

Indiana University South Bend (IUSB) Student Government Association (SGA)
Regular Meeting
March 7, 2008

The regular session of the Student Government Association was called to order by Vice President Matthew Lopez at 3:30 p.m. on Friday, March 7, 2008 in room SAC #225. Secretary Teresa Santos was present.

Roll Call

Executives: Ivan Blount, Matthew Lopez, Nathan Reinhold, Teresa Santos

Senate: Amanda Acosta, Julio Cruz, Isabel Dieppa, Zach Duncan, Maria Granados, Amelie Kanovsky, Aleah Wilburn, Rema El-Ammori, Benjamin Fries, Sineyda Requeno (absent: Obadiah Counsellor, Isaiah Counsellor)

Judicial: None

Advisor: Sam Centellas

Guests: Teresa Granados, Gerry Rough

Voicing of the Constituents

Right to Life Organization

Student Life Director Sam Centellas asked if he could speak to the proposal. Centellas explained that the proposal was a request asking for money for the organization to purchase a Bulletin Board. He pointed out that at this time the university will not allow any more Bulletin Boards to be put up and there is a need to review the policy for Bulletin Boards. Centellas said that he recommended to them that they hold off on purchasing a Bulletin Board. When inquiring what they hoped to do, he explained that they intended to use the board to market their organization. He is asking on their behalf, for the Senate to consider modifying the request asking for money to create and purchase promotional materials. Centellas communicated the information with Lucy Rzeszutek, President of the organization.

Latino Student Union (LSU)

President Teresa Granados, President of the LSU, presented a funding request of \$999.99 for a trip to IU Bloomington. She explained that in years past the LSU attends an annual convention at Bloomington and this year the convention was changed to the Purdue campus. Their organization decided that they wanted to do their own meeting, and designed it to take place in Bloomington. They have decided to take a bus this year and are hoping to take 45 students this year. Last year they took 35 participants. Discussion followed with clarification as to how much was being spent by the participants, what would the funding help cover, what type of fundraising had been done, and how long have they been planning for this trip. Granados said that the organization received money through fundraising efforts by hosting two dances, working the concession stand, and the advisor gave them \$500.00.

Social research seminar

Gerry Rough presented a funding request on behalf of the S410 Social Research Seminar. This is a seminar to prepare students for the Midwest Undergraduate Conference. The students are finishing their research now and will be presenting their paper at the graduate level. Discussion followed with clarification on how much Smart Grant money was received by the students and what costs those grants cover. Clarification was made that food costs are not covered through the grants and that food costs are all the students are asking for. Sam Centellas advised that the amount of money they are requesting for food is equal to the per diem set by the university travel office. Senator Isabel Dieppa asked if students

could pay any of the costs out of their own pockets. Vice President Matthew Lopez said the question had to take place during New Business.

Executive Reports

President

President Ivan Blount reports that the Leadership Conference was planned and for members to advise him on whether or not they would be attending.

The Faculty Counsel met and is considering a resolution in regards to transfer credits. He reports that 64 credit hours are what they will allow those applying for an Associate degree.

March 21st, is the Strategic Planning Meeting. It conflicts with the Leadership Conference and those who will be attending both will need to find their own transportation to Bloomington.

Vice President

Vice President Matthew Lopez reports the Etiquette Dinner sponsored by the Student Alumni Association will take place March 26, 2008. The meal will cost \$15.00 per person and is geared toward Senior's. Please make reservations with Julie Turner.

Please pick up your Dance T-shirt from the office of Anne McGraw. Wear them on Tuesday following Spring Break.

Secretary

Attendance Report passed.

