

Rollins College

Rollins Scholarship Online

SGA Meeting Minutes

Student Government Association

11-10-2021

Meeting Minutes from November 10, 2021

Rollins College Student Government Association

Follow this and additional works at: https://scholarship.rollins.edu/sga_minutes

Recommended Citation

Rollins College Student Government Association, "Meeting Minutes from November 10, 2021" (2021).
SGA Meeting Minutes. 184.
https://scholarship.rollins.edu/sga_minutes/184

This Minutes is brought to you for free and open access by the Student Government Association at Rollins Scholarship Online. It has been accepted for inclusion in SGA Meeting Minutes by an authorized administrator of Rollins Scholarship Online. For more information, please contact rwalton@rollins.edu.



1000 HOLT AVENUE - 2746
WINTER PARK, FL 32789-4499
ROLLINS.EDU - SGA@ROLLINS.EDU

The regular weekly meeting of the Rollins College Student Government Association was held on November 10, 2021, at 7:04pm, at Rollins College in the Galloway Room of Kathleen W. Rollins Hall. The minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved as correct after a vote by the Senate.

I. Call to Order:

II. Roll Call

III. Welcome

IV. Approval of Minutes

- Approved

V. Speakers

- Sam Vega
 - Associate Director for the Center for Inclusion and Campus Involvement

VI. Executive Reports

A. President

- Updates on moving forward on student org. Council, representing student org. Council
- Photography club guest speaker (from Zimbabwe) 5pm
- Reach out for photographers from photography club
- Latin American Student Org. volunteering at Chainey Elementary, calling for Spanish speaking students
- Monday 15th, 4:30 – 5:30pm Congressman Keller, speaking on humor and politics in life

B. Vice President

- Reached out to organizational senators, some of you are not meeting with your person, emails will be sent out to avoid probation
- For legislation, there is only 2 or 3 meetings left, if no legislation probation will be utilized
- Make sure if you are a class senator, talk to your peers to spread the word of SGA

C. Chief Justice

- Same as Akheem, emphasizing connecting with senators' represented org.

D. Academic Affairs

- Curriculum committee met to discuss major caps
- Contact Zoe for more information or questions- Zpearson@rollins.edu
- Committee members has been chosen; look out for emails
- Talking about expanding the policy on overload courses to minimize paperwork

- Recently, a survey for faculty has been sent out for psychology class about openness regarding curriculum changes specifically diversity and inclusion
- If legislation ideas are there but stuck, reach out to Zoe

E. Internal Relations

- No report- still trying to figure out committee and taking some extra steps that I had not predicted

F. Public Relations

- Senator Feedback
 - Mostly concerning Robert's rules and legislations
 - Resource for senators: Google Rollins SGA archives (first link) with other past SGA legislations if senators need help
- Holt event for December 2nd, Cookies and Cocoa event-- time and place TBD
 - Connecting Holt students with SGA

G. Events

- November 18: 'Winter Wonderland' craft fair with snacks, crafts, and extra vaccine t-shirts on Tars Plaza
- 12:30 to 2 pm
- Updates soon on more upcoming events

H. Finance

- One budget was proposed and approved

I. Student Life

- No report

J. Diversity & Inclusion

- Main event-equity and inclusion and belonging collective next weekend concerning a ton of student organizations
- Before SGA at 6pm
- Indigenous people's month
 - Coffees, cookies, conversation on Monday November 22 in KWR Fox Den talking about the struggles of indigenous peoples struggles in society and on campus

K. Attorney General

- No report

L. President Pro Tempore

- Reiterating keeping up with senator responsibilities
- Chance during new business so senators have an opportunity to get a head start on legislation

M. Advisors

- No report

VII. Organizational Senator Reports

A. Center for Leadership & Community Engagement (CLCE)

- No report

B. Center for Career & Life Planning (CCLP)

- Career and Life Planning, interview practice sessions (flyer with more info available)
- Connected with Melissa to edit the international peer advisor program

C. Wellness

- Athletes support space 1- 2pm Alford sport center
- LGBTQ+ Support space 1-2pm
- Wellness center focus groups concerning students that struggle with addiction and alcoholism have finished

D. Accessibility

- Town hall concerning accessibility for students coming soon
- Moving handicap parking to more accessible locations
- Gathering info concerning accommodations for students and how to use them and sharing that training with professors
 - Goal is to get professors to accommodate students with accessibilities and giving those students the same respect as other students as well as a welcome packet with information for students receiving accommodations
 - Elizabeth was conducting research on accommodations with virtual learning for many students
- ESA approvals must be resubmitted and reverified due to students abusing ESA policies
- If your interesting working on the disability task force reach out to Kate

E. Fraternity & Sorority Life (FSL)

- Position Vacant

F. Residential Life and Explorations (RLE)

- No report

G. LGBTQ+ Advocacy

- No report

H. Student Media

- Brushing has their submissions open for their 50th anniversary, open until December 10th
- Sandspur has interview with Charles Martinet, voice actor of most Super Mario characters, submit questions on Instagram

