



TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 22ND, 2011  
TWENTY-THIRD MEETING OF THE 2010-2011 SENATE

**Call to Order (0:01.22)**

*Start Time:* 7:00pm

**Roll Call (0:01.24)**

**Finance:** Senators DeVivo, Dougherty, and Juaire, excused

**Student Activities:** Senator Mason, excused

**COLA:** Senator Cooper, excused

**CODEEE:** All Present

**Student Action:** All Present

**Public Relations:** Senator Yuan, excused

**Academic Affairs:** Senator Alleger, unexcused

**Approval of the Minutes (0:01.49)**

**From 2/15/11** - passes

**Public Forum (0:02.04)**

**Dot Brauer, LGBTQA Center Director**

**Dot Brauer:** Hi, my name is Dot Brauer. I'm really pleased to be here tonight. I am here as the director of the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Questioning and Ally Center center here at the University of Vermont. I understand that you heard previously from my colleagues in the diversity and equity unit. The director of the Women's Center, LuAnn Rolley, and the Director of that ALANA Student Center, Bev Coleston. Is that correct? So I am the tardy one. I think that they all got to you last semester. I was a student, well I still am a student, but I only have one class on Tuesdays this semester instead of 2 so I am able to be here. Last semester I was in class until 10pm on Tuesdays, which is cruel and usual treatment for someone of my advanced age. That was a joke. Ok. So I'm going to tell you a bit about the LGBTQA center just make a few highlights and points of interest, I hope. What I would really love is to hear what your thoughts, questions, concerns might be around anything related to LGBTQ student staff faculty etc. at the University of Vermont, being an ally at the University of Vermont. Anything in the realm that I might actually be able to take away with me do help me do my job better or some piece of information that I might be able to offer you tonight. Something that SGA and the center might be able to do in collaboration in the coming year. Any and all of that is relevant for me. How many of you were aware before I started talking tonight that UVM has an LGBTQA center? Fabulous. Do you think you are aware of that because you heard from my colleagues and they both mentioned it or because you are a member of the SGA and SGA has oriented you to do all of these amazing things that the university has to offer? Either of those two, raise your hands if that's how you knew. Ok, that's not how you know. How do you know? I'm really curious? Vagina Monologues. Ok. Free to Be. Excellent. Home for the Holidays. Posters. Good deal. Orientation. Cookies Cocoa and Queer. We renamed it CCC because for those who don't identify with the term queer we wanted to be more inclusive so it's now cookies, cocoa, and community. We hope to resume that soon now that we had some staff outages last semester like light bulbs that needed replacing. One of our folks was out on medical leave. With only 3.2 staff members having 1.0 out of 3.2 gone we realized we couldn't keep all the balls in the air so we

had to not do that last semester. We'll be back at it, you wait and see. Anybody ever been to our Cookies and Cocoa? Excellent. Which of you have hosted one? I knew it. The idea of that program is to try to create some very casual social space where anybody who is interested in making connections within LGBTQ and A, A being for ally, student community can just drop in have a fun relaxing time. Something that's way more low key and low effort than the Home for the Holidays program. How many of you, again, went to Home for Holidays. Oh well the rest of you really missed out. Was it good? Is it a feast? It is a total feast. It's not to be missed, seriously. Anyway, low key, low effort, but we would love to have, Allen House is not exactly on the beaten path. All of you know where Allen House is? Yes, no? If you know where Allen House is raise your hand. Even those of you who are in the know, many of you don't know where Allen House is. If we were sitting in a room of this many random students on campus, a much lower number would raise their hand. We do have a problem at the LGBTQA Center with location. Students don't know where we are and the other things that would bring them in the building are not necessarily the things they would associate with hanging out. There is a classroom in building so they might discover us because of that. We do have, one of our draws is we have a cyber center, which is funded by this incredibly fabulous organization called the David Bohnett Foundation. We are able to offer free printing and seven well functioning computers. That does draw some students though the Allen House. There aren't a lot of things that bring people there. We're not near a food vendor, we're not on regular traffic route really, since most people on East Campus probably cut through L/L and go through the Davis Center. It's out of their way to come down to the corner of Main and South Prospect. That is an interesting challenge for us. Anyone here who has thoughts about ways that we can provide more relevant or meaningful or useful way of creating a comfortable, fun, useful LGBTQ space for students, email me, call me up, sit down and talk with me. I would love to hear your thoughts. Let me give you just a brief history. We've been around since 1999 the LGBTQA center that is, at UVM. Obviously queer individuals have been around UVM forever. The history of activism and community organization among queer folks and queer allies and queer issues dates farther back. The first national coming out week took place at UVM 20 years ago. We don't have one of the oldest LGBTQA Center but we are among the 19 schools that are 5/5 stars by the Campus Climate Index which is a national organization that has about 340 schools that have taken part in that survey. That's not perfect, there are like 5,000 schools higher education, colleges and universities in the United States. There are, I'll bet out of that 345, whatever that number was, I bet most have some form of center like ours. The interesting thing is that the oldest of those centers date back over 25 years. This whole thing has been going on for a long time and the increase in the number of schools that have centers like that seems to go a bit in fits and starts. There aren't a lot of new centers happening. Can anyone guess why? Exactly, no money right now. In spite of probably more interest in these kinds of centers, the financial circumstances facing most schools in the country will hold that progress back for who knows how long. UVM remains among the best of the best and probably will continue to remain in that realm for some time. Part of that we can thank the progressive state of Vermont for. Part of it we can thank the progressive inclinations, relatively progressive political inclinations of the UVM student body that has been true for most of the history of this institution. I always tell colleagues at the University of Vermont who thank the 3.2 of us in the center who do the work for all the progress that it's certainly not all a result of the very excellent things the 3.2 of us have done. There are actually 4 human beings involved in that 3.2. We have a half-time Graduate Assistant and a full-time office manager and an 80% educational outreach coordinator and then myself. We've done really great work. We really have organizations like this SGA to thank for some of this progress that has happened. Organizations like Free To Be and the Translating Identities Conference planning committee. How many of you have attended Translating Identities? I am shocked. Seriously for a free conference on gender identity and expression, you will not have a better opportunity to come into the 21<sup>st</sup> century discourse around gender. Don't miss your opportunity. How many of you are seniors? Ok busted. You already missed it. You can come back and it's worth it. When you get into whatever you are going to be doing after this, whether it's teaching or in the business world or wherever, you ultimately are going to need to know about these issues. More and more work places, more and more classrooms, more and more everywhere, are having people are being pulled in. You are going to be the youngest because you are just graduating from college, and they're going to think you know something. I'm not kidding

