

January 30, 2012

## Student Government Association Senate meeting minutes: 01/30/2012

Student Government Association, Northeastern University

---

### Recommended Citation

Student Government Association, Northeastern University, "Student Government Association Senate meeting minutes: 01/30/2012" (2012). *Student Government Association Senate Minutes*. Paper 15. <http://hdl.handle.net/2047/d20004736>

This work is available open access, hosted by Northeastern University.

## Senate Minutes

Student Government Association  
Northeastern University  
January 30, 2012



**Student Government Association**  
of Northeastern University

Quorum: was met

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

The minutes *are approved* without objection.

Executive Vice President Will **Pett**:

- President **Sabo** and I met with the Senior Leadership Team on budget priorities and will be meeting with them in March to hear what they decided to do as a result of student feedback.
- 10 • I have been meeting with Chief of Staff **MacCormack** on the website. We are adding a project tracker and the quick fixes ticker.
- The executive cabinet will be selling diehard dog t-shirts at the February welcome days for admitted students. If you know any friends that are interested in buying shirts let them know.
- We are working on another letter to alumni to go out through Alumni Relations.
- Senators with office hours will be encouraged to conduct surveys of the week each semester.

Northeastern University's **Vice Provost of Undergraduate Education Bruce Ronkin** spoke before the Senate.

20 President, Michael **Sabo**:

- EVP **Pett** and I met with the Senior Leadership Team to discuss budget priorities.
- Senator **Bhadra** and I will be presenting the T legislation.
- I've been working with Comptroller **Golia** on the Idea Fund.
- I am working on staffing the contracts committee with Campus Activities and Legal.
- The first "Open Mike" was a great success.

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

Vice President for Academic Affairs, Josh **Coombes**:

- 30 • The classroom evaluation survey has been finalized.
- We discussed the faculty textbook agreement in committee.
- We mentioned the graduation plan overview and want to standardize it.
- Trace subcommittee is meeting tomorrow at 630.
- College Expectations is next Tuesday.
- My AVP form will be available until tomorrow.

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

- 40 • I've been hard at work on Diversity Week.
- Last week I met with the Diversity Office and ISSI and other student leaders to discuss Diversity Week.
- I met with a northeastern alum who is a founder of a website called So Change which allows people to organize and pledge to donate or support a social cause.
- Director **Daly** and I have met with student leaders about the NU Starts program.
- My AVP applications are open until the end of the night Wednesday.

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

## Senate Minutes

Student Government Association  
Northeastern University  
January 30, 2012



**Student Government Association**  
of Northeastern University

- We have approved the Transfer Student Organization and the Marine Biology Club and have approved one name change, the International Relations Council.
- 50 • We finalized constitutional changes to HEAT.
- There are several board members who are assisting with the interviews for the new Campus Activities positions.
- We approved the SAF Manual.

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

- I'm working with the VP of Housing Services of RSA on drafting a proposal to get expanded gender neutral housing.
- Executive Director **Dwyer** has done a good job with Recyclemania designs which will be everywhere soon.
- 60 • Senator **White** has met with Elections Chair Cotter about drafting a referenda question.
- Lots of quick fixes are going on.

Chief of Staff, Terry **MacCormack**:

- We have 3 new senators.
- I would like to encourage you to fill out forms for the SGA recognition awards.
- I'm working on the website lately.
- We're looking for office assistants so send them my way.
- Passing of the Gavel is coming up soon.
- We are looking into buying SGA Apparel.
- 70 • Here is the budget update thus far:
  - Executive Cabinet payroll is paid out on a regular basis. Some out of Cash Account some out of Budget. Cash contribution is at 3150, however it will be higher.
  - Office supplies we spent a bit out of there at the beginning of the year.
  - Idea Scale is the idea system we use. It is paid once a year. And the system to send emails to the student body.
  - Other than that, advertising and retreats are paid out on amore fluid basis.
  - The first line item for retreat is the Warren Conference Center for the eboard retreat. The fall Senator retreat was paid out in full. The facilitator was for the eboard retreat.

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

- The arrows for Brought to you by SGA will be going up tomorrow night.
- On Wednesday we will be giving out free coffee and hot chocolate at 11 am and tell your constituents to stop by.

Parliamentarian, Ryan **Gordon**:

- I am here to be a resource for all of you. Feel free to email me whenever you want.

Elections Chair, Taylor **Cotter**:

- Elections Committee met last week for the first time of the semester.
- 90 • I've met with student groups regarding referenda.

