

UConn Hartford - Undergraduate Student Government (USG) Minutes
Tuesday, October 9th 2018 Room 209

I. Call to Order

- a. President Quiles is chairing the meeting and calls the meeting to order at **11:00 AM**.

II. Attendance

- a. Members Present: Olgui Quiles (President), Lorena Minja (Treasurer), Aditi Dave (Chief of Communications Officer), *Angelica Marie Ellis* (Senator), *Milton Rosario* (Senator), *Ariana Llabani* (Senator), *Aaliyah Campbell* (Senator), *Kendall Okeke* (Senator), Paul A. Young (Advisor), Daniel O'Reilly (Advisor)
Denotes voting members
- b. Members Absent: None
- c. Visitors: Chany Castillo, Deep Aluria, Syed Naqvi, Madison Vene, Luciano Lawrence, Brianna Nedjoika, Sandy Doan, Caroline Mccall, and Mark Overmyer-Velazquez
- d. Quorum: **5/5**

III. Visit from the Director's Office

- a. Director Overmyer-Velazquez mentions that he is really excited to be attending a USG meeting and is excited to work with us.
- b. Director Overmyer-Velazquez mentions that he wants everyone to go around and share why they are here.
 - i. President Quiles mentions that she is President of USG, Co-President of DECA, involved with A-cappella, and World Club.
 - ii. Treasurer Minja mentions that she handles all the finances for USG and is involved in Human Rights Club.
 - iii. Chief of Communications Dave mentions that she handles all the social aspects of USG such as social media, advertising, websites, and the minutes.
 - iv. Senator Ellis mentions that she is a Senator and is in charge of programming and event coordinating, and is president of A Cappella..
 - v. Senator Okeke mentions that he is a newly elected Senator.
 - vi. Senator Rosario mentions that he is also a newly elected Senator.
 - vii. Senator Campbell mentions that she, too, is a new Senator to USG.
 - viii. Senator Llabani mentions that she is also a newly elected Senator.
 - ix. Visitor Chany Castillo mentions that he is here to see what goes on and the behind the scenes of USG.
 - x. Visitor Lucciano Lawrence mentions that parking in the parking garages is an issue due to the fact that there is never parking and because there are always events occurring in the Convention Center, so he suggests that LAZ

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Parking should give us a list of when events are to occur so students know prior to and can plan accordingly.

- xi.** Visitor Syed Naqvi mentions that he is here to start Tennis Club with some friends.
 - xii.** Visitor Thais Quiles mentions that she is starting a club called Huskies on a Mission.
 - xiii.** Visitor Yusra Khan is starting a Henna Club and wants people to get involved.
 - xiv.** Visitor Sandy Doan is President of World Club which embraces and learns about different cultures.
 - xv.** Visitor Brianna Nedjokia is here to sign a budget request for UConn Harts Club.
 - xvi.** Visitor Deep Aluria mentions that he is an event coordinator for Pre-Health Society.
 - xvii.** Visitor Madison Vene mentions that she is here to get involved.
 - xviii.** Visitor Christopher is here for a Husky For A Day with Admissions Officer McCall.
- c.** Director Overmyer-Velazquez mentions that one of our school's missions is to intersect learning from school to the community. He mentions that we should be part of the community because the community offers us many opportunities and experiences.
 - d.** Director Overmyer-Velazquez mentions that UConn Hartford is a diverse campus. There are different aspects from everywhere and we as a school should support the diversity. Director Overmyer-Velazquez has done work in the past with the latino community and that is his background.
 - e.** Director Overmyer-Velazquez mentions that the campus is having a Carol Sing Event on November **27th** at **5:00 PM** on the front steps of the Hartford Times Building and all are welcome to join. The rain date is November **28th**.
 - f.** Director Overmyer-Velazquez mentions that the Bushnell Park is having a Winterfest Event where there will be many activities such as free skating.
 - g.** Director Overmyer-Velazquez mentions that the director's office has hired some students to run a UConn Hartford social media platform.
 - h.** Director Overmyer-Velazquez ask students if study spaces benefit them. He mentions that some break-out rooms have re-opened. President Quiles mentions that space for clubs and organizations is restricted due to the small storage space we have for all the clubs in the basement. If clubs need things they need to come to USG members specifically. President Quiles goes on to mentions that we

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would love to have a collaborative space for clubs and organizations. Currently the ODI students do not use the space they have as they should be. That space can be used for clubs to have their meetings. Director Overmyer-Velazquez replies that the challenge is that finding the space is the issue. Space in the library can be an option, other options will be looked into. A meeting will be held with the ODI student to discuss their leadership.

