

# STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION AGENDA

October 8th, 2019

*The students of Merrimack College, in hopes of protecting and ensuring the rights of all students and the Merrimack College community hereby establish The Student Government Association of Merrimack College, referred to as the SGA.*

**President:** Amanda Gallagher (2020) **Vice President:** Bia Kerr (2022)

**Treasurer:** Liam O'Ceairuil (2022) **Secretary:** Haley Mallett (2020)

**Parliamentarian:** Josh Rizzo (2020) **Publicist:** Cobbina Appiah (2021)

**Advisor:** Rose McCarthy, Hanna Christ



**Members present:** Amanda Gallagher (2020) Liam O'Ceairuil (2022) Haley Mallett (2020) Josh Rizzo (2020) Cobbina Appiah (2021) Abigail Hooper (2021) Adrian Cintron (2022) Alexandra Gioia (2023) Alex Thelusma (2020) Cailey MacEachern (2023) Caterina Polito (2020) Dan Hansen (2020) Erika Torkildsen (2021) Freddy Monroy (2023) Geena Levine (2021) Haley Taing (2021) Helen Vasquez (2023) Jenna Stanish (2022) John-Paul Haley-Read (2020) Julia Matter (2021) Kaylee Pliszka (2022) Kiley Martel (2023) Luke Groder (2022) Matthew Cavoli (2023) Maria Kamenias (2021) Morgan Proko (2020) Nicholas Barber (2023) Raquel Perez (2020) Sam Mathews (2022) Tayleigh Tierney Honan (2021) Tiana Lawrence (2020) Tiffany Vo (2022) Tim Hare (2020)

**Non-Voting Members:**

**Members absent:** Bia Kerr (2022) Leena Ali (2021) William Ellis (2023)

**Students in attendance:**

**Staff in attendance:**

I. ROLL CALL:

- A. SGA President Amanda Gallagher '20 called the SGA meeting to order at 4:30 p.m.
- B. SGA Secretary Haley Mallett '20 took attendance. Quorum was met.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM: October 1st, 2019

- A. The minutes were approved.

III. PRESIDENT'S REPORT: **Amanda Gallagher '20**

A. The Mind of a Senator

1. It is senators' responsibility to be critical of student organizations, budget requests, and so on when SGA is reviewing them in the approval process.

B. Technology

1. SGA is launching an iPad trial run today.
2. Notes can be taken on iPads during the meeting.

C. Senior Apartments Meeting 10/07

1. After this past weekend, outside gatherings are prohibited until further notice to prevent further incidents.
2. If a student sees something, he or she should say something.
3. Class of 2020 Senator Tim Hare said it is "inappropriate and unprofessional" for mandatory meeting notices to be sent to students with short notice.
4. Class of 2020 Senator Alex Thelusma said it is unacceptable for students to behave this way.
5. Class of 2020 Senator Dan Hansen said many of the students who attended believe the students responsible were not in attendance.
  - a) Rose McCarthy asked if students know who is responsible for the incidents, and if they do, they should come forward with information.
6. SGA Parliamentarian Josh Rizzo '20 moved to open a discussion.
  - a) It was seconded.
  - b) Class of 2020 Senator JP Haley-Read said there is always a lot of trash and shattered glass from broken bottles in the quad after it is shut down.

