**SGA Meeting Minutes
September 5th, 2017**

At 7:05PM, the meeting commenced. Ben Lord led the invocation, and Kassie Jones led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Kassie introduced the guest speaker, Dr. Stephen Briggs, President of the College.

Dr. Briggs began his State of the College address by discussing the renovations that have already taken place, are in progress, and are in the future of Berry College. He shared the details of the newly completed Blackstone Hall, the progress on the Oak Hill Pavilion, and the potential renovation of the Ford auditorium. He also informed the body of a new Animal Science wing that will be added on to McAllister Hall. President Briggs mentioned that there is an ongoing discussion about telling Berry’s story in the digital age, and said that students would be asked to participate in focus groups to help develop that story. He also said he wanted to continue the Be Berry campaign after it proved successful in the 2016-2017 school year. President Briggs plans to develop a program that encourages personal and professional development in students so that they may leave Berry with a sense of momentum and a sense of stability in their future. A BCC 300 instructed by Dr. Conradsen is attempting to navigate through the specifics of that program. President Briggs opened the discussion for any questions, comments, or concerns. Noah Beck asked President Briggs if he knew the reason behind his Resident Assistants being fired. Dr. Briggs deferred the issue to Residence Life. Beck asked why the Resident Assistants were fired, but the First Year Mentors were not. Dean Heida responded that the First Year Mentors and Resident Assistants are two different positions with two different jobs, and the Resident Assistants hold more of a disciplinarian role than First Year Mentors, and are therefore held to a different standard. Jacob Pritchett asked President Briggs about the plan for composting at Berry College. Pritchett said that Aramark’s composting program is too expensive and wanted to inquire about an alternative program. President Briggs told Pritchett that he was willing to do more research to better answer his question. A member of the body wanted to know what would become of the Lamar Westcott Building if the new Animal Science wing was created. President Briggs shared that retrofitting the Lamar Westcott Building could transform it into a new residence hall, the home of another department, administrative offices, etc. Trevor Doyle asked if any additional parking would be added to the McAllister parking lot, since the Animal Science wing will take up some of the lot. President Briggs responded that only 13-15 spaces would be lost, and that since new Faculty/Staff spaces had been added to the Hermann Hall parking lot, the McAllister lot had gained student spaces over the summer. He continued that Berry College does not have a parking problem, but a parking proximity problem. Rebecca Rowe responded to Jacob Pritchett’s questions about composting, and wanted to know if President Briggs had a solution on how to best address the issue with Dining Hall. Dean Heida responded that Aramark is willing to comply, but dialogue is vital in order to make progress. Pritchett asked if the composting could be used to help preserve the American Chestnut population. President Briggs said that the composting would be best utilized as a nutrient supply for Berry’s soil.

President Briggs concluded his presentation by thanking the students for their attention. He stated that if any students had any questions they could contact him through email or email SGA.

**Officer Reports:**

**Milton Tama, Treasurer**

Milton announced that the deadline for budget reallocation is October 1st.

Milton informed the body that the SGA Account Balance is $15,582.23

**Anna Katherine Drew, Secretary**

Anna Katherine asked the body to review the minutes. The minutes passed as typed.

Anna Katherine reminded all clubs to contact her if they have any questions about their standings.

Leigh Hadaway won the SGA Prize of the Week.

**Marc McLendon, Vice President of Service**

Marc reminded the body that the first blood drive of the year will be held on September 11th, and club representatives could sign up to volunteer at the event for an SGA credit. Marc said that members of the body could sign up in the SGA office, at the blood drive table in Krannert, or online at redcrossblood.org.

**Will Kenworthy, Vice President of Administration**

Will shared his sympathy with the freshmen who wanted to run for SGA Class Office but are unable to because they have more than 15 credit hours, and asked that they be on the lookout for other leadership opportunities around campus.

Will then opened nominations for Freshman Class Officers. He announced that nominations will close on September 12th at SGA. Campaigning may not begin until nominations close. Freshman Class Officer speeches are in the Krannert lobby on September 16th, and voting will take place on September 21st. Mary Grace Miller and Max Von Schmeling were nominated for Treasurer. JW Harry and Cory Dewitt were nominated for Secretary. David Lindsey, Melody Creamer, and Fabian Cummings were nominated for Vice President. Noah Beck, Halie Bess, Jacob Pritchett, Rebecca Rowe, and Leslie Cox were nominated for President.

Will then opened nominations for Senior Class Vice President. Analy Huerta was nominated.

Will informed the body that Dr. Sharpe was the only nominated advisor and invited the body to nominate other potential advisors. Dr. Turlington, Dr. Lady, Dr. Meehan, Dr. Stanard, and Dr. Neal were nominated.

Will gave his weekly weather report. Wednesday will have a high of 78 degrees and a low of 51 degrees with a 20% chance of rain.

**Kassie Jones, President**

Kassie asked for speaker nominations from the body. Anna Sharpe, Wendy Davis, and Kent Howard were nominated.

Kassie addressed the Student Affairs Committee with the body. She informed that Will Kenworthy is the head of the committee and that students could contact him with any questions or interest in joining the board.

Kassie said that in regards to composting, she has had conversations with Frasier Pearson and Aramark is willing to comply, but that there is a bigger conversation to be had regarding the next steps in order to bring the composting program to fruition.

Kassie introduced the Hurricane Harvey Relief Effort at Berry College. She asked students to contribute by donating to the Berry College Volunteer Services donation spot in the Krannert Lobby. If students were interested in helping further, they could join the meeting after the SGA meeting with Bekah Fortney and Cecily Crow.

**Old Business**

None.

**New Business**

None.

**Class President Reports**

Senior Class President Anna Walker, Junior Class President Dominic Miller, and Sophomore Class President Bailey Dingley had nothing to report.

**Committee Reports**

None.

**Announcements**

Karolyn Olsen announced that KCAB would be hosting Throwback Karaoke in the Krannert Underground on September 8th from 9-11PM. KCAB will also be hosting a movie night in Clara Bowl on September 9th from 9-11PM.

Momo Abdellatif announced that Berry Football will be playing LaGrange on September 9th at 6PM. He also announced that Berry Men’s Soccer will be playing Hampden-Sydney on September 9th at 1PM and Transylvania on September 10th at 1PM. Berry Women’s Soccer will be playing Belhaven on September 9th at 5PM and Transylvania on September 10th at 4PM.

Fabian Cummings invited the student body to attend the Black Student Alliance meetings.

Brook Davis-Brown asked students to remember to donate to the BCVS donation spot in the Krannert Lobby. She also announced that the Davy Shelter is looking for math and science tutors and invited students to come by the BCVS office if they are interested. She also reminded the body that Make a Difference Day is coming up October 28th.

Anna Walker, with a second from Dominic Miller, moved to adjourn at 8PM.