

Next Year's Executive Officers and Senators Take Over Senate Responsibilities

Heidi Voigt
hvoigt@css.edu

Jason Chavez and Monica Boyer stepped down from their positions as student body president and vice president at Sunday's Senate meeting. Andrew Bailey was sworn into the presidency halfway through the meeting. He was then able to swear in his vice president Will Richardson and administrative vice president Tyler Russell. New senators in the rising sophomore class also took an oath of office.

Senators who will not be active next year were allowed to leave, leaving the Senate body with under 20 members. President Bailey said that one of his goals is to recruit a full rising freshman body for the Senate and increase the numbers of upperclassmen senators.

Bailey shared other goals for next year. He is looking to push through a remodel on the Student

Union and continue projects started this year such as the professional clothing closet, networking with the leaders of other Minnesota private colleges, and hosting a leadership conference at Scholastica funded by President Geary.

Bailey led a colloquy about the proposed aspects Senate would like to see in a new Student Union. The list included a new office for The Script and other clubs, a food court, a gaming area, and a small stage to host events such as improv night. Bailey said the discussion was "very theoretical. They [the administration] just want an idea for a price range."

Vice President Richardson proposed a Parking Citation Forgiveness resolution which read "The College of Saint Scholastica Student Senate requests that The St. Scholastica Parking Committee forgive any faculty, staff, or students' first parking citation ... with a donation of five nonperishable food items to the campus food shelf." The resolution was passed with a 13-0-0 vote.

Vice President of Finance and CFO Susan Kerry spoke to the Senate body before the administrative change. She spoke on projects and maintenance at the college as they relate to cost. This included a discussion of the renovations currently scheduled on Somers and Science along with the possibilities of building a Student Union and a new sports stadium.

Senators said they were happy with construction projects on campus; Bailey rated maintenance and upkeep at 2/4 and the majority of Senators voted in agreement.

The beginning of the meeting also saw two unbudgeted requests. Investment Club requested \$175 for food and beverages for their final meeting of the year and ASL and Deaf Culture Club asked \$250 to provide pizza for their dance this Saturday. Both requests were passed with votes of 22-0-2 and 24-0-0 respectively.

Unbudgeted requests left the general fund at \$5449.20.

Grandma Teaching Fitness Class

Emily Kiemele
ekiemele@css.edu

Karen Rathe-Ruona, who is 75 years old and grandmother to sophomore, Alysa Ruona, will be teaching a workout class, entitled "Motion is Lotion" to Scholastica students on campus in early May.

The idea came from the Ruona pair: Karen has been teaching a workout class to older women in Hermantown and Alysa teaches a fitness class here on campus, and they said "it just made sense" for them to combine forces.

Despite the 55 year difference, Alysa and her grandmother are "best friends," and her goal is to "bridge the gap between the elderly and the young."

The class will contain three 20 minutes sets: stretch and balance, aerobics and marching, and a

cooldown. Karen said her class is "challenging to everyone, and some days are better than others."

At the end of her classes, Karen tells jokes or hints of life and often leads discussions or meditations. Alysa said she really enjoys her grandmother's classes because of the music, which includes hits from the 40s, 50s, and 60s.

Karen said the class is important for young people to be exposed to because "people in the class have gone through what kids will be going through or will experience."

She noted that the biggest things to get out of the class are to know your body, brain body connection, and building self-confidence. Karen said "humor is so crucial," along with socialization as we get older.

The class will be held in the fitness studio of the Burns Wellness Commons on May 3 from 7-8 p.m.

Dr. Tony Barrett Delivers Last Lecture at Retirement Celebration

Alyssa Luukkonen
aluukkonen@css.edu

Retirement is probably one of the last things on a college student's mind. It would seem counterintuitive to think about the end of a career when we are just beginning our own. However, most of us recognize that retirement is an important milestone and should be celebrated. It signifies decades of achievement and success, which is something we all can strive for.

Professors, students, and alumni at the College of St. Scholastica gathered in the Mitchell Auditorium at 5 p.m. on Friday, April 13 to hear a last lecture from economics professor of 38 years—28 at CSS—Dr. Tony Barrett. The night was presented by CSS's Alumni Association and the School of Business and Technology and held as a celebration of Barrett's retirement. The sarcastic educator gave a presentation that aroused much laughter and left the audience on their feet clapping.

