

**Meeting Minutes:
Meeting of the 2008-2009 Student Government Association Senate
Tuesday, October 14th, 2008**

Called to Order at: 7:07pm

ROLL CALL

- Finance: Senator Mallea excused
- Student Activities: Senators Weiland and Tofferi excused
- COLA: all present
- CODEEE: Senators Kennedy, Just, Wong excused
- Student Action: all present
- Public Relations: Senators Goodman and Aldrich excused
- Academic Affairs: all present

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

- Minutes PASS.

PUBLIC FORUM

- Jane Newton, Liberty Union Party US Representative Candidate
 - We're the oldest and smallest party, started as an anti-Vietnam war party. Peter Diamondstone has kept it alive and got me to run. I don't think I'm articulate enough to say what needs to be said and I've spent my time worrying that the world is on the brink of something bad. I don't want to go to Washington; I just want to speak out. Our party is against violence and anything that causes suffering. I would've pushed for the impeachment of George Bush because he's killed around 1 million people, half of those being children, and has put our civil rights in jeopardy. He's trashed the constitution, exercised imperial power, and we don't want to kill just for people's resources. The only way to stop war is to defund it and most democrats and republicans have voted to fund it, but I wouldn't have. They talk about all the things we'll do domestically but we don't have the money to do. The bailout was for the rich and for the first time in history the pentagon budget has gone over a trillion. We've got to think about domestic and foreign policy together, not separately. I've been arrested 4 times to have Vermont Yankee closed down and I have been going to schools to counter military recruiters because schools won't get federal money if they don't allow recruiters, but the students need to be informed. Nuclear power is what I'm most concerned about, it's not safe or green because depleted uranium releases greenhouse gases, CO2, etc, and our taxes pay for this and we'll eventually have to pay for the decommissioning. It's not safe, it's toxic waste. There are 2 kinds of uranium produced, one for nuclear fuel and then depleted which is 60% radioactive that will penetrate everything and when it explodes the radioactive stuff goes everywhere which is silent genocide for anyone

living in those countries. The thing I want everyone to know is that the NRC which is supposed to protect our safety will say yes to the extension of its life, and the legislature can stop that. Talk to your state legislature and tell them to vote no. I have pamphlets to hand out because a lot of people don't know about all this.

- Glynne – if elected, how do you plan to represent your constituents if you won't go to Washington?
- I'd like to see someone replace Peter Welch even though I won't be elected, I'd vote no against all these things and with the money I'd implement universal healthcare.
- Delta Tau Delta Representative, Jameson
 - We've been on campus in front of the library and I'm here to introduce us and answer any questions. We started in West Virginia in 185, this is our first chapter in Vermont, but we have 115 chapters across the country. On this campus we are looking for academics, service, leadership, and those that want to get involved. Our national service project is one that helps elementary school children. Friday will be our last time on campus and we have a formal pledging ceremony that night at 7pm in Ira Allen Chapel.
 - Whitmore – how has your recruitment turn out been on campus?
 - Very well and we still have some outstanding bids. We will be a colony to start and when we meet the requirements we'll be established as a full functioning chapter and be recognized by Greek Life.
 - Issadore – how soon and how will you be interacting with the IFC?
 - Hopefully right away, but it's up to them. We've started by partnering with AGR on an event.
 - Jones – do you have a chapter at the University of Idaho?
 - I think so, but I work with our South East chapters mainly.
 - Vanbacker – what are your academic requirements?
 - The UVM standard is a 2.3, ours is a 2.95, but our national average is a 3.2
 - Valenta – have you had elections or officer positions?
 - The other 2 consultants and I will be selecting them.

EMERGENCY BUSINESS

- None.

NEW BUSINESS

- Sander – Bill Recognizing the Biochemistry Society
- Jones – Resolution Supporting Gender Blind Housing in UVM Res Halls
- Michel – Resolution Supporting the Creation of a Website Showing Student Salaries
- Candon – Resolution Supporting Bring the Burlington Free Press back to Campus
- Frank – Constitutional Amendments will happen in 2 weeks

OLD BUSINESS

- Robertson – Resolution for more comprehensive course information TABLED

- Robertson – Resolution Supporting Online Course Evaluations
 - Course and instructor evaluations are essential to maintaining the high standard of academic programs and we're currently using paper which is a massive administrative effort. We want maximum student participation to support student life and learning and we support the steps that have already been taken. The students should play an active role in determining the criteria of the evaluations and the incentive system.
 - PASSES

EXECUTIVE REPORTS

- Treasurer Porter
 - n/a
- Speaker Frank
 - Constitution committee met for 3 hours and came up with 65 amendments over the 12 articles but will break up the articles when presenting to Senate and we'll be meeting again in 2 weeks.
- President Taylor
 - I will announce my Vice Presidential nomination after my report.
 - The Board of Trustee student selection committee is almost done with the application and it will be out and available tomorrow. They have 2 student positions that are 2 year terms that alternate, so if you're a sophomore or younger you're eligible to apply.
 - I'm passing around another sheet for you to put your comments on the naked bike ride, and there are also a few questions on there.
 - In my Geology 1 lab today we found 450 million year old fossils.
 - The technology innovation fund survey is good to go out today.
 - I'm working on campus appointments and made an excel file of positions and what they entail. The new VP will fill these vacancies as well as the ones on senate and start the internal review process.
 - Pat Aldrich has resigned due to academic reasons.
- Interim Vice President Taylor
 - Nothing to report in the interim position.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

