

EGCC Student Government Association 2022-2023
Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, October 12, 2022

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Vice President Domagala at 8:08pm EST.

Special Orders

Swearing in of Cherise Grimes.

Attendance

- **Present:** Domagala, Richards, Nickell, Hunter, Grimes, De La Cruz, Cooper, Rogers, Whitaker
 - **Absent:** McCloud, Sanders, Hulse, Zhao, Morris
- Quorum is: 9 Majority is: 5

Reading of the Minutes

The minutes of the previous meeting on September 28, 2022 were provided via email from Advisor Twyford for your review prior to this meeting.

Motion to approve: Richards Second: Whitaker

Officer Reports

McCloud: *Absent*

Domagala: Lots going on between emails received from the college and reading updates on Facebook.

Richards: Discord server is now up!

Sanders: *Absent*

Committee Reports

CTL: Whitaker: meeting next week.

Old Business

1. HLC/DOE Concerns

Survey Committee created at 9/28/22 meeting: Richards, Cooper, Nickell, Hunter, Rogers

HLC Criteria 3 Members: Nickell, McCloud, Rogers, Richards, Hunter

Richards: took notes at last HLC meeting, shared them in the Discord.

Today's court hearing was canceled (DOE). Not sure if good or bad. In-person meeting update:

- Productive meeting held between Crooks, Bobbie, and some others. Went through info they had. Went through list to see how much needed vs already had. Several things still need to be gathered.

- HLC would like to see faculty development plans - Used to be a thing. Some programs have them included and others don't. Trying to figure that out - Create it.

- Next November is final ruling about accreditation probation.

- Students on Criterion team now have access to grid.

- No more meetings until Nov.

Domagala: Have students known about the accreditation problem? Prior to coming here, I didn't.

Richards: After I started we got the email.

Domagala: If we graduate by then, we're good?

Richards: That's what I've been told.

Twyford: Accreditation decision that put us on probation came in Spring 2021. In November 2020, there was a visit (on site and virtually) to check that we were on track. Reaccreditation is every 10 years, so 2020 was half way into it. In Spring 2021 we got the report back that we were on probation because we fell short in a number of areas, but here are the things you need to do to get back on track. That's why we have a lot of things like the SGA that are new since then, that's why we have the Criteria teams working on areas, there is an increase in full time faculty which was an issue that needed resolved. If you were in school anytime in Spring 2021, you would have gotten the notice that we were on probation. Other dates you may have heard include that we need to have everything together in January 2023, we'll have another check in the following month. This includes student-only forums with accreditation team (no EGCC employees so students can give their unbiased answers). So yes, as long as you are graduated by Spring 2021, you're good. Your degree will always be accredited. We won't have the results of the check until the fall of 2023 since it takes some time for the accreditation team to review all of the information we give them and to go over their visits. There might be other steps they put us on, like another warning where we continue to improve.

Richards: I have questions about the forums. I've heard of them but I don't know when and where they'll be to be honest.

Twyford: What they'll do when it comes time for those is, hopefully they'll reach out to me as someone connected to the student body, to help recruit students to attend these forums.

They'll offer a couple of days and times for students to choose when they can attend. The first go-around with this, we were still in "covid times" and the student forums were done virtually.

Now with campuses opening back up, I imagine there may be on-campus visits where they'll want to meet with students, but there will definitely be virtual forums, too.

Richards: I want to double down on this, that we're good until next November?

Twyford: Per the timelines that I've seen, that would be the earliest that it would be questionable. Like I said, there are different levels to how this works. This is new to me too, this is the first reaccreditation process that I've been through. I'm in my 9th year in higher education and I've been with EGCC for the whole process now.

Whitaker: Is there any word why the judge recused himself?

Twyford: Like that email that went out to all of us said, the judge did not give an excuse for it. It could be anything in the range of he had something personal come up and he couldn't take the case anymore, he could have had a conflict of interest and maybe has a family member who attends, they did not say why.

Whitaker: Have they indicated whether this judge is better for us? This Graham, or the one who was recused?

Twyford: No, they didn't provide that information. We got the same information that you all did when President Geoghegan sent it out.

Whitaker: A recusal is usually pushed by one party or the other, that's why I was concerned. I looked him up, and the one who recused himself was appointed by Clinton, the one we have now was appointed by Reagan, so I don't know who would be better for us. They have been secretive about the politics about this.

Kennedy: Possibly the one judge could have been connected to one of the unions that uses the FCB, I don't think this is some kind of political power move. For one reason or another, he wasn't able to take on the case, and they gave us someone who can take on the case. We're going to hope for the best.

Rogers: The email that we got from the president said that they were having a conference today, so I assume we'll be hearing about that in the near future. Something I noticed that may be connected to the HLC concerns, I just noticed this on the student portal. Now we have a faculty directory which I had not seen before. I have a question from VP Domagala – congratulations are in order for being accepted to the University of Tennessee – did all of your credits transfer? Initially they said that not all credits would transfer.

Domagala: Initially they said only 3/4s of my credits would transfer, and that wasn't going to cut it. I contacted their transfer department, and they sent me some forms to fill out with what classes you're trying to transfer for them to reevaluate. They're taking all of my credits except for pathophysiology, since it doesn't count towards the program I'm going into.

Rogers: That's good to know, because if UT will accept our credits, than more than likely a majority of schools will accept our credits. It's good to know the process that you went through to get them accepted.

Domagala: I also applied to the University of Alabama, and they weren't going to take as many credits as UT.

Richards: You said you had to ask for transfer equivalency forms?

Domagala: You can probably email any college's transfer department to see about having your credits reevaluated. After you submit them for evaluation, they'll decide if they meet their criteria.

