

January 09, 2012

Student Government Association Senate meeting minutes: 01/09/2012

Student Government Association, Northeastern University

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Senate Minutes

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Quorum was met .

The **Chair** called the meeting to order at **7:02pm**.

The motion *passed* without objection.

Executive Vice President **Pett**:

- We don't have Senate next Monday. In February, the first three weeks we will have Senate on Wednesday rather than Monday.
- Budget Priorities survey closes tonight at midnight.

Northeastern's Vice President of City Affairs John Tobin speaks before the Senate.

President **Sabo** *yields*.

Comptroller, Anthony **Golia** *yields*.

Vice President for Academic Affairs, Josh **Coombes** *yields*.

20 Vice President for Student Affairs, Jonas **Edwards-Jenks** *yields*.

Vice President for Student Involvement, Matt **Crimmins** *yields*.

Vice President for Student Services, Tim **LePage** *yields*.

Chief of Staff, Terry **MacCormack** *yields*.

Executive Director of Communications, Kelly **Dwyer** *yields*.

30 Elections Chair, Taylor **Cotter**:

- We approved the Manual last month.
- I have been working to put together my schedule and calendar for Elections.
- Elections Committee will meet Mondays after Senate at 9PM. If senate goes past 9 it will be right after Senate.
- This semester is a lot different on Elections Committee. It is more project-based.

The Senate moved into Question Time.

40 Senator **Trudeau** asks if anyone knows anything more about the Green Line. VP **Tobin** says he will email President **Sabo** and VP **Edwards-Jenks** about the meeting at Roxbury Community College.

The Senate moved into New Business.

The Senate moves into selection of the Vice Chair.

VP **Edwards-Jenks** *nominates* Chief of Staff **MacCormack**.

Chief of Staff **Maccormack** *accepts*.

Senator **Daly** *nominates* Senator **Petrin**.

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50 Senator **Petrin** *accepts*.

Senator **Splain** *nominates* VP **Edwards-Jenks**.
VP **Edwards-Jenks** *declines*.

Senator **Cotter** *nominates* Senator **Caron**
Senator **Caron** *declines*.

Senator **Cotter** *nominates* President **Sabo**.
President **Sabo** *declines*.

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Comptroller **Golia** *nominates* Senator **Naraghi**.
Senator **Naraghi** *accepts*.

Senator **Petrin** *withdraws* his nomination.

Chief of Staff **MacCormack** delivers a speech to the Senate.

Senator **Naraghi** delivers a speech to the Senate.

70 The Senate moves into debate on the Vice Chair Selection.

- Senator **Splain** says he worked a lot with Chief of Staff **MacCormack** and he is good. Not to put Senator **Naraghi** down, but he did chair elections committee once. I think they would both do a great job.
- Senator **Daly** says she sat on Elections with both candidates in the Spring. Both ended up chairing once. They each got their turn and did an equally good job. I'm not going to bias my opinion because they are both well qualified but Senate needs more of a voice from the Senate and less of a voice of the e-board. More of you need to speak up and it has to be less of the people with titles.

By a majority vote, Chief of Staff **MacCormack** is selected as the Vice Chair of the Senate.

80

The Executive Board delivers its Mid-Year Reports:

Executive Director of Communications **Dwyer**:

- One of the first things we did was Night at the Student Center. A lot of people joined SGA from that.
- S-Games was a big event. A lot of people turned in cards. We got a lot of feedback from people. At the very least, 500 people got those cards and now know some things SGA has done.
- I worked on the New Senator Packet and other promotional materials. Twitter and Facebook should be in progress.

90

- The Twitter cards, the first newsletter, the week of finals... We are excited to get the newsletter out monthly going forward.
- The Holiday dinner was successful. It was a good way to have some fun and reward you all for hard work.
- In progress, we are working on Brought to you by SGA, which will be happening during February.
- We will be doing monthly outreach events going forward.
- We are working on a promotional video.
- We are going to be putting a lot more effort into the promotion of NUideas.

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- Looking ahead, we will be planning passing of the gavel, which is at the end of the semester.
- I will be working with Elections Committee on promotion of elections.

100

Chief of Staff **MacCormack:**

- It's been a successful fall semester. We put the Senator Nomination Form online. It has made it easier for people to get into SGA.
- We launched our new website in late September.
- The Senator Retreat was successful.
- Survey of the Week was launched in October. It allows Senators to use office hours to get feedback on a regular basis.
- In progress, our internal recognition system will launch. It will be a way for people within Senate to recognize each other for the work that they do.

