



TUESDAY, MARCH 1ST, 2011
TWENTY-FOURTH MEETING OF THE 2010-2011 SENATE

Call to Order (0:01:13)

Start Time: 7:00 p.m.

Roll Call (0:01:16)

Finance: Chair Mallea, Excused

Student Activities: Senator Mustacchi, unexcused, Senator Mason, excused

COLA: Senator Fitzgerald, Senator Sadek, excused, Senator Cooper, unexcused

CODEEE: All Present

Student Action: All Present

Public Relations: All Present

Academic Affairs: Senator Ballas, unexcused

Approval of the Minutes (0:01:43)

From 2/22/11 - passes

Public Forum (0:01:57)

Jill Krowinski, Planned Parenthood

Jill Krowinski: Hi everybody, my name is Jill Krowinski, I'm the Public Affairs Director for Planned Parenthood of Northern New England. Thank you for having me.

Senator Lederer-Plaskett: We're super excited to have her here. We got her here on really late notice so we're really happy to have her here, especially in light of tonight's legislation. I'm going to present a brief PowerPoint to set the tone and give you some information and then she's going to talk to you a little bit more in depth about what's going on. Basically, in a brief summary of legislation, as of late there have been many attacks on women's health through the House and Senate and Congress as a whole and multiple states. One such attack is the redefining of the word rape. Initially in the Pence Amendment which is what we'll be discussing tonight the language forcible rape which changed the definition of rape. Basically, it altered the definition to limit situations in which women can use federal funding to obtain an abortion. It stated that a woman must be forcibly raped to qualify. This means that rape would be legally altered and consent law would be essentially done away with. It meant that if you are drugged and consequently raped it's not rape. If you are not beaten up and bloody it's not rape. If you are afraid of your attacker and don't report it it's not rape. Basically, if you say no and are overpowered and there are no bruises or marks left to bear of the attack, it's not rape. This was taken out of the Pence Amendment but has now been inserted into more other amendments so we'll be hearing more about this, most likely, in the news in the future but it's actually no longer in the amendment we will be discussing tonight. In the state of Georgia right now they are attempting to change the language of the law so that victims of rape, stalking, or domestic violence are no longer referred to as victims but referred to as accusers. This means that they are taking away the language that makes one automatically assume that the victim is telling the truth. Actually taking this back to late in the 1980s in Chicago when police officers were called to the scene of a rape, the first order of

business was to determine whether or not the victim was lying. For the record, victims of burglary and less serious crimes still use victims. In South Dakota a bill was proposed to make it legal for the immediate family of a pregnant woman to kill anyone who provides her with an abortion even if it is one that she sought out and desired and paid for, all in the name of protecting her unborn child. Pence Amendment, what we're talking about tonight, basically in case you are unaware, the Pence Amendment strips funding from all Title X organizations. Title X organizations are organizations pertaining to women's health such as cancer screenings, STI and STD testing, PAP Smears, heart health. Planned Parenthood is the largest Title X organization in the country, but there are other sub organizations like if you're walking on the street in any other state except Vermont because we only have Planned Parenthood in Vermont, but in any other state, any time you see something that says Women's Health Clinic, that's a Title X funded organization. There are ten Planned Parenthood centers in Vermont. Planned Parenthood serves 3 million Americans and over 21,000 Vermonters. Last year Vermont Planned Parenthood provided 27,394 STI screenings, 7,848 cervical cancer screenings, 9,617 breast exams and over 16,000 contraceptive visits. Sorry there are no statistics available about how many of those were students or in an age range because they are a confidential organization and consequently don't provide or guess about those statistics. They provide low cost or no cost healthcare coverage on a sliding scale, so you can qualify for that sliding scale if you earn under a certain amount or are in certain circumstances. With the budget cuts the sliding scale will cease to exist so there will be no way of obtaining contraception, cancer screenings, any of it free of charge. 48% of Planned Parenthood patrons, if this amendment goes through, will no longer be able to access their services and will lose their access to healthcare services. That's 1.4 million Americans. A little clarifications, I got a lot of emails about this, the Hyde Amendment which was enacted in 1976 after Roe v Wade was decided banned use of federal funds for abortion excluding instances of rape, incest, or threats to the life of the woman. This means that no funds are being cut for abortions by enacting the Pence Amendment. It means that absolutely no change will be made except in the case of incest, rape, and threats to the woman's life. So you're taking away funding for those but you're not changing someone's access to abortion in other cases. In conclusion, through the passing of the Pence Amendment we will most likely see an increase in sexually transmitted infections and diseases, all of this will apply to our campus, an increase in unwanted pregnancies and an increase in untreatable cancer because it will have been discovered too late in the absence of screening and diagnosis, a decrease with women in healthcare coverage and more uninformed and consequently at risk students. Things we won't see, more jobs, a reduced deficit, and fewer abortions. If the Pence Amendment is enacted this will save approximately \$75 million by not funding Planned Parenthood. This would fund 3 hours and 51 minutes of the War on Terror. So what are your priorities? 800 clinics that may be closed and a sliding scale that provides free healthcare to millions of women and people each year or 4 hours of the War on Terror?

Jill Krowinski: That's really hard to follow up. That's a crazy number. Thank you so much for your leadership on this. Again, thank you so much for having me here tonight. This issue is so important and I can't stress enough that this is an attack on women's healthcare services that we have never seen before. Congress has never voted to defund Planned Parenthood. They have never voted to eliminate funding to cancer screenings, to STI screenings, to birth control. This is just the beginning because Congress just started under this House leadership in January. This is our first budget bill. We are expecting that this is going to come up time and time again with every budget bill. That's why it's so important for everyone to take action and to speak out about this. If we don't stop them now on this bill, we're going to be having to fight for really just funding for cancer screenings for the next 4 years. I can't tell you enough, passing this bill would mean a lot to Senators Leahy and Sanders. We've been working really hard. We've had over 100 people call, over 20 people to show up to each office, including students from UVM, to talk to the senators about this. Senator Sanders actually gave us feedback that the student testimonials were really impressive and that he was really encouraged by this showing of support. It does make a difference for you guys to stand up and have a voice on this. It truly does. You did a really great job talking about the statistics. In Vermont we have 10 health centers. We would have to close health centers if this passes. We really don't want to do that because for so many of our patients we are their only source of primary care. We're not even talking about abortion, we're talking

about preventative and primary care needs. One statistic that I just heard the other day that was shocking was in 2008 in Vermont if we did not have Title X services, there would be a 39% rise in abortion. Birth control makes a difference. Having access to birth control is really important. Thank you so much for having me today. If there's anything else I can provide for you I guys, don't hesitate to ask.

Senator Lederer-Plaskett: What she's got there is a postcard that will be sent to the Vermont senators for Leahy and Sanders. They're being sent to their offices so all you have to do is fill out your name, sign it, and that pretty much seals it. Also, the feminist majority is coming in at 8:00 and I think there's about 10 of them and they're bringing a petition so you can sign it after this over. Take it if you want. don't if you don't. There's a lot that can be done and it starts with signing this petition and these cards. Thanks.

Open the Floor for Questions (0:11.45)

Senator Bennington: Thank you so much for coming in and working on this. I think this is really a pretty horrible thing that's going on. I get the sense that Leahy and Sanders are already prepared to not support this. I guess I have two questions. One, is that the sense that Planned Parenthood has coming from them right now and two, if our senators are already planning on voting no, what else can we do as voters in Vermont to try to support Planned Parenthood?

Jill Krowinski: Senator Leahy and Sanders are supportive but they are under extreme pressure to vote for this budget and there's a lot of organizations that are fabulous with serious funding cuts as well. It's just really important for them to see that Planned Parenthood and Vermonters in general care about access to services. They said to us that they want to keep on hearing from us and our supporters. That's why we're keeping in touch with them so frequently. In terms of other things you can do, writing a letter to the editor is really important to just help spread the word and tell your story. There's signing the petition, just spreading the word on Facebook just really is important. Folks that don't live in such supportive states as ours, even next door in New Hampshire, Senator Kelly Ayotte is totally supports these cuts. I think that spreading the word makes a big difference.

Senator Lederer-Plaskett: There is intense pressure right now in the Senate to pass this bill, especially given all the turnover in the last general election, the general momentum is going towards passing a bill like this. While democrats still have the majority in the Senate it really is a genuinely risky and real possibility this will pass the Senate.

Jill Krowinski: It's setting the tone. If we can't stop this now we're going to have further cuts to healthcare.

Student Talking About Animal Testing (0:14.15)

Concerned Student: I don't know if you know, but there's lots of animal testing that goes on at UVM and that's through the Agricultural School, the Medical School, the Psychology Department. What I'm here to ask about is not for the SGA to say anything about their stance on whether or not animal testing should occur but that there should be absolute transparency in all animal testing that happens at UVM. I think that would be in the interest of every student. I don't see that as a controversial issue. Can you pass something like UVM students want something like transparency in animal testing?

Open the Floor for Questions

Senator Vitagliano: Thanks for coming in. I'd just like to pass the name of Professor William Falls, he's the Chair of the Psychology Department as well as the chair of the group on campus that's responsible for taking care of the animals before they're being tested and making sure they

have the most ideal and humane conditions for the animals prior to that and maybe talk with him to get some more information.

Concerned Student: I've talked to various people like the head veterinarian at UVM and they all give the same assurance, which is all animals are absolutely treated as humanely as possible and only tested when necessary. Somebody on SGA pointed out that IACC which is the Institutional Animal Care and Use guidelines for humane study is anesthetic-less, decapitation, there's lots of things. It's not just psychology that does it. For instance, one of the tests they were doing was for a class for medical students was an advanced trauma and it was just stabbing pigs and saving their lives.

Senator Dougherty: What animals are being tested on and how are they being tested?

Concerned Student: There are mostly mice but there's dogs, pigs, cows for the Agricultural School. Monsanto commissioned a study here which led to the development of recombinant bovine growth hormone which the public has absolutely said we don't want this in any of our milk. Ben and Jerry's and most milks will be labeled we do not use rBGH because it's bad for your health.

Senator Calder: Point of Information: There's no more BST at UVM and they haven't done research on cows in quite a few years now.

Concerned Student: Yeah, but they developed it.

Senator Calder: They used it in past so did most others

Senator Lederer-Plaskett: A question of my own personal ignorance, is there a standard, I know there's a standard for animal factory farming, is there a standard that's like a federal standard for the treatment of animals in testing?

Concerned Student: Yeah but they're like absolutely atrocious. It's like completely inhumane.

Senator Bennington: We can't pass anything that makes anyone do anything but we could ask for more transparency.

Concerned Student: My idea is to have the resolution and have that just as a starting point.

Senator Rifken: I know I spoke to you before, but have you looked into the IACUC Database at all and see if they have previous studies because I know that every lab that is affiliated with the university has to go through a pretty rigorous process to even get a lab approved and then get all the testing stuff. I'm sure they have it somewhere.

Concerned Student: I'm sure there is a database somewhere but it's not a public database. I went to the website that I think you gave me for IACUC and read the guidelines and they were really not reassuring at all. Somebody told me that monthly public meetings where they present the tests that they're going to do, I heard that they were public at first and then I talked to people at STAR and they said they had someone go and try to go sit in on a meeting and they said they're absolutely not allowed in. I think if something wrong isn't going wrong, it should be transparent and if something wrong is going on, it should be transparent.

Senator Rifken: Another resource is would say then if it's not public is to be looking at the Vermont Public Records Act, and you can look at that online, they have Vermont statute stuff on there, and if information is not used for personnel and a couple other reasons on there but otherwise that information is public. That's something to look into.

