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**LSA SG General Meeting**

**November 6th, 2019**

1. Call to Order
2. Opening Roll Call
   1. Brian Wang
   2. Mary McKillop
   3. Kaitlyn Colyer
   4. Nick Bonde
   5. Jordan Schuler
   6. Nicolas Pereira
   7. Riya Gupta
   8. Danae Diaz
   9. Natalie Suh
   10. Tim Dalrymple
   11. Anna Colvin
   12. Andrew Goldman
   13. Emma Rose
   14. Sai Pamidighantam
   15. Alli Goodsell
   16. Kathryn McCaughey
   17. Divya Manikandan
   18. Chayton Fivecoat
   19. Tyler Watt
   20. John Paul O’Neil
   21. Tyler Ziel
   22. Danica Miller
   23. Frank Ferrari
   24. Natalie Simmons
   25. Danny Hwang
   26. Zach Phillips
   27. Anna Hilles
   28. Sarah Salino
   29. Lauren Lunsford
   30. Sofia Kwon
   31. Gaby Torres
   32. Wyatt Puscas
   33. Claudia McLean
   34. Emilia O’Brien
   35. Riley List
   36. Joseph Meade
   37. Adam Grimes
   38. Prahar Dave
   39. Eric Hsieh
3. Announcements
   1. Goldman: another reminder the OSU vs U-M blood battle is going on. Make sure you donate blood you can save 3 lives, look up umich blood battle, red cross. Lots of opportunities to donate.
   2. Suh: if you have heard of Detroit Innovation Center, I’m not a huge fan of it but I would love to talk about it. There is petition going around.
4. Approval of Agenda
   1. Motion: Schuler
      * Second: Goodsell
5. Approval of Previous Minutes
   1. Motion: McKillop
      * Second: O’Neil
6. Constituents Time
   1. *Ice cream or gelato*
7. Guest Speakers
8. Executive Officer Reports
   1. President – Brian Wang ([bmwang@umich.edu](mailto:bmwang@umich.edu))
      * Hello it’s me the president! We are having a SG potluck which will be 3 weekends away, all E-board members will host small teams, you’ll get together and make a dish at the potluck and then we will all come together to share this food. Plan is for the weekend before thanksgiving week. We will have lots of vegetarian, vegan, and dairy free options. I’ll send the sign up later this week. Probably that Sunday, if you are able. We are going to have vice-chair week, this upcoming week. This is a week in each semester where the vice chair does chair duties. Starting this Sunday with BAC. Regarding Winterfest, we are signed up for one day but if you want us to do two days we can. It’s a smaller venue than Festifall. Concerning SAPAC funding, they have sent us the next steps. There will be a protest regarding the university cross examination policy on Nov 20th, if you have an issue with this policy check that out. We have received some residence hall complaints concerning dining hours which have been shortened. The candidate’s forum on Nov 15th in a room in the league TBD. I would like everyone to submit a question or two for the people running in the election. These questions are in no way supposed to target one certain person. It’s meant for anyone to answer, they will be randomly selected only if no one in the audience has any questions. I want at least 30 to 40 possible questions. We will have our ballot questions coming up tonight, please be mindful about what the questions are supposed to represent so we can have a good conversation about it. Mary will talk about blue ribbon policy.
        1. Watt: will vice chairs come to steering this week?
        2. Torres: The cross-examination policy protest event will be Wed Nov 20th 3-4pm on diag.
        3. Dave: What is Winterfest?
        4. Wang: basically, its Festifall in the Union! next semester!
        5. Watt: do we have location for candidate’s forum?
        6. Wang: Just checked, its room D in the league
   2. Vice-President – Mary McKillop ([marykmck@umich.edu](mailto:marykmck@umich.edu))
      * Hello She/her pronouns. Thank you to everyone who came to retreat we got some good pictures! There is a few on Instagram, but Kevan would be happy to send those to you. I will post a smaller hang out thing in the office as we get closer to finals. More info later this month after the potluck. If you want gluten free food sign up for my team. Thank you for filling out the virtual steering chairs. We had our meeting with Kelly today, she brought up this blue-ribbon policy. Those who were here last year might remember. There has been some debate around where graduate student instructor and lectures can have political opinions come into play when considering academic letters of recommendation. The provost made a committee to determine and discuss where that line