you because that 40 or 50 year old somebody who is going to be your boss is going to think you must know more than they do. What is this thing with transgendered people and gender identity and gender neutral bathrooms? You have a free day that you can set aside no dollars to you or anybody and then you can write down on your resume that you attended such and such conference. This is going to be a selling feature in employers more and more. Don't you're your chance. Have I sold that well enough yet? And it's not even my conference. It's run by students, it's an entirely student run conference. They won't allow the LGBTQA Center to help them. It's a matter of pride, they want to do it themselves. And it's very good, it's very well done. So we're 10 years old, there are just a small handful of us. We had gotten feedback on a climate study back in 2005 that some students were actually made uncomfortable by the extent of LGBT visibility at the University of Vermont. Is anybody surprised to hear that? I see some people. There are some folks who are uncomfortable with the idea of same sex relationships. They would maybe like to see it a little more undercover than it is at the University of Vermont. Again, unlike so many other schools in the United States, I feel very fortunate that we are among a student body and a state population which then means the majority of our staff and faculty who are very supportive of the rights of all members of the community to be equally engaged in that community and that allows us to do some really good and interesting work, like help pass the gender identity inclusion expression being included in the non-discrimination policy and helping to have preferred names become an option when you fill out your demographics. How many of you took advantage of the preferred name option? Within 2 ½ days, 300 people had used that option when it was first launched back in January of 2009 because there are lots of people. Not just people who might be changing the gender marker associated with their given name, but lots of people don't necessarily want to carry around the name on their birth certificate as the way in which they are going to be addressed by every single faculty member in every single classroom. A lot of people have different reasons to want to be called something other than Stansilof Gregory III or something. People have other ways that they want to be referred to. That was one of the places where the full inclusion or most affirming way to make room for LGBTQ people in the university was also making space for lots of people to be able to present themselves more comfortably as the person they would like to present themselves as in the classrooms. Those are just a couple of ideas. We have these big programs like Home for the Holidays and the Welcome Back Barbeque and the Awards Banquet at the end of the semester. We sort of bracket the semesters with welcoming people back in September sending off with their full belly in December and recognizing community and graduates in May. We also try to work with student organizations and other organizations on campus to try to bring more peer education and culture to the university in the form of special events, for example. We provide all kinds of consultation and training in classrooms and try to represent by showing up at different forums and resource fairs and things like that to make us a little bit more visible than everyone's comfortable with. We serve on host of committee and advisory groups trying to help raise LGBTQ relations where we can. I think I've yacked enough. What questions or thoughts do any of you have on your minds?

*Open the Floor for Questions (0:19:08)*

**Senator Goodnow:** Thank you very much for coming in. I just have one quick question and it comes out of a lot of ignorance so I apologize if it's inappropriately worded. I'm not involved at all with this organization so I'm really happy that we are able to have people come in to give us information. I've always wondered, I'm a first year student here, just seeing this organization, it is pretty open and visible in public in my opinion. It feels like sometimes, a good example would be the cocoa how you need to change the name and stuff, this sort of concept of being politically correct. Do you feel like that kind of limits you to being able to push forward and do things? I would liken it to walking on eggshells, trying to make sure you're being politically correct? In an organization like the one you have where that's an essential piece, do you feel like that's limiting at all?

**Dot Brauer:** That's a great question, Thank you for that question. This is just going to change by 'sany individual leadership. I'm sure that any of you can relate to this in the leadership roles you've played. My personal style is to be most interested in clear communication. When we

make a decision like that to change a name, it's in the interest of communicating most clearly what we're trying to do and so what wasn't so much feedback that people were offended by the word queer or anything like that. What we found was a handful of people that were wondering if it was space that was fully open to people who might not identify as LGBT or Q. That ally inclusive space. We realized that what we were trying to do mostly was create community so we decided let's say that. I appreciate what you're saying. There are times where we might feel some pressure, some pressure might come towards us about some of these kinds of things, but ultimately at the end of day my leadership decision and what my staff is comfortable with is just trying to communicate clearly to be most effective. Which is really, really hard, actually.

**Senator Bennington:** I've experienced a couple of instances in classrooms where professors have failed to properly address issues, specifically issues of gender, and I'm wondering, I guess you already touched on this, that you do some in class stuff. I'm wondering if you see a need to have a training so that professors, faculty, some people who have been here for a really long time and aren't really up to date know what the conversation is like around these issues right now. Also, can you speak a little bit more about things you already do in that classroom?

**Dot Brauer:** I bet if all of you sat and gave some serious thought to all of the different classroom situations you have individually experienced since you've been students at UVM, even those of you who are first year students, you could probably come up with a pretty interesting and important list of instances where faculty members appeared to not be fully up to date on some cultural issue. Am I wrong about that? My perception has been working with students that students because you have come through society 30, 40 years after many of the people who are teaching you, you have experienced a social realm that has addressed complexity differently, has addressed identity differently. Has addressed issues of equity differently on and on. You are more likely in your age cohort to arrive at a different set of assumptions. I'm not saying that every single one of you as a person has picked up on all of the nuances of historical experiences. Think about it. Everyone of my age group came through a time period that was very dichotomous in our thinking. It was all about right and wrong. It was all about in and out, up and down, hierarchy. There wasn't a lot of discussion about complexity. A lot of assumptions that are very actively challenged in your age cohort were not even being talked about or thought about by most people when my age cohort came through growing up. The answer is yes, my assumption, I think it's a fair assumption that many faculty members could really benefit from some sort of orientation of some different ways of looking at a variety of social issues, gender identity being one of them. You are all members of the Student Government Association. I'm sure that your leadership reminds you of the sober gravity of the responsibility as such. I can't impress upon you enough the fact that you are really the only organization on campus who can place any kind of or give voice to any kind of student body demand to any other governing organization at the university. I certainly can't. I can make a recommendation, I can sit down over coffee and tell someone I think something is a good idea, but I don't have the wherewithal from where I sit to draft a resolution, research it, campaign for it, and get it passed to ask a body like the Faculty Senate or the President's Office or anyone else, to do anything. It's really important that you stop and think about that from time to time because there are certain things that if you don't get busy and do it, there's really nobody else who can do it with same kind of impact. I'm not saying that every resolution passed everyone turns around and say oh we better do that the SGA passed a resolution. I'm not suggesting that, but I am suggesting that there aren't a lot of avenues to pursuing these kinds of changes and the SGA has a capacity that not a lot of other organizations have to give voice to certain kinds of issue and concerns. This preparation of your faculty to deal with in the contemporary understandings of social complexities like identities is that kind of large picture issue that there really aren't a lot of other ways to bring up. So either join one of the President's Commissions. You all know about the President's Commissions, right? How many of you serve on a President's Commission? That's great, that's another avenue where you can raise that issue. Here's the problem though, the President's Commissions report to the president. Who oversees the faculty? The Provost. exactly. Anybody have a grasp of the disconnect there? The President and most of the time I think it would be true and in our instance here the President is not inclined to go tell the Provost how to do business, or vice versa. They give each other room to

