

Minutes of the Hofstra Student Government Association
November 7, 2006
Green House, Student Center

STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION GENERAL MEETING #11

I. The meeting is called to order at 6:11 PM by Vice President R. Akiyama

II. Quorum Call

- A. There is quorum.
- B. Absent
 - 1. Kathleen Hunker (on sabbatical)
 - 2. Rachel Pererci
 - 3. Maria Ramos
 - 4. Evan Gottlieb
 - 5. Nathan Yadgar (excused)
 - 6. Justin Meyers
 - 7. Amanda Stevens

C. Delegates Present

- 1. Akeem Mellis
- 2. Michael Brandt

III. Passing General Senate Meeting Minutes and Cabinet Minutes

A. Executive Session Minutes

- 1. Executive Session Minutes must be passed in Executive Session.
- 2. Senator K. Legnetti moves to go into Executive Session; it is seconded and passed.
- 3. The Senate moves into Executive Session at 6:16 PM.
- 4. Executive Session is closed at 6:29 PM; the Executive Session minutes have passed.

B. General Senate Meeting Minutes and Cabinet Minutes

- 1. RSA Rep. T. Kim moves to amend "Tammi" to "Tammy" in the General Senate Meeting Minutes.
- 2. Rules Chair L. Giunta moves to vote on all the minutes that were tabled at October 31's meeting as a block; it is seconded.
- 3. Academic Affairs Chair C. Kayel moves to amend "Piece" to "Peace" in the Cabinet minutes.
- 4. Senator R. Doublebower moves to amend "Robin" from "visiting" to "member."
- 5. There is vote on the committee minutes tabled on October 31; the minutes pass.
- 6. Senator C. Martin moves to pass the General Senate Meeting Minutes with RSA Rep. T. Kim's amendment; it is seconded and the Senate minutes pass.
Passing General Senate minutes
- 7. Rules Chair L. Giunta moves to amend everything under her name in the Cabinet minutes other than the Business clubs and have it placed under President P. DiSilvio's report.
- 8. Senator C. Martin moves to fix the spelling of "November" in the Cabinet minutes.
- 9. Senator K. Tompkins states that there is a discrepancy between the numbers in the cabinet minutes and the numbers in the appropriations minutes.
- 10. It is moved to pass the Cabinet minutes with these amendments and seconded; the Cabinet minutes pass.

IV. Lackman

- A. Rules Chair L. Giunta moves to Suspend the Rules to speak with Eisa from Lackman; it is seconded.
 - 1. Senator C. Martin speaks against the motion.
 - 2. A vote commences; 28 in favor, 7 against, and 1 abstains.
 - 3. The motion passes and the Senate hears from Eisa.

B. Senator M. Micucci

- 1. Speaks about concern over prices, especially in comparison to other universities.

- a. Eisa states that students must look at a variety of different aspects when comparing prices, such as if students are required to have a meal plan, how long their facilities are offered, etc.
 - b. Also, states that the increase of prices is selective and caused by inflation; there was a 1.8% average increase last year in food prices at Hofstra.
- C. Senator C. Martin
 - 1. Happy about the survey Lackman is doing.
 - 2. Would like more organic food options.
 - 3. Asks if students who have a meal plan are tax exempt; Eisa states that they are.
 - 4. States that the Organic Grill and Bits and Bytes have very long lines during certain parts of the day.
 - a. Eisa states that it is hard during peak times, but they have recently added new scanner and registers.
 - b. However, there is limited space where the food can be made in these locations.
 - 5. Asks for new grills; Eisa states he will look into it.
- D. Senator A. Kowal
 - 1. Asks about the reason there is a freshman mandated meal plan.
 - a. This meal plan is mandated by Hofstra as to ensure that freshman have a guaranteed way to eat.
 - 2. Asks about having a traditional meal plan where students swipe in and they have a selection to choose from.
 - a. Eisa states that the system now allows students to have more freedom to choose what they eat, but that Lackman is looking into a combination of the two.
- E. Academic Affairs Chair C. Kayel
 - 1. Reiterates the reasons behind a freshman mandatory meal plan.
 - 2. States that the Library café as well as the ice cream bar shut down early.
 - 3. Suggests that Lackman change the specials regularly or rotate them by semester.
 - a. Eisa states that Lackman is looking into such diversity, but that it is difficult as the stations in the main student cafeteria are fixed.
 - b. Will look into adding another person at the Sushi bar, as that is a popular station.
 - c. Also, may try and use the station that makes omelets in the morning for specials at night.
 - d. However, there are different specials at each station, as well.
 - 4. Asks when the ice cream bar will be permanent.
 - a. Lackman is working on it and hopes it will be up in a couple weeks; would like it to be opened late, like Sbarro's.
 - b. Also, Student Services Chair A. Schwartz and her committee are currently coming up with a name for the ice cream parlor.
- D. Senator R. Doublebower
 - 1. Has noticed discrepancies in prices within campus for the same item.
 - a. Eisa states they should be the same and finds this very surprising; however, states that coffee will have different prices as they are made of different blends.
 - 2. States that the Student Center closes too early on Saturday and Sunday.
- E. OCS Rep. P. McDonald
 - 1. Asks Eisa about Lackman's future ideas and concepts.
 - a. Lackman plans to renovate the Netherlands.
 - b. Looking to take Sbarro's out and replace it, perhaps with a Quizno's.
 - c. Would like an organic area, but there is limited room; looking for more space.
 - b. Working on renovating the dining area of the Student Center.
- F. RSA Rep. T. Kim
 - 1. Suggests having a survey on Lackman on the Internet.
 - a. Eisa states that there is already a dining website feedback page on Hofstra.
 - 2. Asks about changing up the pizza selection at Sbarro's.
 - a. Lackman would like to either change the pizzas, or replace it altogether
 - 3. States that she has received poor customer service at Dutch Debits, but good service at Bits and Bytes.

