



Congress Agenda - 2/20/2024

Minute Taker: Phoebe Lin

- I. CALL TO ORDER**
 - A. Meeting was called to order at 7:05 pm.
- II. ROLL CALL**
- III. APPROVAL OF PAST MEETING MINUTES**
 - A. Motion to approve last meeting minutes by Kristina
 - B. Seconded by Nay
- IV. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**
 - A. Motion to approve the agenda by Nay
 - B. Seconded by Saul
- V. SPEAKER REPORT, Christopher Ribaric**
 - A. Merch final decision
 1. Tied between gray and black
 - B. A new CIW rep is on the way soon
 - C. Have an excellent Spring Break
- VI. COMMITTEE REPORT**
 - A. Internal Affairs
 1. Chartered clubs: Albanian Student Association, Binghamton Association for Transfer Students (BATS)
 2. Approved constitutions: NSBE, DTC, Explorchestra
 3. Met with the Women's Network, still in discussion about it.
 - B. Student Life & Academics
 1. Working on a Mental Health week in April
 - a) Between the dates of 24th and the 30th (subject to change)
 - b) Planning to collab with late night and other groups on campus
 - c) More updates when we get closer to the event
 2. Gaining access to the Instagram
 - a) @ Bing.sla
 - C. FinCo
 1. Recent allocations:
 - a) \$3000 to the Black Student Union
 - b) \$500 to Board Game Group
 - c) \$1350 to MODA
 - d) \$400 to SA President
 - e) \$1537 to Hong Kong Exchange Square



- f) \$625 to Undivided
 - g) \$800 to Dickinson Community Players
 - h) \$400 to the Neuroscience Club
 - i) \$2500 to Chinascope
 - j) \$1998 to VPSS
- 2. Discretionary is now closed for budget season
- 3. ELF has begun and we had our first budget presentation yesterday
- 4. Use discretion about where you will be located during these meetings. Be in a private area. (no pun intended)
- D. Elections & Judiciary
 - 1. Petition Period Ends at 11:59 pm on Thursday
 - 2. We are doing J-Board Stuff after Election so that we can dedicate our full attention to it
 - 3. We are cooking some Social Media Posts (Thank You Kristina for doing an Amazing Job!)
- E. Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion
 - 1. Was absent last Tuesday, Kenny ran the DEI meeting! Woووو!!!
 - 2. Committee raised some concerns about university-held events that prevent students with religious and/or cultural conflicts from attending
 - a) Ex: Students observe Shabbat when U-Fest and Club Carnival take place

I. EXECUTIVE BOARD REPORT

- A. President
 - 1. Purchasing equipment for borrowing and integrating into B-Engaged form
 - 2. Cap and gowns for renting
 - 3. Working with MSA to aid students in Ramadan
- B. Executive Vice President
 - 1. Helped work on a new SA legislation template with Lauren and Sophia <3
 - a) Very good idea and I love the attention to detail with regards to implementing all legislation we put forward!
 - 2. ESports Arena
 - a) Continuing conversations with union regarding the E-Sports arena
 - b) Mockup plan has been made!
 - c) Looking forward to more weekly updates moving forward
 - 3. Union Map Project
 - a) Working with Pete and Eli on getting a third-floor map for all club spaces



- b) Also trying to maybe put a map in the elevator (accessibility issue)
- 4. EVP office moving as usual :)
- a) Have an amazing week! I miss all of you!! <3

C. Vice President for Finance

- 1. Insurance renewal meetings this week
- 2. CC system & HR system transition
 - a) HR overhaul - standardizing notification systems
- 3. Admin Assistant Announcement
 - a) Starting Feb 26
- 4. Budget season & CS update
- 5. Activity Fee conversation
- 6. Revocable permit negotiation
- 7. OCCT internal system nearing completion
- 8. Business Updates - all doing well
 - a) Food Co-Op had NightOwl dinner that profited over \$1,000

