



General Assembly Weekly Meeting Minutes

Thursday, 25 February 2021

| Roll-Call Roster 2020-2021 https://sga.drury.edu/members/ | | | | |
|--|--------------|---|----------------|---------------|
| Executive Council (5) | Class | Officer Position | Present | Absent |
| Mr. Nick Rauscher | Senior | President | X | |
| Ms. Haley Mueller | Junior | VP of Student Life | X | |
| Ms. Kate Hall | Sophomore | VP of Institutional Affairs | X | |
| Ms. Emily Little | Senior | VP of Finance | X | |
| Ms. Alathia Keith | Senior | VP of Communications & Public Relations | X | |
| Senators (12) | Class | Committee Affiliation | Present | Absent |
| Mr. Nick Rispoli | Senior | Institutional Affairs | X | |
| Ms. Torrey Gabriel | Senior | Student Life | X | |
| Mr. Mitchell Greer | Senior | Finance | LATE | |
| Mr. John Schupbach | Junior | Student Life | X | |
| Mr. Hunter Clouse | Junior | Student Life | X | |
| Ms. Emilee Harless | Sophomore | Finance | X | |
| Mr. Thomas O'Brien | Sophomore | Comm & PR | X | |
| Ms. Emily Armour | Freshman | Student Life | X | |
| Mr. Tyler Buff | Freshman | Comm & PR | X | |
| Ms. Annabel White | Freshman | Comm & PR | X | |

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|-----------------------------|----------------|--|----------------|---------------|
| Ms. Quinn Vonder Haar | Freshman | Institutional Affairs | X | |
| Ms. Kaylee Ohlson | Freshman | Student Life | X | |
| Interns (0) | | Committee Affiliation | Present | Absent |
| ----- | ----- | ----- | | |
| Official Advisor (1) | | Position | Present | Absent |
| Paul Hinkle | Faculty Member | Interim Title IX Officer, Director of Student Conduct | X | |

- **Call to Order**

- Mtg was called to order @ 4:30pm by Pres. Rauscher. Roll was taken.
- Guests declared & introduced:
 - Dr. Tim Cloyd, Drury Pres. for 5 yrs
 - Mr. Mike Brothers, University Relations, Comm, & PR

- **Approving the Minutes**

- Motioned & seconded to approve last mtg's (Thurs, 11 February 2021) minutes at 4:35 pm; passed 15/0/0.

- **Executive Council Reports**

- **President**.....Mr. Nick Rauscher
 - This week, met with Chris Johns. He will be helping hand out first-aid kits. Distribution tables will be in front of the commons. We need volunteers MON, March 8th & WEDS, March 10th.
 - Purchased another AED for a security vehicle. They helped us handout sanitizing bottles. Thank you for all the collaboration. They will do a catered meal for us this month.
 - Due to weather, VP Little's mask sewing kits will now be handed out next TUES, March 2nd. A sign-up form will be put out on Teams.
 - We always have senator seats open! There are openings for each class right now. Application will be on the home page of our website. May not be active (checking).

- Point of Information — Random COVID testing is NOT optional.
- Point of Order — Guest speakers will talk after the Committee reports.
- **VP of Student Life**.....Ms. Haley Mueller
 - Will be meeting with Brandon Gammil tomorrow to discuss \$1000 projects from last semester
 - Opening \$1000 projects to all Drury students. Top 5 to be presented to GA, we will judge projects on criteria, if more than 5 we will have an open debate. It will go to Top 1 for voting (similar to Homecoming court). All students will vote for their #1 project; by Thurs, March 25th, the winner will come up with their proposal. The winner will then attend an SGA meeting.
- **VP of Institutional Affairs**.....Ms. Kate Hall
 - Working on the readership program.
 - Working to advertise it during FUSE classes.
 - Communicating with Dr. Miedlinger to discuss getting freshmen signed up. Incentivizing this w/ small giveaway items, stress ball with QR code. Link & information on SGA website home page, <https://sga.drury.edu/>.
 - Met with Public Health & Safety Committee yesterday, working on getting spray bottles into individual classrooms. Very thankful for how diligent students have been with cleaning, thank you!
 - More info about #impactweek - Week of Earth Day (THURS, April 22nd); nationwide initiative. Events will build on each other each day of the week. Informative PDF will be emailed out later.
 - #DruryVotes will start a promotion for the April 6th SGA election. Last day to register is March 10th, to be advertised on our media. Paul Hinkle can answer questions.
 - Working with the University Marketing team for a Q&A style COVID info video for students on: how the semester is, commencement, things going into the fall, etc.

