I. Roll Call (19:45)

Present: 58
Absent: 14
Quorum: was met

II. Call to Order (19:50)

The Chair called the meeting to order at 7:50 pm

Chief of Staff Raffo motions to amend “Senator Colin” to “Senator Kotler” on page 3
Senator Morley seconds

I. Chair Address (19:52)

a. Executive Vice President – Suchira Sharma
   i. Last Week:
      1. General organizational duties (Project Management meetings, senate preparation)
      2. Attended and finalize some of the logistics for the Student Experience Town Hall at a meeting with Administrators. Topic set: Northeastern Community Relations – interested student groups: contact me for more information! I want you to be involved!
      3. Worked with sponsors of legislation to be presented later during the semester
   ii. The Week Ahead:
      1. Publishing Q4 reports
      2. Drafting some changes to Constitution/Bylaws, working with SAID members and President Horen
      3. Meeting with referenda authors re: submissions

II. Executive Addresses (19:53)

a. President – Elliot Horen
   i. Updates:
      1. Last Week:
         a. Finished Budget Priorities Survey Presentation
         b. Organizational responsibilities (met with advisor, project management meetings, etc.)
      2. The Week Ahead:
         a. Present Budget Priorities to Senior Leadership Team
         b. Meet with referenda sponsors
         c. Meet with admin to discuss Husky Cable channel lineup
         d. Organizational responsibilities (meet with advisor, project management meetings, etc.)

b. Comptroller – Draken DuBose
   i. Updates:
      1. Thanks to everybody who applied to the finance board
         a. You’ll be hearing this week whether you’ll get an interview
b. Everyone will probably get an interview
   c. Only one person is going to be accepted because we only have one slot open
2. We only have three meetings left this year, so you’ll be getting more project-based work
   c. Vice President for Academic Affairs – Zachary Waggoner
      i. Updates:
         1. I want to have a big brainstorming session about new ways we can deal with textbook prices on campus
   d. Vice President for Student Affairs – Alex Bender
      i. Updates:
         1. “Husky to Husky” – Mental Peer Education Program
            a. Starting tabling and events with new members
         2. Diversity and Inclusion
            a. Starting talking to as many perspectives as possible to establish direction
         3. Community Engagement
            a. Asset mapping project
   4. Club Sports Advisory Board
      a. AKA Club Sports Council
      b. Implemented
   5. Community Arts Day/block pARTy
      a. Starting to plan for event
      b. Logistics
   e. Vice President for Student Involvement – Nick Haberli
      i. Updates:
         1. Creating a liaison workshop to standardize tentative student organizations’ experiences with the Board
         2. Began reviewing our constitutional template to reflect changes made to SIB governing documents.
         3. Working with the Center for Student Involvement to continue to refine the experience of tentative organizations.
   f. Vice President for Student Services – Paulina Ruiz
      i. Updates:
         1. Worked with committee members to develop a plan of action for making Gender Neutral Housing more accessible
         2. Met with Dr. Klein of UHCS to discuss what they have been working on and what student concerns still exist
         3. Completed and sent the Affordable Housing Proposal to Housing
         4. Attended the second Sustainability Committee of the semester where we revived conversations surrounding renewable energy on campus
   g. Chief of Staff – Becca Raffo
      i. Updates:
         1. Working on Mid-Year Spending Report
         2. New Senator Deadline is February 13th
         3. STEP starts February 27th
4. Retreat for 2017 will be October 28th-29th! Get pumped!

5. If you are not getting out emails or have an issue with the roster, let me know!

h. Executive Director of Communications – Akiera Gilbert
   i. Updates:
      1. NRHH’s Building Blocks of Community Event is tomorrow! It starts at 6PM in the Curry Indoor Quad and there will be free food, so please come out to SGA’s monthly initiative event for February
      2. Please see me after senate and give me your name if you are interested in fulfilling one or more of your advocacy hours by visiting student organizations to promote the SLAA

III. Special Addresses(20:00)
   a. Parliamentarian – Alex Carlin
   b. Elections Committee Chair – Samuel Gugliemotto and Steph Beja
      i. Updates:
         1. We finalized the logo! Shoutout to our awesome graphic designer Megan!
         2. Ordered giveaways
         3. Two more weeks until Slate Declaration and Intent to Run forms are due
   c. Director of Engagement Steph Beja
      i. Updates:
         1. Next Monday, we’re going to have a pre-senate dinner at Qdoba
            a. We’ll meet at the SGA office at 5:30 and head on over to Qdoba
   d. Director of Outreach Administration Devina Raithatha
      i. If you are required to complete your advocacy hours, the requirement for both January and February is five
         1. I’ll add a forum in the point of information
      ii. Reach out to me if you have any questions
   e. Director of Senate Outreach Nathan Hostert
      i. Still looking for two people for reaching out positions
         1. The main requirement is to send out a monthly email to clubs per category
         2. Right now I’m looking for somebody to reach out to the academic enrichment clubs and organizations and to community and philanthropic organizations
         3. Come talk to me if you’re interested and you want an easy way to fill your advocacy hours

