

EGCC Student Government Association 2022-2023

Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, February 8, 2023

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Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by President McCloud at 8:03pm EST.

Special Orders

None.

Attendance

Present: McCloud, Richards, Cooper, Drips, Grimes, Hunter, Nickell, Ogle Evans, Rogers, Whitaker, Wright

Absent: De la Cruz, York

Quorum is: 9 Majority is: 6

Reading of the Minutes

The minutes of the previous meeting on January 25, 2023 were provided via email from Advisor Twyford for your review prior to this meeting.

Motion to approve: Nickell Second: Drips

Motion approved via voice vote.

Officer Reports

McCloud: None

Richards: None

Cooper: None

Committee Reports

CTL:

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

Nickell: Was at the HLC meeting, used it as an opportunity to get answers for our student surveys because I wasn't getting answers. Went through concerns with Dr. Crooks, hit on

communication being a big deal. Out of all the responses I handled, 50% were communication issues. I got the answers for my questions completed, but I'm still doing follow ups, but everyone has been reached out to.

Rogers: We need to get students to complete the HLC surveys. At least all of us should complete them and spread the word to our sphere of influence.

McCloud: We need to do the surveys, it will be a big factor when HLC comes back.

Nickell: We talked about it in IT Club.

McCloud: I wonder if people are actually aware, but if IT Club is talking about it, it sounds like it's getting out there. We can post about it in the Facebook group. A lot of new students don't understand what's going on, or the difference between the two. When they hear what's going on, they're shocked. It should be more open.

Cooper: I agree, look how long it took us to find out. I can understand how people can be confused.

McCloud: It's confusing how it came out with all the pauses.

Whitaker: I sent my survey first day.

Rogers: Deadline for survey is Feb. 15

McCloud: If everyone's ok with it I'll go ahead and post about it on the Facebook page. I'll say DOE and HLC are two separate issues. Should we send out the surveys again later in spring semester?

Cooper: I think so.

McCloud: Graduation will be at the Pavilion at Star Lake, I'm very excited for it. Grad Fest will be at Steubenville on June 2, graduation will be Saturday, June 3.

Cooper: Graduation page is updated on the EGCC website, it's really helpful and there's lots of information.

McCloud: I think they should have updated sooner, but it's up now. If you're graduated this semester, make sure you've been enrolled for all the classes your degree plan requires. It can take a little time so get with your advisor if you plan to graduate in June.

Twyford: If you come to graduation or not, you do get a stole that's embroidered with EGCC and has our SGA logo. We will get it to you if you're not coming, and if you are, we'll give it to you then.

McCloud: Grad Fest is in Steubenville, and graduation is about 20 minutes away in Burgettstown. They also have virtual graduation. I know a lot of people were upset about that. When VP Domagala was here, she tried very hard to get it changed to have a fall graduation, too, but there wasn't much we can do. Your diploma can get mailed.

Motion: Table

Made by: Nickell

Seconded: Hunter

Student Feedback Survey

McCloud: Anything else we want to do with this? Maybe we should resend this in a month? We don't want to stack too many surveys, I want to wait till everyone is finished with classes.

Motion: Table
Made by: Hunter
Seconded: Nickell

New Business

McCloud: I know we discussed communication earlier, especially with instructors not responding. With the surveys, I was seeing that the Criminal Justice program was getting more difficult. But, the further you're in your program, the more core classes you take and those do get more difficult. Did anyone see any reoccurring issues in the surveys they looked at?

Drips: As a new senator, I haven't really been involved in viewing or responding to the surveys, so I'm not sure what that process has entailed. I think there's a certain extent when students are reaching out to SGA about difficulties with their courses, the first thing that comes to mind is referring them to the academic counseling resources available. As SGA, our role is to represent the interests of the students to the administration, and to the extent that a student is coming to SGA, are they coming with a complaint or asking for help?

McCloud: I can agree with that. What is your major?

Drips: Paralegal studies

McCloud: I'll have Abbie send the responses so you can see what was said. You can see the issues that come up. I took on the criminal justice problems.

Cooper: A lot of the reasons why students responded to our survey with questions because they don't know where to go. They don't know what the chain of command is or how to get the question answered themselves.

Grimes: I did notice in the advising topics, I had an international student. They discussed how they weren't sure how they'd find a job because they don't live in the country. I always check in the weekly activities, and I haven't noticed any career development. When I started in Fall 2021, they would send college links and you could meet with different colleges to transfer to, but I haven't seen many lately. That could be with career development, with people graduating and finding jobs.

Rogers: There's Handshake

McCloud: But does it work outside of the country

Grimes: Handshake is a lot of internships and most would require relocating.

