

## SGA Meeting Minutes

9/23/2020

**Attending:** Co-President Anisa Leonard, Co-President Allison Shelly, Co-President Justice Allen, Vice President Theo Yoder, Treasurer Hannah Nichols, VP of Marketing Asha Beck, Secretary Tahj'ae Coleman, Student Life Rep. Rachel Roth Sawatsky, Student Life Rep. Shannon Dycus, Faculty Rep. Matthew Siderhurst, Akiel Baker, Ani Beitzel, Alyssa Breidigan, Cindi Boyer, Shannon Cooper, Elizabeth Hoffman, Phillip Krabill, Coleman Maxwell, Adam Peachey, Molly Piwonka, Ruth Reimer-Berg, Sophia Sherrill

**Absent:** Administrative Rep. Amy Springer Hartsell, Isaac Andreas

1. Call to Order at 8:01
2. Roll Call and Check-In
3. Approval of minutes: None to approve.
4. Announcements
  - a. Welcome Amy, Matt, Shannon and Rachel
  - b. Popped corn around to introduce everyone to the staff that will be at SGA meetings
5. Old Business
  - a. Questions about subcommittees?
    - i. There were no questions
  - b. Theo Yoder on Voter Registration update.
    - i. Theo worked with Young Democrats and College Republicans with voting registration.
      1. Must be trained to help register people to vote, requires watching a video
      2. Look for senators who will be interested in helping out
      3. Voter deadline is on the 13th
      4. A instructional zoom meeting will be held, he will update us on when this will be happening
      5. Theo will email link to video for anyone who is interested in helping
6. New Business
  - a. Guest Speaker: Shannon Dycus
    - i. Shanon discussed what she talked about at the USO meeting, being in SGA means being leaders at EMU
      1. Will give SGA information to share with the rest of student body
      2. Keeping updated with COVID, and how we can be safe. Testing is increasing; got more resources to speed up results. EMU has a strong COVID testing team
      3. Speak up if you are feeling unwell, do not view quarantine as "jail" but caring for yourself and others
      4. Finding ways to discuss our differences and expectations we are looking for as a community
      5. The cabinet decided on pushing the semester back and removing spring break, and incorporating breathing days
    - ii. Senate Q & A time
      1. Will people who are in quarantine be retested?
        - a. Answer: around day 5, students will be retested

2. Any way resident life can reach out to people who are quarantined with answers and updates?
    - a. Answer: Shannon will find a way for people in quarantine to be connected with updates more
  3. Clarification on Academic Calendar schedule?
    - a. January 18 will start the semester
    - b. Already established reading days towards the middle and end of the semester
  4. What were EMU's expectations with handling Covid this year?
    - a. Answer: students are complying with wearing a mask and no guest in rooms, there are a few issues with eating, a couple of students were visiting each other.
  5. Finding ways to make more social events so people do not feel the need to break rules to socialize with friends?
    - a. Students were worried about participating in school events or socializing because of the strict rules
    - b. Answer: Shannon realizes this can be viewed as a fear factor rather than a boundary, finding ways to change students mindset towards the new rules
  6. Are faculty concerned with in person classes?
    - a. Answer: Ask faculty how they are doing in their personal life; it is helpful when students take time to wipe down tables and take care of themselves.
  7. Are students required to pack up their belongings at the end of fall semester?
    - a. Answer: Students are not required to pack their belongings; will share information on what they think students should pack when they are heading home
  8. Anxiety, depression, and other struggles is hiding the student body, but faculty and staff reaching out to students is very helpful.
    - a. Remember to prioritize your mental health
- b.
- c. Guest Speaker: JD Richardson
- i. BSA Mural
    1. The mural came up in conversation when the BSA Barbershop was turned into a covid testing center. They started planning over the summer and painted for Thursday-Monday.
    2. BSA is worried about people who disagree with the mural; people messing with the mural. The mural sought to acknowledge what it is going on today in our world, and that work needs to be done in this world. Starting that work at EMU; removing negative notations towards BLM and that BSA is constantly participating in this fight for change
  - ii. BSA events
    1. Creating anti-racism training

2. BSA is starting a podcast, for students to understand what it is like to be a black student attending a PWI school.
3. BSA may request money for the mural, worried that if they request money they will lose ownership of the mural.
4. BSA may request money for the BSA podcast.

iii. BSA Meetings

1. Anyone is welcome to attend BSA meetings on Thursday night @ 6
2. Wants to train EMU students to be social justice warriors in their future careers

7. Open Floor

- a. When asking about guest speakers keep in mind speakers who could work towards pushing your platform
- b. Bookstore Committee
  - i. How the book store competes with other companies, and how will the book store be run this year?
    1. Justice will send out a email or create a chat to discuss this topic
    2. Students really enjoy the clothes in the book store

B. Theo will be sending out google forms for student feedback

Meeting ended at 9:04pm

Recorded by Tahj'ae Coleman