- a. Eisa will look into it.
- G. Senator E. Emmerling
 - 1. States that often she will be ignored while waiting to be served until a line forms behind her.
 - a. Eisa states that it might be a change-over problem.
 - 2. Asks about changing the change-over times, specifically that lunch begins so early at ten o'clock.
 - a. Eisa will look into changing the change-over times.
 - 3. Asks about the produce.
 - a. Eisa states that all produce is fresh, being collected daily at five o'clock every morning.
- H. Rules Chair L. Giunta
 - 1. Asks about Catering Services online, specifically if clubs can use it.
 - a. Eisa states that clubs can use it, but to make a note that they are a club so they receive the club discount.
 - b. The express menu will also be online soon.
 - 2. Suggests Moe's to replace Sbarro's.
 - a. Lackman will have a survey to see what replaces Sbarro's.
- I. Senator L. Carroll
 - 1. Comments on the good service of Lackman.
- J. Senator C. Cruz
 - 1. States that the service at Bits and Bytes and the Netherlands is good, but the Café in Breslin has poor service.
 - a. Senator C. Martin states that all the Lackman employees are nice as long as they are treated respectfully.
 - b. Rules Chair L. Giunta states that the service at Breslin is good.
 - 2. Would like Moe's.
- K. Senator Y. Lee
 - 1. Commends the service at the deli.
 - 2. States that the night service at the Student Center is not as good.
 - 1. Eisa states that Lackman employees go through customer service training in January as well as other training, such as in health.
 - 3. States that there was a roach near the salad bar.
 - 1. Eisa apologizes
 - 2. States that Hofstra has an exterminator, but that it is a big building.
- L. Comptroller J. Napoli
 - 1. Thanks Eisa for coming.
 - 2. States that the food service of Lackman is acclaimed throughout the East coast; only some changes are needed.
 - 3. States that Lackman is very diverse and better than most campuses.
 - a. Eisa states that students can always contact him through email or phone, which can be given to them by Student Services Chair A. Schwartz.

V. Clubs

- A. Club Affairs Chair J. Lanier moves to suspend the rules to hear from new clubs.
 - 1. OCS Rep. P. McDonald and Senator J. Berry speak against the motion.
 - 2. Senator C. Cruz and Rules Chair L. Giunta speak for the motion.
 - 3. Rules Chair L. Giunta moves to vote on the motion; it is seconded.
 - 4. 18 in favor, 10 against, 5 abstain; a vote on the motion will now proceed.
 - 5. 18 in favor, 10 against, 5 abstain; the motion passes.
- B. Monarchist Society
 - 1. Rules Chair L. Giunta passes the floor to OCS Rep. P. McDonald; he speaks on behalf of the Monarchist Society.
 - 2. Senator M. Micucci asks what the club will do.
 - a. OCS Rep. P. McDonald states that it will be an open forum discussion of ideas, treatises, policies, etc.
 - 3. Academic Affairs Chair C. Kayel asks if the club plans to have trip to different European

Countries.

- a. OCS Rep. P. McDonald states that the club may plan a trip to Hawaii, which was once a monarchy.
 3. Senator A. Kowal asks about the officers.
 - a. OCS Rep. P. McDonald states that all offices have been given proper titles.
 4. Senator C. Martin moves to vote; it is seconded and a vote commences.
 5. 16 in favor, 10 against, and 9 abstain; the Monarchist Society passes.
- C. Rube-Goldberg
1. This is a reactivation of the Rube-Goldberg club.
 2. Senator L. Giunta moves to open the gallery; it is seconded and passed.
 3. The Rube-Goldberg club speaks on behalf of their club.
 4. Senator C. Martin and Senator L. Young support this club,
 5. Rules Chair L. Giunta moves to close the gallery and a vote commences.
 6. The Rube-Goldberg Club is reactivated.

