

Student Government Association of Sterling College
General Assembly Meeting Minutes— Wednesday, March 7, 2007
9:00 p.m. – Cooper Hall Presentation Lab

- I. Call to Order – Karin Lederle, President

- II. Prayer and Devotion – Michael Zier, V.P. of Spiritual Formation
 - a. Isaiah 58
 - b. Are you celebrating Lent? Why are we fasting? “If creation took just 6 days, why does recreation take so long?” Sacrifice is not easy, but God loves us to redirect our thoughts to loving and serving others.... How can we better serve each other?

- III. Approval of Minutes
 - a. November
 - b. February
 - c. Move to approve the Minutes for both months? Natalie Gordon. Second? Wes Smotherman. All ayes, no nos or abstaining.

- IV. Reports
 - a. Karin Lederle, President
 - i. Points from meeting with Dr. Peters—
 - 1. How long can you wait to leave class if professor is not there? Officially, 15 minutes. If we feel that’s too long, send Karin an email.
 - 2. GPA scale—the + and – are being discussed between academic affairs committee. The A- are what really bothers many students.
 - ii. Feb 9 Board of Trustees meeting—presented on behalf of GA, written report available
 - iii. Interterm is now May term. We will not be able to appeal to administration about this. The schedule: will start the same time fall semester, spring semester will start Jan 15, graduation will be Apr. 28. Mayterm starts the beginning of May. Will try it out for three years then see response. Major’s courses will not be ONLY offered in Mayterm
 - iv. Dr. Douglas meeting—
 - 1. dorm renovation—contact Karin with suggestions. 1.5 million available for upgrades. (broken oven, more carpet, etc...) talk to RAs and others to get ideas and contact Karin
 - v. Be thinking about McCREery teaching award. Nomination forms for either you or your organization to honor a special teacher are in SGA and Student Life offices.
 - b. Kim Conner, Executive Secretary
 - i. Attended the Academic Affairs Committee Board meeting in February. Contact her for a report of that meeting.
 - c. Naiya Hernandez, V.P. of Campus Activities
 - i. Fuel tomorrow night—Cecil Washington is a gospel singer from Topeka; he and his wife will be featured.
 - ii. TAG after spring break (info Tues after spring break)
 - iii. Apps for CABBIES will be out soon, think about it!
 - iv. Resource manual

- d. Alisha Peters, V.P. of Student and Community Services
 - i. Blood drive—thanks. 46 donations, 65 was our unmet goal. Any ideas for successful promo, let us know
 - ii. Ijm.org. Cheryl Noble was our guest today
- e. Michael Zier, V.P. of Spiritual Formation
 - i. Chaplain board for next year—we are developing a board with a heart for ministry to serve the campus and community in any way that you are passionate about.
 - ii. Survey will include chapel-focused questions. Speak to anyone about concerns not covered by that survey. Feedback is valuable ☺
- f. John Hoefler, Computer Consultant/Office Manager
 - i. Survey in email. Questions about SGA
 - ii. Faculty lecture series—hear something our professors are passionate about tomorrow is Dr. WATney’s “why do we fall in love?” 7 cooper fourth floor
 - iii. Marquee updates... get dates to Karin so those events your org is doing can be included
 - iv. Magazines in Union are for you! Break the bubble!
- g. David Fuller, Executive Treasure
 - i. 13% of budget spent
 - ii. 2400 to reallocate—submit PEPG’s by Monday 4pm if you want a chunk!
 - iii. Money to deposit—go through David, not business office
 - iv. Everything you fundraise, you have to pay some tax on. If it’s a donation, you don’t have to pay tax on it. David will take care of this, but know that your deposit will look a little different. CLARIFY if you have to pay it once when bought or TWICE when buying and when depositing... starting March 5, 2007.

V. Leadership Lesson

- a. Dr. Richard Robl, SGA Advisor
- b. Leader succession—how do you get a good someone to take over your org without losing momentum? Different classes members (ages diff)? Do you INCLUDE these younger members? Do you ask others to do things in your org? A concern... give up your role don’t think: they won’t do it the way I did... that’s OK!