- **Senators!** Be thinking about what those questions are for the video. Few weeks before, we can solidify list in mtg — start thinking ab what things will look like moving forward and looking ahead?
 - Changes to COVID testing coming up. Will distribute what we know about the vaccine & how it will affect students as info comes in.
 - We are looking for x2 seniors interested in serving on the faculty affairs committee. Awards for 2021-2022. Leadership, etc...
 - Senator John Schupbach,
 - Haley Mueller
 - Been in contact with Rebecca Miller about adding fine arts around campus and academic buildings.
- **VP of Finance**.....Ms. Emily Little
 - Allocations will open this upcoming MON, March 1st. Emails will be sent out to organizations for allocation requests. Will push the deadline back to Wednesday, March 17th; orgs will present THURS, March 18th.
 - Send in questions or requests to the SGA finance account, sgafinance@drury.edu; created separately specifically for dedicated responses.
- **VP of Communication & Public Relations**.....Ms. Alathia Keith
 - Part of our 100 day initiative is rebranding our media:
 - Archived outdated/off-brand Instagram posts, similar goal for Twitter.
 - **Senators:** Please turn on Twitter and Instagram notifications @drurysga
 - Our goal is to start working towards direct communication with organizations via advertising their events.
 - **Senators**, plz help us in the meantime by sending events you see posted to our Instagram account via DMs → Account managers will post on stories.

- **Advisor**.....Mr. Paul Hinkle
 - Volunteered VP Keith to talk — An architecture student suggested a Dog Park for Drury (the student has a support dog).
 - Called on Senator Armour: New picnic tables outside the commons area, more chicken in commons, and water bottle refilling stations.
 - Senator Greer: The one for Pearsons is in the student lounge, it's sort of hidden.
 - VP Keith: How many water fountains are there?
 - Senator Greer: 1
 - Called on Senator Buff: The picnic tables can cause splinters, wooden ones, right outside commons.
 - Called on Senator Clouse: Ones under the trees walking along the path towards the benches are unstable.
 - Students come to SGA because we ask questions and they are interested in fixing problems. We would love to see this room fill up.
- **Standing Committee Reports**
 - Academic Affairs:
 - Met last WEDS, February 17th. We met with Jill Holmes from the business office about financial holds (students have some sort of bill & cannot register for classes until past bills are completed). Some are not filling out bills, others are choosing not to come back due to seats being full and various other problems.
 - Senator Greer: University charges 3.5% on debit card. Most want to pay everything at once. I know that people wait to pay in full when they deposit cash. No easy way to pay cash.
 - Upgraded #DruryGo process for Drury grad students (DruryGo Council).
 - Next meeting is THURS, March 3rd, during which we will be talking more about individualized programs for students.
 - Student Affairs:
 - Met on TUES, February. 9th via email.

- Having a #DruryRights event — bringing in a City Utilities bus representative to discuss w students how to deal with SF transportation. Intended to help students who currently can't leave campus without relying on rides from other people. This can help build student autonomy and get people more connected to the larger community of Springfield.
 - For diversity & inclusion, Trustee Member Emily Pitts will do a lot of training with faculty members.
 - One faculty member brought up attendance requirements - why would a student miss class even if they're feeling well? How can we have critical conversations and questions?
 - A lot of environmental policies are being talked about. Three sub committees. What we are doing now. What we can do. What we have done. What certain changes we should push for. Working with the President's Council of Sustainability.
- President's Council on Sustainability | VP Kate Hall
 - Met Thurs, Feb. 18th. Main focus will be on recycling around campus. Started brainstorming. First step is to educate students - \$150 fine for every contamination. We need to educate students on what can be recycled - more signage, suggested we reach out to the Mirror to get info out
 - 2nd step: Relocating recycling bins. Talking to students and brainstorming lots of different ideas.
 - Long-term projects: solar-panel lighting.
 - Meeting again on THURS, March 4th.
- Inclusion Council | Senator Harless
 - Met on THURS, Feb. 11th. Recapped Black History Month. Replicate engagement for Women's Month next month - interviewing different female role models around campus, talk to the graduate center ab talking to graduates, will talk to Panhellenic & see where + when we can partner with them for any events.

