

March 19, 2012

## Student Government Association Senate meeting minutes: 03/19/2012

Student Government Association, Northeastern University

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## Senate Minutes

Student Government Association  
Northeastern University  
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**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**:

- Roll call voting records are available on request.
- They will also be posted on the website.
- 10 • We are looking for anyone who is not on a campaign to help the elections committee with dorm storming. If you have any availability once voting starts please speak to me or Senator Pesaturo after the meeting.
- I'm working with Rebecca's to make sure we have enough beverages for our next outreach event.
- If you are planning to propose a bylaw amendment they need to be submitted by tomorrow at 11:59 PM.

Northeastern University's **Faculty Senate Chair, Lou Krueger** spoke before the Senate.

- 20 Northeastern University's **Associate Director of Admissions, Kurt Heissenbuttel** spoke before the Senate.

President, Michael **Sabo**:

- You have two more days to fill out the vendor survey.
  - We have two more referenda tonight that pertain to guest sign in policy and housing.
  - Currently analyzing the lucky 11 schools board of trustees so we can create the proposal for the trustees agreement.
  - Chief of Staff **MacCormack** and I presented our annual budget request to the Finance Board last week.
- 30 Comptroller, Anthony **Golia** *yields*.

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

- This Wednesday CBA is having its winning lunch for the Intercollegiate Trace Competition.
  - There is an upcoming conference regarding ebook expansion in our library.
  - College Expectations report will be up next week.
  - If you are in CBA, have a friend, or know anyone in CBA and want to handle CBA in the area of college expectations please reach out to me.
  - Library space evaluation. If you have any ideas please let me know.
- 40 Vice President for Student Affairs, Jonas **Edwards-Jenks**:
- We had an event last Sunday by LASO which kicked off Diversity Week.
  - There is a Diversity Week event this Thursday.
  - There is Kal Penn on Friday. Please buy tickets to that.
  - I want to thank AVP **Gormley** for promoting Diversity Week last week in the quad.

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

- Last week we approved the NU History Association.
- I am currently working on the 240 process for the upcoming year.

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- This Wednesday is the March presidents' meeting. Please let your constituents know.
  - The online scheduling system is moving along. It is aimed to be rolled out sometime in April.
  - The general use Mac in 240 now has the full Adobe software suite.
  - We are currently working with 15 groups.

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

- 60
- The REIB will be visited by 5 delegates from the Republic of Georgia.
  - Administration is currently reviewing our proposal for the bike maintenance stands.
  - Hertz rental car has come up with some sort of proposal for hourly car rental for students 18 and up, so we will be looking into that.
  - The Curry Student Center vendor survey is open until 11:59pm Tuesday night. As of 330 pm we had 1223 entries.

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

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

- 70
- Thanks to everyone who helped with the outreach event.
  - My committee talked about the next outreach event for April. We want to make it bigger and want to release a survey. If you have anything you think should be on there please let me know.
  - The food vendor survey is online, please fill it out.
  - Please if you're interested in joining or donating to Relay for Life, I sent out an email about it.

Parliamentarian, Ryan **Gordon**:

- 80
- We had an OAB appeal on March 13<sup>th</sup>. Please let me know if you want to know the full decision.

Elections Chair, Taylor **Cotter**:

- There is a debate tonight at 8:30 in the indoor quad.
- There is a debate Thursday at 6 in the freshman quad.
- I have bookmarks and t-shirts that you can use to give out to friends and students.
- Voting starts Monday at 12am.
- If you're not involved in the elections process please let me know. I can help you get involved with campaigns or general elections promotion.

The **Senate** moved into Question Time.

The **Senate** moved into Old Business.

2012 Referenda Questions.

Resolution of the Student Body Supporting an Increase of Recycling Availability on Northeastern's Boston Campus.

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VP **Edwards-Jenks** *moves* for acclimation.

With no objection, the Student Body Resolution is *approved*.

Resolution of the Student Body Supporting an Opt Out Renewable Energy Fee.

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Senator **Caron** *moves* for acclimation.

Senator **Freake** *objects*.

100 Senator **Freake** feels that the renewable energy fee isn't well known, and the therefore clause contains insufficient information for people to make an informed decision.

VP **LePage** says that it isn't fair to students that are voting on this to have this little information.

Senator **Van** says he helped write it and our idea for keeping it broad was to allow for some leeway in implementation.

Senator **Freake** adds that the language as presented seems counter intuitive. It's making it easier to give money, and the language suggests the opposite.

