

SGA Meeting Minutes
10-10-18

Attending: Treasurer Ben Zook, Co-President Nicole Litwiller, Co-President Mario Hernandez, Secretary Luke Mullet, VP of Marketing Abigail Shelly, Vice-President Paul Kayembe, Faculty Rep. Vi Dutcher, Student Life Rep. Rachel Roth Sawatzky, Justice Allen, Emma Hoover, Anisa Leonard, Donaldo Lleshi, Xavier McCants, Ruth Reimer-Berg, Allison Shelly, Austin Tomlin, Seth Weaver, Ariel Barbosa, Hannah Nichols, Leah Wenger

Absent: Emmanuel Kampanga (soccer), Administration Rep. Amy Springer

1. Call to Order at 8:04pm
2. Roll Call and Check-In
3. Approval of minutes from 10/03/18: Hannah Nichols was playing field hockey—sorry Hannah! Minutes approved.
4. Old Business and Announcements
5. New Business
 - a. Financial Committee
 - i. EMU Earthkeepers Funding Request
 1. Mim Beck, Ben Zook, and Matt Troyer are requesting **\$1,000.00** on behalf of Earthkeepers to sponsor the construction of the new sustainable (off-grid) concession stand (the construction is managed by Ben Zook as part of his honors capstone project). The money will be spent on **getting batteries (Lithium-ion, \$380 each, used batteries from the Chevy Volt), a charge controller, and an inverter for the off-grid concession stand.** Lithium-ion batteries are pricier but have the best longevity (cheaper in the long run).
 2. **Total goal to raise: \$8,000** (initially \$6,500 for materials and labor, \$1,500 for solar system—but, more is needed for the solar system). **Current funds: \$2,170 (27%).** Ben is in contact with the athletic department and the engineering company that he worked at this summer to collect additional contributions. He also is asking the carpenter to reduce his price by \$500. Ben also had an interview with WHSV to help raise awareness about the project.
 3. **The concession stand is already constructed, but the solar system is not yet built.**

Financial Committee Recommendation: The committee is in consensus and recommends to the senate to give **\$830.00** to Earthkeepers in order to increase the amount raised to \$3,000. We think that this has the potential to create the desired momentum for the final week of the fundraiser. In addition, we propose that the senate should consider giving the additional \$170.00 next week if they have insufficient funds after the fundraiser closes.

1. Discussion

- a. Paul expressed concern about setting the precedent of funding construction projects. Donaldo noted that this project will have lasting effects for years to come.

Motion (Abigail): Give EMU Earthkeepers **\$830.00** for the concession stand with the contingency of them applying for an Earthkeepers mini-grant. We will reconsider giving additional funds if Earthkeepers resubmits a funding request after we hear about the result of the mini-grant.

Justice Seconds.

Approve: 15

Against: 0

Abstaining: 1

Motion passes.

b. Art Club Constitution

- i. Haleigh Monahan is reactivating the art club. The purpose of the club is to create an artistic space for creative individuals to collaborate and receive feedback. Some short-term goals of the art club are to paint the new concession stand and the fountain. Haleigh would love to create community art projects and put on yearly galleries.

Motion (Justice): Approve the Art Club.

Leah seconds.

Approve: 16

Against: 0

Abstaining: 0

Motion passes.

c. Fred Kniss (provost of EMU)

- i. Fred came to talk about some potential upcoming changes with the academic structure of EMU.

ii. The proposed structure

1. Schools (boundaries between schools will hopefully be pretty porous)
 - a. **Science and Technology**
 - b. **Social Science/Professions**
 - c. **Theology, Arts and Humanities**
2. There will be program coordinators/directors for each school rather than chairs of each department.
3. 2 deans
 - a. Dean of faculties and dean of students

iii. Goals

1. Enhance student experience by facilitating program innovation, interdisciplinary collaboration, and enrollment growth.
2. Create school structures that are intellectually vibrant and collectively financially sustainable.

- a. These schools will hopefully increase the number of students enrolled in each class and encourage more interaction between larger groups of faculty and students.
- 3. Offer a rich menu of high-quality academic programs in sustainable ways with regard to both finances and workload.
 - a. They would like to create more of an equity of work distribution with regard to staff, faculty, and administration.
- 4. Reduce distinctions between undergraduate and graduate faculty.
 - a. Develop more 5-year programs at EMU

iv. Why?

- 1. EMU went through some pretty tough years recently. There has been some ad hoc restructuring during this time.
- 2. This model is the product of a year and half discussion and after receiving feedback and ideas from faculty, staff, administrators, and consultants over the past year.
- 3. EAB finished a year long student and confirmed that divisional structure is an effective practice (this proposed idea is a subset of the divisional structure)

v. The plan

- 1. Draft and present a rough proposal to the board of trustees in November after receiving additional feedback from students, consultants, and faculty. Then, they plan on spending the next several years in developing and implementing this new structure.

vi. Impact on undergraduates (Rachel RS)

- 1. There will be more fluidity between undergraduate and graduate programs. Students will be a part of a larger group/cohort instead of just in their individual major-silos. It allows EMU to retain small major options by sheltering them within the larger schools.

vii. There will be a time to speak with Vi and Fred about these changes in a coffee time on 12/05/18. Keep an eye out for future events for talk-back and for surveys to provide feedback.

d. Meeting next week

- i. There will be a doodle poll sent out for possible options for the SGA meeting time for next week.

6. Open Floor

7. Adjournment

Meeting ended at 9:22pm

Recorded by Luke Mullet