should be. Specifically focused on where should GSI’s or professor’s personal opinions should come into play when writing academic letters of recommendation. They have asked us to discuss it. They want student opinion on it. Also, sexual misconduct policy, I was thinking of starting a statement of that policy. It allows for cross examination of people who are accusing someone of sexual misconduct by the person they are accusing. Please let me know and come to DAC and Health. Not this week. I will have the Office of Student Conflict Resolution (OSCR) in a meeting on Monday morning, to talk about what things we could learn from them when they come in as guest speaker on the 20th. They have strategies for communication and to have healthy debates and conflicts. The dean’s office will be coming January 29th to talk about dean Cruzan’s initiatives. We are working on that dinner event in the dining hall to see if they’re interested. Great opportunity for collaboration. The opportunity hub will be coming Jan 15th. The opportunity hub has lots of funding and resources for students. That is all. I am excited to chair general next week. If you have questions about anything I said, let me know or email me. If you want help with your Facebook page or platform, I would love to help you, it’s not too hard I swear!
   3. Treasurer –Kaitlyn Colyer ([kecolyer@umich.edu](mailto:kecolyer@umich.edu))
      * Hello all we currently have $50,264.99, please don’t write on receipts. There was some issue with comments written on receipts. If you sign up for team Kaitlyn for the potluck, please have kitchen for my team I would appreciate that.
        1. Suh: I will volunteer!
        2. Wang: did you know the teams are going to be completely random?
        3. Colyer: thanks, I didn’t know that!
        4. Pamidighantam: what about dietary restrictions?
        5. Wang: that’s on the form, we will accommodate.
        6. McCaughey: will SOAS reimburse us for this?
        7. Colyer: if it is a SG related expense, but there are plans in the works to make it subsidized regardless.
        8. Wang: if we won’t get reimbursed I will probably foot most of that
        9. Bonde: wow what a FLEX!
   4. Counsel – Nick Bonde ([njudeb@umich.edu](mailto:njudeb@umich.edu))
      * IRC went well, we reviewed the STAAR bylaw amendment which is very different so it will be new business. Secretary on absences in old business. We are voting on ballot questions. Tyler will chair IRC this Sunday. I’ll get to take minutes, so that’ll be fun!
   5. Academic Relations Officer –Jordan Schuler ([jordschu@umich.edu](mailto:jordschu@umich.edu))
      * Hi everyone. We spent AAC talking about our ballot questions, and the decisions we made for that. We are going to introduce the AP IB question on that. Please come to AAC next Wednesday we will spend some time on in IRC, which is on Sunday. Come to talk there too. This IB/AP resolution is something we want to do in the next couple weeks. We want to make our feelings about it clear. For AAC Vice chair week will be the following week, as Danae cannot come to Sunday steering.
   6. External Relations Officer – Kevan Casson ([kecasson@umich.edu](mailto:kecasson@umich.edu))
      * Gupta: hello I am Riya! comm went really week this week. We talked a lot about apparel. We are designing everything, windbreakers crewnecks and t-shirts. We finalized member of the month certificate; they will be getting that next general. Kevan and I have been updating the website. As usual COMM is Mondays 5-6 hope to see you there.
   7. Student Life Relations Officer –Gurliv Chahal ([gkc@umich.edu](mailto:gkc@umich.edu))
      * Colvin: SLC was great this week we spent time on ballot questions. Come to SLC 6-7 on Mondays. Please come!
   8. Secretary – Nicolas Pereira ([nlpereir@umich.edu](mailto:nlpereir@umich.edu))
      * Hello all, please fill out the room access form by tonight as I will be submitting them to our facilities contact. It’s just best to do them all together so they don’t have to do as much work. Please continue going to office hours and committees. As usual let me know if you cannot attend general or are missing your office hours for whatever reasons.
9. Committee Reports
   1. Appointments Committee – Emma Rose ([roseemma@umich.edu](mailto:roseemma@umich.edu))
      * We have an exciting update. We will have espresso royal gift card! We will put money on gift card and keep it in the office. You and your mentor/mentee can go and get things for both of you for under $10. Please take a picture of you guys hanging out.