Treasurer

Treasurer Nathan Reinhold reports the Budget process is almost finished and they are working out the timeline so the process will be finished and ready to present to the Chancellor on time. Because the SGA has not have a Treasurer throughout the year, the SGA has been placed in an awkward position and there has been a lack of time to allow a proper process. At this point, it is recommended that last year's budget be left in place (percentages), with the exception of equalizing the budgets of SGA and Titan Productions. Associate Vice Chancellor Karen White, SGA Advisor Sam Centellas, President Blount and Reinhold feel that we need time to have a better assessment of funds. They have looked at the budgets from the last three years, and noted there are fees the SGA will always have to support. They are looking at the current process and assessing how the funds are being utilized. Also they will be drawing up guidelines for future SGA's to consider. Currently there is \$22,875 in our account, but not all of the funds have been moved to the accounts to which they have been allocated.

The budget must be voted on today, to meet the constitutional and university guidelines. Basically the percentages for the accounts the SGA funds will stay the same as last year, except for the accounts of the SGA and Titan Productions, which are being equalized.

Advisor

SGA Advisor Sam Centellas reports that he has created a distribution list of all of the clubs and organizations on campus. He has emailed the officers of the clubs and is surveying them with different items of information he would like to have from them. He has been going into the club room speaking with students about their use of the room and is observing and trying to figure out what the needs of the clubs are and how things work around the university. He is looking for suggestions to implement in student life and hopes for the SGA to support him in working to improve club and campus life.

Next week is Alternative Spring Break and it will be local this year. Taking place in Nappanee, students signing up will be able to get one credit hour for it. Ben Decker is co-coordinating the event and it will take place Thursday, Friday, Saturday, and Sunday.

Centellas is requesting volunteers to meet and work with him on the end-of-the-year Award Ceremony. He did find some materials concerning the process and would like student input on the ceremony.

Committee Reports

Election committee

Committee Chair Amanda Acosta reports she is resigning as chair of the committee. President Blount reported that the application form will be online after Spring Break. The candidates will maybe have four weeks to candidate for office. They are still working on the process and he will report back.

Dance for the Homeless

Chair Aleah Wilburn reported that they are working for more dancer participation. Today the Executive Committee met with department heads and everyone knows this will happen. Everyone is up to date with committee assignments. Volunteer recruitment met this week. Their committee will be going to high schools. Please go out and talk to people about the dance there is a Miracle Pass which will allow 2 to 10 people to come for band night for \$50. We are in the critical phase and need to get people signed up. We will be participating in the St. Patrick's Day Parade, if you want to participate, wear your T-shirts and meet at CFH at 8:30 in the morning.

Old business

Budget Proposal

Senator Isabel Dieppa moved to discuss the Budget Proposal. The motion passed.

Senator Isabel Dieppa pointed out that the proposal left a percentage in for Club Council, but since Council didn't exist this year, couldn't we move the money to the Health and Wellness Center? Secretary Teresa Santos advised against it, Club Counsel didn't function because of extenuating circumstances and there is a place for it. There is money allocated from last year sitting in the account and if we do away with the allocation there is no way for the money to get spent out of the account. Dieppa reported that in years past a large screen PowerPoint presentation was given and could we have figures to look at? Student Life Director Sam Centellas said the Faculty Committee was under the impression that a handout of the budget would be available to the Senate, explaining the How's and Why's of the Budget. He feels bad that this is being reported without visuals and that a decision has to be voted on today. Reinhold was unable to pull the information together. Associate Vice Chancellor Karen White recommends that a report goes to all of the members. She pointed out the Budget Committee had four meetings and took into consideration the Resolution that was given them by the SGA. White wants to encourage that the budget allocation is a solid process and that proper procedures take place. The recommendation of the committee is the time frame and budget not change. This is in-line with the institution's process and she reported that a lot of time and energy has gone into this process.

Dieppa stated that she would like to call a special meeting for discussion of the budget.

Senator Isabel Dieppa moved to hold a Senate Session right now. Senator Maria Granados seconded. Senator Aleah Wilburn asked for clarification of Senate Session. Does she mean an Executive Session? Wilburn noted that as a Senate we made the motion to ask for a faculty committee.

Senator Dieppa withdrew her motion.

Senator Isabel Dieppa moved to go into Executive Session. Senator Maria Granados seconded. The motion failed.

Senator Benjamin Fries moved to approve the Student Activities Budget for the 2008-2009 Academic Year. The motion passed.