do their different work. Even if you work through the commissions you're going to have a limited amount of impact. What I'm trying to say here is that faculty are very independent creatures. There isn't a lot to hold them accountable. There are evaluation forms which is very diffuse. It's an extremely diffuse way to give feedback. It kind of gets lost in the shadows. I know you did a bunch of work on this. I pay attention. I certainly wouldn't presume to name your agenda for you but what I can say is if you wanted to start sending messages to the Faculty Senate I would applaud you telling them what you think is important at UVM to know and be confident about when it comes to managing classroom climate, diversifying curriculum, all of these issues. I think it's important for your future, it's important to the quality of education that you're getting and paying dearly for, and ultimately for future success of this university. Thank you for the question.

**Senator Ballas:** Thank you for coming in again. You asked before if we were shocked that some people were uncomfortable with the presence that LGBTQA has on campus and I was just wondering if there were any polls of the student body where you had any data on that?

**Dot Brauer:** Thanks, that's a great question too. The Climat Survey I mentioned in 2005. There are some efforts that you put a lot of heart and time into and they just never get off the ground or they don't come out the way you wanted them to. That's one of those. It ended up being pushed out too late in the semester so we got a low response and none of the results were generalized. That's the last time, 2005, a climate survey was done on this campus. I have some limited familiarity with the current effort to get climate surveys out on campus. They take time to do right, they take resources to do right because have to get people's attention to get them to participate at a high enough rate. So that exam I just took, was in statistics. I'm like eating and sleeping this stuff right now. You have to have a representative sample and that means that you have to have enough people respond and back in 2005, we didn't, nowhere near. In the comments, like 17 people out of the 90 people who commented took the time to write out paragraphs at the end of a 65 item survey complained about it being too queer here. We don't have any sense of the number of folks on campus who feel really great, fell somewhere in the middle, feel not so great. I'm really looking forward to us having better sense of that.

**Senator Vitagliano:** Just to comment on that, the President's Commission on LGBTQE is formulating a survey right now that will be going out to students in that community as well as straight students or students that haven't identified under LGBTQA. There will be some questions going around that aspect on how they feel, what symbols or signs they see around the university that suggest an inclusive or uninclusive atmosphere. That should hopefully be going out by the end of the semester or early next year.

**Speaker Chevrier:** I was just wondering what is Home for the Holidays?

**Dot Brauer:** I mentioned before that's one of our three signature events. Our interest in our three signature events is to welcome people. Hopefully start off the year with a sense of warm community, that's our Welcome Back Barbeque. That's especially we do a big effort reach out first year students because anyone who is a first year student who is kind of looking for a sign of there being LGBTQ support here have an early opportunity to connect with faculty and staff. Then Home for the Holidays is our midyear point where, because I think it's still fair to say today, although something like survey would be a more scientific way to say this, I think it's still true today that many college students who might be questioning their identity, who might be finding that they feel ready to come out only after they come to college or feel like they're ready to be more actively engaged after they come to college, might find when they go home at the holidays they feel less comfortable at home than a student who's not dealing with those issue with a family that might not be that supportive. There are more supportive families than there might have been 10, 15 years ago, but we still believe there are probably a significant number of families that are still struggling with being supportive of their LGBTQ young adult, children, brothers, sisters, etc. I would love to have a more scientific certainty about that. We hold this dinner that is intended to create a feeling of warm community and family before people leave for winter break and we always hold it the first evening after the end of classes and before the first

final and lots of folks volunteer and come in and cook for us. The Greeks have volunteered quite a bit in the last two years helping us cook, helping us set up and clean up and we have about 175 people came and had a really delicious dinner. Thanks for volunteering for the SGA and keep up the good work.

### **Old Business (0:35.35)**

#### **Bill Allocating Funds to Alpine Ski Club**

**Chair Mallea:** Alright, so I'm going to go ahead and read through the bill like normal and then if you guys have any questions or comment. This bill is allocating funds to Alpine Ski Club. [*reads bill*]. So basically they came in last week and asked for funding to get racing gates. Since they are a relatively new club they didn't have a budget to work with and they obviously need racing gates in order to compete.

**Vote on Bill Allocating Funds to Alpine Ski Club - passes**

### **Emergency Business (0:37.42)**

#### **Bill Allocating Funds to UVM Crew**

**Chair Mallea:** I asked the club signer, I'm going to let her introduce herself in a minute, to come in and talk about their current financial situation and what financing is proposing.

**Annie:** Hi guys, my name is Annie and as Alex said I'm one of the presidents of the Crew team. I'm here because, to give a little bit of background, we are a pretty expensive club. I think we, along with sailing, have one of the biggest budgets that we ask for each year. Our team has grown pretty significantly over the past few years, our budget has not for understandable reasons. It just leaves us with a slightly bigger deficit to make up. Last year we fundraised over \$92,000, which was awesome but not necessarily sustainable for the next couple years. Basically the main reason I'm here and why we're applying for supplemental funding is to help us with our spring break training trip. Every year we go down to somewhere in the south, the past couple years we've gone to Gainesville, Georgia, which gives us a chance to get on the water and front load our training, because obviously we can't really do a whole lot here on the water right now with the ice and we can't really do much when we get back. Especially for our new rowers it's a great opportunity to get their training and technique that they need to have a successful spring racing season. In the past the trip has stayed around \$550, which is not pocket change for most people. This year we've encountered a sharp price increase for the bus.