        1. Goldman: Emma did you know we want the selfie to post in on social media?
        2. Rose: I did not know that.
        3. Puscas: Did you know if you take LSA SG mug they give you a discount?
        4. Rose: I did know that!
        5. Wang: everyone with a placard who is planet blue certified can get a mug, and let Nicolas know.
        6. Rose: I did know that. In your selfie have both your mugs pls!
   2. Budget Allocations Committee – Danica Miller ([dajemill@umich.edu](mailto:dajemill@umich.edu))
      * Remember to take care of yourselves! We didn’t have BAC this week, but we have appeals this coming Sunday. Please stay in your spots if you are able. Thanks to Kathryn for getting advertisement set on the UGLI T.V.s for BAC. We presented at CCI funding basics workshop for about 50 student Orgs. Our 3rd presentation will in December. Shout out to Nick Bonde as he got us in the CCI newsletter for this week.
   3. Committee Advocating for Transfer Students – Alli Goodsell ([goodsela@umich.edu](mailto:goodsela@umich.edu))
      * CATS went well this week. Met with Erica Johnson she’s the associate director of ONSP she’s been doing a survey for 15 years now. And she’s given me all the results about transfer students opinions. She also gave me whole orientation process. She’s letting CATS look at the survey questions. Met with Brendan Massey he gave me his opinion about being a transfer student. We are looking at a change in bylaws for CATS.
        1. McKillop: Sorry I forgot to say this in my report but did you know internal elections will be on Dec 4th? Which is only 2 general meetings away? It’s a super long meeting but it ends up being kind of fun! Free food will be provided. Will have both the In and Out meeting, all chairs and vice chairs that are not on exec positions will undergo elections for next semester.
        2. Goodsell: I didn’t know that!
        3. Colyer: Additionally, did you know that if you want a say in the food, you must be at next general meeting or text me your suggestions?
        4. Goodsell: No, I didn’t.
        5. McKillop: Also, did you know that next week we will begin nominations, but you can be nominated until right before the election?
        6. Goodsell: I didn’t know!
        7. Wang: Unfortunately, this is weird week for thanksgiving, and we apologize. The scheduling was a struggle.
   4. Diversity Affairs Committee – Sai Pamidighantam ([ppamidig@umich.edu](mailto:ppamidig@umich.edu))
      * She her hers. Been a messy week in DAC dealing with cultural night things. There has been some drama, but if you’re interested let me know. We will not be collaborating with CSG as we do not find their version of the cultural night diverse, nor equitable in any aspect. We will be meeting Fiona Lee tomorrow to talk about general learning center initiative. We are reaching out to goodwill; but their manager is never in store to talk to him. Sungmin has been working on their meeting with CLRT to talk about training that GSI go through concerning diverse identities. GSI are not trained about the different identities they may come into contact with. Sadly I was unable to go to DAC yesterday, so if anyone has something to add who went feel free!
        1. McKillop: we talked about CSG, Sungmin has a really good idea for some kind of diversity awareness training GSI. We gave them organizations to reach out to like GEO.
10. Task Force and Subcommittee Reports
    1. Health Subcommittee –Natalie Suh ([nhsuh@umich.edu](mailto:nhsuh@umich.edu))
       * Lots of good things happening this week. We had a really good meeting with The Dot, which is a student org that works on making menstrual products more accessible for students and Ann Arbor citizens. Main takeaways: we will try and coalition build with them and other orgs like Days For Girl and Worth-- which do similar things. We told them about BAC and the possibility of a resolution collaboration. We also worked on our ballot question, so you'll hear about it when we talk about it later on the agenda. We have a few upcoming meetings: Meeting Health Policy CSG — canceled for this week, will be rescheduled for next week. Meeting Maize and Blue cupboard on Nov. 22, Meeting for wellness space for UgLi — need to contact again because I keep on missing him. Health is Tuesday 5-6! Please, please! come, attendance has been low but we have a lot of work and projects to do! And I would love to spend another hour with all of you. Especially in my capacity as a vice-chair cause Alli is going to chair!! I already have an icebreaker thought out, so I am clearly very excited. Okay now, some more broad information. Just a quick show of hands: how many of you would like to have a "spirit day general" where we all come dressed in DENIM? A “Jean-eral” if you will. Okay I yield.