- Sub-committees formed for different awarenesses i.e. sexual assault, mental health, etc... any suggestions? Talked about conflict resolution training. Helping faculty members handle different topics. Fall 2021 the Diverse Scholarships are coming back. Next meeting is THURS, March 11th; will check and see how March initiatives are going.
 - Food Committee | Senator Kaylee Olson
 - Met with Jim Benton for ideas regarding the CX and commons. Add more variety to CX, students are getting tired of the same food items. Discuss ideas about building your own meals in the commons- a lot more people went to commons at that time. Should continue to do that. Start implementing more special meals like sushi or the buffalo chicken salad as a quick snack before going to classes so they do not have to wait for actual food.
 - Changing take-out ware from styrofoam to paper cluster. This will be discussed more in New Business.
 - Senior Committee | VP Mueller
 - We have a Microsoft Teams channel now. Been in contact with Dr. Julian and other student life. Getting opinions on food, etc... for the senior celebration event in May. Seniors: keep a lookout on Teams. The faculty team would like to meet with all of us.
- **Dr. Cloyd Guest Speaker**
 - Thank you. We have been through a heck of a time. Only 2.5%, of 3,000, universities in the U.S., have done what we've done as far as COVID precautions. Only through your hard work that we have been open in the Fall and have stayed open; let's finish strong. We hear from a lot of Presidents, I am happy to say we don't have the issues they have. Many have had a very difficult time with compliance and social distancing. Many have not been open since March; example: California had a tough time reopening, we have not had that problem.

- Thank you all for the updates and initiatives, such as the library. It means a lot. Your work has created a community, a sense of connectedness, the support within each other, and holding each other accountable. You may be able to tell your great grandchildren about this pandemic. Some of you have been doing extra work. The COVID Committee that we created back in April has met 110 times. We may see some spike in cases because of the new variants. Hopefully, we will see a tsunami of vaccines come to us, all of us - maybe by May or June. This community has taken charge and controlled our own destiny, instead of turning it over to the Health Department and shutting down.
- Questions:
 - Will you force students to get the vaccine in April?
 - Will be voluntary.
 - People worry about RNA. Been tested a lot. Different sub vaccines throughout the world, this is the one we strongly encourage you to take. Quicker we reach herd immunity, the quicker we can get back to normal. For the rest of this semester, we will have the masking. You can still catch it if you get the vaccine. 3 cases of people contradicting Covid with vaccines. Symptomatic.
 - Everything changes quickly. When can we expect Graduation plans to be set?
 - The dates we have right now are FRI, May 14th and SAT, May 15th. Residential day on Saturday. Already done 3 graduations in a pandemic, we are fully prepared.
 - Will there be virtual options to attend graduation?
 - I am sure they will work out every alternative. We may not be back to 100% occupancy. O'Reilly might have limited seating. Virtual will always be with us now.

- The graduation has always been live streamed. As for participation, we will look at it. Dr. Julian & her team are planning for those ceremonies. If you all have ideas, please talk to her.
- Emilee Pits will help with diversity and inclusion for awareness. She agreed to do 25 training sessions for faculty and staff. Conversation on how to approach diversity and inclusion, white supremacy, Black Lives Matter, etc. Different words and such. Encourage to talk with her on what sessions she can do and what experiences you want. She will do a thing called Courageous Conversations on race topics and how people talk about it. Needs to be tailored to what students really want. We will be using FUSE 101 to integrate a section of that class to focus on issues of inclusion and diversity, types of conflicts in society today.
- In regards to vaccines, the structure of how people will get the vaccines, offer any insight on college student aid if we get the vaccines and how it will be administered?
 - Trump administration decentralized decision making, who should get what where and how, we as a university disagree with Missouri's governor's three tiers:
 - 1A First Responders, medical, etc
 - 1B Pre-existing conditions and fall into a certain age range
 - Cox is down to 72-109 with pre-existing.
 - Higher education. K-12, not students but faculty.
 - Higher Education is just below the homeless, and disagreed with the governor on that.
 - College Students are in CAT3. Johnson and Johnson vaccines are coming out, maybe in May. Certainly before August, you will get the vaccine if you want.
- Talked about zoom: once Drury is completely post-COVID, hybrid classes? Traditional seat?

- Great question. There will (I think) be hybrid opportunities. Lecture capture, interactive experiences, not something that is going away. Can bring up with faculty and how it can work with them. The Zoom experience may not have been optimal due to that. Faculty and discipline. We won't discourage hybrid/Zoom, but won't encourage it as first choice - we like the face-to-face experience. Friends groups, social groups, relationships, etc... is difficult through Zoom. Evolution of Zoom, first = suit and tie, then devolve to more casual, then PJs, sometimes turn off camera, etc...Creates a weird atmosphere for school. Face-to-face is so much deeper and more important. Social Media platforms has led to the merging of private and public to be a normal thing. 20 years from now, things posted in the media could come back. Human beings make mistakes. How do you have forgiveness in that context of a real/hyper non-real platform? We don't know our way out of the dangerous situation. Driven by need to come to terms with how technology changes us as far as what we want and what we value. Human relationships, not getting trapped in echo-chambers - example, the *Social Dilemma* - Google knows my wife better than I know her now.
- Mental health concerns?
 - Huge issue - ¼ people from the ages of 18-24 have contemplated thoughts on suicide since the Pandemic started. There has been an increase in anxiety. How do we come out of this and celebrate post-COVID? Faculty, staff, and students coming together - a festival maybe...Blackbear? People aged 18-24 have found ways to accommodate themselves i.e. by living together with friends, etc.