Speaker Chevrier: Thank you for coming. It's very rare that students actually take the initiative to find out that SGA is actually a resource to come to and then actually come speak to us. I wanted to thank you and assure you that we will be looking into it after we come back we can work on that.

Concerned Student: And I'd be happy to work with anyone however it would it happen. How would it happen?

Chair Adams: Essentially what you could do the Committee on Diversity, Equality and Environmental Ethics or Student Action could potentially take this on so I'm sure if you take either Chair Simmons. Chair Simmons looks like he would be interested so perhaps emailing him or meeting with his committee would be the way to go.

Chair Simmons: Possibly a personal one on one meeting as well. Cut out the middle email man.

Speaker Chevrier: Point of Information: The reason why Student Government Association is to represent the views of the students and you're one of the 8 students to actually come speak with us this semester so it's their job to do whatever you want.

Old Business (0:22.08)

Bill Recognizing Donyms

Chair Adams: [*reads bill*]. This is a club that has been tabled from a while back. Basically they have everything in and [*inaudible*].

Collette Shade: You can thank Ben for the Photoshop design. My name is Collette Shade and I started this magazine at UVM. We've received a \$3,000 grant from Philip Baruth, he is our club advisor and faculty advisor and we received a \$3,000 from the English Department's Faulkner Fund which is a fund allotted to English related projects. Donyms is a magazine that is centered around place so it has a theme that ties it together. It features interview, journalism, fiction, poetry, art, non-fiction, even academic writing when applicable. It's very diverse. It has a great deal of content all tied together by that theme. We are hoping to put our first issue out April 15. So for fundraising we need around \$8,000 a year to go to press, do an 8 page this big semi-glossy. We're going to do a run of about 1,000 copies to start. We have \$3000 and we're planning to make up for the gap with advertising revenue and run ads in the back, at least for this first issue because we only have about 6 weeks until distribution. For events, this might not happen this Spring just because it's so close to publication, but we'd like to do events through local venues, local musicians. Then bake sales, typical stuff like advertising revenues. I guess the accessibility, we're open to anyone at UVM. We have a weekly email and a listserv and we have finished in the middle of a poster campaign to publicize our first issue. For sustainability we do everything web based work and we do all of our web based publicity via our Facebook page and social media and then we only accept submissions based on pdf and word format. That's Donyms.

Open the Floor for Questions (0:27.30)

Senator Juairé: Thank you for coming in and thank you for your interest in being a new club. I was hoping you could explain a little bit how you're different from Vantage Point and how you plan to distinguish yourself from other literary magazines that we already have?

Chair Adams: Point of Information: Clubs don't have to be different from each other to be recognized.

Collette Shade: We have a theme tying us together. I was hoping to be a bit more focused on the journalism and interview aspect. For instance, I got an interview with an urban historian and urban explorer named Steve Duncan and he was featured in the *New York Times* and on NPR and

I got a 40 minute interview that's going to appear in our first issue. I feel that Vantage Point has more of a literary and artistic vent, and while we do have that, I'd like to feature a lot more in terms of non-fiction and journalism and I just want to have my own magazine.

Senator O'Brien: Why are you named Demonyms?

Collette Shade: Demonym is the name for, it ties in with our theme. I've always wanted to have a blog or a magazine with the word Demonyms. I've always kind of liked the word. It's the name for a person who's from a particular area like a Vermonter or a New Yorker.

Senator Alleger: Can you use it in a sentence?

Collette Shade: Where are you from? Pennsylvania? You, Todd Alleger, your demonym is a Pennsylvanian.

Senator Alleger: Is there an analogy for Demonyms?

Collette Shade: I can't tell you but there's a Classics major who is on our staff that probably could.

Chair Filstein: Is the topic going to change each edition?

Collette Shade: No, it's going to be a consistent theme.

Chair Filstein: And it's just local stuff?

Senator Tran: How many people do you have that are currently interested? Willing to help you do this?

Collette Shade: We started out with about 12 but we are now, that was too much and that gets very confusing so for a magazine of our size a staff of about 4 or 5 officers and then a lot of people helping out. We've received maybe 30 submissions so far.

Chair Adams: Essentially, when she refers to staff she's referring to the officers. They do meet the minimum number of members in terms of people attending meetings and contributing to the publication.

Senator Yeager: I was wondering what the other members who attend the meetings, how they contribute? What would be their role?

Collette Shade: We have a Treasurer whose role is to be a go between between advertising sponsors and the club and between venues and the club as well as to coordinate with the people managing the Buckham fund. We have someone who helps out with graphic design and cover design and we have readers slash copy editors who go through all the submissions and edit and check them out and stuff.

Chair Filstein: I just wanted to thank you for that. I'm really excited about Demonyms. Most schools have a lot of literary magazines and different publications. I'm really tired of the tyranny and dictatorship of *Vantage Point* throwing mental images at our bodies.

Vote on Bill Recognizing Demonyms - passes

Bill Allocating Funds to Chabad Club (0:32:38)

Senator Tran: [*Reads Bill*]. So they had this event and they need funding for it. It's coming out of the diversity fund so we don't use that very often so most of the time we're usually pretty generous with their requests.

Open the Floor for Questions (0:33.46)

Senator Caster: I guess this is more of a point of inquiry, excuse my ignorance if I'm misunderstanding, but is Chabad and explicitly Jewish organization and if so what are the regulations for funding an organization that is explicitly endorsing a religion in the context of the Student Government Association in a public university?

Chair Adams: Any club can be recognized as long as it's open to all students so you as a non-member could still explore Jewish religion and Jewish life even if you don't associate with that religion. Hillel for a long time had a Quaker treasurer, which was awesome.

Senator Vitagliano: I have a question on what exactly the event is and what the money is going to be used for?

Senator Tran: It's going to cost \$15 a student to do this event and it includes a rabbi is coming, food, other entertainment. That's all the detail I had and remember.

Senator M. White: The word is pronounced Chabad.

Chair Filstein: Since I'm new to senate I was hoping you could explain what the diversity fund is?

Senator Tran: So within the big supplemental fund there are several different funds. Diversity is made for clubs organizing events that particularly enhances the diversity of the university and incorporates understanding.

Chair Morgan: How much money in the diversity fund?

Senator Tran: I do not know, but I would daresay it's probably the least used fund so we're good.

Chair Adams: Point of Information: The Diversity fund is also only used for events that are open to the entire student body and aren't club specific.

Vote on Bill Allocating Funds for Chabad Club - passes

Senator Rifken: Point of Inquiry: If we want to discuss something that's not particularly a question on a vote because I don't think we've been doing that much and I know we've done it in the past, what would be the procedure to go into voting like that? if I wanted to state my opinion on something that wasn't a direct question, how would that happen?

Speaker Chevrier: The only time that you have to ask a question is when you are talking to someone on public forum. Just know when I opened the floor it's really opening up the floor for questions and comments and you could have said anything that wasn't directed to the author of the legislation.

Senator M. White: Point of Inquiry: Is it allocated?

Speaker Chevrier: It is allocated. Thank you for pointing that out. It is one of the things that I can change because it doesn't actually change the meaning of it but will change the grammar and make it more correct wording.

Emergency Business (0:37.27)

Resolution in Opposition to the Pence Amendment (0:37.34)

Senator Lederer-Plaskett: There's going to be a whole lot of feminists who are coming in at 8 who are going to be really mad at me.

Senator Lovell: Point of Information: You could wait, motion to suspend the rules and then do your bill then if you prefer to wait for your guests.

Resolution Calling for 24-Hour Library Access (0:38.25)

Senator Benner: I edited it a few hours after first I sent it out the first time. I guess I will read the resolution and then give some background information and open the floor for questions and comments. [*reads bill*]. Alright, a little bit of background. This is something that's very close to my heart. I spent many late nights in the cyber café with dirt and sweat and all that gross stuff. I think it's absolutely ridiculous that we as a university of 10,000 students have a late night, post 12:00 studying available that suits maybe 60 students. A lot of times students are forced to study on the floor, especially as it gets later in the semester. I'm suffering from the black plague here. A few Friday back Senator White and I met with UVM library's Mara Saule and she said she's totally in, she's totally behind this idea, she really wants to have 24-hour library access, which is why we're calling for 24 hour library access. Initially we were calling for library access until 2:00 or 4:00, but Mara's on board with that and frankly we feel that we may as well as go for all we can get and if the university wants to scale back a bit, that's better than going for 2:00 and then they scale back until 1:00am. With this, if this passes, Mara has promised that she will write a letter that goes along with the resolution that we can staple and attach to the resolution and send in snail mail to send along to the proper administrative individuals. I don't know what the current plan is for that, I don't know if they are planning on trying and sending them soon but I do know that this is something that Senator White and Filstein [*inaudible*] compare them so I guess I'll open up the floor for questions.

Open the Floor for Questions (0:42.10)

Chair Morgan: In first be it resolved, it says 'the Student Government Associations requests the Provost allocate funds to the library.' Where is this money coming from? Is there a specific fund, do you have something specific in mind for the Provost to pay for this with? I'm just curious because if we were citing something specific I'd feel a lot better about this and I don't know where the Provost is coming up with to money to pay for this. I'd feel better if we had something in mind.

Chair Filstein: I can try to answer that. The Provost is the person who makes the specific allocation to various parts of the school and the library is part of it. They have a little bit of discretion with that and if it's only \$18,000 for a whole year or for a semester.

Senator Benner: roughly

Chair Filstein: It's something like \$18,000 per semester or year. It's something they can move around and it's basically discretionary.

Senator Tran: Can you scroll up? Ok. Where does in the second whereas where did that information come from that little number one thing? Scroll down?

Senator Benner: That's on the VSOP.

Senator Vitagliano: Friendly amendment if the senate is willing to back it up to have all of the senate be a co-sponsor of this bill.

Senator Benner: yes

Senator Vitagliano: Informal poll if people want to do that.

Vote on having an informal poll – passes

Vote on Informal Poll: Would senators like to all be included as co-sponsors for this resolution? – passes

Senator Caster: I think Chair Morgan brought up a really good point in that I know that you explicitly mentioned requesting the Provost funding, but you're currently dealing with a Provost that's trying to find \$6 million in revenue shortage. I think that wouldn't even specifically mention her, I would not request funding from her. I would say if you would please find a way to manage that. If she does not return with a plan of action then we can specifically call on her expertise but right now I feel that is inappropriate.

Senator Benner: I appreciate the comment. I sent an email to Provost Knodell a few days ago. She got back to me today saying she had read the resolution, she had no issues with it, she was ok with how it was stated. I think that's enough.

Chair Filstein: Also, in general we write a lot of resolutions saying that we demand that the administration do so and so but the administration is kind of ambiguous so we're being more specific and saying this is the person who is specifically in charge of doing this, why not ask them? Originally it had Knodell in there but we decided to take it out because that's inappropriate but just saying her official title is ok.

Senator Caster: Thank you Senator Benner. I would like to change my vote in terms of sponsorship because that was a point of clarification that I really liked and thank you again Senator Filstein for the clarification.

Senator Knowles-Thompson: I was just wondering how many staff members we needed during the extended hours and would they need to be full time staff members or just work-study students?

Chair Filstein: right now if you spend a night in the Cyber Café there are 2 grad students that guard each door. I'm just speculating but when you're there late there's 2 people at the desk and probably one person roaming around. It's just extending hours of people who work there anyway, or offering it to more grad students. Generally there's 3 or 4 people there.

