



**Associated Student Government
Senate Meeting
March 12, 2008**

- I. Call to Order and Roll Call**
- II. Approval of the Journal**
- III. Executive Board Reports**
- V. Old Business**
 - A. ASG Code Review**
 - B. SAFB Guideline Review**
 - C. SL 0708-06 Advising Fair**
 - D. SL 0708-07 Wi Not Fi?**
- VI. Roll Call and Adjournment**

Respectfully Submitted,

**Jesse Garfinkel
Speaker of the Senate**

Executive Board Reports March 12, 2008

SPEAKER JESSE GARFINKEL

Thanks for a great quarter everyone. Good luck on finals!

PRESIDENT JON WEBBER

Hi everyone --

I apologize for not being able to make it to Senate tonight -- I'm currently driving down to Missouri to work on my brothers campaign for State Representative.

Anyway, a few notes...

1) Be sure to check your e-mail -- I just sent out the application to join the ASG Funding Study Group. Also, please please, please forward this to anyone you think might be interested inside or outside other student groups you may be in...

2) Remember to save Friday April 18 around 5PM for an ASG end of the year transition dinner of sorts, will probably be in Parkes Hall but I'll have to get back to everyone on that...

3) I encourage everyone to think about running for a position on the ASG Executive Board -- please contact me for more information on running for President, or really anything else. I was clerk and speaker before, so I know those well -- and obviously know most of the job description of everything else...remember that elections for Speaker, Parliamentarian, Clerk, and Treasurer are the FIRST Wednesday of Spring quarter!!!!

EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT MATT BOGUSZ
FINANCIAL VICE PRESIDENT SEVA RODNYANSKY
STUDENT SERVICES VICE PRESIDENT NATE WEST

SS is working to finalize two projects before spring break. First the business guide is in its final stages. We are currently working to compile all the data we have collected over the past quarter into one uniform document that Jonathan can work with. Once this uniform document is finished we will be ready to add this information to NULink. Additionally, we are working on the last steps of our shuttle proposal. Our recommendations included in this proposal will be a "ghost rider" system in which an undercover student will periodically ride designated shuttle lines to ensure driver accountability. Other recommendations for improvements will include environment-friendly solutions and a hotline riders can call if their shuttle did not show up on time. As I mentioned last week, if you are interested in hearing more about the SSVP position or have questions about campaigning, please let me know. My email address is nwest@u.northwestern.edu. Thanks for a great quarter!

PARLIAMENTARIAN JACK EICHORST
ACADEMIC VICE PRESIDENT ANNA XU
CAMPUS PUBLIC RELATIONS CHAIR REN HARGENS
EXTERNAL RELATIONS CHAIR KATE PASCALE
TREASURER KOLIN POUND
TECHNOLOGY DIRECTOR JONATHAN KOENIG
CLERK JAMES D'ANGELO

It has been a privilege and an honor serving you as clerk. Thank you all so much!

Last Week's Journal:

- I. Call of the Order and Roll Call
 - a. The meeting was called to order at 7:08. Speaker of the Senate Jesse Garfinkel presiding, with Clerk James D'Angelo taking the journal. Quorum was present.
- II. Approval of the Journal
 - a. Journal approved as written
- III. Executive Board Reports
 - a. Jon Webber
 - i. ASG budget is old business.
 - ii. Final UBPC meeting was last Friday. The #1 priority was improvements to the ground floor of Norris. We will hear back from the committee in Mid-Spring
 - iii. Kate will be speaking about Communiversity Day. Stay tuned for that. The goal is to have NU and Evanston interact in a positive way. It will be Saturday, April 12th.
 - iv. The ASG funding study group application will be sent out to the listserv ASAP. Speak to Jon about any questions
 - v. Jon recommends making a priority list for next year in terms of what Senate works on.
 - b. Matt Bogusz
 - i. Ex-Comm will be bringing their guidelines next quarter, not this quarter, since the religious group committee won't be finished until then.
 - c. Ren Hargens
 - i. Elections will take place early Spring Quarter. Get your campaigns together now and look for information on NULink.
 - d. Kate Pascale
 - i. The Transportation Proposal was given last week to Dr. Banis.
 - ii. ACES is still being worked on and should be up at the beginning of the spring quarter.
 - iii. Communiversity Day is April 12th. We need a lot of volunteers so be sure to tell everyone about it. It's from 11:00 am to 3:00 pm. Talk to Kate about any questions.
 - e. Seva Rodnyansky
 - i. The SAFB is continuing to examine its accountability form.

