MINUTES OF THE STUDENT SENATE
SOUTHERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY EDWARDSVILLE
MUC, Maple Dogwood Room
Monday, August 30, 2021 – 6 p.m.

I. CALL TO ORDER

The Student Senate of Southern Illinois University Edwardsville convened on August 30, 2021, in the Maple Dogwood room of the Morris University Center. Vice President Pruitt called the meeting to order at 6:02 p.m.

II. ROLL CALL


Members Absent: Senator Byers (unexcused), Senator Jackson (excused), Senator Obert (excused), Marketing and Communications Officer Tucker (excused).

Quorum was established with 12 voting members present.

Others Present: Advisor Kelly Jo Hendricks, Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs Waple, Student Secretary Samantha Moxley, and Office Support Specialist Robin Ermer.

III. GUEST SPEAKER

Dennis Wobbe Director of Dining Services

Thank you so much for having me. Dining Services operations before COVID overview. Director Wobbe introduced himself, and gave a background on himself. Dining services runs twenty-four hours a day. Dining services feeds ECC, head start programs starting around six o’clock in the morning. Catering is also a big chunk of business for Dining Services. There is no catering kitchen, so existing space is utilized. Dining is much better off this year than last year. Last year was rough for dining services with challenges in the beginning of last year including not knowing how they were going to deal with COVID-19. In specific, social distancing and masking up. More operations were created in different areas in areas that were not utilized prior. Current problems for Fall 2021 include staffing, getting everyone trained, and supplies. Food is currently in short supply. The weekly outages are usually one page long, it is currently eleven pages long of food outages. Out of ten thousand weekly items, two thousand of those items did not come in. Some of these food outage issues is caused by drivers and warehouse workers being in short staff or short supply. Producers are also having similar issues. Tropicana and Pepsi products are having issues. As well as chemicals, paper, dairy, and poultry. Prices are up seventy-five percent from the last year. Seafood is also having issues. There are also issues getting prices in for the machinery in Dining Services. Dining Services is millions of dollars in debt so staffing had to be right sized for the number of on-ground students. Currently, trying to get staff back during a labor shortage is hard. Training is currently a number one priority with this nation-wide shortage. This fall, there are a lot of job positions posted, students are coming in but there are issues with the social security offices. 2019, there were five hundred
plus employees. Fall 2021, there are 833 students and full-time staff. There are some issues with technology and cards. The Chick-Fil-A kiosk is still not up and running. There will hopefully be a solution this week. Traffic is continuing to be monitored in terms of expanding hours for Dining Services. First week numbers, customer counts are down thousands from 2019. The residence hall students and meal plan students are making the preponderance of sales. Which prior to this, residence hall students and meal plan students used to make up around 50% of sales. Commuter sales have not been seen yet. 2019 there were $8,200 in sales per day, 2021 about $4,600 in sales per day. This is an improvement from last semester. Priorities include increasing hours, Starbucks appears to be the first spot that will have their hours increased. The Viability of opening Kaldi’s, Auntie Anne’s, Cocina, and the Starbucks in the library will be looked at. Nutrislice was acquired. This is a program that will help with the nutritional data within dining services. The prior database was too difficult, and they do not stand by their nutritional data. Nutrislice will work with our data and create a database. This data will be on menu boards and on the website. You will be able to type in your diet, and it will tell you what’s available today as well as the best choices to eat. This will help reduce questions about dietary options. Entrée’s menu board has been updated. More nutritional data will be going into Entrée’s and the website. Nutrislice does give a mobile ordering option, and there is already a template made up with Nutrislice. Paavo’s will most likely be the place that starts with mobile ordering, hopefully by the spring semester.

Senator Sheahan: asked about the new location of Cocina, and about any news of what is going in its previous location.

Director Wobbe: says that it is on hold right now, and that they would probably look at putting the Cocina back to its original spot. Express is currently happening in its new spot. On ground demand needs to be looked at as well as staffing and training.