IV. Question Time(20:03)

V. New Business(20:04)
   a. Member of the Month January 2017
      i. Executive VP Sharma: This senator has demonstrated their excellence in two ways that I can qualify: by being proactive and diligent. The student has revamped an old outreach program with very little direction and has followed through in terms of every single step, from the planning of it to its execution. It is my hope that the will continue to reach out in the way that he has done before in the future, so congratulations Senator Hostert for being January’s member of the month.
   b. SS-SP-7-101 Presentation
i. Executive VP Sharma yields the floor to VP Waggoner

1. VP Waggoner: First an apology if you have read the legislation with the agenda, I apologize those weren’t quite the right versions; however, the changes weren’t approved by the executive board to be before you today, however the changes are minor and could be editorial. I would say basically the first whereas clause was amended to read the current TRACE system was co-developed by the SGA faculty senate, where as I forget what it said before, but it said something to the same effect. And simply the language surrounding dialogues is simply the word “courses”, it was added afterwards, the original legislation said “dialogues”, we now say “dialogue-courses”. So basically the legislation attempts to do two things. Right now the faculty senate is considering, along with the provost office expanding TRACE surveys to include one question specific to dialogue courses as a portion of TRACE currently dialogues are not assessed on TRACE so there’s no publicly available data concerning those courses that students can see about how effective they are, how effective those professors that teach them are. And secondly the provost office was also looking to add questions concerning the NU Path being the NU Core, that incoming students are now going to be fulfilling their time at Northeastern they want to add questions specific to the NU Core. Basically under the idea that the new Northeastern Core is a set of very specific learning goals that each course is supposed to fulfill and students should be able to access whether or not they have fulfilled those learning goals through their new classes. This is simply a piece of legislation showing that either there is or there is not student support for these two initiatives. This is kind of gone forward, I went this through my committee and also have the recommendation of the academic affairs committee, so this is simply again offering support for these 2 additions to TRACE.

2. Senator Agyare: Right now, the most common TRACE surveys are Summer I and II, so with that in mind, how often do you “inaudible”?

   a. VP Waggoner: Actually to answer that question in its entirety, the thing is there are more recent TRACE available however they are only released in blocks, the system has been updated, the old system, if you go into where you fill out trace now there’s a report section and all of the new surveys that are done under that system are available under there. So that confused me first too, so now all TRACE surveys are available through to where you go my trace and you can run reports for the semesters.

3. Senator Morley: Out of curiosity, have they indicated what exactly the questions that they are going to be asking, I would assume it would be what is in the course, but considering it’s dialogue and a huge part of that experience is just being the other country, being a part of another culture, is there a potential for those questions like, “Did you feel safe?”, “Did you feel like you had proper chaperones?”, things like that?

   a. VP Waggoner: The thing is that basically if you’ll notice those languages to be very specific to dialogue courses, and that is because TRACE is very specific to professors and how they teach the course, and how a professor is engaged in teaching a course and also how that relates to a dialogue, so that could include some of the content, however it won’t include some of
the things like lodging and things that wouldn’t make sense because TRACE is used in tenure reviews and so professors wouldn’t be comfortable having like, housing is not relevant to a tenure review. Thank you.

4. **Senator Grondin:** Is there currently no system in place like at all for students to be able to evaluate any of the capacity of the courses that they take, or do dialogues do all holistic?
   a. **VP Waggoner:** They do a separate holistic thing through GEO; however, those survey results are not available to students in the same way that TRACE is, and it’s also again like if a professor teaches a dialogue course that’s not reflected anywhere like in terms of public record of survey results.

5. **Executive VP Sharma:** I have a question, does this piece of legislation also gain the approval of the other university organizations?
   a. **VP Waggoner:** Yeah, so, to be very open about it, I wrote this and I ran it by the provost office because they are the ones that are largely pushing this along with faculty senate and were kind of showing students support along with them for the development of these questions and so I did discuss this piece of legislation with them. They only change they had exactly was that “dialogue-courses” specification in the legislation.

