



1-31-2024  
5:30-7:00  
Great Room

## Minutes

- I. Welcome**
- II. Roll Call Attendance**
- III. Approval of Agenda**
- IV. Approval of Minutes**
- V. Constituency Comments**
- VI. Committee Report**
  - A. Standards**
    - Standards has a freshman seat bylaw vote happening today
  - B. Finance**
    - Finance met with AED and they are looking to attend the nation conference in Texas this year, and they are looking to send two representatives. After talking with them, it is below the \$1000 threshold so finance decided to approve that
    - The Budget Allocation Committee meeting was yesterday.
    - They also met with the Winter Sports Club who wants to go to Bear Creek for a skiing trip and that was also a below \$1000 request, so the committee decided to approve that as well.
  - C. Campus Engagement**
    - Campus Engagement had our first meeting with our two new committee members

- We will be having our 1st event of the semester on February 11th from 2-4pm and it will be a Yoga event.
- If you go into the Campus Engagement Folder → Tabling → and sign up for tabling for the event.
- You need to either table for an hour or work the event for an hour to fulfill your representative engagement requirements
- We have our club approval today's and please be as attentive as possible during these club pitches

#### **D. DEI&B**

- DEI&B took a look at the bylaws and what it outlines the committee's responsibilities to be. They have decided that instead of just one DEIB training a semester for SGA, they want to implement monthly DEIB topic discussion in order to keep these issues in our discourse and at the forefront of our minds.
- The MAC drag event will be February 7th from 7-9:30pm and please show up to the event. We have 4 alumni who are drag performers that will be coming back to perform

#### **E. Institutional Committees**

- APC is going over the GARs this week and they were looking for input on if current students would be interested in switching to the new GARs midway through their academic career.
- They also talked about the potential of triple majors or double major and double minoring. If there is time today we will have further discussion about this.

#### **F. AD-HOCs**

- There is now a flier explaining the tiered system of payment across the college. Shoutout to Margery for putting that graphic together. If you have any questions

### **G. Recording Secretary**

- Not too much from Noah but if you are a new representative from either last semester or newly elected this semester then Noah has sent you an email with some onboarding information as well as

### **H. Director of Communications**

- Happy end of Jan from Margery
- There have been a couple new posts that are going out, and we have a few new posts that are coming shortly.
- If you are involved in a group on campus that would like SGA to repost, please dm it to the SGA account and Margery will repost within 24-48 hours
- Some of our upcoming posts include our upcoming town hall, as well as a post coming up for our Yoga event
- Please fill out Margery's google form if you are a new rep, as that will be used for our Instagram post later in the semester

### **I. President**

- YO! Andrew and Jake went to the Board of Trustees last week and they are going again on Saturday with not much to update on that front at the moment.
- Eboard had our senior staff meeting last week, and we will be reaching out to Provost Furge about learning more about academic policies on campus

- Congratulations to our new representatives on joining SGA. They will be onboarding for these new reps on Friday.
- We have our town hall meeting which is scheduled for February 14th, 2024 and we will be having a partnership with Voices of Strength, and they will be doing a presentation on the work they do, and the services they provide on campus

## **VII. New Business**

### **A. Club Approvals**

- Campus Engagement drafted a disclaimer so we are evaluating clubs in a proper and supportive way
  - The checklist regarding the criteria for approving new clubs is in the Campus Engagement folder.
1. Young Poet Society
    - The mission statement of the club is for students who are interested in poetry to come and read poetry in a safe space
    - They also want to erase some of the stigma around poetry that poetry always has to be deep, and encourage more freedom in writing
    - Some of the events they want to do are poetry speed dating, anonymous poetry night where students can write poetry that they do not read aloud so they do not feel uncomfortable when their poetry is being read
    - They hope to meet weekly to talk about poetry and poets. They plan to provide prompts with examples at each meeting and then encourage free writing time
    - They want to create poetry, appreciate poetry, and then fun events to gather interest in the young poetry society

- They will need some funding for events, and are expecting about needing \$2000 for the semester
- They plan to use money on events, catering, as well as movie showing. Additionally for their fundraiser they plan to have printing costs.
- Some future events would include going to the rose gardens and appreciating poetry as a form of expression in an outdoor space
- Would they be open to partnering with the Weekly in order to give more attention to poets on campus? Absolutely! They plan to collaborate with many clubs on campus, and they have talk to a few club presidents on campus about collaboration across campus, and working so that as many people on campus can read and appreciated
- How many people are currently interested in joining the Young Poet Society? They have a 5 person E-Board and they sent out an interest form that currently has 11 people interested which is still open to accepting responses.
- **CLUB WAS APPROVED!** Stay tuned for poetry!