    2. Subcommittee on Technology, Advising, and Academic Resources – Frank Ferrari ([frankfer@umich.edu](mailto:frankfer@umich.edu))
       * We spent most of meeting developing the department award bylaw because its been remade. We went over agenda for opportunity hub which is next Tuesday. If there is anything, you’d like them to talk about please let me know. Academic advising would like to know more options for classes for problem roulette ill send that to the general list
    3. Taking Responsibility for the Earth and Environment Subcommittee – Tim Dalrymple ([tjamesd@umich.edu](mailto:tjamesd@umich.edu))
       * TREES was great this week! Brian told me to be more enthusiastic!! We worked on our ballot question for most of the meeting. I hope you all feel as strongly about it as we do. Next week on Friday we are meeting with the office of campus sustainability, finally, to reduce contamination to reduce this on the recycling overall. If you haven’t done Planet Blue Ambassador that its easy, it will educate you on campus sustainability issues
11. Individual Representative Reports
12. Divya Manikandan
    1. Hello I am Divya and I was elected winter semester last year. The first thing I worked on was to improve sick leave policy to reduce the requirement to get medical notes. I have been working on it with AAC. We are going to send a DC email regarding this issue! I have met with executive director of UHS to get this rolling. I also have been working on increasing access for UHS and to add UHS information on the syllabus. I’ve spoken to Wolverine Wellness about that and they are interested. I have been working with SLC on pumpkin palooza results to get better dining hall options. I was passionate about international students. I have met with International Center about how to deal with other ethnic groups and to increase awareness of resources for international students
       1. Colvin: I can share pumpkin palooza results with you!
13. Jacob Cohen
    1. Pronouns are He him his, I ran on two points last semester to increase accessibility on outdoor recycling. I also had the goal of making information to act in a more environmentally friendly manner more accessible. I will be attending the meeting with the office of campus sustainability. I also was interested I the Race and Ethnicity requirement to refine which classes qualify and which don’t.
14. Tyler Ziel
    1. He him his, history. I was elected in winter. I ran on improving communication between various SGs. Work on affordable housing in AA and meeting with local city government. Last night at CSG I was elected to E-board of communications committee, so I am sadly no longer an elected representative in LSA SG. I have been privileged to be under the tutelage of Nick Bonde and Tyler Watt.
       1. Goldman: Thank you for all that you have done for LSA Students please come back we would love to have you.
       2. Watt: Goldman stole my points. In the past year you have done so much in this government.
       3. Suh: will you still hang out in the office?
       4. Ziel: I will be there tomorrow! I’ll bring candy if that that’s you want.
       5. Suh: No! we just want you there!
       6. Gupta: thanks for all the contributions you’ve made in comm!
       7. Pamidighantam: thank you for coming to DAC and I’ve gotten to know you more this semester.
       8. McLean: I wanted to thank you because you were one of my first friends here.
       9. Schuler: I want to echo the things everyone put forward. We can still have our mentor and mentee coffee
       10. McKillop: thank you for all the effort you’ve put in, you have communicated well with us. You will do great things in CSG.
15. Appointments, Elections, & Nominations
16. Budget Allocations Committee Recommendations
17. Old Business
18. A Resolution to Amend Chapters 2 and 5 of the Bylaws to Improve Absence Flexibility
19. Fall 2019 Election Ballot Questions
    1. Motion to bring to floor: Fivecoat
       1. Second: Watt