**Chair Mallea:** Point of Information: I'd also just like to point out that not only are they expecting club members to pay this \$550 to go on this spring break trip, but we also require them to pay a \$500 membership fee.

**Annie:** It's split up over two semesters so it's usually \$250 a semester. This year with the increase in the bus it was going to put the price of the trip around \$700 a person, which is a lot to ask from people. We try really hard, one of the missions of our team is for finances to never be a deterring factor for someone participating who wants to. We are usually able to fill the bus so we do have people who want to go and are willing to go and can make the price commitment, but the leaa from \$550 -\$700 on top of paying dues is a lot to ask. It's a particularly sticky situation with the bus because based on university policy we have to take a bus that has a liability deductible that's \$10 million. There's only one company in Vermont and it's only one of the few in the region or in the nation that have that high of an insurance policy because it's insanely high. We have to take a Premier bus and the price for the Premier bus for our trip is \$19,000, which is over half of the price of the trip in total. Each person pays \$300 for just the bus and then we're able to work out lodging, food, everything else, for \$250 per person for the week, which is pretty decent I would say. We had done some research because the bus did go up this year so we were getting

quotes from other bus companies. One bus company was \$3000 cheaper another was \$10,000 cheaper so it's hard because the university coerces us into using one company and the financial impact of that falls onto the shoulders of our members, which is a large burden to bear for college students. We're applying for or asking for a little bit of help to subsidize the cost of our trip and really make sure all club members have equal access so everyone who wants to be on bus can get on the bus.

**Chair Mallea:** Before we open up the floor for questions, I'd also like to point out that we've looked over the invoices for the busses and we know that this is a lot of money, especially to come out of the supplemental fund, however we looked at the contracts and they are varsity level contracts. Basically that varsity athletic teams are to abide by. However, it's a little bit unfair that we are expecting that the student government is expected to fund teams like Crew and Sailing and teams that compete on varsity levels. The Finance Committee will be looking into in the next couple weeks talking with varsity athletics and figuring some stuff out. I'll read the bill and then we'll open up the floor for questions. [*reads bill*].

*Open the Floor for Questions (0:43.33)*

**Senator Yeager:** I have 2 questions. First beign, is it \$90,000 during the previous academic year, not this year?

**Annie:** That was the Academic 2009-2010.

**Senator Yeager:** I was wondering if you could give a ballpark of how much you've raised this year.

**Annie:** It's sort of in flux but we are not on track to fundraise as much. There is still time. We are probably around \$35,000 fundraised this year.

**Senator Yeager:** My second question is do you have an idea of what's in the supplemental as of right now?

**Chair Mallea:** Right now if this allocation were to go through we would still have approximately \$10,000 left in the supplemental fund for the rest of the semester. However, I haven't spoken to Blanka about this request yet because I was in classes all day, but we seem to think that there might be an additional fund this may come out of such as an emergency fund, so it actually wouldn't have to come out of the supplemental fund.

**Speaker Chevrier:** If \$12,000 is allocated what will the cost be for everybody?

**Annie:** If we get the full \$12,000 it would probably knock the cost down closer to the \$500 which is more sustainable and feasible for a lot of people and it would give us the opportunity to help people out who want to come on the trip and are having a hard time making ends meet.

**Chair Morgan:** How many students are going on this trip?

**Annie:** I think our last total was about 56. We had a couple people who were still figuring out finances so it will be anywhere between 54-60 and then we have 6 coaches that come with us and the athletes absorb the coaches cost. 65 people altogether.

**Treasurer Salsgiver:** \$12000 wouldn't just be for the busses it would be to subsidize the club. They have used about \$11,100 of the \$20,000 in their budget, and this semester is the busier semester. They go on more trips. They've already gone through more than half of money they have been allocated, not including this trip.

**Annie:** For example, on our budget that we're working on this year, our transportation and hotels section of our budget was \$20000 so if we were to use our budget to pay for the busses we would have essentially used our entire transportation budget.

**Chair Mallea:** I'd also just like to point out that after having conversations about this it really looks like last year's Finance Committee didn't take into account how much they fundraised, how much they travelled, and were severely underfunded last year. We will be taking that into account this year so hopefully this doesn't occur again. However, we're dealing with the situation at this time.

**Senator Fifield:** I was wondering if you could speak to the success of the Crew team, what that looks like?

**Annie:** So what we do get and we do work with we have been incredibly successful for a club program. Our Women's team, for example, in the fall our big event is to go to the Head of the Charles regatta in Boston, Massachusetts, it's the largest regatta in the world and we are competing in, there are three different levels and we are competing in the highest level that we can with what we have going for us. Obviously we are not able to compete against schools like Harvard, Princeton, and Yale that are getting paid to row, but we're competing against national champions at the D2 and D3 level. We got 8<sup>th</sup> last year and 9<sup>th</sup> this year. The men's team got 6<sup>th</sup> in their event. We're beating out fully funded programs and we have our men's team has been New England champions the past 2 years. Last year the women's team we made it to the petite finals which is a regatta in Phillipie and is the largest collegiate regatta in the world. We're lining up next to schools that are fully funded, flying from race to race and getting paid to be sitting where they are and are national team athletes and we're just a club. We do pretty well for what we have going for us.

**Vote on Bill Allocating Funds to UVM Crew - passes**

**Bill Allocating Funds to UVM Kayak Club (0:49.14)**

**Chair Mallea:** Before I read this I have to apologize. I did not do my due diligence with this. The hearing was three weeks ago and we've been trying as Finance Committee to come up with a number and we should have notified you ahead of time. Also, I received an email from Senator Ravech yesterday asking me what the New Haven River Festival is and since the hearing was 3 weeks ago I had to do some digging and research. I have a description, before I read the bill, on what the New Haven River Festival entails. It entails a full strike New Haven open where you have a boater race through half a mile of class 4 class 5 rapids. You have a wild water filled premier, a wild water a love story film premier. You have a local pool session in Bristol teaching, I guess there is 3 pool sessions. So there is the answer to that question and with that I will read the bill [*reads bill*]. Before I open up the floor for questions I'd also like to state that the original request was for \$3,108.

