



2-7-2024
5:30-7:00
Great Room

Minutes

- I. Welcome**
- II. Roll Call Attendance**
- III. Approval of Agenda**
- IV. Approval of Minutes**
- V. Constituency Comments**
- VI. Committee Report**
 - A. Standards**
 - Standards has two bylaw votes coming up today
 - Shoutout to Standards for always doing an incredible job as always!
 - B. Finance**
 - Finance met with Young Poets Society (who we approved last week) and they clarified a few things about catering because they want to have some food at their first meeting
 - We have a Finance Manual Vote happening later today.
 - Finance was also discussing the permanent organization process, and was thinking about rethinking the committee of faculty and staff who oversee this committee
 - C. Campus Engagement**
 - Yoga event this Sunday and it is now going to be a partnership with SASA as well!!!!

- PLEASE SIGN UP FOR TABLING AND WORKING THE EVENT
- Campus Engagement had some discussion about campus outreach projects, and one thing we are looking into is redesigning the bulletin board potentially
- We also met with a potential new club but it is still in the works so more information will be brought up as it is relevant.
- Also a big shoutout to the new members of the Committee for the hard work and coming in with a lot of passion and ideas.
- We have Model UN coming in for Club approval today!

D. DEI&B

- DEI&B started talking about potential topics for training, and our February training is the 21st.
- During our February training, we will be talking about addressing implicit biases
- Right after GA tonight is the MAC Drag Show! Shoutout to Theo for being the SGA liaison for this event. There is a show, Q&A and it is going to be a really fun time!

E. Institutional Committees

F. AD-HOCs

- The reception for the Commuter Lounge is this Friday from 2-4pm and the Lounge is the Taylor Basement!

G. Recording Secretary

- The Ambassador program connects SGA representatives with clubs on campus and we are excited for this to continue so please stay tuned.

- As always please let your committee head know if you are going to be absent from a meeting and let Noah and Jake know for GA.

H. Director of Communications

- Margery posted a few things, and a few more things are in the work
- Follow @bergstudentgov

I. President

- All the senior are assigned to sub-committees for the upcoming election so seniors should stay tuned for those committee heads to reach out soon.
- Andrew and Jake met with the Board of Trustees and it was great!
- Jake did New Member training with the new members.
- Next week, we are having the town hall with VOS and they are doing a presentation on healthy relationships.
- Jake has been communicating with Provost Furge about a new program “Take your Faculty Member to Lunch.”
- For the SGA award, Jake has unofficially selected Tim Black as the nominee so if anyone has strong contestation against that please speak up by this evening.
- Jake has noticed people taking snacks and just leaving. Please be cognizant of snacks. They are for you to take but you should not be taking snacks for a personal stash or over taking at the time. Thank you.

VII. New Business

A. Model UN Club Approval

- Model UN has an E-Board of 6 members including President, Vice President Secretary, Head of Social Media, Treasure
- Their goal is to create a realistic learning environment in order to allow members of our community to gain understanding about the inner workings of the United Nations and global policies and our relationships to these systems.
- Model UN would plan to do events like movie nights and mock committees
- They are interested in hopefully touring the UN building in NYC
- They do not currently have any anticipated expenses however they would plan to get some food at some of their larger events.
Additionally if they wanted to travel to the UN building they would look for financial assistance in that as well.
- Their average meeting would be weekly and ideally Thursdays at 7. In these meetings, they want to go over what Model United Nations is, as well as having movie nights and other fun engaging events
- Typically, an average meeting would involve some form of learning
- There is a gap in knowledge on this campus when it comes to engaging from a global perspective, specifically the entire international system related to diplomacy
- High schools and colleges around the world participate in Model UN and it is continuing to spark interest around the world.
- What does their interest look like outside of E-Board? They have reached out to campus department heads to send out to students in the department, and many people have already expressed interest
- Many collegiate branches hold conferences for high schools and local schools and the Muhlenberg Model UN is interesting having

conferences in the future. With this in mind, they would only need food as well as some rooms to host the events in

- The vote: **PASSES**

B. Finance Manual Vote - aligning with college's DEI&B statement

- Finance wanted to change up the guiding principles to focus on DEI&B initiatives when we are having finance votes
- The previous statement read: "Supports community development"
- The new statement will read: "Aligns with Muhlenberg's College's Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Belonging Statements."
- **VOTE PASSES**

C. Bylaw Vote - Writing Town Halls into the Bylaws

- This bylaw vote is essentially making town hall a permanent event of SGA overall. The proposal would add into SGA Bylaws that SGA would hold a Town Hall meeting once a semester.
- It would read "At least once per semester, the SGA must hold a town hall meeting open to the entire Muhlenberg community in order to inform them of the current work being done by SGA. Every committee, permanent organization, and executive board member must give an update. This may be held in lieu of a regular General Assembly meeting."
- Permanent organizations are clubs that receive a set budget from SGA at the beginning of year. Some examples are The Weekly, Hillel, EMS, SGA. Every two years permanent organization are reviewed
- In terms of reporting, it would function the same way as we have been doing in the past, including reports from the President, Director of Communications, and Recording Secretary.

- While the Town Halls have been a great way to talk about what we are doing, the attendance has not been the strongest this year.
- Attendance may have been a little low due to the fact that it has been just SGA, but when we branch out to campus more it would increase attendees
- While the student turnout has not been the largest, the admin turnout has been large. By including town halls during the semester, it would increase the transparency between SGA and permanent organization
- Having town halls can be a way to increase engagement and involvement amongst the student body

D. Bylaw Vote - Making permanent organizations send a student rep to town halls

- We are not officially putting permanent organizations into the bylaws, and this is a entirely new article in the bylaws, specifically Article No. 14
- 14.1.1 states “The formation, oversight, and allocation of all funds for permanent organization is under the purview of the Finance Committee
- 14.2.2 states “All permanent organizations, at least once per academic year, must attend a town hall meeting to share the current work of their organization and how they have been using the funds allocated to them by SGA. At least one member must be sent to the meeting. If the organization is not able to attend the town hall meeting, they may coordinate with the VP to find an alternative time to share
- 14.1.3 states “Permanent organizations should share at the town hall in the semester during which the current executive’s board term will

end. For example, if there will be change to the executive board in the Spring semester, the permanent organization should share at the fall town hall meeting

- Permanent organizations come to SGA every two years to ask for permanent organization status, but it could change every two years, given how many we approve in that cycle.
- Towards the end of the Spring semester, we will be dedicating two GA meetings to primarily permanent organization voting
- If a permanent organization has an executive board that changes on a per semester basis, would it be required for that permanent organization to present at a town hall meeting in the Fall and Spring?
MTA and Hillel has some board changeover every semester
- If a permanent organization is changing executive board is having consistent leadership change, it would be helpful to have some sort of an update about what the permanent organization is on doing
- If a board is newly elected, how much would they have to report on if it is so early into the semester?
- If we want to keep up the partnership with organizations such as VOS, it would be helpful to have all permanent organizations come in, but there could be issues with timing
- Permanent Organizations create a budget at the beginning of the academic year, but the budget allocation committee meets each semester to determine official funding for permanent organizations specifically.

E. Semester Goals Conversation/Brainstorming Session

- A few week ago, we talked about our semester goals and we are going to break off into groups to discuss them for the last thirty minutes

VIII. Adjournment