Wentworth Student Government- General Meeting Minutes

Date: October 20th, 2011
Time: 6:00pm
Location: Conference Room on the 4th Floor of the 610 Residence Hall

OUR MISSION:
The purpose of WSG is to act as a conduit between the students, faculty, and staff at Wentworth Institute of Technology; to encourage responsibility through democratic self-governance; to work with the administration to influence educational programs, student life, and administrative management of the Institute; and to further the interests of the student body.

I. Welcome
II. Attendance

III. Last week’s Minutes
  a. Approved.

IV. Co-Sponsorship
  a. Pat Schultz from the WMA (Wentworth Masters of Architecture) club is requesting a $500 in co-sponsorship from WSG. WMA would like the $500 to help fund materials for an art/architecture piece for public display. There was a lot of discussion on this topic and whether or not it covered the mission of WSG’s co-sponsorship. One main problem was the fact that this was going to be a temporary installation and that it is not on WIT’s campus. Others liked the idea that this piece of art can be a gateway for more art displays around Boston from WIT students. The first amount of money voted on was $250, it was not passed. Then $500 was also not passed. Finally WSG passed the amount of $350 for the WMA.

V. E-Board Updates
  a. President – Anette Balestrand
     i. Constitution
        Please bring ideas and broad comments referring to the WSG constitution to next week’s meeting.
     ii. President
        a. Anette and Nick C. will be meeting with the President next week, and she will be attending the November 3rd WSG meeting.
  b. Vice President – Nicholas Cole
     i. Print Quota
        a. The print quota for WSG has been increased.
     ii. Treasurer applications are due on OrgSync on 10/26
  c. Secretary – Cori O’Neil
     i. The attendance agreement will be available for member’s signatures at next week’s meeting.
  d. Treasurer – Viana Reyes
     i. This position is available for application submission on 10/20 – 10/26.
     ii. Budget Update
        a. Co-Sponsorship balance is currently $4,000.00 - $350.00 = $3,650.00 (split between two semesters)
        b. WSG Personal balance is currently $3,528.20
  e. Public Relations – Nick Torres
     i. Binder covers are finished and binders will be distributed to members soon.
  f. Student Affairs – Brendan Ciotto

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i. Brendan does not have any updates at this time.
g. Academic Affairs – TJ Liveston
   i. There are no updates from TJ at the moment.

VI. Representatives Of The Colleges
   a. College of Engineering and Technology – John Lindblad
      i. There will be an open forum held for this college on Nov 1st, hopefully in the new manufacturing center.
      ii. If you or anyone you know has a question or an issue with John’s college, come to the meetings to discuss them with him, or email him at lindbladj@wit.edu.
   b. College of Architecture, Design and Construction Management – TBA
      i. Student representative coming soon.
   c. College of Professional and Continuing Education – Brandon Fernald
      i. Brandon was not in attendance at this week’s meeting but will try to come to the WSG general meetings every other week. If you or anyone you know has a question or an issue with Brandon’s college, come to the meetings to discuss them with him, or email him at fernaldb@wit.edu.
   d. College of Arts and Sciences – TBA

VII. Representative Updates – Anette requests that no one holds more than one rep positions to give others a chance to get involved and not to overwhelm you with different responsibilities.
   a. Information Systems Advisory
      i. No updates at the moment. Representative needed.
   b. Academic Technology Advisory Committee
      i. No updates at the moment. Representative needed.
   c. Laptop committee – Nick Cole
      i. Meeting was pushed back even farther, so there are no updates at the moment.
   d. Commuter – Susan Needleman
      i. There is a commuter study room opened in Watson Auditorium everyday provided there isn’t an event scheduled that day.
      ii. Susan will be meeting with Mallory tomorrow, so if you have any questions or concerns regarding commuters, please email Susan at needlemans@it.edu.
   e. Colleges of the Fenway – CT Hannon
      i. No updates at the moment.
   f. Center for Community and Learning Partnership – Cori O’Neil
      i. The Fall Service days have been announced and sent out through a personal message. Cori will contact the center so WSG can get involved with these service days.

VIII. Old Business
   a. Charity Event – Brian Conway
      i. Penny Wars raised around $200 for The Jimmy Fund.
   b. Chartwells
      i. Annamaria Wenner (Dean of Students) supports WSG’s idea to have a student’s voice on the decision process of the Chartwell’s contract. There was a contract already written up and ready for signing, but they actually got the signing of the contract pushed back until it can be reviewed by SLP and student body representatives.
      ii. Discussion Topics:
         i. All exclusive rights being eliminated from the contract.
         ii. Petition/protest/boy cot – if student’s voice is not being heard.
         iii. Updates will be coming each week; some things can be discussed and put up for a vote.
         iv. Consistency – Price, quality, and quantity in the food they server
         v. Vote of No confidence – Is Chartwells serving its purpose to the full extent possible?
            a. Happened in the past with DTS – much improvement since
      vi. No mention to students or SLP that there was a contract already in the process of being renewed.

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vii. Bidding process with other food contractors may alert Chartwells to how unhappy people really are with them.
viii. Chartwells is fully intertwined on campus: Beatty, Book Store, and C-Store
ix. The vote of no confidence would take a lot of research and information as to why
   Chartwells in not performing at it’s needed level.
xi. Meat service posting– meat grade extremely low.
xii. If you have anything at all to add to the fight against Chartwells email Joe at
    kobrianosy@wit.edu or TJ at livestont@wit.edu.
xiii. Student rep with Lawyer to look at the contract?
xiv. Commuter meal plan– unfair and bad reaction from everyone who has heard about this one!
xv. Swipe meal system instead of dollar amounts, meal numbers
xvi. Chartwell’s staff being unprofessional
xvii. On November 3rd Carissa will be having a meeting with Chartwells and Business services to discuss the clubs catering process and how it can be refined so that it does not cost more for clubs to cater their event than they can afford.

IX. Time With Carissa
   a. The Institute is going to have its accreditation next week starting on 10/25. This happens only once every 10 years, so please be involved and get your voice heard by the accreditation board. Tuesday (10/25) the board will be walking around campus asking questions to different students, faculty, and staff. On Monday (10/24) the board will have an open meeting with whoever wants to be heard by the board from 2–3 in the Beatty 426. When bringing things to this board please be broad and discuss things like programs and the student voice.

X. New Business

XI. Adjournment

Your Voice, Our Mission …