



Student Affairs Committee

Director: (Logan Starr, lgs)

Associate Director: (Nate Morgus,)

Meeting Recorder: (Alex TenBroeck, jat5502@psu.edu)

Meeting Location: *Worthington-Scranton*

Council Weekend #2

Friday November 11, 2016

Call to Order: 8:20 pm

I. Introductions:

Logan unfortunately could not attend tonight's meeting due to a prior ROTC commitment. We have just hired a brand new Associate Student Affairs Director at the Commonwealth, Nate Morgus. He filled in for Logan this evening. Nate is a sophomore, mechanical engineering major from Penn State Behrend. Tonight's topic includes the Student Fee Board Application, The upcoming Board of Trustees Town Hall meeting discussing diversity and inclusion with Penn State and all across the commonwealth. This event will be live streamed to the commonwealth campuses, and the goal tonight is to formulate questions to ask the board members.

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II. Old Business: None

- Name, Campus,

III. New Business: Diversity and Inclusion Board of Trustees Town Hall meeting this upcoming Tuesday. Formulate questions to ask the board members. Also discuss Common Hour on the campuses.

- Charlena, Abington: When I saw the event on the livestream I thought that it was focusing on University Park and not the Commonwealth Campuses. I took it as we were the outside looking in. How do they plan on taking that inclusion and bring it to all the campuses to feel like all of Penn State instead of the smaller campuses on the outside looking in?
- Nate: Some people look at UP as being the superior campus, but we are all a part of the Penn State family. The point of the town hall meeting is to allow a really broad spectrum

of people to weigh in their opinions and to make sure that everyone's voice at everyone's campus is heard.

- Fynn, Beaver: Penn State has always tried to vocalize that we are a diverse and inclusive university. It has never really been successful. When they say We Are All In, some people don't feel welcome. When is that going to change?
- Nate: Last council we were talking about small groups on the campuses that don't get hurt whether that is people with disabilities, veterans, commuters, some campuses with residents. Most of the campuses are made up with commuters. Most of the voices heard at Behrend are the residents. Making sure that Behrend is a more accessible to everyone. Working on not being just ethnically diverse, but more about what makes you, you.
- Nate: We are looking for a new Associate Director at University Park. Tell your friends who may be up at University Park who might be interested in this position. Tell them to visit our website to access the application.

IV. Common Hour:

- Ally, Lehigh Valley: We are one of the campuses that has common hour five days a week For campuses that have limited or no common hour, are you working to get it every day? How is that coming along?
- Hazelton: Starting next semester on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays we are not having common hour at all. Mondays and Wednesdays are going to be the only days that common hour is offered.
- Fynn, Beaver: Common Hour is only on Monday, Wednesday and Friday. This has been a big issue because of the few clubs that are offered. Sometimes students cannot attend.
- Charlena, Abington: Common Hour is Monday, Wednesday and Friday but come next year it will be gone. While still a commuter campus, Abington is in the process of getting residence halls that will hold 700 freshmen. Abington only offers 18 majors, and in order to provide more majors to the campus they have to cut common hour to make room to put those classes.
- Kenshay, Harrisburg: This past year we have started to add on to common hour from just Tuesday's and Thursday's for two hours now to adding Friday's for another hour. Harrisburg has 16 majors and there are a lot of courses that need to be offered at those times.
- Patrick, Berks: Went to talk to the Chancellor. Took the spreadsheets that are accessible online with every campus' common hour time. He is now trying to implement the five-day common hour structure because club numbers are growing. Went from 35 to 52 clubs.
- Zach, Altoona: Went to Academic Affairs instead of Student Affairs. Went to talk to the Chancellor, Director of Academic Affairs and all the division heads. The problem was that in the adoption of the Commonwealth Campuses getting the University Park schedule, they made it so that there were bigger gaps in between classes. Most campuses were taking on more classes. There is a certain amount of slots that they have shrunk, and the amount of classes they had increased. That's why it's harder to accommodate more common hours.

- Neeka, Brandywine: How many slots are available? What is the time for your classes?
- Zach, Altoona: Based on the common schedule, from 11:00-1:10 is the time that the university allots for any campus to choose when they want to have their common hour. You could have common hour from 11:00-12:00 or 12:00-1:00 if you wanted to as long as that accommodates the schedules of everyone on campus. For most campuses it shrunk the amount of slots available.
- Neeka, Brandywine: Thinking about an increase of professors. Doesn't know if that will solve everything. Hire more part-time professors.
- Charlena, Abington: We have more than enough part-time professors, and a good amount of our classes are held at nighttime. Shuttle busses stop running earlier than classes end. Students are left trying to find ways home.
- Fynn, Beaver: Our campus has a plethora of part-time faculty.

- Nate: Fortunately, Behrend has a high number of on campus students and a lot of off campus students. The off campus students are located in apartment complexes two minutes away from campus. We work perfectly without a common hour which is what pushes me to believe that it is not mandatory for all commonwealth campuses otherwise we would have all had it.

Adjournment: 9:20 pm

