

RESIDENCE HALL STUDENT ASSOCIATION

ASSOCIATE COUNCIL MEETING

Date: 02/26/24

Location: SUB 409

CALL TO ORDER

**Abby:** 9:09

MYSTERY ACTIVITY 9:10

**Abby:** We are officially in election season, so to get you all accustomed to how elections run. We will have silly elections tonight, so you will be voting for the best study spot on campus! Your candidates are the library and Wooster hall!

Just to go over the election process, there is no technology to be used in the room while elections are going on other than the E-Board. We're going to have 5 minutes to come up with expectations for our candidates. Then up to 3-minute speeches from each of the candidates, followed by a 5-minute question and answer period extendable up to 3 times. For the sake of time, our candidates will be questioned at the same time. Then we'll vote by eyes closed, hands raised (this is not the same in real elections). Only two members from your hall are allowed to vote, it should be your AC representatives. Any questions before we get started?

I'm going to ask our study spots to leave and I'll call them back after expectations. We're going to go into 5 minutes of expectations with the first placard raised. I'd like to hear at least 3.

Expectations:

Capen: Quiet

Shawangunk: ample seating

Scudder: spacious Atmosphere

Bliss: Comfortable seating

Gage: Good wifi connection

Minnewaska: Open Late

Bouton: Equal to everyone

Minnewaska: Central location/good lighting

Gage: comfortable

Abby: If there are no more additions I will take a motion to end expectations with or without additions.

Motion to end without additions: Gage

Second: Minnewaska

**Abby:** Now I will invite our first candidate in for their speech.

**Eddie:** Selecting the location of studying is very important for study motivation and academic success. A library's sole purpose is for learning. The library is a study-friendly environment where you can focus on your studies. The benefits of studying in a library are academic access, limited distractions, it is a social place, and there is the ability to ask for assistance. There are diverse resources reserved for research and studies. The library upholds silence and a whisper-only environment, providing a suitable study environment. Additionally, whether you decide to interact with people around you in the library, it's a social environment that brings people together for educational purposes. Having people around you who are also being academic can be a resource if you are having trouble. The resources library provides a great variety of tools to help you succeed. Study rooms are great ways to time block, which is a method students can use to have a successful study session. According to a Harvard study, planning ahead gives you the power to feel more prepared as a student. What better way to plan ahead than being able to book a study room in the library? In comparison to element 93, students are automatically in a more relaxed, laid-back state of mindset. The space isn't conducive to productivity. There are numerous distractions that could be overstimulating to academic success. Element 93's hours of operation are from 7:30am-5pm. This is 72% of the day that you are facing loud noises, people chewing, food order beeps, and much more. Although there is more comfortability at element 93, being able to have a healthy environment such as the library is better. The benefits of the library clearly outweigh the choice of Element 93

**Abby:** And now for our second candidate

**Ange:** Wooster Hall stands out as an exceptional place to study for several compelling reasons. Firstly, its serene and conducive atmosphere fosters focused concentration, providing an ideal setting for academic endeavors. The abundance of natural light streaming through its ample windows creates a refreshing ambiance, enhancing productivity and comfort for students. Additionally, the availability of various study spaces, from quiet corners to collaborative areas, caters to diverse learning preferences, ensuring that every student can find a suitable spot to excel. With its well-maintained facilities and supportive environment, Wooster Hall truly embodies the essence of an excellent study destination.

## Question and Answer

**Abby:** Up here is the speakers list. It is a way so all of you can ask your questions without keeping your hands in the air. So, when I put your halls name up you will know what order to speak in and you are able to put your hands down. Question and Answer starts with the first placard in the air. I would like at least 3 questions asked.

Bouton: For the library what are your hours of operation?

Eddie: Great question, 8-11, but 12 on Thursday. For Midterms/Finals, their late-night study room is open 24/7.

Gage: For library, you talked about Element's restaurant affect the atmosphere, wouldn't Krishna also affect the library?

Eddie: No because it's not part of the actual library. Go past the metal detectors.

Fannely: For element if we vote you, will you give out free food.

Ange: to clarify I am not Element, I am the upper portion of Wooster. So we are not associated with them, although in the same building, we have doors that solidify the sound to the study area.

Fannely: So no free food?

Ange: No.

Shawangunk: For Wooster do you know the hours of operation? Is it the same as Element?

Ange: No, the element closes at 5, Wooster stays open 24 hours.

Scudder: Regarding Wooster Hall, you guys don't really have table seating in your study areas. How would you accommodate people?

Ange: If you go to the third floor there is office space up there with seating, charging spots, and a vending machine. Where you can socialize with other human beings.

Awosting: For the library, Wooster has a beautiful mural of the gunks, does the library have a pretty mural too? (on upper floor)

Eddie: the library has windows and you can definitely see the outside.

Awosting: But it's not a mural

Eddie: Who needs a mural when you can see outside into the fresh light, the lighting helps you study better.