Senator Knowles-Thompson: Is paying the workers the extra cost? what are the added costs?

Senator Benner: So yes, paying the extra hours would be the additional cost. According to Mara it costs somewhere between \$30,000 to \$40,000 to staff the two people in the Cyber Café and she said it would not cost that much more to have more people. She did not give an exact figure, she was perfectly vague in that. The other thing that she wants is to have some form of security guard that's sort of scanning and making sure there's nothing sketchy going on. She wants someone to check that students aren't taking anything, check if students are actually students at the University of Vermont. This is something I currently don't like. I don't think it's necessary, but she said that would be an additional cost.

Chair Adams: I voted no to the co-sponsorship because I did not write the bill so I think it's inappropriate for me to sponsor it. I will be happy to sign any letter to go along with it. In terms of who sponsored and who did the effort, I really think that's reserved to those 3 people who did the work to look into the issue. I also don't know how I feel about the Provost thing only because we discussed other avenues of funding and I don't know if she would have discretion over that

and if she doesn't I say take it out because we can ask her to find the funding then if now we can find it ourselves.

Senator Benner: To respond to that does, it does not preclude any other funding. In talking to Pat Brown we went over different things and talking about the idea of what if other people funded it and he said that not necessarily other people's job. I think the simple fact is that library has a \$14 million budget which is huge and I think that they can a) do two things, find money in their own budget because they have a lot of things lying around and they're really not doing that much with it and b) with a little bit of help from Knodell it will work itself out. If we need extra that extra funding from outside sources, I think we can use them but I think at this point it will be more of an uphill battle if we try to make that happen.

Senator Rifken: Just about the sponsorship thing I just have two points that I want to bring up. Something that Chair Morgan brought up, it's going to be really hard to get everyone to sign it if we've been having so many problems with people signing and second, I just think that we are voting on it as a senate body and that is known when it passes so I don't know if need to all sign it. In the past exec has signed things, something like that with less signatures may be easier.

Chair Filstein: What we read to you originally was an earlier draft. So I just changed the last 'be it resolved' from implement 24-hour access to make 24-hour access their top priority because they have some other projects like moving around furniture and rearranging furniture to make the library a more comfortable space that they spend money on, so we want to say if you do get extra money, spend it on this as a top priority.

Senator Caster: To speak to your comment, Senator Benner, I'm actually aware that the library has been used for anonymous sexual encounters that people in Burlington go to and to police do sweeps because late at night because of that and homeless people going in because it's a warm place. In terms of the security, I would be curious of the logistics of that and if they would want to increase security presence because people would be doing some kind of delinquent behavior.

President Mensah: The Provost, I feel like a lot of people are hung up about the be it resolved or the whereas in the resolution asking the Provost of the University to allocate funds. It wouldn't necessarily come from her discretionary budget if she has \$16,000 in her budget to fund this project then she would do so, but in her duties as provost she's handles things academic in nature. Therefore in general with the general budget, for academic things in general, that's under her discretion and her authority. The money doesn't necessarily need to come from her discretionary funds, but more so she just needs to create a team, they just need to find funds in her academic jurisdiction. I think there is a confusion that this is going to come from her discretionary budget and it's not necessarily going to come from her discretionary fund.

Senator Tran: I just have this idea and I want you to look into it if possible. It's kind of like the late night dining. I actually have a friend who works in the Cook Library on Sunday nights and you can't get in the Cook library Sunday nights. You have to have swipe access and I as a student don't have swipe access. Currently they are paying someone to sit in the Cook Library that no one can get into. That in itself is 5 hours a week there and that's just Sunday night. I don't know about rest of the days.

Speaker Chevrier: I'm next. I just wanted to give a little historical background. It has in the past senators have all signed pieces of legislation. So with the Bill in Support of Marriage Equality Act every person who voted in favor of the bill signed something. They were not made into cosigners but there was an additional piece of paper afterwards. If they're ok with the ideas of cosponsors, then I'm more than willing, it's really me that's going to put in the extra effort trying to find you all and print up the page with all of your names on it. Really, it's not a cosigner, it's a cosponsor. You're not signing a lease. The other thing is there is only one, maybe two people who refuse to sign legislation on time and everyone else signs it when you have to, so I don't see that being a problem.

Senator O'Brien: Thank you for this resolution. I'm curious if you know any potential implications for the Student Comprehensive Fee down the road. If that was discussed at all? Has it been discussed at all if there will be implications for the Student Comprehensive Fee, if it will be raised as a consequence?

Senator M. White: In the past SGA has taken a pretty strong stance, so I hear from Claire, about not raising fees for things that aren't super essential, although I think super essential, I wouldn't ask to raise the fee more to raise money in that way which is why that's not in there.

Senator Benner: The other thing side is I wanted to do that, but the thing about the library fee is that it is \$44 and it has remained the same for a while, at least the last four years. It is the last bricks and mortar fee on campus, meaning that it just pays for the building itself. So that extra funding could not go to staffing, it could not go to extra resources for late night access so we would need to create an entirely new fee if we wanted to raise that money and at this point I think that's unnecessary.

Chair Morgan: What's going to be follow up for this bill because I feel like it could be really easy to let this go by the wayside until next year and it doesn't happen that we get 24-hour library access? Are people going to want to take up the work again that you all have done so far? I don't know where you all see this going after it passes.

Senator Benner: As I alluded to earlier, once this is passed Mara will be writing a letter that can accompany the legislation with all sorts of facts and figures, all sorts of data about what it would take to get the library open 24-hours. We have been emailing throughout this whole thing, she definitely wants to keep in contact, we want more student input on what needs to be done. At this point I think it's going to be working with her to implement even some sort of pilot program to see if it works, if a lot of students show up, if a lot of students like it, don't like it and from there really try to make it work.

Chair Morgan: I mentioned this to Senator Benner but Chair Filstein, I meant to ask this, what is Faculty Senate's opinion or United Academics opinion on this because I feel like we could have a faculty component of this and it would be a lot easier to sway the Provost's opinion if we have faculty support for the library. I feel like it's a good thing, anyone in academia would want this.

Chair Filstein: We kind of talked about taking it to the faculty but we decided against it right now just because things move slow over there, they meet once a month and we already have a number of AA issues like evals and enhanced course descriptions making their way through the committees. Since their approval is not essential, it would just be an extra bonus, it's pretty much assumed that the faculty is going to be for more having more access to the libraries so we thought that it wasn't really essential since we're asking a lot of them already. Maybe down the line if we need their help, we'll go to them for it. That was our thinking.

Vote on Resolution Calling for 24-Hour Library Access - passes

Bill in Opposition to the Pence Amendment (0:59.20)

Senator Lederer-Plaskett: So you guys all heard the presentation before. To reiterate on a more specific to UVM note, the feminist majority has a meeting at 8 so they may or may not come now. They have collected well over 100 signatures in no time from members of the student body while tabling in the Davis Center in opposition to the Pence Amendment and are very successfully gaining support. They took something like 30-40 people in cars this, not as a club but as a group, to New York for the rally. I think there's a lot to be said for getting that many people together easily in our community to gather support to go 6 hours away to protest against the amendment. With that I guess I'll read the resolution. I apologize, there's one that's cited this is not it but this has the general text of the bill. I will send out the cited one this is it.

Motion for a 4-minute recess – fails

Senator Lederer-Plaskett: Sorry, those are the results of disorganization and too many amendments. [*Reads Resolution*]. I'm not going to say too much more because you heard a lot earlier on Public Forum. A lot of questions were brought up on two things in the emails. The repeated themes were is this something that is important to the UVM student body? and why don't we have opposition here tonight? This is an extremely important service to UVM students. There is a Planned Parenthood health center there is a Planned Parenthood less than a half mile from campus. Students frequent it they provide to some students who can't afford to have the same level of healthcare that many of us have the luxury of having, who can't afford to have STI treatment or testing or procedures at our health center are able to go to Planned Parenthood less than half a mile from campus and get that information and treatment free of charge. By taking that away, you're leaving many women and an equal number of men potentially, without access to information about having safe sex. Planned Parenthood provides parenting classes. They provide information so know your own body and know what's going on. They prevent cancer in students that are at high risk. It's really been a life saver for a lot of students I know and probably a lot of students you don't know. It's really critical service. We don't have opposition here tonight because the Pence Amendment is really about the fact that the bulk of what they do is not related to abortion or family planning. The bulk of what they do is screenings for providing health care which means that I don't know a single one of you here who is pro-cancer. I don't know any of you who can think of a single person who is anti-pap smears. There is no one I could bring in tonight that they think this is a good amendment because they don't think that women should be healthy.

Open the Floor for Questions (1:08.46)

Senator Caster: Point of Information: You just brought it up but I want to be more specific. We are in a place of privilege where if Planned Parenthood closed we could go to the health center. This is more importantly a war against poor women, against poor women of color, a war against poor Latina women who don't have access to healthcare. I feel that I need to be more specific in this is not targeting us. We are mandated to have healthcare. There are people across the country, again I say this a lot, but be intellectually honest with ourselves in recognizing exactly what removing Planned Parenthood will do to crime rates, will do to healthcare. I really support what you're doing for a number of reasons.

Senator Alleger: Could you scroll down to the next page? The first whereas on this page, friendly amendment to add in excluding abortions for rape or incest, just where the Hyde Amendment prohibits abortion except in the case of rape, or incest or the life of woman I feel like this. Scroll up again. Perhaps it's my own ignorance but in fourth whereas capitalization of Pap Smears, Cancer Screenings.

Senator Lederer-Plaskett: Yeah you're right, I really suck at capitalization.

Chair Filstein: This kid just stole one of my amendments. I have a question for our guest, it says that Planned Parenthood gets 37% of their annual budget from the government, I was wondering where you get the rest?

Jill Krowinski: It comes from insurance coverage, from patients that have insurance and donors and grants from foundations.

Senator Lederer-Plaskett: They are not for profit so a common myth that is going around is that by not covering abortions they're making money from abortions and there will be more abortions which is plainly false because they are not for profit, they are not turning a profit. They are an organization that doesn't benefit because they serve to provide a service to the country. No one benefits from an increase in abortion services.

Chair Filstein: I have a friendly amendment in the last whereas it says you urge Leahy and Sanders to vote no. This may be stupid but I think they vote nay so quote it. One right above that SGA demands, I guess who are we demanding that of?

Senator Lederer-Plaskett: [inaudible] via email that we not say the Student Government Association Stands with Planned Parenthood because they felt that could open us up to arguments about the right to choose and what not so I changed that but I think the demand is of a general on a national level so I don't want to get too specific.

Senator Rifken: I'm sorry missed this before, I probably should have emailed you, I thought that there were citations in here, and I know I've been a stickler on that recently, and I really think it needs those and I'm sorry I didn't email you.

Senator Lederer-Plaskett: The bulk of the citations are from plannedparenthood.com. I we feel uncomfortable without www.PlannedParenthood.com at the bottom of the bill, I'll put it in tonight. I think that would be fine. Most specifics can be found on plannedparenthood.com or [inaudible].

Senator Caster: Proposed friendly amendment to respond to Chair Filstein's concerns. The Student Government Association demands that the Congress of the United States and its composed House of Representative members and senators continue to vote to approve federal funding to Planned Parenthood. Something of that kind.

Senator Lederer-Plaskett: The only concern is the idea that was put forth by Speaker Chevrier that we as a body sign this so that we can all send this on to Senators Leahy and Sanders as a collective body saying that the University of Vermont this would do severely detrimental things for the student body. I am only slightly hesitant to put that in because of the second further be it resolved addressing Leahy and Sanders.

