



ASSEMBLY MEETING AGENDA

November 6, 2013 (No Shave November benefit THON)

- I. Damon Sims, Vice President of Student Affairs 30Min
  - a. Supported switch to GPSA
  - b. Commends work of GSA
  - c. Overview of student affairs
    - 1. University Health Service, student Activities, residence life, parents program, student legal service, etc.
  - d. Issues for GSA
    - 1. How to help people with the Affordable Care Act.
    - 2. Figure out how you want to engage the new president...trying to affect his/her agenda from the beginning.
  - e. Address recycling questions to OPP and GSA should approach the student sustainability group.
    - 1. GSA could produce a resolution in support of these efforts.
- II. Call to Order (6:03)
- III. Approval of 10/23 meeting minutes 1Min
- IV. Report by the President - Scott Rager 10 Min
  - a. Alumni Council
    - 1. Governing Board of Penn State Alumni Association.
    - 2. Mission: To connect the Alumni to each other and to the university and helps current students.
    - 3. "Largest dues-paying alumni organization in the world."
  - b. Legislative Outreach and Advocacy
    - 1. "Grassroots Network"
      - 1. Celebrating 10 years
    - 2. Goals:
      - 1. Educate about legislation affecting PSU.
      - 2. Advocate for PSU Students.
    - 3. Capital Day
      - 1. Penn state travels to Harrisburg to meet with legislative body.
  - c. Project Cahir
    - 1. Group of PSU Students who meet to discuss issues relating to student poverty.
    - 2. Meeting this week at Pollock Hall...talk to Scott Rager.
  - d. Ongoing Projects (Let Scott Know if you are interested in helping with any of these initiatives:
    - 1. Employment impacts for students due to ACA.



2. Changes in Student Representative non BOT.
  3. Developing All-University events Calendar.
  4. Creating and advertising submission process for small Facilities Fee Projects.
  5. United Students Against Sweatshops to Present at next meetings.
- e. Upcoming speakers
1. Dean and Interim Dean of Graduate School (November 20).
  2. Rodney Erickson (December 4).
- V. Report by the Vice President of External Affairs - Antwain Hunter 7 Min
- a. Take the Culture Survey.
- VI. Reports from Liaisons 3 Min
- a. Jesse for UPAC:
    1. Updates on new requirements for being a UPAC student leader.
    2. Upcoming meeting for UPAC in the Executive Education Building
      1. Talking about funding for student events in the HUB and around campus
- VII. Report by the Secretary - Brandon Merritt 0 Min
- a. No Report
- VIII. Report by the Treasurer – Marika Merritt 2 Min
- a. Budget Updates
  - b. Constitutional Update
    1. Amendments to be introduced at next meeting
    2. Two issues remaining for next semester
- IX. Report by the Faculty Senate – Brian Aynardi 0 Min
- X. Report by Graduate Council 2 Min
- a. Voting on changes to masters in public health
  - b. Putting through a policy proposal about removing authority for Grad Council to decide on curriculum items
- XI. Report by the Judiciary – Nicole Omni 0 Min
- XII. Standing Committee Reports
- a. Internal Development 0 Min
  - b. Community Service 5 Min
    - a. National Hunger & Homelessness Awareness Week
      - i. Hunger Banquet-November 18
        1. Heritage Hall: 5:30-8:30
      - ii. Volunteers will be expected to sign up soon
    - b. GSA Food Drive 11/7-11/21
      - i. Bring in food items to the GSA office if you can



- ii. Contact Ariel Johnson if you have any questions
  - c. Student Concerns 2 Min
    - a. Ongoing CATA issues.
  - d. Grad Cup 1 Min
    - a. Games are solidified
  - e. Professional Development 1 Min
    - a. Discover U is up for this weekend. Volunteers are needed.
      - i. Event is 10-4 at the HUB
      - ii. Meeting at 5pm in Chemistry Building tomorrow
  - f. Programming Committee 3 Min
    - a. Gala is going to be on December 7
      - i. Tickets are going to be \$10 and
    - b. November 23 Tailgate (going do a food drive too)
      - i. Bring Thanksgiving non-perishable food
  - g. Publicity and Media 1 Min
    - a. Let them know if you need help publicizing!
  - h. Human Diversity 3 Min
    - a. Meeting this Sunday at 1pm at the HUB
    - b. Ideas to promote diversity
  - i. THON 1 Min
    - a. Planning on doing a broom-ball event
    - b. Coin boxes and fundraising efforts are underway...contact the committee if you want to participate.
- XIII. Report by the Executive Vice President – Evelyn Miller 3 Min
  - a. Need to participate on a committee
  - b. Movin’ On 10 Min
    - 1. Fill out the second survey

**(90 Min)**

- XIV. Open Forum
- XV. Adjourn (7:16)

**Fall 2013 General Assembly Schedule: Next Meeting:** November 20, 2013 **6:00-8:00** Executive Education Building

**Save the date:** GSA Tailgate Nov. 23; Winter Gala 12/7/13 7-11pm

Guest Speaker Bio:



Damon Sims began as Vice President for Student Affairs on August 1, 2008 after serving in various administrative and teaching roles at Indiana University since 1982. Damon received his BA in Political Science and History, did graduate work in Journalism, and completed his Doctorate in Jurisprudence at Indiana University's flagship campus in Bloomington. He is a native of New Albany, Indiana.

Damon is an affiliate Associate Professor in both the Dickinson School of Law and the College of Education at Penn State. He is a licensed attorney who has served as an advocate on behalf of children and victims of abuse, consults with other colleges and universities about legal issues affecting students, and has served on various state and regional boards and commissions aimed at encouraging civic awareness and engagement among young people.

Damon is married to Suzette Sims, an attorney with the firm of McQuaide Blasko. The two share their home with two sons, Ethan and Nathaniel. Their first child, Matthew, died in infancy. The family sponsors the annual Matthew Vandivier Sims Memorial Lectures in conjunction with the Poynter Center for the Study of Ethics and American Institutions at Indiana University. These lectures have featured the world's foremost scholars on legal and biomedical ethics, with particular attention to questions arising from end-of-life care.

Damon enjoys reading, writing, hiking, canoeing, kayaking, sailing, biking, cooking, woodworking, golf, tennis, racquetball, theater, music, and travel. He does not, however, enjoy enough time to do all those things as often as he would like. He chooses instead to spend the free time he has with his wife and sons, all of whom he enjoys very much.

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Executive Vice President – Evelyn Miller |

Treasurer- Marika Merritt |

Advisor – Andrea Dowhower|