



Ithaca College Student Governance Council Meeting Agenda
Monday, 2/10/2025 | 7:00 P.M. in Campus Center Taughannock Falls Room

Call to Order: 7:01 PM

Roll Call: Rishabh Sen, Eva Horst, Kathi Hodel, Caleb Cackowski, Ty Anderson, Nicole Sutera, Tisa Manandhar, Dante Conde, Juno Brooks, Amelia Grimshaw, Giulia Gennari, Evan Wasserman, Login Abudalla, Baneet Pukhrambam, Anabel Pimenta Velloso, Marshall Long, Joslyn Forcione, Paris Agiomavritis, Abe Marron, Claude Hayes, Mureen Doherty.

Absent: Manan Maini, Alexis Arias, Lori Armstrong, Noeline Luyindula, Dan Rogers

Approval of the Minutes:

Appropriations Financial Report:

- Allocated a total of \$15,373

Community Session

Guest Speaker

Dr. Melanie Stein, Provost and Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs

1. New class schedule grid
 - a. IC's grid was only used for 40% of classes, and the rest were meeting at nonstandard times
 - i. More conflicts for students
 - ii. Barriers to taking advantage of the full curriculum
 - iii. Inefficient use of classroom space
 - b. Problem since 2019
 - c. Goal: develop a new grid, concrete timeline for Fall 2025
 - i. Issues to address: space consideration, fitting entire curriculum
 - d. No more overlaps, all classes will be held during the blocks
 - e. ****Picture of new scheduling grid available on the Registrar's Office website****
 - f. Number of classes will remain the same

Joslyn asks how the collaboration with faculty members work? Did they have to change any classes to fit the grid?

Provost Stein says that they worked closely. Simulations using all the classes were also done, and data shows that this should work well.

Evan asks about the grey block.

Provost Stein says this is the athletics training time where faculty were asked to not schedule a required class at that time. Tuesday evenings are also reserved so athletes don't have practice at that time at least once a week.

2. Academic Policy Committee structure

- a. Complex structure, subcommittees too, which is problematic because of committee size as well as scheduling conflicts
- b. Conversations to simplify structure and clarify processes, as well as appropriate size for the committees
- c. More news for this later in the semester

Rishabh asks if there are requirements for faculty seat fulfillment.

Provost Stein says there are various requirements that still need to be simplified and sorted out.

3. Academic calendar changes

- a. Fall Calendar has been more challenging
- b. Considerations:
 - i. Student: Including Fall Break , reading days at the end of the semester for a break during finals
 - ii. Faculty: starting early would mean giving up vacation time for faculty, they also need time to grade for finals (before Christmas)
 - iii. Religious: Fall Jewish holidays (recommended by Task force on Antisemitism)
- c. Academic Calendar Committee
 - i. Recommendations made to the Provost
 - ii. Recommendations being made for Fall semester: changing either Labor day or Thanksgiving vacation in order to meet the other goals
- d. Comparisons made to other schools:
 - i. 3/18 have 5 day Thanksgiving Break
 - ii. 13/18 schools have no Labor day
 - iii. Committee recommended lesser Thanksgiving break and having Labor day

Joslyn talks about her experience with SGC and the ACC. Joslyn mentions that she is disappointed about the outcome as it was not the solution SGC recommended.

Provost Stein says the swapping of days will still happen, and Fall break would serve well for the students as it would be too much for students to go on till Thanksgiving break without a longer break in between.

Also, something more global needed to be done, as this is a problem that happens every single year, and the option SGC suggested would not be a viable, permanent solution.

Abe asks whether international students' travels were considered.

Provost Stein says that this was considered but there does not seem to be another solution, and most colleges are following a 5 day Thanksgiving break too.

Giulia asks about the influx of more students staying on campus, and whether accommodations would be made for them in terms of dining service.

Provost Stein says that this change was discussed and is something the school is prepared for.

Login asks if Labor day is a contractual issue.