VI. Special Business

A. Swearing in of New Senators

1. Delegate Akeem Mellis speaks for himself.
2. Michael Brandt speaks for himself.
3. The delegates leave.
4. Senator J. Berry asks how many senators there are currently; there are currently 54 senators.
5. Senator L. Giunta moves to vote as a block, it is seconded.
 - a. OCS Rep. P. McDonald and Senator R. Doublebower speaks against this motion.
 - b. A vote commences; 13 are in favor, 15 against, and 2 abstain. The motion fails.
6. Senator C. Martin moves to vote, seconded.
7. Rules Chair L. Giunta, Student Services Chair A. Schwartz, and Senators K. Legnetti, J. Emerson and B. Weitzberg speak for Akeem Mellis.
8. A vote on Akeem Mellis commences.
9. Rules Chair L. Giunta and Senator A. Kowal speak in favor of Michael Brandt.
10. A vote on Michael Brandt commences.
11. 32 vote in favor, 1 against, and 0 abstain in regard to Akeem Mellis
12. 29 vote in favor, 2 against, and 0 abstain in regard to Michael Brandt.
13. Both Senators are elected in.
14. Chief Justice L. Ramdeen swears in the new senators.

VII. Appropriations Minutes

- A. Senator C. Martin moves to suspend the rules to address the Appropriations Minutes; it is seconded and passed.
- B. The appropriations minutes are reviewed.
 1. Senator C. Cruz asks about Club Soccer.
 - a. Senator N. Shokrianpour explains.
 2. Senator K. Legnetti moves to pass; it is seconded and the Appropriations minutes pass.

VIII. Legislation

- A. Senator J. Emerson moves to suspend the rules and vote on the proposals; it is seconded.
 1. 13 in favor, 8 against, 4 abstain; the motion passes.
- B. Election Rules
 1. Rules Chair L. Giunta speaks on behalf of the Election Rules; asks if there are any amendments.
 2. OCS Rep. P. McDonald moves to table the Election Rules and defer them to the Election's Commission so they can review them; it is seconded.
 3. Senator A. Kowal asks when the Election Commission can meet.
 - a. Rules Chair L. Giunta states that they will not be able to meet until January at the earliest.
 4. Senator L. Gasiorowski asks who in the Election Commission has already reviewed the rules.
 - a. Rules Chair L. Giunta states that Senators K. Hunker and M. Fields-Hall, Spirit Chair

- S. Rozakis, Secretary L. Giunta, and herself have all looked at it.
 - b. OCS Rep. P. McDonald asks if they only looked at it, or if they actually made it.
 - c. Rules Chair L. Giunta states that they were made from the rules set up in the last two years' elections, and were created by herself and Senator K. Hunker, the Vice Chair of the Election Commission. It has also gone through Cabinet and Rules before Senate.
- 5. Senator E. Emmerling asks if the Election Commission wanted to have set rules.
 - a. Rules Chair L. Giunta states there was a consensus, and the Chair and Vice Chair as well as Cabinet agreed.
- 6. Senator C. Martin and Academic Affairs Chair Kayel speaks against OCS Rep. P. McDonald's motion.
- 7. There is a move to vote on the motion; it is seconded.
- 8. 9 in favor, 15 against, and 4 abstain; the motion to table and defer the Election Rules fails.
- 9. Senator A. Harwani asks for a quorum call; there is no longer quorum.
- 10. OCS Rep. P. McDonald moves to table all legislation; it is seconded and passed.

IX. Reports of the Executive Board

A. President P. DiSilvio

- 1. Commends Public Relations Chair S. Kaplan for the retreat.
- 2. The email list of senators is almost complete.
- 3. Asks for the names of all those who need card swipe access to the office.
- 4. Speaks about Decorum
- 5. Commends Senator C. Amoroso for compiling the contact information for clubs that are active; now needs the information of deactive clubs.
- 6. Discusses Senator K. Tompkins task force on getting grants with Alan Kelly.
- 7. Discusses task force on Parliamentary Procedure with Vice President R. Akiyama, OCS Rep. P. McDonald, and Associate Justice S. Harris. It will be due December 1.
- 8. Will have a meeting with all the students in the University Senate.
- 9. Working on a survey or consensus with Rules Chair L. Giunta on how different organizations and people are doing, such as SGA, OSA, President P. DiSilvio, Pamela Orefice, Anita Ellis, etc.
- 10. Assigning three clubs for each senator to contact on a weekly basis to see their concerns.