VI. Reports – General Assembly Organizations

- a. **Campbell**—Justin Dawson—kabob night week after spring break. Board met with Tina to discuss renovations: remodel halls (carpet), furniture, plumbing (esp in basement), new dorm furniture in some rooms approved by tina.
- b. **Kilbourn**—Wes Smotherman—elections in Kilbourn... new officer structure? Renovation ideas—new washers/dryers,
- c. **Freshmen**—not present
- d. **Sophomores**—Cayla Friedli—Apr. 5, water bottle drive ending! Garden party (tent. Date) apr. 16, picnic Quizno’s box lunches, jump rope ☺
- e. **Juniors**—Levi Cheyney—only report is anticipating end of year elections
- f. **Seniors**—not present
- g. **Behavioral Sciences**—Melissa Virts—open meeting. Dr Hargrave will not be coming back next year. Dr. Froese announced.
- h. **CSA**—not present

- i. **FCA**—not present
- j. **FSPA**—Kysha Nichols—renovating resource room in Thompson; Science Saturday-agriculture
- k. **Great Plains Review**—Maria Calhoun—near weekly meetings; April 1 submissions due: please write 6 word stories email to JoAnna or Ted
- l. **Habitat for Humanity**—Stephanie Finley—change the world bucket donations!
- m. **Musicians at Sterling College**—Cody Dunyon—singing at manor and planning concert
- n. **My Brother's Keeper**—Jamie Parker—20 people came to first meeting! Lots of ideas about fundraising, events. Apr. 21 3 on 3 basketball tournament
- o. **Praise Band**—Molly Sundquist—going well.
- p. **Raya.327**—Katie Conklin—letter writing this Friday to persecuted Christians around world. Will have an easy-to-follow format, just to encourage those around the world. No Juarez trip over Spring break, but end of July. Feb and March awareness project coming out soon
- q. **SCAT**—not present
- r. **SCOR**—Natalie Gordon—Is sending DJs to nationals for girls Bball, broadcasting every game (thanks Dr. Douglas). More djs might mean SCOR broadcasts for longer hours next semester!
- s. **Stir**—Alyssa Renfro—3rd publication of the semester ☺ yay color. Bookstore took out an ad and can do full color the rest of semester! Reporter and photographer will be at the tourney, too. Look for online updates before print. 36 entries in the Kansas Press Association Apr. 16. Hope for some honors.
- t. **Time Trek**—Jean Bosch—Sat Mar10, Mexican night! \$2 at door, Apr 5,12, 19 for Islam seminars, Prof. Stark is looking for some outside speakers
- u. **Warrior Bass Assassins**—Duane Bagley—CBAA (national bass organization), Pappy is part of the student advisory council! Spring break, will go to the Big 10 classic, so he will do a little promoting for Sterling ☺ Met with city council and police to approve a community-wide kid's fishing day, with cookout, prizes, evangelism. Invited to the National College bass fishing championship in Sep. 8 anglers allowed. We need a boat... know of one?
- v. **Yearbook**—Joey Himes—deadline Mar 31, 56pg submitted ☺ possibly a DVD supplement? Photos, video, music... will check interest to see if a good idea. Email lpeck@sterling.edu if interested.
- w. Questions? Michael Zier—Yearbook—last year's book is in the print process... date of receipt unsure

VII. New Business

- a. Constitution Changes
- b. Last month, we approved the changes to be passed to student body.
- c. Any questions about those changes? Motion to approve the changes? Wes Wicklund. Second? Levi Cheyney. All ayes, no no's or abstaining

VIII. Moderated Forum

- a. What do you see as the ideal structure for SGA?
- b. What do you think the ideal structure of SGA should be?
- c. Alyssa Renfro—who has voiced concerns?
 - i. Karin—SGA Executive Cabinet along with Administration
- d. Norman Montgomery—he doesn't think voice is being given to the admin. Sees SGA as definitely event driven

