**SGA Meeting Minutes
March 29, 2016**

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

Rhonda Moore from Blood Assurance presented the student body with the “Be the Match” program. Be the Match Program is a registry of volunteer bone marrow people. She stated that the program was specific for cancer patients with life-threatening blood cancers like leukemia and lymphoma. Mrs. Moore informed the body that 46% of people on the registry are college students. She stated the older a person gets, the harder it is to match with a patient. Mrs. Moore then proceeded to tell the body about how her son Jackson donated to a woman and saved the woman’s life. She informed the body that 62 volunteers match with a patient every year. Ree Palmer asked if the registry form would be available at the next blood drive. Mrs. Moore responded that she had forms for students to fill out tonight. Jessica Gross inquired about any height or weight requirements for the registry. Mrs. Moore responded that there were no requirements to donating unless you have a disease. John Catton asked if the process was similar to donating blood. Mrs. Moore stated that it was not very similar to donating blood and that usually you are put under anesthesia during the removal of the bone marrow. A student from the body asked if there were any costs associated with the transplant. Mrs. Moore stated that the process is completely paid for by the program.

**Officer Reports:**

**Jessica Gross, Treasurer**

Jessica informed the body that the Budget and Finance committee is reviewing all budget allocations for 2016-2017 and all spring 2016 reallocations. She stated that if anyone had any questions or concerns to please email her or the SGA Accountant.

Jessica informed the body that the SGA account balance is $1,875.37

**Kassie Jones, Secretary**

Kassie asked the body to review the minutes. The minutes passed with minor spelling errors.

Kassie informed the body of an SGA volunteer credit for clubs. On Friday, April 8th, from 6 PM to 1 AM Relay for Life will be outside on the Cage lawn. She stated that if clubs wanted to receive credit, they needed to contact Joey Miller for signup. Kassie informed the body of another SGA volunteer credit for clubs. On Saturday, April 16th, clubs can volunteer to help Sunshine Cottage with Row Down the River. Kassie announced that Jessica Wolinsky was directly involved with Row Down the River, so if people had specific questions to email her.

Kassie announced that there would be options for 3 SGA credits coming up. Clubs can help with Mr. Berry on April 2nd, the Blood Drive on April 14th, or Food for Finals on April 27th. She stated that she would announce more options here in a few weeks but that SGA Credits are limited because the semester is almost completed.

Kassie announced all credits must be turned in to SGA by April 27th.

A student from the body won the SGA Prize of the Week.

**Matthew Murphy, Vice President of Administration**

Matthew closed nominations for class officers for 2016-2017.

Matthew gave his weekly weather report. He announced that the high should be 75 degrees with a low of 59 degrees and 48% humidity.

**Ree Palmer, President**

Ree informed the body that the SGA executive team had narrowed down the nominations for the SGA Faculty and Staff Awards. For Faculty the body voted on Dr. Kosedag, Dr. Slade, Dr. Elmer, Dr. Taylor, Dr. Richardson, and Dr. Stephenson. Dr. Kosedag, Dr. Slade, and Dr. Richardson won a majority of the vote.

For staff, the body voted on Erin Moniz, Alan Storey, Darla Fox, Sue Tarpley, Lindsey Taylor, and Michael McElveen. Alan Storey, Lindsey Taylor, and Sue Tarpley won a majority of the vote.

Ree announced upcoming events to the body. On Saturday, April 2nd at 8 PM SGA will be hosting Mr. Berry in the Ford Auditorium. She stated the contestants were Danny Perry, Carson Oaks, Momo Abdellatif, Alex Moon, and Blake Petty. She informed the body that the Grand March will still take place on April 23rd and it will start at 11 AM.

Ree informed the body that SGA will be sending out committee applications between now and the next meeting. She stated that SGA places 2 students on about 30 to 35 committees each year. Applications are looked over by the executive team and the SGA President Elect for 2016-2017.

Ree asked for student feedback over fall 2016 course registration. She stated that she meets with the Provost and they are constantly looking for ways to improve registration. Dominic Miller stated that there was a specific economics class that only allowed juniors and seniors to register for it. To his disbelief the class did not fill up but they still did not allow underclassmen to register for the class. Ree responded that sometimes professors like underclassmen to have more experience before they take a specific class but that she will look into the situation. Marcus Ghee stated that it was really frustrating to see the lack of classes during registration. He said that his minor is only offering one class next semester and situations like that could really put students behind. A student from the body raised concern about Vikingweb not recognizing directed studies classes. John Catton addressed the fact that Vikingweb does not allow you to use the back button and he requested that be looked into. Krista Zalewski asked if waitlists could be added to courses so students could see if they should look for another class or email the professor.

**Old Business**

Ree informed the body that the potholes in the MoLem parking lot would be taken care of this summer.

**New Business**

Alyssa Bishop inquired about the potholes on stretch road up to Mountain Campus and if they would be filled in soon. Ree responded that she would talk to Physical Plant.

Marcus Ghee inquired about the progress being made with the class bus and class bus committee. He stated that it was hard to tell which bus was which.

Elli Hayes informed the body that the card reader on the side of MoLem did not work.

**Class President Reports**

Senior Class Vice-President Lainey Battles, Junior Class President Rebekah Sweat, Sophomore Class President Adrian Lopez, and Freshman Class President Dominic Miller had nothing to report.

**Committee Reports**

**Announcements**

Krista Zalewski announced that KCAB will be hosting a Lacrosse Tailgate on Saturday, March 19th from 12 PM to 1 PM and 3 PM to 4 PM. From 11 PM to 1 AM they will also being hosting a Skate Night at Fun Wheels. The theme is Mathletes and Athletes.

Tori Thiessen announced that Swing and Ballroom will be hosting a Jesters Ball on April 1st and 2nd.

Kelly Ibele announced that the Exercise Science club will be hosting the Color Me Berry run on Sunday, April 19, at 2 PM. She stated if anyone would like to volunteer to please contact her.

Joey Miller announced that Relay for Life would be on Friday, April 5th from 6 PM to 1 AM. Clubs will receive volunteer credit if they participate.

John Christian Evans announced that he would be releasing a survey on social issues at Berry College to the student body. He stated that the survey was for a project he was doing with the Bonner Scholars program. He encouraged the body to fill out the survey because it addressed issues that students should be talking about and trying to solve.

Alex Moon, with a second from Matthew Harry, moved to adjourn at 8:06 PM