

GEORGIAN COURT UNIVERSITY

THE MERCY UNIVERSITY OF NEW JERSEY

Student Government Association Open Forum

MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday, September 15th, 2015: 2:00 PM. – Open Forum

Meeting was facilitated by members of the Executive Board.

Meeting called to order at 2:00 PM.

Welcome: Miriam Hunte, Executive Board President

The meeting opened with SGA Executive Board President Miriam Hunte welcoming SGA members, club representatives, and students present.

Prayer: Class of 2018

The Class of 2018 led the entire SGA and the student body in the official SGA Prayer.

Attendance: Olivia Zitarosa, Executive Board Secretary

Attendance was recorded by Olivia Zitarosa, Executive Board Secretary. All SGA Members were in attendance, including the representatives from multiple clubs.

Clubs in attendance and their representative were: Black Student Union, History Club, Council for Exceptional Children (CEC), Criminal Justice Club, Holistic Health Club, Nursing Club, Residence Hall Association, Social, Economic, and Environmental Justice Club, Adopt a Senior Club, Dance Marathon, American Chemical Society, Chemistry Club, Math Club, and Habitat for Humanity.

Dining Services: Nancy Barberi, Director of Dining Services

Ms. Nancy Barberi from Dining Services briefly spoke with students in attendance at the Open Forum. She thanked all students for making her first year here so great and for the smooth transition. She also mentioned that her office is open in Raymond Hall, and she would love to hear feedback from students at any point in time. Student workers are wanted, and if they are interested they should contact Nancy Barberi. A student expressed concern to Nancy over breakfast hours, trying to get them extended. Ms. Barberi suggested the student to do further research on how many students would like to have breakfast hours extended and to create a proposal.

Mercy Day: Miriam Hunte, Executive Board President

Miriam reminded all students that Mercy Day is coming up on Thursday, September 24th. SGA Members are required to attend both the Breakfast at 8:00 AM in the North Dining Room and Mass at 2:00 PM in the Chapel. Some SGA Members will be in the presentation at the breakfast and will be notified via e-mail if they will be participating.

Freshman Elections: David Schenck, Executive Board Vice President

David reminded all students that Freshman Elections will be taking place on Friday, September 25th in the Lion's Den at 11:00 AM. Any freshman interested in running should get an application from Erin McCarron, Coordinator of Student Activities in Jeffries Hall 101, or online and submit it by Friday, September 18th.

Homecoming Family Day: Olivia Zitarosa, Executive Board Secretary

Homecoming and Family Day will take place on Saturday, October 3rd from 12:00 PM-5:00 PM on the Athletic Fields. Each SGA cabinet, chairperson, and club is being asked to host an activity at the event. Table sign-ups to date include:

- Class of 2016: Face painting
- Class of 2017: Sand Art
- Class of 2018: Spin Art
- Commuter Student Association: Temporary Tattoos
- Transfer Life: Tie-Dyeing Socks
- Residence Life: Basket Giveaway
- Campus Ministry: Basket Giveaway
- Dance Marathon: Goodie Bags
- Campus Activities Board: Card Ninja, Toys and Candy
- CEC: Glitter Tattoos
- Nursing Club: Playing Operation
- Black Student Union: Balloon Darts
- History Club: Undecided
- Math Club: Undecided
- Holistic Health Club: Undecided
- Criminal Justice Club: Glitter Tattoos

Clubs that have not registered their activity must contact Erin McCarron as soon as possible. The deadline is September 18th.

SGA Inductions: Brianna Marrone, Executive Board Treasurer

SGA Inductions will take place on Sunday, October 11th at 12:00. More information to come.

Campus Activities Board (CAB): Deanna Briganti, CAB Vice President

Beginning Thursday, September 17th, CAB will hold meetings every Thursday at 7:00 PM in the Lion's Den.

Residence Life: Grace Talian, Chairperson for Residence Life

The first Town Hall Meeting will take place on Tuesday, September 15th from 6:00 PM-8:00 PM in the Casino. The topic is Prescription Drug Abuse.

On Wednesday, September 16th at 7:00 PM in Maria Hall First Floor Lounge, there will be a Resume Building Program.

Transfer Life: Toni Ann DiPasquale, Transfer Life Chairperson

Transfer Life will be hosting their first Transfer Luncheon on Thursday, September 17th from 2:00-3:00PM in the Lion's Den. Pizza will be served.

Campus Ministry: Lisa Gravato, Campus Ministry Chairperson

The Island Beach State Park Sunset Beach Retreat is Friday, September 18th. The bus will leave from Maria Hall at 3:00 PM. Anyone interested should contact kbrum@georgian.edu.

