



Ithaca College Student Governance Council  
Senate Meeting Minutes  
Minutes by: Carlos Abreu, Vice President of Academic Affairs  
**Monday, October 25th, 2021 | Start: 7:00PM | End: 8:57PM**

**I. Call to Order**

**II. Roll Call**

- a. In Attendance: D. Guy, L. Guibunda, C. Abreu, M. Powers, J. Zampetti (Late), A. Ruffino, E. Moore (Late), G. Madeya, N. Viggiani, P. LaValley, T. Kurtz, S. Joshi, V. Tavernese, C. Ingraham, L. Hitesman, L. Weiser

**III. New Business**

**a. Approval of Minutes (October 11<sup>th</sup>)**

- i. Powers motion; Nick second.
  - 1. Passed 10-0-0

**b. Approval of minutes (October 18<sup>th</sup>)**

- i. Powers motion; Tessa second.
  - 1. Passed 10-0-0

**c. Community Session**

- i. N/A

**d. Guest Speaker**

- i. **David Prunty, Executive Director, Auxiliary Services; Scott McWilliams, Director; Reginald Briggs, Associate Director.**

**1. History – quick reminders:**

- a. IC partnered with Sodexo for 20 years.
- b. IC ended contract with Sodexo on 6/1/2019.
- c. General dissatisfaction led to the termination of contract.
- d. IC wanted to reduce cost of meal plan and reinvest into the college.
- e. Fall 2019 was the first time IC operated its own dining halls.
- f. Fall 2019 was also utter “madness” due to the transition.
- g. Spring break shut down and fall 2020 semester led to approximately 90 layoffs.
- h. Fall 2021 is the first “normal” semester for dining operations.

**2. Challenges 2021 – Goals vs Reality**

- a. Professional staff hiring has been a challenge.
- b. Filing student staff positions has also been a challenge.
- c. COVID and the supply chain/inflation has resulted in a shortage of workers.



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- d. Library café, park café, Campus Center Café and the Grille has opened, allowing the college to provide breakfast and lunch to IC students.

**3. Current Projects**

- a. Dining changed its vending and plans to install new vending machines in College Circle and Textor Hallway.
- b. Dos Amigos will park near Circles for late night services.
- c. The college also plans to have Halal food on both locations.
- d. Line has been an issue for over 30 years. The college is working on two projects to address this issue.
- e. The college launched a new website which shows how long the lines are in the dining halls.
- f. Campus Center is more likely to have longer lines compared to Terrace Dining hall.
- g. The college is working with a physics class to create a wait-time website to determine how many people are in the dining hall to estimate the wait time for each dining halls.
- h. Students will need to swipe their ID card in order to determine wait time.

**4. Spring 2022**

- a. Plan to add more days for the Towers.
- b. Also exploring additional late night swipe option.
- c. Dining Hall Stations.
- d. Business School and CHS.

**5. How Can You Help?**

- a. Dining Services is looking for volunteers to help students swipe.
- b. If things go wrong, let Dining Services know!
  - i. Retail – Allie Updyke
  - ii. CCDH – Brandon Innerst & Jack Applegarth
  - iii. Terraces – Katie Stone & Kevin Grant
  - iv. Finally, have patience!

**6. Questions & Answer Session**

- a. C. Watson: Have you all investigated what is going on with the food pantry since the closing of Towers?



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- i. D. Prunty: Met with person who runs food pantry. The numbers have increased this semester. There does not appear to be a correlation or causation between closing of Towers and food pantry. Person is trying to advertise the food pantry to students.
  - ii. R. Briggs: managed by Student Affairs and Campus Life, not by dining services. The dining services tries to assist.
- b. L. Guibunda: Did you see a large increase in students interested in working for dining after the fair and if it would be more helpful to have more?
  - i. S. McWilliams: Absolutely! It would be helpful.
  - ii. R. Briggs: I would be interested in doing it again.
  - iii. D. Prunty: It is hard. You can sit in a desk and study, or you could work and help students out. I think recruiting is difficult but working with HR to make dining jobs more attractive. Wages will go up in January, so the expectation is to have more students.
  - iv. R. Briggs: Student employment is popular in colleges and universities across the country. However, dining services is not very popular.
- c. L. Weiser: Is the college subsidizing the Dos Amigos food truck?
  - i. D. Prunty: once it starts, the Dos Amigos will pay the college \$500 monthly. They will see who comes. However, they expect success because of the lack of choices on Danby RD.
- d. C. Watson: Are there talks about expanding grab and go stations?
  - 1. S. McWilliams: there have been talks but will have to determine feasibility
  - ii. L. Guibunda: now that there is no contract with Sodexo, can we have more meal swipes while keeping it affordable?