Senator Benner: First of all, love this. Quick friendly amendment on the last be it further resolved could we potentially add after Patrick Leahy and Bernard Sanders vote nay on the... in an effort to protect the health and wellbeing. It starts a list.

Vice President Maciewicz: I really like this and I just had a question I might have missed when it was emailed. Why is this coming up under emergency business and not being delayed until next week?

Senator Lederer-Plaskett: This is emergency business because they will vote on this as early as tomorrow or as late as next Tuesday so we would miss the deadline if we wait.

Vice President Maciewicz: Technically not true because they're voting this week to extend the resolution and this is actually included in next year's budget but I still think it's kind of pressing we should act. I think in future we should wait.

Senator Lederer-Plaskett: I respectfully disagree because I think this is something that is really urgent in that it a) sets the tone, as our guest said, for the next 4 years of the budget, and the fact is if this goes through now it's more and more unlikely that this will be overturned or further discussed. This vote will be the be all end all before Obama either signs or vetoes the bill.

Speaker Chevrier: I also disagree because history has shown that it takes a long time to sign legislation so if we wanted to look into the idea of having everyone who votes in favor of this resolution to sign it we might need at least a couple days.

Senator Bennington: friendly amendment first be it resolved, federal funding, F in funding definitely doesn't need to be capitalized. I'm not sure if federal does.

Senator Lederer-Plaskett: yeah, I really suck at capitalization so all of that can be changed.

Senator Bennington: What's the procedure for everyone who votes yes on this signing it?

Speaker Chevrier: If the authors of the legislation decide that they do want everyone who voted in favor of it to sign it then I'll send out a reminder or notification to everyone who voted in favor of it that this is being asked of them and then I will print it out a place for everyone's name to sign it. As I mentioned previously we're going to be snail mailing it to a few people, there will be multiple copies so you will have to sign multiple bills.

Senator Lederer-Plaskett: Also, there's been talk, my mom is heavily involved with Planned Parenthood in New York, there has been talk of sending this resolution to other SGA's around the country so that [inaudible]. Also, the feminist majority wants to publish this on their website.

Senator Goodnow: I'm really interested with what's going on here. You kind of brought up a point a little while ago with the cosigning everyone that it would represent the UVM student body. Can I ask for that clarification and continue with a question? Is that true?

Senator Lederer-Plaskett: When we pass legislation as a student government we are supposed to be representing the will of the student body.

Senator Goodnow: in that case, I don't know if I fully support this because I don't know if we've gotten a real strong feel for exactly where the student body sits with this because we put it through emergency action we've pushed this through very quickly. You said that there were 100 students getting involved but I don't feel like that's a real representation of the entire student body, so I don't know if I'm really comfortable signing this and saying as a representation of the entire student body and their opinion.

Senator Lederer-Plaskett: I tabled with the feminist majority. They tabled for 4 hours. They actually got the table, because of a mix-up, for 2 hours. In 2 hours with class breaks they got 100 signatures. I think that speaks to the fact that people are really excited to sign something like this because anyone who's tabled knows it's really hard to get people to go out of their way to sign something. I think that additionally this was brought up and my general feeling on the subject is that just like we couldn't find someone who would stand up and say that they're pro-cancer, you're not going to find a student who is pro killing cancer screenings and are pro getting rid of options and information. I feel similarly even if you thought something that was going to be changing something that is already available, if we were voting in the opposite direction saying let's get rid of Planned Parenthood I would be totally with you saying that we are changing something that's currently present on this campus and taking away something people might disagree with. In terms of voting to keep something here, I think that every student has the right to have these services here.

Speaker Chevrier: Also, I wanted to respond to that as a cosigner that I think it's unfortunate to say something like this but it is true, as representatives it is our job to vote the way in which we think, if it is an emergency situation and we're not able to ask every single person on campus, I have never asked anybody whether they thought it was appropriate to allocate funds to Chabad, but we all voted in favor of it because we thought it would benefit our university and I think that's a very similar thing here as well. Plenty of student groups have put out, President Mensah sent out a very well done video of students. If I heard anyone against this then maybe I would take more time to vote on this, but I feel strongly they would be hard to locate.

Senator Goodnow: I really respect that point and I agree there are many different types of representation. I actually brought this forward because I had multiple students bring up the point that they don't support this. As the point that was brought up by the Vice President, do we feel like this is an emergency? Would tabling this to get student opinion before passing this be plausible?

Senator Lederer-Plaskett: The whole thing becomes moot if we wait another week. The whole point is done if they vote to pass this. I think that it's better that we as a body act swiftly to state an opinion with the most knowledge that we have rather than to wait a week and be rendered a totally useless body about issuing a statement that could save lives on this campus. It would be really irresponsible not to at least discuss and take a stance on it, one way or another, because ultimately when this is voted on we lose our say. That said, I think this is absolutely emergency business. I think in terms of student opinion it's been really heavily publicized. I hate to reference Facebook, there's a UVM I Stand with Planned Parenthood Group with well over 5,000 UVM members in the last week. It's an incredible amount of growth. It's something that a lot of UVM students are actually more informed about, although some have mixed in misinformation, but it's something that UVM students are more informed and when they become informed tend to agree with. Because there is so much misinformation out there, there are students who stand against cancer screenings.

Senator Yeager: Friendly amendment, second whereas on the screen, coma after it.

Senator O'Brien: I also agree this is emergency business, but as a senator if you feel like you don't have enough information or you have heard students who are in opposition, you can chose to represent that voice and vote against it.

Senator Lederer-Plaskett: No one is going to force you to sign it. If you feel dedicated to preserve the services and sign the legislation before I send it.

Chair Morgan: You had said that you wanted to snail mail it to Washington. As an alternative, we could send it to Wendy in ORCR and she can fax it to Senators Leahy and Sanders. As an alternative send to Wendy Koenig in OSCR and they would fax it to Senator Leahy and Senator Sanders. She was my contact when I got letters for Veteran's day.

Senator Lederer-Plaskett: So we'll do that as well probably.

Senator Moise: Going off of Senator Goodnow, I interned at this Planned Parenthood here so I have been the person when people come in to ask questions. There have been a ton of UVM students. I was there last week and there are a ton of people coming in trying to find out what they can do and what's going on. Yes, you might have a group of students in opposition but there are a huge number of people that do support what's going on with this whole thing. I have spoken to them personally.

Vote to Call to Question – fails

Chair Adams: I'm curious to know what they were in opposition of because I think that's more relevant than just disregarding their opinion.

Senator Goodnow: Interestingly enough I was asked not to divulge that information. They just told me that they weren't in support. They came up to me and asked me about it and said I'm not supportive of this stuff, but interestingly they didn't want to talk about why. I actually don't have an answer to the body for that.

Senator Lederer-Plaskett: While tabling with Planned Parenthood we did have the same three students coming up and really harassing us. They were calling lots of ugly homophobic remarks to the girls who were standing in front of the library with pictures and Planned Parenthood signs. While I don't acknowledge that that is the sentiment of all students that disagree, there is a certain amount of students that won't say why they disagree and do disagree.

Senator M. White: I'm totally behind this. Some people, this is sort of a point of information, some people don't love the idea of federally funded free contraception.

Senator Lederer-Plaskett: Ultimately, the university itself provides free contraception and we pay for it as a university. I don't think that is going to be an argument for our university. It's not necessarily going to disappear for our university. Whether or not you stand by contraception, contraception is not the big issue at hand right. The issue at hand I think is women's right to healthcare and women's right to cancer screenings. Those are the two resounding things that I don't think anyone could really argue with that they aren't for.

Vote on Resolution Opposition to the Pence Amendment - passes

New Business (1:27.34)

Senator Mustacchi: Bill Acknowledging Riverside as program of Volunteers in Action

Chair Mallea: Bill Allocating Funds to UVM Shooting Sports.

Senator Yeager: Bill Consolidating Class Councils

Chair Mallea: Bill Allocating Funds to Salsa and Swing Society

Executive Reports (1:28.28)

Speaker Chevrier: So we are going, so first we have to vote to open up the operational documents. As I laid out in an email the Constitution has to be laid out for everyone to see and publicized with the proposed amendments, but for these, the operational documents can be opened any time we want.

Vote to Open the Operational Documents – passes

Speaker Chevrier: So now we're just going to go through one by one and we're going to have to vote on every one. This is another change to the election rules. I thought this had already been deleted and it turned out it hadn't. So under Section D under elections, number 3 currently says 'during the voting period candidates may not actively campaign within 20 feet of a visible computer.' The problem with that is I have a computer in my pocket at all times called my iPhone. So if Mike White or Senator Lederer-Plaskett or Senator Vitagliano could never campaign to me. Technology is a changing and I think we should vote to get rid of it.

Senator Rifken: I was just curious about that one because the original reason behind that was because we would have somewhere someone voted, they could put a computer out and have a million posters around it and they could do this and vote here for me right now and it would kind of be a big influence on how people voted. Maybe that's what we want. That was the original thought.

Speaker Chevrier: It used to say prior to saying any computers it said any polling stations and that originated from we used to do it without the interwebs. We would do it with a scrap of paper that someone would count after wards. That was held in the Davis Center or in Billings at one table and we would actually have someone over there to vote and it used to be that you couldn't campaign when they were there. That said, times are a changing and I think you can say the same thing and you're free to agree with it or not vote for it. Someone could come to me and say vote on your phone right now. I think it's a moot point to have this in there because someone could be 20 feet away from them and have a phone in their pocket that's not visible when we don't know if they do. I think it's just a moot point.

Chair Filstein: I think we're still good on this because a lot of times your phone in your pocket or your laptop in your backpack is not visible. I agree with Rifken on it if you were running and go to the library and go to the computer lab and say to every single person go to the Lynx, vote for me, I think that's what this is trying to address not if you're talking to people outside the

library if they have their phone as a visible thing I think is what's key. We still want to preserve people not trying to manipulate it that much.

Speaker Chevrier: The other response to that would be if you define campaigning above as including campaign materials. So does that mean one of our candidates can't put posters where anybody walks with a laptop? That technically is against this rule. I think this is one of those rules that is created to be broken constantly and we shouldn't have those.

Senator Mason: I agree with them because I feel like we're reading a little bit too deep into this in my opinion. Maybe we should keep this and specify not near the computers in Waterman, the Library, there's kind of a lot of things where you can see that visible computers and laptops in the library, in the Davis Center. Somebody's handheld phone, I feel like nobody's even thinking that. Honestly, to vote on that, I think we're reading too deep into it but it should state that you can't be near those computers, that's ridiculous because if we're going to have that people may as well go over to flyer, get extra flyers out and stuff. It's just compelling people to do it. If I was running and that wasn't in there, I would probably be right next to computers telling people to vote for me right now because you're on that computer. Not so much as smart phone to vote for me.

Chair Adams: I have two things. One, I don't know how I feel about changing the elections rules mid elections, I think that's unfair and confusing to candidates who have been given these rules ahead of time and have already signed agreements they will follow these rules. Changing them mid-election seems to be pushing it a little bit, especially with the constitutional context that we used to have where constitutional amendments didn't take effect until after. Changing mid-election, I have qualms about that. The second things is policy, do we have to write down which way people are voting on this?