Vice Chancellor Waple: says that Cocina is being used to prep meals for students who are in quarantine or isolation.

Director Wobbe: states that that is incorrect, that Fixins’ and the main kitchen is being used for that purpose. The original location of Cocina is being used as a storage area as it has a freezer and a walk in. We would love to get Cocina put back into its original space.

Trustee Walters: asks about mobile-ordering, specifically if it will be through a service that we are hiring, and if students will be able to use their meal plans.

Director Wobbe: responds that that is something that we are working on. Nutrislice one looks like it should be compatible with them meal plan and credit cards. The next one would be Chick-Fil-A. Because the meal plan is 60/40 and tax free a lot of systems do have a problem with that. Chick-Fil-A right now if the kiosk worked it would be fine with the meal plan and Nutrislice. Starbucks is currently working towards using a meal plan. Grubhub might be an option with Chick-Fil-A if the kiosk does not work.

Senator Hentz: Students are upset about Auntie Anne’s and Kaldi’s being closed. What can student government do to help those get back open?
**Director Wobbe:** We hear a lot about Auntie Anne’s. The decision was originally made as it did not really provide a meal. We did not want to overcrowd with more lines. Auntie Anne’s is more of a labor-intensive operation. Likely spring it will be open unless things change. It is nice and appreciated but not a meal type thing. Kaldi’s is kind of similar, but we had to make some decisions. Kaldi’s was brought here back in 2009. It just depends on the on-ground traffic.

**Vice Chancellor Waple:** Restaurants are open half the time with different hours and such. We are having problems finding full time employees, only some of the gaps can be filled with student employees.

**Director Wobbe:** 24 positions are left unfilled from last year. With people out on leave and such we are more in the 30s.

**Vice Chancellor Waple:** We need 24 full time workers to get back to pre-pandemic conditions, and we are currently in the process of re-hiring. Auntie Anne’s requires specialized training.

**Senator Gilles:** Is there anything student government can do, or you can do to bring back outside restaurants accepting cougar bucks?

**Director Wobbe:** Cougar bucks is great for us, but we like to promote the meal plan.

**Advisor Hendricks:** It is not connected to dining. There is a cost to outside businesses and they have to buy a machine and be PCI compliant. The cost is not much return for some restaurants. If you are out at a business you can prompt them to accept cougar bucks, let me know and we can reach out to those businesses and give them information.

**Financial Officer Beck:** Where do we have to get traffic wise to get those restaurants to reopen up? Back to pre-pandemic conditions or somewhere in the middle?

**Director Wobbe:** I think that we would like to be there before that, I think we are being cautious with what happened last semester. Dining had to make a lot of cuts last semester, we are only sustained by the revenue. I would say hopefully we can look at moving some and opening more if things continue on like this. We had some issues this start and every start with training. We would like to get things online and open it is a tight balance.

**Vice President Pruitt:** What is dining services doing to support ACCESS students? Kaldi’s was open later for students who had to take their exams after hours. I know with Kaldi’s being closed students do not have access to things like that. Have you thought of any ways to keep something open for ACCESS students?

**Director Wobbe:** We would like to. Is Kaldi’s going to be the next open? I know the library is also trying to be the next open, they are easier to manage with less menu items. Expanding hours usually helps out because it is not that far of a walk. Kaldi’s is very nice with proximity to ACCESS.

**IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

The minutes of the April 26, 2021 meeting were approved by general consent.
V. SENATE REPORTS

Senator Abrego: My report is not in the packet. My name is Brianna and I am in the school of nursing and I’m most excited to just work with students now that more of them are back on campus.

Senator Blickhan: My report is not in the packet. My name is Marissa and I am the senator of the dental school and I’m looking forward to bridging the gap between the dental school and the main campus.

Senator Burbach: My name is Nicole and I am the senator for the CAS science and math school I guess, I guess I’m most excited for just like raising mental health awareness and working a lot with stuff like that.

