SUFAC Meeting Minutes

March 30, 2017, 5:30pm

University Union 1965 Room

1. Call to Order at 5:43
2. Roll Call: Mark Fischer, Courtney Zambon, Nik Austin, Brianna Messner, Alexis Galvan, Kaylie Noll, Lea Truttmann, John Landrum
3. Recognition of Guests: McKinley Lentz, Mark Olkowski, Dennis DeBeck
4. Approval of Agenda
   1. Nik entertained a motion to approve the agenda.Mark motioned, Brianna seconded.
   2. John asked for an Amendment to New Business. He asked for the topic of Use of Reserves under B in New Business. Mark Motioned. Brianna Seconded. Voice Vote. Passed.
   3. Nik entertained a motion to approve the amended agenda. Mark Motioned. Brianna Seconded. Voice Vote. Passed.
5. Approval of Previous minutes
   1. The two meetings being approved are D-Day and February 16th minutes. Kaylie motioned. Brianna seconded. Voice Vote. Passed.
6. Reports
   1. OFO: Committed is $29,116. Org Startup is currently at $1,372.62.
   2. Liaison: N/A
   3. Senate: There are two senate meetings remaining. We will be using those two meetings to vote on the bylaws and constitutional amendments. The next meeting will also include two resolutions.
   4. SGA Exec: N/A
   5. Vice Chair: No Report.
   6. Chair: Fund the Freeze was today, and it was located in Rose Hall 250. It was pretty full for this, but the rally was smaller most likely do to the rain. I will be putting Mark Fischer in charge as temporary chair so I can appeal the decision. There are two separate appeals on the SGA budget. Nik is appealing the entire budget. While Dennis is appealing the honorariums for Justices.
   7. Announcement-Brianna: There are multiple sporting events this weekend, but as a sidenote the softball game is going to be played at St Norberts this weekend.
7. New Business Items
   1. Appeal of SGA Budget.
      1. Nik entertained a motion to make Mark the temporary chair of SUFAC for new business bullet point A. Brianna motioned. Kaylie seconded. Roll Call vote. Passed. 5-0-0
      2. Nik brings up his email that he wrote to sufac outlining his argument about why he is appealing SUFAC’s decision.
      3. **Kaylie:** Nik, can you please summarize the letter into basic points.

**Nik:** The person responsible for making sga budget are the SGA President and Vice President. SUFAC should be able to give recommendations to them . As compared to previous years, this is odd. Financial statements by state law should be made by the students. Everyone that he talked to was for his proposed budget.

**John:** If you promised free tuition could you?

**Nik:** No, but I am looking for a compromise.

**John:** Is there a guideline saying that a campaign promise has to happen?

**Nik**: Yes, campaign promises should be attempted by voting on the promises.

**Kaylie:** So you want a compromise from the D-Day decision?

**Nik:** Yes, I would want it more in line with what I ran on.

**Brianna:** Do you have a newly proposed budget?

**Nik:** By appealing this, I want you to go back to the budget from D-day and reconsider it. I understand that there is a need for compromise from my proposal and the D-day budget. When people came up with segregated fees, they were implemented that the fees by state law would be in the hands of the student.

**John:** Sufac is a committee of SGA, governed by the constitution, and it is a representative committee.

**Nik:** The people were not voted by the students that are a part of SUFAC.

**John:** There is opportunity for senate to be on sufac. Since this is in place, then you can’t claim we aren’t representing the students.

**Nik:** The bigger point is that the budget was voted on by the students and approved.

**Dennis:** There was only 240 votes that you received in the election.

**Nik**: By putting more money into the executive fund, we will be using if for the students. When I talked to the exec board members they were making plans in accordance to the increase. I decided to appeal, when they voted for me too because they want to continue with their previous plans. ( Nik brings up the budget) The committed portion of the budget stayed the same. The honorariums were cut for some members. I don’t believe cutting honorariums will create a significant loss of quality for the members of SGA. This wouldn’t have a long term impact on student government. I am graduating in May, and this is what I think is best for SGA. The opportunity to move the money into the contractual portion of the budget would give committee chairs the opportunity to do more events. The incoming sga president was one of the committee chairs that brought this up and wants to do more with the contractual funds. Cutting the Justices honorariums was outlined in the letter. SUFAC increased the sponsorship fund, without us asking for it but I am okay with that.