Speaker Chevrier: No we don't have to. The second part of your question, first this is something that has been added in there to make the elections run more fluidly. Technically, if one of the candidates walked up to somebody who had a laptop in their hand and wanted to ask them a question about someone running for senate, a different candidate could come and demand sanctions and we would have to sanction them because they would have broken a rule. I think that's really silly and dangerous and I think that it would cause things to run more smoothly. There are 4 people who have signed out packets and I would be happy to email them the changes and explain to them what's going on. $\frac{3}{4}$ of the people are in this room. I disagree with that but that's why it's being brought up to a vote and if you want to defend this then you don't have to vote for it. If it gets voted down then it will stay in there.

Senator Yeager: I disagree with that as well because technically no one has even gotten their packets into the elections chair yet, so as of right now no one's even running.

Speaker Chevrier: Point of Information: Technically that's not true, they are a candidates but no one is on the ballot yet.

Senator Yeager: No one can vote for them. Plus, this is not until the voting period, so to change it now I don't feel is unfair to potential candidates.

Chair Filstein: Maybe I have a proposal that may address this, maybe if we just say desktops, that seems to be the main concern, people who are on their desktop, being on a computer at the time.

Senator Ravech: Wouldn't it be the same thing with having a laptop if you were sitting downstairs in the Davis Center and someone had a banner up that said vote for whoever on their laptop? Isn't that the same thing? It's campaigning. I don't know.

Chair Filstein: We're smart enough to figure this out. What are we concerned about? Is it banners? Is it going up to them while they're on their computer and saying vote for me? If that's what it is then let's put that in there.

Senator Vitagliano: From a candidate's standpoint, if candidates were to go to someone and say you should vote for me, there is no obligation for the student to actually vote for you. I don't really see why it's a problem.

President Mensah: Darn the voting, I'm in full support of removing this from the Operational Documents. It makes no sense in 2011 to have something like this. Someone that's campaigning can walk up to me and my iPhone is in my pocket, it's not visible. They could just tell me about their platform, they could walk away and I could whip it out and vote for them or I could not care about what they're saying. 20 years ago this was important to be in the constitution because of the fact that there were desktops everywhere. That was legit the only thing you could vote on. You didn't have iPhones or smart phone so I think the discussion about whether or not this should be in the Operational Documents is going on far too long and it's something that does not really need to be in there because anyone can vote from practically anything, it doesn't need to be a computer.

Chair Adams: Friendly amendment to change it to during the voting period candidates may not directly solicit electronic votes.

Chair Herman: More of a point of inquiry, for this campaign I was under the impression that candidates couldn't campaign whatsoever once the elections were happening. What is the case, candidates can't still campaign even though elections are taking place?

Speaker Chevrier: Point of Information: Part of the confusion on this is senators have always been encouraged to campaign during the 2 day voting period. There is a difference between addressing the people during the elections period and telling someone standing over them vote for me right now. I think that's the fear that there is going to be some sort of peer pressure if you are capable of voting that second. There is more of a likelihood that they're going to appease the person standing over you.

Senator Rifken: Directly solicit electronic votes because if you go up to someone and say vote for me electronically and they don't have something near them, can I not do that because of logic

Speaker Chevrier: The way that I'm interpreting this because I am Speaker and I am Elections Chair, is that may not directly solicit electronic votes means that you have to be directly looking at electronic vote and telling them. That is now recorded in the minutes so if anyone tried to bring that up in the elections committee I would tell them that is the way I interpret that.

Senator Lederer-Plaskett: Just as genuine curiosity, the way that Chair Adams suggested the last amendment it sounds like you can't campaign on line. I think the word0 soliciting should be more spelled out then because the reality is in the era of Facebook I will most likely have my status devoted to me that day.

Speaker Chevrier: It says directly solicit electronic votes not you're not allowed to use electronic means to gather votes.

Senator Burns: I think that because there's a lot of confusion on this issue and people are interpreting it different ways, in future years when you're not here to interpret it, it could be interpreted in a lot of different ways and in my opinion it would be best to get rid of the whole line.

Senator L. White: What you just said Claire, I would just change it to that because it gives more detail. I don't remember what you said.

Senator Benner: I just want to say the exact same thing as Burns, this is just so ambiguous at this point and I think so many people can interpret it in different ways. No one really knows what this means, so I'm all for taking it out.

Speaker Chevrier: That's the whole point, we're trying to get rid of it, we're not trying to rewrite it. If we get rid of it, then yes technically somebody is allowed to go up to someone and say please do it now. If they are threatened in any way then they are more than welcome to come to elections committee and say that one of candidates was threatening them, or scaring them or was inappropriate, and that's something we could look into to see the validity. Getting rid of this just takes away a rule that was never actually enforced.

Senator Mason: With that we're just assuming that people are actually going to bring this to the elections committee and then we assume that people know who the Elections Committee is and we have problems with people knowing what SGA is. I just feel like that's just out there a little bit far-fetched. I still agree with Filstein should be declared differently in my opinion. I just don't feel comfortable to have people hover in the Davis Center, even sleep here because people find ways to stay here and talk to people, you want to vote for me, I can pull it up for you. There's nothing that can stop them from that. I think that's not going to be cool but going too far with the smart phones if it's in your pockets it's not even visible, who's going to know, like a candidate is going to look they probably have a smart phone in their pocket, let's tell the Elections Committee. It's just petty and looks bad on your part in my opinion.

Senator Lovell: Trying to figure out what I was going to say, I'm spacing out. As far as soliciting votes, it only specifically applies for the candidates. If your friends can do it for you anyway that makes it ridiculous. I saw this exact same thing last year in cook. I sat there for a couple of hours getting votes. If I decided I didn't like the person sitting next to me, I could stalk her with a laptop during the elections and not let her get a single vote herself. Seems like a pretty ridiculous rule.

Speaker Chevrier: Here's the thing, if nowhere in our operational documents it says candidates aren't allowed to kill other candidates but it's a general rule. We have a rule right here that's really silly. It's just created to not be enforced. There is no way of telling if anyone does it. Somebody could while a candidate was talking to me I could pull out my iPhone and they will then be in violation of a rule. It's just a silly thing. I don't think we should try to change it, I think we should try to get rid of it.

Chair Herman: Point of Information: From my personal experience last year, I personally saw candidates having people vote their computers last year alone. If I had known about this rule from the Elections Committee I would have recorded. I definitely seen it last year, me personally.

Vote on Deleting Section D Number 3 in Operational Documents– passes

Speaker Chevrier: Going on to the next one. That was fun. So we are changing this so Section C 'Midterm elections shall only occur in the event there are 4' we want to change it to 3 'vacant seats prior to the last SGA meeting at the beginning of the fall semester'. We want to change it to at the time of the first meeting of the semester. Reason for this change are that we have appointed nearly half of our body this year. Two weeks prior to the meeting in fall that means like this year it's possible that after two weeks prior to the last meeting lots of people were resigning, we could have to appoint 30 people in the future. This just gives there more leeway with by the first meeting and it gives it less threshold.

Senator M. White: Yeah, you all know how I feel about this whole shindig. We did say it was going to be one or the other. We wanted to bring that to the body. Which would you like it to be? Would you like it to be 3 as opposed to 4 or would you like it to be at the time of the first meeting of the semester or two weeks prior? If it's both some folks on the Constitution Committee said that might get a little sketchy but one is good. Motion for an informal poll.

Senator M. White: Vote option one being for stroke 3 change option b being stroke, two weeks before the first meeting of the semester change. The options are would you like the change to occur to the 4 stroke 3 section or the two weeks stroke beginning of the semester option.

Senator Tepper: Point of Information: I think what Senator M. White is trying to say is that either midterm elections will occur either if there are 3 or more vacant seat or midterm elections shall occur at the time of the first meeting of the semester.

Vote on informal poll – fails

Chair Adams: I would be more in favor of changing it to at the time of the meeting of the first semester to two weeks prior to two weeks prior to the first meeting of the semester because that would still allow us to have elections when we first come back. I know I was campaigning the first week of school, as were a lot of other people. I think a lot of people dropped out over winter break, but I think they did it fairly early on. I think putting it two weeks before the first meeting of the semester would have allowed us to have elections this year but would have allowed us to have those seats filled faster. Friendly amendment to change midterm elections shall occur, change the two weeks prior change the at the time of the first meeting of the semester to two week prior to first meeting of the spring semester. That would also be applicable to the fall semester.

Chair Filstein: We're changing it from before it was 4 empty seats to 3 empty seats and to before the first meeting?

Speaker Chevrier: We're going to do it all in one strike informal poll stuff.

Vote on this Change to the Operational Document – passes

Speaker Chevrier: These are really just going in line with what was previously done. It's the same thing if fewer than 4 to do appointments instead switch this right now to what was voted on. That's it.

Vote on this Change to the Operational Document – passes

Speaker Chevrier: The third one going again, midterm elections shall take place in the first two weeks of the spring semester. We're giving it an extra 3 because this way it's easier because we have less time to prepare over winter break with it being two weeks before the first meeting.

Chair Adams: I don't think we need to change this if we're still going to know when we get back to school if we're running elections. I see no need for this change.

Senator Benner: I mostly just want to second what Chair Adams said. We're already making it so you already have two weeks to get prepared and make it happen very quickly.

Speaker Chevrier: I agree but it's your choice.

Vote on this Change to the Operational Document – fails

Speaker Chevrier: Going down this is what Senator Alleger added. Section F Referendum Voting, so we voted to add this into the constitution and before there were no guidelines so now there are. It says Section F Referendum Voting 1) will be conducted in accordance to Section B Article 12 of the constitution. 2) The decision of the different referenda will be removed from being overturned by presidential veto.

Vote on this Change to the Operational Document – passes

Speaker Chevrier: The next few ones I'm going to skip over because they are grammatical changes by Benner. Section A eligibility and recognition of SGA organizations. 1) In order to be eligible for addition under D for recognition requirements shall remain active, we figured that was important.

Senator Tepper: friendly amendment to put a comma after capitalized organization.

Speaker Chevrier: Sure but we don't need to vote on that because I can change grammar.

Vote on this Change to the Operational Document – passes

Speaker Chevrier: Subsection A any suspicion of inactivity will be investigated by the student activities committee. They already do that, we're just writing that.

Vote on this Change to the Operational Document – passes

Speaker Chevrier: In the form of a bill, instead of just Student Activities chair getting to wave a magic wand of recognition, it's just saying what we already do again.

Vote on this Change to the Operational Document – passes

Speaker Chevrier: Moving further down, currently in the op docs it says clubs have to give an explanation of how they are different from current organizations and why this would be beneficial to campus. That question goes against the Supreme Court saying they don't need to do that.

Senator Lovell: What exactly does the Supreme Court say? Is it just on the qualification of different or beneficial, or both?

Speaker Chevrier: Just on the qualification of difference. The Supreme Court says that as a public university, which we are, has to recognize and fund any club that meets simple recognition requirements and it doesn't matter if there are numerous clubs of the same kind. You can't stop a group from getting together and exercising their first amendment rights to gather and assemble.

Chair Adams: What Claire said, but also, I don't know what copy of the by-laws this is from but it's different from the one we've been using from the website.

Speaker Chevrier: There's like 83 different copies of the operational documents on the website. I've been working on clearing that up. Maybe after we finish this it actually will be.

Vote on this Change to the Operational Document – passes

Speaker Chevrier: Procedure for appointments it says or as deemed otherwise by the Vice President and there was an incident two years ago where the Vice President brought someone up because it used to be more difficult to get appointed and they could bring more people up than there were spots for then we would have to choose which was a pretty heinous way of doing things. The Vice President was so angry that senate voted down all of her selections that she said she was not going to bring any one for appointments anymore which was against her job but it wasn't because it said or as deemed otherwise by the Vice President. We're taking that away and making them actually do their job, which David has been doing a wonderful job at.