110 Senator **Van** says opt out in the means of the opt out system currently in place for health insurance.

Senator **Cotter** *moves* for a placard vote.

By a clear majority, the referendum is approved.

Sense of the Student Body Supporting equalizing penalties between alcohol consumption and marijuana penalties in the code of conduct.

VP **Edwards-Jenks** *moves* for acclimation.

120 With no objection, the referendum is approved.

Sense of the student body to address the increasingly unaffordable cost of college by freezing the cost of college for one year.

Senator **Chandley** *moves* for acclimation.

With no objection, the referendum is approved.

VP **Edwards-Jenks** *moves* to overturn the two week rule to consider the referendum.

Senator **Caron** *seconds* the motion.

130 With no objection, the rule is overturned.

Sense of the Student Body supporting a modified guest policy for apartment style residence halls.

Question Time.

Senator **Arrington** asked if there was a reason for there not being an actual number for the increase.

Elections Chair **Cotter** says it was left intentionally vague.

Senator **Bhadra** asks if different housing types would get different types of limits. President **Sabo** says yes.

140

VP **Edwards-Jenks** asks if this would be binding. Elections Chair **Cotter** says no.

VP **Edwards-Jenks** asks if the only distinction between freshman housing and upperclassman housing is living styles? Elections Chair **Cotter** says it's apartment style vs non-apartment style. Year of study does not matter.

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Debate Time.

150 By a clear majority, the referendum is *approved*.

Sense of the Student Body supporting a clear and efficient guest policy process

Senator **Splain** *moves* to overturn the two week rule.

Senator **Caron** *seconds*.

With no objection, the rule is overturned.

Question time.

160 Senator **Van** asks what is meant by a system of guest monitoring? Elections Chair **Cotter** says it would be some sort of electronic card reading or swipe system, that wouldn't rely on humans to get access to residence halls.

Senator **Naraghi** asks what would stop a student from going in behind someone when they swipe their card. Elections Chair **Cotter** says that's why it is vague—for RSO to look at what the best option is for Northeastern. There is no set system yet.

Debate.

170 Senator **Caron** *yields to* student at large Maloney. The system at Pittsburgh swipes the card for the residents then swipes the card for the guests, so the guest is tethered to the resident. It's the same system we have now, without the need for paper.

By a clear majority, the referendum is approved.

The **Senate** moved into New Business.

Comptroller **Golia** presents IR-SP-12-101: Stipend Approval

180 The resolution will allow all stipend amounts to be set by the Senate. Additionally any increase to stipends will be approved by the Senate.

Question time

Senator **Caron** asks if the increase in stipend includes when the budget is shown to senate. Comptroller **Golia** says that would be the budget request for the following year, that would have no bearing on this.

Senator **Splain** asks if Senate may also be allowed to decrease. Comptroller **Golia** says that's not his intention, and guesses it's up to interpretation.

190 Senator **Splain** asks if his intention was to only to increase by a positive amount. Comptroller **Golia** says his intention was to address the situations as they have historically occurred.

Senator **Quijada** asks if the Senate can change what the president recommends. Comptroller **Golia** says yes.

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Senator **Petrin** asks if the Senate would have to approve it on a weekly basis? Comptroller **Golia** says SABO allocates it weekly to officers, however Senate would only allocate how much goes to each officer en masse, so no need for weekly allocations.

200 Senator **Quijada** asks when they would vote on this. Comptroller **Golia** says it currently wouldn't be voted upon until after July 1st. I wanted to leave it up to Senate. The current system doesn't allocate until July 1st. If you change it to after Finance Board makes its decision for the next year, you have a previous years senate voting on the amount of the next years senate.

VP **Edwards-Jenks** says you either have last year's senate vote on next year's stipends or you have no stipends paid out until a vote occurs? Comptroller **Golia** says the scenario described would have a smaller senate voting on it, but it doesn't necessarily mean there will be an absence of stipends. The current system has last year's eboard paid out with the first payment of this year, so assuming a vote occurs during the first week, there wouldn't be any hiccups.

210 Debate.

Senator **Quijada** *moves* to amend to say "after the Finance Board makes its decision."  
Comptroller **Golia** deems this friendly.

The **Senate** moved into Open Discussion.

Senator **O'Sullivan** says there will be an event this Thursday in the Cabral Center at 7pm about the dining hall workers telling their story. My constituents are concerned about this, so I encourage you to tell yours.

220 Senator **Petrin** says it's incredibly important with a potential Sense of the Senate coming up, it's important you get the feedback now.

Without objection, the **Chair** closed the meeting at **8:24 pm**.