The **Senate** moved into Question Time.

## Senate Minutes

Student Government Association  
Northeastern University  
January 30, 2012



**Student Government Association**  
of Northeastern University

Senator **Harris** asks if the student body is fully aware that SGA gets paid stipends. EVP **Pett** says if they do not he encourages you to let them know.

Senator **Van** asks how much of the SAF is given to SGA as a whole. EVP **Pett** says the total number of the allocation was 58,000. The cash account line item was money moved from the cash account to the budget account to cover expenses that weren't funded.

100

Senator **Van** asks why they were charged \$520 for phones. Chief of Staff **MacCormack** says it's the fees for the phones in the office.

Comptroller **Golia** asks what the cash account contributions that went solely for stipends. What was the amount? Chief of Staff **MacCormack** says it was an increase out of the cash account across the board, bringing them up to the levels the senate approved last spring. I can get that for you next week.

Senator **Mitchell** asks what the eboard uses the stipends for. EVP **Pett** says it offsets expenses like data plans for smartphones and food.

110

Senator **Quijada** asks who chose to give the executive cabinet a raise. Chief of Staff **MacCormack** says the executive board gave themselves the increase of pay out of the cash account, which consists of money raised by the executive cabinet through fundraising.

Senator **Mitchell** asks when the fiscal year begins and ends. Chief of Staff **MacCormack** says July 1- June 30.

The **Senate** moved into Old Business.

120

SS-SP-12-101 is brought to the Floor.

Question time is opened on this issue.

Senator **Coombes** yields his time to Student at Large **Maloney**. He asks if the elimination of weekend commuter rail service was considered when creating the Sense of the Senate. President **Sabo** says of course it was, and the title is all encompassing of not just the E line but commuter rail as well.

Debate time is opened on this issue.

130

VP **Edwards-Jenks** yields his time to Student at Large **Benson**. He says as a member of Students Against T Cuts, our role on campus is to mobilize and advocate for students. By passing this, you can allow for institutional support from the Northeastern Administration, as such I urge for approval.

Senator **Harris** says that after this gets passed it's like nothing really happened. I urge all of you here to actually be active and help this cause since it affects everyone.

Senator **Mitchell** says he likes this legislation but feels like we should add that we would be willing to come to a middle ground on this issue.

140

Senator **Mitchell** moves to amend the document to say "And further that the Student Body is open to working with the MBTA on solutions to these budget issues to sustain functionality of the E line for the foreseeable future."

President **Sabo** and Senator **Bhadra** accept the amendment as friendly.

## Senate Minutes

Student Government Association  
Northeastern University  
January 30, 2012



**Student Government Association**  
of Northeastern University

VP **Edwards-Jenks** *moves* to adopt by unanimous consent.  
With No Objection, the Sense of the Senate is *approved*.

The **Senate** moved into New Business.

150 The **Senate** moved into Open Discussion.

Senator **Corrado** says she has been working on Recyclemania, but I've sent out emails to some people and want all to know that if anyone is interested in helping out to please reach out to me.

Senator **Cotter** encourages everyone to pay their fare on the green line.

Chief of Staff **MacCormack** says if you have any questions on the budget please see me after Senate. Additionally, the Housing Task force is a cool opportunity to get involved with how housing works, so I encourage you to consider that.

160

Senator **O'Sullivan** says that this Thursday at 5PM in the conference room I am having a meeting for all who are interested in learning more about the CSA program or the farmers market.

VP **LePage** says the farmers market is this Wednesday from 12-6 on the ground floor in Curry.

VP **Coombes** says that if you didn't get a chance to speak to our speaker tonight, please come to me after.

Executive Director of Communications **Dwyer** says that if anyone is free on Wednesday to volunteer at the outreach event please let me know. Also, I want to talk about the whole Knockout Barstool movement that is happening.

170

Knockout Barstool Representatives spoke to the Senate.

Executive Director of Communications **Dwyer** says it isn't appropriate for SGA to issue a statement as a whole, however I'm open to discussing this further with everyone after Senate.

Senator **Cotter** says that she will move Elections Committee to 8:45 to accommodate those wishing to talk about Knockout barstool.

180 Senator **Harris** says he has the Students Against T Cuts petition, so find him afterwards if you want to sign it.

Student at Large \_\_\_\_\_ says he wants to thank SGA for its support of the Sense of the Senate, and I want all to ensure they're working in concert together to make sure that we mitigate the service cuts.

Without objection, the **Chair** closed the meeting at **8:27 pm**.