

August 08, 2011

Student Government Association Senate meeting minutes: 08/08/2011

Student Government Association, Northeastern University

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Senate Minutes

Student Government Association
Northeastern University
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Present: **15**
Absent: 5
Excused: **3**
Quorum: *was met*

The **Chair** calls the meeting to order at **7:31 pm**.

The minutes *are approved* without objection.

10 Executive Vice President, Will **Pett**:

- Attended Illinois Leadership Institute, was very successful
- Guest speakers have been scheduled for most of the fall semester, including:
 - Madeline **Estabrook**, Interim VP for Student Affairs, at first meeting, September 12
- Has been working on an Idea-Scale redesign with Senator **Naraghi**
- Executive Director **Dwyer** designing New Senator Guide, will be ready for fall semester
- Partnering with Alumni Relations Department to send letter to SGA alumni in early fall

President, Michael **Sabo**:

- Has been meeting with administrators periodically to determine whether various projects are moving forward on schedule
- Met on Friday with the founder of Northeastern Shuffle to collaborate on relaying information from students to administrators
- VPs **Wojdyla** and **Crimmins** and I met with the Registrar's Office to check up on whether they have been following up on what they promised with regard to accountability and other issues
- Will meet with Madeline **Estabrook**, Interim VP for Student Affairs, tomorrow to work on improving contracting FSO organizations and other student groups, and improving funding for student sports teams and clubs, as well as other initiatives
- Meeting with EVP **Pett** next week to discuss funding priorities
- Has nominated Amy **Holmes** for Parliamentarian; confirmation hearing this evening.

30

Comptroller, Anthony **Golia**:

- Met with advisor to discuss appeals for Finance Board audit
- Heard September Small requests. Funded 6 different organizations. Recognizes Executive Director **Dwyer** for her work on printing
- Will be reviewing spending reports

Vice President for Academic Affairs, Dani **Wojdyla**:

- Has met with many members of administration and staff over past few days
- Finished blueprints for all academic initiatives in store for this year; if interested, please contact
- Met with various deans from colleges/schools: wants to create Library Advisory Council; if interested, please contact
- Has been working with Senators **Naraghi** and **Coombes** to formulate policy for textbook initiative.
- 2nd week of October—Academic Senator Constituency Meetings. Keep calendars open.
- Reword current dialogue in student handbook regarding academic integrity.
- Will not be on campus following 3 weeks, but accessible by email.

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Vice President for Student Affairs, Jonas **Edwards-Jenks**:

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- 50
- Grill-out with soccer games by Cabot on 23rd and 24th.
 - Art initiative—met with relevant administrators. Art Day, selling student art, tutorials, expanding student art around campus, etc.
 - Met with representative from Office of Student Diversity and Equity—working to improve student diversity
 - Working on pledge “I am Northeastern”. First event held last week at St. Andrew’s Carnival. Big success, well received.
 - Met with Public Safety to discuss public safety fall campaign

Vice President for Student Involvement, Matthew **Crimmins**:

- 60
- Student Involvement Board heard suggestions for constitutional revisions over the summer
 - Student Leadership Day being promoted this week. Finalizing student and staff speakers and logistics. Sept. 18, 11:30 am – 4 pm.
 - Met with Madeline Estabrook to discuss contracts, scheduling initiatives
 - Appointed Senator **D’Amico** as Assistant Vice President

Vice President for Student Services, Tim **LePage**:

- 70
- Farmer’s Market planning still going on. Working to attract more vendors, get media attention, collaborate with Jamie Oliver from Food Revolution, sell totes. Administration and Senator **O’Sullivan** have helped tremendously.
 - ZipCar did not attend planned meeting. Contacted them later; ZipCar will forward information regarding Harvard pilot about students age 18-21. Administration will push to get ZipCar on campus
 - Beta testing for mobile application finished. Will be ready for beginning of fall.
 - Argo Tea and Subway are close to completion.
 - Working on Husky card vendor map, to see how soon can be that be completed. Also working on reloading husky card with credit cards.
 - Interior design at Curry Student Center to make it more Northeastern and spirit-filled.
 - Meeting with public safety next week to discuss public safety campaign

Chief of Staff, Terry **MacCormack** (address delivered by President **Sabo**)

- 80
- Focusing on the new member experience for the fall Senates.
 - Working with EVP **Pett** on the new senator guide.
 - Rooms have been booked for SGA information sessions and will be held during welcome week this fall.
 - Working on updating the method of keeping track of committee and Senate meeting attendance and using orgsync for senator nominations.
 - Have been working with Senator **Splain** on the new SGA website, and will be working on getting content uploaded.
 - Met with Executive Director **Dwyer** and EVP **Pett** regarding idea scale and new ideas and is hoping to approve that platform for the fall.
 - Working on organizing the SGA internal wiki, to allow important information to be accessible to all future and current cabinet members.
- 90
- Working with President **Sabo** on the SGA spending report for the month of July.
 - Finalized payment for the retreat and the dates are October 13-14.
 - Has been talking with ResLife about micro-fridges for fundraising for SGA.

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Executive Director of Communications, Kelly **Dwyer**:

- Has been working on promotional materials, which are nearly complete, including a banner, an info sheet, and Twitter cards.
- Working on formatting both the SGA newsletter and the alumni newsletter.
- Formatting the New Senator Guide.
- Working on Night at the Student Center and will be finalizing the details. Would appreciate any help with this event.

100

Parliamentarian, Nicoya **Borella**, *yields*

Elections Committee Chair, Taylor **Cotter** *yields*

The **Senate** moves into Question Time.

- President **Sabo** asks that Executive Director **Dwyer**, explain what the night at the student center is
 - Executive Director **Dwyer** explains that rather than doing a campus invasion they have decided to do this event to focus on all of the students returning to campus. The idea is to promote the Student Center as the living room of the campus. Other large groups such as RSA and CUP will also be involved.
- Senator **D'Angelo** asks when the addenda are due for the elections report.
 - Elections Committee Chair **Cotter** responds that addendums are due August 15.

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The **Senate** moves into New Business.

- Parliamentarian confirmation
 - President **Sabo** explains that the Parliamentarian is the head of the operational appeals board and is the keeper of the rules advising the Senate.
 - President **Sabo** explains his nomination of Candidate **Holmes**, stating her credentials including her current position of a justice on the OAB as well as other positions on numerous boards.
 - Candidate **Holmes** explains that she has been involved with SGA for 2 years, has sat on the elections committee, academics committee, and student involvement. She was chair of the student conduct board and is familiar with positions such as this, dealing with serious matters that involve confidentiality. Served on the operational appeals board starting this summer, and is familiar. She does plan to go abroad in January to Australia, but will complete this job to the best of her ability.
 - Question time
 - **Senator** Coombes asks if there are plans to strengthen the Operational Appeals Board.
 - Candidate **Holmes** replies that yes, there is. She hopes to fill the board, as well as working to have decisions upheld by the board rather than ignored as in the case of last year. She feels that she and President Sabo are on the same page and will successfully be able to agree on jurisdictions to make sure that when decisions are made, they are upheld.
 - The **Senate** moves to debate
 - There was no debate after Candidate **Holmes** stepped out.
 - The **Senate** moves to voting
 - By a vote of 13 to 2, Amy **Holmes** is confirmed as Parliamentarian.

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The **Senate** moves into Open Discussion.

Without objection, the **Chair** closes the meeting at **7:57 pm**.

Respectfully submitted to the Senate by Carissa Williams