

STUDENT ASSEMBLY MEETING

11/15/21

1. Call to Order

Present:

Emily Boviero
Gabriel Bit-Babik
Isa Cardoso
Cicille Dan-Morton
Ashley Garcia
Nevaeh Gutierrez
Michelle Estrella
Jackson Harris
Abigail Hagan
Christian Hernandez
Emily Jiang

Lena Klink
Raymond Ni
Subin Myong
Natalia Reboredo
Eric Santomauro-
Stenzel

Excused:

Nickie Conlogue
Marvin Lopez
Ryley McGovern
Felix Tager

Unexcused:

Dewayne Martin

2. Land Acknowledgement

Eric Santomauro-Stenzel read a [land acknowledgement](#) created by the Shenandoah-Kirkland Initiative (SKI).

3. General Public Comment Period

4. New Business

- **Approval of Minutes 11/8**

The motion to approve the 11/8 minutes passes unanimously.

- **Elections Chair Appointment - Isa Cardoso '25**

Eric Santomauro-Stenzel mentioned that the Elections Chair will be appointed for the upcoming President and Vice President election for SA. He mentioned that there was some discussion about how to sort out the elections for '22 and '23 and expressed his belief that Isa Cardoso did a fantastic job at being the Elections Chair.

Isa Cardoso expressed her belief that she is qualified for the role of Elections Chair because she has the knowledge now of how to run elections.



STUDENT ASSEMBLY MEETING

11/15/21

Gabriel Bit-Babik asked if the election Isa Cardoso is going to oversee was for the spring elections that were going to be held in the spring

Eric Santomauro-Stenzel clarified that the Elections Chair appointment was for the election at the end of this current semester and not the spring elections.

○ **Funding**

Club Name	Requested Budget	Recommended Budget	Approved Budget
Student Dance Alliance	\$2,085.75	\$2,085.75	\$2,085.75
Tropical Sol	\$43.98	\$43.98	\$43.98
International Cultural Association	\$400	No recommendation made - received after deadline	
Class of 2024	\$121.31	No recommendation made - received after deadline	

Eric Santomauro-Stenzel stated that there are 3-4 potential funding requests in which he read out loud. He mentioned that the ICA was originally non-compliant on the food costs as they were originally too high according to the funding codes. ICA has just resubmitted their funding request and SA is currently waiting to hear back from the deputy treasurers on whether the new request was compliant with the funding codes. He noted that he just got the request before the meeting so if he does not hear back from the club, he will postpone the voting of the funding request to e-vote. The Class of 2024 is using their funding request to pay for their class banner.

The motion to approve the funding requests for Student Dance Alliance and Tropical Sol was approved unanimously via voice vote.

The motion to approve the funding request for the Class of 2024 was approved unanimously via voice vote.



STUDENT ASSEMBLY MEETING

11/15/21

- **Letter to Faculty on Workloads During Break and Student Mental Health - Introduced: SA President Eric Santomauro-Stenzel, Rep. Isa Cardoso '25, Parliamentarian Gabriel Bit-Babik '25**

Eric Santomauro-Stenzel read out loud the letter addressed from SA that is going to be delivered to faculty members regarding course workloads during break and mental health. He gave a background to how statements in SA worked and explained that the statement will be voted on by the whole assembly in which the voting records will be attached if it passes when it gets sent out to the faculty list-serve.

Jackson Harris thanked the three writers for writing the statement and taking this issue on. He mentioned that while he agreed with the message of the last two bullet points of the statement, he felt that they were unnecessary for the statement as a whole because it seemed like telling those last two bullet points to a professor was telling the faculty how to do their job. It seemed condescending and implied that the professor did not know already to do those actions. He expressed his belief that the most significant thing in the statement was the three day break which he felt should be emphasized more.

Gabriel Bit-Babik asked if Jackson Harris was asking to strike the last two bullet points from the letter or if he was asking to reword them.

Jackson Harris replied that he was asking for the entire assembly to discuss the last two bullet points of the letter.

Emily Jiang mentioned that something that SA can do is add the last two bullet points in as a given. They mentioned that SA should thank faculty for what they have already done and acting on the mental health situation.

Jackson Harris mentioned that the last two bullet points can be deleted and turned into a paragraph in the position which they are in exactly. The statements should be rephrased as requests and appreciation for already upholding the listed items.

Isa Cardoso asked how they could do that.

Subin Myong noted some sentences that she wanted to add to the statement. (“Thank you for communicating with your students regarding..”)



STUDENT ASSEMBLY MEETING

11/15/21

Jackson Harris asked if they could postpone the letter process a day or two so the people can have a better chance of reading the letter and make potential suggestions and comments on the Google Doc. He mentioned that they could make changes to the document, vote on it via e-vote, and still send it out before Thanksgiving Break.