D. Vice President for Student Success

- 1. Plan B Vending - thank you Nora
 - a) Coming at the end of the semester!
 - b) Connecting SUNYSA pres to the non-profit pushing for a law to require plan b vending machines on all SUNY + CUNY campuses
 - c) Questions:
 - (1) Abuse of the vending machine? Could work on regulations with cards/id
 - (2) Promoting decker services as well
- 2. Revising grading policy for failing/retaking it
- 3. Held LinkedIn Workshop for clubs - thank you Melanie
- 4. Drafted a list of ambassador-ships, will continue to edit and write an email presenting opportunities to clubs - thank you Jules
- 5. Bringing Music Therapy to Bing, working with mental health student orgs and departments (Healthy campus, UCC, MSW) - thank you Jayshawn
 - a) Got money from Finco \$1,998 - thank you FINCO
- 6. Most candidates ever in history running, maybe because of social media campaigns? - thank you Kristina
- 7. SSD & DSU on board for disability month and grant (\$500) social media content creation competition - thank you Kristina
- 8. Meeting with a landscaper about the Garden
- 9. Reviving End of Year Rave with:



- a) VPMA
- b) SAPB
- c) SLA
- d) Jayshawn
- e) ** Note: get Athletics involved- they can help with funding

E. Vice President for Multicultural Affairs

- 1. Collab with SAPB - art exhibit at the next student flea. Featuring art from different multicultural artists
- 2. Multicultural Networking Event - bridging the gap between underrepresented communities and the workplace

F. Vice President for Programming

- 1. Student Flea today 2/20 from 6:30-8:30 pm in OUH
- 2. Battle of the Bands this Thursday 2/22 starting at 7 pm in Union Undergrounds

II. BU COUNCIL REPORT

A. WOOOHOOO new vending machine with PLAN B in a theater near you!!!! 

B. February's BU Council Meeting:

- 1. [Watch it here!](#) 
- 2. Presentation from [Division of Academic Affairs](#) 
 - a) 3 new Deans: Libraries, Watson, and Graduate School
- 3. Presentation from [Division of DEI](#) 
 - a) Bias Incident Response Team, Bias Response and Prevention training

C. Thank you to everyone who submitted their ideas to the Road Map Proposal!

D. Center for Civic Engagement partnered with Cornell and Stony Brook on the [Contribution Project](#) 

- 1. We have over 65 spots for funding!
 - a) If you have an idea of how to improve the campus community or the largest Binghamton area, you can receive \$400 in funding to complete your project! 

E. Helping review applications for the [Council/Foundation Award](#) that closed on Friday 

F. Fun Fact... the wrestling team is on a roll! One all-star is on track to be a national champion!

III. COMMUNITY REPORT

A. Mountainview

- 1. Working on Admitted Students' Day



2. Merch
3. Partnering with CIW for an event
- B. College-in-the-Woods
 1. E-board elections for CIW Council, New CIW Rep
- C. Hinman
 1. Valentine's event last week
 2. Hinman hoodie orders by March 1st
- D. Dickinson
 1. Bylaw revisions went through
 2. Black History Event
 3. Games for Gains event -protein powder giveaway
- E. Newing
- F. Susquehanna
 1. Valentine's Day event last week
 2. Breakfast event next week
 3. Contest for hoodie merch designs
- G. Hillside
 1. Funding is being pushed to the carnival happening in April
- H. OC3
 1. Met with Ethan (President) - discussed getting events up and running
 2. Feb 25 - Lost Dog friending event coming up
 3. March 16 - Black Bears games

IV. NEW BUSINESS

- A. [S2324-R2: Condemning Anti-Semitism In Pipe Dream](#)
 1. Motion to Postpone the Resolution Indefinitely
 - a) Motion to Open Discussion
 2. PRESENTATION (Logan Blakeslee (OC3))
 3. QUESTIONS /COMMENTS
 - a) Yuki - doesn't make sense that it is presented in Congress right now. The opinion column allows students to speak about their opinions openly. This resolution is false, and also redundant. Infringes on free speech and press. Against this resolution. Too much infringement on free speech and the press
 - b) Omar - the bill minimizes the efforts that Pipe Dream took to rectify the situation



- c) Nora - In reply to Yuki: The author was not associated, but she does work as an editor. Writing for a university is different from a publication
- d) Dan - operations and legal perspective. There's a difference between the Binghamton Review Resolution and this resolution. The Review was in response to an inappropriate joke. With this resolution, we are getting very close to violating the freedom of the press. Pipe Dream is chartered, but they willingly don't accept funding to retain their freedom of the press. They are autonomous to some degree. I believe passing this is a dangerous precedent of freedom of speech - and also stepping on the toes of Pipe Dream, who wants to stay separate from us. I don't think this resolution is going to help with what it's intended to do. Best to put it away as a teaching moment and move on- this will just further the division

4. MOTION TO CLOSE DISCUSSION BY TYLER

- a) Seconded Nick
- b) Tyler withdraws his Motion
- c) Motion to table discussion by Saul
 - (1) Seconded
 - (2) Voting - Fails
- d) Motion to Close Discussion Tyler
 - (1) Seconded Omar
 - (2) Voting - Passed
- e) Motion to Postpone the Resolution Indefinitely Tyler
 - (1) 14:6:2 $\frac{2}{3}$ votes passed - Resolution is postponed indefinitely.