B. Vice President R. Akiyama

- 1. The master binder is done; it, along with the other boxes of binders, must be taken to the print department.
- 2. Asks senators to sign up for the Blue and Gold initiative if they want an active role in it.
 - a. Would like to have Focus Groups toward Thanksgiving while starting to have meetings in the Spring Semester.

C. Comptroller J. Napoli

- 1. Asks for Appropriations Chair A. Sanchez to read his monthly report at next week's meeting.
- 2. Officially resigns from Comptroller and Senate (we'll miss you, Joe!)
- 3. Next week there will be an official election for Comptroller; supports Senator K. Tompkins for the position.

D. Secretary L. Giunta

- 1. Thanks Senator J. Berry for always helping her out with the minutes.

X. Reports of the Cabinet

A. Academic Affairs Chair C. Kayel

- 1. Goes over Academic Affairs Minutes.
- 2. States that Erin McDowell was excused for the Academic Affairs meeting.
- 3. Co-sponsoring Afroconomy.
- 4. Senator C. Martin asks about withdrawing and dropping classes; Academic Affairs Chair C. Kayel explains.
- 5. Discusses the binder that evaluates courses and professors.
 - a. Senator C. Martin suggests to have teacher and course evaluations on blackboard.

B. Club Affairs Chair J. Lanier

- 1. Goes over minutes.

2. Senator C. Martin asks who will clean the coffeemaker.
 - a. He will either delegate the responsibility or will do it himself.
 3. Senator C. Martin thanks Senator L. Young for the biscotti.
- C. Student Services Chair A. Schwartz
1. Asks for senators to bring in any holiday music they have to be played at Sinterklaas.
 2. Asks for everyone to write down the name they would like for the ice-cream parlor and hand it in to Student Services Chair A. Schwartz.
 3. Senator M. Micucci asks about getting the elevators fixed quicker.
 - a. Senator C. Amoroso states that students can call Public Safety.
 - b. Rules Chair L. Giunta states that there are records on the elevators.
 - c. Senator M. Micucci states that the elevators have dropped a floor or floors.
 - d. RSA Rep. T. Kim states that Public Safety and Res. Life are aware of the problem.
 4. Senator L. Carroll states that senators can read the minutes and therefore the chairs need not go into detail.
 5. Secretary L. Giunta asks if the SGA will be having its own tree for Sinterklaas.
 - a. Student Services Chair A. Schwartz states that SGA will have a tree.
 6. Rules Chair L. Giunta notes that Dance Works is not active.
- D. Rules Chair L. Giunta
1. Goes over minutes and monthly report.
 2. The next Rules meeting will hold a legislation making workshop at 7:00 PM; handouts will be given out.
 3. Ethics and Conduct Chair A. Stevens has resigned from her position, but is still a senator.
 4. Rules Chair L. Giunta will serve as the Ethics and Conduct Chair until one is appointed.
 5. Reinstatements will occur next week.
 6. Deactive clubs have until the end of the semester to be reactivated; if not, they will be defunct. If they become defunct, they cannot be activated until Fall 2007, but their funds will be returned to Appropriations.

XI. First-Year Task Force

- A. Senator C. Martin tables the First-Year Task Force.

XII. For the Good of the Order

- A. Senator K. Legnetti states that it is rude and disrespectful for senators to speak while others are speaking.
- B. Secretary L. Giunta asks about the President, Vice President, or Comptroller being able to order supplies, as the order for the coffeemaker was put in on Wednesday, November 1, and has yet to arrive.
- C. OCS Rep. P. McDonald asks senate to try to be more organized and follow the agenda as well as to refocus on committees.
- D. Senator C. Martin states the conversation with Eisa should not have taken so long and senators should try not to repeat themselves; also states that the Cabinet reports should be limited.
- E. Senator C. Martin states that decorum also refers to the gallery.
- F. Senator C. Martin states that senators should try not to suspend the rules and that senate should be able to keep quorum or change the order of the agenda.
- G. Senator L. Giunta states that she would like to work on positive projects, such as Memorial Hall, and asks people to contact her if they are interested in lobbying.

XIII. Announcements

- A. Circle K will be having a Tie-dye for Darfur event on Thursday.
- B. OCS Rep. P. McDonald states that all those interested in being on the parliamentary committee to contact either him or Vice President R. Akiyama.
- C. RSA Rep. T. Kim tells people to participate in the Princeton Survey.
- D. Rules Chair L. Giunta states that there is an Election Party going on right now in the Multipurpose room.

XIV. Adjourn

- A. Senator E. Emmerling moves to adjourn; the motion is seconded.

B. Senate is adjourned at 9:06 PM.

Respectfully Submitted

Laura Giunta
Recording Secretary for the Hofstra Student Government Association