**SGA Meeting Minutes
January 19, 2016**

At 7:00PM, the meeting commenced. John Catton led the invocation, and Ree Palmer led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Blake Petty and Matthew Murphy, Academic Council Members, presented the new education curriculum approval from Academic Council. Blake Petty informed the body that the new curriculum would change the catalog in Fall of 2017. He stated that the catalog would still remain rather traditional and that the change would provide more benefits for students. He gave the example of the few current special topics classes Berry offers. He informed the body that general education courses would be geared more toward a class with a specific theme. Joey Miller asked if current classes would be assessed under the new curriculum change. Blake responded that all classes would be looked at. Matthew Murphy explained to the body that he was looking for feedback regarding the name of writing intensive classes. He stated that the Academic Council looked at changing the name to writing integrated class, in order to stress to students that the class is more about the writing process and not writing heavy. Ree Palmer stated that even if the Academic Council changed the name, that on paper “WI” would still appear on the catalog. Blake Petty responded that although “WI” would appear on the catalog, for Grad School, writing intensive would look better on applications. Adrian Lopez commented that if writing intensive is more important to colleges then the name needs to remain the same. Rebekah Sweatt suggested that Academic Council should give more education behind the name of writing intensive. Alex Moon stated that it might be helpful to add the meaning of writing intensive to course descriptions.

**Officer Reports:**

**Jessica Gross, Treasurer**

Jessica informed the body that there would be a budget workshop for all club treasurers. She presented that there would be workshops on January 25th from 11 a.m. to 11:30 and 3:30 to 4 p.m., and another on January 26th from 11 to 11:30 a.m. She then informed the body that club treasurers would only need to come to one of the workshops.

Jessica announced the 2016-2017 allocation deadline for organizations. She stated that all clubs needed to turn in allocations by March 1, 2016.

Jessica informed the body that the SGA Account Balance is $2,513.22

**Kassie Jones, Secretary**

Kassie explained that SGA had technology issues with the minutes from the last meeting. Phoebe Wilborn, with a second from Alex Moon, moved to delay voting on the minutes until the next meeting.

Kassie informed the body that all club and organization standings were posted on the SGA VikingWeb page. She announced that the standings were on the back of the minutes for this week and they would also be updated weekly. She stated that if anyone had any questions about their standing to please email her.

Lainey Battles won the SGA Prize of the Week.

**Jessica Wolinsky, Vice President of Service**

Jessica informed the body that on February 3rd, SGA will be hosting a blood drive from 1 PM to 5:30 PM. She announced that if anyone had any questions or would like to volunteer to email her at Jessica.wolinsky@vikings.berry.edu.

Jessica announced that the SGA executive team and class officers participated in MLK Jr. Day. She stated that they helped the organization “Restore Lindale”.

**Matthew Murphy, Vice President of Administration**

Matthew explained the proposal from last week from SGA. They proposed to modify the dates of SGA class and executive elections. SGA Constitution states, election nominations should take place seven weeks prior to Honors Convocation. Because of problems with recruitment and conflicts with other leadership applications, the executive team proposed to move SGA executive nominations to February 2nd and keep class officer nominations at its original date. This would also allow executive nominees who lose their election to run for class office if they wish. The proposal was approved with a majority vote from the body.

Matthew gave his weekly weather report. He announced that the high should be 37 degrees with a low of 33 degrees and a high chance of sleet.

**Ree Palmer, President**

Ree informed the body that room selection would be online this year, so Residence Life would be coming to two meetings to inform students of the process. She also announced that Residence Life would be coming for a third time to speak about room squatting for the 2016-2017 school year.

Ree announced that SGA is up for revisions of the constitution for the 2016-2017 school year. She advised that several recommended changes would come up in future meetings.

**Old Business**

Kassie Jones inquired about the speed bump over by Physical Plant. She stated that it was no longer painted and difficult to see. Ree responded that she would reach out to Physical Plant again.

Adrian Lopez asked about making the game squash available in the Cage. Ree responded that she would email Mr. Derek Taylor.

**New Business**

**Class President Reports**

Senior Class President Alex Moon, Junior Class President Rebekah Sweatt, Sophomore Class President Adrian Lopez, and Freshman Class President Dominic Miller had nothing to report.

**Committee Reports**

None.

**Announcements**

Krista Zalewski announced that KCAB would be hosting Karaoke Night on Friday, January 22 from 9PM to 11 PM in the Jewel Box and Koffeehouse: Rising Stars on Saturday, January 23 in the Krannert Ballroom at 8PM.

Rebekah Sweatt announced that SOAR Leader Applications came out today and that they were due on February 2nd, 2016.

Ethan Hawkland announced the Swim and Dive team would be hosting the “Viking Classic” on Friday, January 22 and Saturday, January 23 in the Cage pool.

Alex Moon, with a second from Phoebe Wilborn, moved to adjourn at 7:45 PM