B. [S2324-R3: Amendment to Management Policy I Sec 22 and Validation of 2023-2024 Legislation](#)

1. PRESENTATION (Saul Hakim (OC3))

- a) Referring to 6 resolutions that aren't tied to the management policies so it is not "binding"
- b) Wants to make all resolutions binding and should be the policy of SA moving forward
- c) Don't need to align a resolution with a management policy

2. QUESTIONS /COMMENTS



- a) Eli - disagrees because there can be work to edit and update policies instead of getting rid of the rule. Management policy is a broad aspect of what's in our scope.
- b) Dan - rule also exists for logistical reasons. Link a resolution to something broader so it can be upheld. Getting rid of this also means that resolutions are not being assigned to an Executive Officer.
- c) Yuki - sounds like a conversation between Saul and E-Board
- d) Motion to table discussion by Yuki
 - (1) Seconded Jeremy
 - (2) Voting: Passes
- 3. Discussion Open For Amendments
 - a) Saul will edit and bring it to Congress next time
 - b) Motioned to end discussion
- C. [S2324-R4: Resolution to Modify Legislation Template to Add Implementation Steps](#)
 - 1. PRESENTATION (Lauren Wilner (MTVW))
 - a) Adds implementation steps/action items after legislation
 - 2. QUESTIONS /COMMENTS
 - a) Saul - This resolution is technically not “binding” because it does not reference a management policy. Needed to change the wording as well.
 - b) Nick - writing resolution is part of the management policy - so it does reference the management policy. You should read the Legislation Policy.
 - (1) Lauren's response - making an amendment next week
 - c) Luca - 2 Whereas to make it legally binding - include these in your future drafts.
 - d) Ben - template in the management policies (Policy 1 Page 7) - the whereas says it is “opinion”. Possibly making an edit and revise to make it grounded
 - e) Motion to table discussion by Chris
 - (1) Seconded by Yuki
 - (2) Discussion is tabled until next week.
- D. [S2324-R5: Resolution to Allocate Funding for a Multicultural Collaboration Grant](#)



1. PRESENTATION (Daniel S. Croce (Vice President for Finance))
 - a) Strictly \$2k to encourage
 2. Motion to suspend voting rules Kristina
 - a) Seconded Yuki
 - b) 18:4:2 - $\frac{2}{3}$ votes Pass
 3. Motion to unanimously approve by Kristina
 - a) Seconded Nick
- E. [S2324-R6: Expressing Disappointment in the Lack of Regular Updates from Certain Executive Officers](#)
1. PRESENTATION (Saul Hakim (OC3))
 - a) Eli - appreciate the feedback. I don't write reports because of my personal disability. Requesting that there should be an option for recording notes (audio/voice).
 - b) Yuki - agree with Saul's sentiment. There should be some sort of responsibility from the E-board to express their needs to Congress. Maybe send a representative from your office/ staff.
 - (1) Eli in response: E-board meetings every week will discuss matters by Congress. 6 people on E-Board are all working as a team to respond to requests.
 - c) Jeremy - did not need legislation, can just be talked through. And communication would have fixed this.
 - d) Kenzie - heard about complaints from Congress, that can be just talked about and communicated. Directly address the person if you have feedback for them.
 - e) Saul - Thinks it is important that this is codified so Congress can know and have expectations of future E-Boards
 - f) Nick - if you want to reference the SA as a whole, the resolution should be more broad and not just specifically pointing out 3 chairs.
 - (1) Saul response - resolution specifically addresses the 3 chairs as a request, but can be used as a template for any future chairs
 - g) Proposed Motion to table indefinitely by Jeremy
 - h) The chair prefers to let this resolution run its course.
 - i) Motion to close discussion by Omar
 - (1) Seconded by Yuki

V. OLD BUSINESS



Student Association of Binghamton University, Inc.

Student Congress

2/20/2024

FA 258

7:00 PM

Congress Meeting

VI. ANNOUNCEMENTS/PUBLIC COMMENT

VII. ROLL CALL

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

A. Meeting was adjourned at 9:05 pm.