

September 12, 2011

Student Government Association Senate meeting minutes: 09/12/2011

Student Government Association, Northeastern University

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Senate Minutes

Student Government Association
Northeastern University
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of Northeastern University

Present: 32
Absent: 6
Excused: 3
Quorum: *was met*

The **Chair** calls the meeting to order at 7:03 pm.

The minutes *are approved* without objection.

10 President, Michael **Sabo**:

- Welcomes new senators and old senators

Executive Vice President, Will **Pett**:

- I act as the presiding officer of Senate
- I oversee the Associations communications, events and project management.
- I work very close with other executive officers' projects.
- In addition, I work closely with Executive Director of Communications **Dwyer** to work on events and student outreach.

President, Michael **Sabo**:

- 20
- I am directly elected in April.
 - Serve as the primary advocate for students. I speak on behalf of the student body, building a consensus of opinion
 - As President, I chair the Executive Board.
 - In addition to chairing, I hear appeals for Finance Board
 - Part of committee to find new Vice President for Student Affairs, as well as VP **Edwards-Jenks**, Senator **Caron**, VP **Crimmins**.

Comptroller, Anthony **Golia**:

- 30
- Oversees student activity fee that students pay annually.
 - The fee is combined and then allocated by Finance Board
 - We have allocated \$806,000 thus far.
 - We have heard 79 requests, funded 59 event requests, 2 equipment requests, 1 conference and 6 publications for the Fall Semester.
 - The Board has heard requests from September, October, and November
 - We have funded 19 for September, 33 for October and so far, 2 for November. As well as funding 2 signature events.
 - The Finance Board meets weekly. The minutes can be found on SGA website in addition to events we fund and where your fee is going.
 - The Finance Board meets this Thursday for requests for November Meeting events.
- 40
- Finance Board Workshop is this Wednesday at 7pm in the Senate Chambers. This meeting is required for all student groups who have not attended one. They must come to be able to request.

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

- I deal with all academics affairs, such as co-op, study abroad, classrooms, and library.
- Senator **Corrado**, new representative for University Undergraduate Course Curriculum committee, who, for example, updates campus courses.

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- 50
- On October 6, from 7:30-8:30pm CBA Town Hall meeting. It is a pilot program as senator constituent meetings. It is an open forum, comprised of faculty, staff, co-op advisors, SGA representatives, and Vice Provost. They are there to address any questions or concerns as well as update the students on operational or organizational changes.
 - Senator **Coombes** has been working on the State of the University. It is an event hosted by President Aoun. The event is held in the Ballroom of Curry Student Center on October 12 from 12:30 to 1pm. Students are welcome to come. This year, we are trying to have a campus-wide campaign to inform the students of this event.
 - Senator **Coombes** and Senator **Akhtar** have been working on TRACE and Inter-University competition
 - The Assistant Vice President applications open tonight after Senate and close at midnight on Friday.

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

- 60
- In Student Affairs, we work on athletics, inclusion and diversity events, off campus initiatives, new student orientation, student conduct, NUin and Jan start orientation, Residential Life and the arts
 - For athletics, the goal is to promote all athletics and have them more included in Northeastern community. There are grill-outs planned for the end of September for soccer, volleyball and field hockey games.
 - Having a broad-based diversity week in the Spring
 - Every 3 years, Code of Conduct review process occurs which involves university officials. I plan on making a subcommittee with senators as well as students-at-large
 - Plan to work with art groups to allow more student art on more display.
 - Improve NU-in, Jan start and Transfer orientation. We want to get them more acquainted with NU.
- 70
- Senators **Daly** and **Olthrope** are helping with that.
 - Off-campus, plan to continue landlord surveys and do more with the NU pledge
 - Looking for an Assistant Vice President and Director of Off-Campus Initiatives
 - We meet on Wednesdays at 7pm 433 Curry Student Center

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

- I chair the Student Involvement Board.
 - The Student Involvement Board helps student groups when they are applying to become a group, help with the constitution, and make the final decisions on whether or not they will be a group.
 - We provide resources to students for collaboration, coordination, growth and leadership of the various groups.
- 80
- We worked on all allocations for student group offices on the 2nd floor
 - Working to create a Husky leadership guide for organizations to provide more resources.
 - Student leadership day; worked with Senators **Caron** and **D'Amico**, among others. This Day is an on-campus mini retreat for student leaders to learn how to manage, improve and organize. It is this Sunday, September 18.

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

- This committee works on dining, information services, facilities, housing, health services and public safety.
- 90
- We work on sustainability. There is a Renewable Energy Board which helps provide funding for on-campus building
 - This summer, we worked on the Northeastern Mobile App as well as the Farmers Market working with other student groups with the help from Senator **O'Sullivan**.

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- This year goals are to make strides on the improved smoking policy, zip cars, cable to Marino and myNEU improvements.
- Looking for an Assistant Vice President and Director of Sustainability Initiatives
- We meet in Curry Student Center on Tuesdays at 6pm in room 433.

Chief of Staff, Terry **MacCormack**:

- 100
- As Chief of Staff, I work on the Association's internal operations.
 - Jobs I have are to maintain the office, document management, budget, and Senate membership
 - I am working on member recruitment as well.
 - Senator rules are to have 3 hours of work for the Association. They comprise of Senate weekly meetings, committees and/or office hours

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

- 110
- I oversee communications to the student body
 - We work to get feedback from students.
 - Chair the Communications and Events committee Thursday at 7:30 in room 435 in Curry Student Center

Parliamentarian, Amy **Holmes**:

- Keeper of the rules in Senate and available to answer all procedural questions
- Chairs Operational Appeals Board, which has 4-6 justices. This Board hears Finance Board appeals, SGA appeals and Student Involvement Board appeals
- Working with EVP **Pett** and Chief of Staff **MacCormack** on New Senator Orientations. These will occur every Monday before Senate at 6pm where you can ask questions or verify information.

Elections Committee Chair, Taylor **Cotter**:

- 120
- This committee works procedure and policy for elections
 - We work to revise the Direct Elections Policy Manual in the fall and put it into place in spring during elections.
 - Looking for a Vice Chair
 - Committee meets on Tuesdays at 7pm in Curry Student Center in room 435

The **Senate** moves into Question Time.

- 130
- Comptroller **Golia** asks Elections Chair **Cotter** if the first two intro meetings count toward the 5 meetings you need to be a voting member
 - Elections Chair **Cotter** explains that elections operates differently and you must attend 3 of first 5 to become a voting member
 - Student asks Chief of Staff **MacCormack** about office hours
 - Chief of Staff **MacCormack** explains that if you can't make a second committee meeting, then you come to the office to serve the Association at a time that works for you. You can work on research for a committee or do surveys on campus. All the times are through OrgSync.
 - Senator **Daly** asks what OrgSync is and how you log on
 - Chief of Staff **MacCormack** explains that OrgSync is home to Northeastern student groups. It's on myNEU, sign in and you can search SGA or another group and ask to join it

140 The **Senate** moves into New Business.

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- Senator of the Summer
 - President **Sabo** explains that this award is given to someone not on cabinet or any other official position from the exec board that is active. Recognize great work senators do in committee. Much work went on this summer. Did the farmers market. Granted to Senator Dylan **O'Sullivan**.

The **Senate** moves into Open Discussion.

Without objection, the **Chair** closed the meeting at **8:11 pm**.

150

Respectfully submitted to the Senate by Aliana Akhtar