



## Student Senate Agenda

March 28, 2018

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- I. Opening
  - A. Call to Order
  - B. Roll Call (Ludwig)
  - C. Opening Reflection (Khang)
  - D. Approval of the Minutes
  - E. Approval of the Agenda
  
- II. Guests
  - A. Richard Ice
    1. Reaccreditation meeting
    2. RISE Committee
    3. Graduation cords
      - a. Met with archivist to look at history
      - b. Community tradition, we don't want to exclude anyone
      - c. Looking for another venue for celebrating other types of honors
    4. Questions:
      - a. Flores: why do you still give out honors if you don't want to separate people?
        - i. Academic tradition, students want that distinction
      - b. Webster: thank you for coming in to clarify this for us
  - B. RISE Committee
    1. Liberal Arts and Sciences (all 4-credit courses)
      - a. Artistic Creation & Interpretation
      - b. The Human Experience
      - c. Scientific Thinking about Societies, Groups, & Individuals
      - d. Abstract Reasoning
      - e. Scientific Inquiry about the Natural World
      - f. Themes:
        - i. Environment
        - ii. Justice
        - iii. Movement
        - iv. Technology
        - v. Truth
    2. Skills
      - a. Writing Foundation
        - i. All students, first semester
        - ii. 3 learning outcomes
      - b. Writing Exploration (Optional)
        - i. 2-credit
      - c. Writing Integration



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- i. Senior year
      - ii. Portfolio
    - d. Quantitative Reasoning
      - i. Not an extra class if covered by something else
- 3. Communities
  - a. Course series
    - i. Culture and Social Difference
      - a. Identity
        - i. Gender, race, ethnicity in modern USA
      - b. Systems
        - i. Same, but can focus on any time or any place
        - ii. Can be taken abroad
    - ii. Theology
      - a. Same as current curriculum
    - iii. Language
      - a. Same as current curriculum
    - iv. Experience
      - a. Artistic
        - i. Similar to FAE
      - b. Benedictine
        - i. Engaging with Monastic Community
        - ii. Essentially a Benedictine FAE
      - c. Experiential Engagement
        - i. Same as current experiential learning requirement, but does not have to be connected to a class
      - d. Global Engagement
        - i. Study Abroad
        - ii. Bringing international students to classroom
        - iii. Provide other opportunities
- 4. Co-Curricular and Arts Events
- 5. Integrated Portfolio
  - a. Reflect on and write about connections between areas
- 6. Questions:
  - a. Robinson: are there the same amount of common curriculum credits? How does this affect students who graduate early? Individualized major?
    - i. Still need 124 credits to graduate



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- b. Demeritte: will Benedictine Engagement be specific to the student's campus corresponding monastic community?
  - i. Events may be attended at either monastic community
- c. Flores: will the writing class be the same cohort of people? How do transfer credits work? Do you think admissions will be affected?
  - i. No, new teacher and new group of students
  - ii. Only 3 ways of thinking have to be themed, so 2 others can be from AP, IB, etc.
  - iii. Transfer credits are usually toward 124 total or a student's major
  - iv. This will likely not affect enrollment because students will still be able to transfer credits
- d. Spaulding: How are students able to get the same amount of global engagement without study abroad?
  - i. Won't be same amount, but there will be more opportunity than there is now
  - ii. Opportunity to propose their own engagement piece
- e. Angarag: what has been the faculty's initial response
  - i. So far only positive feedback
- f. Iteghete: how do you plan on inviting native speakers to come to classrooms?
  - i. The practice already exists in many classrooms, especially language department
  - ii. CGE peer mentor program
- g. Zeng: how will ESL and international students be affected by the writing class requirement? Concerned about being able to take Ethics abroad, will be too easy
  - i. We need to expand the services offered
  - ii. This is a student support question, not a curriculum question. There's not a way the model can reflect this
  - iii. Lots of people/programs on campus will be able to help
  - iv. Portfolio will require students to think about these things
- h. Grygar: what has changed based on faculty response?
  - i. Changed from 5 themes to 3; worried about students not having flexibility