110

- We will be tabling at the Winter Activities Fair in two weeks.
- Expanded use of the website.
- Expansion of the transition planning for executive cabinet.
- Looking ahead FY12 budget close out and the FY13 budget for next year will be worked on.
- Senator constituent emails.
- We started the welcome to senate sessions.
- Expanded weekly updates.

Vice President for Student Services **LePage:**

120

- Started the Public Safety Campaign.
- Student Services completed a lighting assessment to find areas that are dark and sent them to facilities.
- Night Open Skate hours have been going on at Matthews.
- First Farmers Market of Spring Semester will be this Wednesday on the ground floor of Curry.
- All dorm rooms on campus have recycling bins.
- Swipe printing has been expanded.
- Mobile app has been rolled out.
- Big changes in dining like Argo Tea and the Food Truck.
- Auto reload is coming to the Husky Card.
- Lots of surveying this semester for storage options for students.

130

- Will evaluate the smoking policy.
- Green office certifications.
- Recyclemania will be changed up this year.

Vice President for Student Involvement **Crimmins:**

140

- Student Leadership Day happened.
- We have tried doing monthly discussion groups with student groups on campus.
- Senate approved the SIB Manual.
- I'm excited for our check-in system to check in with newer organizations.
- We are still working on discussion groups.
- President's meetings have been happening every month.
- I want to revamp the office allocations in 240.

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

- Long term projects focused around the NU Community.
 - Four main projects, I am Northeastern Pledge, have had various dialogues with people around campus. Have worked with Student Ambassadors. Looking to build off foundation.
 - Diversity Week: I have been meeting with office administrations and student leaders.
 - The Code of Conduct review process has been going well. Will be reaching out to greater NU community for input.
- 150
- Created NU Starts which kicks off soon. It will help the transition to campus.

Vice President for Academic Affairs **Coombes:**

- The transition thus far from former VP **Wojdyla** to me has gone well.
 - This year we have done things like Trace, which has resulted in the highest turnout to date.
 - For the first time we had a TRACE video on NUTV.
 - We passed the Sense of the Senate creating the college expectations and we have created a committee to work with those.
 - Ryder Hall extended hours have gone into effect.
 - We will be working on the Academic Integrity policy.
- 160
- Advisor video chatting and evaluations. We are working with IS to implement these. We think it's important to be able to evaluate advisors.
 - Waiting list implementation. The Senior Leadership Team and the Registrar are aware that this is a big priority.

Comptroller **Golia:**

- Updated the SAF Manual to reform the sanctions and Signature Event process.
 - Treasurer's workshops have been going on and will be ongoing.
 - Implemented a new annual budget process.
 - The idea fund is being worked on.
- 170
- Quote guide is in progress.
 - Equipment Inventories to share with groups.
 - Long term the plan is to evaluate co-sponsorship and a better system to track them.

Executive Vice President **Pett:**

- Night at the Student Center was a success and attracted members.
 - We compiled the new senator guide this year.
 - We've started doing welcome to senate meetings.
 - We sent out a letter to the SGA alumni.
 - Still in progress is project tracking of the projects of the rest of the cabinet.
- 180
- We have also had the DieHard Dog fundraising.
 - We have the NUideas platform and we are hoping to utilize it more this semester.
 - We have the funding priorities ongoing.
 - Looking ahead we will have large scale events and small events.
 - Also looking to improve the website, perhaps adding in a project tracker to see where projects stand.

President **Sabo:**

- President convocation happened. I will also be speaking at the Martin Luther King Jr event.
- We managed to get the extra funding for club sports.

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- 190
- The SAF was increased by \$4 with targeted funding to small events.
 - I sat on the search committee for the new Vice President for Student Affairs.
 - Pint with the President is something that is moving forward.
 - Funding priorities is ongoing.
 - I'm finalizing with Student Affairs the Board of Trustees proposal plan.
 - Looking ahead, the BIA assembly is something we are working with.
 - The contracts committee will be charged to address the problems with the contract process.
 - I want to do a series called Open Mike where I go random places and talk to students so they tell me what students actually want and not what SGA thinks they want.
 - The idea fund will incorporate events as well as capital equipment.

200

The Senate moved into Open Discussion.

VP **Edwards-Jenks** says this Monday we have the MLK day community service. If you're interested in getting involved please let him know.

Elections Chair **Cotter** said that all of her professors didn't require textbooks or had affordable ones, so congrats to Academic Affairs committee.

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Comptroller **Golia** wants to remind people that he and Executive Director **Dwyer** are the only executive board members on campus so please stop by and visit them in the office.

Executive Director **Dwyer** says the gifts from the holiday party are in the office so pick one up if you haven't received one.

Without objection, the Senate adjourns at **8:31 pm**.