**Mark:** Program 5. Did you tell them they can do contingency requests?

**Nik:** Yes, but sometimes it comes down to the wire. It would make the process a lot more easy, if the funding was already there. The committee chairs are selected by president and Vice President.

**Kaylie:**You won’t be here next year, and you have never used all the money in the past. **Brianna:** You can make contingency request.

**Nik:** The incoming president was in agreement for increasing the funds for contractual. Sometimes contingency requests take a long time to get to go through.

**Mark:** The reason we cut it was because there was no specifics made with where the money was going to go.

**Nik:** I have thought about that. It does bring up problems, in order to come close with any other student organizations in competition. We are the only org with honorariums and we have offices. No other organizations have offices. I agree that the setup does cause problems.

**Brianna:** How many chairs do you have? Do they each get an equal portion.

**Nik:** There are nine plus SUFAC. It comes out to a nice number for each chair. I did it like that because we needed more money for each place. Why can’t we have another portion for it? When we added the 9th chair it went up.

**Mark:** Is it a blank check to committee chairs?

**Nik:** No, its more like a block grant. The rest of the chairs do their own work and this would create an easy way to get funds.

**Kaylie:** Each chair gets 400 dollars now. And they added a chair and it goes down now. What if we give you a slight bump?

**Nik:** This is what we asked for and we are asking for a compromise. I feel like we have a responsibility to the students to make this happen because I had it sent out to the students. **John**: What is the nature of the appeal? Were their Guidelines broken? Your appealing because you didn’t like it?

**Nik:** You could say that, and the statelaw says that the students elect it.

**John:** Does Sufac make stuff like this happen before?

**Nik:** The constitution is says it.

**Kaylie:** If I had to change anything, I would give you a little more money for the chairs.

**Nik:** The voting is going to happen next week. This is me coming to you saying please review this. I think the SGA budget should be created by the President and Vice President to a reasonable extent.

**John:** Sufac hears appeals if its procedural appeals? Or guidelines?

Nik: I don’t think it says it like that.

**John:** That’s what it says. If any other org would have came forth with this we wouldn’t have listened. Your constitution says that Sufac makes decisions that are final unless there is a violation of procedure or guidelines.

**Nik:** Is there an issue with state law and the constitution?

**Brianna:** Anyone can be approved that wants to be a part of SUFAC.

**Nik:** This is due process for this decision.

**John:** Organizations were heard and sufac made decisions based on these presentations. This is your third presentation on your budget. The first was original meeting, D-day was the second one, and the third was now.

**Nik:** Second was because I wanted Mark’s O. Letter to be read and stay open. Mark: The reasoning for the appeal has be sent in B1. What is your basis of the appeal? Nik: The letter. **Mark:** The appeal is based on that you didn’t like the choice and wasn’t based on procedural.

**Nik:** Its based on the constitution and state law. The letter can be based as it was an opinion. **John:** Do you feel your budget wasn’t heard somehow?

**Nik:** I feel it was smaller then it should have been.

**Mark:** If the budget proposed was smaller then would you have the same thing?

**Nik**: No.

**Mark:** The flaw is dealing with the state laws but why wasn’t it handled before D-Day?

**Nik:** I tried but it didn’t happen and we couldn’t push it through.

**Alexis:** Do you feel there isn’t representation of the students here?

**Nik:** I wouldn’t say that but they voted for my budget on the basis of my campaign. People did vote this.

**John:** Students have voted for your constitution and bylaws too.

**Nik:** Somewhat.

**John:** But you write it and don’t approve it.

**Nik:** Yes that is correct that I don’t approve it.

**Discussion**

**Kaylie:** I think he speaks like a politician. He talks a lot and is repetitive. I thought the way he came across was aggressive. His reasonings don’t make sense because we can’t control them as members of sufac. It’s different because SGA president is different each year. That’s a huge hurdle to overcome. Its hard to accomplish what will happen in the future. We can only base it on the past. The past dictates that they don’t always use it.