    2. SPONSORS
       1. Watt: we brought this to floor last week, this amendment tackles the issue of the ability of secretary to be lenient in the time they can excuse absences. The current cut off is quite harsh. It doesn’t change any current practices.
       2. Pereira: I have already been doing what this amendment proposes.
    3. FRIENDLY AMENDMENTS
       1. Cohen: in the title there needs to be a rewording.
       2. Watt: Also, it is important to note there were some concerns about how far the secretary could abuse the privilege. The executive board could act on the possibility of abuses.
       3. Simmons: change last resolved to finally resolved.
       4. Motion to call to question: Schuler
          1. Second: Bonde
    4. PASSED 24-0-0
20. Ballot questions
    * 1. Colvin
         1. Bonde
      2. Exec ballot questions
         1. Regarding table rentals,
            1. McKillop: we were under the impression that when we move to the LSA building we would no longer need to do tables. This isn’t just us abandoning the table system we have been trying to work with people for over year. But nobody has tried to figure it out. And they still have not figured it out. Don’t think we are abandoning the system; this is just the end point. This question will hopefully encourage someone to take in on. If we allow this to be a binding question, this question needs to be good so we can act on it. It shows administration that there is urgency to do these table rentals. This question is supposed to make it clear to everyone that we are not doing the table rental system any longer. But to also show that it is important that someone continues doing this. We are concerned with asking a question that represents student opinion, while also providing valuable results. I think the most neutral way to address the question is this, to communicate without the biased data.
            2. *Secretary’s Notes*: Questions were asked on the history of the tabling system. Some changes were made to the ballot question. The main purpose of this question was to see who the system benefits, and to find if students find the tabling system beneficial.
         2. Regarding bike paths,
            1. McCaughey: I feel that bike pedestrian safety is an important issue. When walking to class it’s a mix of pedestrians and bikes and there are many near collisions. So having separate routes might help ensure safety. Bikes often expect people to get out of the way, but so many people wear headphones and listen to music on the way to class and don’t always hear them. If we had separate courses, it might just make it a little safer!
            2. *Secretary’s Notes:* Some changes were made to clarify the intent of the question. We are concerned with the wording of the question to make sure that we are not framing the question in a way that would create biased data. Regarding, safety walking on campus Kathryn was open to suggestions to change this question. This question was worked on to clarify the options to better reflect the question. Should DPSS be responsible for parts of downtown Ann Arbor? The point of the question was to address general personal safety of pedestrians. We are interested into looking at how safe people feel, also between night and day. We decided over if you can make a rating scale, of relative safety, instead of binary yes or no questions. We also considered what the best way to use this data, and how. Kathryn was interested in bringing it up to DPSS to increase their presence on campus.
      3. SLC BLOCK
         1. TREES (Dalrymple & Simmons): this question is focused on the town halls that the PCCN has held, that are supposed to be for students on campus. These meetings have either not been accessible or not advertised in the way they were supposed to be. This question is to highlight if the PCCN is doing their job to the extent that they should. The issues being highlighted is the ability for the student body to attend these PCCN meetings. Work was done to clarify the questions.
         2. HEALTH (Suh): This question addresses the topic of menstrual products and their accessibility. This was a onetime initiative, but we are interested in the continuation of the ability to attain more menstrual products. We are considering changing the question to those who would support it versus those who simply use would it.
            1. *Secretary’s Note:* It was deemed best to table this question.
