

**Indiana University South Bend (IUSB) Student Government Association (SGA)**  
***Regular Meeting***  
**August 31, 2007**

The regular session of the Student Government Association was called to order by Vice President, Jessica Jackson at 3:02 p.m. on Friday, August 31, 2007, room A1215B. Secretary Teresa Santos was Present.

Rebecca Torstrick presented a slideshow containing information about the Higher Learning Commission (HLC) Accreditation Process. The HLC will be visiting the IUSB Campus on November 12, 13, and 14. They will be looking at the campus, as part of the process to renew IU South Bend's accreditation.

The focus at this time is to prepare the campus community for the HLC visit, by creating an awareness and understanding of the institution's mission, vision, values, etc., and by creating an awareness of the accreditation criteria. They will be judging the campus on the information in IU South Bend's Mission Statement, which was approved by the Board of Trustees in 2005. Also they will research the information on IUSB's self-study evaluating programs, values, budgeting, and etc. More information can be found on the Self-study website at: [www.iusb.edu/~hlc](http://www.iusb.edu/~hlc). Because of the length of the volume Torstrick recommends reading the pages as follows: Read the introduction to the self-study, then read the introduction for chapters 1-7; making sure to read all of chapter 7. After that read the summary and then individuals will have a basic understanding of the process.

Information on the Higher Learning Commission can be found at:  
[www.ncahigherlearningcommission.org](http://www.ncahigherlearningcommission.org)

The Strategic plan for the campus is at: [www.chancellor.iusb.edu/strategicplan.shtml](http://www.chancellor.iusb.edu/strategicplan.shtml)

Torstrick asked to be allowed to come back at a later date with the four page executive manual to begin to prep the SGA for the HLC visit.

**Roll Call:**

***Executives:*** Ivan Blount, Jessica Jackson, Ngaatendwe Mantiziba. ***Senate:*** Julio Cruz, Isabel Dieppa, Maria Granados, Teresa Granados, Matthew Lopez, Justin Matthews, Allysa Winston, Aleah Wilburn. (Absent: Amanda Acosta, Amelie Kanovsky, Emily Kelly)

***Judicial:*** None present

***Interim Advisor:*** Scott Opasik

Matthew Lopez moved to postpone the approval of the 08/242007 minutes. The motion passed.

**Voicing of the Constituents:**

Teresa Santos, President of the Gay Straight Alliance, spoke about the request made for the use of the main organization, by her organization. The use of the theater was granted after many meetings and emails. At least two student clubs have use of the auditorium this year, which is unheard of in recent memory. Santos said that once again she has been told that there is still

money in an account provided by a former SGA, to pay the cost for organizations that use the theater. She asked that the Senate request the treasurer to pull the account information from Raclin school of the Arts and see how much is left, because that money was placed in an account at Raclin for that purpose, to encourage Raclin to grant more student groups the right to use the auditorium, and Raclin expects the SGA to direct them to use the funds for the intended purpose.

### **Executive Reports:**

#### ***President:***

President Ivan Blount updated the membership on how Welcome Week went, stating that he had concerns over commitments made by SGA members, who were to serve at the opening day at the Elkhart Campus. Members who gave commitments to be there didn't show up or notify him, and that it reflects on the SGA as a whole. He suggested the Senate draw up a document of ethical standards for SGA members and hold each other accountable for commitments made.

Blount reported that Welcome Week did go well and thanked the trinket committee for the work that they did.

Blount voiced concerns over the campus bookstore, now owned and operated by Barnes and Noble. Blount has heard complaints about students being unable to use their parent's credit cards to purchase books, also about checks not being accepted. Ivan turned over the floor to Vice President Jessica Jackson who reported that today management has decided to accept credit cards any way.

Blount reported that the Gulu Walk will take place on October 14<sup>th</sup>. Last year the SGA gave money for refreshments. This is an event in which IUSB partners with Notre Dame University. Secretary Teresa Santos gave a brief summary of what the Gulu Walk is.

#### ***Vice President:***

Vice President Jessica Jackson reported that the Bills of Legislation now are in a binder and will be in the Senate Office and available for view.

Jackson showed and explained the proxy vote sheets. Secretary Teresa Santos will make copies available in the bottom slot of the mail rack.

Jackson updated the membership on the Making Strides walk. Members can visit the website for more information: <http://main.acsevents.org/goto/iusb>.

#### ***Treasurer:***

Treasurer Ngaatendwe Mantiziba reported that she received the July statement from Director of Student Life, Marvin Rasch and the August Statement should be coming soon. She will send a revised budget to the SGA soon.

#### ***Secretary:***

Secretary Teresa Santos reported on summer attendance, some ways in which to use the office to serve students, and that IT should be installing Office 2007 on the computers soon. She

also mentioned that she is hesitant to order any more office supplies, as she has not yet received an office budget

Jackson yielded the floor to President Blount.

Blount reported that the Academic Senate has not yet met and once they do, the Senators will be contacted by their committee chairs.

Blount informed the SGA that on Fridays, we are to be in business attire for the meeting.

***Interim Advisor:***

No report entered.

**Committee Reports:**

***Retreat Committee*** – None

***Search and Screen Committee*** - Matthew Lopez, Chair, reported that the committee will be posting information online and will place updated forms in the office

**Old Business:**

Senator Isabel Dieppa moved to fund \$1600.00 the IU Vision request of \$1600.00 for their publication. Dieppa said that yes there are some problems and that policing the blog is difficult, but “I think they should be funded.” Justin Matthews said that he was in favor of funding them as the students get to write their own stories. The motion passed.

**New Business:**

Senator Aleah Wilburn moved to discuss the Student Life Director/SGA Advisor position. The motion carried.

Wilburn asked what opinions other members have in the way of an SGA Advisor. Should the Student Life Director advise the SGA? Should tenured faculty be allowed? President Blount explained how the Search and Screen Committee works and that all opinions do matter and can be voiced to members of the committee. Discussion ensued, with President Blount explaining how the Search and Screen Process works.

Wilbur’s main issue is that the SGA has a large purpose and thinks the advisor should be committed solely to the SGA, and maybe not even the Student Life Director.

Senator Maria Granados asked if there was a deadline. Blount said that there are over fifty applicant and they are still going through the process.

Wilburn said felt that having a tenured faculty member as an advisor would be more personal and had a more vested interest in the students and university.

Blount said that the position of the Student Life Director is moving in a different direction with student housing coming and tenured faculty could be both a good thing and a bad thing.

Vice President Jackson said that members can bring their ideas and concerns to members of the Search and Screen Committee.

Senator Dieppa moved to discuss the auditorium. The motion passed.

Dieppa thinks that this would be a good time for the SGA to continue funding the use of the theater for student groups. She thinks it would be wise to continue funding the use of the theater and that at least two student groups were granted access. This is a good thing.

Senator Matthew Lopez wondered if there are any documents proving the money should come back to the SGA, if it wasn't used.

Senator Wilburn asked, how do we go about asking for an account statement.

Secretary Santos responded that the accountability for not getting an account statement was with the previous SGA's and that this body has to be accountable for the funds and there return.

After further discussion Senator Matthew Lopez moved to direct the Treasurer to request an account statement from the Arts Department, for review. Senator Isabel Dieppa moved to amend the motion, with Jackson moving back to the original motion for a second. The Motion passed.

After receiving no objections Vice President Jackson moved to For the Good of the Order.

**The meeting adjourned at 4:33.**

**Recording Secretary:** *Teresa G. Santos*

**Date:** 08/31/2007

**Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Date approved:** 09/28/2007