**Mark:** He can appeal it based on the opinion. But do we want this?

**Kaylie**: Yes we don’t want to have orgs in here doing this.

**Brianna:** What is he referring to that contingency requests take a long time?

**Mark:** The committee chairs don’t learn about their events until a week before.

**Brianna:** They can still try to get a contingency budget. It is hard to give a contingency request, if they don’t come forth.

**John**: The main story behind this is that two people on SUFAC stonewalled them on the app. In the end, there was a compromise between SUFAC and the people who asked for the funding for the app.

**Lea**: Is there a reason why they can’t find out about events beforehand?

**Mark:** No.

**Lea and Kaylie:** They should have a plan moving forth.

**John:** Most orgs have changes that happen in leadership. John: I want orgs to have elections in march to avoid these issues.

**Kaylie:** Why don’t they know what they are going to do for the fall?

**Mark:** I encourage that they should have a plan made by the exec board of now and the future. An example is that myy brother tried to get something from Sufac but didn’t file anything until about a week in advance. They need to plan more.

**Kaylie**: In the real world. Real businesses do timelines as part of the proposal.

**Brianna:** They should have enough time for contingency requests because events should be planned ahead to help market to the students. They should have time to make a contingency request.

**Courtney**: I would have to abstain, unless sufac wants to hear my opinion. (Sufac wants to hear it.) I trust Mark Olkowski, I trust his letter. Hes been here longer.

**Alexis:** I get that he ran on this, but I feel he thinks its more important for SGA then other organizations. They didn’t get the money they had for their budget.

**Kaylie:** I would have voted to give him more money for the chairs if it wasn’t a high jump. **Brianna, Kaylie, Courtney:** I agree.

**John**: Why are you wanting to compromise from your D-day organization? You need to stick with it.

**Dennis:** It needs to be within grounds of an appeal.

**Brianna:** What does nick mean about the quality?

**Mark:** Nik ran on this and his execs were okay with it. If they were hired then they were okay with the cuts.

**Brianna:** With the numbers made are they from this year?

**Mark:** They weren’t payed in full Nik. He only gave them what they agreed on. Nik said he was compromising for the future.

**Brianna:** I wish he would have shown the budget he used.

**Alexis:** I feel that the reason he came in was because he didn’t like the decision.

**John:** He doesn’t know the bylaws and he just wants to break them.

**Lea:** Why didn’t he change this before in regards to the bylaws? He has been around so long. **Mark:** He wants to become an auxiliary.

**Dennis:** Is this a constitutional appeal? That’s what you have to ask yourself first before you render a decision

**Mark:** Can we move on to go to the next point?

Appeal 2

**Dennis:** According to the constitution the Chief Justice is supposed to ask for money for the operating. There are a total of 5 justices. SUFAC didn’t cut honorariums for any other position but they cut the justices in full. This year the associate justices are getting paid. But the budget for next year shows that justices are cut. Nik’s claim was that the justices don’t do anything. The student court handles the election rules in the fall. Court also handles any appeals or complaints that come forth. Some year’s there are a ton, and some years there are not. The number of cases completely depends on the people in SGA. They are the one’s who bring forth cases. We also completely handle the SGA elections. There is no point in time that I feel the President and Vice President can make an accurate budget for the judicial branch. They don’t know what we actually do behind closed doors. This is the first year the justices have put forward constitutional amendments, and implemented office hours. Associate Justices are just as involved as exec members. I am open to questions because I know Student Court is not a highly publicized thing.

**John:** It would cost 340 Dollars a semester per a justice.

**Dennis:** I am fighting to grandfather these justices in, because they expected to be payed. **McKinley:** From my understanding, in article 2 the executive branch, the budget provides for honorariums for everyone, including justices.