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- (1) SGA President Amanda Gallagher '20 said if trash is a persistent problem, SGA can set the example for our community by helping to clean up.
  - c) Thelusma '20 asked if more security cameras can be installed in the quad.
    - (1) Gallagher '20 said college administration is looking into more lighting and security cameras.
  - d) Class of 2021 Senator Abigail Hooper said installing more trash bins would help reduce the amount of trash in the quad.
  - e) Class of 2021 Senator Tayleigh Tierney Honan said all students should be required to go to the mandatory meetings, not only apartment residents, SGA, and Resident Assistants (RAs).
    - (1) Gallagher '20 said an email will be sent to all students summarizing the meeting.
    - (2) Rizzo '20 said the apartment residents are invited out of respect for their home and because they live closest to the incident.
  - f) SGA Treasurer Liam OCearuil '22 said it is important that a follow-up email is sent to all students after the meeting because it was not the last time.
    - (1) OCearuil '22 added that an email to all students could help prevent future incidents.
  - g) Rizzo '20 moved to close the discussion.
    - (1) It was seconded.
- D. Tuesday, October 15th
1. SGA Secretary Haley Mallett '20 will send out a form for next week's attendance because Tuesday is a Monday schedule.
  2. Class of 2020 Senator Caterina Polito asked absences will be excused for academic reasons.
    - a) Yes, Senators who cannot make the meeting due to academic requirements will be excused from the meeting.
- E. Polling Feedback
1. Senators should ask for more specific feedback while polling.
  2. Senators can achieve this by asking for feedback in regard to their specific committee.
- IV. VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT: **Bia Kerr '22**
- A. Nothing new to report.
- V. SECRETARY'S REPORT: **Haley Mallett '20**
- A. Pizza with the President Polling
    1. Senators should refer to the instructions sent out by Mallett '20 before tabling or asking an Executive Board member any questions.
    2. Hooper '21 said SGA should incentivize students with candy or donuts for providing feedback.
    3. Class of 2022 Senator Tiffany Vo asked if there are any SGA cups left.
      - a) No, there are not any SGA cups left.
      - b) Vo '22 asked if more SGA cups will be ordered.
        - (1) No, not until at least next semester.
  - B. Open House Cheering
    1. Cheering at the upcoming open houses will count as a tabling opportunity for Senators.
    2. Mallett '20 will share the sign-up form with senators later today.
- VI. TREASURER'S REPORT: **Liam OCearuil '22**
- A. Finance Update

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1. The committee is working with IEEE and DREAM to create initial budgets.
2. There have been a few changes made to fundraising for student organizations.
  - a) Start-up funding will come from income lines.
  - b) The revenue will be put back into the income lines and the upfront cost will be deducted from it.
3. Tierney Honan '21 said student organizations are asking how to refund food purchases for meetings or events.
  - a) OCearuil '22 said they can bring receipts to OSI to be refunded, but should request a purchasing card from the college through OSI prior to the event.

### VII. PARLIAMENTARIAN'S REPORT: **Josh Rizzo '20**

#### A. Committee Updates

1. The new senators were assigned committees.
2. Rizzo '20 reminded committee chairs to submit their committee updates by 10 p.m. on Sundays.

### VIII. PUBLICIST'S REPORT: **Cobbina Appiah '21**

#### A. Advertising

1. Class of 2020 Senator Tim Hare asked how student organizations can share their event information with SGA.
  - a) Student organizations can send flyers or text to be put on SGA's social media stories.

### IX. GRADUATE FELLOW'S REPORT: **Hanna Christ**

#### A. Dishes with the Dean

1. Dishes with the Dean had lower attendance this past Friday.
2. Topics of discussion included S.O.U.L. training and positive feedback regarding campus life.

### X. ADVISOR'S REPORT: **Rose McCarthy**

- A. Rose McCarthy is looking into how to change Columbus Day to Indigenous People's Day on the college's academic calendar.
- B. Senators who are over 21 and interested in serving on the Augie's Advisory Board should contact Rose McCarthy or Mike Kennedy.
  1. The advisory board plans events and music for Augie's.

### XI. CHAIR REPORTS:

#### A. Academic Affairs Committee: **Tayleigh Tierney-Honan '21**

1. Nothing new to report.

#### B. Campus Infrastructure Committee: **Julia Matter '21**

1. Felipe Schwarz suggested SGA post flyers in the O'Brien elevator to prevent lightbulbs being stolen.
2. Bike racks will be installed near Crowe Hall.
3. Class of 2020 Raquel Perez said finding a parking spot is still problematic for commuters.
  - a) Class of 2021 Julia Matter '21 asked if any Senators had recommendations for commuter parking spots.
  - b) Class of 2020 Senator Caterina Polito said a lot of commuter parking lots are out of the way, and suggested making Lot A a commuter lot again.
  - c) Rizzo '20 moved to open a discussion.

