

EGCC Student Government Association 2022-2023

Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, April 12, 2023

<https://egcc.zoom.us/rec/share/g5qE6dciuk6QI05JG4jADuxiwAy4QOW4eeHniDHvgB4VnFSJeJQrTkzEV1lClqoX.hsMjqSS6CUyt-UDS>

Passcode: uT8*9+VZ

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by President McCloud at 8:04pm EST.

Special Orders

None.

Attendance

McCloud	X
Richards	X
Cooper	X
De la Cruz	--
Drips	X
Grimes	X
Hunter	X
Nickell	X
Ogle Evans	X
Rogers	X
Whitaker	X
Wright	X
York	X

Present:

Absent:

Quorum is: 9 Majority is: 6

Reading of the Minutes

The minutes of the previous meeting on March 29, 2023 were provided via email from Advisor Twyford for your review prior to this meeting.

Motion to approve: Grimes Second: Rogers

Motion approved via voice vote.

Officer Reports

McCloud: No report

Richards:

Cooper: Wanted to say to everyone that even though we only have a few meetings left, we can still accomplish a lot. I appreciate you guys, we're rounding third, let's bring it home!

Committee Reports

CTL: Whitaker – will continue to serve on the committee until he graduates end of fall (has practicum), but we need another student. Went over previous notes, chair was waiting to see what happens with the HLC review team. Can still send updates to SGA so it can be reported on for next administration.

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: Meeting this week was cancelled due to lack of people available to participate in it.

Rogers: Can you give us an update on the presentation from HLC Criteria 3 on Friday?

Nickell: Had several slides to present on, it wasn't an opportunity to bring up contentious issues, but more of an update to educate institution on what progress has been made. I gave updates on student-facing topics, which let me dig in further on those topics. It was good to see this forum because it gave experience seeing other departments pushing back on the issues, for example, Office of Accessibility had concerns about probation.

Rogers: Glad you were able to represent SGA.

Nickell: I think meetings have changed times, so it's challenging to keep it straight.

Rogers: We want to familiarize ourselves with the vision, mission, and core values of the college. HLC reviewers may want to meet with SGA, and we ought to know these points. Dr. Crooks has been encouraging people to brush up on these.

McCloud: We don't know who they're meeting with yet, but will likely be with SGA.

Twyford: *updates on working w/ VP Birney.*

Motion: Table

Made by: Richards

Seconded: Nickell/York

Student Feedback Survey

Grimes: Are we going to do any more before the end of the semester?

McCloud: I don't think we have gotten anymore responses, have we?

Twyford: No, we haven't.

McCloud: We could send out again before the semester ends, but it's up to you all.

Richards: Check to see how many meetings we have left

Twyford: Two more, April 26 and May 10

Grimes: If we send them out now, since most of us are graduating, the people coming in might be able to see or reference what the surveys were or what we did with them.

York: I completely agree (Rogers and Cooper concur)

McCloud: We can go ahead and send out one more time. Can they go out in "This Week" Activities email?

Twyford: Yes, that and the SGA elections email.

Motion: Table

Made by: Richards

Seconded: Wright

2. Financial Aid

Invitation has been extended to SVP Kurt Pawlak to come to answer questions SGA has about Financial Aid; we've been advised to work with Rebecca Steckman instead. She is working on her availability but said it may be helpful to know some of the questions ahead of time.

Rogers: He's a very busy person, they must all be very busy. I reached out several times to him and never got a response at all. Also reached out to Rebecca Steckman on guidance of SVP Martin, didn't get a response. Twyford reached out and she did get a response. She is trying to arrange her schedule to come to one of our meetings.

Twyford: She hasn't given us a date yet, pushing her towards the April 26 meeting. Steckman is hoping to get questions ahead of time.

Rogers: We can work on that tonight. Questions like how the FCB program actually works. If you think of something later, put it on Discord.

McCloud: I'm making a list right now, including the FCB question, and how did we get by before this. If you don't have anything, you can put it in the Discord later. Try to get questions submitted by next Wednesday (April 19) so we can get them to her in advance.

Motion: Table

Made by: Wright

Seconded: Richards

New Business

Cooper: Was there a spreadsheet last year of what initiatives we took on and accomplished?

Twyford: Yes, there was, we can work on putting that together.

Whitaker: I've started compiling a list of what we've done, will send it over.

Richards: There is a thread for New Business if anyone had any quick ideas they wanted to add, we can pop that on to the Discord.

McCloud: We are pretty much towards the end so there might not be much.

Grimes: I feel like the responses I get back from professors are automated, they send the same response to other people. Even though we're online, I think we should still have a face to face opportunity. This semester, my professors don't have office hours.

McCloud: I agree, a lot of the answers are just canned answers.

Cooper: I've been at SGA for a long time, and in my last 3 classes this 8 weeks, and one professor offered office hours – this is the first time ever. My in-person professors at previous colleges had office hours, but never online.

McCloud: Only FT faculty may be required to have office hours (Twyford unsure but it sounds right)

Grimes: It would be nice if they would incorporate lectures with the actual teachers teaching a lesson, instead of “here, figure it out.”

Ogle: I agree, my professor told us last semester told us that we “chose to be online, so figure it out.” Feedback is very generic, they give cut and paste comments or messages. Every time I wrote something, they gave the same comments.

McCloud: Who would we talk to about that?

Twyford: Crooks

McCloud: We could invite him to a meeting, but we only have 2 left.

