

Student Government Association Forum Minutes

Date: Thursday, September 21, 2017

Call to order: 12:35pm

- Technical difficulties prevent the projector from displaying the PowerPoint and the sound system from working properly.

RSO announcements

- The Black Box Society is hacking a Windows XP machine at 6pm this Friday in the new cybersecurity lab on the first floor of the CCT.
- Servant Leadership is selling Christmas trees for Uptown Tree Trail. They're selling trees as a fundraiser to raise funds for the organization they are helping for their senior project, Warriors Outreach, an organization that helps veterans and their families cope with PTSD and reconnect with their families after their service.
- The Campus Nerds organization is looking for volunteers for their Haunted House. The next meeting is tomorrow at 6pm in Davidson 256. The Haunted House is on Saturday, November 4, the time currently undecided.
- The Walk to End Alzheimer's event is taking place tomorrow evening in Uptown Columbus and they are welcoming all volunteers.

Executive Committee Reports

Logan Ragan, President

- Update on the blood drive: The Hurricane Harvey blood drive relief that SGA hosted will likely save 174 people or so. He thanks everyone for their participation. The Red Cross is interested in working with us again.
- Chief Lott will speak and answer a few questions.

Chief Lott

- He has been with Columbus State, as a student and worker, for more than 18 years. His most recent role with the school was assistant chief of police. He became the chief of police in May 2017.
- The CSU police department is a modern law enforcement agency like any police department in a community. Besides the residential students who live on campus, the police department is here 24/7.
 - They have sworn and not sworn officers, which can be seen by the distinctions in uniforms. By law, sworn police officers have to uphold and enforce sanctions of state law. Not sworn officers, those with brown shirts, are service providers and help with unlocking doors or with car troubles.
 - They are service generated. Within the department, they have several divisions. They have a patrol division, who are officers in marked units going around campus. The criminal investigation division looks at information in cases where crimes have been committed. They usually collaborate with the attorney's office in Columbus for prosecution purposes. The training division has officers with specialties that require extensive knowledge and expertise to teach. They have a

community relations division. This division engages students, faculty, and staff in activities and is to help them get to know the officers. The security technology division is one of their up and coming divisions that they are proud of and grateful for the resources. Security technology takes in camera systems and access control. CSU is moving from a traditional key entry system to swipe card, which makes it easier for the department to screen people on campus for legitimate purposes and those who just want to wander around a building with no real purpose. It gives them an opportunity to program doors to make it more convenient for students to swipe their card when a building is open and walk in. When campus is closed, they can adjust the schedule and prohibit unauthorized or unapproved entry, which makes it safer since the people in the buildings should be there and the people that aren't in the buildings are not, in theory.

- Another area of development they have gone through this past year that is a part of a trend across the United States is their office of emergency management. Lieutenant Brett Seville holds this office. This office revolves around a couple of things and encompasses a lot of first responder activities, both manmade and natural disasters. For an example, he brings up the hurricane that was threatening Florida and Georgia this past week. Through the office of emergency management, they coordinated with key people on campus, like residence life and student affairs, so they could disseminate information to help minimize or help prepare for Irma's impact on the students. The decision to close the campus for two days was strategic and made in a joint effort with and for the safety of the community. The office of emergency management is designed to coordinate, collect, and disseminate data and information that may be critical not just for law enforcement but also public safety.
- There is a cadet program that hires students on this career track to get exposure and experience. It also allows students to see if their major is something they want to pursue.
- They handle about 30,000+ calls a year. Some are not serious in nature.
- He and several of the police staff are adjunct instructors.
- He assures students that there is nothing too small and says they should not feel like a bother; if they need anything, they should call an officer.
- There is no time for Chief Lott to take questions.

Jasmine Navarro, VP of Scholastic Affairs

- The Project Bookbag deadline is Thursday, September 28. Project Bookbag is a mandatory event for organizations to be considered for Organization of the Year. When organizations drop off items at the SGA office, they should make sure to sign the sheet and list what they donated.
- To participate in the Organization of the Year running, organizations have to fill out and send in a Monthly Oversight Report (MOR). The MOR deadline for August was extended so anyone could ask questions about how to find and fill one out. The MOR for September is due at the end of the month on Friday, September 29.
 - The MOR is on the SGA website.

- If anyone has questions or concerns, they can email Jasmine or stop by her office.
- Applications to sign up for Spooktacular are due Wednesday, October 18. Spooktacular is another required event for Organization of the Year. Organizations can email the applications or drop them off in the SGA office.
 - Organizations can choose whether they want to donate candy or have a table and activity or both at the event.
 - Organizations are encouraged to dress up for the costume contest.
 - A promotion video for the event is on the Uptown Columbus Facebook page.
- A student asks if the August and September MORs are being combined.
 - Jasmine says that the MORs go by month and at the end of the year, all the points are combined.