- **Old Business**

- VP Little — Financial Handbook
 - Moved from table and seconded to bring the item to the floor (updated handbook). Considering motion to adopt queen text. Moved to vote and seconded. Passed 16/0/0.

- **New Business**

- VP Little — Ignite Allocation:
 - Why this is coming up now, in February: Ignite is a summer program, getting their costs analysis done early helps them with advertisement and readiness.
 - Moved & seconded to allocate \$7,425.50 to Ignite program - 5 day program, during the business week. Funding for activities each of the 5 days, money to stay on campus, t-shirts (all in compliance with the handbook). Questions?
 - Clouse: What is Ignite?
 - Greer: Summer program, targeted for the incoming freshmen (not full-time undergrads yet, those who plan on attending in the Fall). Reduced to just one trip - no more exploring the Ozarks, only exploring Campus and surrounding area, SDC, Aquarium, drive around nearby neighborhoods, etc... 40 people. Charge students \$100 - encourages people to not cancel last minute. Certain things we won't pay for, example: food the entire time. We will cover one reflection meal. If not enough people to fulfill total cost, will loosen selection process to take anyone with a decent application.
 - Mr. Hinkle: It's usually a 20 person trip. The program was expanded for next year; 50% are first generation students or at-risk for under representation in their community. Panthers first, then those from at-risk communities, to build success at Drury.
 - Moved to a vote; passed 15/1/0.

- New Business Proposal from VP Mueller
 - Sustainable To-Go Boxes. Been talking to Jim Fenton about the styrofoam containers which are bad for the environment - we go through about 900 boxes per week. He addressed the compostable paper boxes, a bit more expensive, 8 cents each vs 15. Makes a \$135 a week difference = 10 weeks left, so \$1,350.
 - Greer: Profit margins are low, we might have to look at a cheaper option because people are not eating as much at the Commons and trying to save money. We need to push for this through the student body.
 - John: Green plastic to-go boxes?
 - Hygiene issue. Washing it and taking it to the commons became an issue. You have to bring it in, filled, and back home. Will still hand those out. A lot of costs Jim Benton and his team have incurred this semester- they have done a great job from my standpoint. Helping them out would be reasonable.
 - Rispoli: As many costs they've incurred, have to agree with Greer that Jim Benton won't wash the green boxes, it should not be okay here. My main thing is yes this is great, we should do the sustainability option, maybe we encourage this to be a continuous option. COVID has changed things permanently, helping get a leg up. Emphasize sanitization options.
 - He told me that he was retraining his staff on sanitization techniques. Personal and dish-trained them on how to properly wash dishes, other than College students who just rinse and want to get it done.
 - Clouse: If you have concerns, take a look at the sanitization process and the kitchen itself. Might give a peace of mind. I used to work in the kitchen.

- Kaylee: The Food Health Association implemented new techniques for restaurants. Some of the new protocols, where we change out buckets with specific solutions, etc... stainless steel cleaning, wood, granite, etc... bad idea to introduce more stuff at this point in time.
- Greer: Mentioned with their okay with bringing to-go boxes?
- Faculty member came in with a green to-go box. Don't know the system.
- If it is an option, we should advertise it. If we are safe to do such a thing, we should advertise the option.
- More clarification.
- Olsen: Green boxes are used for students in quarantine, identification. Barcode other boxes. Might be another mess for the boxes.
 - Moved & seconded to allocate \$1,350.00 to purchase sustainable to-go boxes; passed 15/1/0.
- **Open Discussion**
 - Another bean bag or two might be nice in the Library. Might need a few more of those. Very popular.
 - On our list of things to be considered
 - We see how often things are being used, people love the bean bags. And the desk that comes with it too.
 - Will be sending out msg over Teams sign-up for distributing the mask-sewing kits & first-aid kits next week.
- **Call to Adjourn**
 - Motioned by Hunter Clouse and seconded by Mitchell Greer at 5:56 pm. Passed 15/1/0.

Next Meeting to be Held:

Thursday, 04 March 2021

4:30 pm

FSC Ballroom

**Student Government
Association**