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- (1) It was seconded.
- (2) Class of 2020 Senator Morgan Proko said professors have trouble finding parking too because commuters park in their spaces.
- (3) Class of 2020 Tiana Lawrence said Lot J is a commuter lot, but it is not advertised.
- (4) Lawrence '20 suggested that the college add a section to Lot C for commuter parking.
- (5) Hare '20 asked if the grass next to Sullivan Hall was changed to honeycomb technology like President Hopey addressed in a past Pizza with the President.
- (6) Rose McCarthy added that commuter students can park in front of the church.
- (7) Polito '20 suggested that there be a greater police presence patrolling the Sakowich lot throughout the day.
- (8) Hooper '21 said resident students who work off-campus complained about having to move their cars off-campus for Homecoming weekend.
  - (a) Thelusma '20 said the Parking Office was taking requests to accommodate students who needed their cars on campus.
  - (b) Rose McCarthy said students should contact the Parking Office if this happens in the future.
  - (c) Hooper '21 added that the shuttle was leaving early and off schedule during Homecoming weekend.
  - (d) Gallagher '20 said the college was being accommodating, but SGA can try to work on a better plan for next year.
- (9) Gallagher '20 said she will invite the Parking Office to a future SGA meeting.

### C. Career Affairs Ad-Hoc Committee: **Liam OCearuil '22**

1. At the most recent Career Fair, there were:
  - a) No environmental companies because they look to hire in the spring.
  - b) Six criminal justice related companies.
  - c) Gallagher '20 asked OCearuil '22 to bring a list of all companies at the most recent Career Fair to SGA.
2. The committee is still looking for feedback on what type of companies students would like to see at future career fairs.
3. PDR acceptances will be released to seniors this Friday, October 11th.
4. Warriors at Work is now the Internship Institute.
  - a) It is now open to all students and guarantees an internship.
  - b) Students have to register and RSVP on Handshake.
  - c) There will be 3 boot camps addressing success in an internship.
  - d) The internship program will start in 2020.
5. Upcoming events include:
  - a) The Human Development Panel on Wednesday, November 6th.
  - b) The Careers in Life Sciences Panel on Thursday, November 7th.
  - c) Polito '20 added that Psychology Career night is on Tuesday, October 22nd.
6. Polito '20 said there have been inconsistencies on Handshake with internship postings.
  - a) The committee will address this in its next meeting.
7. Class of 2021 Erika Torkildsen asked if the guaranteed internship is with an off-campus company.
  - a) Yes, it is a placement with an off-campus company.
8. Hansen '20 asked if the internship is guaranteed to be paid.

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- a) No, not all of the internships will have guaranteed pay.

### D. Dining Committee: **Tim Hare '20**

#### 1. Sparky's

- a) The Sodexo employee, Jose, requested to be switched from U-Cook to another station.
- b) Sparky's will look into having cooking lessons or more supervision in U-Cook.
- c) The Fresh Market Station will have more vegan options moving forward.
- d) The sneeze guards will be reviewed and longer tongs have been added.

