

SGA meeting Jan 26th

Role Call

Finance: All present

Student Activities: All present

COLA: Senator Shushereba excused

CODEEE: All present

SA: All present

Public Relations: All present

AA: Senator Hannaford excused

Minutes

Passed

Public Forum

No one presented

Emergency Business

Chair Chevrier: Bill Recognizing the Celtic Cats

Zack Warshaw (student representing Celtic Cats): Our faculty advisor is my dad who is Professor David Warshaw. He is a lifetime dance dad and schlepped me to dance competitions all my life. A brief history on Irish dancing. Irish dancing is the cultural form of Irish dancing it is not riverdance. It showed up around 400 A.D. We use exclusively our feet. Church doesn't allow frivolous dancing. It is characterized by no arm movement, highly athletic and complex choreography. It is hard core. It is kind of a lifestyle, choice. Once you get into high level Irish dancing it takes over your life. Regulated by the Irish Dance Commission. Why we are here? You kind of have to hunt down Irish dancing. St. Mikes has one. Hopefully our presence will bring attention to our culture. So far, we think we are the only Irish/Celtic club. We are offering introductory class meaning people can join without any experience. Participation provides much more than dancing, but you learn a lot about the culture and history of Ireland. We are accessible to students and we are recruiting from all skill sets. Last competition, there was at least 36 countries represented. Why you might need money? Costumes to look good, shoes because they are expensive, and flooring because our normal shoes can annihilate the floor. How are we going to get money? Organization of "Ceilis"—Irish parties. Traditional fundraising. Performance fees for professional events, danced by the advanced dancers. We are sustainable and we don't generate waste. Events of the past, we show cased at the Orchesis end of semester showcase. Events to come, basketball games, St Patty's!!!! Club at Harvard is oozing with money and would love to travel up here to have a competition.

Senator Michel: Thanks for coming in. You can say no, but could you give me a demonstration?

Zack Warshaw: Yeah, but let's do it at the end of the Q & A.

Chair Burns: I have a friend who is a world dance competitor...

Zack Warshaw: Who?

Chair Burns: (mentions the name)

Zack Warshaw: Yeah I know him! We're totally FB [facebook] friends.

Senator McDonald: Is there an event for this St. Patty's?

Zack Warshaw: Not yet, but we are hoping to put on our own show?

Speaker Ellis: Are there any other questions?

Chair Cafarelli: Did you submit a budget?

Zack Warshaw: Yes

Speaker Ellis: Any other questions?

(Dance demonstration)

Senator Buswell: Would you feel comfortable to do it to Marty's flute?

Dance Performance by Zack Warshaw

Hoorah!

Speaker Ellis: Any questions? Seeing none, thank you for coming in.

Round of applause for a spectacular performance

Speaker Ellis: Chair Chevrier?

Chair Chevrier: What? (Claire hadn't said anything...)

Speaker Ellis: Sorry Chair Chevrier. Now we will vote on Celtic Cats. All those in favor...Chairs I'm sorry, just write down the vote on scratch paper. All those in favor please raise your hand? All those opposed? Abstentions?

Passes!

Speaker Ellis: Any other business? Ok, moving on to new business.

New Business

Speaker Ellis: Any new business for this evening?

Senator Kerschner: Resolution supporting Popular Vote?

Speaker Ellis: Any other new business?

Chair Chevrier: Bill recognizing Muslim Student Assoc.

Speaker Ellis: Seeing no other new business, let's move to executive reports.

Speaker Ellis' Report

Speaker Ellis: I don't got much. Constitution Committee will be meeting soon, so those of you that are on the committee expect an email very soon. Sorry for the organization, or lack of, of this meeting. I had problems with my flights and didn't get to sleep last night as I was on the red eye. I don't have anything else to report at this time.

President Jones: Are there any questions for Speaker Ellis?

Chair Cafarelli: Why didn't Hannah speak first?

Speaker Ellis: That is irrelevant.

President Jones: Any other questions?

Speaker Ellis: Moving on to the Treasurer LeMieux's report

Treasurer LeMieux's Report

Treasurer LeMieux: I hate my job, life and I am really busy.

Chair Glynne: Do committees have to submit budgets at the same time as clubs?

Treasurer LeMieux: I don't remember how it was done last year, but it would be nice if you turned them in by Friday!