Nickell: did research on the survey materials, has experience from prior community college. Feedback forms focused on different questions and gave a negative and a positive option. One thing I noticed is that it wasn't entirely anonymous. Other colleges didn't include what program of study is. Last group asked about what was positive or negative – other colleges split that up over two questions. One college gave options to select department or area to give feedback on or give kudos to. We need to decide the details, but last group asked about any concerns that

students had that we can address right now. I feel like that's really important considering the DOE and HLC issues.

Domagala: There are a lot of ideas with this. We probably don't want to leave President McCloud out of it. I personally would rather wait for her to be here so we can all discuss it. Does VP Richards or anyone have anything on that?

Nickell: I did all the research and sent it to Advisor Twyford, but I'm fine with tabling it till President McCloud is here.

Domagala: I think this is something that we can have a good discussion on when she's here.

Motion: Table

Made by: Whitaker

Seconded: Nickell

2. OER Concerns (Shipping costs of PrintShop items, printed OERs for students needing accommodations, OpenStax vs. O'Reilly)

SVP Roeschenthaler, will be attending 10/19 to discuss OER concerns. → need to reschedule him due to new SGA schedule

OER Concerns from 2021-2022 SGA:

- Excessive and inconsistent shipping costs (SGA VPs in different areas of Ohio tested ordering the same text book to be sent via the same method to the same address, and got different shipping prices).
- OpenStax vs. O'Reilly: Students are not able to access their OERs offline, some need to be able to do their work (example given was flight attendants unable to work during downtime when there is no wifi)

Twyford: I included the above concerns so you knew what they were. SVP Roeschenthaler is being rescheduled since the meetings were rescheduled, but we don't want to have something on this agenda if you guys don't understand why. It gets tabled and tabled, because you don't know what the issue is. That's why I put them on here for you to consider and discuss.

Domagala: McCloud had taken this on, so she may have more information. Is anyone else working with her on this? Seeing none...

Motion: Table

Made by: Nickell

Seconded: Richards

New Business

Richards: we did receive the documents but it might be better for President McCloud to be here to talk about it. They talk about the entire DOE situation.

Cooper: I've noticed on the FB page that there are a lot of questions about PTK. Can we partner with them to do information sessions on qualifications, benefits, etc?

Domagala: That could be awesome. I'm just learning about PTK Edge (LinkedIn Profile, resume credentials). Discussed the Be the Match program.

Richards: Agree, I haven't been able to attend meetings until last week. They have a lot going on. They have optional trainings, including LGBTQ inclusivity. You can find their minutes on the EGCC website.

Domagala: A problem we might have is meetings are at same times. We can reach out to them and set something up.

Cooper: We could do it outside of our regular meeting times, just do an info session for students.

Rogers: In regards to the Discord, I encourage everyone to join because I think it's a very good way that we can communicate and keep things going and advance some of our projects and goals. I think everybody ought to get on there.

Twyford: I can pull it up so people can see what it looks like. (*screenshared the SGA Discord*) I did put the link in the announcements and I'll put it into the chat as well. The conversations can't just happen here within the hour we have, nothing will get accomplished if we rely on this block of time. You can use this on your phone or your desktop.

Announcements

New meeting schedule:

- ~~August 24~~
- ~~September 7~~
- ~~September 21~~
- ~~September 28~~
- ~~October 12~~
- October 26
- November 9
- November 30
- December 14 (Finals Week)

Richards: If anyone needs help with Discord, let her know!

Motivational Quote from Senator Cooper:

"I raise up my voice-not so I can shout, but so that those without a voice can be heard."

- Malala Yousafzai

Cooper: I picked this because I felt like it resonated with SGA. We don't have to raise our voices, we know our power. We're not going to shout but we are going to use our voices to stand up for those who can't be heard.

Nominates President McCloud for next week's quote.

Closing Remarks from Advisors

Twyford: We only have four more meetings left this semester. At the end of this semester, what are you going to be able to say that you accomplished as an SGA in the next four weeks? Technically, that

includes the summer. So what tangible thing will you be able to say you completed? I also wanted to point out, too, that SGA meeting minutes get posted to the website as a transparency thing for the college.

- **SGA Night on Friday, October 21 at 8pm**
- **Rescheduling EGCC 101: SGA Forum** (maybe on November 30?)
- **Join us on Discord!** <https://discord.gg/ExrynW4X>

Need to consider the EGCC 101: SGA Forum, process the documents that have been sent to you. Form your opinions. It's important for the SGA to get student input, I know that the surveys are one way. The HLC wants to see that SGA is taking student concerns. You're going to do the surveys, but how are you going to get feedback from students. Maybe it's immediately following one of these meetings.

Domagala: Are we doing the survey video chat or are we doing an email survey?

Twyford: That's up to you all. What I can do for you is to send out a survey that you create. Because of the weird policies that the college has with forms, I would have to host it for you, but I would give you guys as much access as I can, screenshare so you can see the results and make sure nothing is being left out. The forum would be like a Zoom session.

Domagala: I'd love to do a face to face session, but if that doesn't work, can we do an email survey?

Twyford: I think you could do both.

Cooper: I think both is a good idea.

Rogers: You could put the date and time for the Zoom conference/forum in the email along with the survey. You're not going to get a lot of participation with a Zoom meeting. You'll get a lot more return on the email, but having it go out campus wide, you're likely to get more people participating.

Domagala: Someone can put out on Facebook, too, when we get a time/date.

Twyford: You can talk about this on the general chat on Discord, too.

Adjournment

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

Motion: Rogers **Seconded by:** Richards

This meeting is adjourned at 8:58pm EST. ***Our next meeting is Wednesday, October 26 at 8pm EST.***