I. International Affairs

- Not Present

J. Student Athlete Advisory

- Not present

K. Sustainability

- E-waste, electronics, and tech waste drive on November 13th

L. Campus Safety and Security

- No Report

M. Institutional Advancement

- Position Vacant

N. Holt Graduate Programs

- Position Vacant

O. External and Competitive Scholarships

- Position Vacant

P. Parliamentarian

- No Report

VIII. Ad-hoc Committees

- Constitutional Revision
 - i. No report
- COVID
 - i. No report
- International Student Representation
 - i. No report

IX. Open Forum

- Potential IT Ad-hoc chair position
 - Screen issues with WebEx and other things, it would be helpful to have a position helping with those ideas; might fall under COVID committee
 - If underneath COVID committee, Perry would be happy to reach out
 - More beneficial to have a permanent position
 - Someone would present a piece of legislation to make an amendment to Constitution to add position
 - If anyone has experience, it's a new issue every week, we need someone who can be here every week who has a laptop who can connect with HDMI and USB and/or have a converter
 - Nothing works
 - Would this role be meeting with the actual IT department regarding the tech issues on campus, as IT plays a significant role as a school that runs with large positions online? This would be helpful
 - If we move forward with this, would one of us present legislation? You could either contact IT as someone who would come to speak at open forum, but if you want an IT senator, there needs to be a constitutional legislation
 - Cool news--new leadership in IT wants to create a governmental structure in the organization
 - Emphasizing the two-factor authorization
 - New positions should be filled before starting a new position as well as other potential positions that still need to be added
 - There is a disconnect between IT and SGA
- Events for next semester
 - Perry and Jack discussed this-looking to hold an event on Valentine's Day as a dating and relationship wellness week regarding sexual health and consent
 - Working to not only talk about consent but also dating apps, healthy relationships, and sexual health also these ideas within marginalized identities
 - Similar to Consent week

- If senators are interested, please reach out to Jack and Perry
- Had a professor that hosted a sexual education course, trying to contact experts to have speakers at the event about modern-day dating, online dating and violence prevention
- Suggestion: STI testing on campus and making it more accessible for students
- Questions about group attendance
 - Room is light and missing a lot of senators and there is a concern for attendance
 - Ways to increase attendance for senators and encourage attendance
 - Concerned about how effective SGA can be if Senators are missing
 - There are people that have excused absences as well as a lot of turnovers with senators, but SGA is in good standing
 - Connecting with the organizations that are represented at SGA, encouraging the people in those orgs and offices come to SGA
 - Friends being invited to SGA has been helpful and encouraging others like peers to come to SGA
 - Inviting friends can only go so far, SGA has adjusted their PR plan to bring in more students into SGA, there are the dilemmas of burnout and turnover
 - Many senators cannot come to every meeting, many that cannot attend are told about the penalty and they just resort to resigning from their position
 - What are some things that can entice students from outside to attend?
 - Getting more community involvement can involve sending an email out to her constituents who can reach a lot of students and promote SGA to their students
 - How will a class senator mail to many students at once?
 - Emails are accessible for org. Senators but reach out to the proper source to get access to that way of communicating with more students
 - Reach out to your constituents to get more community involvement
 - Community involvement can be helped if SGA webpage is updated with the current SGA staff page with updated contact info
 - Idea that we can explore a method of sending another blast of mass emails about open senator positions to the entire Rollins campus, many students are still unaware of vacancies and open spots
 - This would be helpful for students to see what is available for senator positions
 - Other forms of media like the radio station, maybe email isn't the best route and tapping into a new media might be helpful
 - Guest speakers are very entertaining and could be helpful to bring in more campus involvement
 - Cameron is our PR chair makes and all the flyers, however the SGA Executive board can't always spread the flyers as widespread, so senator help would be especially useful
- Student media pay
 - Legislation idea-student media pay is bad. The average pay is \$3-6 an hour. Budget got cut \$30k last year
 - When the budget was cut, it came from other things because pay was already so low, far below other institutions
 - Looking into getting direct brackets for the pay of each of them

- Work study positions get paid through the government while non work studies do not, they get paid from the actual school
- Issue is that the budget was cut in an emergency in the summer of 2020, we believed that they were to be increased, but the cuts had to be made
- We are operating in an area where there is not as much revenue as usual, and cuts have been made throughout the whole school
- Faculty and staff are fighting for wage increases, and students are fighting for tuition to be lowered
- Rollins has issues with numbers in their bank accounts, teachers are paid less, endowment is high, tuition is kind of insane
- The way in which our money is being used, but tuition is high enough that money is not being managed properly
- Apply pressure to relieve an issue- reassessment
- Be wary to say we can't ask for fair wages considering the push for tuition decreases would not be able to happen without the Sandspur, they deserve to be recognized and paid accordingly
- Think critically about what priorities are, we as SGA need to lift the avenue for students to get paid fairly, as it is not easy
- As the Sandspur has gotten more professional, they have been removed from campus acknowledgement
- Seems like it is going to be difficult to make change in this fight, and is there a way to include external avenues
- Potential avenues-working with institutional advancement to secure a donation that funds departments for wages specifically
- Work with alumni to find someone who has a passion for journalism (Sandspur, WPRK)
- Most of the other work positions on campus get paid an hourly wage, above minimum wage, and this one department is getting hit
- Looking for donors could be a great idea but coming from the group of people working with the Annie, it is not easy, that might not be the right idea, as the school owes people more as they do a significant amount of work, as \$3 is an unacceptable amount of money
- On the topic of securing a higher wage for students, using the joint 3000 and housing stipend for student faculty summer research program for student media workers, covering the paid stipend as a research position for student media workers
- The SFCS stipend was too low in general, and he wants to see more endowed scholarships for that too
- Use of WebEx in class
 - Bring up the idea that using WebEx has become extremely useful for students that don't feel well, which are one of many situations that WebEx has been useful in
 - Many professors have made this process difficult, not making it an option for students at all
 - 3 of 4 classes have graded attendance, which means you can't miss a class without getting a deduction in your grade
 - It's an issue especially concerning sick students that are still present in class