Vote on this Change to the Operational Document – passes

Senator M. White: So this one, those nominated for appointment must have witnessed at least one SGA meeting prior to their appointment or else shall be considered unavailable for appointment. The reason I wrote this is because of a response to all of the appointments we had

this year. You have a week in between the time you are interviewed and come up for appointment. I really think you should be at that SGA meeting to get rid of that day of showing up for your first time with what do it do? Why is everyone talking so strangely? Why are they calling each other Senator and not their real names? This is something I would love to see and the constitution committee was behind it and if you don't love it, you don't love it.

Vice President Maciewicz: I'd like to come out against this as someone who does the appointments process. I think this would extremely hinder the ability of the future Vice President to recruit and active group of participants giving the appointment committee more choice. I fully support people coming to an SGA meeting before appointment, but sometimes the appointment process has to be done on a fast track and honestly, I think people who have the ability to do my job well, as I'm sure whoever I hand the reigns over to will, can bring someone up to speed without making them sit through a meeting. I would love everyone to come to a meeting first, but if you only have two weeks to do it and they don't have time in those two weeks, then you're dramatically reducing the available pool of people the Vice President has to bring forward. I can tell you we are a qualified group in this room, but there are people outside of this room that can do our jobs just as well. I don't think having been in this room if your schedule doesn't allow it precludes you from doing a good job as a senator and that the Vice President can't bring you up to speed. A lot of people I appointed this year were not able to come to a meeting, beforehand, but I think that almost all of you have impressed me in the job that you have done. In behalf of my job I would ask you to vote against this amendment.

President Mensah: Thank you. I know in another life this clause might be good, but this almost goes to say that folks that are elected to their positions will do a better job than people who have been appointed and I know in past years there's people that have been appointed that have done better jobs than people who have been elected. I understand where you're coming from, but I think it would be great if everyone took the self-initiative to come to a meeting because I do think it's important to become familiar with what it is you are going to be a part of, but I don't think it's necessary to have it in there to be appointed. If this is in there it would be for everyone, including senators, not just people who are appointed, but you don't always have the time to have that option because some people can't make the meeting but are interested in being part of this body. As Vice President Maciewicz stated at the beginning of the year, there are people who were interested in being appointed but they had work at this time and they weren't ready to miss work if they weren't sure if they were going to be a part of this body.

Senator Lovell: I just wanted to say a) I was in fact one of those people. I worked the first Tuesday night before I realized I may become a senator. Also, would I be grandfathered in or is that an excuse not to do all of these?

Chair Adams: I think asking more of people nominated for a senatorial position than we do presidential candidates is ridiculous. That's my thought on that.

Senator M. White: The way we were interpreting this was not that you couldn't go through the appointments process but that you wouldn't be confirmed until you sat through a meeting. My thoughts on that are I hold appointed people to an interesting standard because appointment holds we're putting our trust in them, no other students are. There is no student opinion and we are an elected body. Elected people are elected.

Chair Adams: Also, our meetings are kind of long and also boring and if you can't participate, I don't see why we would make people sit through them.

Senator Bennignton: As someone who was appointed and someone who before I was appointed had not come, well I had come but I never sat through an entire one, I don't really see what the point of this is. Sitting through a senate never helped me understand and I still had questions my first few weeks in. You just have to be sitting at this table as a senator.

Vote on this Change to the Operational Document – fails

Speaker Chevrier: I will read this last one alright save now. Now we go on to the rest of my report. Sorry, I really don't feel well. Here we go. I have a few things. One, I have this funky new idea to make everyone do their jobs. Chairs write on

Chair Adams: Point of Procedure: motion to close the operational documents.

Vote to Close the Operational Documents – passes

Speaker Chevrier: Chairs, please write on your voting records who was unexcused at the beginning and end of the meeting. That way you will be forced to do the job you are supposed to do every week anyway. I don't care about excused absences, they're excused for a reason, I'm assuming. If you're on the Elections Committee, please stay after. If you want to know if you're on the Elections Committee, it's if you want to be on the Elections Committee and you want my undying love and you don't plan on running next semester. I wanted to give some background behind signing legislation on time. Not only is it in the constitution that everyone has 48 hours to sign legislation and the President has 72 hours to sign it, but after it's signed I then have to pdf it and send it to Jess and the Administration and then maybe snail mail it to other people who may want it and then I also turn in the pdf with the voting records and I only type up the voting records at the same time so I can send them to Jess at the same time. Failing to sign them as only one or two of you still do, throw s off my entire week because they weren't signed on Sunday when I last checked, I then have to wait and I have to do all of them and it just throws off my week a lot and it's a really boring part of the job. Also, getting here on time, there were a whole bunch of you that were unexcused because you were jus talking here slowly. We had what I thought was an interesting talk in exec this week and I was asked by people who are not in exec that I share. I brought up the fact that I feel as though half of exec and really half of senate, I've heard them gossiping about people in senate or the other half I've heard that I've been gossiped about. I just feel that things we do as senate should never be reminiscent of Mean Girls. I think everything about this organization could go a lot more smoothly if we did work more collaboratively instead of whining about being frustrated about what someone may or may not have done. I really want to push this idea, so one of the two people on exec prior to this year, I think it's really important that we all try to work collaboratively. Instead of every chair standing up and saying what they've done that week and saying what they've done and then sitting down, we've used exec time for this as well, talking about how each committee can add to a bill. We passed a great library bill and a great Planned Parenthood bill, but I feel as though almost every committee could work together and help make those great. Student Activities and Finance have access to a lot of really listservs that can be really great resources. COLA gave us a great suggestion about sending it in an easier way. If you didn't just zone out [inaudible] figure out more effective. Also, for the record, I talked to the DC people about this and they said that if you turned the mute button off which Chair Monteforte just, that there's some kind of problem with the wiring and you can think it's a poltergeist if you want. Also, on a lighter note, last year the speaker did a really fun semi- insulting PowerPoint and every senator got a relatively inappropriate superlative so I'm hoping to do the same thing, like really inappropriate. All of you have to get reelected but this is a year long position so I stay on after half of you have to leave. I don't really care, it will be fun. Last year the Chair of Finance was called a pedophile, it was hilarious. It was a lot of fun, if you have funny, interesting, dirty superlatives, please send them my way because I will be adding them to my spreadsheet to insult you all.

Senator Rifken: I have a question about the op docs in general, I looking at them online and they haven't been updated since April of 2010.

Speaker Chevrier: Point of Information: That's not exactly true. If you go to uvm.edu/SGA resources, there's resources for Senate, Resources for Students, Resources for Clubs and currently there are 3 different ones for each. If you go to resources for clubs it is the newer one that was

updated by Speaker Michel. If you go to a different one it's from two years ago and I don't even know who the speaker was. It's a problem and like the minute tomorrow I will send these to Jess and start crying if she doesn't update them.

Chair Monteforte: Point of Information: PR is working to revamp the website so hopefully we won't have that problem.

Chair Adams: With the attendance are you talking about attendance for senate or attendance for committee meetings?

Speaker Chevrier: Senate, so my attendance policy, which all speakers have to create, at the beginning of the year I explained that everyone has to come to senate because that's in the constitution and if they're unexcused then let me know, but chairs are allowed to do their committee attendance the way that they want, they get to choose their own policy. So if they want to let me know if there are people who have been unexcused, which I encourage you to do, then let me know. Also, for the record I will bring this up again, we talked a while ago about how a lot of people weren't showing up to meetings and it was frustrating and I said that I would be more than happy to sit down and have a meeting with anyone with an unexcused absence then chairs have never once given me their attendance record so maybe this is a way to put into action what you already wanted.

Vice President Maciewicz (2:12.00): Hi everyone. I hope you are all having a good week. Some things I've been working on, some galaxy space improvements should be done by the end of spring break. I hope you have seen the new updated office hour signs, they look nice. There is a new sign for the hallway coming in any day now and there are some new signs for the doors. The office is also going to be painted over spring break so by the time we come back it should be all nice and revamped. It won't be purple. If you have comments about the way the galaxy space is run, send them to me or say them now. I've been working on the end of the year planning. There are 2 banquets. One is hosted by President Fogel and his wife and that will be on April 5 from 5-7. That's the second to last meeting. Then there's one that I host on the day of the last meeting before senate. It will be really nice, I hope you can make both of them. Some nice food, some nice company. President Mensah and I give a gift to all of you that we're finalizing. We'll also be voting, whenever spring break gets back on some awards. Kind of a more formal thing we put out to Senate there's 3 awards including an award for a senior and a diversity award that are more of a formal presentation from me. Look out for that and I'll explain more for me. I hired a work-study to help reorganize the back room which I talked about last week so we're going to get going on that and we're getting exciting to clear out all the junk from the storage space in the back and the cage and really to more fairly divvy up the locked space to clubs that want it and deserve it. The last thing is a reminder that I have new office hours and I would encourage you all to come see me and have a one on one. I do personally chase down all the chairs to meet with me, but I don't have the time to logistically pursue the other 30 something of you. So please come meet with me. Let Jess know or me know when you are coming because people come during my office hours and sometimes they ask to meet privately so sometimes if my door is closed you might think I'm not there. If you just look at my office hours and let Jess know or me know when you want to come, I have them every day. So please come meet with me because I'd like to talk to you. Unfortunately I have to leave in a few minutes so when you see me creep out I just have something to do. I hope you have a good week and a good spring break. Be safe and try to stay warm if you can.

Open the Floor for Questions (2:14.46)

Senator Bennington: So about the cleaning of the space, one have you notified other clubs that you are going to be doing that and two, do you have a date in mind when you are going to start that process?

Vice President Maciewicz: I am going to be drafting an email that's going to go to all the clubs. I'm hoping it will go out by the end of the week. I went over the process with Pat Brown on how it should work with deadlines and I just want to make sure that they're reasonable. It's something that that myself and the new work-study student are going to work on so I want to set deadlines that are reasonable for clubs to get in and out and also for us because we are both students. We physically have to clean out everything and give it back to clubs before we reassign the space. So it will go out by the end of spring break at the latest, it will definitely be done by the time I leave office. It's just figuring out what's a reasonable amount of time to get your stuff and how much time should they be given to apply. It should be done between now and April 12. I'm hoping to get the email out to club signers by Friday. It will happen by the time we get back.

Senator M. White: You brought up this week that you were going to have a kitchen announcement.

Vice President Maciewicz: It's in President Mensah's report.