*Open the Floor for Questions (0:51.16)*

**Chair Adams:** When is this exactly?

**Chair Mallea:** I believe it's in 2 weeks from now.

**Chair Adams:** In accordance to their sanction they can't go because they haven't followed through with their sanction.

**Chair Mallea:** That's not what Jess said but I'll check in to that.

**Senator Vitagliano:** Is this allocation to help them fund this event or to go to it?



**Chair Mallea:** I know that it doesn't say kayak club's event that they're sponsoring but it is their event they are putting on, they just call it the New Haven River Festival.

**Senator DeVivo:** Can someone clarify if we can or can't allocate on this?

**Chair Adams:** Point of Information: I apologize, we can.

**Vote on Bill Allocating funds to UVM Kayak – passes**

**Bill Allocating Funds to UVM Fencing Club (0:52.55)**

**Chair Mallea:** So this is a bill allocating funds to Fencing Club. I will read and then go from there. [*Reads Bill*].

*Open the Floor for Questions (0:53.44)*

**Senator Bennington:** Friendly amendment in the third whereas add club after fencing again.

**Chair Filstein:** What was their original request?

**Senator Dougherty:** Point of Information: \$2,567 was their total request.

**Senator Rifken:** After taking out the last one we just voted and this one, I can't really do math in my head right now, where does that leave us, and do you expect that there is going to be a lot more people asking for supplemental in the future?

**Chair Mallea:** It's actually a little bit different since this is a nationals request it comes out of the national portion of supplemental funding. We actually have to move money around to the national fund right now, which is pretty easily done. Blanka just moves the money around between the accounts. With the supplemental fund if the \$12,000 which I am going to have to clarify with Blanka, I believe that it's ok, we will still have \$19,302 left in the supplemental fund.

**Vote on Bill Allocating Funds to Fencing - passes**

**New Business (0:55.36)**

**Senator Lederer-Plaskett:** Bill calling for something about greek life and Yale, Gavin has the bill.

**Senator Benner:** Resolution Calling for Extended Library Hours

**Chair Mallea:** Bill Allocating Funds to Chabad

**Execultive Reports (0:56.24)**

**Speaker Chevrier:** Hello. A few things. One, we did not go over the Operational Documents, it's a long story but Constitutional Committee members please stay after for 20 seconds. Also, for Public Forum I wanted to first apologize because I know that the agenda that was sent out did not have anyone for Public Forum and I saw a lot of you with ice cream that you were then not allowed to eat but the guest only told me that they were coming today or yesterday. I apologize but in the future try not to bring melting food because the rule is you're not supposed to eat during Public Forum because it's a courtesy to our guests and each other and it's something we should just generally follow. Please sign legislation on time. I know the threat of censure has been thrown out there. I'm never going to censure you for not signing legislation but it does mean that I'm going to force Greg to drive me all the way to the Davis Center to upload your legislation and then not be able to do it because people didn't sign it. If something crazy comes up I understand,

just let me know so I'm not wasting my time, that would be helpful. Also, as far as elections, we still only have 3 people and they're all in this room, who have signed out packets. The information is public. As we saw when we voted on the operational documents, last year it was changed so that once you sign out a packet you become a candidate as opposed to in previous years once you turned it in. For everybody who is interested, the 3 people who have currently signed out packets are Mike White and Aliza Lederer-Plaskett for President and Will Vitagliano for vice president. Also, and then everything else I will talk about later. That's it.

**Vice President Maciewicz (0:58.26):** I hope everyone is having a good week and enjoyed the long weekend. First of all, I have a new schedule starting tomorrow. My new office hours are posted online, but I will be out of the office Monday, Wednesday, and Friday from 10am-4pm. I'll be here before then and after then and on Tuesday and Thursday. I have a new internship at Democracy For America so my office hours have gotten a little strange. I'll be here more nights than I used to be instead of during the day. Just check my website and click on Vice President. We have a new work-study who is going to be helping me redo the back room and the cage. It's kind of a big junk pit for any of you who go back there. Clubs signed out space 3 years ago and they've been hoarding them they don't use them. We're going to clear out the whole thing and assign space. If your committee or your Club wants to get a locked locker in the back, soon you'll be able to check out some new space and be able to walk and not smell garbage. That's going to be kind of fun. Office improvements, Jess has been putting up the new signs, but there are new signs for office hours on the desks and new maps for the walls. We also got a new sign for the hallway that says SGA with our new logo so you'll be able to see us when you walk in at the oval, which I think is nice looking and long overdue. We'll also be painting the office over spring break. Fresh coat of paint. I still need someone for the Parking and Transportation Committee, the review committee, it needs to be an undergraduate student on there. If you want your undergrad fellows to have the opportunity to appeal a ticket, they can't meet until I have someone appointed. If you'd like to hear appeals 3 times a semester, please come see me or shoot me a text. It's really not a big commitment but they won't let them meet without an undergrad. Keep up the work with office hours, keep your lynx pages updated, keep your desks clean. I've seen some improvements and I really appreciate that. The last thing save the date April 5<sup>th</sup> from 5:30pm to 7:00pm and April 12<sup>th</sup> from 5:30pm-7:00pm which are the last two Tuesdays of this term as the 2 banquet. April 5 President Fogel throws us a nice party with all of the senior administration and April 12 is my end of the year party for all of you. Hopefully it will be in Billings North Lounge. There will be a nice dinner, prizes, it will be a lot of fun. Save the date.

**Senator Tepper:** Point of Information: April 12 is also Katie Rifken's birthday.

**Vice President Maciewicz:** It's true and Katie Rifken will be turning 21 so there will be probably another party after.

**Senator Yeager:** I was wondering if the new logo is the old or the new logo?

**Vice President Maciewicz:** It's the new logo the V with the

**Senator Yeager:** with the circle? Nice

**Chair Simmons:** What color is the office being painted?

**Vice President Maciewicz:** The same colors but there will be more red accent walls. If you would like to see a new color, tell me, but it's not going to be turquoise or purple. Unless I hear otherwise it's going to be the same with more red and not scuffed and ugly.

**Chair Filstein:** In light of Senator Rifken's 21<sup>st</sup> birthday can we have an open bar?

**Vice President Maciewicz:** As much as I know you all know that I would enjoy that I don't think that's the best use of student funds considering the price sodexo charges.