         3. DAC (Pamidighantam): This question is regarding the services provided by the spectrum center. We are interested in how these services affect the LGBTQ+ community.
      4. AAC BLOCK
         1. Exams and Election Day
            1. Schuler: There has been a ballot question and resolution passed on this idea in the past but its from 2010. Would you be in favor of not having exams on election day. The question was based on the importance of the election. This question is seeking what the likely hood that they cold be able to vote, if it was more accessible to vote, by removing the barriers that could be provided by the university. It’s difficult to take into account those who vote via absentee or in person.
            2. Goldman: The reason why the question has this specific wording in order to make the question more clear, we needed to create a situation for the voter assuming they had an exam on election day to see if that specific situation could affect if they would vote or not.
      5. Bonde: Move to make table system question a binding question
         1. PASSED 20-0-0
      6. Nonbinding questions chosen
         1. TREES PCCN QUESTION
         2. DAC LGBTQ QUESTION
         3. AAC ELECTION DAY QUESTION
            1. Bonde: please remember if your question didn’t make it don’t worry there are many ways to get your question out there!
21. New Business
22. A Resolution to Amend Chapter 9 of the Bylaws to Improve STAAR Departmental Awards
    1. Sponsors
       1. Ferrari: yeah so were back but it’s different. We got rid of the departmental award of excellence changed it to a broader recognition.
       2. Fivecoat: we wrote this in STAAR today! It basically would be more beneficial to us to recognize something or someone we’ve worked with this year.
       3. Watt: this give STAAR the flexibility to honor departments in the way that feels best for them.
       4. Torres: I second everyone else.
       5. Puscas: it’s been expanded beyond departments. It is for any resources that we have interacted with. Any committee and subcommittees can nominate resources of interest.
       6. McCaughey: what Wyatt said!
    2. COMMENTS QUESTIONS CONCERNS
       1. Dave: does this allow STAAR to opt out of this award?
       2. Fivecoat: this would not, they still must do this each year.
       3. Simmons: could you clarify what you are looking for concerning this award? What are the qualifications?
       4. Ferrari: it was left vague on purpose, but it could be an individual or resource, we don’t want to stipulate specifically what the entity should be.
       5. Simmons: To me it seems vague in what you are looking for. There isn’t an outline to what this award is recognizing.
       6. Puscas: we get a nomination form, we would want to recognize someone that is helpful to us, we can look at adding criteria and other aspects. It still needs to be flushed out more.
       7. Motion to table for one week: Goldman
          1. Second: Gupta
23. Matters Arising
    1. McLean: men’s glee club is having a concert with a mental health theme!
    2. Meade: I am working on more study spaces
    3. Goldman: donate blood! UM vs OSU!
    4. Gupta: if you want help with elected rep things ask me!
    5. Simmons: A cool event happening on Nov 12th called “queers with careers” all about being LGBTQ+ in the workforce.
    6. Colvin: thanks Tyler Ziel
    7. Kaitlyn: SAPAC is having their survivor speak out 7-9:30 Michigan league ballroom
    8. Pamidighantam: if you want help with FB event always can come to me.
24. Snaps
25. Closing Roll Call
    1. Brian Wang
    2. Mary McKillop
    3. Kaitlyn Colyer
    4. Jordan Schuler
    5. Nicolas Pereira
    6. Riya Gupta
    7. Danae Diaz
    8. Natalie Suh
    9. Tim Dalrymple
    10. Anna Colvin
    11. Andrew Goldman
    12. Sai Pamidighantam
    13. Alli Goodsell
    14. Kathryn McCaughey
    15. Divya Manikandan
    16. Jacob Cohen
    17. Chayton Fivecoat
    18. Tyler Watt
    19. John Paul O’Neil
    20. Tyler Ziel
    21. Danica Miller
    22. Frank Ferrari
    23. Ata Fattah
    24. Natalie Simmons
    25. Danny Hwang
    26. Zach Phillips
    27. Anna Hilles
    28. Sarah Salino
    29. Lauren Lunsford
    30. Gaby Torres
    31. Wyatt Puscas
    32. Claudia McLean
    33. Emilia O’Brien
    34. Riley List
    35. Joseph Meade
    36. Adam Grimes
    37. Prahar Dave
    38. Eric Hsieh
26. Adjournment
    1. Move to adjourn: Goldman
       * Second: Colvin

