

SUNY Cobleskill  
Student Government Association  
Meeting Minutes  
April 23<sup>th</sup>, 2019

**Attendance:**

Officers: Allison Finch, Mercedes Hernandez, Jennifer McKenna, and Veronica Collazo.

Members: Adam Meyer, Conor Brinkworth, Sage Blackmar, Erin Denman, Stephanie Zacharias, Brycen Franek, Josh Foust, Ryan Luffman, Julia Rainville, Angela Armstrong, Eric Mariano, and Alex Smith.

Advisors: Jeff Foote, Barb Sprouse and Anne Hopkins Gross.

Guests: Steve Leary.

Allison Finch called the meeting to order at 12:32 p.m.

**Open Floor**

Steve Leary, our American Cross representative has been with us since 2007 and is retiring. Allison read the resolution from last meeting (see below) and presented it to Steve. Steve thanked SGA and Jeff Foote for working with him.

Eric Mariano asked for SGA members to contribute to the campus cleanup and shared his experience.

**Approval of Minutes**

Angela Armstrong made a motion to accept the minutes from April 16<sup>th</sup>, 2019. Ryan Luffman seconded the motion, there was no discussion and the motion was passed.

**Executive Board**

Allison reiterated that SUNY Cobleskill is #1 in the SUNY system for blood donations and hopes to continue its valuable contributions.

**Committees**

Elections: There was nothing to discuss at this time.

Affiliations: Allison asked that SGA recognize the eSports club, which meets Mondays at 7:00pm in the Student Leadership Chamber, as an official club under SGA. They have submitted all the necessary documentation. Brycen Franek spoke on behalf of the club, stated that they have received support from many departments including CSA for equipment. and athletics to help fund the tournament. Elected officers for the next academic school year were established during the club's last meeting as well. Alex Smith made a motion to recognize them as an official club, and Eric seconded the motion. During discussion it was asked when the tournament is, to which Brycen stated that it is Saturday the 27<sup>th</sup> at 7pm. Brycen, Josh Foust, Ryan Luffman, Jennifer McKenna, and Veronica Collazo abstained, and the motion was passed.

Cyber Security sent in their constitution to be revised. They noticed that amongst the other clubs their required GPA was lower, so they raised it to 2.25. Ryan made the motion to accept this change, and Brycen seconded the motion. Alison abstained, there was no discussion and the motion was passed.

Society for Agricultural Engineering Technicians sent in a revision to their constitution as well to change wording. Erin Denman made a motion to accept the change, and Sage Blackmar seconded the motion. Alison abstained, and the motion passed.

Ag Business and NAMA club submitted a revision to their constitution that added membership requirements and revised the description of the duties of the vice president. Alex made the motion to accept these changes, and Ryan seconded the motion. Allison abstained, and the motion was passed.

Finance: Mercedes provided copies of the draft for the budget for the 2019-2020 academic school year. The first part of the packet was sent out February 15<sup>th</sup>. Each club was given a questionnaire and a deadline to provide this information. There were no hearings this year, so this questionnaire was imperative to complete. Within the finance committee, they agreed upon that if any club submits their questionnaire past the deadline, they would get a 10% decrease. Any incomplete ones would also accrue a 5% decrease. Questions included membership, active member recruitment, participation in club con/club council and events on campus, cooperation and coordination, budget justification, etc. After reviewing all these materials, the finance committee voted on each club and their budget. Allison commented that this is a new system that worked exceptionally well and commended Mercedes, Alex, and the finance team.

Mercedes also stated that the projected number of students came from Dr Anne, and that number is multiplied by \$95, due to the student activity fee. The projected number has increased. This line is a backup line in the. Angela asked what happens if we don't use it, and Mercedes said it goes back into retained funds.

Allison stressed the importance of viewpoint neutrality and stated that it would be against your interest to bring up your own clubs' budget. The Student body first must accept this before it is sent forward to Dr Anne and President Terenzio. Barb Sprouse asked if this is a confidential document. Mercedes said that she would prefer it to be. Jeff commented that it is your responsibility as SGA members to honor viewing this document as something that represents the greater good of students on campus. As members you are empowered to have this information, but at the same time it is a responsibility.

