**SGA Meeting Minutes
January 12, 2016**

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

Dr. Tasha Toy of the Multicultural International Student Program Office presented to the body important dates for Martin Luther King Jr. service weekend. She informed the body that the weekend would be full of activities to celebrate the holiday on January 18th. She announced that the movie *Selma* would be playing on Friday, January 15th in the McAllister auditorium at 7 PM, KCAB would putting on Party with A Purpose on Saturday, January 16th in the Jewel Box at 9 PM, Gathering of the Faith in the Ballroom on Sunday, January 17th, and Service Day on Monday, January 19th. She informed the body that the service day would start at 8 AM in the ballroom with breakfast, then at 9 AM students would leave for their service destinations, and then at 12:00 students could leave their site and come back to the ballroom for a reflection on the day. She informed the body that any student who submitted a reflection would receive a free t-shirt.

Dr. Taylor, Government Professor and Academic Council Member, presented the new curriculum proposals from Academic Council. She informed the body that the curriculum was created in order to try and make general education requirements more clear for the SACHS review. Dr. Taylor explained that the council wanted to make more goals for general education requirement. She stated that the council proposed that the new curriculum 1. Proved more effective communication, 2. Mathematical Reasoning, 3. Intercultural Knowledge, 4. Foundations of Knowledge. Dr. Taylor stated that the definitions for each proposal could be found on the back of the SGA minutes and overall, the proposal gives students more flexibility on classes and schedules. Rebekah Sweatt asked if the new curriculum would decrease the amount of hours students had to have in order to graduate. Dr. Taylor responded that students still had to achieve the 124 hours requirement in order to graduate. Alex Moon inquired about the two electives that students usually had to take for general education requirements. Dr. Taylor answered that the electives would not be required in the new curriculum. Daniel Boddie asked if the new curriculum would negatively affect any specific classes. Blake Petty responded that it would not necessarily be negative on any classes, but would allow for more fluidity among choosing certain classes. Phoebe Wilborn queried about the possibility of students taking two fine arts classes. Dr. Taylor answered that with the new curriculum fine arts would not be considered a humanities. Valerie DeWandel asked about the requirements for the two science classes that all students are supposed to take. Dr. Taylor responded that the science class requirements would remain as it is now. Ree Palmer stated that with the new humanities requirements, her major would completely wipe all required courses. Dr. Taylor responded that with the new curriculum, she would have to take other humanities classes that didn’t pertain to her major. Rebekah Sweatt responded that if that would be the rule, would BA majors not be able to count their foreign language classes as intercultural credit because technically speaking, a foreign language would do the same thing that Rees’ major does. Dr. Taylor responded that she would have to ask the council about more specifications regarding the intercultural credits. Brittany Jones asked if the council could maybe create a mock schedule for students to look at, that way it could be explained better. Kassie Jones inquired about the purposed on the new curriculum. She asked if the curriculum would prepare students for the real world or lead to students taking “easier” classes. Matthew Murphy asked Kassie if she thought the new curriculum was too flexible for students. Kassie responded yes. Daniel Boddie and Brittany Jones agreed with Kassie. A student from the body stated that the flexibility could be good because students would be more geared to take the classes they want. Phoebe Wilborn informed the body that she liked the proposal because it would be more flexible in terms of hours and that could really allow nursing majors more room in their schedules. Alex Moon added that it would not be taking anything away from general education requirements but would be adding to it.

**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 treasures would only need to come to one of the workshops.

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

**Kassie Jones, Secretary**

Kassie asked the body to review the minutes. The minutes passed as typed.

Kassie announced that Food for Finals from fall semester was a success. She stated that the event had the largest turnout than ever before.

Kassie informed the body that all club and organization standings were posted on the SGA VikingWeb page. She announced that the standings would be updated weekly and that students could view their standing online. She stated that if anyone had any questions about their standings to please email her.

Daniel Boddie 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 SGA would be participating in a Monthly Campus Service. The body voted between Campus Safety, Bonner Office, Information Technology, Financial Aid, and Campus Scheduling. Campus Safety won with a majority of the vote.

Jessica Wolinsky announced to the body that the Special Project Committee chose to place bike repair stations around campus as their project for the year. The repair stations would include air pumps, small tools to fix screws, etc.

**Matthew Murphy, Vice President of Administration**

Matthew introduced a proposal from SGA 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.

Matthew gave his weekly weather report. He announced that the high should be 48 degrees with a low of 28 degrees and 42% humidity.

**Ree Palmer, President**

Ree informed the body of the SGA calendar for spring semester of 2016. She stated that the calendar had several spaces for speakers to come to SGA. She announced that if any students wanted a specific speaker to email her or the SGA account.

Ree highlighted the calendar days that residence life would be at. She stated that room selection would be online this year, so residence life would be coming to two meetings to inform students of the process.

**Old Business**

None.

**New Business**

None.

**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 Party with a Purpose on January 16th to celebrate MLK Day, in the Jewel Box at 9 PM to 12 PM.

Laniey Battles, with a second from Phoebe Wilborn, moved to adjourn at 8:00PM