Wright: I spoke with Career Development recently and was curious about job placements and career pathway. But I found out that won't be an option much longer because they don't have an online career development staff member.

McCloud: Am I wrong or was Richard Zapp for online?

Twyford: He was, he has a new job within the college doing institutional research, which is basically a lot of data running and pulling different reports, so a lot of the things HLC is looking for, he's pulling those numbers and that data, so he's not in Career Development anymore.

McCloud: Ok, and I just looked at the website and it says on top of internship opportunities, Handshake employers can sometimes accommodate those students who are still abroad.

Cooper: Maybe that is something student activities can host a info session on? career development I mean

McCloud: Maybe we can reach out to them to see if they want to host a session.

Wright: I'll take this on.

Grimes: I can assist. Let me know what I need to do!

Drips: I'm not sure what all the job opportunities for students would be, students would be eligible for that aren't specifically located in Steubenville and Youngstown. I wonder how much online students are able to access Work Study opportunities. When I look at the career page, they are mostly looking for faculty and professional positions rather than students. I'm wondering about the availability of jobs for students, and there can be legal questions about jobs for overseas students. I'm wondering about how many jobs are available for students and are they adequately representing the needs of the college.

McCloud: The only one I've heard of in my time is the peer tutor from SVP Martin.

Twyford: There are actually a few work studies in the Career Development office that are local because they help with the food pantries that are on campus. But, Alumni has three work studies and they're all online. John, the page you're referencing is actually for employment at the college, not so much employment for the kind of things Handshake is looking at for that kind of job placement. Work studies get handled out of the financial aid office. To qualify for FWS, you have to qualify for a Pell Grant. There are other opportunities there, but I don't know what other departments have virtual work studies.

Wright: Link on the school page where you can search for jobs.

Drips: I looked at Handshake, an employer might go on there and look for people in a geographic area. If they're looking for EGCC students, they are likely just looking in a certain demographic area. In my area, there aren't a lot of openings. It was limited to nationwide things. I'm not sure how useful Handshake has been as a resource for students, and if there's anything we can do to make it more useful and helping students with more work opportunities if they're interested.

McCloud: I've only gotten 1 or 2 offers and they weren't local, and they weren't related. I don't know that we can change Handshake, but we could talk to the department to see if there's a better option or if there's something more expanded. Has anyone else tried Handshake?

Nickell: I've used it mainly for webinars or specific information, like data warehouses. For tech stuff it's pretty useful.

Grimes: <https://egcc.joinhandshake.com/login>

McCloud: Do we want to reach out to see about options?

Drips: I think that'd be reasonable if only a handful of us have gotten any first hand experience with it, I'd be interested to see if the college has any data about placements, percentages of offers, statistics on effectiveness, maybe we just have isolated poor outcomes, but if the outcomes are poor systemwide, then it suggests that there's a systemic problem with students not being effectively served.

Nickell: They do need to pull up that information for the accreditation process with HLC.

McCloud: Please make note in any future HLC meetings about it.

McCloud: I can reach out to the department, but should I ask them to put out more information campus wide, or should I just ask them about how effective it's been.

Nickell: I'd be interested to see, I don't have a frame of reference for those statistics.

McCloud: I'll reach out to get the information.

Cooper: There has to be some return on investment report that they can provide us.

Gallery Remarks

None.

Announcements

New meeting schedule:

- ~~January 11~~
- ~~January 25~~
- ~~February 8~~
- February 22
- March 15
- March 29
- April 12
- April 26 (*Winners of 2023-2024 SGA Elections Announced*)
- May 10
- June 2: Grad Fest – Steubenville Campus
- June 3: Commencement

Motivational Quote from Senator Nickell:

"I learned that courage was not the absence of fear, but the triumph over it. The brave man is not he who does not feel afraid, but he who conquers that fear." – Nelson Mandela

I picked this one because I had to get out of my comfort zone to address some of these student surveys, and I really had to be a little bit pushy in a meeting full of faculty, which is way out of my comfort zone, so I felt like courage and fear was a great topic to have this week.

Nominates Senator Drips for next meeting's quote.

Closing Remarks from Advisors

- Be sure to complete the survey for HLC, it went out as a Canvas announcement and in your student email, encourage others to do the same. ***It is not a survey for the DOE, it's for HLC.***
- Student Ambassador Applications opened on Monday January 30, due February 24.
- Vision Board Workshop tomorrow night at 9pm EST
- Valentine's Bingo on 2/14 at 9pm EST
- Black History Month Trivia on 2/16 at 9pm EST

Adjournment

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

Motion: Nickell Seconded by: Drips

This meeting is adjourned at 8:44pm EST.

