



**Elizabethtown College
Student Senate
Minutes – January 19, 2012**

ECSS.01112.SS.0012.A

The meeting was called to order by **Frantz** at 3:45 p.m.

Special Order of the day- Robert Chapman discussing the Medical Amnesty Policy

- **Asbury:** The College was given a grant to improve alcohol policies and issues. So, we brought in an expert, Robert Chapman, to help with discussions on alcohol and medical amnesty policies. He has over 35 years in the alcohol and drug field. **Chapman:** I'd like to frame the issue of medical amnesty first and look at this as one of the hotter topics being talked about by different campuses. Then I'd like to discuss medical amnesty. What is the intent of this policy? Two usual answers given by educators is to move away from something that is feared, like being sued or litigation being raised, or to move to something that is desired or wished, like to increase the likelihood of bystander behavior becoming normal. As student senate considers this, take it from the point of view of - is the policy something that we're moving away from or moving toward something. This has been a college issue going back to the 16th centuries. What has made this an interesting topic now is because of success of environmental management and an increase in off-campus residences. One of the consequences that follow is less supervision. This means there are fewer individuals that are looking out for student well-being. Students tend to be more careful in dorms and on campus. What can the institution do to make sure that other individuals will help another student? A medical amnesty policy seeks to decrease likelihood that a student will hesitate to act. This allows a professional to determine if a student really needs medical attention. It also encourages safety and responsibility through an entire campus community. It promotes education and treatment for those who receive medical attention in an AOD emergency. You as senators can help spread and encourage safety as well. How can we be more proactive? There are concerns about these policies as well. Evidence supporting beliefs that students do not call for help is sketchy at best. Data suggesting correlation between fear of discipline and failure to call for help is difficult to document. It is also difficult to discern the correlation between the calls that are made and the existence of a medical amnesty policy. Questions to consider include: do they conflict with existing policies, especially zero-tolerance, do they imply the institution's knowledge that a problem exists, do they cover all incidents, irrespective of individual frequency and if so, does it imply a duty to act, do medical amnesty policies convey greater concern for students than the community in which they live, and do they condone if not underwrite high collegiate drinking? These are just some concerns that come up. You may have different issues personally or as a senate. Remember that what motivates most campuses to engage in these types of policies is to protect students. I'd like to address questions now. **Frantz:** What is more effective, having one implication per student or multiple? **Chapman:** I don't really know many schools that have multiple times to get out of trouble, maybe one or two. It needs to be limited to some extent and I would not be opposed to limiting it to one time. Usually students begin to learn after that experience. **Galanek:** Do you see limiting it to a single use decreasing the effectiveness of the policy? **Chapman:** It may influence the student in trouble for a second time to not call, but a bystander may not know that they have implemented it once already. This group should advocate to students what the policy is intended to do and it is something to move forward to and what an alcohol emergency is. The policy is designed to decrease ambivalence to helping a student and that is done with making sure students know the policy. **Myers:** Does freshman alcohol awareness orientation have a difference? **Chapman:** You do end up learning more, but it doesn't always affect student's behavior afterward. I wouldn't be opposed to having it, but there needs to be more than just that. **Clemens:** Does the policy apply to the person who calls alone, the person who calls and the person who needs help, or does it also include the organization or room that had the party? **Chapman:** At Cornell, the policy is extended to the organization and they have three different strikes. This may be an appropriate topic for a sub-committee to discuss. **Clemens:** For the organization, there is no education avenue. **Chapman:** There are ways to engage students in learning the information even if they are required to attend an education about it. Research shows that what does work is promoting abstinence from alcohol or

practicing moderation. **Calenda:** I'd like to hear from the students their view on how the different policies look. **Clemens:** Students should be given the choice to call. I don't think that punishing a student for not calling is an ethical option. **Preivity:** Is that shown to work at any school? **Chapman:** It's an expectation that a student will do the right thing. It ties in proactive behavior. **Peters:** I think that there should be a trial period with the policy to see if students call in more. I think if there was something like having an alcohol awareness class for students that use the policy; it may be seen as a punishment and not call. **Chapman:** It should be a class that teaches in a way that engages the students and not like a lecture at the person. It's the idea of perception. You can invite students see the difference in this policy. **Calenda:** Are you hoping that we are moving toward something that we want or moving away from something that we're afraid of? **Desmond:** I think the main goal is student safety and that would be considered something to move toward. **Clemens:** Are we addressing the issue itself or just the symptoms of the issues? We all know about Etown's atmosphere of a community, this is moving toward something that we want...safety and well-being for individuals. I think it will be better with this policy and it's moving toward the right direction. **Calenda:** Would you agree that students that do not activate the policy should be held responsible? **Peters:** I think if we are going to punish someone for not, we need to implement something educational. **Calenda:** How do you decide when to pick up the phone? **Wildberger:** If Etown is teaching integrity and honesty, you should be calling. **Roeder:** I think the signs are so subtle for alcohol poisoning and students can't make that decision. **Chapman:** Don't lose track of what's important...rewarding people for what we want. You are among the best position to make this work or shut this down. You are in the position of changing the perspective. You are in a position to influence the policy. **Calenda:** I'd like to thank you for helping us see that Student Senate's responsibility also includes helping students understand and implement the policy. **Chapman:** I do have a website, robertchapman.net, that you can see information on this as well. **Frantz:** I move to take a 3 minute break. **Graham:** Second. **Frantz:** Motion Passes.