Senator Burnett: My name is Lexi and I am the senator for the School of Nursing, I’m most excited to get Nursing students involved on campus especially with us being more on campus now.

Senator Cason: My report is not in the packet. My name is Taylor Cason and I am a senator for the School of Business, and I am most excited to have more events in person this semester.

Senator Dummerth: My report is not in the packet. I am the Senator for the school of Pharmacy and I am excited to get some of the facilities updated.

Senator Ford: My report is not in the packet. I am the senator for education, health and human behavior. I am excited to be in person this year.

Senator Gilles: My report is not in the packet. I am the senator for the graduate school. I am looking forward to helping the graduate students reaccumulate themselves to student living.

Senator Hentz: My report is not in the packet. I’m Holly, I am the CAS student senator for people and culture. I am most excited about getting freshman and sophomores getting accumulated to the campus this year, and making sure this campus is safe.

Senator Hoang: My report is not in the packet. I represent the college of Arts. Arts and Communications. I am excited and hope I can do my best to help students stay safe.

Senator Holshouser: My report is not in the packet. I am a third-year professional student in the school of pharmacy. I am most excited for our student organizations being able to do more in person events especially in terms of education.

Senator Jones: My report is not in the packet. I am the senator for the school of engineering. I am excited to see most of you for the first time and to host events with the school of engineering.

Senator Lambert: My report is not in the packet. I am a senator for the graduate school, something I am looking forward to is making sure all services and fees are accessible for graduate students.

Senator Richards: My report is not in the packet. I am a senator at large. I am looking forward to making sure that all of the students on campus have a lot of events to look forward to and that things can go ahead safely.

Senator Sehic: My report is not in the packet, I am the senator for the school of engineering. I am most excited for more in person events this year.

Senator Sheahan: My report is not in the packet, I am one of the senators at large, I am an accounting major. My goal is to create a more allocated fee on Cougarnet for classes.

Senator Bauchens: My report is not in the packet. I am a freshman senator, I am excited to get freshmen back into normal online activities.

Senator Nichols: My report is not in the packet. Senator Nichols reported on her excitement of being a freshman senator and being involved.
VI. EXECUTIVE REPORTS
    President O’Dell: My report is not in the packet, I am most excited about our awesome team of exec and senators and all you will accomplish this year.
    Vice President Pruitt: My report is not in the packet, I am most excited this year for my senators and everything that we are going to accomplish together as a team.
    Trustee Walters: My report is not in the packet, I am really excited to see some more students and more activities returning to campus.
    Financial Officer Beck: My report is not in the packet. I am most excited to see everyone face to face and to watch you guys grow as leader.
    Internal Affairs Salau: My report is not in the packet. I am most excited to see students get more involved on campus.
    Externals Affairs Officer Randolph: My report is not in the packet, I am most excited for planning and creating events for student government and for our student body.
    Organization Relations Officer Moorman: My report is not in the packet, and I am looking forward to working with organizations on campus this year and helping them with all of their needs.
    Student Diversity Officer Goren: My report is not in the packet, I am most excited to host in person events and to work with the HUB and student organizations.

VII. ADDITIONS TO AGENDA
    None.

VIII. OLD BUSINESS
    None.

IX. NEW BUSINESS
    A. The Gay Straight Alliance at SIUE Annual Allocations
        1. Matthew Burgess filled the application out on time but didn’t hit the submit button until after the deadline. He presented this to Jacque Dreppard, former Financial Officer, and she approved for this to be presented at the first senate meeting of the FY 22 school year.
        2. Passed with eleven ayes and one abstain.
    B. Student Government Constitutional Changes
        1. Article III Section A added the line: A Senator At Large represents all students at SIUE they can be undeclared or any major.
        2. Article III Section C #5 added the word FULLTIME.
        3. Article III Section D Number 4 changed Director to Associate Director.
        4. Article IV Section A added line 11- Fee Commissioner
        5. Article IV Section C line a: added the word CURRENTLY.
        6. Article IV Section C line d: added the word FULLTIME
        7. Article IV Section C Item 2- line b: Added line: Candidates for these positions must be currently enrolled fulltime SIUE student in good disciplinary standing.
        8. Article VI Section B: added the line- in conjunction with the Office Support Specialist. Several he/she’s changed to they throughout the document.
        9. Passed with twelve ayes.
    C. Executive Appointments for 2021-2022
        1. Marketing & Communications Officer: Hunter Tucker, Tabled.
    D. Legislative Appointments for 2021-2022
        1. Senator of Engineering: Clinton Jones, Vice President Pruitt stated that Clinton was not at the April meeting but was voted in in April.
2. **Senator of CAS - People & Culture:** Holley Hentz, Vice President Pruitt stated that Holley was chosen for her enthusiasm.