VI. **Open Discussion** (20:12)
   a. **Senator Raithatha:** OGS is hosting Carnevale, it’s a month-long celebration of the diversity at Northeastern – we have an event every day. I’m hosting some of them, so come support us.
   b. **Chief of Staff Raffo:** If you want to send me that in an email to include it in the point of information – that goes for everyone, if you want anything included.
   c. **Senator Morris:** I posted in the SGA Senators Facebook page that I’m working with an environmental nonprofit, so if you guys are interested in signing a petition that’s calling upon Massachusetts lawmakers to move towards more renewable energy sources, that would be awesome, and also if you’re interested in getting involved any more than just signing the petition, feel free to reach out to me anyway.
   d. Question of the week:

   **Which campus resources did you find beneficial when building community at Northeastern?**
   i. CSSH
      1. **Senator Morris:** Clubs. Literally every single one of us said clubs. We said that were all very different, it was clubs, the answer was clubs. We are lucky to have all of these campus resources, but they are more of a safety net. Clubs are a great way to find people with similar interests, living learning, aside from the experience, outside of your major and outside of your social sphere.
      2. **Senator Sisman:** It’s really nice, you literally get to pick what to do.
      3. **Senator Hostert:** She also said work-study, because she gets to feel like she’s part of the department.
   ii. Bouve
      1. **Senator Loukianova:** I was going to say that we also talked a lot about student organizations and clubs and that they were kind of the main resource that helped us
      2. **Senator Hlaing:** When I was a freshman I didn’t enjoy anything at all. Definitely it helps to join clubs, if you’re not the kind of person that’s ready to join clubs or if you
don’t want to and you’re a freshman, it’s really helpful. The one thing we did notice is that within your LLC you don’t really branch with other LLC’s so my first 2 years I didn’t really talk to anyone outside Bouve at all until I joined clubs. That could be worked on in the LLC’s to give you connections with other LLC’s.

iii. CoE

1. **Senator Heudebourg**: For the LLC’s, they can be a great tool, and for me, all my friends are engineers, we happen to live together, we have classes together, and then all my clubs are engineering clubs. Outside of that, I have friends from different pools, but they’re all kind of from the same engineering, so it’s true, with the LLC we don’t get that branching out, so we’re really missing out in a sense we don’t really get discovered like everyone else on the campus.

iv. D’Amore McKim

1. **Senator Fabian**: For building my community at Northeastern, best resource I had, because I lived off campus and I transferred here, probably the academic advisors, or the transfers, they helped me, pick all my options for me, and showed me exactly what I needed to do, and from there I was able to do what I wanted. I get to meet all new people - that’s my best answer.

v. FSL

1. **Senator Kowalska**: For me, I’m also a transfer but I’m also in college of engineering and for me if I had not joined all these clubs, all my friends would be engineers, because I’d see them five times a week and like I need to see other faces, I work with you with projects and homework, so I agree that Greek life was very helpful, as well as clubs in general, and the fair they have in the beginning of the year.

vi. Cultural Orgs

1. **Senator Agyare**: We talked about cultural groups and such. Those are great way within our communities to meet others.

2. **Senator**: We also said SGA is a great resource.

vii. Advocacy Groups

1. **Student at Large Richey**: Advocacy groups, enjoy them and love them, whether they be through community service, a community within that or having a community like cultural institution like the African American Institute, giving us a sense of community at Northeastern.

viii. CoS

1. **Senator Walter**: Hey everyone, much like everyone else we made friends through organizations. I guess in the CoS specifically, I guess the advising resources are really good because when they have you interact with people from your major, a lot of my friends personally are bio-chemists as well, that was a nice little help from the university.

ix. CCIS

1. **Senator McCadden**: Basically like whatever everyone else said, the clubs, the tutor centers are very helpful, there are a lot of cool people there, not even just tutors.

x. Executive VP Sharma: So as you might have been able to tell while we were doing this, Chief of Staff Raffo was furiously typing, she was not sending emails. Both her and I take notes on everything that happens in this discussion on top of the meeting minutes that get sent out on Sunday night emails and this feedback is directly implemented into whatever
kind of initiative that we pursue in the future. I think student groups was something that
everyone jumps to but personally I was surprised by how many people mentioned
academic resources. So it’s important to think that the scope of whatever we are talking
about our monthly initiative isn’t just restricted to one certain aspect of student life and I’m
sure VP Waggoner wherever he is got some great feedback as well. Thank you for a great
discussion.

VII. Adjournment (20:33)

Adjourned at 8:33 pm