

**STUDENT GOVERNMENT
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING
February 11, 2021**

Called to order: 8:03 p.m.

1) Preliminary Items

a) Roll Call

2) Auxiliary Reports

a) Speaker of the Student Senate

i) No report

b) Academic Affairs Committee Chair

i) Purinton:

(1) Dr. Gooch has decided there will be an open forum for each class to get thoughts on how students are doing, what the university can do to improve, etc.

(2) Met with Dr. Kubin, plan on sharing assessment data from 2019; had a really good conversation, think there will be a lot of changes coming to the Vault technology and process

(a) Prompts and number of things students need to respond to will also probably change

(b) I encourage all committees to look through this assessment, as there is important data on things like student mental health, work-life balance, etc.

(3) German: How many nominations do you have so far?

(a) Purinton: 44 so far, including faculty wellness honoree

(b) Barker: We have a post going out tomorrow to advertise the last few days of open nominations

(4) Alexander: You should consider making some resolutions on some of this policy work you've been doing

c) Diversity Committee Chair

i) Cooper:

(1) Met with Brad about the Interfaith Center; he is open to helping, but not sure how to go about it; meeting with the director of the Interfaith Center at University of Vermont next week

(2) ABC and Health Wellness and Safety are collaborating with us on Black History Month events

(3) DPS focus group only had one person, so we will be doing a survey instead

(4) Alexander: Laura gave us some suggestions for the prayer room, and encouraged us to consider starting with things that would be useful for everyone

d) Environmental Affairs Committee Chair

i) Kershaw:

(1) Met with Dr. Hughes on Monday, interested in investigating current fossil fuel investments and future divestment; will hear back from him in March

(2) Will be absent from general body on Sunday to present to Bulldog Investment Fund

e) External Affairs Committee Chair

i) MacLeod:

(1) Have the JoEllen Engelbart resolution ready; haven't found much information yet on her tenure on Student Government; still considering some kind of drive for her family, but haven't yet come up with a clear plan for this

(2) Alexander:

(a) Would we want to make a donation as a group -- so it is listed as on behalf of the Student Government on GoFundMe?

(b) Have you reached out to Dr. Alberts, Dr. Young, or Laura Bates about JoEllen? They would have worked directly with her when she was at Truman

f) Health, Wellness, and Safety Co-Chairs

i) Barker:

(1) Going to try to table in a couple weeks for heart health; will have a money motion this weekend for giveaways

(2) Josh and Jacob worked with Kennedy and Azeeza to add some kind of wellness event to the Black History Month programming

(3) Trying to pick a weekly topic surrounding marginalized groups on campus to brainstorm ideas to support during our meetings

(4) Meeting with folks from Unmasked for peer counseling to get more information about how to bring this to Truman

ii) Woods:

(1) Working on getting the brochure off the ground, hopefully next week

(2) Hayden has been looking into resolution regarding making therapy resources more accessible to people with Autism

g) Purple Friday Committee Chair

i) Myers:

(1) Purple Friday will be the 19th; will be editing the posters so they have the correct date

(2) Alexander: Please don't eat the Purple Friday Candy in the office; Sam, you might also want to go ahead and book the tables for the rest of the semester so you don't run into the same problem

h) Student Affairs Committee Chair

i) Barge:

(1) Owen reached out to CIS for more information on institutional jobs; currently no designated officer, so will need to wait until new officer comes in; did research on labor policies and trends at other universities; will bring up this topic whenever we discuss pay increases/scholarship hour issues

(2) Still waiting to hear from IT, RHA

(3) Alexander: We talked with Dr. Thomas about the pay issues; university is not required to pay state minimum wage, but there was a 40 cent increase in wages at every level -- this was the most they could increase it by and still keep the same number of workers; the plan for next semester

is to decrease the number of scholarship hours required rather than to increase the wage

- i) Women's Leadership:**
 - i) Sprehe:**
 - (1) Meeting with Bertha Thomas tomorrow to discuss getting speakers on the POC/LGBTQ+ career panels
 - (2) Met with Alex and Alec for PR
 - (3) Planning on having everything ordered before spring break
 - (4) Trying to figure out budgeting for mural
 - j) PR Director:**
 - i) Knight:**
 - (1) Weekly giveaway will be picked tomorrow
 - (2) Next alumni post going out tomorrow
 - (3) Met with Morgan and Alex to talk about advertising for Women's Leadership Conference, as well as ordering stickers
 - k) Legislative Director:**
 - i) King:**
 - (1) Have created a log of bills to track, relating to higher education; will be putting this in the shared drive
 - (2) House Bill 681 -- calls for universities to not charge students for health care if they have insurance; House Bill 856 -- suspends tuition cap on universities for five years; Senate bill prohibiting discriminatory actions against belief-based student organizations, allows students to take action against the university
- 3) Executive Reports**
- a) Treasurer**
 - i) Wren:**
 - (1) Tomorrow is collaboration meeting with FAC and SAB; will be bringing current budgets and operating procedures to discuss similarities and making things more uniform
 - b) Secretary**
 - i) Lesch:**
 - (1) Will be sending out a form sometime next week for Spring roster information
 - c) The President and Vice President of the Student Association**
 - i) Alexander:**
 - (1) Last week, we talked about covid cases and athlete testing; Dr. Thomas told us that the surveillance testing is mostly negative, high numbers have been confined to certain groups; 47 cases we had was not close to our capacity, so not something to be too concerned about; going down this week
 - (2) Also discussed school cancellation policy; glad to see that Friday and Monday have already been moved to virtual
 - (3) Have been encouraged to reach out to professors who are not accommodating students who are unable to make it to campus due to weather
 - (a) Woods: Are professors required to not be on campus tomorrow?

- (i) Alexander: It is supposed to be online only; we will message Dr. Gooch to let her know there might be some miscommunications; we might also open a conversation about the no-snow-day policy
 - (ii) Purinton: Dr. Gooch is aware of some professors not following attendance policies, so I can reach out to her to add this to the conversation
 - (iii) Wren: I think some professors are naturally going to cancel class, so encouraging professors to do this might be an option
 - (iv) Barker: One thing to think about is professors who need to come to campus to Zoom, and how they would still teach on inclement weather days; if you just move classes online, there will still be students who need to come to campus
 - (v) Woods: The snow last week made it dangerous for a lot of students to commute to campus, but we didn't move online; it seems the university should be using the online policy for this kind of scenario
 - (vi) Alexander: Dr. Thomas and Janna did point out that even if you cancel classes, staff still need to come to campus
- (4) Will be having another body-wide discussion on racial justice; want to share what all of your committees are doing so that the rest of the body can know about the work we are doing; talk about elections; leaving open space for brainstorming and discussion
- (a) E. Smith: This Sunday's meeting will probably be online, so this is something to consider if we are having a discussion

Adjourned: 9:02 p.m.