The Men and Women's Cross Country Teams will be blessed during mass on Sunday, September 20th at 5:00 PM in the University Chapel – all are welcome.

Anybody interested in joining the choir should contact Jeff Schaffer. It counts as a Service Learning Opportunity.

Commuter Student Association: Marisa DeVito, Commuter Student Association President

The first Commuter Student Association meeting will take place on Wednesday, September 16th at 2:45 PM in the Lion's Den.

Open Business – Club Reports:

Holistic Health Club

Meetings for Holistic Health Club are typically held on Tuesdays at 2:00 PM. Anyone interested in joining or learning more about the Holistic Health Club can contact Simone Forrest.

Nursing Club

The Nursing Club will be hosting an Ice Cream Social at 4:30 PM in the Mercy Hall lounge next Tuesday, September 22nd at 12:45.

The Nursing Club will be hosting a Blood Drive, more details are to come.

Student Representatives are wanted for the Senior Class and Freshman Class in the Nursing Club.

In October, a clothing order will be going in. Anybody interested in ordering clothing can contact Alyssa Wallshleger.

Residence Hall Association (RHA)

RHA will be hosting a trip to the Monmouth Park Race Track for students 21 and older on Saturday, September 19th. The bus will leave at 11:00 AM from Maria Hall.

Math Club

The Math Club will be holding a meeting on Wednesday, September 16th at 12:30 PM in Jeffries Hall 141.

Anyone who is interested in Peer Tutoring with the Math Club can contact gcumathclub@gmail.com. It is also a Service Learning Opportunity.

Criminal Justice Club

The Criminal Justice Club will be having a meeting on Wednesday, September 23rd at 10:00 PM in the Maria Hall First Floor Lounge.

On Wednesday, October 7th at 3:00 PM, the Criminal Justice Club will have a K9 presentation in the Little Theater.

Black Student Union

The Black Student Union will be having a meeting on Tuesday, September 15th at 10:00 PM in the Maria Hall First Floor Lounge.

Open Business

Student Government Members will be meeting with President Marbach over the next week. The floor was opened to students to express their concerns. The issues/concerns mentioned during the meeting include.

STARS Scholarship Applications

- Scholarship list is shortened.
- Does not allow students to search for scholarships.

Tutors

- Needed for higher level courses, Math, Physics and Social Work.

TRiO Tutoring

- When a student does not show up to get tutored, then the tutor does not get paid. This impacts students' willingness to become tutors.

Professor Office Hours

- Inconvenient for students.
- Students would like to see Friday office hours.

Full-time Faculty

- More fulltime faculty seem to be needed in multiple departments at GCU.

Class Times

- Students would like to see less class blocks during the 2:00 PM-4:00 PM time slots.

Financial Aid

- Students would like better communication between Financial Aid and Billing.
- Customer Service is very poor with Financial Aid.
- Examples include hanging up on students, and condescending tones.
- Students want longer hours in the summer and better advertisement of those hours.

Security

- Students would like set times that the Student lane at the GCU Campus entrance is coned off.
- Security is not very attentive to students pulling up at the front gate.

- Shave down the speed bumps and make them into speed humps, they are a strain on tires and shocks on cars.

Facilities

- Many of the buildings need to be updated.
- Residents are extremely dissatisfied with the condition of Maria Hall.

Physics Department

- There is no minor, and many Math majors are interested in minoring in Physics but they cannot. Should have at least a minor in Physics for students majoring in the Sciences.
- The Physics Department needs another faculty member and more tutors.

Nursing Classes in the Little Theater

- Little Theater needs to be updated.
- Only 4 outlets and not enough room to charge laptops during lectures.
- Desks are very small and hard to type and write on.

Education and Advising

- Education majors are not graduating on time due to poor advisement.
- Conflicting class times are pushing students back.

Social Work Major

- Needs more classes and professors.

Student Affairs Graduate Program

- Requested by current undergraduate students.

Reminders: Erin McCarron, Coordinator of Student Activities

All Clubs must e-mail their Executive Board lists to Erin McCarron by Friday, September 18th.

All Clubs must e-mail their Club Rosters to Erin McCarron by Thursday, October 1st.

The Back Porch Party will be held on Friday, September 25th from 9:00 PM-1:00PM in the Casino. Anyone attending (including GCU students) must register online. All students are allowed 3 guests, one of them can be an overnight guest (who will receive a pink wristband).

Meeting Adjourned at 2:51 PM.