**John:** On D-day we essentially never voted on the issue because we didn’t realize that it was cut.

**Dennis:** I felt it was a procedural issue, and just a mistake. 4 out of the 5 current justices will be leaving by next year may. I am fighting for honorariums to stay the same as they were for my current justices. In the future if SUFAC wants to lower their honorariums that is a choice that I trust SUFAC will make the right decision on. I think that it was just a mistake and can easily be fixed.

Mark entertained a motion to appoint nik as sufac chair again. Brianna motioned. Kaylie seconded it. Roll Call vote. Passed. 5-0-0.

* 1. Use of Reserves

**Discussion**

* + 1. **John**: Dick Anderson called and he wanted an explanation about the line that says what the reserves are for. Its currently used to make the budget balanced. Dick wants to make it non allocoable instead of allocable. Dick wants you to start the process to make the use of reserves as non allocable due to Walker’s bill possibly passing in the near future.

**Mark:** Would we be able to move it yet?

**John:** Yes, its just that we don’t want the students to have the option to opt out of this fee.

**Brianna:** It would be optional to opt into this fee if Walkers bill does pass.

**John**: Dick is saying that if this is approved then the students can say no to funding it. If its non rellocable then they have no say and are forced to pay it.

**Mark:** What is auxiallable?

**John:** Everything outside of the Student orgs is allocable. Brianna: I trust him and that it should happen.

**Vote**

Nik entertains a motion to make reserves non allocable. Mark motioned. Brianna seconded. Roll call vote. Passed 5-0-0.

* 1. By-law revision
     1. **Mark:** John sent an email for bylaws we should look over.

**John:** These ideas are just my ideas, some that I have heard from lea, and also ideas that came up on d-day. I came up with 10 or so on my own. You can have your own revisions as well.

**Mark:** One is honorariums. And the floor would be 10% to cut.

* + 1. Excused Absences and Unexcused Abscenses.
       1. **John:** There were issues in January and February with absences. The question is how many abscenses should be allowed? Why do we have excused and not excused? The bottom line is that if you are not there then you can’t vote on those orgs budgets. It also states that if you have miss a certain amount of meetings it is grounds for immediate dismissal. Is there a eed for a process to make this dismissal if it is immediate?

**Brianna:** I interpreted the process as something that we can follow and it shows we have done it by the book.This brings the situation to the attention of SUFAC.

**Mark:** I like the system of 3 strikes your out.

**Alexis:** If you miss nine meetings then you are basically missing the entire SUFAC meeting times.

**John:** There were 11 total meetings with presentations. During D-day it was tough because it was hard to get quorum. It is hard to think that a member can miss 7 out of 10 meetings and still be a voting member.

**Brianna:** I joined because it was so flexible. Coaches make the schedule and it might not be possible to make the meetings.

**Mark**: I think that it should be a lower limit.

**Alexis:** It should be 5 or less.

**Brianna:** Can we say be at over half the meetings?

**Courtney:** Senate is one unexcused absence and three excused absences.

**Mark:** Senate meets half the time sufac does. I understand athletes need exceptions, I like the athletes here because they do have harder schedules and we need to find a middle ground.

**Brianna:** About four or five would be comfortable for us.

**Nik**: Can all athletes get their schedules in advance?

**Brianna:** We have our game schedule but the coach can change the practice schedule. **Kaylie:** We have required table hours and that can be hard sometimes.

**Brianna**: We sometimes only get 24 hour notice if we are going to have a practice or not.

**McKinley:** It would be tough to make an exception for only sufac.

**Nik:** What if they had a change where if the person comes in with a note the next meeting. If this happens then they can have an excused absents.

**Mark:** That’s what we are at now but it would just be enforcing it harder.

**Kaylie:** There should be less unexcused, Brianna agrees.

**Mark:** What about 3 or 4 excused?

**Brianna:** Yes. And very few unexcused things. I never skipped a meeting.

**Kaylie:** It should be 1 unexcused absence.

**Alexis:** Agreed. 4 excused absences.

**Mark:** You need to be there to vote for it.

**John:** Do you really need a document for this? You either trust peop or you don’t.

**Courtney:** I don’t need to know their reason, but I just need to know before the meeting in a reasonable amount of time.