President Mensah (2:16.37): I'll try and speak over this obnoxious ticking. We had a Lynx discussion last week Thursday so some of you might know that the Lynx, we've had it about 2.5 years. Its 3 year lease is coming up in the middle of September. Right now we are having discussions as to whether or not the Lynx is properly servicing students, especially students that participate in clubs and in that meeting we pretty much came to the conclusion that we want to look into other forms of software whether that may be squarecrop that can provide a better service that we can use for voting, that we can use for club management. Updates of that will continuously come through before the administration ends in a few weeks. I'm still in discussions with BlirpIt. I had a discussion with our financial accountant Blanka earlier. As some of you might be aware BlirpIt is asking for a \$6,000 partnership with SGA and we could potentially go half and half with IRA, although BlirpIt is also asking them for \$6,000 along with asking Parking and Transportation for fees as well. This could potentially be a \$6,000 that could be somehow worked into the SGA general fund. I'm going to work with Blanka during spring break and after spring break as a means of funding BlirpIt the full \$6,000 or not. I see this is a way to promote SGA's name out there because at the end of every single text message it could read provided by SGA and IRA, or something of the sort. I will be working on that. Again, if you have any suggestions or thoughts about it, please let me know because it will be useful to Blanka and I. I had a meeting with a few senior admins last week Thursday or Wednesday. They gave me feedback on the President Student Advisory council that was David's brainchild. They pretty much had an overall positive impression about it. They said it was good dialogue. The only thing was they said they just need more timing around the agenda. There were a lot of things on the agenda and we really didn't get as much time to devote to certain things that students wanted to talk about. In terms of course evaluations, Provost Knodell wasn't able to be there so it's pretty much where it has been on the Faculty Senate end. Trust me, I'm doing everything I need to on our send to make sure it's at the top of their agenda. They are still waiting for this week to meet with Academic Affairs. The R5 which was the request for information for the new proposal for a new multi-event space. They received 9 proposals and with those proposals they are going to move forward with 7 and they are still looking over the material. Keep in mind it's not set that they're even going to at the end of the day entertain any proposals for a new multipurpose arena, they are just looking at the possibility of it. That pretty much concludes my report aside from the fact that to give you a heads up that on April 5 which is our banquet with the president I won't be here. I will actually be in New York talking to admitted students at two different high schools on behalf of admissions. Oh, in terms of the kitchen I'm still figuring out something. Blanka, Jess, Leon and I are going to have a meeting sometime at the end of this week or half way through spring break because we don't want to just open back up the kitchen without having a formal plan as to how we're going to monitor the usage of the kitchen. That has been an issue for a really long time. I want to make sure we just didn't close it for a period of time and then we open it back up again and we have the same issue with next year's administration also has the same issue or a few years down the line have the same issue. Me personally, I'm sort of a neat freak but I know this isn't only my space but we all use it and should all be treating it with the kind of respect that I've seen in the kitchen

and also some of the time around desk areas that David handles more I haven't seen this year and that's just not acceptable. So until we find something the status of the kitchen will be the same.

Open the Floor for Questions (2:21.44)

Chair Adams: I have two questions. For BlirpIt are you planning on taking that out of the SGA internal budget or the budget we use to allocate to clubs? On a different note, are you planning on working over spring break and what exactly will you be working on?

President Mensah: In terms as where the funds would come doubt would come I highly doubt it would come from club money because BlirpIt is not a club. It is a service that would be beneficial to 1,000s of students a day as currently they receive over 6,000 text messages a day, especially in the winter months. Was there a second part of your question? My plans over winter break haven't been solidified. I'll most likely be working with Blanka on the succession binder and a few other things for next year's administration.

Senator Rifken: About BlirpIt, I think you mentioned this last week but are they not getting money from the technology and innovation fund anymore?

President Mensah: Yes, that's the issue because two years ago BlirpIt was a new, it started the second semester my sophomore year. When it started it was new, it was innovative. Now it's no longer innovative because it's stable and it's in place and now they have to find new funding for it.

Speaker Chevrier: We previously had in our budget \$6,000 to pay for phones that were removed so I think that in future years that money could be allocated to it because it's a little bit over \$6,000 that we saved because of the phones.

Senator Benner: Two things. One, could you send out to the listserv a list of all of the clubs software programs so we can browse through them and then get some information on them because I know we can't directly access them. Also, if you had any further thoughts on the Facebook page [inaudible].

President Mensah: No, the different types of software that we would potentially look into will go to the Lynx working group and after that and after that we can break it down and send it all out to senate. As to the Facebook think I don't think it cost them anything but I can look more into that.

Chair Adams: Two different things. Pat Brown is going to a conference and right now we don't have a big long list but he's going to bring back some resources from that. With the Lynx, Leon called over to Brown and they don't know who's in charge of it. He talked to the person who works for their SGA so he's trying to track that down. Pat's guess was that it is part of a staff member's job. Jess, essentially part of her job would be to maintain it.

Senator Benner: How much would that cost, if anything, to put advertisements at the end of each BlirpIt text message saying funded by SGA?

President Mensah: If we funded them it better not cost us anything.

Chair Mallea: I just had a quick question slash concern. You said that you talked to Blanka about using the general fund to take out \$6,000 for BlirpIt?

President Mensah: No, we haven't discussed anything about where the funding is coming from but it wouldn't come from the club budget because it isn't a club.

Chair Mallea: Point of Information: All of the money that we allocate whether it's SGA internal money or club budgets is all student money. That's all student money so I guess in the future I would appreciate if you consult with myself with Blanka and Treasurer Salsgiver so that we're all in the loop and I'm not finding out about this at senate. About you want to use \$6,000 when we're doing budgets right now.

President Mensah: It wouldn't typically in conversation to deal with the budget I always go directly to Blanka or Treasurer Salsgiver. It wouldn't be in effect this year, it would be for next year. I know you all are in discussions.

Chair Mallea: Right, but we can write it into the budget.

President Mensah: One more thing I want to say and I think Chair Herman might bring this up in his report is the usage of Senatorial Forum. This is something we had talked about during this past week's exec meeting. It the past Senatorial Forum has been used to discuss and engage about what was talked about during Senate and the Bills and Resolutions that were passed and offer more opinions about it. I just want to encourage people to use not necessarily stray from using the time on Senatorial Forum to talk about upcoming legislation or put a point of reference out there about legislation that was passed.

Senator O'Brien: Do you know what the exact date that the administration is going to come out with an official proposal?

President Mensah: April 10

Senator O'Brien: Will you be out of office by then?

President Mensah: Two days after I will be out of office.

Senator Caster: In reference to what Senator O'Brien mentioned what comes up April 10?

President Mensah: April 10 is when Richard Cate the Vice President of Finance and Administration and his team will formally present a budget for the FY 12 school year to the senior administration before it is brought up in May to the BOT.

Senator Caster: Have you seen some of that rough draft?

President Mensah: No, nothing much has changed since my last discussion with Cate.

Committee Reports (2:28.35)

Academic Affairs:

Senator Alleger: Please excuse Chair Filstein he has a paper, a quiz, and an exam tomorrow and he's been working so diligently on SGA he hasn't put it together. I am going to give the report. This past week in AA on Monday we attended the general education town meeting forum along with Senator Cesario and Chair Adams. It was rhetorical at works, insightful at best and overall intimate. It was a good time, it was the first of two. The next one will be in March 15, we will let you know about that again. Hopefully we will see you there. Not much has changed since the interim report that was sent around to everybody. Just a couple type of this and that and the other thing. It turns out that a lot of the nuts and bolts of general education will be determined by a following committee not the general education operational committee that is standing now. Either way, we are going to make sure there is student representation on that committee, probably somebody from AA. There may be a resolution in the future concerning gen ed and us. We'll see. Course descriptions looking real ripe and real sexy. I was in a meeting with a subcommittee of curricular affairs on Friday and we finalized how the banner system is going to look to professors

who are inputting everything and the student on the output side. What the heading is going to look like, what the wording is going to say, how we're describing to professors what we want in each block. In our first meeting back from spring break I'll give a presentation on what we've come up with and how it will look and this that and the other thing. Since then, because of timing and people on the software side getting things together and having this up and ready, getting it out to faculty, it looks like this will be, the ability to have enhanced course information will be available by April when we're all signing up for classes, not us but some of you. It's hard to get every faculty member doing that. It will be out there and available for everybody to use but not everyone is going to be using it because they don't know about it yet. I'll give you updates on what's going to be going on there. There are going to be some professors doing it, some not. Just to pilot it and make sure it works for everybody. It's just going to be up and it's going to be smoking. I'm going to send it over to Senator Caster to give a once over on evals.

Senator Caster: I just want to say for the gen ed forum the quote I wrote was "very intriguing at best and purely rhetorical at worst." He hit the nail on the head. As far as course evaluations, wouldn't it be great if at the end of the semester we could have publishable course evaluations attached to every course eval we currently have. That's a discussion we are currently having with the Student Affairs committee of the faculty senate. Student Affairs is meeting on March 18 and the next time they meet we will hopefully be presenting them with a framework and an outlay of what we want to see, how we would attach it, how we would collect it and please, if any of you have any ideas on how we can have this occur and expedite the process in a better fashion, please contact us because that is one of my main concerns. Again, we are hoping to have this by the end of the semester because that would be a complete 180 from this boycott and it would make this whole boycott look completely legitimate in that we don't just sit here and call for boycotts that we're actually doing something, particularly in Academic Affairs, where the process is very strenuous and tedious and takes a very long time.

Finance (2:33.57):

Chair Mallea: This week in Finance we allocated money to horticulture club and next week we will be having two bills come up. I guess the week after spring break. One is going to be for shooting club for their nationals request and another one is going to be for Salsa and Swing Society. We also allocated money for uniforms for UVM Men's Soccer. That was under \$2,000 and we had some gas requests. We're just wrapping up budgets and we'll be starting the appeals process after spring break.

Open the Floor for Questions (2:34.35)

Senator Rifken: I just wanted to give a shout out because I know how much work you all have been doing this week and you've done an amazing job and we all appreciate it.

Student Activities (2:35.00):

Chair Adams: I'm going to give my report. Thanks for recognizing Demonyms. I know it's like really hard because clubs don't have to be different to legally be recognized. It's kind of confusing but we do have to recognize them, we don't have to fund them. I guess that's kind of up to you. I would say we do need a more sustainable system. Someone asked her why she didn't join Vantage Point, she didn't want to so we can't make her. That's basically why that happened. Obviously there are some other differences between them and having more than one literary magazine on campus is a good thing but sometimes it's just that they don't want to. We have a lot of legislation that is going to be coming up after spring break. Mostly because we decided to legislate on things that technically I could just decide and they would just happen. My committee felt like it was important for you all to have a vote and have it formally written down. Class council wrote a proposal and a budget combined. They want to combine which mean instead of having 4 class councils which is kind of weird because technically first year class council doesn't exist at the beginning of the year. They are going to combine into one. They proposed a budget as

such. For us this basically a good thing because it means we are going from 4 clubs to one club. They'll only have one club signer. It just makes more sense. Dream Riverside is a recognized program with VIA, which SGA has given them the power to recognize programs so that they can expand. However, this is the first time they've actually used that power. So essentially they are a new VIA program. They can recognize organizations, they are insured similar to SGA. They can essentially create their own charge group and we by recognizing them as part of VIA we are reinserting our rules and regulations so the program has to go to the Treasurer's Workshops and the Policy Workshops.

Chair Mallea: This also came about because they tried to submit a budget this year and since they are not formally recognized by SGA we sent them an email to let them know they weren't recognized and therefore weren't eligible for funding. This led to the discovery of VIA recognized them a while ago but didn't notify SGA formally so we need to communicate better with VIA to know that this club is eligible to receive a budget for next year.

Chair Adams: Essentially, Dream Riverside and Dream Regular are the same programs just operating in different locations. Basically they are a youth mentoring program so the different locations is relevant. We will be reediting the clubs section of the op docs. It's something I will be working on over spring break and will be bringing to the Constitution Committee about. Everyone have a good break.

Open the Floor for Questions (2:38.28)

Senator Ravech: I was just wondering if are voting to recognize a club and it doesn't pass and we don't vote for it, the majority is against it what happens? Because we have to recognize it, right?

Chair Adams: So technically the vote on clubs is kind of a formality. This came up last year with Chi Alpha. It's kind of if you didn't recognize them they could sue us and they have every legal right to.