- i. Director Overmyer-Velazquez mentions that students do not clean up after themselves. He asks for any ideas on how to motivate students to respect the space provided for them. Senator Ellis mentions that there is not much that can be done to force students to clean up after themselves. However, for clubs there should be protocols and restrictions for respecting the space that they are using. Director Overmyer-Velazquez mentions that it is a good idea.
- j. Visitor Chany Castillo mentions that the Hartford campus should have an inclusive center where students can feel safe in a physical space. He mentions at Storrs there is a Rainbow Center and he would like something like that on our campus. Director Overmyer-Velazquez mentions that he loves the idea and will work on it.
- k. Visitor Luciano Lawrence mentions the issues with parking. The Convention Center is closed once a year during the flower convention and students were forced to park far away. There were many issues with this situation people's cars were hit and LAZ Parking should have handled the situation a lot better. He goes on to say that LAZ Parking is very difficult to deal with. There are countless days and times where the parking garage has been completely filled this semester. This is a major problem for students because they schedule their time and causes them to run late when they have to find an alternative method to park. LAZ should be providing us a list of dates when they know the garage is going to be filled due to events. Since UConn students pay to park at the garages they should have a spot to park. Levels **2-8 E** are for UConn students and other people park there instead. Director Overmyer-Velazquez mentions he will reach out to LAZ Parking so the issues and complaints can be heard and fixed. Visitor Deep Aluria mentions that LAZ still block the entrances even when people are leaving the parking garages. He also mentions that the price to park has gone up from **\$72.00** to **\$101.03** which is not reasonable especially if students can not even park where they paid to park.
- l. President Quiles mentions that every student has to pay **\$30.00** per semester for a student activities fee. UConn Hartford is the most active regional campus and we have the lowest fee. President Quiles wants to increase the student activities fee,

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the details are not worked out, but it is a thought that can benefit the students and the campus. Director Overmyer-Velazquez mentions that Advisor Young has worked on this and it is something to be considered.

- m.** President Quiles mentions that she and Treasurer Minja work more than **20** hours per week and she thinks that they should get funded but not out of the USG/ student activities fee. USG is a commitment and they would like to get funded from the director's office. Director Overmyer-Velazquez mentions that they should put together a proposal and propose it.
- n.** Visitor Luciano Lawrence mentions that the building feels sterile. Adding some decorations, hanging artwork will make it feel bright and approachable. Director Overmyer-Velazquez mentions that it is in the process.
- o.** Visitor Deep Aluria mentions that the elevators should be checked out every so often so issues do not occur. Director Overmyer-Velazquez mentions that the elevators are up to code.
- p.** President Quiles mentions if there is an update on food in the building. Director Overmyer-Velazquez mentions that the rush bowls contact has been signed and is moving slowly. There are a bunch of commercial spaces opening so restaurants should be coming soon.
- q.** Director Overmyer-Velazquez mentions that advocacy with students is key. Advisor Young and O'Reilly are good strong advocates.

IV. Visit from Admissions Office

- a.** Admissions Officer McCall mentions that Open House is Saturday October **27th** and goes through the game plan of how the day is going to work. She would like as many people there as possible. Email her times you will be available.

V. Approval of Prior Minutes

- a.** President Quiles suggests a motion to approve final minutes from September **25th 2018**. Senator Llabani So Moves. Senator Ellis Seconds. Motion Passes **5/0/0**.
- b.** President Quiles suggests a motion to approve final minutes from October **2nd 2018**. Senator Ellis So Moves. Senator Rosario Seconds. Motion Passes **5/0/0**.

VI. President Report

- a.** President Quiles mentions that USG and clubs can use card readers to track attendance during events. The card readers are now held in the office by Kim Schwartz. The card readers need to be requested **48** hours prior to the event.
- b.** President Quiles mentions that the Constitution has a gap in it. Chief of Communications Dave's position is still up in the air. President Quiles says that the CCO Dave should be able to vote but she was not voted by the student body. Senator Ellis mentions that CCO Dave should be voted into office to keep the

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calm. If you are appointed that you should not be able to vote., CCO Dave was interviewed and appointed the job. Options are to have an election and have CCO Dave chair the Communications Committee.