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1. D. Prunty: Bill Guerrero was committed to keeping costs low. However, will need to discuss options with VP Tim Downs
- e. L. Guibunda: Will it change demand if we were to give students additional meal plan options?
  - i. D. Prunty: It never has been historically (37 years). However, there are choices, and it will be determined by costs
- f. C. Ingraham: There use to be another dining hall. Are there any intentions to bring it back?
  - i. D. Prunty: I don't think so. It wasn't successful and people like the meal swipes and the Towers is working. Just need more people.
  - ii. R. Briggs: Towers through Grubhub is providing more options and is much more efficient

**IV. Confirmations**

**a. Max Powers for the Vice President of Business and Finance**

- i. D. Guy: Max has stepped up and has helped in tremendous ways. Max has been on SGC for 4 years and learned extensively in the role

**b. M. Powers (2-minute Presentation)**

- i. Has been on SGC since freshman year and served on RHA
- ii. Served on appropriation committee since freshman year
- iii. Served as an assistant with former VPBF, including Grace and Mely
- iv. The position allowed him to grow as a person and as a leader. Allows him to interact with organizations directly.

**c. 2-Minute Q&A**

- i. G. Madeya: Do you have any ideas to bring to the position?
  1. M. Powers: want to open up more leadership opportunities in the appropriation committee but was not able to do so because of COVID
  2. M. Powers: Wants to delegate and allow students to show their strengths in the committee
- ii. G. Madeya: how would your experience play in how you would like to lead?
  1. M. Powers: being on the Senate allowed me to pass bills which has created change. As an assistant, he helped with funding and helped



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organizations navigate the process. If elected to the position, will be allowed to share the committee with students

**d. Approval of Candidate**

- i. Lila motion; Lauren second
  - 1. Approved 9-0-1

**e. Connor Watson for Appropriations Committee**

**f. C. Watson (2-minute Presentation)**

- i. C. Watson: does not have much finance experience but understands the appropriation committee.
- ii. C. Watson: Wants to help student organizations. He works with them already. Would not mind allocating an additional 3 hours per week to help them.

**g. 2-Minute Q&A**

- i. T. Kurtz: can you tell me something you are interested in pursuing in the appropriation committee?
  - 1. C. Watson: wants to make it less daunting. Has heard that students are afraid and wants to make sure that students can get funding
- ii. M. Powers: do you have expertise in advertising/social media?
  - 1. C. Watson: does have a bunch of experience; advertises for job and did so for RHA.
- iii. G. Madeya: how would you manage your time & what perspective can you bring with all of your experiences?
  - 1. C. Watson: uses a calendar and has not had any issues as well. Is not concerned about the timing because he is passionate. He has also been on numerous sides of the committee, so he is well-versed in that respect.

**h. Approval of Candidate**

- i. Lauren motion; Kasey second
  - 1. Approved 9-0-0

**i. Bills**

- i. Bill: 2122-0002: Varsity Athlete Senator Position Clarification (ORC)
  - 1. A. Ruffino: spoke to Associate Director of Athletics about Varsity Senator position. Student-Athlete Advisory Council (SAAC) will send Senate Chair a list of qualified candidates to serve on SGC.
  - 2. L. Hitesman: It does not impact all of us, but it impacts me because I felt robbed when they chose a member to serve on the committee.



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ii. ***Q&A session:***

1. L. Guibunda: what are the internal criteria to be eligible to run for SAAC?

a. A. Ruffino: SAAC wants someone that is reliable and trustworthy but is not sure about the specific criteria. It is left to the committee

b. L. Hitesman: does not really have criteria from personal experience.

c. L. Guibunda: who has access and is considered eligible?