3. **Senator of CAS - Arts & Communication:** Stephano Hoang, Vice President Pruitt stated that Stephano was chosen for his passion and dedication.

4. **Senator at Large:** Kenzie Richards, Vice President Pruitt stated that she was chosen for her excitement.

5. **Freshman Senator:** Mallory Nichols, Vice President Pruitt stated that she was chosen as she was the most qualified and had amazing potential.

6. **Freshman Senator:** Kaylee Bauchens, Vice President Pruitt stated that she was chosen as she was super qualified and very excited.

❖ Motion was made by Senator Burnett, seconded by Senator Lambert. The motion was approved by acclimation. Senator Hentz objected, the motion was passed with a roll call vote of twelve ayes.

X. **Presidential Appointments/ Personnel Appointments**

Hunter Tucker was tabled.

Kenzie Richards was sworn in as Senator at Large

Clinton Jones was sworn in as Engineering Senator

Holley Hentz was sworn in as CAS: People & Culture Senator

Stephano Hoang was sworn in as CAS: Art & Communication Senator

Kaylee Bauchens was sworn in as Freshman Senator

Mallory Nichols was sworn in as Freshman Senator

Dr. Waple swore in the personnel appointments.

XI. **OPEN FORUMS**

None.

XII. **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

A. **President O’Dell:** I just wanted to remind everyone that the meet and greet is next week Tuesday and Wednesday and I would like to see everyone there if it is possible.

B. **Advisor Hendricks:** Couple of things, if you have been in the Kimmell and are part of an organization that has a spot in there, we are limiting the space in there. Groups are welcome to use for pick up, drop off, and storage. But we are asking for the time being that folks do not hang out in there with a lot of people crammed around the desk space. We do not have the ability to keep an eye out on that space and we are trying to minimize that. We are going to revisit that in October when we have our brand-new associate director here. This will be revisited after Liz is here. All the desks have information at that. Number two, homecoming is the last week in September. Next week homecoming court applications come out. Each student organization has the ability to nominate two people to run for court for their organization. There is no longer Homecoming King or Homecoming Queen, it is now Homecoming Royalty. We are gender-neutral. We can have two women run, two men, or none of the above. Any gender is welcome. We are bringing back the Fan-Zone, which is the event that happens out at the soccer stadium on that Saturday. We will have a process for sign ups, so if student organizations want to sign up for a space at the Fan-Zone that will open up here in the next couple of weeks. Groups will be able to sign up for space for that event. SOLO, student government plays a key role in the SOLO program. It’s a great event, this year we are partnering with Fraternity and Sorority life and sport clubs. Tomorrow is the second day of the activity’s fair. We have 50 organizations that were able to get space each day. We have a brand-new ticketing system here in the building. Family weekend registration is open. That is the weekend of October 15th-17th. The registration is up and
live on the website. It is fifteen dollars per person and that gets you a t-shirt and access to all of the events during the weekend.

C. Senator Burnett: Is it online this year?
D. Advisor Hendricks: Online for signups, but the event is in person.

XIII. ADJOURNMENT

Senator Burnett moved to adjourn the meeting, and the meeting was adjourned by Vice President Pruitt at 6:53 pm.