

STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION AGENDA

November 12, 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 OCearuil (2022) **Secretary:** Haley Mallett (2020)

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

Advisor: Rose McCarthy, Hanna Christ



Members present: Amanda Gallagher (2020) Bia Kerr (2022) Liam OCearuil (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) Haley Taing (2021) Helen Vasquez (2023) Jenna Stanish (2022) Kaylee Pliszka (2022) Kiley Martel (2023) Leena Ali (2021) Luke Groder (2022) Matthew Cavoli (2023) Maria Kamenias (2021) Morgan Proko (2020) Nicholas Barber (2023) Raquel Perez (2020) Sam Grenier (2023) Sam Mathews (2022) Tayleigh Tierney Honan (2021) Tiana Lawrence (2020) Tiffany Vo (2022) Tim Hare (2020)

Non-Voting Members:

Members absent: John-Paul Haley-Read (2020)

Students in attendance:

Staff in attendance: Peter Rojas

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: November 5th, 2019

- A. The minutes were approved.

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

A. Staff Introduction: Peter Rojas

1. Peter Rojas, the new Coordinator for Multicultural Initiatives in the Unity House, introduced himself to SGA.

B. Student Organization Presenter: Nursing Club

1. The Nursing Club's mission is to serve as a guide for nursing majors and promote health and health-related issues across campus.
2. The Club wants to interact with both the Merrimack and the local community.
3. The Club wants to hold events and activities, such as flu clinics, health fairs, and community service opportunities, that will be advertised through their social media.
4. The Club is seeking SGA recognition to advertise their club starting with the Involvement Fair and into Open Houses.
5. Class of 2020 Senator Dan Hansen asked if the Club plans to work with Hamel Health on events such as flu clinics.
 - a) Yes, the Club plans to work with Hamel Health.
6. Class of 2022 Senator Tiffany Vo asked if the Club plans to work with the Health Science Club.
 - a) Yes, the Club also plans to work with the Health Science Club.
7. The Nursing Club was approved as a student organization.

C. Student Organization Presenter: MC3D

1. MC3D is the Merrimack College 3D Printing Club.
2. The mission of the Club is to expand 3D printing to all students and disciplines across campus.

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3. The Club wants to engage the Merrimack community by bringing students in different disciplines together with the available resources.
4. There are 3D printers available in Mendel, Crowe, O'Reilly, and McQuade Library.
5. The Club is seeking SGA recognition to better support students interested in 3D printing, as well as receive more funding for projects.
6. The Club plans to hold events such as printing tutorials, crash courses, and other large-scale projects.
7. Class of 2020 Senator Tim Hare asked what the cost per item is.
 - a) The cost depends on the size of what is being printed. A kilogram of filament costs approximately \$15.
 - b) Class of 2021 Senator Abigail Hooper asked how the Club's printer and materials will be funded.
 - (1) The printer and materials will be funded through its budget and fundraising events.
 - (2) A printer costs approximately \$180 plus filament, which will allow the Club to complete numerous projects.
8. Hooper '20 asked if the Club would have access to all of the 3D printers on campus.
 - a) The Club plans to work out of the prototyping lab in Mendel, but hopes to have their own space in the future.
9. Hansen '20 asked what the benefit of 3D printing is to business students.
 - a) Business students can help propose plans for how the printers will be used.
10. MC3D was approved as a student organization.

D. Post Office Hours

1. Senators are encouraged to collect feedback from students and submit it to a feedback form.

IV. VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT: Bia Kerr '22

A. Student Organization Update

1. American Sign Language Club is in the process of preparing its materials to present.
2. The Committee will attend different student organizations' meetings to introduce Campus Labs and gather feedback for SGA.
3. The Sexual Health Club is working on having enough members for its club before they present to SGA.

V. SECRETARY'S REPORT: Haley Mallett '20

A. Hair Show Tabling

1. Tabling for the Hair Show will be held Wednesday and Thursday to sign-up volunteers.
2. Senators who have not met the tabling requirement must table for the Hair Show this week.