Eric Santomauro-Stenzel replied that he could make a motion to postpone the letter.

Abby Hagan mentioned that SA should vote on passing this letter sooner rather than later because Thanksgiving break is fast approaching. She noted that she has heard people that professors were already assigning tasks to be due a day after the break ends.

Gabriel Bit-Babik mentioned that the provisions of the letter talked about assignments due this current week so having the letter sent out as soon as possible would be the most effective to the goals of the letter.

Nevaeh Gutierrez mentioned that not many professors will be here for Thursday or Friday of the current week either.

Jackson Harris agreed with the points stated and mentioned that they could postpone the statement and then send the letter out tomorrow. He noted that assembly members can have a chance before that to look over it and clarified that it did not have to be open-editing sessions.

Eric Santomauro-Stenzel clarified that if the assembly was to vote on this letter via e-vote, there would need to be a full 24 hour period to be done. If they were to start an e-vote tomorrow afternoon, the earliest that the letter could be sent out would be Wednesday afternoon.

Emily Jiang mentioned that the statement should delete the parts after the word “communicating” through to the word “communicate.”

Gabriel Bit-Babik asked if they wanted Emily Jiang’s corrections to be part of the current amendment in place to change the last two bullet points of the letter into a paragraph.

Eric Santomauro-Stenzel reiterated that the motions currently in process are to change the last two bullets into a paragraph expressing appreciation to the faculty instead of directing them on what to do.



STUDENT ASSEMBLY MEETING

11/15/21

Isa Cardoso mentioned that she would want to change the word “or” to “and” in the paragraph and suggested some wording changes.

Gabriel Bit-Babik asked if anyone is proposing any contrary or different amendments to what is currently being discussed and proposed

The motion to amend the last two bullet points of the statement to a new paragraph expressing appreciation to the faculty in the statement passes unanimously via voice vote.

Subin Myong asked if they could strike the second “we” in the statement for the sake of consistency.

Gabriel Bit-Babik mentioned that a motion can be introduced to altogether correct grammar issues so each grammatical change will not have to be motioned on.

The motion to allow the correction of grammar issues altogether without individual motions to vote passes unanimously via voice vote.

Then motion to pass the statement and send the letter to faculty members passes unanimously.

Eric Santomauro-Stenzel noted that after the meeting, the letter will be sent out to faculty members via the faculty list-serve.

○ **Constitutional Amendments**

- Amendment to Article VI Section 2. Conduct and Supervision -
Introduced: Rep. Isa Cardoso ‘25
 - Regarding candidate disqualification for elections interference

Isa Cardoso gave a summary of her constitutional amendments which would need to be voted on campus-wide. She mentioned that the election chairs recently have put something to this effect into rule which the constitution does not state. The current constitution has no provisions for dealing with candidates who are treated poorly by their opponents. The amendment has been on the election rules for the last two elections. The second amendment speaks about hate speech when campaigning.

Emily Jiang asked if the election chair gets to decide what is intentional interference.



STUDENT ASSEMBLY MEETING

11/15/21

Isa Cardoso responded that essentially the definition of intentional interference is up to the elections chair and that the proposal only mentions a small section of what could be defined as such.

Gabriel Bit-Babik mentioned that there should be clarification that the intentional interference should be up for discretion by the elections chair.

Eric Santomauro-Stenzel mentioned that in the constitution, the elections chair would already be implied to have the authority to do this.

Gabriel Bit-Babik asked if he was referring to an overruling clause that would be seen as an amendment to the current one.

Eric Santomauro-Stenzel replied that it would be another

Christian Hernandez asked to clarify if that is something the election chairs already does.

Isa Cardoso mentioned that the rule has already been operating without constitutional base but with the assumption that it is in the constitution.

Jackson Harris mentioned that regarding the discussion about at whose discretion it is, there should be a line that states that any disqualifications that the election chair decides on must be reported to the Assembly. While the Assembly cannot necessarily revoke the disqualification, it should still be reported.

Isa Cardoso mentioned that it would be an amendment to the rules itself entirely.

Gabriel Bit-Babik mentioned that it could be rephrased but it would be more efficient to make it a separate clause.

Eric Santomauro-Stenzel mentioned that if they want larger changes, they end up with an incoherent constitution. If there is an amendment that substantially changes how the amendment functions, it needs to be a separately introduced amendment. This is a separate conversation unless there is another concern about it.

Jackson Harris asked if the amendment about disqualifications is mentioned.



STUDENT ASSEMBLY MEETING

11/15/21

Isa Cardoso mentioned that someone has to deal with conduct and supervision. This specifically is not mentioned however.

