

# WORCESTER POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTE

## 29<sup>th</sup> Student Government Association

18<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Twenty-Ninth Undergraduate Student Government Association

To be held in Salisbury Labs, Room 411

6:00 p.m. – October 29<sup>th</sup>, 2019

- I. Call to Order
- II. Approval of the Minutes
- III. Public Comments
  - a. Club of the Week – Gompei’s Goat Cheese
    - i. Gompei’s Goat Cheese was originally an MQP in 2012 as a student run business, and were launched in 2014. They sell online and partner with businesses around Worcester and WPI. They support IQP scholarships through sales, increase WPI’s brand recognition, and showcase WPI’s entrepreneurial student body. They don’t make the cheese on their own, but partner with a local farm making 1,500lbs of cheese per week. All of their employees are volunteers, and provide experience working in a business setting. They can be found at the Wine Vine, Chartwells catering events, and at gompei.com. They are working on increasing awareness for the business on campus. They would like assistance in publicity by advertising on social media, as a club spotlight, and on TechSync.
      1. What kinds of events do you hold?
        - They run grilled cheese events and recently hosted a wine and cheese night. They help run events with multiple different organizations on campus.
      2. What kinds of marketing are you doing besides sales?
        - They are hoping to market with different companies around Worcester, and are represented to alumni.
      3. Have you thought about a place on campus to sell cheese?
        - They are trying to sell cheese through Chartwells. They used to sell cheese in the Campus Center, but they are currently only supplied through catering now.
- IV. Special Orders
  - a. Appointments
    - i. President Wilson appointed Matt Cannata as Communications Char and Giulio Cataldo as Internal Affairs Chair.
    - ii. President Wilson appointed Johan Bradley, Molly Folino, Anna Catlett, Austin Shalit, and Megan-Rose Missien as interim Senators
    - iii. President Wilson appointed Safiya Ali, Maria Benjet, and Mia Hopman as honorary Senators.
- V. President’s Report
  - a. Board of Trustees Meeting
    - i. President Wilson attended the Board of Trustees meeting last week showcasing data regarding student study space. Information from this presentation will be used to move forward with building plans.

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- b. Walk and Talks
    - i. President Wilson has lots of free time, and would like to spend that time talking to other senators. Senators interested in meeting with her should schedule a time to talk on Outlook.
  - c. Elections Promotions
    - i. We are in the middle of Exec Elections, and she encourages senators to continue to promote them. Senator elections are coming up soon, and the applications need to be filled out. She encourages
      - 1. Chair Giacoman asked how many senior positions will be open?
        - President Wilson answered that roughly 16 positions are becoming more open for students?
      - 2. Chair Bimonte asked if the application process could be digitized?
        - It can be looked into, but it would be difficult to gather signatures and sign the academic disclosure form.
- VI. Vice President's Report
- a. Banquet
    - i. Banquet will be on November 23<sup>rd</sup> from 12:00-2:00PM, and senators are encouraged to attend.
  - b. Assassins Game Update
    - i. Congratulations to Kyle Pacheco and Ariana Cruz-Rivera for winning the Senator Bonding Game.
  - c. Question of the Term
    - i. Vice President Toomey asked senators what their favorite memories of SGA are, and what they hope to accomplish in the next few weeks.
- VII. Secretary's Report
- a. SGA Agenda and Minutes Alias
    - i. Secretary Burack reminded Senators to not spam the agenda and minutes alias, and to direct all questions and comments to exec.
  - b. Guess the SGA Member
- VIII. Treasurer's Report
- a. No Report
- IX. Parliamentarian's Report
- a. Alumni Event
    - i. 10 to 15 alumni attended, and the alumni who attended enjoyed the event. They would attend more events like it if there was less competition for time during Homecoming Weekend.
  - b. Elections
    - i. Parliamentarian Liberacki sent out the schedule for senator elections.
  - c. Trivia
- X. Cluster Reports
- a. Student Services Cluster
    - i. Reddit Project – Chair Nunez