#### 2. Food Truck

- a) Dining is considering serving Dominican food in the Food Truck.
- b) Dining is considering different locations for the Food Truck.
  - (1) Polito '20 suggested outside of the Townhouses.
  - (2) Class of 2023 Senator Alexandra Gioia suggested closer to the academic buildings.
    - (a) Hare '20 said they are trying to balance between the academic buildings and residence halls.
  - (3) Class of 2021 Senator Julia Matter asked where the food truck menu is posted.
    - (a) It is posted outside of the Food Truck and on Merrimack Dining's social media and website.
  - (4) Tierney Honan '21 said the Food Truck needs to move to more congested areas to accommodate the most students.
    - (a) Dining is concerned about causing traffic in busy parts of campus.
  - (5) Lawrence '20 said Merrimack should invest in a second food truck.
  - (6) Hansen '20 moved to open a discussion about dining.
    - (a) It was seconded.
    - (b) Polito '20 said employees often mistake what the truck has run out of.
    - (c) Hansen '20 said students would prefer a pop-up station in Sparky's with a rotating menu.
  - (7) Vo '22 asked if more healthy options, such as acai bowls, could be served from the Food Truck.
    - (a) The committee will address the different foods that can be prepared in the truck.
  - (8) Hooper '21 asked if more dining options will be introduced in the future with growing class sizes.
    - (a) Gallagher '20 said that is a great question to ask at Pizza with the President.
  - (9) OCearuil '22 suggested the food truck serve food at night instead of the day on the weekends.
  - (10) Proko '20 said the same spatula is used for vegetarian and regular burgers on the Mongolian Grill in Sparky's.
  - (11) Matter '20 said students are interested in the meal swipe donation program.
  - (12) Rizzo '20 moved to close the discussion.
    - (a) It was seconded.

#### 3. The Warrior's Den

- a) More CO2 has been ordered for the soda machines so they do not run out.
- b) More flavor syrups for soda have also been ordered.

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- c) The Pepsi cooler has a broken door causing leakage.
- 4. General Dining
  - a) The Sanctuary's prices for almond milk will be reviewed.
  - b) A new brick pizza oven has been ordered and tested on campus.

E. Diversity Affairs Committee: **Tiana Lawrence '20**

- 1. The committee discussed resources at Merrimack to report incidents including harassment and racial or bias comments.
  - a) Students can submit anonymous reports to Community Standards to be reviewed by the Dean of Students Office.
- 2. The committee is working on a larger scale panel for faculty and students to discuss diversity, inclusion, addressing bias incidents, and the bystander effect.

F. Environmental Affairs Committee: **Morgan Proko '20**

- 1. Nothing new to report.

G. Information Technology Committee: **John-Paul Haley-Read '20**

- 1. Verizon micro-towers will be installed the 1st of the year because the college needs approval from Andover and North Andover.
  - a) Students will be able to stream Xfinity through the new service.
  - b) Hare '20 added that students will be able to rent or purchase media through the streaming services.
- 2. O'Brien Hall residents with WiFi issues should reach out to Peter Hastings directing.
- 3. Royal Crest residents are not connected to the Merrimack WiFi, but IT is still willing to work with them.
- 4. As a reminder, specifics are important when reporting WiFi or IT related issues.

H. Residence Life Committee: **Erika Torkildsen '21**

- 1. The Residence Life Committee meeting time needs to change.
- 2. The Deegan West door closest to the 47 Lounge was damaged and being addressed by facilities.
- 3. Facilities is looking into installing a new ceiling in the O'Brien Hall elevator.
- 4. Dave Golden is willing to attend an SGA meeting to address Senators' questions regarding residence life.

XII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

XIII. NEW BUSINESS:

- A. Hooper '21 asked if SGA could fund jackets for its Senators.
  - 1. Gallagher '20 said this idea can be revisited based on the budget.

XIV. ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- A. Pizza with the President 10/22
- B. Office Hours in the Den
- C. Commuter Lounge Opening 10/17 12p.m.-2p.m.

XV. ROLL CALL:

- A. Mallett '20 took attendance.

XVI. ADJOURNMENT:

- A. Gallagher '20 adjourned the meeting until October 15th, 2019.

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### *Mission Statement*

*The SGA seeks to be the voice for the Merrimack College Community through engagement and representation. The SGA will serve as an advocate for students, faculty, and staff. The SGA will inform the community of policy changes and promote campus events. The SGA will provide committees to be delegates for aspects of campus life. The SGA will create a platform for student leaders to engage and be a role model for the campus. The SGA will foster the values of the Institution and reflect them through the SGA's actions. Our Values as an SGA are as follows: Communication, Accountability, Inclusion, and Advocacy.*