**SGA Meeting Minutes  
August 30th, 2016**

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

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

Dr. Briggs began his State of the College address by discussing the size of Berry College. He informed the body that Berry currently had 2100 students and he considered that to be a healthy size. Berry could be smaller, the size it is now, or larger and it would be financially healthy. President Briggs reminded the body that Berry and its administration are constantly working on ways to make Berry even more vibrant and challenging for students. He mentioned that several of the projects Berry is working on all have separate timelines, from 1 year to 5 years, Berry will continue to grow at a different pace. President Briggs then announced that there will be construction on the Rollins building and an animal research lab will be added to the building. This facility would be able to house large animals in a lab setting, and construction will hopefully begin the year. President Briggs updated the body on the theatre addition and Renovation of Blackstone Hall taking place currently. The college plans to turn the first floor of Blackstone into a classroom, workshop, and office area, while the theater will be recreated in a separate building next door. They are also updating the electrical and AC units of the building. The next building up for renovation, President Briggs said, is Ford Auditorium. The college plans to replace the HVAC system and to improve the curvature of the ceiling to better reflect sound. The project will begin as soon as funding is available. As far as academic buildings, Dr. Briggs discussed adding a wing to the McAllister building to house the Animal Science Department. The wing would be added to the Hermann Hall-side of McAllister. Dr. Briggs then informed the body about the opening of the Berry College Tennis Center. He stated that several tournaments had already taken place at the facility. He encouraged students to go see the center if they had not seen it already. President Briggs informed the body that all these changes to campus were created in hopes of bettering the Berry community. He went on to add that Berry will be going through its accreditation process and administration will be looking to create a plan that Berry will look to enact. Dr. Briggs also discussed the announcement about the governor’s honors program coming to Berry. He said that the program will enhance campus during the summer and will create new opportunities for the college and professors. President Briggs opened the discussion for any questions, comments, or concerns. John Catton asked if the McAllister addition would interfere with parking. Dr. Briggs answered that administration was aware of the addition taking up parking and that the school was looking at adding 160 additional parking spaces behind Herman. A student from the body asked if the parking behind Herman was for just faculty and staff. President Briggs responded that the parking spaces will be evenly balanced among faculty and staff. President Briggs also stated that Berry College did not have a parking problem. He stated that there are more than enough parking spots for students but the parking spot you get may not be as close to the building as you would like it to be. A student from the body asked if Ford and Blackstone’s renovations would preserve any of its exterior form. President Briggs answered that Blackstone was originally a dining hall so it’s changing constantly. He informed the body that although the buildings are changing, the college will always try and match original brick, color, etc. Christina Rentas inquired about the sheep barn and its condition. She stated that she worked at the sheep barn over the summer and it need renovations added in order to keep the sheep safe and the building in good condition. President Briggs responded that he did not know much about the building and he will look into her concerns. Marcus Ghee inquired about any plans to renovating the townhouses. President Briggs answered that the Townhouses were renovated 3 or 4 years ago. Marcus replied that it was not necessarily a renovation problem but more of a cleaning problem. President Briggs stated that with the Governors Honors Program the cleaning staff will have more time to thoroughly clean the rooms better. Dean Heida added that the next dormitory to be renovated will be Friendship hall. A student from the body asked if they would be any renovations to Poland. She stated that she currently was living there and the floor was damaged. Dean Heida replied that the student should come speak with her after the meeting regarding the damage. Momo Abdellatif asked what the plans are for the Wescott building after the animal science wing was added to McAllister. President Briggs responded that administration had not made on decisions on the building. He stated that it could be a residence hall or addition to ford, etc.

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:**

**Matthew Harry, Treasurer**

Matthew announced that the Budget Workshops for all treasurers would be on September 1st at 11AM and 5PM, September 6th at 5 PM, and September at 7 PM. He informed the body that the workshops were required for all club treasurers.

Matthew informed the body that the SGA Account Balance is $11,149.21

**Kassie Jones, Secretary**

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

Kassie presented the recommendation for Organization Standing Requirements to the body. SGA recommend keeping the two SGA credits, 2 volunteer credits, 1 event credit and absences from SGA meetings at 5 per year. Kassie reminded the body that the requirements for clubs and organizations was to not create a to-do list. The requirements are made to add to campus vibrancy and increase student involvement around all areas of campus. Kat Pugh, with a second from Dominic Miller, moved to have the vote at the next SGA meeting so that club representatives could have a week to talk about it with their organizations.

Brent Dotson won the SGA Prize of the Week.

**Valerie DeWandel, Vice President of Service**

Val informed that there would be an American Red Cross Blood Drive on Thursday, September 1st from 2 to 7 p.m. She informed the body that they could email SGA and sign up for a specific time slot. The Red Cross is aiming for a goal of 90 people.

Val presented an SGA credit to the body. She stated that the postcards were in for the Baked Goods and that if a representative from a club came to help put on labels then their club would receive an SGA credit.

Val informed the body that SGA would continue with the Monthly Campus Service project. The project was created to award officers around campus for all their hard work and dedication to Berry. Past project receivers include Resident Life and Physical Plant.

**Preston Putnam, Vice President of Administration**

Preston gave his weekly weather report. Wednesday will have a high of 94 degrees and a low of 68 degrees.

Preston reminded the body that a faculty advisor was needed for SGA and called for nominations. Dr. Bailey, Dr. Heller, Dr. Watkins, Dr. Taylor, Dr. Stanard, Dr. Papazian, Dr. Dexter, Dr. Lady, Dr. Donnelly, Dr. Mingone, Dr. Hickman, Dr. Haney and Dr. Gregoire were nominated by several students from the body.

Preston announced to the body that Freshman Class nominations will open on September 6th and close on September 13th. Preston also informed the body that after nominations close, all candidates have a week to campaign until elections close.

**Tedric Palmer, President**

Teddy Palmer welcomed the body to SGA and expressed how excited he was for this year.

Teddy informed the body that the SGA Executive Team will be creating three committees this year. The first committee will be in charge of reviewing the SGA Bylaws, the second committee will be in charge of recommending changes for the SGA Constitution, and the third committee will be a Dining Hall improvement committee.

Teddy asked the body if they had any ideas for speakers to come and speak at SGA meetings. Marcus Ghee responded that a speaker on LGBT issues would be nice. Another student from the body said they would like to hear someone from the environmental department speaker on the Berry environmental. Kadriye Aktepe stated she would like to hear from more SGA committees. Teddy responded he would speak with committee representatives about them speaking at SGA.

**Old Business**

None.

**New Business**

Katherine Edmonds inquired about the construction in the library. Teddy responded that the college was adding more additions to the coffee shop. They were expanding the coffee shop itself and adding grab and go areas that would be similar to the POD area of Viking court.

**Class President Reports**

Senior Class President Whitney Kirkpatrick, Junior Class President Adrian Lopez, and Sophomore Class President Dominic Miller had nothing to report.

**Committee Reports**

None

**Announcements**

Krista Zalewski announced that KCAB will be hosting Canvases in Krannert. There will be 2 sessions at 8PM and 9:30PM in the Krannert Ballroom.

Tori Thiessen announced that BCM will be hosting Taco and fellowship on Saturday, September 6 at 6PM in the Jewelbox in Morgan.

Dominic Miller, with a second from John Catton, moved to adjourn at 8:05PM.