**B F2019.05**

**An Amendment Chapters 2 and 5 of the Bylaws to Improve Absence Flexibility**

*A bill for the consideration of the College of Literature, Science, and the Arts Student Government*

23 October 2019

Sponsored by: Tyler R. Watt, Nicolas Pereira

**Whereas,** the mission of the College of Literature, Science, and the Arts Student Government (hereafter LSA SG) is to “actively seek the voices of LSA students and advocate their interests to improve academic and non-academic life”;[[1]](#footnote-1) and,

**Whereas,** LSA SG utilizes its Bylaws to structure and facilitate official business, and recognizes the need for amendments to the Bylaws to improve its function and reflect current practices; and,

**Whereas,** members of LSA are required to maintain certain attendance requirements as enumerated in The College of Literature, Science and the Arts Student Government Bylaws (hereafter Bylaws); and,

**Whereas,** the culture of LSA SG promotes understanding among its members in order to promote good relations, internally and externally; and,

**Whereas,** the duty to record absences and determine which absences are excused and unexcused falls on the Secretary; and,

**Whereas,** the ability of the Secretary to be lenient in awarding excused absences has yet to be enumerated, though this ability provides an option for the Secretary that encourages members to remain in LSA SG despite other conflicts they may have.

**Be it therefore resolved,** that the Bylaws be amended in accordance with Appendix A; and,

**Be it further resolved,** that the Bylaw amendment be enacted immediately and that the Secretary be moved to consider this policy in all future cases of absences**.**

**Appendix A**

**Chapter 2**

**Meeting Procedures**

**Absence Excuse Procedure**

2.03.00 **Excusing Absences.** Any member wishing to be excused from any General Meeting, Committee Meeting, ***~~or~~*** Office Hour***, or other member obligation,*** must submit a request to the Secretary before the week in which they will be absent. Approval for excused absences shall be the Secretary***’s decision,*** and any contestations shall be discussed ***~~at the~~*** by the Executive Board. ***The Secretary may exercise reasonable leniency with regards to the conflicts that constitute legitimate absences, and the time required to notify the Secretary of an absence before it occurs.***

**Chapter 5**

**Minimum Attendance Requirement**

5.01.02. **Excused Absences.** An absence ***~~is~~*** ***shall be*** excused by one of two methods:

(a) **Government Excused.** The Government may, by a two-thirds vote, excuse a member’s absence for any reason.

(b)**The Secretary.**The Secretary shall excuse absences on behalf of the Government.

(c)**Legitimate Excused Absences.**Although absences may be excused for any reason by the Government, in order for the Secretary to excuse the absence, there must be a legitimate reason as deemed by the Secretary. Absences caused by unavoidable situations such as (but not limited to) exams, work meetings, religious observances can be excused provided that the Secretary knows at least 24 hours in advance. ***The Secretary has the discretion to exercise leniency with regards to the time at which they are notified of an intended absence by a member before the absence occurs.*** It is the responsibility of the member to explain any clarifying issues to the Secretary. If there is a foreseeable absence and it is not brought to the Secretary’s attention in a timely manner, the member shall incur an absence. If there is an unexpected and unforeseeable absence such as a family or health crisis, the Secretary should be informed about these absences as soon as possible so that it may be excused. In cases where a person wishes to appeal an unexcused absence or the Secretary is uncertain about how to treat a certain absence, the Executive Board shall come to a decision on the absence by majority vote.

**B F2019.05**

**An Amendment to the Ninth Chapter of the Bylaws to Replace the Departmental Award of Excellence with the LSA SG Resource Recognition Award**

*A bill for the consideration of the College of Literature, Science, and the Arts Student Government*

6 November 2019

Sponsored by: Frank Ferrari, Chayton Fivecoat, Tyler Watt, Gabriela Torres, Danae Diaz, Kathryn McCaughey, Wyatt Puscas, Jon Reid

**Whereas,** the mission of the College of Literature, Science, and the Arts Student Government (hereafter LSA SG) is to “actively seek the voices of LSA students and advocate their interests to improve academic and non-academic life”;[[2]](#footnote-2) and,

**Whereas,** LSA SG utilizes its Bylaws to structure and facilitate official business, and recognizes the need for amendments to the Bylaws to improve its function and reflect current practices; and,

**Whereas,** the purpose of the Subcommittee on Technology, Advising, and Academic Resources (hereafter STAAR) shall be to improve the general quality of learning environments, technology, advising services, and academic resources for LSA students;[[3]](#footnote-3) and,

**Whereas,** STAAR works in close cooperation with University departments and organizations to improve student access and knowledge of resources that contribute to their academic success; and,

**Whereas,** STAAR runs its meetings and operates as a subcommittee through their bylaws, enumerated in Chapter 9 of the LSA SG Bylaws; and,

**Whereas,** STAAR has historically recognized departments that have made great contributions to student success through their Departmental Award of Excellence (hereafter DAE); and,

**Whereas,** STAAR realizes both the strengths and weaknesses of the DAE and desires a greater degree of flexibility in its future work in recognizing outstanding academic units; and,

**Whereas,** STAAR believes a shift in its recognition mechanism can better align with the purposes of the subcommittee; and,

**Whereas,** Implementing the LSA SG Resource Recognition Award will allow SG as a whole to recognize resources, departments, and other LSA resources that LSA SG has collaborated with over the academic year.

**Be it therefore and finally resolved,** that the Bylaws of LSA SG be amended according to Appendix A attached herein.

Appendix A

**Chapter 9**

**Subcommittee on Technology, Advising, and Academic Resources**

9.02.01 **Cooperation.** STAAR shall ***focus on projects related to ~~work with~~*** the LSA Newnan Advising Center, LSA Instructional Support Services, LSA Information and Technology Services, Academic Innovation, the Digital Innovation Greenhouse, the LSA Opportunity Hub, the Science Learning Center, the Sweetland Writing Center, the Language Resource Center, the LSA Testing Accommodation Center, Services for Students with Disabilities, the Math Lab, the Physics Help Room, ***~~and~~*** ***or*** other relevant LSA and University units and resources to improve the general quality of learning environments, technology, advising services, and academic resources.