- ii. SAFB Guideline review is old business
 - f. Motion to move Old Business before special Order
 - i. No Objections
- IV. Old Business
 - a. ASG Budget
 - i. Authorship Speech by Jon Webber and Kolin Pound
 - ii. Vote:
 - 1. Budget Passed Unanimously
- V. Special Order
 - a. Motion to amend the election guidelines from last week to include instant runoff voting
 - i. Authorship speech by Jonathan Green
 - 1. Question by Neal Sales-Griffin
 - 2. Question by Seva Rodnyansky
 - 3. Question by Seva Rodnyansky
 - ii. Speech against by Seva Rodnyansky
 - iii. Vote:
 - 1. Motion Fails
 - b. Election of the Election Committee
 - i. Nominations:
 - 1. Samir Pendse
 - 2. Will Upton
 - 3. Mark Frantz
 - 4. Ally Tawil
 - 5. Brian Rosenthal
 - 6. Jilian Lopez
 - 7. Devon Pratt
 - ii. Motion to Pass Unanimously
 - 1. No Objections
- VI. New Business
 - a. ASG Code Review
 - i. Authorship speech by Jack Eichorst
 - 1. Question by Helen Wood
 - 2. Question by Seva Rodnyansky
 - b. SAFB Guideline Review
 - i. Authorship speech by Seva Rodnyansky
 - 1. Question by Jesse Garfinkel
 - c. SL 0708-06 An Advising "A-Fair"
 - i. Authorship speech by Claire Lew and Usman Mian
 - 1. Question by Samir Pendse
 - 2. Question by Jesse Garfinkel
 - 3. Question by Jesse Garfinkel
 - 4. Question by Jesse Garfinkel
 - 5. Question by Jonathan Green
 - 6. Question by Dima Spivak
 - 7. Question by Colin Carney
 - 8. Question by Senator
 - d. SL 0708-07 Wi Not Fi?
 - i. Authorship speech by Mark Frantz and Claire Lew
 - 1. Question by Jonathan Green
 - 2. Question by Jilian Lopez
 - 3. Question by Will Upton
 - 4. Question by Sebastian Rodriguez
- VII. Announcements
- VIII. Roll Call and Adjournment
 - a. Senate adjourned at 9:10.

An Advising “A-Fair”

Background:

For the past several quarters, the Associated Student Government Academic Committee has been looking into improving student access to academic advising within the Weinberg School of Arts and Sciences. After researching the current advising system and the different avenues of advising, we found the main concerns that should be addressed to include the following:

1. Need for more freshman advising resources
Typically, the freshman seminar advisor is a freshman’s primary source of advising. However, as freshmen advisors are usually full-time faculty, many freshmen with specific interests are not able to get more in-depth advising on fields outside that of their freshman advisor. For example, a freshman advisor who is a classics professor may not be able to advise a freshman needing advising on majoring in chemistry.
2. Transitions between the advising systems
For many undergraduates, the transition in advising systems from freshman to sophomore year can represent a drop in face-time with advisors. From a freshman advisor with about 14 students to a college advisor with about 200 students, there can be a lack of continuity as some students “fall through the cracks” instead of transitioning to the post-freshman advising system. Furthermore, there is a lack of cohesiveness between a student’s college advisor and major advisor, sometimes making the advising system seem segmented and causing undue confusion.
3. Lack of student engagement with advising system
Undergraduates are not fully utilizing the resources offered by the current advising system. Specifically, very few freshmen seek out college advisors and/or major advisors; even when they have degree specific or major specific issues. Additionally, some students are largely unaware of the advising resources that exist, such as the advising centre and pre-med advisors. This disconnect between students and their advising resources can be attributed to the need for an initiative to reach out to students.

