



# Governmental Affairs

**Director: Rob Kluth**

**Associate Director: (Justin Perry, Sam Steiner)**

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**Meeting Recorder: Ann Queen Sedhom and Rachel Miller**

**Assistant Recorder: )**

**Meeting Location: 134 HUB**

*Council Weekend # 3*

*Saturday Feb. 4<sup>th</sup>, 2017*

*Call to Order: 10:38*

## **I. Introductions:**

Rob welcomes everyone. Discussing events and how to interact with legislators.

## **II. New Business:**

- I. Sam mentioned how Abington did thing previously had legislators on campus. Sam surveyed the room about who has met with legislators
- A. Altoona: they meet with them. The student government with local legislators did a meet and greet.
  - B. Harrisburg did not have an event this year but we had one visit during our student government's general assembly. Last year, we also went to the floor of the Senate at the capitol
  - C. Ali Hamza harrisburg said that they are planning an outdoor senator meet and great
  - D. Fayette's senator and representatives are both penn state grads. They are planning a formal event
  - E. Berks has connections with Berk's county partisan group so they are working on having a informative meeting
  - F. Katie from Beaver: they have already planned a meeting that will be held during a sga meeting but will be open to the whole campus
  - G. New Ken: Event not hosted by sga but legislative outreach has fallen off after the elections
  - H. Lehigh Valley: Moderated question and answer session. Hoping to invite grassroots network people and two other people to come. They are waiting on Alan to match the date.
    - 1. Rob commented
    - 2. She gave a tip on how to schedule appointments
  - I. Berks: asked about board and how we contact them
    - 1. Lehigh valley says you have to contact both parties
  - J. Fayette: gives examples about working both parties

K. Duncan Dubois: knows they had legislators on campus last year. Asks about if it is better to have sga visit or an entire campus?

1. First do closed door and then do a public event

L. Altoona says that you should meet with them at their local office. Try calling and their secretaries will be able to help schedule.

1. Rob and Sam commented and gave tips. Sam says plan to schedule something two weeks to a month out.

II. Any problems or solutions that you have encountered during planning these meetings

. Jonathon Kinney Harrisburg: plan extra time just in case and be aware that they are very busy

A. New Ken?: had an issue making sure that they are nonpartisan. Make sure that both or all sides attend

III. Rob: Alternative point of view; issues and how you resolved them?

. Lehigh Valley: one ask for a representative if they cannot come. Also give them the questions in advance so that they do not feel like you are pushing an agenda

A. Ryan Morris Berks: asks if any nonpartisan groups that come speak

B. Jon Kinney Harrisburg: suggested using faculty that will give their point of view at a student level but will also relate it to penn state. Do not have outside orgs

C. Rob's recommendation would be the grassroots network

D. Ryan Morris Berks: says he liked the literature from last time

E. Justin Perry suggested VoteSmart

IV. Took Survey

V. Capital Day-March 22

A. A day for all the campuses to come together and reach out to legislators together. Asks for a show of hands of who have gone to Capital Day before.

B. Only university wide excused absence-professor has to excuse it.

C. The Goals of Capital Day-Why it's important. Every dollar that the state invests in higher education gets four dollars back-great return of tax payer's dollars.

D. Show of strength of university and a chance to go back to your legislators and tell them you are coming to Capital Day.

E. Lots of perks of Capital Day-tell them personal stories and roll with it.

F. A public broadcast of Capital Day on public channel that anyone can watch-rally in the rotunda. Meeting before and after the rally.

G. They are going to set everything up for you: Just sign up and Grassroots will handle it, setting up meetings and things.

H. [Alumni.psu.edu/Grassroots](http://Alumni.psu.edu/Grassroots) to register. Link to Capital Day Registration.

I. [Legis.state.pa.us](http://Legis.state.pa.us)

J. Question about Capital Day: What about the online petition?

K. Altoona: If you attend, you should have already met your legislator at least once.

L. New Ken: Is there a way to document that you were there?

#### VII. Goals for March Council

1. Have to have meeting with legislators
2. Get the word out about Capital Day

#### VIII. Secretary of Education News

1. Are we all in favor of the nominee?
2. Most reports say she is not good for higher education.
3. Asks who is in support of writing about Secretary of Education
4. Jon Kinney: This is hard because people on our campuses may be against it.
5. Altoona: Should be person by person basis.
6. Rob: Will send out the information and people can work with it as you please.

#### **III. Open Forum:**

- Name, Campus,

*Adjournment: 11:30*