Provost Stein says that it in fact is a contractual issue and a challenge. It is possible but will have a lot of repercussions.

Juno asks if it is possible for some years to have a full week Thanksgiving break?

Provost Stein says it might be possible, but because the committee was looking for consistency for the long run, this was not something that they agreed upon.

Rishabh asks if a little more insight could be given about why some reading days are over the weekend and not on a Wednesday?

Provost Stein says this is a result of the function of the year and how it is structured.

Login asks if the new scheduling grid is going to affect the finals schedule.

Provost Stein says the end of the semester schedule heavily depends on when Christmas falls as it drives where exams should be placed as well.

New Business

Confirmations

- **Asata Rothblatt**
 - Previous affiliations with SGC like Appropriations committee
 - Time block is also free

Giulia asks if you can be a part of Appropriations without being part of SGC.

Asata says this is uncommon but possible.

~ *Executive Session Begins: 8:10 PM*~
~ *Executive Session Ends: 8:11 PM*~

Miscellaneous

Continuing Business

Miscellaneous

Senator Report

- **Evan Wasserman**, School of Music, Theatre, and Dance Senator
 - 3rd semester in the position
 - 13 senators in the MTD committee, meeting with 2 deans, looking to replace one Dean position
 - Serving on the APC
 - Working through policies
 - Traffic and Parking Ticket Appeals committee, going through appeals process for each of the tickets handed out
- **Login Abudalla**, Transfer Senator
 - Appropriations committee is going well, hopefully will slow down
 - Crashcourse
 - Working with IT to get it fitted to their software
 - IT will get to that after the demo for the app they are working on will be done
 - Working on an amendment for Login's Position
 - Transfer Student Club, new outlet for outreach

Officer Reports

President of the Student Body

- 2 meetings
 - President on Wednesday
 - Provost Stein on Friday
- Middle states: waiting for review from administrations
- E-board is working on elections manual

Vice President of Campus Affairs

- Admitted students day tabling 12:00 PM to 1:30 PM on Monday
- Meeting with Dr. B this Friday
- Committee Absences:
 - 12 hour notice required if possible

Vice President of Academic Affairs

Vice President of Business & Finance

- Not as many budgets to approve but there are large sums
- Appropriations committee needs more people to approve budgets, please join if you are available on Wednesdays 7PM to 9PM
- Meeting with Tim Downs

Vice President of Communications

- 1st communications committee meeting happened last week
- New ideas are in the works
 - Outreach events
 - Planning
 - SGC presence in public events that are funded through SGC

Vice President of Residential Affairs

- 14 themes for themed living next semester
- Eileen says concerns were taken into account when coming with this idea
- No requirements for attending events
- RAs will be assisted
- Anyone can join subcommittees and are encouraged to, they will be responsible for designing bulletin boards, planning events
- RHA funding will be disclosed in a few weeks
 - Reminder that the fund is available for people to use
- Eileen has offered to come back again for any further clarifications

Senate Chair

- Senator position still open and people are welcome to try for the positions

Chief of Staff

- Nothing to report

Open Agenda

Nikki's junior recital is this Saturday at noon in the Hockett hall.

Rishabh asks if SGC members are available to table during any of the Open house and Experience Ithaca events. Coordination done before these events, key to SAC to grab promotional materials like the tablecloth and brochures.

Eva asks if there are any questions for Dr. B:

Ty asks if there are any updates on ICE and DEI?

Joslyn encourages people to join the SJSC.

Login and Caleb discuss events that SGC can plan for fall orientation.

Abe asks about the Outdoor Adventure Leadership major, and if anyone remembers this.
Rishabh says he will bring this up to the Provost to learn more about it.

Anabel says that the Athletics Director will be leaving her position soon. This was random and not planned so they are looking for who would step into this position at this time.

Cliff-Simon talks about MLK celebration week and the underwhelming turnout for events this semester.

Adjournment: 9:02 PM