**President Mensah (1:02.19):** Happy Tuesday everyone. Ok. This isn't West Side Story let's get it together. I'm feeling slightly better this week. This is my first day that I've been on campus for a full day since last Tuesday and I've finally been able to get out of my bed and I'm not hacking up blood every 5 seconds. The feedback to the questions of the week that was started last week have been receiving good feedback I guess from students. We've received over 1,000 more studnets than in the previous 3 or 4 emails have read last weeks' email and that number seems to be increasing. A lot of students responded with some good feedback some of which I sent out to the senate listserv about an hour and a half ago. Hopefully you get to go thorough that. I know the Budget Ad Hoc Committee met today. I went to a little bit of that but I'm going to leave it to Senator Rifken to talk about and I made her chair of that committee at the end of last week. David and I have a meeting with senior administrators tomorrow Jane Knodell will not be in attendance to that one. Brian Reed will be filling her position, so if you have any questions that you think are pertinent for David and I to raise at tomorrow's meeting let us know. Sorry. The Lynx meeting that was supposed to be last week Thursday is rescheduled and is going to be more of a weekly meeting the next is going to be this week Thursday at 7:00 pm. If you are on that please attend this week's meeting because we have a short perod of time to decide whether we are going to scrap the current system that we have or keep it or look for a new operating system for our clubs and other organizations. Aside from that it has been a pretty light week, not that much going on in the office. I'm still trying to formulate a whole day or week plan for the 69<sup>th</sup> anniversary on March 16. Looking for different things for that. The senator of the week this week has been nominated by 2 people and this senator is said to be hard working and constantly stepping up to the plate within their committee to do a lot of different tasks and this Senator of the Week is Senator Dougherty. Keep doing all the good work that it is you are doing on your committee. I'll give you your gift downstairs. You all have the freshest minds. If you have any questions let me know.

*Open the Floor for Questions (1:06.12)*

**Chair Filstien:** I was wondering in the meeting you have tomorrow what are some of the things you guys are planning on talking about?

**President Mensah:** I was initially planning on talking about the update with Course Evaluation but we'll see because since Knodell isn't there hopefully Gary is there in that direction.

**Chair Filstein:** Who is going to be there?

**President Mensah:** Chris Lucier, the usual suspects, Chris Lucier, Tom Gustafson, Gary Derr, typically Provost Knodell but she won't be in attendance tomorrow.

**Senator Vitagliano:** Good evening President Mensah. What was the turnout of Club 590 on Saturday?

**President Mensah:** Thanks for that. I actually came out of my sick bed thanks to Liz and showed up at 590. I wish more Senators had been there, honestly, because other clubs really got a lot more of their members and friends to show up, but I saw a lot of other students there from other student groups but not heavy amount of senators. Either you all don't like to party or you don't like to party in the Davis Center.

**Treasurer Salsgiver (1:07.40):** It's been a pretty light week. I had a bunch of reallocation meetings. I met with some representatives from Greek Life who are interested in getting funding to host on campus events and speakers for people on campus. I met with the Marketing Club about their trip, there are a bunch of issues with that which led to a potential policy change for the amount of money that they allocate for hotel rooms. That's kind of to come. That's about it.

**Committee Reports (1:08.17)**

## **Public Relations:**

**Chair Monteforte:** Bam. I hope you're all doing well. Basically going on what Claire said, elections are happening. It's kind of sad that no one really signed up to table, it's really exciting, you're all missing out. It's a really awesome opportunity Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday, wtf. This week, we will be tabling in Harris Millis so if you'd like to come by from 5:30 to whenever we're going to have a table we're going to have a video camera and have questions were are going to ask our Presidential candidates for our debates so sign up if you're around it will be a fun time if you want to hang out in front of Harris Millis. There is also tabling on Thursday from 11:00-2:00 so if you're around for that let me know and you can go to that. I will accept any questions.

*Open the Floor for Questions (1:09.10)*

**Senator Dougherty:** Are you getting a select group if you're just tabling at Harris Millis and not opening it up to the rest of campus?

**Chair Monteforte:** If you would like to go do more, please email me.

## **Academic Affairs (1:09.27)**

**Chair Filstein:** Hello, good evening. We're going to be meeting on Friday with Faculty Senate to work on the enhanced course descriptions some more. Senator Alleger is going to be doing that. Last week we had an exciting meeting with Faculty Senate about the specific questions we are trying to get from the course evals and trying to tweak those and pushing back on the questions we submitted saying that a lot of them weren't appropriate, necessarily. They've managed to brainwash Senator Caster but I'm giving him a healthy dose of AA medicine to get him back on our team and we're going to be meeting later to keep that going.

**Senator Caster:** I'd like to clear up with Dan just said. The differences in the questions were whether they were informative versus evaluative because they brought up that intellectual point. I'm quoting the chair of student affairs and this is something that Senator Ballas took down "Let's not let the sun set on this semester without working on publishable course evaluations." That's a fun little quote.

## **Finance: (1:10.47)**

**Chair Mallea:** Sorry for having 4 bills tonight. I'm emailing out my report.

## **Student Activities (1:10.55)**

**Chair Adams:** Hi friends, so I wanted to clear up the Kayak thing. I didn't have time before the meeting, I totally meant to and I forgot, to look up their sanction, but they're totally cool to go, they just can't take a van which is kind of weird unless they get in touch with Senator Calder which hopefully they will do. We're splitting up again working on sports medicine, taking up the task that Malloy left. We will be rewriting the bylaws for club recognition, Liza and I are working on that and will be in touch with the Constitution Committee. There are a lot of different things around club marketing, basically trying to get a calendar going with what clubs are doing on a weekly basis so we'll know where they're meeting and what they do and what they're working on. We're also looking into compiling a big and better resources for clubs site that will compile all the things clubs do around campus. Catering waivers, space requests, marketing, all that jazz kind of in one place. Club awards banquet, we're going to use the same awards that we used last year and we're going to be sending out a call for nominations soon.

*Open the Floor for Questions (1:12.12)*

**Chair Filstein:** [inaudible]

**Chair Adams:** All I asked them to do was meet with me literally 5 minutes before the meeting and come in and present to senate and they haven't returned my 4 emails.