Ashokan: Element how comfy would you rate your seating?

Ange: For academic purposes keep you awake, so 10/10.

Ashokan: You said it was uncomfortable.

Ange: 10/10 for academic purposes.

Shango: For the library how would you rate your seating?

Eddie: We have a variety of seating so it's hard to classify the rating of the seating. The comfy green chairs in the back are 11/10, can not beat that when it comes to comfort.

Motion to extend: Capen

Second: Bliss

Capen: For Wooster do you guys have private study rooms?

Ange: We do not but we have little offices so you can turn your chair and turn your back to your peers.

Gage: Wooster do you have printing?

Ange: If you go downstairs by the desk, there are computers, and the building also connects to CSB. The printing is free(on your phone)

Shawangunk: For both what would you say are your busiest hours?

Eddie: 2-3 the in-between of classes, commuters still here, other than that if you get there early or late there are not a lot of people out. Very good compared to Element.

Ange: Our busiest time is 2:30-4:30. The great thing about Element is it has its own entrance which students go through which is usually quiet. A lot of students can usually maintain their studying, some people like to go to the library and chew on wood.

Eddie: Sorry did you say chew on wood or study?

Minnewaska: As a long studier what food sources do you have?

Eddie: We have Krishna, and also Costa, which is great for studying, sometimes we all need coffee. If you don't like coffee, boom hot chocolate. Which can keep you in the mood of studying.

Ange: In Wooster Element is open till 5:00, which has a variety of options, vegetarian, vegan, snacks, juices, coffee, and Starbucks inside to get hot chocolate, frappucinos, we do breakfast, lunch, and dinner till 5:00. We also have a vending machine with monsters and other energy drinks, canned coffee, chips that is 24 hours.

Awosting: For Wooster have you ever had a mold problem?

Ange: Regarding those accusations That is a part of SUNY New Paltz, all I have to say is toughen your immunity.

Scudder: Is it true Element gives out free pastries when they are closing.

Ange: that is classified information. So contrary to belief, after 4:30 they tend to give away pastries, and free salads, and if you go there and take it, we have a problem, that is mine.

Abby: With that, we are concluding our question and answer period, if both of our candidates could leave the room.

## Discussion

**Abby:** Will will be using the speakers list once again. I would like to see at least 3 discussion points. No outside information is to be brought in, only what the the study location themselves talked about or answered from the questions. \*What two positions will be elected next meeting?\*

- Gage likes the easy academic access in the library and likes the diverse learning environment.
- Collengo loves Krishna's kitchen.
- Ashokan felt library had a lot of anger in his responses and it stressed me out when thinking about studying.
- Capen appreciates the study rooms in the library
- Shawangunk liked the food options in element
- Bliss likes energy drinks in element (Yield to redundancy-Minnewaska)
- Gage likes Woosters proximately to classes

Motion to End Discussion (w or w/o additions): Gage

Second: Bliss

Votes:

**Abby:** Now we will go into voting. We will be voting by eyes closed and raised hands. Only two representatives from your hall are able to vote, preference should be given to the AC representatives. Please choose who will be voting for your hall now. Your options to vote are the library, Wooster, no confidence (which means you have zero faith in either candidate to fulfill the role) or abstain (which means you have some kind of relationship with the candidate whether you hate them strongly, love them strongly, or whatever, you should not vote). Does everyone understand our voting options? Alright, eyes closed.

Library | 10

Wooster | 5

No Confidence | 3

Abstain | 1

**Abby:** I would like to congratulate the Library for being the best study spot on campus! Thank you all so much for participating.

## ROLL CALL/HALL REPORTS 9:40

**Eddie:** Hey everyone! So when I call your hall, if you can give me the number of people representing your hall, how many RHSA shirts you have on, how many NRHH shirts you have on, how many Conference shirts you have on, and a hall report from your hall gov if you have one.

Hall Name	Number Present	RHSA Shirts	NRHH Shirts	Conference Shirts	Hall Report
Ashokan	2	2	0	0	Wed before break event, March 9th passive program with goodie bags St Patricks jeopardy
Awosting	1	0	0	0	Nothing to report
Bliss	3	0	0	0	Kahhot with awards-check ig
Bouton	4	4	0	0	Thurs leap into spring 8 pm main lounge
Capen	4	1	0	0	Wed 28th 8;30pm Sunday social
Collango	2	0	0	0	Nothing to report
Esopus	1	0	0	0	Nothing to report
Gage	4	2	0	0	Wed main lounge 7 scary Roblox game
Lenape	0	0	0	0	
Minnewaska	2	0	0	0	Fri time TBD Women History Barbie self-care
Ridgeview	0	0	0	0	
Scudder	1	0	0	0	Spaghetti taco night (Challenge) Check ig for date/time
Shawangunk	12	12	0	0	Leap Day Thurs 7 pm Basement lounge

**Eddie:** Alright thank you, one more thing at the end of the meeting if you are not on the email blast please come up after so you can be added to it and get the minutes and updates on programs.

