

EGCC Student Government Association 2021-2022

Minutes

Wednesday, September 8, 2021

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Madam President Rizzo at 8:05pm EST/7:05pm CST/6:05pm MST/5:05pm PT.

Special Orders

Introduction, Approval, and Swearing in of new Senators:

Christopher Ferry
Emily Shemash
Kevin Stringham

Attendance

Present: Rizzo, Singleterry, Criswell, Bryant, Estes, Fears, Ferry, Johnson, Lyons, Shemash, Shields, Stringham, White

Absent: Foster

Quorum is: 8 Present Voting Majority is: 7

Reading of the Minutes

The minutes of the previous meeting on August 18, 2021 were provided via email from Advisor Twyford for your review prior to this meeting.

Approve via voice vote.

Officer Reports

Criswell: no report

Foster: absent

Singleterry: no report

Committee Reports

Special Orders

Discussion of fall semester schedule and conflict with Phi Theta Kappa meetings. PTK meets the 1st/3rd Wednesdays each month, October will put us in conflict with dates again. Three options:

Current Alternating Weeks	2 nd /4 th Wednesdays	Pick New Night of the Week
September 22	September 22	
October 6	October 13	
October 20	October 27	
November 3	November 10	
November 17	November 24	
December 1	December 8	

Old Business

1. **OER (open educational resources) printing is a good idea, but shipping is too expensive** (Criswell)

See attached screenshots from members regarding textbooks (cost of printing/shipping, ease of use re: O'Reilly vs. OpenStax, etc)

Lyons: when using O'Reilly books online, there is a timer that counts down to when the book is no longer available. Started at 25 hours, has ~14 hours left on her book. This is for an 8 week class.

Q: what happens when the timer runs out?

A: You have to log back in and "check" the book back out (per Shields)

White: Stopped at her local post office to check shipping rates. USPS has certain rates just for books alone based on their weight, seemed to be less than current provided pricing from the EGCC Print Shop. Need to discuss options of shipping with administration. Will send to the whole body when that document is available.

Shields: Confirming Sen. White's USPS comments. There are 2 rates: media rate (which is what books use) and the flat shipping rate ("if it fits, it ships"). May be able to find more information on the USPS website.

Criswell: student reached out to her who is in Administrative Medical Office (HSC106) class, sent an announcement from Canvas/teacher; "do not submit any more assignments." Modules are being closed, you'll have to sign in to complete each module. This limited access to the text for the students, as the text was not up to date. Some students have found the text on Amazon and ordered the newest version of the book.

Committee is: Rizzo, White, Criswell, Lyons, Foster

Motion: Table until discussion is had with college administration

Made by: White

Seconded: Lyons

2. **Obtaining/utilizing Student IDs** (Shields)

Senator Estes gave brief update for new senators. Current IDs are not very useful and committee wants to update the design, make it easier for students to obtain, and make available in the mobile app. Senator Shields discussed the email that went out about issuance of new students on campus; may be problematic since new IDs are already being issued. Other peer community colleges have higher replacement fees than our proposed rate (\$10-20 vs. \$5 suggested fee); college may wonder if they are undercharging. VP Criswell added that CC fees at colleges in her area include the ID; would the free college benefit cover this?

Shields: since new IDs have already been issued, would it be a problem to put this presentation out?

Twyford: Most beneficial part of conversation will be emphasizing the mobile app aspect, but the rest of the conversation should still be had.

Motion: Table until presentation is updated

Made by: Fears

Seconded: Shields

3. Peer-to-Peer Mentoring (Johnson)

Johnson: no new information to add

Rizzo: One option looked at is Active Minds, a national organization, helps schools/businesses/etc establish peer-to-peer mentoring programs to support mental health support and awareness. Propose starting a chapter at EGCC; would be for the students, by the students, under the umbrella of Active Minds. (Eastern Michigan U: the Green Bandanas)

<https://www.activeminds.org/programs/chapter-network/start-a-chapter-faq/>

If you have other ideas about how we can approach this idea, let us know!

Johnson: "Send Silence Packing" – stories about how people got over obstacles and challenges of their lives

Twyford: SVPAA Dr. Crooks shared information about his former institution's program for Mental Health; this initiative could support getting more mental health support staff hired at the college <https://www.lorainccc.edu/bienvenidos/salud-mental-mental-health/>

Rizzo: PTK is also interested in establishing a peer mentoring group, how do we collaborate with this idea?

Criswell: she is a behavior health specialist at her school and is starting a chapter of Active Minds at the school, will share information with the group

Committee: Johnson, Bryant, Ferry, Stringham, Lyons

Motion: Table until more information is available

Made by: Johnson

Seconded: Estes

4. Amendment to add Senior Vice President of Academic Affairs as a Co-Advisor to the EGCC SGA (Rizzo)

Requires motion to bring this to a roll call vote; vote requires majority of members to approve motion.

Aye: Criswell, Singleterry, Bryant, Estes, Fears, Ferry, Johnson, Lyons, Shemash, Shields, Stringham, White

Nay: --

Absent: Foster

Motion: Amend constitution to update documents
Made by: Singleterry
Seconded: Johnson

New Business

Students' Preferred Names

Shemash: using students' preferred first names in place of their legal names. Many other colleges already have this in place. Students are able to select their pronouns, but preferred names in Canvas, Portal, etc, do not reflect who they are.

Criswell: during first week of school introductions, many professors are good about using preferred names in discussion. However it is classmates who don't do as good of a job recognizing this, so they may need more modeling to encourage this practice.

Singleterry: has noticed in her 2 classes that it can be hard to remember what "nickname" students provided in the first week. Want to be able to change the "blue name" to show your preferred name.

Criswell: always looks at the name at the bottom of the discussion OP.

Estes: It looks like the "Full name" option is a different option than the "Display name" on Canvas Settings, might be possible to add the option for students to edit this? So the display name shows as your preferred name

Quote provided by Chris: *"To be able to go by a preferred name would be the next logical step to make our school truly inclusive."*

Shemash: it can be harmful to a students' mental health, especially if they are transitioning.

Criswell: if we're going to do this, we need to go all the way through to graduation. It should be on diploma, honors convocation, etc. This would set us apart from other CCs by taking this action on.

Singleterry: if we can change display name, let's get screen shots on how to do this so we can show other students.

Estes: We don't currently have the permission to do so I believe. I attempted to change it, but it does only allow the pronouns to be changed.

Criswell: If a person has legally changed their name, it should be honored and put on their diploma. In CA, the change happens with the vital records office at your local city/county offices.

Bryant: I think they currently follow the legal ID. I changed my last name (not for marriage) & they followed it. However, it may be different for gender identity.

Committee: Shemash, Singleterry, Fears, Criswell (as available)

Motion: table until next meeting
Made by: Lyons
Second: Bryant

Announcements

Student Activities just opened applications for Student Ambassador Program, applications are due Friday, September 24. President Rizzo encourages anyone to apply!

Motivational quote from Senator Bryant:

“Making your mark on the world is hard. If it were easy, everybody would do it. But it's not. It takes patience, it takes commitment, and it comes with plenty of failure along the way. The real test is not whether you avoid this failure, because you won't. it's whether you let it harden or shame you into inaction, or whether you learn from it; whether you choose to persevere.” – President Barack Obama

Nominates Senator White for next meeting.

Closing Remarks from Advisors

Check your email for scheduling poll!

Adjournment

At this time, I would entertain a motion to adjourn...

Motion: Criswell Seconded by: Bryant

This meeting is adjourned at 9:21pm EST/8:21pm CST/7:21pm MST/6:21pm PST.