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1. Chair Nunez will be bringing back the Reddit project for academic advice. If senators have any suggestions or would like to work on the project, please reach out to Chair Nunez.
- ii. Suggestions Breakdown – Chair Serven
  1. Chair Serven read through all student life suggestions and presented her findings from them.
  2. The number one suggestion was regarding campus wide events, showing that students are looking to be more involved on campus. Within this, distress events were very much requested. There were also many suggestions for the weekly events email.
  3. Regarding SGA, most of the suggestions were about publicizing on social media. Twitter and Reddit were suggested as platforms to promote SGA events and activities. There were also a lot of suggestions to show transparency in SGA.
  4. For food, campus would like to see more variety, healthier food and more inclusive options, cheaper/free food opportunities, and later dining hours with hours on the weekend.
    - Chartwells is working on providing more hours for the weekend.
  5. For spaces on campus, students wanted to see more study space, better used of TV screens, improvement of current spaces, more power outlets, housing improvements, free printing, and more parking available for students. Usage of TV Screens is in reference to accessibility of using screens on campus.
  6. Students also wanted to see more work done to cut back plastic waste, wanted more financial changes in SGA, academic improvements, and electric bikes.
  7. Senator Guerrero asked for an example of a campus-wide event suggestion.
    - Chair Serven stated that students would have liked to see more events on the quad, more events in B and C term as it gets darker and more depressing, or more events to show campus pride.
  8. These suggestions will be left in the SGA office for senators to read
- b. Internal Services Cluster
  - i. Pop-Up Tablesitting – Chair Cannata
    1. The first pop-up shirt giveaway was today, and Chair Cannata thanked all senators who helped out. This was a great incentive push to get people to vote. The total number of voters as of this Senate meeting is close to 1000 voters.
    2. More volunteers are needed for tablesitting for elections and the pop-up shirt giveaway for the end of the week. Chair Cannata encourages senators to sign up and help with elections promotion.
    3. Senator Starr asked why we can't have longer elections?

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- President Wilson responded that SGA bylaws stipulate the times for elections to coincide with business hours. Future Senates can reevaluate this, but most votes are early within the first few days of elections.
- ii. Senator Elections – Chair Cataldo
  - 1. Senator Elections are coming. Chair Cataldo recommends all eligible senators should run to be Senators in the next senate. The Senator Application packet was sent out to campus. With the personal reflection questions on the form, students should really think about what they write in their application. Chair Cataldo also recommends that anyone interested should start the application as soon as possible.
  - 2. Senator Guerrero asked if there will be promotions for Senator Elections.
    - Chair Cataldo responded that there will be information sessions on Monday, Wednesday, and Thursday of the week of November 4<sup>th</sup> for those who have not participated in SGA in the past.
- c. Financials Cluster
  - i. Help with Club Auditing – Chair Racca
    - 1. Chair Racca thanked senators for their help with Club Auditing. Her goal is to send out the results of the Club Audit by Thanksgiving, and asked any Senator for assistance in reviewing the audit information and writing recommendation letters for the clubs.
- XI. Faculty, Institute, and Special Committees
  - a. Chair Bimonte announced that there will be a WSGA meeting this Sunday, November 3<sup>rd</sup>.
  - b. Treasurer Candy stated that an option for the day of the Career fair is to make it an advising day. If any senators have suggestions for the day of Career Fairs, they should reach out to him.
- XII. Old Business
- XIII. New Business
  - a. S.14 Amendment to the Standing Rules
    - i. Treasurer Candy reminded Senators that
    - ii. Treasurer Candy presented that the word “committee” was changed due to the passing of SGA’s bylaws to make project sectors instead of committees.
    - iii. The standing Rules were also edited to govern how reallocation requests are heard and processed. Based on these rules, reallocation will be heard like a regular funding request. However, if the money is already approved for a club, the request is only heard by the Financial Chairs, President, and Treasurer.
  - b. Senator Bonding
- XIV. Questions, Comments and Ideas

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- a. Secretary Burack mentioned that the lights in Institute Park have been off, making students concerned to walk back to Faraday Hall. We should speak to someone about getting those lights back on.
  - b. The parking situation will not change as there are more spots available than passes given out.
- XV. Announcements
- a. Senator Wisniewski recommended that anyone interested in joining a sorority should go through the Recruitment Process.
  - b. Chair Cataldo suggested that seniors should attend the kickoff event for the class gift.
  - c. Secretary Burack announced that Bowling Club will be having a meeting on Thursday, October 31<sup>st</sup>, where the next bowling outing date will be set.
  - d. Senator Guerrero announced that there will be an Empanada sale on Thursday November 7<sup>th</sup>.
  - e. Senator Catlett announced that ski team will be holding a fundraiser.
  - f. Chair Serven announced that all senators should stay save on the weekend of Halloween.
- XVI. Advisor's Remarks
- a. Advisor Sharry announced that the B-Term leadership workshop is in motion, and encourages senators and students to attend. There will be incentives for attending these leadership seminars. The SAO will be selling Worcester Railers tickets in the SAO for \$10, and the first people to buy tickets will receive a hat. The SAO trip this weekend is to the Roger Williams Jack-O-Lantern Festival. Events are on the University Tickets website.
- XVII. President's Remarks
- a. President Wilson ensured that this term will be exciting as it is preparation for the next Senate. Senate on the Week of Thanksgiving will be a paper senate, with all reports already filled out on the agenda. The student life fee will be discussed on the November 19<sup>th</sup> Senate Meeting.
- XVIII. Adjournment

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