***~~9.02.032 LSA Student Government Departmental Award of Excellence. Each year STAAR shall present a department within the College with the LSA SG Departmental Award of Excellence (hereafter DAE). The procedures for the DAE are as follows:~~***

***9.02.02 LSA Student Government Resource Recognition Award. Each year STAAR shall present a resource or other body within the College of LSA with the LSA SG Resource Recognition Award. The procedures for this award are as follows:***

1. ***Nomination Form. STAAR shall distribute a form for SG members, committees, and subcommittees to nominate any LSA resources, departments, or other entities that they have collaborated with during the past academic year.***
2. ***Criteria. The award shall be decided based on these submitted responses, and the collective experiences of interested SG parties.***
3. ***Deliberation. All members of STAAR shall be able to vote on the LSA SG Resource Recognition Award. No two College entities shall be presented with this distinction across two consecutive years.***
4. ***Presentation. STAAR leadership shall present the award to the winning entity by the end of that academic year.***
5. ***~~Questionnaire. STAAR shall draft a questionnaire for the relevant faculty or staff of each department to distribute to their students. The questionnaire should, at minimum, address administrative, advising and teaching practices of the department.~~***
6. ***~~Criteria. The award shall be decided based on qualitative responses from students that extol the student’s experience with a department; the quantity of questionnaires answered in support of a department will not be considered as important as the caliber and intent of any single recommendation.~~***
7. ***~~Deliberation. All members of STAAR shall be able to vote on the DAE. This award shall be presented to the winning department at a faculty meeting following the vote on behalf of the LSA undergraduates.~~***

**Fall 2019 Ballot Question Proposals**

Executive Board Proposed Questions

1. LSA Student Government will no longer have a free table and chair rental service available beginning next semester (Winter 2020) after relocating to the LSA Building. LSA Student Government would like to advocate for another University department to take on this service. Did you or your Student Organization find LSA Student Government’s table rental service helpful?
   1. Yes
   2. No
   3. I did not use it, but I knew about it
   4. I did not use it and I did not know about it
2. Considering the amount of bikes on campus, would you find alternative bike paths beneficial?
   1. Yes
   2. No
   3. No preference
3. **Do you feel safe walking on and around campus?**
   1. I always feel safe
   2. I usually feel safe
   3. I sometimes feel safe
   4. I rarely feel safe
   5. I never feel safe

Student Life Block Proposed Questions

1. **Do you think that the community town halls hosted by the President's Commission on Carbon Neutrality are accessible to the student body to attend (past meetings have been held at the U-M Rackham Amphitheater and Assembly Hall at 4:30 PM)?**
   1. Yes, I think these meetings are accessible for students to attend
   2. No, I do not think these meetings are accessible for students to attend
   3. I was not aware that the President’s Commission on Carbon Neutrality has hosted these meetings for students
2. **If you identify as being a part of the LGBTQ+ community, do you think that the free resources provided by the Spectrum Center are accessible?**
   1. I am a part of the LGBTQ+ community and I have used the resources as they are accessible
   2. I am a part of the LGBTQ+ community and I have used the resources even though they are inaccessible
   3. I am a part of the LGBTQ+ community and I have not used the resources even though they are accessible
   4. I am a part of the LGBTQ+ community and I have not used the resources because they are inaccessible
   5. I am not part of the LGBTQ+ community/prefer not to answer

Academic Affairs Block Ballot Questions

1. **If you were to have an exam on election day or the day immediately following, would you be less likely to vote?**
   1. Yes, I would be less likely to vote, as I would not have the time to vote
   2. No, I would not be less likely to vote, as I would make time to vote regardless of whether or not I had an exam
   3. No, I would not be less likely to vote, as I vote by absentee ballot or do not vote
   4. No, I would not be less likely to vote for one of the above reasons, but I think this could be helpful for people who struggle to make time to vote in person

1. The Constitution of the College of Literature, Science, and the Arts Student Government. Article II [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. The Constitution of the College of Literature, Science, and the Arts Student Government. Article II [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
3. LSA SG Bylaws, 9.02.00 [↑](#footnote-ref-3)