

Student Government Association

Meeting

10/04/21

Minutes

1. Call to Order
   1. President Cannon called the meeting to order at 3:30pm
2. Roll Call
   1. Justices Present: Price, Rice
   2. Justices Absent: None
   3. Justices Excused: None
   4. Senators Present: Abraham, Adams, Arango Boards, Burns, Gilpin, Hix, McCulloch, Myers, Omar, Pfalz, Renton, Siebenaler, Terrell
   5. Senators Absent: None
   6. Senators Excused: None
   7. Executive Cabinet Present: Cannon, Day-Carter, Nguyen, Prince, Roat, Weis
   8. Executive Cabinet Absent: None
   9. Executive Cabinet Excused: None
3. Reading of Minutes
   1. Vice President Roat motioned to accept the minutes as electronically distributed, Chairperson Renton submoved, and Senator Abraham seconded. The motion carried and the minutes were approved.
4. Open Session
   * 1. President Vaidya’s Presentation
        1. Ashish thanked us for all the work SGA has done
        2. Please encourage people to enter their vaccination information into the form
        3. The 3 essential goals: 1. Success by Design - expanding Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion we are the 2nd institution in the region  to install the Moonshine to close equity gaps by the year 2030 - bring up the graduation and retention rates 2. Look for growth and be involved within the community 3. How to design a hybrid university - how to make sure the quality stays the same for in-person and online courses
        4. Thinking about the mental health support for students, staff, and faculty
           1. More and more investments going towards mental health initiatives
        5. He opened it up to questions
        6. Justice Price how will he make sure the quality will stay the same for both types of classes
           1. They have offered professional development to the faculty to know how to utilize the resources better
           2. They are giving support to the faculty
           3. Not just courses, but the entire student experience
           4. Students are taking more online advising appointments and actually missed their appointments once virtual - removing frictions
           5. The task force will be a very important group with students, staff, faculty, and a member of the Board of Regents
           6. November 18 at 1pm, a campus conversation about the hybrid university over Zoom
        7. Justice Price offered giving more resources to students on how to use online resources more effectively and training students
           1. President Vaidya thought it was a great idea and admitted that students may be more tech savvy than the faculty
        8. Chairwoman Arango asked if he had any suggestions for SGA to enhance the experiences and turnover for campus services
           1. Our vacancy rate is twice the normal, it’s usually 10% but now it’s up to 18% or 19%
           2. They’ve been getting applications and advertisements our there but not a lot of applicants
           3. Told us he would be happy to hear any good ideas from us
        9. Chairperson Renton asked if there would be more opportunities to include more gender-neutral bathrooms
           1. In HIC and the new hall, there will be more gender-neutral bathrooms and more populated areas such as Norse Commons and the Student Union will be getting more as well
        10. Chief Justice Prince asked how high of a priority it is to replace the fees of counseling even after Covid-19 is over
            1. When students are supported, they tend to succeed better
            2. The best decision is to help the students
        11. Senator McCray asked for his thoughts on what would happen to majors involved in the arts if they had to go online
            1. They are declines in positive rates and transmission rates
            2. Unless something crazy happens, they are not expecting anything to go back online
            3. Noted the vibrancy on campus and seeing all of the performances within the School of the Arts (SOTA) which is vital to NKU
            4. We cannot eliminate the virus, but we can at least manage it
        12. Senator Gilpin asked President Vaidya to explain more about the Seize the Awkward partnership
            1. It is done nationally and it destigmatizes the idea of talking about mental health
            2. It creates an environment to make it more okay and to be able to lean on one another
     2. African American Student Initiatives Presentation
        1. ROCKS is a mentorship program that recruits and helps with retention
        2. There is also a UNV 101 for ROCKS students
        3. DURING MLK Jr. weekend, there are a lot of events helped
        4. During Black History Month, there are a lot of events and he wants SGA to be more involved as well
        5. Black History Month is not only for black people, it is an opportunity to celebrate one another not just observing and learning
        6. AASI alternative Spring Break is an opportunity to learn about culture and have a depper understanding in an intimate way
        7. UJIMA is an opportunity to celebrate a lot of the black excellence and achievement for all students, staff, and faculty to share with the community and gives a scholarship to a student
        8. SHEREHE is an opportunity to celebrate the graduates
        9. Student Organizations
           1. African Student Union, Anointed Voices, Black Student Union, Envy Dance Team, Poetic Justice, and many more
           2. Divine Nine Organizations (NPHC)
        10. MLK Jr. Service day is an opportunity to give back to our community
        11. Welcomed students to give any program ideas or activities for Black History Month
        12. Chairwoman Arango asked if there were any specific events for Black History Month that we should offer
