

STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION AGENDA

April 21, 2020

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 (2022)

Advisor: Rose McCarthy, Hanna Christ



Members present: Amanda Gallagher (2020) Bia Kerr (2022) Liam OCearuil (2022) Haley Mallett (2020) Josh Rizzo (2020) Cobbina Appiah (2022) Abigail Hooper (2021) Adrian Cintron (2022) Alex Thelusma (2020) Ally Gioia (2023) Angie Wasi (2021) Ashley Greene (2023) Brandon Ellsworth (2022) Dan Hansen (2020) Freddy Monroy (2023) Geena Levine (2021) Haley Taing (2021) Jackie Jordan (2022) Jenna Stanish (2022) John-Paul Haley-Read (2020) Kiley Martel (2023) Leena Ali (2021) Lillian Schaefer-Calderon (2023) Matthew Cavoli (2023) Melissa Driver (2023) Morgan Proko (2020) Natalie Pagliocca (2021) Nicholas Barber (2023) Olivia Faulkner (2022) Sabella Fabiano (2021) Sam Grenier (2023) Sam Mathews (2022) Sophia Alpert (2023) Tayleigh Tierney Honan (2021) Tiana Lawrence (2020) Tiffany Vo (2022) Tim Hare (2020) Victoria Ponte (2021)

Non-Voting Members:

Members absent:

Students in attendance:

Staff in attendance:

I. ROLL CALL:

- A. 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: April 14, 2020

- A. The minutes were approved.

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

- A. Dishes with the Dean 4/24
 1. All of SGA is invited to Dishes with the Dean this Friday, April 24 at 12 p.m.
- B. Executive Board 2020-2021
 1. Next year's SGA Executive Board is as follows:
 - a) President: Bia Kerr '22
 - b) Vice President: Tayleigh Tierney-Honan '21
 - c) Treasurer: Brandon Ellsworth '22
 - d) Secretary: Nick Barber '23
 - e) Publicist: Cobbina Appiah '21
 2. SGA Vice President Bia Kerr '22 said applications for Parliamentarian and Committee Chairs will be released later this week.
- C. SGA Banquet
 1. SGA will not meet next Tuesday, April 28 because of Executive Board transition meetings.
 2. On Tuesday, May 5, SGA will hold a virtual banquet over Zoom.
 - a) The attendance policy will not be in effect, but all Senators are encouraged to attend.

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

- A. Student Organization Update
 1. BRASA planned to meet with its potential advisor earlier today to discuss becoming an SGA recognized student organization next year.

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V. SECRETARY'S REPORT: Haley Mallett '20

A. Election Turnout

1. Last year, 903 ballots were submitted for the 2019-2020 SGA Election.
2. This year, 977 ballots were submitted for the 2020-2021 SGA Election.
3. When controlling for a slight increase in the undergraduate student population, the turnout was nearly identical.

B. Superlatives and Awards

1. Senators are encouraged to make as many nominations for superlatives and awards as possible.
2. The form will remain open until this Friday, April 24 at 12 p.m.

VI. TREASURER'S REPORT: Liam OCearuil '22

A. Finance Update

1. The Funding Request Form is now live on Warrior Network for next year.
 - a) This form will allow student organizations to submit supplemental budget requests for food, SWAG, transportation within 30 miles, giveaways and marketing, gifts for seniors, and supplies.
 - b) Student organizations will be asked to describe their event and explain how it meets the mission of their club as well as benefits the entire Merrimack College community.
 - c) Student organizations will also be required to provide itemized lists of their costs.
 - d) The Finance Committee will then approve, deny, or ask for more information based on the supplemental budget request form.
2. Separate forms for travel, as well as banquets and formals, will be put on Warrior Network soon.

VII. PARLIAMENTARIAN'S REPORT: Josh Rizzo '20

A. Nothing new to report.

VIII. PUBLICIST'S REPORT: Cobbina Appiah '21

A. Nothing new to report.

IX. GRADUATE FELLOW'S REPORT: Hanna Christ

A. Nothing new to report.

X. ADVISOR'S REPORT: Rose McCarthy

A. Transitions

1. Rose McCarthy will be on maternity leave through October 2020.
2. Becky Jimenez, the Associate Dean of Students, and new graduate fellow for Orientation and SGA will advise SGA for the first few months of the school year.

XI. CHAIR REPORTS:

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

1. Nothing new to report.

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

1. Based on Senators' feedback on the diversity training, the Diversity Affairs Committee hopes to move it to mid-September and have separate sessions for newly-elected and returning Senators.

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- a) Newly-elected Senators would attend the first session and be joined by returning Senators in the second session.
 2. Class of 2020 Senator Tiana Lawrence encouraged next year's Diversity Affairs Committee to work with affinity groups more.
 - a) The affinity groups' presidents meet once a month, which may be beneficial for a Diversity Affairs Committee member to attend as an SGA representative.
 3. Lawrence '20 also encouraged better communication between Committee Chairs to ensure diversity and inclusion are handled well in all of the different components of campus.
- C. Residence Life Committee: **Nick Barber '23**
1. Nothing new to report.
- D. Campus Infrastructure Committee: **Sam Mathews '22**
1. Nothing new to report.
- E. Academic Affairs Committee: **Tayleigh Tierney-Honan '21**
1. Students can withdraw from classes until Thursday, May 7 and convert to pass/fail until Thursday, May 28.
- F. Dining Committee: **Tim Hare '20**
1. Nothing new to report.
- G. Environmental Affairs Committee: **Morgan Proko '20**
1. Nothing new to report.
- H. Career Affairs Committee: **Alexandra Gioia '23**
1. The Career Affairs Committee is meeting next week to discuss the future direction of the committee.
 - a) Mallett '20 will send a feedback form to Senators to offer their thoughts and suggestions.
 2. The O'Brien Center is going to add a page dedicated solely to searching for jobs and internships during COVID-19 on its website.
- XII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:
- A. Class of 2021 Senator Abigail Hooper asked for clarification on the pass/fail process.
 1. Class of 2021 Senator Tayleigh Tierney Honan said all students can convert their grades to pass/fail through Thursday, May 28, eight days after grades are due.
 2. However, students are encouraged to talk to their advisor before making the decision to convert to pass/fail.
- XIII. NEW BUSINESS:
- XIV. ANNOUNCEMENTS:
- XV. ROLL CALL:
- A. Mallett '20 took attendance.
- XVI. ADJOURNMENT:
- A. Gallagher '20 adjourned the meeting until Tuesday, September 8, 2020.

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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.