Rogers: I just looked at the introduction to the HLC argument, and that was one of the problems. FT faculty had to have defined office hours but there was no evidence, but PT faculty didn't have a responsibility to have some opportunities. That may be changing. I have noticed a few professors with office hours, but fortunately I haven't had to schedule any meetings with them. Otherwise, it was all boilerplate and good luck. I waited a long time for a response if I got one at all. Hopefully this will improve with the HLC assurance argument.

Whitaker: That's a big topic in CTL, especially lately. Mid-fall and this semester, communication is horrible, it's getting worse. That's astonishing considering what we're facing with HLC. A few people we saying that its like correspondence classes. We have instructors who put out videos every week for their courses, it can make a big difference. It's like the professors aren't even there other than to give you grades. I don't know what's going on with them, we pushed it to Brian and hopefully he'll bring it to administration.

McCloud: I feel like professors have gone downhill even with the HLC and DOE issues, but we'll still have 2 meetings after HLC is here, so we can address it.

Richards: I've had a lot of issues with it lately. Teachers aren't responding at all, I had to harass them about accommodations just for them to tell me no. Points were docked on my assignments and I asked for feedback on what to do, they told me I was doing great. Another student just copy/pasted my discussion post and got away with it. A lot of teachers will say the same thing over and over, even when they're trying to be interactive. Some classes just hand you a giant PDF and Youtube videos and call it a day. If I wanted to save FAFSA \$ I could have just gone to Barnes & Noble. A lot of courses are based on PDFs. A lot of teachers just don't care, and they break EGCC policy because they know nothing will happen. I know there isn't much we can do with the time we have left, but this is recorded!

McCloud: At the end of the day we can't change how the policies are implemented, but we can try – but can't fix everything. I hope with DOE and HLC it helps some things at least.

Whitaker: All we can do is make them aware of the issues so they can make the changes. I don't understand why its happening this way when they're under the microscope. Some don't care because this is just another PT job for them.

Richards: More needs to be done on EGCC's part to enforce their policies, bare minimum.

Realistically, you're supposed to respond with 3 days, but I'll have teachers never respond once

– other than to break another policy and deny accommodations. There's issues that other people experience, like a student asking a teacher for help and just being told to rewatch videos, look up annotations, etc. They wouldn't take time to show how to solve an equation or help.

Ogle: I befriended someone last semester when a professor wouldn't respond. She shared last night that two of her classes have the same question on the discussion post. I suggested posting the same answer on both to see what happens. Its for two completely different classes but they have the same material. She tried calling, and told one of the professors, but they didn't respond. Pretty sure that shouldn't be happening.

McCloud: Have had similar issues with CJ.

Whitaker: You have to watch how you respond, they might say you plagiarized.

Richards: Accidentally self-plagiarized because I answered the same question for two different classes.

Whitaker: Lost points for being late with the assignment, there's only 3 of us left us in the class!

Mary Leoson was the best professor I had there, we had lectures every week, she was interacting with everyone. I thought things would move in that direction, but they stopped using rubrics in the fall, and things have just gone downhill. I could teach some of these classes.

McCloud: I've never used a textbook for a class that was published within the last 2-3 years.

Whitaker: Material is outdated for some courses, especially social work.

Richards: One teacher doesn't care about references, he says use the footnotes. If you look in the PDF to see where they get the info from, sometimes the source is Wikipedia – but then the instructors tell you not to use Wikipedia.

Whitaker: Positive side is this – if you get an A, you've worked your ass off, so you do learn. The sad thing is, what are you missing out on if you had a person actually teaching?

Richards: Something worrying or concerning, we've spent a lot of time working on this stuff, but if we transfer on somewhere, how prepared are we going to be going in to another college?

How much are we going to struggle because we don't have the experience that more demanding teachers will want, because we didn't need to? It's still work, but most was watching YouTube, here's a book... it makes me nervous.

Whitaker: It depends on what you put into it here. From EGCC, my writing has improved immensely. If you do the work, it'll help you, and I take notes and do the work like I'm in an in-person class.

Drips: I think there is something natural or expected as you transition from a CC to a 4-year college. There will be an increase in a level of expectation, but the effort you put in at the CC level will prepare you for a university. One way to think about the difference between the two is when you're considering what classes will be like at the university level, I'd think of them as in the neighborhood as twice as much effort that might be required for an EGCC class. It depends on the university, and how much the instructor is going to require of you in that setting.

Whitaker: It'll go about twice as fast, and I agree, it's about twice the effort. Anyone on this board is a motivated individual, don't be nervous, just step to the plate like you always have and you'll be successful.

Drips: I haven't heard anything from SVP Martin, but I'd like to follow up on our last meeting's vote to publicize the complaint process and draft language for the SGA website for students to

help them understand that. Is there anyone else who would like to be involved in that process? Discussed with Twyford that we can draft language to go over at the next meeting. If you have any thoughts or input, just let me know!

Gallery Remarks

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 Wright:

Some people want it to happen, some wish it would happen, others make it happen. – Michael Jordan

It puts me in a mindset for SGA. If we want things to really happen, we put our best foot forward to get it done. Even if we can't get all of it done, we try our best to do so.

Nominates Senator Ogle Evans for next meeting's quote.

Closing Remarks from Advisors

- Collin's Law Anti-Hazing Training requirement
- Graduation update form
- Application to participate in the in-person graduation ceremony is due May 1; applications received after that date will still be processed to receive a diploma but will not be able to participate in the ceremony. This is also the last day to order your cap and gown for the ceremony to ensure it arrives in time.
- Thursday, April 13 – Virtual Cooking Class
- SGA 2023-2024 elections open next Monday!

Adjournment

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

Motion: Drips Seconded by: Grimes/Rogers

This meeting is adjourned at 9:10pm EST.