

WORCESTER POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTE

30th Student Government Association

13th Meeting of the Thirtieth Undergraduate Student Government Association

To be held in Zoom Meeting ID: 952 4476 3062

6:00 p.m. – September 1st, 2020

- I. Call to Order
- II. Approval of the Minutes
- III. Public Comments
- IV. Special Orders
 - a. Interim Senator Appointments
 - i. President Candy appointed Agafiya (Agasha) Konnova, Alix Wagner, Tian Yu (Annie) Fan, Ali Guthrie, Jorgo Gushi, and Mike Rossetti as Senators at 6:04 P.M.
- V. President's Report

President Candy introduced himself and explained how we will be having Senate on Zoom this term. Additionally, as we find a new normal on campus, he noted that we will be looking for student representatives to sit on faculty committees. Finally, a new WSGA delegate is needed. If you are interested in the position or have questions, please reach out to Senator Rhodes and/or Senator Hager, as they both have previously been a part of WSGA, or you can reach out to President Candy himself.

- VI. Vice President's Report

Vice President Serven welcomed everyone back to Senate! She asked Senators to please be patient with Exec and Cabinet as we transition to this new hybrid version of SGA. Vice President Serven then reiterated the importance of the SGA Mission Statement, especially during this time where there exists a lot of confusion. Additionally, Vice President Serven talked about the importance of the SGA Slack for communication, and she asked everyone to keep in the mind the purposes of each channel when selecting which one to use to send a message. If there is a Senator who is not yet in Slack, please reach out to Vice President Serven.

Vice President Serven then went over the new COVID-19 regulations WPI has in place. This included the daily symptom tracker, reserving time slots at all dining locations, and recreation center reservations. Further, masks are always required on campus, with limited exceptions; non-WPI visitors are not allowed on campus; and large gatherings need to follow appropriate COVID-19 guidelines. If students do not follow these guidelines there will be consequences, the most severe being expulsion from campus. Finally, Vice President Serven closed with explaining WPI's culture of care, where we need to "protect the herd."

Questions:

The Mission of SGA is to improve the quality of undergraduate student life at the University both academically and socially by addressing student needs and concerns, providing financial structure of WPI's student clubs and organizations, and representing the student body in a professional manner.

WORCESTER POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTE

Where can we access the WPI's daily COVID numbers?

Answer: There is a link on the WPI Website, and if you Google "WPI COVID Dashboard" it will be one of the first things that pop up in the results.

VII. Secretary's Report

Secretary Gruner-Mitchell updated Senate on access to the SGA office and its shared common space. The SGA office can only be accessed by Exec only, and it has a maximum capacity of 2 people. Those who enter the office are required to wipe down touched surfaces before they leave. The common space is open to all senators, but it is important to use common sense when entering that space; If it looks as if you'd be unable to maintain social distancing if entering the room, then do not enter it.

Additionally, Secretary Gruner-Mitchell reminded senators to message her if they are unable to attend Senate. From that she informed senators that if they are not on the proper email aliases to contact her.

VIII. Treasurer's Report

a. No Report

IX. Parliamentarian's Report

Parliamentarian Silvia informed Senate that SGA Exec elections are coming up quickly. If someone is interested in running for a position, please reach out to Exec members. She added that if anyone has any questions, to feel free to reach out to herself and/or Chair Tocci.

X. Cluster Reports

a. Student Services Cluster

Chair Gammal reported that the Student Activities Fair is this Friday (9/4) from 3-5 P.M. Each club will have their own Zoom link.

Chair Puhalski reported that he is looking for someone to take over the newsletter project. It is easy to do, since the format for it already exists, and, if needed, more than 1 person can work on it.

b. Internal Services Cluster

Chair Tocci reported that SGA elections will be happening in B Term, but during A Term he will be putting together Slating Committee. It will come together as follows: First he will be selecting a Slating Committee, then the committee will interview Exec candidates, and, finally, they will create a Slate. He asks senators to pay attention to their emails because that's how a

The Mission of SGA is to improve the quality of undergraduate student life at the University both academically and socially by addressing student needs and concerns, providing financial structure of WPI's student clubs and organizations, and representing the student body in a professional manner.

WORCESTER POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTE

lot of this information will be shared. Chair Tocci then said that if there is anyone interested on working on elections to please reach out to him.

Additionally, Chair Tocci said that there will be a discussion in the coming weeks on whether Secretary should be an internally or externally elected position. For context Secretary was changed from an external vote to an internal vote two years ago, but now the idea has been brought up to revert it back to an externally elected position.

- c. Financials Cluster
 - i. No Reports
- XI. Faculty, Institute, and Special Committees
 - a. No Reports
- XII. Old Business
- XIII. New Business
 - a. Project Presentations

As a part of our Senator responsibilities, we work on projects that benefit both campus and SGA. Cabinet members spoke on the projects that they plan on running this upcoming Semester. At the end of the presentation, Senators were asked to fill out a project preference form. See attached PowerPoint for details.

- XIV. Questions, Comments, and Ideas
 - a. None
- XV. Announcements
 - a. Goat's Head wants to work with clubs to create virtual events for the student body. If you are in a club and would like to work with Goat's Head to create an online event, please reach out to Secretary Gruner-Mitchell.
 - b. There will be no Financials Meeting this week.
 - c. Be sure to pay attention to registration deadlines for National Elections. These dates differ by state.

XVI. Advisor's Remarks

Advisor Sharry welcomed everyone back and mentioned how nice it is to see so many people on campus for the academic year. She also reminded everyone that the Student Activities Fair is this Friday (9/4); If your club still needs to register, please reach out to her ASAP. Also, leadership programs are back, so remember to keep an eye out for those and to sign up if interested. Finally, Advisor Sharry said that if anyone needs anything, that she is here both in person and virtually; She is happy to help and to answer any questions!

The Mission of SGA is to improve the quality of undergraduate student life at the University both academically and socially by addressing student needs and concerns, providing financial structure of WPI's student clubs and organizations, and representing the student body in a professional manner.

WORCESTER POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTE

XVII. President's Remarks

President Candy echoed that Exec elections are coming up soon, so it is important to start thinking about this and to get excited! He also thanked Chair Tocci for stepping into his position back in C Term when he was on IQP. President Candy closed by reminding senators how we can have a positive impact on campus with both the work we do in Senate and out of Senate.

XVIII. Adjournment

The Mission of SGA is to improve the quality of undergraduate student life at the University both academically and socially by addressing student needs and concerns, providing financial structure of WPI's student clubs and organizations, and representing the student body in a professional manner.