Eric Santomauro-Stenzel mentioned that the disqualification rationales are dispersed throughout the constitution. There is no one section for disqualifications.

Jackson Harris motioned to vote yes on this amendment.

Eric Santomauro-Stenzel mentioned that it needed to be voted on by the entire student body.

○ **By-Law Amendments**

- Amendments to Bylaw Article VIII. Committees - Introduced: Rep. Isa Cardoso '25
 - Regarding dissolution of committees
 - Regarding committee updates
 - Regarding committee hiatuses

Isa Cardoso mentioned that the bylaw amendments come with three separate sections.

Eric Santomauro-Stenzel mentioned that these would be three amendments if there are three separate sections.

Isa Cardoso mentioned that the overall goals of the bylaw is to address the lack of communication and the effect of resignations on committees and the ability of committees to connect with the student body. Section 5 states that committees should come with monthly updates to the student body. If committees are not able to get work done, it allows support from the student body. She mentioned that not being able to do something should be reported to the general assembly biweekly and to the student body monthly to allow for support from the general assembly first and foremost. She mentioned that the timing is so fixes come to the central council first before moving towards the student body. She read aloud section 6 and explained that it gives procedures for something not mentioned in the constitution for committees on hiatus. The first point is to just keep it organized while the committees are on hiatus. Section 7 says that the central councils committees may only be dissolved by a two-thirds vote of the central council. This is a bylaw to make sure that the president does not dissolve committees without member's consent.



STUDENT ASSEMBLY MEETING

11/15/21

Eric Santomauro-Stenzel asked, what would happen if a committee was on hiatus for two semesters and at the conclusion of that there is not a two thirds majority to resolve the committee.

Isa Cardoso replied that the committee would be reopened. The reason it is a two thirds majority and not a simple majority is because some people on the committees may be the ones who don't want it to be dissolved. She mentioned that resolving a committee should be a last resort.

The motion to address the concerns Isa Cardoso brought up to another section passes unanimously via voice vote.

Jackson Harris mentioned that it is a good idea to make sure committees are in constant communication. He asked what the reasoning for having a maximum time limit for hiatuses was.

Isa Cardoso responded that if she felt the committee was on hiatus for more than a year, it would be up to reevaluation whether or not the Assembly needs the committee. If the work has already been delegated and there's no longer a need for it, there's no need to have it up on the website when it's already defunct.

Gabriel Bit-Babik mentioned that there is a concern with Article 5 Point c and asked if it was okay for that part to supersede the point about constitutional bylaws.

The motion to approve the amendments passes unanimously.

Eric Santomauro-Stenzel mentioned that the bylaws go into effect immediately so the current committees can only be dissolved with a two thirds majority in the assembly.

5. Announcements

- Lighting of the Village will be Tuesday, November 30th from 7pm to 8pm. See you there in front of Sadove!
- SA newsletter comes out sometime this week. Keep an eye out, we've got some tips for how to decompress!

Emily Jiang mentioned that in light of issues with communication and intra-Assembly accountability, they want to have an Assembly dinner sometime after break before an Assembly meeting to have more bonding opportunities.



STUDENT ASSEMBLY MEETING

11/15/21

Ashley Garcia mentioned that she wanted tabling events to happen after the lighting of the village after the break. She noted that in the event that she is not in the Assembly anymore next semester, members should bring up tabling to their constituents.

Christian Hernandez mentioned that the Justice & Equity committee is organizing a winter clothing drive from November 29th to December 5th, the first week students come back from break; they're asking for people going back home for the break to bring back clothing they won't use, especially warm clothes. All clothing collected will be donated to the Morrow Warming Center. The committee is still trying to figure out boxes, which may have to be in bigger common buildings rather than individual dorms. There will be an email sent out later this week with more information regarding the drive.

Eric Santomauro-Stenzel announced that he is unaware of any candidates for President - he wants to say that he has zero interest in re-running for President. The requirement for President is to have attended at least five full meetings of the Assembly in any capacity. The Vice President has no such requirements so anybody can run.

Gabriel Bit-Babik asked if attendance meant that the person just needed to attend the meeting, for example in public comment or if they had to actively participate.

Eric Santomauro-Stenzel answered in the affirmative.

Ashley Garcia asked if the elections chair could run for President and Vice President.

Eric Santomauro-Stenzel replied that that would be a conflict of interest but it isn't technically barred in the Constitution.

Gabriel Bit-Babik confirmed that it was not explicitly barred in the Constitution.

Eric Santomauro-Stenzel mentioned that even if it was technically allowed, he advised against it due to the conflict of interest.