Isabella Nunez, VP of Financial Affairs

- If any organization did not receive the PowerPoint from the funds request training, they can contact Isabella and she will email it to them.
- The funds for the semester totaled \$9,000. Since then, many organizations requested funds and were approved by the executive committee:
 - Kappa Sigma requested \$426.80.
 - NSLS requested requested \$400.
 - The Cross Country club requested \$188.30.
 - Collegiate Women requested \$399.99.
 - The funds remaining for the year are \$7,584.91. Isabella encourages organizations to request funds and reach out to the executive committee if they need any help.
- The Georgia Game Developers Association is requesting money for a trip. Only one representative from an organization can vote on the voting ballots. If someone is representing more than one organization, they can only vote from one of their organizations because there is only one voting member per organization.
- While the Georgia Game Developers Association member is setting up their presentation, Logan gives information on the constitutional revision committee. They met last week and the deadline for their revisions is next Friday, September 29. They hope to have these revisions voted on during the second forum in October. It's a complete overhaul of the constitution, which they estimate has not been revised since 1990, saving for the revision of the senators. More information on how to vote will be explained as that forum approaches.

Georgia Game Developers Association funds request

- The Georgia Game Developers Association, presentation by their Vice President, is requesting \$1,500 to take 5 members to SIEGE Con in Marietta, Georgia, during the first week of October. They will be departing on Thursday, October 5 and returning Sunday, October 8. SIEGE stands for Southern Interactive Entertainment and Game Expo and is an annual conference where students can network with professionals in the gaming industry, learn from guest speakers, get information from the gaming industry, and gain networking experience.
- Total costs of the trip:
 - The room is \$99 a night, plus additional prices, which comes out to \$120.86 a night, a total of \$362.58 for the trip. A pass is \$40, which comes out to \$200 for the 5 students. Total: \$1,287.74. The remaining funds from the requested \$1,500 are dedicated to purchasing food.
 - They check in Thursday night and check out Sunday morning. The members plan on carpooling to the conference, will be receiving meals from the conference, and plan to be back from the trip around 3pm on Sunday.

Questions from students

- A student asks if the GGDA organization has donated to Project Bookbag.
 - The GGDA Vice President says they have not, but they will.
- A student wants to know how the 5 students going on the trip were selected.
 - The Vice President explains that there was an interest meeting and the 5 students expressed interest in going.
- A student wants to know if there is a GPA requirement and if those 5 members going have the GPA or higher.
 - The Vice President says there is a GPA requirement of 2.0 or higher and the 5 students do have it.
- A student wants to know what will be gained from the trip.
 - The Vice President talks about the networking experience they will gain.
- A student wants to know if there is a competition.
 - The Vice President says there is no competition.
- A student would like to know the breakdown of the costs again.
 - The pass is \$40 and the room is \$120.86.
 - For 5 students, the passes cost \$200 and for three nights, per person, the room will be \$362.58
 - Total: \$1,287.74
- The voting is closed after no more questions and ballots are collected by the Chief Justice.

Z'Taria Frazier, Speaker of the Senate

- The Student Recreation Center is having a dive-in movie on Friday, September 29 at 8:30pm. They are also hosting a water volleyball tournament on Saturday, September 30. The flyers are on the SGA bulletin board next to the office. There is no registration fee for the tournament.
- The first town hall is Tuesday, September 26 in the CCT Auditorium from 12:30pm to 1:30pm. This is the business college town hall and she encourages people to come with questions and concerns.
- The Recreation Center is hosting their second Party in Pink event. Z'Taria will be sending out an email to every RSO president and asking them to write a proposal on how they can provide something related to health or breast cancer awareness at the event. The executive committee will pick the top 7 to 10 proposals. These organizations can get 70 points for their Organization of the Year total.
 - Party in Pink is Wednesday, October 11 from 4pm to 7pm. Fitness classes start around 5:30pm and organizations that are picked to participate are going to be asked to set up their table around 3:30pm.
 - If there are any questions, send emails to her SGA account. Her office hours are Monday and Wednesday from 12pm to 3:30pm.

Kaleb Corcoran, Speaker of the Representatives

- Kaleb is still working on the committee sign ups and will email reps about their committee.
- For anyone that did not know, he explains that every SGA rep has to sign up for a committee. There are two types of committees: there are institutional committees created by CSU as a whole and committees created by the faculty senate that needs student representation. There is a list of committees in the back.
- Committees are a first come, first serve basis, as some have a limit on the number of students needed. Kaleb will try to put everyone in the committee they want, but it might not be possible. Stop by his office if you are not happy with your committee assignment.
- He would like to speak to a few reps after forum, especially the rep from Eta Sigma Gamma if they are present.