**Alexis:** You can’t get a doctors note everytime your sick.

**Courtney:** We are students first and their may be homework that we need to do.

**Alexis:** People are here for a reason.

**Kaylie**: There should only be one unexcused abscense because you can send emails easily on campus.

**Alexis:** One unexecused abscense and 4 excused? So five total. (Everyone agrees.)

**John:** the real problem is that all members are a part of quorum.

**Kaylie:** If someone joins sufac late do the meetings they missed count?

**Mark:** No, they just get to vote on the ones they here.

**John**: The real issue is quorum.

* + 1. Automatic Removal
       1. **Mark:** The process of removing it should be their to give a reason why it happened. **Brianna:** Yes I agree.

**John:** It defines what late and early arrivals are. This is super picky. Do you want to say thanks for showing up or say you were late even if its ten minutes?

**Mark:** Yes I agree. John: That one is harsh. If we were swamped with members then we would do it. But that’s not the case.

* + - 1. How is this automatic?

**Nik:** It is in place to make sure that they can have a meeting without the person. **John:** It says ground for removal and doesn’t have a process.

**Mark:** So it needs a process.

**Nik:** Yes

**John:** Yes

* + 1. Chairs voting
       1. **Mark:** Chairs have a vote in the case of a tie?

**John:** It has happened in the past.

* + 1. Section 3.02 Officers section 16 and 17
       1. Delete 17 because fourth estate is dead.
       2. **Mark:** Is there a child care alliance?

**Courtney**: Yes I reperesent it for both.

**Mark:** You have to have sepererate for senate.

**Courtney:** Sam was invited to meetings.

* + 1. Duration Article 4 Section 4.01 Subsection A
       1. **Mark:** Add the or to 4.01 2 to make it better. It will also clear up confusion.
    2. Section 4.02 Special Sessions
       1. **Mark:** do we have special meetings? Have we had one ever?

**John:** It gives you an out and has happened once.

* + 1. Article V Procedures, Section 5.01 subsection c (would be a new subsection)
       1. **John:** Proxy voting is discouraged because members should be here to do it except for small abscences during d-day.

**Mark:** I like it.

**John:** Its supposed to give the chance for members to get a small break to handle issues.

* + 1. Decision letters 5.08 section A
       1. **Mark:** Do we want to keep the advisor listed on the student life big lists?

**Nik:** Its easier to find the orgs email.

**Brianna:** Just have them put the email on it.

**Nik:** This is one of those things that isn’t important but there is no harm doing it. **Mark:** I did it once this year since the org leader didn’t handle it anymore.

**John**: It’s a choice to do it for sufac. Either start doing it or remove it.

**Mark:** Remove it.

**Nik :** Agrees.

* + 1. Section 5.11 Officer Vacancy from both Chair and Vice Chair.
       1. **John:** I want to be able to put a time stamp on it.

**Mark:** Should we put a time limit on it?

**Dennis:** There should be a process for it to happen.

**Mckinley:** Amendment that VP should be able to appoint chair until senate approves.

**Nik:** It seems like that solution that would fix it. What do you mean by a time limit? **Mark:** Have a new chair within a time.

**Nik:** It may be hard to find someone to do it. You are going to want to push it on someone else as soon as possible. I feel it was a strange circumstance.

**Mark:** We should consider it because it has happened now.

**Brianna:** The process may complicate it. It’s hard to put a process to put in place. **Dennis:** A vague process would work.

**Nik:** What if you had one person to take over the chair for the first meeting? We should have something in place if something happens we know who can run it. Example senior member of SUFAC.

**Kaylie**: Do they know what they need to know?

**Nik:** Its more of the best option.

**Mark:** Speaker of the Sufac?

**Nik:** Most senior Sufac member volunteer.

**Mark:** Any ideas that come forth we will recognize it?

**McKinley:** You could make a president temp porem. So decide at the beginning. **Nik:** They would be able to know it could happen and prepare.