VI. TREASURER'S REPORT: Liam O'Cearuil '22

A. Finance Update

1. Nothing new to report.

VII. PARLIAMENTARIAN'S REPORT: Josh Rizzo '20

A. Robert's Rules

1. Senators will be called out of order if they are off-topic or backtracking.
2. Senators should avoid stating personal opinions in meetings and bring them to committee chairs instead.

B. Committee Updates

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1. Chairs need to send committee updates to SGA Parliamentarian Josh Rizzo '20 by 10pm on Sundays.

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

A. Senator Takeovers

1. If Senators are interested in doing a "takeover" of SGA's social media, they should fill out the form sent out by SGA Publicist Cobbina Appiah '21.

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

A. Dishes with the Dean

- a. Last week's Dishes with the Dean was during Commuter Appreciation Week, so many commuter advisors attended.
- b. The commuter advisors expressed that commuters love their new lounge.
- c. However, commuters want more napping areas in the lounge.
- d. They also expressed that commuter parking has been much better this year.
 - i. Parking enforcement in Lot H has improved and commuters are more willing to park in Lot M.

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

A. Nothing new to report.

XI. CHAIR REPORTS:

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

1. Residence Life has contacted Facilities about early outdoor work.
 - a) Class of 2020 Senator Morgan Proko said Facilities has waited until 8 am to start work recently.
2. If work orders are not being completed, students should contact Residence Life.
3. Facilities is unable to install swipe access to the door near the O'Brien Hall dumpster.
 - a) The door is designed to be an emergency exit, and if it is opened frequently, it could cause pipes to freeze.
4. O'Brien Hall had a building meeting about stolen lightbulbs from the elevator.
 - a) Class of 2020 Senator Caterina Polito asked if something can be installed to protect the lightbulbs.
 - (1) Residence Life and Facilities are looking into options.

B. Career Affairs Ad-Hoc Committee: **Liam O'Cearuil '22**

1. Life Science, Criminology, Marketing, and Sports Management all have upcoming career events.
2. The O'Brien Center is looking for specific feedback from students on what employers they would like to see represented at career fairs.
 - a) SGA Treasurer Liam O'Cearuil '22 plans to send a form to Senators to record student feedback.

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

1. Recycling totes were put outside in the apartments during Halloween weekend.
2. New recycling bins have been ordered for high traffic areas.
 - a) The Committee will provide a list of locations once the bins arrive.
3. The Committee is looking for ideas on how to keep all of the menstrual products from being taken from bathrooms.
 - a) Hooper '21 suggested a more discrete cabinet instead of an open basket.
 - b) Gallagher '20 said a dispensary was suggested last year.

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- c) Polito '20 suggested putting a note to only take what is needed on the basket.

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

1. The Committee met with Katrina Everett, the Graduate Fellow for the Interdisciplinary Institute, to discuss creating a Ted Talk series about diversity and inclusion.
2. If students have questions about the Hair Show, they can email Class of 2020 Senator Tiana Lawrence.
3. The Committee discussed potential renovations in the Unity House.
 - a) The basement cannot be finished because of structural issues, but they plan to speak to a contractor about other possibilities to better utilize the space.
 - b) Each Senator on the Committee has been assigned specific areas of the Unity House to collect student feedback on.
 - c) Unity House swipe access will be installed in the near future.
 - d) The Committee discussed changing Columbus Day to Indigenous Peoples' Day.
 - (1) Class of 2021 Senator Leena Ali said the Unity House is hosting a UniTEA Talk tomorrow about Indigenous People..
 - (2) Class of 2022 Senator Matthew Cavoli said he spoke to Professor Laura Hsu, who serves on the Calendar Committee, who wants to help with the initiative.
 - e) Open Mic Night is going to be held on Thursday, November 21 from 7 to 11 pm.
 - (1) Gallagher '20 said the event is sponsored by SGA, so all Senators are expected to attend.