SENATE 9:44

We just have elections for next year's senate in engage, the deadline is Feb 29th at noon. We have our takeovers on our Instagram at [npsa.senate](https://www.instagram.com/npsa.senate). We still have seats available, Ashokan, Awosting, Bliss, Bounton, Capen, College/Shango, Ridgeview, Graduate student, and one senator at large.

NRHH 9:45

**Eddie:** NRHH and RHSA would like to congratulate everyone in the RA interview process who are moving along to Group Process Day. We would like to give a reminder to all of you who are going to bring water, it is a long day, and many people forget to bring water. Stay hydrated!

OLD BUSINESS

Motion To Open Old Business: Gage

Second: Capen

D9 DEBUNKED 9:46

**Abby:** Thank you all for coming to our event! We hope you all got to learn about the D9 Fraternities and Sororities!

OLD BUSINESS

Motion To Open Old Business: Minnewaska

Second: Bliss

NEW BUSINESS

Motion To Open New Business: Bouton

Second: Collengo

ESCAPE ROOM BUZZ 9:47

**Faith:** We are so excited to announce our next buzz event! Escape Room Buzz is back! Join RHSA in an escape room! Group sign-ups will be available through our Instagram and our Email Blast! Escape Room Buzz is on Friday, March 8<sup>th</sup> at 7pm in SUB 401! Are there any questions?

Bliss: Are there limited group size

Faith: It will be specified in the link we send.

#### NOMINATIONS 9:48

**Abby:** As a reminder, President and NCC materials are due by the end of our meeting tonight.

Meara, you tabled for PR, do you accept table or decline? (You can still table) (not here)

Athena, you tabled for secretary, do you accept table or decline? Decline

Next week will be our NCC and President elections, you are free to bring as many people as you want to the meeting, but only two people from each hall can vote.

Are there any more nominations?

Gage: Nominate Athena for PR

Shawangunk seconds

Abby: Athena do you accept, table, or decline?

Athena: I accept

Abby: Are there any more nominations?

Abby: As a reminder, if you want to learn about any of our jobs or what we do please stop by our office hours. We would love to explain what we do and people to take over our jobs.

And with that, can I get a motion to close NCC and President nominations until the Spring 2025 semester?

Motion to Close: Gage

Second: Ashokan

Motion To Close New Business: Capen

Second: Esopus

#### UPCOMING EVENTS 9:50



- Escape Room Buzz | Friday March 8<sup>th</sup> at 7pm | SUB 401

#### HALL CONCERNS 9:51

**Abby:** If there's something wrong in your hall that you have already talked to your RAs, SRA, and RD about and nothing has been done, now is your time to tell us.

Minnewaska: There is a large puddle of gross water in the laundry room, and our accessibility doors are not operating.

Shawangunk: Only have 2 washers

Abby: I just reached out to SRA's today to streamline the process of getting laundry fixed faster.

Gage: The oven is still broken

Abby: Are there any other hall concerns? Seeing none

#### STUDENT CONCERNS 9:52

**Abby:** If you have general concerns for things going on campus-wide (something's broken, wrong, administrative concerns, faculty concerns), this is your moment to tell us so we can relay the information to the administration. However, if you have any food concerns (type, quality, price, location), we will not hear them at this point but you can email us at [rhsa@newpaltz.edu](mailto:rhsa@newpaltz.edu)

#### OUR FOOD CONCERNS MEETING IS ON MARCH 18<sup>th</sup>

Abby: I'd like to address possible concerns, many people know about the Israel-Palestine event on Wednesday, if you are planning to attend, we will be attaching how to protest without getting arrested, there are certain rules you have to follow to stay safe, protests use your freedom of speech but don't get arrested, we will be sending guidelines out in the minutes.

#### OPEN FLOOR: 9:53

**Abby:** If you have a program, meeting or any other announcement that you would like to share with the Associate Council, now is your time to share! Are there any open floors?

Collengo: Tote bag painting Wed 6-7:30, snack and drinks provided

Gage: March 7th Trolls movie craft night, March 13th 7-8 Henna event

#### PASSING OF MOLLY THE MOOSE 9:55

**Abby:** where dat moose

Shawangunk: Shes really into bandanas lately. Molly's in her girly, experimental crafting period, as you can see shes got her moons and flowers going on. Shes still just figuring it out and we're just supporting her.

Abby: Who wants the moose: Awosting

QUOTE OF THE WEEK 9:55

**Eddie:** Life is like riding a bicycle. To keep your balance, you must keep moving -Albert Einstein

ADJOURNMENT 9:56

Motion To Adjourn the Meeting: Bliss

Second: Ashokan

Next Meeting will be in SUB 409!