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- ii. 2-credit writing courses, overloading students, would it be quality?
- iii. Will be more faculty development to be able to teach these new courses
- i. Webster: this model still looks like a heavy load from a student perspective. Hopefully once this is implemented, it will start to make more sense.
- j. Turnham: importance of working with admissions to effectively convey this to prospective students. Continue to look into avenues for ESL students. Concerned about how standardized the skills classes might be. Will there be ways to incorporate lived experience into portfolio? What does assessment look like for the portfolio?
  - i. Yes, portfolio is for in and out of classroom
  - ii. Will not be assessed on material in portfolio, but on your personal reflection on your 4-year experience
- k. Flores: are all ethics classes going to be designated social/cultural differences?
  - i. Most will be in humanities
- l. Iteghete: students will need lots of help from faculty/staff to be able to take this seriously
- m. Thomas: will these senior year requirements become too much for students to handle?
  - i. Capstone and internship no longer required
- n. Precourt: who will receive the portfolio?
  - i. Instructor of the course
- o. Robinson: do you have to take integrative portfolio senior year?
  - i. We don't allow departments to have their own
  - ii. Thomas: will there be some wiggle room with different departments?
  - iii. Many departments will be integrating their requirement with this new curriculum
- p. Turnham: How will you go about getting an emphasis in something?
  - i. All 5 ways of thinking in the same theme will show up on transcript. Minor in that theme. Really emphasizes importance of liberal arts education
- q. Flores: what is your plan for communicating this to students?



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- i. Video has been developed
  - ii. 2-year implementation period
- ~~C. Jordan Parker~~
- D. Food Task Force
  1. Typically food is not funded
  2. Proposal: fund up to \$30 per student per day (cap at 5 days)
  3. Questions:
    - a. Webster: was this proposal put in your constitutional review?
      - i. Angarag is aware of this proposal
    - b. Iteghete: do you want us to endorse this tonight?
      - i. Want to give people time to think about it
    - c. Terhaar: who will manage the cash advances?
      - i. Diane in Business Office is willing, but we will do follow-up with her
- E. WILD (Women's Initiative for Leadership Development)
  1. Educate and mentor first-year Bennies to become leaders
  2. 12 educational events, 6 social events
  3. Who will lead this program?
    - a. Women's Initiative Representative
    - b. Underclass representative
    - c. First-Year Representative
  4. Questions:
    - a. Iteghete: did you talk to IWL or Res. Life about collaborating? How will this program run? First-year feedback?
      - i. Talked to JEC, Res. Life, XPD
      - ii. 2 educational events and 1 social event per month
      - iii. Held open forum in Mary Commons, students seemed very interested
    - b. Spaulding: are you worried about students not being fully committed?
      - i. Stated in the application that it's a full year commitment. We will hold them accountable for the number of events they attend
    - c. Iteghete: will we be able to incorporate these students into Senate events and initiatives?
      - i. Shadow a senator event, will keep them informed of events going on on campus
    - d. Turnham: will it only be the three of you doing the planning or will you be incorporating other women leaders on campus?





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2. Turnham: this could create a double standard between senates if SBS funds food and SJS does not
    - i. Spaulding: this does not affect CFB
    - ii. Grygar: this is a SBS only initiative
  3. Thomas: these changes are long overdue, this is a good initiative. We are two different senates for a reason so we shouldn't worry about a double standard
  4. Robinson: we could consider a compromise with SJS
  5. Flores: it would look like we're trying to undermine SJS. We should communicate and work with them
  6. Thomas: I think we should focus more on what we want to do with our senate and our money
  7. Webster: this is a great way to support our Bennies. Wise to table this motion so we can continue the discussion
  8. Thompson: we are two separate institutions, this wouldn't undermine SJS
  9. Iteghete: motion to table motion
    - i. Passes 15-0-0
- D. Motion to allocate \$2,047.20 to reimburse the Outdoor University for the installation of the CSB/SJU Bike Share Program bike rack area at CSB (Precourt).
1. Precourt: the bike racks are essential for the bike share program. In favor of eco-friendly transportation
  2. Thomas: would like a better understanding of the funding
    - i. Terhaar: senates wanted to fund the purchase of bikes and software system. However, once the bikes arrived, they needed a place to secure them and the money from the Stearns County grant did not cover this.
  3. Khang: in favor
  4. Demeritte: in favor, allows student to use the bikes according to their own schedules. We haven't funded this program yet
  5. Robinson: feels like we're getting footed with a bill. Wants to know why there is a price discrepancies
    - i. Terhaar: location, materials
  6. Flores: can we get our logo on them?
    - i. Robinson: we aren't necessarily funding/supporting them, just paying them back
    - ii. Terhaar: logo could work
    - iii. Iteghete: not fair to put our logo on them because it wasn't our idea, we did not pay for them, we are not taking care of them