Logan Ragan, President

- Logan introduces Potiphar Alexander, the director of transportation, who will speak and answer any questions.

Potiphar Alexander

- He thanks CSU students because without them, the transportation department would not have jobs. Their primary purpose is to provide transportation for the students. Staff can use the shuttles, but shuttles are designed for the students.
- He thanks the students for their comments about transportation. They welcome all concerns and believe nothing is too trivial, but they can't do everything that everyone wants.
- The schedule is setup to try to meet the peak demands of class schedules and other expectations. They run a designated route and have gotten questions about going to other locations around the city. He explains that the answer is currently no, they can't, but that does not mean it will never happen. There is a lot of planning and justification and rerouting to make sure it does not mess with class schedules.
- The shuttles are run on a twenty minute cycle, meaning every twenty minutes there should be a shuttle coming to a designated stop.
- He addresses the concerns students have with inconsistencies, saying that, unfortunately, things happen and they do not want to be late. It is against their rules to run early, so shuttles should not be leaving their stops early. He brings up an incident from last week where there was an accident on the 13th Street Bridge that caused shuttles to be late and have to make detours. They appreciated the students that were understanding of the delay. They don't make excuses for their failures - they apologize and try to make adjustments for them.
- He encourages all of the shuttle drivers to smile, but says he can't change personality.
- He tells students not to hesitate with voicing their concerns.
- He asks how many students know how to read the shuttle schedule and a few raise their hands. He mentions a student calling him and saying she left her purse on a shuttle. He says that she left out important information that could help him locate where the bus was, like which shuttle, which location, and what time she got off. The times listed on the schedule are departure times, which are the times the buses should depart, not arrive.
- There was a change from last semester: they adjusted the schedule for early morning and tried to adjust it to the peak period. They run two large shuttles in the early morning, starting from 6:30am until 9am. At 9am, four buses are running and run until 8:30pm, which is the peak period that most students ride. From 9pm until 11pm, only two shuttles are running.
- He stops to answer any questions.
- Logan Ragan and Jasmine Navarro talk about how students that live in Clearview Hall were wondering if there could be a shuttle stop there.

- Mr. Alexander says it is possible, but he questions how much of a demand there is. He goes on to say that everyone on campus has to walk to get to a stop. When Clearview Hall was constructed, there was an agreement that there would be no shuttle stop there since it is not far. They understand the challenge when it comes to inclement weather and though they won't be adding a stop there this semester, it will be in consideration for next semester.
- A student wants to make a comment about the bus shuttles going off campus to pick up students from their apartments that are not far and having a set location that students can walk to in order to wait for the shuttle.
 - Mr. Alexander says this has been asked repeatedly by students and outside apartment complexes, but says this is a major challenge they are not in a position to handle this at the time. They are not set up to to handle any residents outside of their current location. He says it has been discussed and it is not something they can do fairly, since they don't want to just service the large and miss anyone, and says there is more to a shuttle than just stopping and making it back to campus. It can be a challenge to add these communities to shuttle transportation.
- A student tells how she waited for a shuttle at the Carpenters stop for nearly an hour and how the shuttles sometimes do not stop at designated stops.
 - He says something similar happened earlier and will not dispute student accounts. The buses have GPS, and a student called and said the shuttle did not show up. They look at the data and check with the driver about their routes. He says something that does happen and they are correcting is that drivers must stop at every stop and open their doors before leaving. Drivers tend to keep going if they do not see someone at a stop. He says that three buses missing a stop would disrupt the shuttle schedule tremendously. He tells students to call them any time a bus does not show up. Continuing his story about the call from earlier, he says they got a call from a student saying the bus did not show up, and after they checked with the driver and looked at the GPS, the bus was where the student said it wasn't.
- The department is working on an app for students that allows them to see where buses are in reference to their location and if they're on time or late.
- Because of the lack of time remaining, Mr. Alexander says he will stay for a few minutes for any students that would like to talk to him personally.

Logan Ragan, President

- The next forum is Thursday, October 5. Dr. Sheeks and Dr. Butcher will be talking about the strategic plan, the direction the school will be going in the next 5 years. They want the students' input and want the students to shape the way the school is going.
- Laura Pate from the Honors College will be talking about scholarships that are available for students.
- After a motion and a second, the meeting is adjourned at 1:25pm.