New business

Senator Aleah Wilburn moved to discuss the sound and lighting vote. The motion passed. Wilburn wants to bring this up and wondered if the SGA can fund this. So far everything donated has been in-kind donations and there is approximately \$7000 in donations. Ben Decker said that the quote of \$1,900 for 24 hours of sound was a good quote. Wilburn hopes to have a proposal before the end next week and wonders if this funding proposal can be put in business for the next meeting.

Senator Isabel Dieppa moved to discuss the proposal from the Right to Life Organization. The motion passed. Dieppa said that they would like to change the proposal for funds to use for marketing purposes for things like posters and brochures. Senator Maria Granados wants to know where the materials are going. Members of the Senate expressed they would like a member of the organization to present the proposal.

Senator Benjamin Fries moved to deny funding for the Right to Life Proposal. Senator Isabel Dieppa point of ordered stating that motions must be positive.

Senator Zach Duncan moved to approve the funding of \$100.00 for the Right to Life Organization. The motion failed.

Senator Isabel Dieppa moved to discuss the LSU funding proposal. The motion passed. Dieppa thinks it is a cool idea that they are doing a conference. She hopes that maybe next year LSU can have a conference here and invite people here. Senator Aleah Wilburn would like the LSU to hold the conference here. Senator Benjamin Fries wondered if the presenters are faculty and if they will have student presenter at the conference. He wondered why LSU couldn't hold the conference here, if all of the students are from here. The floor was turned over to Teresa Granados who said there will be faculty presenting, one is Marcia Good, also their keynote speaker is Cynthia Murphy-Wardlow, advisor to LSU. Senator Maria Granados stated that she is Vice-President of the LSU and that IUSB has no place to house students and said the LSU feels it is a good thing to go to Bloomington and it is a good experience for the members to go to the mother campus. Where they will be staying is at IU Bloomington. Senator Amanda Acosta said that she was a member of LSU and went to the first conference they attended at Bloomington. She said that it was good to see La Casa and to have the opportunity for networking. She felt it was important to build a bridge with Bloomington. The cabins where the club members will be staying are actually part of the IU Bloomington Campus. Senator Julio Cruz said that he is also a member of LSU, and that he agrees this is a good opportunity.

Senator Julio Cruz moved to approve the funding of \$999.99 for the Latino Student Union's "Latinos for Change Convention." The motion passed.

Senator Isabel Dieppa moved to discuss funding the Social Research Seminar. The motion passed. Dieppa said that going to prepare for grad school is great, but she doesn't feel the SGA should fund the whole thing. She suggests maybe cutting \$15.00 off of each. She noted that this is a senior class and students are already paying for the class, but wondered why the students can't pay for their food for at least one day. Senator Amanda Acosta said that the students have been preparing for this class

and have worked on the papers for awhile and at IUSB, research is what we do. Acosta does agree with Dieppa that the students should maybe put forth some of the money, on their own. Senator Benjamin Fries said they should pay a little on their own. Dieppa referenced the budget, she noted that LSU is benefitting 45 students, and this is benefitting 5 students. President Blount said that part of the process of evaluating the proposal, is assessment. Social research is what this is about. Look at why are they going? They have put this in a group. He questions if the Senate is assessing this proposal properly? How is the class assessing this project? Will this benefit the University? Acosta thinks that some of these papers will go into research journals. They will be archived and become part of the schools permanent record. Students from other schools will have access to the research. These journals feature the best of the best. Much of this research will benefit others. Dieppa said that this research is important, she just thinks that they should pay. She figures \$40.00 per student for those going to Ohio and \$35.00 for the one staying in Indiana and thinks that is generous.

Senator Isabel Dieppa moved to approve the funding of \$670.00 for the Social Research Seminar. The motion passed.

For the Good of the Order

Senator Benjamin Fries moved to adjourn.

Adjourned 5:00 p.m.

Secretary: Teresa G. Santos

Date: 04/02/2008

Signature: _____

Date Approved: 04/11/2008