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iv. Webster: as far as visibility goes, we can promote the bikes

7. Iteghete: move to previous question

8. Vote: motion passes 14-1-0

### IV. Board Reports

#### A. President's Report (Steenberge)

##### 1. Elections

- a. No endorsing candidates
- b. No SBS logos on clothing in campaign material

##### 2. Transition notes due April 4<sup>th</sup>

- a. Must do this to receive stipend

##### 3. Take note of mandatory events

##### 4. Change in Inauguration Dinner time, now to 6:30 PM

##### 5. Questions:

- a. Khang: during speeches, can current senators who are running again ask questions?

1. Yes

- b. Thompson: clarification of logo rule

1. No photos in SBS blouse or t-shirt

#### B. Advisor's Report

##### 1. Trying hard to get students to get rid of their holds for registration and housing

- a. Students can make a payment plan to get rid of their holds

#### C. Executive Board (Webster)

##### 1. Speeches are Thursday, April 5<sup>th</sup> from 6-8 PM

##### 2. Encourage your friends to run, nominate them

#### D. Co-Funding Board (Grygar)

##### 1. Made allocations with reabsorbed money

#### E. Budget Update (Iteghete)

##### 1. Current budget: \$20,356.83

##### 2. Questions:

- a. Zeng: what do we do at the end of the semester?

1. Potential projects: Res. hall maintenance

2. Open to ideas

3. Flores: encourage your friends to come in with project ideas

4. Demeritte: students have proposed name tags for LINK drivers

- b. Robinson: does the budget include pending reimbursements?



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1. Yes
  - c. Grygar: if we don't spend this money, does it get reabsorbed into next year's budget?
    1. Yes
  - d. Zeng: can we give the money back to seniors?
    1. No, but encourage seniors to come forward with initiatives
    2. Terhaar: money gets reabsorbed to continue to invest in students
    3. Robinson: when the money gets reabsorbed does it go into the big fund for JEC, etc.?
      - a. No, it goes to us
- F. Saint John's Senate
1. ROTC funding
  2. Common Curriculum endorsement
  3. Asia club conference funding motion tabled
  4. 4 more sheriffs in town for Case Day
- G. Open Forum (Webster, Weekley, Angarag)
1. Webster:
    - a. Elections, nomination forms
    - b. Instagram
  2. Precourt:
    - a. Composting project
    - b. Sustainability fair: April 20<sup>th</sup> from 2-5 PM
    - c. Climate Action Club Carbon
    - d. Full Circle
  3. Demeritte
    - a. Bennie Ball
  4. Spaulding
    - a. Day at the Capitol: April 10<sup>th</sup>
  5. Flores:
    - a. Please send more words of wisdom
    - b. First-year event
  6. Terhaar:
    - a. SJS bike rack bill was actually \$1,931, so only a ~\$85 difference
    - b. Elections are a tense time, but remember your commitment to do your best work as senators
  7. Thomas:
    - a. Quinceañera next Friday @ 7 PM
    - b. Robinson: Senator Nyguen is the Quinceañera
    - c. Nyguen: please come!



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### 8. Turnham:

- a. SJS pushed their elections back a week because we haven't had con review yet

### V. Announcements

- A. The next meeting of the Saint Ben's Senate will be on Wednesday, April 4<sup>th</sup> at 5 PM.
- B. Senator Spaulding will attend the next St. John's Senate meeting on Monday, April 9<sup>th</sup> at 9:20 PM.

### VI. Adjournment