

Senate Minutes from October 29th, 2008

1) Call to order by President, Nate Kisselburgh – 8:02 pm

2) Motion to accept minutes of October 22nd, 2008 – Passed

The revised version of part of the minutes from last meeting was passed: Earl E. Pierce, the director of student financial aid spoke about financial difficulties. There's no reduction in funding currently scheduled for the year 2009-2010 for the Pell grant and SEOG. Federal loan funding is in place for the 2009-10 year and Unsubsidized Stafford loans were increased. PLUS loan credit requirements for parents were strengthened by lenders and private loans such as Sallie Mae and Citibank also strengthened their requirements. The school is coming up with a preferred list of private lenders for the next school years. TAP (NYS grant program) for 2009-10 may be affected as the state revenues are down-which means there will need to be some cuts from the New York State budget. There will likely be a reduction in funds for SUNY as well as the college of ceramics. There hasn't been anything solid and out about the budgets yet so these are what Mr. Pierce is suggesting for the funds from TAP. In response to a question about a 2009-10 tuition increase, Mr. Pierce replied that he expects that Alfred University tuition will continue to increase by 4-5% each year. When a Senator expressed concern as to how the Board of Trustees and other supporters have been impacted by the recent economic declines, Mr. Pierce responded that he assumed they have been subjected to the same economic pressures as everyone.

3) Attendance-

Club	Absences
AAC	0
AIGA	1
Alfred Acapella Society	2
Alfred Rugby	0
Alfredian Dramatists	2
Alpha Phi Omega	1
Alpha-Helix Biology Club	0
Alternative Cinema	1
American Marketing Association	1
Art Union	2
Astronomy Club	1
AU Hockey	1
AU Skate	0
AU Swing	0
AU Table Tennis Club	0
AUGR	2
AURS	0
AUTV	0
Baka! Anime Club	0
Baseball	0
BASIC	1
Militant Illustrators Association (Comics Illustration Association)	0
Chemistry Club	0
CRAP Committee	0
Creative Arts Therapy Club	0
CSA	2
DISC	0

Drawn to Diversity	0
Fencing Club	0
Fiat Lux	0
Financial Management Association (FMA)	5
FNL	0
Green Alfred	1
Habitat for Humanity	1
Hillel	0
IEEE	2
Institute of Managerial Accountants (IMA)	0
InterVarsity	0
ISSO	1
JAM (Just Alfred Musicians)	3
Kanakadea Yearbook	0
LAN Club	1
Lyceum	0
Medieval Club	0
Middle Eastern Dance Organization	0
ODK	5
Outdoor Club (Forest People)	0
Pacific Rim	2
Pet Pals	2
Phi Beta Lambda (PBL-FBLA)	3
Pirate Theater	0
Poder Latino	0
Political Science Club	2
Relay for Life	0
REPO	6
RHC	0
SAB	0
SAFE	1
Shades	1
Spectrum	0
Steppas	2
Student Athlete Advisory Committee	0
SWE	1
Taste Buds	0
Umoja	0
WALF	1
WIC	0

4) Officer Reports-

Diversity Director, Elizabeth Tolson:

- There's still one diversity partnership grant left. For the diversity grant you have to apply at least two weeks in advance and keep all your receipts.
- Office Hours: 11:15am-12:15pm Thursday

Finance Chair, Mark Williams:

- Office Hours: 4-5 pm Thursday

Publicity Director, Aura Severino:

- Office Hours: 3:00-4:00pm Thursday

Treasurer, Mike Shaw

- Office Hours: 4-5 pm Thursday

Secretary, Caretta Morris

- Office Hours: TBA

Vice President, Eric Walton:

- Miscellaneous committee will be meeting next week at 7:30 pm.
- Office Hours: 1:30-2:30pm Tuesday

President, Nate Kisselburgh:

- Public safety update is that they are looking into getting cameras by Reimer and Teft.
- Office Hours: 1:30-2:30pm Tuesday

5) **Old Business-**

- Telecommunications Committee report with Tom:
 - There are e-mails missing from some peoples' inboxes, we are working on getting more class descriptions on banner web, there's only a problem with outlook if you don't have Microsoft operating it.

6) **New Business-**

- Trustee Report:
 - Enrollment Management: New Student enrollment is down about 70% in retention, engineering went up by 10%, but liberal arts decreased in retention. A campus audit shadowed a tour that had a driving route and took people on to Main St.-positive feedback was given about the tour. They spoke about the importance of the Recreational Center to attract students.
 - Alumni Relations and fundraising: they are a little below their goal this year and the reason could be because it's an election year. It's harder to get newer students to donate.
 - Finance: They approved costs; there's going to be an increase in the meal plan and tuition, a 2% reduction in room costs, the student service fee will be increased by 3%. We have difficulty with getting transfer students to come in. They are looking for financing for renovations done to Kruson and in the progress of renovating Ann's House-this must be raised by the end of the year. Increasing debt is a worry, but they say the credit is a safety net. When a student asked if 'free' laundry will go away the answer is no-it's automatically billed in your tuition.
 - Academic affairs: We are on track for accreditation for all majors in the University. Several surveys went around to faculty and staff. The MERSS survey was given to keep the faculty and staff salary competitive.
 - Student affairs committee: they proposed a change in what the school does

and it was passed with minimal word changes. The Career Development Center has stats on what graduates go off to do-you can check it out at the CDC. The equestrian center is going about things in a cost saving way this year. The recreation center came up as a need, there are concerns with the bathroom conditions in Bartlett and the Suites. Davis gym will not go down until there's financing and a plan set in stone.

- LAS C&T committee: Nominees are Chelsea S., Jason, Amber B., Joey T., Sam H., Tom F., Kristy V., and Zac B.

7) Open Forum-

- The no classes on Wednesdays during senate time are a slow working process.
- Fabulously PINK had a very good day.
- Is there a possibility to get the bus to run more often on weekends (maybe eliminate a day during the week to do this).
- We should lead a revolt against the bookstore because the costs are ridiculous. Brian Arnold led the last revolt a few years ago.
- The schedule on AUTV needs to be updated from September.

8) Announcements-

- Art Union is holding a Silent Art Auction from November 5th-7th, 2008 in Harder Hall main lobby. There will be a reception on November 7th in Holmes Auditorium at 4:30pm. The art auction is to support Maya Free School in India. The Middle Eastern Dance Organization will be performing at the reception.
- SAB is hosting a Halloween Haunted House on October 31st, 2008 from 7-9pm in Davis Gym.
- If you would like to purchase the calendar yearbook from 2 yrs ago (they work for any year) for \$5 then e-mail kanakadea@alfred.edu
- GLAM SLAM will be this Saturday at 9:30pm in the Knight Club. The theme is "Anything but clothes." It costs \$3 at the door.
- Hillel is at 18 South Main Street and on this Friday at 5:30pm they will be having a Challah Ween party. It's free and there will be pumpkin carving, pumpkin seeds, pumpkin pie, pumpkin treats, pumpkin shaped challah, and Macaroni and Cheese. Please e-mail hillel@alfred.edu if you would like to attend.
- This Saturday at 8pm in the Knight Club will be a Jewish comedian in the Knight Club.
- Alfred Archery Club are still giving lessons and they have been extended from 1:30-3:30pm in Davis.
- Shades presents to you their Halloween Costume Party on Friday October 31st, 2008 from 10pm to 4am in the Knight Club. The cost is \$2 with a costume and \$3 without. Remember the door closes at 1:30am.
- Josette Turro aka Joey Turro won the vote and is our new LAS C&T representative.

9) Adjourn – 8:47pm