E. Dining Committee: **Tim Hare '20**

1. Sparky's
 - a) Dining is still working on initiatives for the U-Cook station.
 - b) A greater variety of fruit is still being looked into and tested.
 - c) Dining is going to test eggs and omelets on the Mongolian Grill.
 - (1) If the temperature is not too hot, they will consider moving the omelet station there for breakfast.
 - (2) The shift in stations would also help prevent long lines from crowding the entrance to Sparky's.
 - d) The ice cream vendor used in Sparky's makes their non-dairy ice cream with coconut milk, which can cause an issue with allergies, so Dining is looking into non-dairy alternatives.
2. The Warrior's Den
 - a) The Committee is looking into extending the Warrior's Den's hours as well as advertising them better.
 - (1) The proposed hours are until 12 am on weekdays and 2 am on weekends.
 - b) The value of sub swipes is still under review and any change would not come until at least next semester.
 - c) Non-dairy Ben and Jerry's is available in the Warrior's Den.
3. Food Truck
 - a) Dominican and Latino food will be served at the Food Truck biweekly.
4. The Sanctuary
 - a) Microwavable meals are now available in the Sanctuary.
5. Library Cafe
 - a) Dining is considering adding a swipe option to the Library Cafe.
 - b) The water jug will be available again in the library.

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- c) Polito '20 said the registers in the Library Cafe are underutilized and making lines very long.
- 6. Other Dining Updates
 - a) Tickets with students' names are being used at Mindful Mac to avoid mixing up orders.
 - (1) Hooper '21 asked if this could also be implemented at the Mongolian Grill.
 - b) The Donate a Swipe program is still in effect, but Dining wants to enhance the program.
 - (1) Dining wants to establish how many swipes students can donate at a time as well as add a button to the register.
 - (2) SGA Treasurer Liam OCearuil added that the program needs to be better advertised.
 - c) Sodexo is in the process of hiring more employees.
 - (1) Class of 2022 Senator Tiffany Vo asked if students are eligible for employment.
 - (a) The Committee will follow-up on this.
- F. Information Technology Committee: **John-Paul Haley-Read '20**
 - 1. Nothing new to report.
- G. Campus Infrastructure Committee: **Sam Mathews '22**
 - 1. The fridge in the Sanctuary is broken and has been moved.
 - 2. Tap access in Sparky's will be addressed by Dining and IT.
 - 3. Tap access in residence halls will involve Campus Infrastructure, but there is no established time frame yet.
 - 4. Students have complained that the pods in North and South Residential Villages are not cleaned regularly, but they are cleaned once per week.
 - a) Hansen '20 said the pods in North are typically dirty.
 - (1) The Committee will follow-up on this.
 - 5. Some residence halls already have cameras in their laundry rooms.
 - 6. There is an additional medical parking spot in Lot H because of an individual's need.
 - 7. Registered guests receive an email with a parking pass that also tells them where they can park.
 - 8. Kerr '22 said bridge in the Apartments is falling apart and seems to be a safety hazard.
 - 9. Kerr '22 said a lot of trash is thrown away in laundry rooms and not dumpsters.
- H. Academic Affairs Committee: **Tayleigh Tierney-Honan '21**
 - 1. The Committee is in the process of a spring event with the academic deans.
 - 2. After last week's Desserts with the Deans, it became evident that not all students know each school has a dean.
 - a) Vo '22 suggested that deans introduce themselves to their schools.
 - b) Lawrence '20 said each dean should be highlighted in a social media spotlight.
 - c) Class of 2022 Senator Sam Mathews said deans should be more available at Open Houses and Admitted Students Days.
 - d) Groder '22 suggested that deans attend classes at the beginning of each semester.
 - e) Hooper '21 suggested that deans attend FYE classes to reach first-year students.
 - f) Class of 2021 Senator Haley Taing said departments should hold mandatory forums with professors, the department chair, and their respective deans.

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XII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

- A. Conversations about the Church renovations occurred centered around the following talking points.
 - 1. Preservation of religious decor.
 - 2. Functionality of Church and recreational space.
 - 3. Dining options.
 - 4. As a result of this conversation, Felipe Schwarz, Associate Vice President, Campus Planning & Facilities will be asked to attend a future meeting.

XIII. NEW BUSINESS:

XIV. ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- A. Office Hours in the Den
- B. Light and Hope 12/3
- C. November 26 no meeting

XV. ROLL CALL:

- A. Mallett '20 took attendance.

XVI. ADJOURNMENT:

- A. Gallagher '20 adjourned the meeting until November 19, 2019.

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.