Springfield

Student Government Association

PAC TV Studio / Zoom

Sunday, December 8th, 2024

Agenda

1. Call to order : Meeting call to order at 6:06 pm.
2. Roll Call : Emma, Chris Johnson, Sri Charan, Samuael, Bhavana, Chris Combs, Aparna, Karac Henderson, Alora, Romina, John kennady, Alexander,Sara, Alaba.

Absent: Cassie, Ganesh, Matilda, Timothy

1. Approval of the Agenda: Emma motioned to approve the agenda, seconded by John Kennedy.

* Approval of November 17th minutes : Emma motioned to approve the minute of November 17, seconded by Sri Charan.

1. Audience Participation: None.
2. Administrative Reports
   1. Advisor Cynthia Thompson: Late night breakfast tomorrow night (9th November), also spoke about the online mailing of the welcome and greeting card and sticker to all online students. Academic advising survey is on the topic and timeline for it must be promoted to make it as successful survey.
   2. Advisor Steven Johnson: Wished everyone a successful semester and a happy winter holiday break.
3. Officer Reports:

Emma: Commended all the SGA members for rising to the challange appreciate all the efforts that we are putting this semester and I look forward to returning in the spring and to all of the work that we will do to get to continue serving the UIS student body. appreciate all the efforts that we are putting this semester and I look forward to returning in the spring and to all of the work that we will do to get to continue serving the UIS student body rogram that will combine the bachelors in communication with the masters in public affairs reporting that was with graduate and undergraduate counsel. The resident director will be attending our first meeting of the spring semester, and will be presenting the changes that will be happening in the area of housing.

Sri Charan : Have been preparing for the semesters and tries my hard to serve for the UIS this semester also looking forward to serve the coming semester.

Chris Johnson: This week did the safety walk with dean of students, campus police, facilities and walked around the campus if there were any faults around the campus . Continued to have just meetings with administrators. Board of trustees next meeting takes place in February.

Chris combs: The rules and constitution committee is trying to put together the allocation process moving forward for the SGA.

Bhavana: Attended the library senate meeting and another meeting with the dean of library patty and also department head Malory and they gave access to the box folder. During the discussion we spoke about how to promote the library resources to every other student.

Samuael: The transaction has went through and we have $9220 in our account. SOFAA concluded its last meeting of the semester, I believe we had 36 student organizations registered and requested funds which is roughly 2/3rd of the total. There were 12 requests in the meeting and we approved 8 or 9 requests. The one’s we rejected were because we weren’t getting the information we wanted to get.

1. Senator Reports:
   1. 2-minute limit

Alaba: Busy for the last two weeks. Attended the campus senate meeting.

Abhishek: Attended the events going on campus. And also attended the graduate student council meeting.

Aparna: Attended the academic technology committee meeting last Thursday.

John Kennedy : The residence halls will be shutting down, so technically after the last final is when you are supposed to leave the residence building, if any person wants to stay back can fill out a form. The vending machines still not work despite changing the machine.

Romina:During discussions with the Dean, the need to enhance the orientation program for international students became clear, with a focus on better addressing their expectations and creating a more impactful experience. Although initial plans involved a presentation, time constraints delayed its completion. Over the winter break, efforts will focus on developing detailed recommendations to restructure the orientation process, with plans to implement the changes by Fall 2025.

Karac Henderson : This semester has been a rewarding experience, and I deeply appreciate the effort and dedication everyone has put into their work. As this is my first year serving as a senator, I’ve truly enjoyed the experience and had a great time contributing to our initiatives.

Alex : I am on track to graduate at the end of the semester and would like to explore transitioning into a role focused on increasing university donations and enrollment. I have connections with potential high-value donors willing to assist under the new administration's initiatives. Additionally, I suggest resolving the vending machine issue through a direct call with the vendor and thank Cynthia and Dr. Johnson for their exceptional work.

1. Old Business

* SGA Student Townhall: Updates (Moderator, timeline, feedback): The moderator is one of the members of the departments on campus. We provided moderator with three different dates that is feb 3, feb 6 and feb 7. The SGA has decided the primary date as 6th of feb and asked Dr. Johnson to ask for the availability of the moderator.
* SGA New Student Welcome Event Spring 2025: Resolution 4: The resolution has been passed with unanimous vote to yes.

1. Informational Items

* Informational Item 1: Constitution committee Report : Chris combs reported that In the past two meetings, we’ve been brainstorming ideas and evaluating past approaches to identify what worked and what didn’t. The group is working to formulate a new, more efficient process for allocations, focusing on timelines, expectations, and requirements for organizations. This effort aims to better align with the needs of SGA and the current process. We want to discuss with SGA the idea of establishing a clear union statement or set of expectations for the allocation process. The goal is to define what we, as an SGA, expect from organizations applying for allocations and ensure these expectations are clear from the start of the year. Input from the general body would help shape these guidelines to align with our priorities for funding distribution. Expectations are Allocating funds equitably and transparently was emphasized, with decisions and guidelines made public to ensure accountability and inclusivity for the entire UIS student body. Organizations receiving allocations are expected to provide regular updates on spending and its impact. Strengthening collaboration between SGA, SOFA, and SACK was highlighted to enhance future partnerships and student engagement across all demographics.Emma stated If we were to ask any organization that asks us for funding there should be one one united question rob. Also suggested that there could be a two phase approach with a unified set of questions in phase 1 and a different set of questions for different organizations in phase 2.
* Informational Item 2: Academic Advising survey: Timeline approval: The survey timeline for advising services is up for approval, with the final email scheduled to be sent on February 7. SGA unanimously approved for the timeline fort the spring semester.
* Informational Item 3: Shin Award Committee: Volunteers needed - Manuel and I discussed that this is not a formal appointment process but a simple volunteer opportunity. While there’s a timeframe to provide more details about the committee, it’s not mandatory. The expectation is for SGA to select two people to participate and move forward efficiently.John Kennedy and Alana showed interest to be a volunteer.
* Informational Item 4: SGA Professionalism: Expectations - It’s crucial to reinforce the attendance expectations for all members, especially those holding online positions and members are expected to attend in-person meetings every two weeks, arriving on time for a two-hour duration. If members are unable to meet these expectations, they should inform the president. Additionally, replacing a member may take some time, so it's important to communicate any changes promptly.

Discussion:

A representative from prairie center against sexual assault She contacted me about collaborating with an active student coalition to raise awareness about sexual assault. While it's not an event they plan immediately, there’s a desire to focus on this cause, especially around April, which is dedicated to sexual assault awareness. It's a great initiative to let students know this issue is valued on campus, and I wanted to bring it to everyone's attention.

Emma has attended the black history month past Friday and they were taking considerations about the events that can be hosted during the time. Emma suggested an event “effective dialogue for hearing dialogue”.

Suggestions for the place for SGA table for the welcome event. The timeline is 1 hr a day from 11:30 am.

Adjourn: Emma motioned to adjourn the meeting, seconded by John Kennedy. Meeting adjourned.