- Finance, Chair: Senator Issadore
 - Benay – motion to suspend the rules
 - RULES SUSPENDED
 - Resolution Allocating Supplemental Funding to the Cycling Club – we're allocating \$2,885 for them to attend nationals and we always fund them to go to nationals as they're one of our most competitive clubs.
 - Mensah – how many people are going?
 - 14
 - Robertson – if it happens every year why is it not in their annual budget?
 - They have to qualify and the amount of people that qualify also depends.
 - PASSES
 - Benay – motion to reinstate the rules

- RULES REINSTATED
- We met with the Squash team which will be ongoing as we try to transform a racquetball court into a squash court since they have nowhere to practice, so we're working with athletics.
- The finance liaison program is underway and each member of the committee will have a list of clubs which will make the process easier and more transparent.
- Student Activities, Chair: Senator Sander
 - I'll email my report later tonight.
- COLA, Chair: Senator Shackett
 - Chair Krodel will be adding a version of VSOP on drugs/other alcohol to his VSOP.
 - I met with Gail and Alicia and they're coming to public forum next week.
 - Candon – I'm planning the Tenants Fair that'll take place on December 4th in the atrium of the Davis Center. Let me know if you have landlords we could contact to invite.
- CODEEE, Chair: Senator Kennedy
 - Jones – we'll have a resolution next week with IRA to establish an option of having the same or different gender roommates.
 - I'll email you anything else we have.
- Student Action, Chair: Senator Abda
 - The naked bike ride task force has been meeting and is moving in a positive direction.
 - I'm happy to see they'll be doing flu shot clinics in the Davis Center at the end of October.
 - The meal plan task force is making progress and Annie Stevens will come in to talk about the new plan.
 - Ticks me off is going really well.
- Public Relations, Chair: Senator Krodel
 - Senator Aldrich has resigned but for academic reasons, it had nothing to do with VP Miller's resignation.
 - We'll have a VSOP report next time. But give me questions you'll want in the November VSOP.
 - There will be a press release after the meeting, nothing will be revealed about exec session but there is factual information that has to be communicated.
 - Working on an IRA pancake breakfast to build a better relationship with them.
 - We'll be holding a workshop on how to use the lynx.
 - Put your name and size on this sheet if you want a senate fleece.
- Academic Affairs, Chair: Senator Taylor
 - Thanks for passing our long overdue resolution.
 - My committee is meeting with Annie Stevens to discuss the quality of first-year student life.
 - Keith Williams from the registrar's office says there is no policy stating that is an instructor is 15 minutes late, you can leave.

SENATORIAL FORUM

- Sanders – suspend rules to nominate a new VP
- RULES SUSPENDED
- Taylor – I nominate Senator Emma Kennedy.
- Kennedy – I accept the nomination.
- EXECUTIVE SESSION
- Oath of Office for new VP Emma Kennedy
- Rules Reinstated
- Krodel – people in this room had problems with me missing meetings because of my LSAT class and I appreciate constructive feedback and letting me know how I can do my job better, but not mean attacks.
- Glynne – congrats to academic affairs, they've been trying to pass the online course evaluations resolution for a while now.
- V Lopez – thanks Jay for doing a great job and keeping us informed.
- Dru Ellis – thanks for addressing that issue Senator Krodel, I know people were thinking of it.
- Mensah – congratulations Emma!

SENATORIAL COMMENTS

- Benay – thanks Rick Valenta for coming to the babysitter mingler.
- Barnett – College Democrats have paired with the College Republicans to register voters in the library.
- V Lopez – in response to a person I saw outside the library today, how can we allow such blasphemy on campus?
- Issadore – we're a public university so we can't deal with freedom of speech issues, we can only remove him if he physically attacks someone.
- Garcia – here to represent Delta Tau Delta as Drew and I are officially pledging on Friday at 7 in Ira Allen so some see us enter Greek Life.
- Mensah – there is an event being put on by Latino/Latina at 7:30 in the Sugar Maple Ballroom.
- Frank – I'm all for freedom of speech but please use your discretion in terms of length and relevance.
- Dru Ellis – come for Jewish food and falafel at 530 on the Allen House green.
- Cafarelli – I have the worst work-study job at the Fleming Museum but on the 22nd of October there will be a ceremonial destruction of their exhibition.
- Glynne – football lost again so we're 1-5 now. We lost 7 players due to injury and we play at Norwich on Sunday at 4. I'm doing a 5k walk for breast cancer and have a team, let me know if you want to join.
- Issadore – the Browns beat the Giants last night.
- Kennedy – Jay gave me hockey tickets to give out.
- Corthell – Red Sox are currently losing 6-1.
- Krodel – if you registered to vote last year in the Davis Center, chances are you really aren't registered because it wasn't done right.
- Mallea – wear your Greek letters tomorrow because it's Greek Week and we have Greek Games on Saturday.

- Valenta – I started doing research on the SADD program for UVM but was hoping for a more creative name, let me know of any ideas.
- VLopez – we're supposed to be a united body but we seem to be divided on a lot of things.
- Robertson – I'm talking with the Campus Master Planning Committee so I'll let you know as soon as I get materials.

ROLL CALL

- Finance: all present
- Student Activities: Senators Tofferi and Weiland excused
- COLA: Senator VanBacker excused
- CODEEE: Senators Wong and Just excused
- Student Action: all present
- Public Relations: all present
- Academic Affairs: all present

Adjourned at: 9:42pm