**John:** We would take care of the person if this did happen. Someone would be slotted in for that meeting to take it.

* + 1. Ad Hoc committee Section 6.02
       1. **Mark:** When was the last time this happened?

**John:** It happened two years ago, that dealt with making drastic changes to the guildelines.

**Nik:** Did we get any thoughts?

**John:** Yes. They appointed people to go study stuff.

* + - 1. Sufac Chair and Vice chair area
         1. Put the office hours up there. Why send them to the president?

**Mark:** Change it to something else?

**Nik:** Send it to Johns decision and he would have the right decision.

* + 1. Honorarium Cuts
       1. **Mark:** Where to put the honorariums?

**John:** They are in the guidelines.

* 1. Guidelines
     + 1. **John**: Honorariums have turned into scholarships. Groups have fallen off the earth who used to have them. Do you want other orgs to have them or just SGA?

**Mark:** If its something that could improve campus, why not have them ?

**John:** It hasn’t been a good experience but they can do it. There has been issues with people not having done anything.

**Brianna:** At first I thought it was case by case, but now johns case is good.

**Courtney:** Student Government is there for all students, and most orgs are just within the members. What if we set the guidelines to be more strict. If we set the guidelines saying that its just sga, but it has to be something that has an impact on other issues. The only issue is it may create bias.

**John:** No it wouldn’t happen.

**Nik:** You can always break guidelines with a 2/3rds vote.

**John:** Putting this in just tells them to go away.

* + - 1. Honorariums.

Increase or decrease the honorariums by 10%.

* + - 1. Major food events

**John:** Says that the major food events should be advised by the SUFAC chair and Vice Chair? Basically says that people need to speak with SUFAC to make it easier and tell them how to make budget requests the way it should be happen. It would make it easier. Any money owed needs to be paid back to SUFAC in 2 weeks. **Brianna:** Good idea, will make everyone sit down and get it correct.

* + - 1. Sufac funds can’t buy bags for individual teams. It came up this year. Everyone was in favor.
      2. Sufac can’t pay for photographers. It was okayed by everyone.
    1. Reallocaiton request from Psy Chi.

**John**: They want cords from the allocation. It was funded on D-Day and it was something that was funded by SHRM. One thought is that we are promoting good academic achievement, and in this case you couldn’t argue against it. If you want to fix it you could shut that door by guidelines saying you can’t have them. You need to put it in your guidelines.

**Brianna:** It makes sense.

**John**: It makes a presidence, and something that could be closed down for next year.

**Mark:** If you buy cords for everyone then it will expensive.

**Nik:** You have to approve it for this year.

**Kaylie:** How many honor societies are there?

**John:** 8-10.

**Nik:** You could make it that they have to be a part of an honor society.

**Courtney:** Honor societies that are open to all majors and some that are specific programs. Could we say that honor societies who have it open to everyone could get them?

**John:** Honor society’s are open to all students because a student can choose their major.

**Nik:** Using that logic then all groups would have to open events, otherwise people may join for just a cord.

**Kaylie:** I think its fine to leave it open for all cords.

**Brianna and Mark**: There should be guidelines.

**John:** Graduation guidelines say they can wear anything to represent an org as long as you get it approved. You would have to fund sashes if you funded cords.

**Mark and Brianna:** I don’t want to do it because it would be an issue and expensive.

1. Budget Hearings
2. Action Items
3. Discussion Items
   1. SGA budget honoriums
      1. Nik entertained a motion to table this issue to next week due to time restrictions. Brianna motioned. Kaylie seconded. Voice vote. Passed.
4. Announcements
   1. McKinley Lentz
      1. This Friday we will be holding a committee to go over the constitution. There may be changes that apply to SUFAC.
5. Adjournment
   1. Nik motioned to adjourn the meeting at 8:23pm. Courtney motioned. Brianna seconded. Voice Vote. Passed.