Barrett told the audience that in

preparation for his speech, he asked his colleagues, students, and alumni what it is that wanted to hear in his last lecture.

For the first part of the speech, Barrett addressed what his colleagues wanted to know, which was his philosophy of teaching. He revealed he has a reputation for being a hard teacher, and colleagues have told him that he's unfairly hard.

"I think that difference hinges from a different view of what our professors' purpose is. I believe it is my purpose to train students for a successful life ... I want to help people be successful in the workplace," said Barrett.

He went on to say that those who graduate from college are paid 1.2 million dollars more than those who just graduate from high school because they are worth more. This worth comes from their "soft skills," or their ability to do things such as meet deadlines and handle stress.

"It is my job to make them do what they have to do to become successful. The higher I set the bar, the more stress I put the students on, the higher my expectations, the better the student's going to be for the rest of their life," said Barrett.

In the second section of the lecture, Barrett acknowledged what a student wanted to know: how he has changed. He started off jokingly by saying that he's older now. His jokes subsided into a more serious tone as he said his age hopefully means he is wiser. Barrett admitted that compared to when he first started teaching, he is happier now. Finally, he said that he is less judgmental and believes he is a better person.

"And despite what you just heard, I'm way easier in the classroom than I used to be," said Barrett.

The third topic, which was requested by both colleagues and students, was

Freshman Wins Bede Award with Tongue Twistingly Titled Paper

Heidi Voigt
hvoigt@css.edu

Freshman Erin Burke was awarded the Bede Award for Undergraduate Research on Thursday afternoon for her paper titled "Identification of a Novel A Cluster Noodle17 and an Unknown Cluster Moosethegoose7 Isolated from Forest Soil" written for her biology class on bacteriophage discovery.

Burke's paper was the culmination of a semester's worth of lab work. Each student is asked to isolate and investigate a bacteriophage, or a virus which attacks bacteria. Burke's paper detailed her lab findings and included

basic information on bacteriophage. Burke said the paper also "gives ideas on the application of my research."

The Bede award is given based on how a student uses library resources for research rather than final paper quality. Kevin Mcgrew, director of the Library, who presented the award, said "we feel that using library resources will lead to exemplary articles."

Burke said she applied for the award because she had already written the paper and had no reason not to apply. Under 10 students applied for the award this year, down from about 15 last year. The library hopes applicants will increase in the coming years for this \$250 award.



Bede winner Erin Burke poses with her award after the ceremony. Cable Photo/Zach Thomas.



Economics professor Tony Barrett gives his final speech in Mitchell Auditorium on Friday, April 13. (Cable Photo/Zach Thomas)

how students have changed.

"In a lot of ways students haven't changed a bit. You're still coming to school to get a job ... there's a lot of different reasons but they are no different now then they were 38 years ago. I think your values, your desires, haven't changed," said Barrett.

That being said, he did list several ways in which students have changed, one being technology. Barrett provided an anecdote about how when he first started teaching, students needed to go to the library to check out a book and interlibrary loans took two to three weeks. Now, the library's website can create citations and footnotes.

Another way in which times have changed is how we view mental illnesses and disabilities. At the beginning of his teaching career, Barrett said it wasn't something that was talked about, and today colleges are legally required to make accommodations.

The third and final way Barrett says students have changed is they are more involved in the community and volunteer more.

For the fourth section of his lecture,

Barrett presented a question that was proposed to him that asked, "What gives me hope?" to which he very bluntly replied, "Eh, nothing, really." The response evoked great laughter from the audience.

"I personally don't believe I can change the world. I don't believe I can get rid of racism, I don't believe I can stop global warming, I don't believe I can cure poverty. So what I've tried to do with my life is simply nibble around the edges," said Barrett.

He described how he volunteers at Myers-Wilkens with first graders, which he plans on doing more of in retirement. His other retirement plans include relearning Spanish, which he used to be fluent in 35 years ago, and reading books.

Barrett concluded his lecture by thanking several people, including the sisters for establishing the college and for it being a wonderful place to work, and the alumni for attending. He also delivered a surprisingly touching sentiment to his two children and his wife. The lecture was met with a standing ovation from the entire audience.