Roll call was performed by **Sheeley**.

Approval of Minutes (ECSS.01112.SS.011) – **Sheeley**
Approved

Administrative Reports.

- A. Student Life –Calenda:** The senior leadership has been very involved in strategic planning over winter break. We had a faculty staff forum before you got back to look at the first version of the draft. I talked with Brian to set up a town hall meeting so that we can get a good dialogue with students about the plan. I really want to stress the importance of your role in this process. **Frantz:** It is tentatively February 16th. **Calenda:** The whole idea is to have every RA, peer mentors, and athlete there. Help out with this. I've been spending a good amount of time working on personal safety on campus. We did replace all core locks on campus. We have discussed card swipes, but the cost is too much for the college right now. **Clemens:** When could that be possible? **Calenda:** Maybe in a few years. **Post:** Would it be done all at once? **Calenda:** It would be done in stages. **Knights:** Is there punishment for someone who misuses their keys? **Calenda:** If we find out, yes they are. Brian brought to me your concern about the EC alert system. Thank you for bringing it to my attention. We are working more with the borough police to improve communication. We will be differentiating alerts. When an EC alert comes out it is for your safety immediately. A timely warning would be something after the fact to update you. **Graham:** Does Etown have a lockdown procedure? **Calenda:** We have procedures for different situations. For many, it would require campus security to go and manually lock down buildings. There is an emergency response group. We discussed lighting as well. I talked with Brian about advocating for improved lighting. Give me specific locations. **Clemens:** There were issues over break that the crews working the ac units were stealing things. I think residence life has done well with that. **Post:** Is the new campus security car a planned purchase or because of events from last semester? **Calenda:** I didn't know they got one.
- B. Campus Security-Boyer:**
- C. Center for Student Success- Davies:**
- D. Office of Student Wellness– Spayd:** The well hours have changed to 10 am-6 pm during the week. S.P.A.R.C. is working on a door hanger on signs of alcohol poisoning. **Calenda:** I think that it will be

helpful to have senate endorse the door hanger. **Clemens:** Do they need help handing them out?
Frantz: I don't know, but I'll suggest it.

Executive Cabinet Reports

- A. President – Frantz:** Remember, the Senate Retreat is January 28th, the town hall meeting is February 16th, senior staff is coming on March 29th which is also the dinner at the president's house, and we'll be meeting in H110 on April 26th. We had two resignations- Wideman and Wigoda. Karen Hodges is coming in February to talk about the scheduling changes. Nancy Florey will be coming soon to discuss emergency management. **Post:** I think it would be beneficial for Hodges to come to the club council meeting as well.
- B. Vice President – Farnish:** Retreat is on the 28th, from 9 am to 12 pm and breakfast will be provided. I am trying to plan a senate dinner for very soon.
- C. Secretary – Sheeley:** No Report
- D. Judicial – Clemens:** Keep emailing me and Keely for when you will be missing.
- E. Elections – LaChance:** Please talk to your peers about running for the open positions.
- F. Publicity and Marketing – Peters:** I'm looking into the jackets. Let me know if you would like to help with them. I'm going over everything that Donte gave me. I'm also looking into advertising in as many ways as possible for the town hall meeting. I'm looking for students to attend club meetings.

Old Business

- A. Committee Updates**
 - a. None

New Business

- a. **Election of Student Senate Treasurer Pro Tempore- Moore:** Nominate Graham. **Graham:** I accept. **Lachance:** Congratulations Graham.

Student Comments

None

Announcement

- **Post:** Don't use Internet Explorer when using the new scheduling system. It doesn't work well.
- **Peters:** P&M committee meet after
- **Richmond:** One Elle of a Night is tomorrow at 8 pm
- **Lachance:** Elections committee meet after

Adjournment

Next Meeting

January 26th at 3:45 p.m. in H212

Respectfully Submitted,

Keelyan Sheeley
Student Senate Secretary