**Senator Filstein:** She came in.

**Chair Adams:** Well, if they are going to come in they still have to meet with me which I have asked them to do 3 times so next week will work.

### **COLA (1:12.39)**

**Chair Morgan:** Hey, so we're working on our police luncheon which is March 22. Senator Fitzgerald has done a lot of work on priority registration. I call her the priority registration czar and she has complied this lengthy proposal and I'm very proud of her. If anyone has any questions about that direct them towards Senator Fitzgerald. Good thing my report is done.

### **CODEEE (1:13.23)**

**Chair Herman:** I had a meeting with, well Senator Bennington has a meeting with Wanda Heading-Grant on Monday to discuss a number of things. If any of you have anything that you would like to have discussed during the meeting send it Senator Bennington's way. It's so hard to meet with her. It took over a month to schedule something so we're meeting with her Monday. I emailed Annie Stevens to have a follow up discussion about some talks that we had last semester about counseling services on campus for students and a follow up meeting on that and how it's going as well as conversations that Senator Tepper is interested in as well as the CODEEE committee listing available resources for students on campus for Student Financial Services or whatever the case may be and creating a page or somewhere where students can go to see financial aid or career services, whatever it may be. Another thing we've been discussing is the Arts and Sciences Survey and the follow up, the significance of that survey, different things like that. Different talks about the Arts and Sciences survey that just went out. Beverly Coleston, the director of the ALANA Student Center may be coming in next Tuesday on public forum, I'm not sure yet, simply to discuss the future of the Senate and representation of students of color and the significance of them and what significance that may have for the future because she said this past year has been one of the more diverse student bodies and she had been promoting it somewhat, the Senate elections, she's putting it in the ALANA Student Center newsletter and using her outlets and channels to try to persuade more students of color to run for senate so we can have a representative body on SGA.

**Senator Cesario:** I'm going to talk about the environmental forum for a second. So some quick highlights for everyone that I think are cool projects. One of the things that they talked about that was surprising was what UVM does with leftover veggie oil from the dining halls. Right now we ship it to a company that turns it into biodiesel but she basically implied that we have half a million dollars in the Clean Energy Fund right now and it would be really awesome if one of UVM's generators could be converted to work off of veggie oil and create a closed loop system with our oil rather than carting it away somewhere, which I think would be an awesome project for us. We also talked a lot about the Coke contract with VSTEP and they were basically like, we don't like Coke, obviously they don't. They said that contract committee begins processing a request for proposals this spring, so we've got to get our act together if we want to not have bottled water as a part of it. Also, a really cool thing with bottled water is Erica Spiegel was talking about the idea of a bottle share program because of this new ecoware program, creating a similar type of thing with bottles. If the ecoware program is deemed successful. I don't know if we could look into that further. It sounds like an interesting opportunity. Also, the Clean Energy Fund has a meeting Monday 28 at 1:15 pm if any of you want to go for the people on the board

but I think we can all go and observe or ask questions because I'm kind of into trying to tap into that fund a little more.

**Senator Tepper:** I met with Dan Dulude and Alan Josie who are the Director of Custodians and Director of Davis Center Operations respectively. We got a really cool behind the scenes Mr. Rogers tour of the loading dock and recycling in the Davis Center which was really cool, considering Senator Cesario and I are bleeding heart environmentalists and we were pretty impressed. We are going to have some more conversations with Kate Strotmeyer who does marketing in the Davis Center and work on getting little table tents out on the table in the Davis Center getting information about the compost. We think that is going to be more effective than putting lids on it because they get dirty and would actually maybe hinder the process so that is probably not going to happen. Also just making some wall art near the compost just because it's been proven that better signage has been effective in composting.

### **Student Action (1:19.17)**

**Chair Simmons:** Yo, so following up with bottled water. I sent a letter to Fogel, or an email, from the last President Student Advisory Council. There were some questions raised about why we are trying to ban the healthiest drink on campus. They were good questions. I sent an email back outlining where this was coming from in case any of you get that question as well, I figured I might as well clarify. Other beverages don't come out of the water fountains for free. We see a lot of free water bottles being given away every year. These water bottle refill stations being constructed all over campus. We get clean tap water we can drink because we're lucky so we think that's an easy first step that students can get behind. So that's our rationale for going after bottled water. I'd like to commend Senator Ravech, although she got her fair share of acclaim as senator of the week and whatnot, it's getting to her head a little bit. The beautiful water bottles, here they are. Our new logo and sick other logo. That's great. We're going to be talking 1-2 on Thursday. Stop by talk to students about the ban, getting signatures. All that good stuff. Late night foods, the first weekend after spring break we're going to be trying to start a little experiment selling food in the Davis Center [inaudible] and I think BUG is going to contribute by delivering around campus on bicycles. That should be hoot. Also, someone approached me about transparency in animal testing, telling some pretty bleak stories of some practices that UVM has been renowned for in terms of animal testing. I had no idea, but I thought it was cool telling your friendly senator in class about shit that you care about. I thought that was great. I'm going to be looking into that a bit.

**Senator M. White:** Cool, hey everybody. Super, finally, astericks on the front of this, had the library meeting. Loved Mara so much, she's wonderful. She's totally behind the idea of a 24-hour library experience for the UVM community and I think that's great. Benner did the lion's share of the work here.

**Senator Benner:** Well, basically what was outlined by Dean Saule is her proper title when speaking in senate. Basically, she really loves the idea of a 24-hour library, however, it's just that under the current budgetary restrictions, it's just not feasible right now. What she said was that a push from the students, some kind of legisaiton, because there has never been any legislation that I know of, certainly not in the last 4 or 5 years. She said that something from students pushing the administration saying this is something we want to do, we need to allocate funds here would be very important. That is why there is a bill for next week so it's very important we need to make it as strong as possible.

### **Senatorial Forum: (1:23.25)**

**Chair Adams:** Hi friends, sorry, I did the cool thing where I forget half of my report. Basically, Leon and my committee has been working on a survey for club signers about the Lynx and what they would want to see on it and what they want to see on the web portal so we can use that going forwards. We're working on that with PR helping us out a little bit with that. Somebody

mentioned the in Davis Center and the Davis Center advisory council is actually looking into the ethos of the building. Vice President Maciewicz and I both serve on that committee so if you have any input, I'm doing the second floor and I believe he's in charge of the first. If you have any feedback about what you want to see on the first or second floor or the buildgin in general, email them our way. They want big ideas, small ideas, anything like that.

