

Student Senate Minutes -Wednesday, October 2nd, Fall 2019

Call to Order

A meeting of the Student Senate was held in ST 301 on October 2nd, 2019 at 4:07p.m..

Attendees included:

Advisor: Ms. Kimberly Herrera

Executive Officers: President, Richelle Adu, Vice – President, Ashalee Brown, Treasurer, Shakoora Kassie, Secretary, Fenet Shertaga

Senators-at-Large: Abdisha Musa, Davicheanin Meas, Joann Hegbe, Jonathan Spires, Joseph Newell, Khayel Francois, Lauren Favre, Lucrece Kengne Tadem, Nahom Demise, Nasser Katende Katamba, Natnael Fantahun, Sarah Haj Hamad, Semira D. Lesperance, Wendy Rodriguez, Yamini Lal

Absentee: Rumbidzaishe Bvudzijena

I. Welcome - Call to Order: President Adu

- a. Student Senate meeting was called to order by President Adu at 4: 07p.m.

II. Advisor Ms. Kimberly Herrera– Student Senate Oath

- i. Newly elected Senators took their Oath of office.

III. Advisor Ms. Kimberly Herrera

- a. What is the Senate About?
 - i. Advisor Ms. Kimberly went through what is expected as a senator, duties and roles.
 - ii. Newly elected Senators shared their views for the questions given – What does the student senate do? And Why does the Student Senate exist?
- b. Goals
 - iii. The senators were divided to work as a group and create S.M.A.R.T Goals for the upcoming year.

III. President – Adu

- a. The move to Abliosh Columbus Day on the campus - After unanimous pass on the senate it went to student council and has passed with majority vote and now it is passed to College Council.
- b. We have now partnered up with the Institute of Race and Justice and Civic Engagement and there is going to be a movie called “ More than a Word” is a film about Native American – based sports mascots and the Washington R* dskins and we will be working with Dr. Intondi. The movie will be screened on October 14 from 2pm – 4pm.
- c. Next week meeting, we will have Porter food coming in, the college is looking to renew contracts and the college is no longer working with Chartswell anymore and we have a new sponsor for food. President Adu asked all senators to come prepared for the next meeting with questions for the guests.

IV. Committee Report – Vice President Brown

- a. Lunch and Learn event were very successful by the sub committee Multicultural and Diversity Committee on Hispanic Heritage Month.

- b. SWOT analysis for Kickball Tournament was last Friday. Strength - it was innovative, weakness – it was on a Friday and the time, opportunities – to expand on the other side of campus.
- c. Vice – President Brown mentioned Soulafe the Vice President chair of SAB wanted everyone to sign up for Trello – is an online program where you can plan and organize program/event and create a team to help.
- d. Vice – President Brown mentioned Ms. Kimberly talked about Tech. Rally that will be happening on November 8th – the company will come in and set up this new product so, SAB will table to get full exposure and get students to come.
- e. Next week will be Stress Relief week: - Events include
Joe will have HIV Testing event on Monday from 11am – 3pm, Nahom will have his self-defense workshop from 2pm – 3:30, On Tuesday there will be Meditation hour 1pm – 2pm in P4.
Wednesday we will have Mental Health Fair – khayel, DIY mugs be – Soulafe.
- f. Vice – President Brown also talked about upcoming event like Maryland Male of Color conference that is coming up October 25th in Germantown and transportation will be provided by Student Life.
- Ms. Kimberly Herrera suggested that students should register by October 9th.
- g. Also spoke about make it Monday's and Breast Cancer Awareness Day the event will be on October 21st there will be pink cupcakes for Make it Mondays and then there will be also bra decoration contest. We will be tabling with African American Health Program and they will give demos on how to check limbs in females to raise awareness. Multicultural and Diversity Committee will do Pride Day Event that has tentative day.

V. Secretary – Shertaga

- a. Secretary Shertaga talked about Office Agreement Forms for Newly elected Senators to sign the form and bring it back to Student Life Office. This form helps senators to utilize the Senate office in Student Life.
- b. Secretary Shertaga reminded Newly Elected senators to download “GroupMe” app as a means of communication. And, to be mindful what type of messages to sent out to the group.