## 2. Muhlenberg's TIC

- Ryan Sternberg is here presenting Muhlenberg TIC
- After auditioning for MIA, there was a discussion about how the auditioners enjoyed the process of playing Improv games and they were interested in creating a space for playing those games
- Along with Ryan, there are 5 other people interested in the club, and there are other people who are interested as well

- An average meeting would consist of having all new member signing a form ensuring that they will make this safe a safe space, and respect the members in the club
- Then they would play a series of Improv Games amongst the members with feedback opportunities afterwards.
- This club will contribute to a space on campus as it will provide a safe space for improv that does not require an audition
- The purpose of their club is to provide a space to learn about improv without the stress of auditioning.
- In terms of financing, they do not think they will need any finances from SGA
- In terms of events, they currently have a program with ENACT, combining both of the clubs interests.
- There are already 4 improv groups on campus but TIC intends to be different because it does not require any auditioning component.
- This will be a 5th improv space that still prioritizes improv, but in a space with no auditions where members can still express their personalities.
- **CLUB WAS APPROVED.**

### 3. fiBerg Arts

- Gideon, Gabby, and Riley are here presenting for fiBerg Arts
- They wanted to start this club because they noticed there is a large group of people on campus who are already interested in crocheting and knitting and this could be a better community space for those individuals on campus

- They wanted to provide a space for people who do not know how to knit and crochet for people to learn in a safe space, and they also wanted to provide a space where members who are entrepreneurs, can better be supported.
- Some anticipated expenses including crocheting materials such as yarn, scissors and other crochet and knitting materials, but all will be as needed
- The only recurring cost would be for yarn.
- What is “creative corner”? It is an area at the library where the library puts art supplies out, and fiBerg arts plans to use that space similarly.
- **CLUB WAS APPROVED**

#### 4. BergImmersive

- Emma (she/he) and Maya (she/he/they) are here on behalf of BergImmersive put on Love in Idleness last semester and due to the overwhelming feedback from the community, they want to continue this work.
- The club is in production phases for 12 Ophelias which is another immersive piece and the club members are really excited for the project.
- Immersive Theater Troupes is a very rare occurrence on college campuses, and it is currently a growing industry which they believe is the future of theater.
- There is a entire immersive theater building/company that is happening in NYC
- They plan to be a production company with rotating crews and casts each semester.

- In terms of being open to the student body, they will be having movie nights.
- They focus on classical adaptations of theater.
- The club is also hoping to bring on assistant positions for other students so that they can eventually go into costume designers
- They anticipate having weekly meetings for their production crews.
- Currently they do require licensing for the show they plan to do this semester. And they do intend on needing some funding for costuming.
- For the future semesters, they plan on having fundraisers to cover future costs to cover costumes and other anticipated needs
- What is immersive theater? Immersive theater is essentially theater that subverts the audience, actor boundary. It allows the audience to walk through the theatrical space, as the actors are existing in the space alongside the audience. Immersive theatre can often be seen as performance art but overall it has a very fluid form of art. Its the essence of Disneyland where the characters are always performing as you walk through their world.
- Currently, they have 39 people on their email list, and are approaching about 130 people on their Instagram account
- The auditions for shows would be open to anyone and in any major.
- How would you make sure that you wouldn't be clashing with any of the MTA student designers and their work? They



sourced to people who have interest and provide opportunities for those who really want to learn more about this art form

- There are some people who are applying for design position, that had never applied for designer position whatsoever, and they encourage the entire community of Muhlenberg to get involved
- Within immersive theater, there is concern with intimacy coordinator and safety for the actors and audience, and how will they ensure that this is not an issue? Last semester, they instituted a stoplight system where they used glow bands to instill a level of comfort within the audience
- They ask that the audience stay at least 5 feet away from the actors, and they have many people asking to be put on a crew in this capacity.
- They will have a trained intimacy coordinator for all productions
- Would it be possible for someone to be involved in BergImmersive and other productions on campus? They plan to implement similar policies that the Theatre department has to ensure that students are not overlooked. This would also be a space for students who might not have been given the opportunity to be in MTA or departmental productions to be involved with theatre.
- **CLUB WAS APPROVED**

## B. Freshman Seat Votes

- The election in the fall would take place 2-3 weeks into the semester, and would be solely freshman at first, and if freshman do not apply, it will then be open to the entire campus
- However, if there were opens seats before the Spring semester begins, a special election should be hold up with up to two seats reserved for 1st years
- **This is a hands raise vote and the consensus is that people prefer Fall over spring**
- We have also discussed instead of taking away two seats, we will add two seats to make the total 25 members on SGA
- There is always an election at the end of Spring where people would run to be one of the 23 representatives, and then we would hold two seats at the beginning of the fall semester that are set aside specifically for freshman to increase the total of 25 seats on SGA
- The increase in 25 seats would not result in much bylaw change, given that quorum is a percentage of members present
- The vote right now is to add two freshman seats, and we will have the vote to increase SGA to 25 members later
- We will be voting on increasing the number of seats on SGA to 25 TODAY and the caveat is that it will go into effect at the end of this semester!
- These are separate due to the fact that they are not contingent on each other and we are doing the increase bylaw vote in order to better inform our vote regarding the freshman seat.
- **Increase to GA to 25 people VOTE PASSES**
- **First Year Seats Bylaw VOTE PASSES**
-

### C. SGA Award Discussion

- Every year during every Honors Convocation, SGA awards a staff member (faculty, staff, or management) of their choice to recognize outstanding work, having worked at least 3 years at the college. We are currently gathering names

### D. APC Discussion

- Would people want to opt into changing their major on to the new GAR curriculum midway through their college career? Potentially if there is the option people could be interested in the option.
- It someone were to go abroad, it could be very confusing potentially
- Some think it would be nice to have the
- What about triple majoring? Are there concerns?

## **VIII. Adjournment**