**SGA Meeting Minutes
February 23, 2016**

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

Ree introduced the guest speaker, Whit Whitaker the college chief of staff.

Whit Whitaker announced that he came to speak at SGA because there have been several focus groups held around campus to discuss the Continuing Care Retirement Community. In these focus groups, there have been several concerns regarding several aspects of the facility. Whit Whitaker explained that the Board of Trustees is constantly thinking and creating new ideas to keep an income for Berry. He stated that several years ago, the idea of a retirement home was brought up because several alumni had reached out to express their desire to move back on campus. In 2008, when the housing market crashed, the Board of Trustees dropped the idea of the retirement center. When the economy improved, the idea became a reality for Berry. Whit Whitaker went on to explain that the site of the CCRC would be right before the quarry, behind the cell phone tower. He stated that the college was marketing the facility as “next to the main college” but in reality, it will be farther back off the main campus. He informed the body that the CCRC will have a direct road to the college and that 250 people will be living in the CCRC. On top of that, there will be a bus that transports people from Berry to the CCRC, more staffing opportunities, and a separate dining hall and workout center at the CCRC. Tori Thiessen asked for clarification on the amount of people at the facility. Whit Whitaker responded that there will be 250 people accepted. The CCRC will have cottages, apartments, etc. available for the 250. Momo Abdellatif inquired about the date of construction. He responded that Berry does not have a specific date for construction because they want to see how many people want to buy into the center. Adrian Lopez expressed concern about classes because senior citizens get to take classes for free at Berry. Whit Whitaker explained that there are two types of situations for seniors citizens. The first option is called Senior Scholars and they are classes that only have senior citizens in them and are offered at night. The second option is senior audited classes. This is where senior citizens pick classes after students have enrolled, they gain permission from the professor, and the senior citizens pay for the class. John Evans inquired about the funding of the facility and if it would affect tuition costs. Whit Whitaker explained that the CCRC would be built with money from the endowment and that it will not require students to pay more. Berry is hoping that the CCRC will actually help decrease student tuition. Daniel Boddie asked if the senior citizens would have access to the Ladd Center or campus library. He responded that the CCRC would have its own medical center but the library was open to everyone.

**Officer Reports:**

**Jessica Gross, Treasurer**

Jessica informed the body that all club 2016-2017 budget allocations are due on March 1st. She stated that the allocation form was online and available on the Viking web page.

Jessica reported that all spring 2016 budget reallocations are due on March 9th.

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 corrections.

Kassie informed the body of an SGA volunteer credit for clubs. She stated that organizations could receive credit if they created a team and participated in the Freshman Lead Fellows Dodgeball Tournament on Friday, March 18th. She announced that if there were any questions regarding the events to please email her. Kassie informed the body of another SGA volunteer credit for clubs. On Sunday, February 28th, from 2 PM to 4:30 PM and 4:45 PM to 7 PM, Stop Hunger NOW will be in the Krannert Ballroom bagging food for children around the world. Kassie stated that Dr. McConkey emailed campus about the event and that all clubs could sign up through him.

Valerie De Wandel won the SGA Prize of the Week.

**Jessica Wolinsky, Vice President of Service**

Jessica informed the body that she would like to receive feedback from students on how to improve the SGA blood drives. She asked the body if there were any dates or time periods that would work best for students. Tori Thiessen responded that she noticed more people available from 5 PM to 7 PM because most people were not working during that time. A student from the body inquired about making the blood drives all day. That way everyone would have an opportunity to donate. Elischa Pierre stated the SGA should make their blood drive booth more noticeable for students. Ree Palmer stated that SGA should offer more education about who can give blood. Students sometimes have the misconception that if they’ve been abroad they cannot donate. Lainey Battles identified that walk-in appointments and advance appointments should be more clarified. She stated that those who make advance appointments should be a priority to be taken care of first.

**Matthew Murphy, Vice President of Administration**

Matthew went over the results of executive office elections for 2015 -2016. He stated that Teddy Palmer would be President, Preston Putnam would be Vice President of Administration, Valerie DeWandel would be Vice President of Service, Kassie Jones would be Secretary, and Matthew Harry would be Treasurer.

Matthew gave his weekly weather report. He announced that the high should be 57 degrees with a low of 38 degrees and 70% chance of precipitation.

**Ree Palmer, President**

Ree informed the body that she would be out of the office from February 24th to the 27th due to graduate school interviews. She stated that if anyone needed anything to please email her.

Ree informed the body that she would like to remove the bylaw amendment from last week. The motion failed.

Ree announced that Mr. Berry will take place on April 2nd and that if any students would like to volunteer for the event please email SGA@berry.edu.

Ree Palmer was pied in the face by Valerie DeWandel.

**Old Business**

Serena Kargbo inquired about the progress made on the MoLem Parking lot sinkholes. Ree responded that she had emailed Physical Plant and not heard back. She stated that she would reach out once more.

**New Business**

Jessica Wolinsky stated that there was a need for color printers. She informed the body that the library and Laughlin were the only buildings available for color printing.

Matthew Harry stated that the Wi-Fi in Dana was horrible. Kassie Jones seconded his comment. Joey Miller commented that IT had recently changed the Dana Wi-Fi and that it was supposed to be better, but was not.

Caroline Stiles asked if the speakers at the baseball field and Valhalla could be turned down. She stated that the speakers were so loud it shakes the buildings.

Jessica Gross inquired about the possibility of making Residence Life Late Night events earlier.

John Catton inquired about the possibility of getting new chairs in the dining hall.

**Class President Reports**

Senior Class Vice President Lainey Battles announced that the officers of the senior class would be creating a Relay for Life team. She stated that if anyone would like to volunteer or be a part of their team to please contact the senior class officers. Junior Class President Rebekah Sweatt announced that the Junior Class would be hosting a water pong event on March 3rd on the Krannert lawn. She also informed the body that the junior class would be hosting two volunteer events soon. More details will be available later. Sophomore Class President Adrian Lopez and Freshman Class President Dominic Miller had nothing to report.

**Committee Reports**

None.

**Announcements**

Krista Zalewski announced that KCAB will be hosting Escaping Krannert, February 27th in Krannert ballroom from 9 PM to 12 AM. There will be 5 people to a room for 30 minutes.

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

Elischa Pierre announced that the Black Student Alliance’s Spelling Bee is canceled.

Daniel Boddie announced that Phi Alpha Theta will be showing the movie Lincoln on March 3rd. CE Credit will be offered.

Morgan Regal announced that the Berry College Theatre Company was showing Cabaret from February 18th to February 28th. Showings would be at 7:30 PM on Thursday, Friday, and Saturday evenings. 2 PM on Sunday afternoons.

Lainey Battles, with a second from Matthew Harry, moved to adjourn at 8:03 PM