VII. Treasurer Report

- a. Treasurer Minja mentions that USG has **\$9,476.13** left in their budget for the fall semester. Clubs have **\$8,992.30** left in their budget for the fall semester.
- b. Motions
 - i. Treasurer Minja suggests a motion to allocate **\$90.00** for Dunkin Donuts coffee and hot chocolate for the Hot Beverages and Mugs Event on October 17th from **10:00** AM to **12:00** PM. Senator Ellis So Moves. Senator Rosario Seconds. Motion Passes **5/0/0**.
 - ii. Treasurer Minja suggests a motion to allocate **\$187.24** for variety of candies from around the world for Spooktacular Candies Around the World event. Senator Ellis So Moves. Senator Rosario Seconds. Treasurer Minja suggests a change in motion to **\$200.00** to account for a change in price. Senator Okeke So Moves. Senator Rosario Seconds. Motion Passes **5/0/0**.
 - iii. Treasurer Minja suggests a motion to allocate **\$99.92** for **four** padfolios for the new Senators. Senator Llabani So Moves. Senator Rosario Seconds. Motion Passes **5/0/0**.
 - iv. Treasurer Minja suggests a motion to allocate **\$320.00** for cat and dog bed supplies for Cat & Dog Event for UConn Harts Club. Treasurer Minja mentions that due to laws and regulations we are obligated to wait on the Accountant from Storrs response if we should go ahead and make the purchases. For now, we pass the motion and act upon her response. Senator Okeke So Moves. Senator Ellis Seconds. Motion Passes **5/0/0**.

VIII. Chief of Communications Report

- a. Social Media Update
 - i. CCO Dave mentions that USG members should be taking photos when CCO Dave is not available.
- b. UConntact
 - i. CCO Dave mentions that clubs need to be active on UConntact. There will be a hold on clubs budgeting if their UConntact is not up to date.

IX. Programming Board Report

- a. Senator Ellis mentions that attendance was really good for the Pumpkin Painting Event.
- b. Senator Ellis mentions that Pixie Stick Event is ready to go.

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- c. Senator Ellis mentions that Hot Beverages and Mugs Event is next Wednesday, in order to get a mug students must be following USG on Instagram and have valid proof.
- d. Senator Ellis mentions that we need to work out our details on the Winterfest events

X. Senators Report

- a. Senator Ellis passes.
- b. Senator Campbell passes.
- c. Senator Okeke passes.
- d. Senator Rosario mentions that the Pumpkin Painting event went really well and that people loved it.
- e. Senator Llabini mentions that she passes.

XI. Advisors Report

- a. Advisor O'Reilly mentions that the programming committee has started to use a checklist for events so all the details are organized.
- b. Advisor O'Reilly mentions that miscommunication happens and we need to communicate better between the committees.
- c. Advisor O'Reilly mentions that Advisor Young is in charge of finance from now on.
- d. Advisor O'Reilly mentions that USG books are up to date and balanced.
- e. Advisor Young mentions that the meeting was great and we need to continue doing the great work. Senators need to continue coming with ideas and being in the habit of talking to the director
- f. Advisor Young mentions that he is proud of everyone,
- g. Advisor Young mentions that he is going to have the USG members present on the student activities fee update.
- h. Advisor Young mentions that the Volunteer Fair is Tuesday, November **13th**, he sent out an rsvp for vendors. Volunteer Fair will be similar to the involvement Fair but with nonprofits organizations. Advisor Young asks for names of nonprofit organizations that would be willing to participate.
 - i. Senator Campbell mentions Summer of Solutions and Grow Hartford.
 - ii. Senator Ellis mentions Kids Cafe and My Sisters Place.
 - iii. Visitor Syed Naqvi mentions the Boys and Girls Club, HARC, South Park Inn, and United Way Readers.

XII. Final Thoughts

- a. Senator Ellis mentions that the new senators can say what they would like during the Senator's Report about their events or ideas.

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XIII. Adjournment

- a.** President Quiles adjourns the meeting at **12:29 PM**.

Created by Chief of Communications Officer Dave