- e. Wes Smothermon—concern about lack of funding for Habitat (cancelled Coll. Challenge). Frustration about money not used by other orgs or whole SGA.
 - i. Karin Lederle—yes, a concern. We are wondering why? We (as the collective GA) haven't proved to admin that we need more money.
 - ii. David Fuller—we understand that things aren't right. How can we tie the problems we see into fixing the structure to implement a lasting solution?
- f. Alisha Peters—we are different at Sterling... everyone meets directly with VPs. What does GA think about students voicing concerns through SGA?
 - i. Natalie Gordon—though we are event-driven, few seem to know about the event organizations. The clubs are so tight and many have just a few members that awareness seems the problem. Reaching out to different students would be good.
 - ii. Jamie Parker—are most of these events NOT what the students want to do? Ideas come FROM students. What's the difference between voicing concerns of students when we hear student's voices through the events they come up with?
- g. Karin Lederle—overview of structure idea. We would like to share structure idea
 - i. Dr. Robl—admin has expressed some dissatisfaction with SGA. (attach new structure idea) there seems to be little student impact of college decisions. Each club has constituents that we are not talking to and getting feedback from.
 - ii. GA is full of reps, each with equal voice. Can we change that to have clubs as one group and a legislative body (dorms, classes only) as another group. SGA should be a more legislative body with events as secondary focus under CAB. It does work elsewhere, let's make it work here!
- h. Pappy—transferred from Trinity in Florida. One suggestion of interacting with students is to ask questions for a few minutes at end of chapel. So much complaining, not enough knowledge of what to DO about it!
- i. Katie Conklin—with what Dr Robl was saying... our events are the changes we want to see on campus. Main complaints she hears are about dorms, sports equipment, classes... through our clubs, we are changing
 - i. about being a liaison—hesitation because students want to know what the admin really thinks. sGA is adding our own judgement to student's concerns and students don't think their voice DOES go to admin right now.
- j. Karin Lederle— With the new idea, a class organization and dorm organization (together as the Student Senate) would main source of information. Possible suggestion—two GA's? How many were really trying to find something to talk about during event reports? Representative GA and an events GA?
 - i. Michael Zier—of the hall councils, only Campbell and Kilbourn remain. Where did McCreery and Evans go? Dissolved due to lack of passion. We want to find a structure where we can be a good liaison. In either case, lack of interest seems apparent when the real work is required (people like to complain, not work) . How will that change?
 1. Norman Montgomery—even if they DON'T care, we still have to try. We have to care enough to OFFER the representation.
 2. Alyssa Renfro—we don't even go to our class elections now. Will we really have an effective senate? More interest in clubs than classes.
 3. Katie Conklin—agrees with Alyssa. RA's hear what students think. What about RA's being included in this rep process? Some RA's won't want to do the extra work, but it seems a good resource.

- ii. Alisha Peters—Ex cab has talked about that. Work more with student life and RA/PL's.
- k. Michael Zier—if we do a structural overhaul, it will take much time and effort. Propose a second opportunity with the structure NOW to offer the representation portion?
- l. Norman Montgemery—there aren't many other options? We have to do something.
 - i. Alisha Peters—other option: make a point to talk to more people! ASK questions, work to GET that concern and thought and bring it to GA.
 - ii. Natalie Gordon—maybe do a short GA during chapel to inform student body what it is and let people know that time is offered for concerns and participation.
 - iii. John Hoefler—like Alisha said, invite people! Talk to others so more understand and, maybe, care.
 - iv. Alyssa Renfro—something for admin—will they continue to disregard what is said at GA? Students will keep going to admin if their voice isn't heard.
- m. David Fuller—something about a new structure could be that student MUST go to SGA before going to admin, lines of communication established .
 - i. Joey Himes—sees more appreciation if chain of command went both ways: If concern comes to SGA, goes to admin, SGA brings back the answer to that student—shows that their thought was voiced
- n. Stephanie Finley—new to representation, didn't know that SGA could be for the small things. Let students know that small issues could be addressed too.

IX. Announcements

- a. Next Meeting – Scheduled for April 4, 2007 in Cooper Hall at 9:00 p.m.
- b. Budget Requests for additional funds due Monday, March 12, 4:00pm.

X. Close in Prayer – Michael Zier, V.P. of Spiritual Formation

XI. Dismissal