a year of experience under my belt.

Motion passes!

APSCUF Comments:

a) Dr. Eric Beinbiek:

b) Tricia Bishop:

Advisor Comments:

a.) Dr. Lauren Moran: We strongly recommend that you don’t use your personal account. Please use the Co-Op Venmo account. Grad students are SRU are paid the least in the state of Pennsylvania. Take Laken’s letter and take it to a report to Dr. Behre. Captions were a good idea, and it is inclusive. We just put together a student organization collection drive. Rock the Weekend is the women’s volleyball game on Friday, BAS is holding a trip to Urban Air on Saturday, and shuttles to Butler are on Sunday.

b.) Wendy Leitera: From our office, we launched the Venmo account for student organizations to collect dues and payments. A scholarship opens up tomorrow at 8 am. It’s in the SGA portal. It is called SGA Leader Scholarship SRSGA 2021-2021. That application will be open through next Friday. We’re looking for an At-Large student that will sit on the Board of Directors. Senator Draksler’s presentation during open forum is very important. We are focused on our SRU GAs. They aren’t making enough money to pay for things at the end of the month. This is an important fight.

c.) Dr. David Kershaw:

Adjournment:

Adjourn the meeting at 6:22 pm.

First – Senator Brock

Second – Senator Kennedy

Motion passes!