President Jones: All right budget update this past Friday I met with Provost Knodell, Ted Winfield—the Associate VP of Budget, and VP Richard Cate to talk about the budget. I hope you have all seen the general time line on the website (www.uvm.edu/budgetplanning) talking about some of those issues and some of the important dates and for our purposes I meant the board meeting is when a proposal will be sent to be vote on. Our goal should be to decide what should be done to close the current gap. This past Monday and this Thursday we wanted to do budget forums but ultimately they did not get planned because Kate and I knew that if we did not have them planned before classes started then we would not be able to make these dates. The main impetus was none of you responded to our emails over the break to get your feedback on the presentation and what parts needed to be clarified. But we are currently planning a forum with the administration after the Board meeting to provide a better snap shot of what the gap is. They are still waiting to hear from deans and vice presidents to report to VP Cate to get a better understanding of where the gap is at this time. Everything is in motion until we get finalized numbers and there shouldn't be, don't quote me, any formal votes on the budget in February,

but there will be at the May meeting. If you are interested in the budget, then you should attend the Budget Finance and Investment Committee (Feb. 5-6th). Conversations that will dominate the EPIR side will be the transdisciplinary initiatives. I'm interested to see what the problems are and what those conversations are like, as they will be dominating the EPIR conversation. The faculty senate will be voting that following Monday on the Spires of Excellence (8th of February) it will be a long meeting (found out from Chair Burns). Elections you will hear about later this evening and I won't say anything about it. I am having a meeting tomorrow, Annual expectations meeting of Sodexho (all the big wigs) any specific issues you want me to address. I'd love to hear from you before tomorrow since it is tomorrow. I do not know where I am stepping on toes but I hope some of you will be able to attend the community coalition summit, there is a good range of guests who have confirmed their attendance, and it is in our duty to understand what the issues are in our community (I know Claire has a whole new task force that she is working with and we will hear about). And there are conversations that are apparently going around about a new student health center being built (obviously involves finances) something else I want to propose to you to think about, Chairs Rifken and Wilkinson-Ray talked to me about having a formal stance on the budget, but if you read my campus wide email that is how I feel but should we have a formal stance on a document? (other than that being transitioned on to the Senate so that they know how we had felt going into it as they will be the ones going into it when the budget is voted on) I am sorry I flood your inbox when my brain turns on sporadic moments. I am trying to think....Oh.....long pause.....never mind.

Senator Vivas: Now that you were talking about Sodexho, people that were having trouble with Take 5, why can't people do a Take 5 after hours?

President Jones: What is Take 5?

Senator Vivas: You take five things, pay as a block/program, why can it not be offered afterhours?

Chair Burns: I know that there are a lot of questions about vegan and vegetarian options on campus and do you if that is coming up?

President Jones: I don't know, Chair Wilkinson-Ray should be going to this.

Chair Wilkinson-Ray: I have read the reports and they are probably not going to talk about Take 5....

Commentary missed for a minute or so as Speaker Ellis almost deleted the minutes...

Senator Altendorfer: When is the basketball game?

President Jones: Basketball is this Saturday at 2. Also a Haiti update: Kristen organized a great meeting and there are a few great ideas going around, and thanks everyone who participated.

Speaker Ellis: Any other questions for President Jones? Seeing none, moving to the Finance Report.

Finance Report

Chair Cafarelli: We have 29+ plus hours scheduled for budget hearings, hopefully we won't need them.

Speaker Ellis: Questions for Chair Cafarelli?

Student Activities Report

Chair Chevrier: A lot of people are trying to get recognized by the end of the semester. A lot of new ones are in the works so get excited. As far as the task force goes, I'm doing this more as a senator than a chair. We will be doing a fundraising workshop soon; don't know how many people will show up. That's it.

Speaker Ellis: Any questions?

Senator Church: I was wondering in lieu of all of these clubs, could we have a time limit on their presentations and on Q and A?

Chair Chevrier: Yes, because last year was very unorganized and we would be more than willing to work with them to make their presentations concise. While I have the floor, winter activities week is Feb 8-11.

Chair Glynne: Please sign up for the summit. I forwarded Gail's email on so follow its instructions. We went to city council last night to introduce our new senators. There is a new code enforcement director. Shuttle bus update, eliminated the stop. VT is struggling for funding for organizations like VSAC and looking into how it affects students. We will be curious to hear President Obama tomorrow. Penguin plunge is Feb 6th. I need to figure out details about fee because I thought it was 25 but apparently it was 150. We are running into some issues planning the Haiti dance, like conflicts with NOVA. We are talking about a Thursday night dance and don't think this that bad of an option. Jason DePatie's term is up March 1st and we are in the process of selecting a new candidate. We have received the applications and are currently reviewing them.

Speaker Ellis: Any questions for Chair Glynne?

Chair Maciewicz: Yield to McDonald

Senator McDonald: We met with Brian Reed about the Sustainability requirement. We will be presenting to the group at their next meeting. The proposal in May isn't going to mention the sustainability requirement but he recommended that we come and voice our opinions on it.

Senator Maciewicz: Instead of a Committee meeting, we are attending the Greenpeace in southpark. We will be making a resolution against Yankee. We are meeting with Tom Gustafson on Feb 4th and met with Marlee to discuss her preferred course of action. I have resigned from PCSC and ask you to approach Kate if interested. I will be organizing the Motley Crue at the retreat for the diversity training.

Speaker Ellis: Are there any questions for Chair Maciewicz.

Chair Burns: How are you going forward with the bottled water ban?

Chair Maciewicz: Coke contract isn't up until 2012, but we are in favor of getting rid of bottled waters. We don't care if they are replaced with new coke products because the point is promoting water not plastic bottles.

