

SGA Meeting Minutes
01-16-19

Attending: Treasurer Ben Zook, Co-President Nicole Litwiller, Co-President Mario Hernandez, Secretary Luke Mullet, VP of Marketing Abigail Shelly, Vice-President Paul Kayembe, Administration Rep. Amy Springer, Faculty Rep. Vi Dutcher, Student Life Rep. Rachel Roth Sawatzky, Austin Tomlin, Leah Wenger, Emma Hoover, Seth Weaver, Asha Beck, Theo Yoder, Sylvia Mast, Hannah Nichols, Justice Allen, Ariel Barbosa

Absent: Xavier McCants, Donaldo Lleshi, Emmanuel Kampanga, Fred Flores

1. Call to Order at 8:02pm
2. Roll Call and Check-In
3. Approval of minutes from 12/05/18: Minutes approved.
4. Old Business and Announcements
 - a. President's Evaluation Summary and intentions for the semester
 - i. Nicole and Mario would like to improve our time management during meetings.
 - ii. They also want to be more transparent and intentional about sharing what is discussed and decided in SGA.
 - b. Vi Dutcher and Fred Kniss are having weekly lunches to talk about EMU's academic restructuring. Check the emails sent out for details. If you are interested in learning more about the change, go to these talks.
 - c. Get in touch with your committee contacts!
5. New Business
 - a. Celeste Thomas presented about MLK day (next Monday, 01/21/19).
 - i. There are so many things going on this weekend and Monday. Check the emails being sent out by Celeste for all of the details.
 - ii. Several SGA members signed up to do service at VMRC.
 - b. Scott Eyre is requesting **\$2,000** on behalf of Safe Space to bring the Theater of the Beat to campus.
 - i. Theater of the Beat is a nonprofit charity that does plays around social justice topics. They are based in Canada, so getting the funding is time sensitive as there is paperwork to be done.
 - ii. The play they will be presenting is This Will Lead to Dancing. This play is about the topic of LGBTQ+ inclusion in the church (the Mennonite one, in particular). They believe that theater and arts are a way to do peacemaking.
 - iii. This play will be free for students.
 - iv. Why is this important to EMU students?
 1. Scott believes that bringing a play like this is a statement to the LGBTQ+ individuals that "we see you." It tells the story of young people struggling to fit their faith with this topic.
 2. "It creates space for this conversation to happen."
 - v. BSU, Safe Space, and CODI have endorsed this event.
 - vi. The play will take place during the 04/03/19 convocation.

vii. Discussion

1. Sylvia suggested that we encourage Scott to look for other organizations or EMU administration to endorse and support the event.
2. Abigail thinks that this is a good juxtaposition to the N.T. Wright event.
3. Emma noted that it is a different than a usual convocation. It hopefully would bring more students into the space.
- 4.

Motion (Justice): Grant Safe Space **\$1,000** to bring the Theater of the Beat to campus with the suggestion that Scott return to request more if absolutely needed.

Leah seconds.

--there was some concern about \$1,000 being too large of a sum.

Amended Motion (Abigail): Grant Safe Space **\$500** to bring the Theater of the Beat to campus. In addition, we also are going to write an email to the President's office requesting that they support this project financially. Lastly, we suggest that Scott returns to request more money if absolutely needed.

Leah seconds

Approve: 12

Against: 0

Abstaining: 1

Motion passes.

6. Open Floor

- a. Vi said that on Tuesday, faculty will be discussing the academic honesty policy in the context of restorative justice. If you have any suggestions or thoughts on this, contact Vi.
- b. Justice went to the institutional review board meeting last semester.

7. Adjournment

Meeting ended at 9:16pm
Recorded by Luke Mullet