Angela asked how this budget compares to the past years. Mercedes stated that there were several changes. Angela clarified her question, asking if the budget has increased or decreased overall. Mercedes stated that overall has increased due to the number of projected students.

Eric asked what the homecoming line is. Mercedes stated that the whole campus works together on homecoming weekend, usually around October 5<sup>th</sup>. This line did increase to accommodate for transportation costs for the parade and to help its continual growth.

Josh asked if the line named “club budgets” could be renamed to the “new club budgets” line to help clarify.

Dr Anne Hopkins-Gross asked what the actual amount of money requested in total is. Mercedes stated that if she gave every club the amount of money they asked for, she would be somewhere between \$75,000 to \$80,000 over the budget.

In one week, we will be voting on this budget.

Alison asked if this this Friday finance committee will be working on the budget. Mercedes said that they most likely will not b, just renaming the new club budgets line, but members and guests can come in to ask questions.

There were three requests to move funds within lines in clubs. Turf Club is asking to move \$163.92 from conference/travel to community service. Angela made the motion to move those funds, and Alex Smith seconded the motion. Mercedes abstained, there was no discussion, and the motion was passed.

Nerd Nation requested to move \$150 from conferences to programming to host one last tournament on May 3<sup>rd</sup>, as well as moving their funds from mileage to programming. Josh made the motion to move the funds, and Sage seconded the motoin. Mercedes, Jen, Eric, and Ryan abstained, there was no discussion and the motion was passed.

Public Relations: Pizza with the Presidents has been rescheduled and new fliers will be circulating. If any students have any concerns they can come in and ask.

### **Old Business**

Allison asked how many members or guests have seen the new sanitary dispensers that have been installed. Cheyanne has been stressing how sanitary products are a necessity, not a luxury item. After speaking to facilities and, as Dr. Anne clarified, Wendy Gillman, it was decided that Facilities will make room in their budget to fund the restocking of these items. SGA is very thankful for this, and the branding on the dispensers will feature an SGA logo, as well as branding for Facilities.

### **Concerns and Announcements**

Club Council—April 25th at 5:00pm

Club Appreciation Dinner—May 2nd at 7:00pm in Upper Champlin

Pizza with the Presidents—May 2nd at 5:30pm in Lower Brickyard

Flower Arraignment for Graduation Reception—May 9th at 6:00pm in the Headhouse in CANR

**Adjournment**

Josh made a motion to end the meeting; Ryan seconded the motion, the meeting adjourned at 1:22 pm.

**SUNY COBLESKILL STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION  
RESOLUTION NUMBER 4-19**

**A RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING STEVE LEARY  
UPON HIS RETIREMENT FOR HIS OUTSTANDING SERVICE  
TO THE AMERICAN RED CROSS**

At the meeting of the Student Government Association on Tuesday April 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2019 the following resolution was proposed and approved by the assembly:

**WHEREAS, STEVE LEARY** has been the American Red Cross Representative to SUNY Cobleskill since 2007; and

**WHEREAS, STEVE** has been a strong partner in our efforts to promote our blood drives; and

**WHEREAS, STEVE** has provided numerous insights that have advanced our cause; and

**WHEREAS, STEVE'S** energy and enthusiasm for his work has had a positive impact on our efforts; and

**WHEREAS, STEVE** has served as a valuable resource for new ideas regarding our blood drives.

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Student Government Association at SUNY Cobleskill hereby recognizes Steve Leary for his outstanding service and he is warmly wished a long and prosperous retirement.

**PASSED AND ADOPTED** by the Student Government Association this 23<sup>rd</sup> day of April, 2019, by unanimous vote.

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Cheyanne Matulewich, SGA President

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Allison Finch, SGA Vice-President

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Mercedes Hernandez, SGA Treasurer

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Veronica Collazo, SGA Secretary

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Jennifer McKenna, SGA Public Relations Officer