Chair Rifken: The thing I have with it is having the option of other. I think there is a law?

Senator Monteforte: What is VT Yankee?

Chair Maciewicz: Big bad company that is dirty and lies. Has its own regulatory commission and are very shady.

Speaker Ellis: Are there any other questions?

Student Actions Report

Chair Wilkinson-Ray: Student comprehensive fee is all we are doing. Now I yield the floor to Senator Greenwald.

Senator Greenwald: Lots of people showed up to the Haiti brainstorming session, it's great. Hoping to have dance based on updates from mike, please help us with these events even if it just with flyers. Hopefully by midday tomorrow we will be able to help flyer. So yeah, if you want to help but don't want to get too involved just send to me an email. Now yield to Senator Church.

Senator Church: I have a meeting with Tom Oliver and I'll let you know the details of it. Really I all need is a couple hours from all of you to help me out if this goes forward.

Senator Altendorfer: Put in a request for the dance studio about the yoga.

Chair Wilkinson-Ray: That's it.

Speaker Ellis: Any questions for Chair Rifken?

Public Relations Report

Chair Rifken: Rawr! Yield to Senator Benes.

Senator Benes: Wanted to finish up results to VSOP, it's just a bar graph comparing the student experience. We compared student experience, advisers, student year, college quality to student year.

Chair Rifken: I'm going to talk to you about tabling. We have 11-2 this semester. I'm not really gonna hold your hands on this one. I will put this sheet up on the PR table and would hope that you show up. I'm not going to baby you, please show up or else there will not be people. Another tabling thing for elections, we have a table outside Henderson's café from 9-4. Elections comm. Please show up! Update on t-shirts, I have spoke to tick tick (sp?) about doing t-shirts for us and we have an awesome design and we have it approved. We have some prices set up, probably

send out the design. Unless you want to do your own t-shirts. We doing something new with PR in helping out clubs advertise with PR. Yield to Senator Benes.

Senator Benes: Long story about "O Susana."

A wonderful quartet graced us with their great singing.

Senator Benes: So it would be awesome if we could get a could a bunch of senators to participate. I'll send out an email later to confirm.

Chair Rifken: My report is done.

Speaker Ellis: Any questions for Chair Rifken?

Senator Altendorfer: Did UVMtv last version?

Senator Benes: Yes.

Senator Altendorfer: Did you get feedback?

Senator Benes: I don't know.

Speaker Ellis: Any other questions? Moving to the Chair of Elections.

Chair Buswell: Got a lot of candidates. Should be good. Elections committee hasn't done anything and I look forward to voting.

Speaker Ellis: Any questions?

Chair Chevrier: What about other elections?

Chair Buswell: I need to talk with the Execs about the dates, but as of now I have not set them.

Speaker Ellis: Any other questions?

Academic Affairs Report

Chair Burns: This semester we are doing things differently. Steve will be working with the Senior Seminar and registration issues, talking with Keith about that. I have a meeting with him next week and I will provide more info later. I also have a meeting with Larry to discuss online course evaluations. In our committee meeting we talked about the budget and what our committee can do about academic quality. Yield to Henley.

Senator Henley: The approach ad hoc will be different than how AA will be focusing it. We will be figuring out ways to help students make their experience better. Even though, when people come talk to us, they just speak rhetoric. Talk to departments, bottom up, starting from the ground.

Chair Burns: I was asked to sit on FYE task force. All of the colleges have their separate ways in transitioning their first years from high school to college. We are trying to figure out how exactly this will work for the various departments. There is a new ad hoc on the faculty senate on reevaluating the diversity requirement.

Senator Church: Senator Henley, could I help you with your efforts?

Senator Henley: Come join us.

Senator Michel: The woman over in the Poli Sci department has a lot of information. I would love to help out.

Speaker Ellis: Any other questions for Chair Burns?

Senatorial Forum

Chair Chevrier: Need people for task force about noise pollution from students. Please help and I will email the blurb out. And please take the survey monkey. It's one of those items that a lot of whining that goes on about this.

Chair Glynne: Council asked UVM about expansion plans. A follow up on the MOU about increasing the number of students on campus.

Senator Vivas: Lots of hostility at Venezuela.

Senator Buswell: Senator Vivas in response to Take 5. It was a staffing issue.

Senator Michel: Alcohol and other drug task force is offering these sessions on alcohol and there is free food. Off campus students sign up.

Senator Altendorfer: 5 pm every week, swing on by. Triumvirate rules!

Chair Cafarelli: We have scarves and will be handing them out Feb. 26th.

Chair Rifken: Tomorrow, after PR, we will be doing some poster getting ready for elections tabling. Anyone wants to come help around 4ish then help out.

Chair Maciewicz: I was expecting a little more chat about VT Yankee, so I will try to get a discussion going on VT Yankee.

Roll Call

Finance: All present

SAC: All present

COLA: Senator Shushereba excused

CODEEE: All present

SA: All present

PR: All present

AA: Senator Hannaford excused.