- Last year with the option of WebEx, students did abuse it and did not show up for class, did not participate and teachers have a valid reason to not use it
- WebEx would be useful as a mental health resource for students that may not be able to leave their safe space to go to class
- In high school, Zoom was an option for students as a mental health resource as well as a resource for sick and new students
- Mental health options are especially useful for students however commuter students may take advantage of that WebEx system
- A professor informed Zach that administration has prevented teachers from offering virtual classes
- Administration is putting pressure on professors not to offer WebEx or virtual options, though some professors will do it and will offer it with even a simple laptop setup
- However realistically the school will not say yes to that system, even for students with disabilities, because it does not stand with the curriculum that Rollins offers
- It's because of our accreditation! SACS says that certain percentages of our courses must be online, but it might be able to be offered as an accessibility option. (SACS is the organization that accredits us)
- A WebEx format would take away from the Rollins promise on their curriculum
- Kate is working with Accessibilities to implement a sort of system for student that may need WebEx for access to classes
- Virtual attendance should be used for students that have a disability that may hinder their attendance in class, that process may require many steps, and many hurdles to jump due to the past record of students abusing the system
- A major concern with relying on WebEx as a mental health source, there is no guarantee that the parent company of WebEx or other virtual platforms are not gathering data on students
 - Another concern is the proprietary nature of virtual platforms gathering information from students and evaluating the security of that tech
 - Ideally the administration should shift the usage of virtual platforms towards a more open-source alternative software, it would also encourage students to use free and open-source software
- There needs to be an in between for students that may need WebEx if their experience a mental health situation, professors should make their PowerPoints more accessible and have maybe some recorded classes
- Students required to turn on their cameras can help with participation; many professors require outside doctor's notes to have an excused absences for their classes
- Professors can mandate a standard of participation and having their cameras on
- In terms of using WebEx, even though it is easily abusable, professors still make the attendance system difficult
- It is not fair, there are students in class not participating and there are students on WebEx that are contributing more to class, however the WebEx students are deducted a grade still
- Large public schools don't grade attendance, the concept of graded attendance is ineffective for students especially students that must choose their mental health

- over their grade
- If Rollins is going to boast about taking mental wellness into consideration but penalize students that don't attend class, it does not match the promise that Rollins has committed to for their students
- SGA pressured the administration to keep WebEx for student that need that resource of they are sick, because it is better than not attending at all
- However, it is not in the school's hands at all, it's due to the Rollins accreditation system, which must meet a certain standard for instruction that must be in person to keep that accreditation
 - This requires the professors to be more aware of attendance and why Rollins has a graded attendance
 - The Department of Education waived that restriction for the accreditation system that mandates these policies on private schools due to the impact of COVID-19, however as everything is opening back up, the accreditation requirements will be going back into effect
 - Attendance policy is determined by the faculty, if you are passionate about this issue contact Zoe Pearson (zpearson@rollins.edu)
- Rollins professors did not accommodate critical issues and this issue must be addressed more so on the professor and instructor level
- Could be a good legislation idea
- WebEx as a band-aid, there are currently open source real time communication software that many campuses use
- It could be an issue for commuters and other students that may abuse the system and could possibly discredit students that need a mental health day
- It's not easy to get an excused absences from the wellness center and professor, illnesses cannot be planned

X. Old Business

- Remaining Senator Positions
 - i. Vacant Class Senator Positions
 - a. Senior Class Senators (2)- Vacant
 - b. Holt Class Senators (2)- Vacant
 - ii. Organizational Senators
 - a. Institutional Advancement- Vacant
 - b. Holt Graduate Programs- Vacant
 - c. External and Competitive Scholarships- Vacant

XI. New Business

- Legislation 2021.XX: Accessibility and Handicap Parking Act
 - i. Sponsor(s): Katelynn McAraw, Deanna Watkins, Dexter Hargrett
 - ii. Issue Addressed: Accessibility across campus
 - iii. Result: Approved
- Legislation Mixer

The meeting adjourned at 9:50 pm.

Daniel Elliot, SGA President