**Senator Rifken:** I have a few things. So *The Cynic* today, I don't know if anyone's read it yet but there's an article in here, it's an editorial in here, about students not knowing where the money comes from but not knowing where it goes to. It's kind of about where the tuition money is going which is interesting considering that the Budget Ad Hoc just had it's first meeting tonight. The reason I made it tonight is because I thought Pat Brown was going to make it. For those of you who don't know who Pat Brown is he's the guru, he's the director of Student Life and he gives really good explanations that are very basic, not numbers based like Richard Cate often does. A lot easier to take in for those who aren't numbers thinking. Anyways, it's a really cool article in *The Cynic*, you should check it out. Budget ad hoc met, a few people came, a lot of people couldn't make it tonight, a lot of people couldn't make it, it's a hard time. If anyone's still interested in doing that please shoot me an email, let me know that's awesome. I'm going to put together a packet talking about putting together some reseources for students to understand what's really going on, it's really complicated and you can't just flip open online resources and understand it right away. If anyone has any comments or suggestions let me know. Conversation is good. I think that's all I want to say about that.

**Senator Caster:** I saw that Senator Ballas had one of those packets and immediately became jealous. Do you have an extra one I can pick up? Thank you.

#### **Senatorial Comments/Announcements (1:26.42)**

**Senator M. White:** 3 things, Number 1, to President Mansah, when you're a jet you're a jet all the way. You made a *West Side Story* joke. Moving on, month of service, we had an incredible meeting. Thanks all around. Love Allah. Last meeting before the break Month of Service 1:00 in the galaxy space. It's going to be incredible, everything is really coming together, I'm really excited about it. 3, last thing, there was an article in *The Cynic* this week, page 3, one of the sides. It's on late night dining, featuring my name, I got an email back saying my name is Blatimer, he plays the fiddler, he's real sweet. He brought up a whole lot of random ideas about late night dining but I wanted to talk about the use of *The Cynic* for feedback.

**Chiar Herman:** Cornel West is going to be here Friday at 4:00 in the Ira Allen chapel. Also, Saturday 8pm BSU is having a fashion show. It's Renaissance themed. It's going to be great. Take a few hours.

**Senator Rifken:** This Thursday at 6:00pm at the Pearl House there is a Neighborhood Liasion Meeting, it doesn't matter if you are on-campus or off-campus. It's a pot luck so you bring something to share, you talk about things going on in the neighborhood, relations with students, things like that. There's good food, I'll be there again if that entices anyone to come.

**Senator Calder:** Tomorrow night is the first team captain's meeting for Relay for Life. If you're not involed or want to get involved or start a team, we've been advertising a lot of it for Month of Service, if you want to get involved it's tomorrow night at 7:00 in the [inaudible] family room.

**Chair Simmons:** I am in desperate need of a computer scientist.

**Senator Caster:** I want to say that IRA is voting to allocate \$2,000 to Bike Users Group and BlirpIt came to IRA for funding and we're going to hopefully work thourgh that, but they're also coming to SGA for funding. I want to make it known that on the bottom of the BlirpIt request there are 40 character spaces for advertising, so every time someone texts BlirpIt and they text

back you can say within 40 characters, oh, SGA is having a Club 590. Keep that in your periphery because it's great advertising.

**Senator DeVivo:** As part of UVM Month of Service, my fraternity Kappa Sigma is hosting what is called sleep out for the soldiers. It's the kick off for UVM's Month of Service. March 18 and 19, what happens is my entire chapter sleeps outside and we actually hope it's as cold as possible because it actually adds some credibility to the event. It's from from 4:00 on Friday to 4:00 on Saturday it supports the Fisher House Foundation, which doesn't support war at all. Some of you probably have concerns about that. What it supports is military families. When wounded soldiers come back from overseas or something happens here and they need an extended stay in a Veteran's Hospital, what it does is provide housing for their families so they can be with them. We're splitting the proceeds for the event this year supports the General Fisher House Foundation which goes to Fisher House in D.C. The closest one to here in Connecticut so we're going to donate half of it to there. Invite all your friends, it's a public event, there's going to be music, food, raffles, cool prizes, maybe some things from Burton. Invite all your friends. There's a Facebook group called Sleep Out For the Soldiers 2011. Join if you want to.

**Senator Vitagliano:** If you are in the Boston area Friday, Saturday, Sunday, UVM Squash, we're at nationals, we have a really great chance of winning our division this year, so hopefully we're coming home with a trophy. If you want to go let me know, I'll make sure you get tickets to get in.

**President Mensah:** To reiterate what Senator Herman said about the fashion show, I'm actually selling tickets for it because there is a \$3 charge for students to get in, it's \$5 at the door. The proceeds are going to a good charity in Belize for women. If you are going please buy tickets from me. They're \$3, let me know and I'm actually in the show.

**Chair Adams:** I wanted to thank Chris Evans' class for sitting through the entire meeting. Last year I think they were stuck here until like 11:00 at night so at least you don't have to do that. I wanted to thank Senator Rifken, she and I had an incredible frozen pizza last night, alone. Hopefully next time more of you can come by. Sorry about shifting the time.

**Senator Rifken:** Point of Information: It was intellectually stimulating.

**Senator Alleger:** Just to let everyone know Sunday night barring ton levying reggae like reggae dancing you should go.

**Speaker Chevrier:** I know dot brinkley talked about campus climate survey and talked about people uncomfortable as intersteing poi last was out in 2005 came back this is feedback from people most discriminated against are republicans.

**Senator Bennington:** might have said last week say again and next week shamelessly advertising in NYC area or the Albany ny area includes schnectady band isg oign to bplay Sun march 7 at arlent's groery in manahttan mon march 8 that mondaya at the Dublin undergorun in Alabna y should ill go.

#### **Roll Call**

**Finance:** All Present

**Student Activities:** Senators Mason and Lederer-Plaskett, excused

**COLA:** Senator Cooper, excused

**CODEEE:** All Present

**Student Action:** All Present

**Public Relations:** Senator Yuan, excused

**Academic Affairs:** Senator Ballas, excused

#### **Adjournment**

*End Time: 8:33 pm*