            1. Any ideas are open so just email at [Mooregr@nku.edu](mailto:Mooregr@nku.edu) if you have any ideas
        13. Senator Myers asked when the MLK Jr. Day of Service is
            1. It will be on MLK Jr. Day
        14. Senator Tolbert asked how can students join ROCKS
            1. First years – including transfer students – can join and there are two cohorts with one before and one a few weeks after school started with about 39 students joining each cohort
            2. There is an application process, submitting an essay, and a $100 fee
5. Liaison Reports
   1. No report
6. Executive Board Reports
   1. Secretary of Public Relations
      1. She has the Instagram account on and running
      2. Noted that Instagram and Facebook are down
      3. Reach her through the SGA Instagram
   2. Secretary of Student Involvement
      1. A few operational forms – Bests Body, COI Ambassadors, Sigma Ghamma Rho, etc.
   3. Secretary of Administration
      1. Two more interviews for this week
   4. Vice President
      1. Asked the Chairs to give a 30 second summary of what each committee does
   5. President
      1. Thanked everyone for attending the SGA workshop and noted that we received a lot of constructive criticism
      2. Wants everyone to get professional development through SGA and that they are growing through this organization
      3. Keep on the lookout for more fun bonding events and willing to listen to ideas of activities
      4. Big Pink Volleyball is tomorrow so come out and support
      5. October 13 in the Student Union room 109 at 6pm – SGA Informational
         1. Make sure you advertise this event
      6. Her office is always open, so you can always come to her if needed
      7. Gave a reminder to not speak until the chair appoints you to speak
7. Committee Reports
   1. Student Advocacy
      1. Chairwoman Arango introduced herself and said Student Advocacy includes any issues that do not fall under the University Improvements or Academic Excellence committee such as the Alcohol Resolution passed last year
      2. She loved the list they compile last week on what they would like to work on
      3. Vice chair applications will be out soon
      4. Please text her to make a GroupMe for her committee
      5. She wanted SGA members to ask any questions for her weekly Covid-19 meeting
         1. Senator Gilpin asked if there were any updates on the Booster shot
            1. NKU does have the booster shot but only offering it to those 65 years and older, to those that had their 2nd covid shot more than 6 months ago, and front-line workers
         2. Senator Terrell asked when masks would be optional
            1. It would not be until we are in the green, and we are still in the red zone
   2. Academic Excellence
      1. Vice chair applications will open soon
      2. Trying to get a committee meeting scheduled
      3. It is focused on academic issues such as adding a major or minor
   3. University Improvements
      1. This committee focuses on improvements of the university such as broken lights or broken elevators. They are focusing on more sustainability this year
      2. Happy safety walk day!
      3. They elected their vice chair of the committee, Senator Lucy Burns and congratulated her
      4. October 26, 3-6pm, is an event about movement building and activism which is organized by the Sunrise Movement
8. Ex-Officio Reports
   1. Chief Justice
      1. Mentioned one of the applicants is to become a justice
      2. If you have any questions, just reach out to him
   2. Chief of Staff
      1. Presence is up and running so make sure
9. Advisors Reports
   1. Sarah reported that Arnie will become Dr. Slaughter next Wednesday
   2. Arnie reported that Wednesday, October 20 is another lunch with staff in the UC Ballroom during noon
10. Old Business
    1. No old business
11. New Business
    1. The appointees were called to the front by President Cannon to introduce themselves and explain why they want to join SGA
       1. Stephanie wants to join SGA because of the service opportunities available and
       2. Silverent wants to help the student body have a voice and wants to fight for campus sustainability
       3. Miles wants to join SGA because he wanted black men and black people in general to have their voice heard
       4. Chairperson Renton asked if there were any ideas they had to bring to SGA
          1. Silverent wants to fight for more trans and non-binary people’s rights
       5. Vice President Roat motioned to vote on the appointees as a slate, Chairperson Renton seconded. The motion carried and was passed.
       6. The I’s won unanimously.
       7. The appointees were sworn in as senators.
    2. Vice President Roat motioned to vote on Peyton, Chairman Omar submoved, Senator Gilpin seconded
    3. The I’s won in a majority
    4. Peyton was sworn in as the Secretary of Public Relations
12. Announcements
    1. Chairperson asked people to donate nonperishable food items
       1. The bins are behind the SU informational desk, one in Norse Commons, one in Northern Terrace, and one in the Greek Life
       2. It is open for non-perishable items, clothing, and hygiene products
    2. Chairwoman Arango is having an event with NVP center this Thursday
       1. It is a mental health conversation and mixer
    3. Phi Sig is having an event with Cane’s in Alexandria to receive some donations from them
    4. Sing with the Sigma’s is tomorrow night in the Otto Budig Theatre
       1. You do not have to sign up but please try to bring canned food items
    5. Thursday at 8pm, Alpha Kappa Psi is having a pageant that day
13. Adjournment
    1. Senator Abraham entertained a motion to adjourn. Vice President Roat submoved and

Chairwoman Arango seconded. The motion carried and meeting adjourned at 4:45pm