VI. Advisor's Report – Ms. Kimberly Herrera

- a. Ms. Kimberly introduced the senate coins for Newly elected senators – and explained that throughout the year we promote a lot of positivity among this group. And whenever, someone does an amazing job in the week – we all write a note to them. For this week, Senator Lal did an amazing job with marketing, stress relief week and Breast cancer awareness.
- b. Ms. Kimberly mentioned that senators should be responsible to clean up after senate event and also should respect Student life assistants.
- c. Equity Dialogue is happening this Friday October 4th is a day-long meeting for Faculty and Staff where we talk about Social Justice and there is also a Student portion where students are asked to come by and have some input about Social Justice from a Student point of view and it is from 11am – 2pm.
- d. Ms. Kimberly mentioned about Legislation Reception on November 4th that is happening in Rockville. It is an evening time, Dr. Stewart is looking for six students and so far, senator, Fenet, Davin, Semira, Wendy, Sarah and Richelle will be attending.
- e. TP/SS Campus Council – Ms. Kimberly is the chair governing body in TP/SS Campus, and they meet once a month Monday's from 1:30pm – 3:30Pm. The next meeting will be on October 14. Like Student Senate there is a goal for Campus Council one of the goals is to create a program for African American Males on retention rates. Another goal is that positive image to TP/SS and to some students and Faculty and Staff have negative comments about TP/SS so this committee wants to bring positivity wants to bring light on this campus. And the third goal is to do community event to bridge the gap between our campus and community. Senator Lauren and

Wendy have volunteered to seat as a Student representative for Campus Council for TP/SS Campus.

- f. The importance of communication – it is important to communicate if you are going to be late or be absent.

VII. Committee Report – Senator Hegbe

- i. The committee decided to push the date back MC Pride Day, but still there will be tabling.
- ii. New Secretary was elected which is Senator Khayel for Multicultural and Diversity Committee.
- iii. Lunch and Learn about 60 people showed up and it was a very successful event.
- iv. Senator Hegbe explained what Middle Ground Event is about – it is open to everyone and ask controversial questions. And topics like the wall, abortion were discussed among senators
 - Senator Haj Hamad suggested to talk about Immigration laws that affects the population
 - Senator Meas suggested to do 51 States.
 - Senator Kassie suggested to collaborate with Great Mind Club to get ideas about controversial topics for Middle Grounds.

VIII. Report: Senator Francois

- i. Senator Francios wanted to show the Mental Health Fair Flyer. And if you get a chance to win Airpods for students who attend the workshops.
- ii. There will also be puppy Therapy to have a good stress relief. Mental Health Fair workshop on October 9th and senators signed up to volunteer for this event.
- iii. African American Health Program, Counseling Office will have their own table as well.

IX. Report – Senator Newell

- a. This semester Senator Newell has taken this new initiative to help volunteer with Panera Bread to give it out to students. This takes place every second week of Tuesday. The delivery will be at 9:30am, but Senator asked for volunteers to help him set up at 12pm.
- b. Senator Newell asked who is available to volunteer for HIV Testing which is from 11am – 3p.m in ST Atrium and in room ST 302.

X. Report – Senator Davin

- a. The Student Council if anyone is interested in joining in student council it is Thursday from 4pm – 6pm at Rockville Campus. The Student Council is in charge for looking at recommendation that comes from Student Senate from all Campuses.
 - President Adu added that Student Council is the next step after Student Senate when we come with recommendation from Student Senate if this is something that affects not only this Campus but as a whole College then it goes to Student Council. For Example, Columbus Day that initiative to change it to Indigenous people Day is something that affects the whole College, so it goes to Student Council.
 - Senator Haj Hamad added for senators that want to join Student Council they have a minimum of three students representing from one Campus so, if we have a short number of students representing one Campus, there is no quorum and it makes it harder for President Adu and Senator Davin to Advocate on behalf of our Campus. And it makes it

so much easier to have a student senator who know Robert's Rules very well instead of other students.

XI. Senator Favre – Presentation on Roberts Rules

- Senator Favre gave a PowerPoint presentation about Robert's Rules.

XII. Adjourn – President Adu

President Adu adjourn the student senate meeting on October 2nd at 6:00 p.m.