

SGA Meeting Minutes
8-29-18

Attending: Vice-President Paul Kayembe, Treasurer Ben Zook, Co-President Nicole Litwiller, Co-President Caleb Mario Hernandez, Secretary Luke Mullet, Faculty Rep. Vi Dutcher, Administration Rep. Amy Springer, Student Life Rep. Rachel Roth Sawatzky, Jim Smucker

Absent: VP of Marketing Abigail Shelly

1. Call to Order at 8:05pm
2. Roll Call
3. Approval of previous minutes: this is the first meeting of the year, so there are no previous minutes to approve.
4. Housekeeping and Announcements
 - a. New constitution?
 - i. We discussed the edits made to the constitution Spring 2018. The minutes from Spring 2018 were not entirely clear what exactly those changes were; however, we do know that these edits were passed by SGA. The most time-sensitive change was the official passing of the responsibility to upload the meeting minutes from secretary to VP of marketing.
 - ii. Jim said that the constitutional amendments did pass the president's cabinet.
 - iii. The constitution needs to be updated on the website.
 - b. Running future meetings and Robert's Rules
 - i. Nicole and Mario intend to keep the meetings be relatively informal to encourage as much participation as possible (only using raised hands if a conversation gets heated or controversial). Amy noted that it will be important to inform the senate of which Co-president is leading each meeting (helps people know who to direct their questions to).
 - c. Senate Petitions, Elections, and Retreat
 - i. Election—Monday 9/17/18.
 - ii. Retreat—Sunday 9/23/18
 1. This will be more of a get-to-know-you event.
 2. Executives will be involved in role-playing to demonstrate how Robert's Rules pan out in meetings.
 - iii. First meeting—9/26/18
 - d. Weather Vane editors
 - i. Editors for The Weather Vane were approved (Rachel Brenneman and Erin Beidler).
 - e. Meetings before the elections
 - i. SGA's constitution allows SGA to meet before the senate is elected, so we will be meeting earlier this year. Rachel noted that there should be a clear way to catch senators up to speed after the elections.
5. New Business
 - a. Destiny's Daughters Club Approval Discussion

- i. Destiny's Daughters is a pending club. Here is their purpose statement:
Destiny's Daughters is a Therapeutic Spiritual Mentoring Program dedicated to the personal transformation, holistic development and self-empowerment of young women and girls. Members of Destiny's Daughters will become equipped to address social disparities, develop into servant leaders and build resilient communities as they engage in spiritual formation, restorative practices and community advocacy.
- ii. Vi noted that their constitution seemed complete. Rachel said that there is no club like this on EMU's campus; it is unique but also inclusive.

Motion (Luke): Approve the Destiny's Daughters as an official EMU club.

Ben seconds.

Approve: 3

Against: 0

Abstaining: 0

Motion passes.

b. Opinion Board

- i. We hope to renovate the poster wall right inside Lehman. One long-term idea would be to replace that board with some form of screen to provide updates or other visual material. Another idea is to have SGA petitions near that board.
- ii. Jim said that we certainly could put some sort of screen in that spot.
- iii. Next steps would be to contact Ed Lehman and Jason Alderfer (tech suggestions). Paul will work on contacting these two and keep this project moving.

c. Subcommittees

- i. We are adding an additional role for the vice president to oversee the SGA subcommittees.
- ii. Subcommittee ideas: forums, spirit, podcast, food, opinion board

d. Changes to SGA office hours

- i. Many past SGA senators felt that the old office hours were ineffective. So, Nicole and Mario have been working on obtaining SGA shirts. Senators will be asked to attend, on average, one event per week while wearing their SGA shirts.
- ii. This will be less formal and a great way to keep senators involved and present on campus. SGA will do weekly check-ins about senator's experiences at events.
- iii. Executives will still have more formal office hours in CG or the Den.
- iv. Student programs emails could include the SGA senators that will be attending specific events.

e. S.I.E.F. The Student Initiated Endowment Fund

- i. Mario discussed the fact that S.I.E.F. has been off SGA's radar for the past couple of years. SGA used to do fundraising to assist this fund. Jim noted

that having Kirk Shisler or Brayden Hoover to come talk about this fund would be helpful. Nicole noted that this topic is on Susan's mind as well. Mario and Nicole will schedule a meeting with Michelle Kinsley.

6. Open Floor

- a. There is a new police chief in town. Jim has met him—apparently, he was very involved in the universities at his last police job. The chief would like to come to EMU's campus to talk about the HPD, restorative justice, tensions between police and people of color, and other subjects. Jim thinks that it would be a positive thing to get closer to the HPD. Nicole suggested that we have a Questions After Dark event. Rachel will run this idea by USO to gauge student interest in this event.

7. Adjournment

Meeting ended at 9:03pm

Recorded by Luke Mullet