2. T. Kurtz: is this bill going to change Lauren's position or for future candidates?

a. A. Ruffino: it is only changing the procedure and Lauren will remain in her current role

iii. **Approval of Bill**

1. Tessa motion; Nick second

a. Passed 9-0-0

j. **Miscellaneous:**

i. Center for IDEAS Director Search

1. D. Guy: Center for IDEAS is looking for a new director. Leticia has sent a message on the Senate channel with times throughout the week. After the meeting, you will need to fill out a form sharing your thoughts on the candidate

V. **Continuing Business**

a. **Senator Reports**

i. N/A

b. **Bill Updates**

i. N/A

c. **Miscellaneous**

i. N/A

VI. **Office Reports**

a. **President of the Student Body – D. Guy**

i. Open Presidential forum with Board of Trustees was today! It went well. There will be more opportunities in the future

ii. Mental health initiative has been a top priority and wants to support students. President Cornish and the SLT has acknowledged mental health concerns among faculty and staff



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- iii. Met with executive director of admissions, Nicole Eversley Bradwell. Shared a ton of information and will share soon.
- iv. Spoke to Sean Reilley, Associate Director of Campus Recreation, about filling Club Athlete Senator position.
- b. **Vice President of Campus Affairs – L. Guibanda**
  - i. Dean Prunty has provided data on how many people have requested Emergency Relief fund. Students need financial support. Will work with SGC to increase flexibility for students
  - ii. Deontae and Leticia will meet with Wendy Kobler, VP of Philanthropy and Engagement to discuss fundraising options
- c. **Vice President of Academic Affairs – C. Abreu**
  - i. Working with the Provost to serve on dean search committees
    - 1. School of Business & School of Music are filled. Park School of Communications is in the process of being filled. A ton of students reached out to me after an email was sent out.
    - 2. Looking for student to serve on the Department of Theatre Arts committee
  - ii. Assistant Application
    - 1. Tessa Kurtz will serve as the VPAA's assistant – Congratulations!
  - iii. Provost Open Office Hours – **November 4<sup>th</sup> from 12:00 – 1:00 pm**
  - iv. Mental health concerns among students on campus
    - 1. Is in the process of working with Provost Stein
- d. **Vice President of Business & Finance – M. Powers**
  - i. Committee requirement
  - ii. Assistant Application will open middle of the week
- e. **Vice President of Communications – J. Zampetti**
  - i. Communications committee will meet from 5-6 this week.
  - ii. Campus wide email will be sent out this week
- f. **Senate Chair – A. Ruffino**
  - i. Confirmations are open!
  - ii. ORC will be meeting tonight! Will be going through the first 10 pages of the constitution.
  - iii. Will be flexible with committees – just make sure you are engaged and reach out if in doubt
  - iv. Designated open agenda for mental health concerns. Reach out to your classmates and constituents.



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- g. **Student Trustee – K. Yearwood**
  - i. N/A
- h. **Residence Hall Association Designee – E. Moore**
  - i. RHA will provide bus to Cortaca
  - ii. RH-Play
  - iii. Pots & Pans meeting this week!
- i. **Student Liaison to the Alumni Association Board of Directors – N/A**
  - i. N/A
- VII. Open Agenda**
  - a. D. Guy: Dr. Ferro will hold a webinar tomorrow at 6 pm – 7 pm ! Get involved and stop by
  - b. D. Guy: Also, Cortaca Jug tickets went live today!
  - c. A. Ruffino: Asked to enter Executive Session
    - i. Motion to enter Executive Session
      - 1. Vincent motion; Tessa Second
        - a. 9-0-0
      - 2. Motion to exit Executive Session
        - a. Tessa Motion; Nick Second
          - i. 9-0-0
  - d. L. Weiser: GO VOTE!!! Get involved locally.
    - i. T. Kurtz: If you are going to vote and you are here in Ithaca, you need to request an absentee ballot ASAP!
- VIII. Adjournment**
  - a. Motion: Kurtz.
    - i. No dissenting.