Principle:

The Academic Committee believes that an Academic Advising Fair would greatly enhance the quality of academic advising on campus. The Academic Advising Fair would address the main concerns of the current advising system by supplementing the existing advising system, promoting the different advising resources as one cohesive system, and actively encouraging student engagement.

An academic advising fair would offer undergraduates an opportunity for face-time with all the different advising resources available to them. The fair would bring the WCAS advisors to a central location where students could communicate with both major advisors and college advisors during this event. For freshmen, particularly, it could be an introduction to other advisors beyond their freshman advisors. Furthermore, the fair can facilitate the advising process for students with interests in multiple fields, as they can consult with advisors from all of their areas of interests without having to set up multiple appointments. The fair also would supplement the current advising system by exposing students to a large network of faculty.

The fair is a proactive step toward reaching out to students and demonstrating what advising resources are available. It is actively promoting the knowledge and awareness of existing resources and encouraging students to utilize them by providing easy access at one central location and time.

Action:

Every fall and spring, the ASG Academic Committee will host an Academic Advising Fair open to all

undergraduate students. Individual departmental advisors, as well as college advisors, will have the opportunity to speak with students and answer any questions about their departments and majors. The set-up of the Academic Advising Fair will be similar to the Activities Fair that the ASG Executive Committee hosts bi-annually. Each department will have a booth where the respective advisors and the appropriate informational material will be available for the students. Students will also be provided with hard copies of the WCAS course catalog, information on the WCAS requirements to graduate, and a sheet to outline a 4-year plan. The fair will last for 2.5 hours and be held in the Louis Room of the Norris Student Center. Refreshments will be provided for students and faculty.

Respectfully Submitted,

**Claire Lew
RHA Senator**

**Usman Mian
Off-Campus Senator**

**Daniel Andreeff
Academic Committee Member**

**Neal Sales-Griffin
ISBE Senator**

S.L. 0708-07

ASG Senate

Wi Not Fi?

Background:

The current state of wireless internet availability is limited to select locations on campus. Only less than a handful of residential buildings on campus currently have Wi-Fi (Allison, Hinman-Lincoln etc.).

Last year, the Undergraduate Budget Priorities Committee (UBPC) ranked wireless on campus as their number one priority (see appendix A). Of the roughly 10% of the student body that responded to the UBPC poll, over half the students polled ranked expanded residential wireless coverage as number one. Upon release of this poll, on February 28th, 2007, the Senate passed a resolution committing to obtaining further support of expanded wireless coverage (see appendix B). The UBPC report called for complete wireless coverage by Fall 2008, specifically requesting that all residential halls be made wireless by this date. However, the initiative has not yet been funded in its entirety to date.

Currently, many of Northwestern's peer institutions have complete wireless coverage in residential areas and several, such as Cornell, Dartmouth, John's Hopkins, MIT, Stanford, University of Chicago, and Williams, have complete campus coverage. To see how Northwestern's wireless state compares to that of other peer institutions, see appendix C.

Furthermore, a recent survey of Northwestern's class of 2012 reflected the admitted students' enthusiastic support for expanded wireless in residential buildings. Campus wireless is a growing factor in high school students' matriculation decision, and could impact Northwestern in the near future.

According to NUIT, the projected cost of implementing wireless in all residential areas would be about \$680,000, with an annual operating cost of about \$250,000.

Action:

The Associated Student Government calls upon the central Northwestern administration to recognize wireless internet on campus as a priority and the need to implement wireless internet in residential buildings by Fall of 2008.

Respectfully Submitted,

Mark Frantz
Academic Committee Senator

Claire Lew
Academic Committee Senator

Anna Xu
Academic Vice President