Speaker Chevrier: There are some legitimate reasons why you can vote down a club and that would be ok. It's the duty of the chair of the Student Activities Committee to bring up a club when they feel as though they're ready. It's also a check on whether the chair of the Student Activities Committee is doing their job. If you had a question if Chair Adams was doing her job. If for instance I brought up a club and you asked a question and they only had 2 members which does go against the things, the recognition requirements then you could vote them down and you would have every right to vote them down.

COLA (2:39.46)

Chair Morgan: Hey all. COLA has been busy planning the police luncheon. FeelGood is going to provide the food for that. That's Tuesday March 22 from 12:30-1:30 in the smaller half of the Grand Maple Ballroom. You will see more advertising about that after break. I would love to have everyone attend. Happy town meeting day. I hope everybody went out and voted. If you have any questions on priority registration talk to czar Fitzgerald because she wrote this really cool proposal for priority registration and was working with OSCAR. I think at the end of the year there is going to be a resolution on it but not until we feel more comfortable and we're not at that point yet. We're talking about going to Montpelier in a couple of weeks after spring break. Clarence Davis' office and he would be able to set up lunch with us and some of the state reps from here. That would be pretty cool. We just have to pick a date for that and I want to know how many people are interested in going so we can figure out transportation. Then there has been a renewed interest in the Student Neighborhood Initiative Grant. If I'm missing anything let me know.

CODEEE (2:41.15):

Chair Herman: I have a meeting with Annie Stevens and Jon Porter on March 15. This is a follow up from last year's resolution on counseling at UVM and other issues like a list of available resources for students and creating a website for UVM students to list off a number of resources. That's happening. When we get back. Tuesday March 15. Vice President Maciewicz gave us a great suggestions. I'm sure you all got and email about NYU's student union and their demonstration about the blood donating policy. We are going to be reaching out to Free to Be and LGBTQ to see if they want to organize to do something similar and see what we can do in the next few weeks. Meeting with Chris Lucier is not scheduled yet. His assistant will be setting up an appointment with us to discuss the S cubed, the student success and satisfaction survey to go over a number of things like where they're going from here and different issues in the survey, like pretty much all students have issues with academic advising and different issues in general in the survey that found that students complained about. Community meeting this is initially I was saying this was going to be a time for us to meet with different clubs on campus like BSU, Alianza Latina, different clubs like that on campus matters . This has turned into a community meeting with all these organizations, namely Black Student Union, Alianza Latina and Asian American Student Union trying to give other clubs as well. It's going to meet March 16 and we're going to discuss a number of different issues, SGA related issues. Just get feedback on these things. This is something I hope is going to happen regularly next year. I didn't do as much as I should have, I met with a lot of administration but not as much students as I should have. It's something that I hope we can do regularly next year.

Senator Bennington: So real quick, I met with Dr. Wanda Heading-Grant yesterday and I went to talk to her about retention stuff and mostly what she said is you should talk to enrollment management, which we're doing. Tried to talk to her about diversity, she said we don't define it, which is cool. I talked to her about what we can do as a student representative body to support the work that her office is doing and two things she said in particular, one is passing a resolution or talking to faculty, maybe talking to Faculty Senate about the Blackboard Jungle Symposium which I didn't know about until yesterday exactly what it was. It's supposed to be a thing where faculty and staff can incorporate diversity into their curriculum. I'm going to be looking at that and if AA wants to help out, I know you talk to Faculty Senate and you clearly don't have enough going on. Another thing she talked about was the Campus Climate and Current Survey which is coming out April 2 to April 22 or something like that. She would really love us to support that and say to students hey this matters so please do it, it's not just another unimportant survey. She's awesome and really fantastic and if you ever get a chance to meet with her which is really hard to do, apparently, that would be great.

Open the Floor for Questions(2:46.20)

Senator Benner: Chair Herman, you mentioned discussion about the S cubed survey. Do you know when that will be made available to the public?

Chair Herman: What do you mean make available the survey?

Senator Benner: As in I can see the results, if at all.

Chair Herman: I can forward the PowerPoint to the listserv.

Senator Caster: Chair Herman the meeting you mentioned on March 16 with Alianza Latina, Asian American Student Union, I think that would be something I would be interested in and the rest of IRA would be interested in so if you could cc me or forward a reminder that day I would be interested.

Student Action (2:47.17):

Chair Simmons: Hello everyone, props and thanks for the library resolution. Wonderful. Sorry for not following up better about animals. I was under the impression that it was kind of a squashed kind of concern, unwarranted. I was wrong about that, sorry, so I'll be following up with him. Can't wait to. I'd like to give more props to our lovely Chelsea Fifield. She came to her first committee meeting not only with something that she wanted to do but she had already take action on it. Unbelievable. You can't teach that. What it is, since you are all wondering now is blue lights in between the space between Central Campus and Trinity. Walking towards Trinity there's a reasonable expanse although you have Fletcher Palace to protect you, there's still space. Late night dining, I reserved some space in the Davis Center March 18, 19, I believe 8 hour for 4 following weeks on Friday and Saturday night they are helping me get space beyond when you can normally reserve space so that's wonderful. If any of you are clubs, if any of you know clubs that would be into it I would love for you to talk to me about it. I will also be working with those lovely folks over there on Student Activities to send out some good information. Those club signers will be able to raise some money, make some food, sell it for a couple hours, BUG will deliver it for free. Sick. Also meeting with DSAC, dining services advisory committee tomorrow, noon, in the Manor. We will be schmoozing about that. Finally, tix me off, budget stuff, transparency, where our money is going. We sent an article about Brooklyn Community College embezzling funds. Pretty exciting. I forwarded him on to K. Rifken. Hopefully she can help him address his concerns. I thought that was a cool use of tix me off. Budget ad hoc committee already exists to move student concerns about budgets and stuff and I think it's great to have a committee.

Public Relations (2:50.31):

Senator O'Brien: Chair Monteforte has left so he's going to email out his report.

Senatorial Forum (2:50.46)

Senator Burns: So I was walking in the DC tunnel and I happened to that the SGA space in the tunnel still says boycott course evaluations.

Senator O'Brien: Point of Information: Within the last 4 hours it's been changed.

Senator Rifken: I wanted to give an update on budget ad hoc even though we have not had a meeting since the last one and that was before senate and we have one tomorrow at 7:00. We have a pretty solid group by now but if anyone is interested. They are open meetings so anyone is welcome to come. Basically what we're doing, to give an update, is I've asked everyone on the committee to come up with two concepts of something they really understand from the material I've given them on the budget, like they grasp and really make sense to them and two things they don't understand and then we're going to compile them all together and talk about what doesn't make sense and find better ways to conceptualize that and work these into a guide for students, something like that. If people have suggestions on how to run things, what they think is a good idea, please let me know. I'm going to be less busy, I turned in my thesis proposal. If people have friends who are interested in talking about these types of things. It's so broad and we don't have much time so if you have any suggestions, comments, want to talk about it.

Senator Lederer-Plaskett: I just wanted to address the fact that I smart phonedly got an email from President Mensah about the bill I passed tonight and about the Pence Amendment and after just glimpsing at it because we don't really have time to look at it now. The website they sent it from is deeply religious and is known for not having the most reliable information and I really encourage senate as a whole to fact check the things they send out, myself included, because everybody, myself included, has sent out things that are less than reliable in some things but I just want to make sure you're sending out the most reliable sources possible when forwarding things to the listserv.

Chair Adams: I just want to point out that we shouldn't be forwarding anything in a meeting nor should we read it. Along those lines, I apologize for sending out to the listserv my committee agenda. That was silly. From the gen ed meeting, one of the things we talked about was the communication component and potentially giving club presidents or people who want to do that, give credit and that was something the committee seemed really responsive to. I thought that was a really cool step for better club leaders and also recognizing the good work that club leaders already to. Also, the Budget Ad Hoc one of the things I thought was cool last year was when they did the open sessions and it sounds like something you're gearing up to do. I think that would be cool to do that in the atrium with projectors, sort of how Speaker Chevrier is planning on having the debates and sort of being in people's face about it.

Senator M. White: Two really cool new projects coming up. I'm working with CODEEEE with gay blood ban, or rather I'd like to extend an invitation towards CODEEEE to work together on the gay blood ban. Something I'm super interested. Number 2, repainting the mural. I got an email this week from a lady I used to know about repainting the mural and that she was super interested in it and she's actually a mural painter. So if anyone knows anything about the mural, the one I'm talking about is in front of the Marché, I would love more information about it. Not the half that's super exciting but the part that's people who went to school a while ago's opinions about things.

Senator Benner: Thank you to everyone for passing the library legislation. Fun fact, I believe it's the third piece of legislation that the Public Relations Committee has introduced that is not either club of the month or club of the fortnight in the past 3 years. If anyone is at all interested in talking with me, I'm going to be working on this and really pushing this. Also, VSOP 3 is March 16. Put it on your calendars, put it in your blackberry, wherever you keep the things that you do because it's coming.

Senator Ravech: I had a chance to speak with former Chair Nelson today and she told me about these really interesting ted talks, which is just a little talk, I don't know if you've heard of them, about recycling and bottled water and how it relates to humanitarianism. I really recommend you guys watch it.

Senator Caster: Because of the budget ad hoc committee I have been interested in looking at some of these numbers and Senator Rifken, she gave us these beautiful little packets but absent from any of it was information on financial aid so I just wanted to say that out of state decrease that has been allotted by the out of starters has increased by \$2 million. The money that has been allocated for in state students... ok out of state students will receive an extra \$2 million dollars, in state students will receive a decrease in \$2 million. There was one more fun thing tuition fee increases, average annual cost increases, and student cost increases, and average student cost increases, have all increased for in state students more than they have they have for out of state students, yet out of state students are receiving a much larger increase in financial aid. Perkins Loans which are the lowest interest rates for students for federal aid went from \$1 million to \$242,000 this year. That means that there was a huge decrease in cheapest loans provided to students, and I guess I just wanted to ask the fundamental question, maybe you guys can answer this. Richard Cate comes to us and says you have to increase the tuition because of financial aid. Why do we have to increase financial aid because of the recession. I wish I had said, no, it's because you are embarking on an enrollment plan that requires the largest amount of students UVM has ever seen, and you are trying to enroll these students with a financial aid package during one of the worst recessions the United States has ever seen. I would just ask this Senate, to what extent is the UVM general fund based on money that we're taking out as bets and saying I plan on paying this off. How much of these buildings are being financed by our loans that we don't necessarily know if we're going to pay off or not. That's the question that I want to ask Richard Cate is how much of the general revenue is you asking students to take on more burden.

Senator Mason: Financial aid, I don't know if we realize how much us out of state students pay to go to UVM but it's practically double what in state students pay. Ok, congratulations, I didn't tell you you weren't. It kind of makes sense when you think about you're going to get more

funding because it's more of you and I'm assuming Vermont students you should probably have more numbers on the financial aid side just off of how many people are here. I'm pretty sure we pay a bulk of the money that goes into UVM.

Speaker Chevrier: I just wanted to point out that the proposed budget cuts that are going through Congress right now include a lot more important things than just Planned Parenthood like cutting funding to Americore. Which is crazy, but the reason I wanted to work with Aliza on the Planned Parenthood Bill is because I had seen a lot of students getting together about Planned Parenthood but I haven't heard anything about students tabling in the atrium to stop them from cutting Americore and other things like that. If that's something that's near and dear to you and you've heard about in your circle of friends that people are really livid about it, because I am, I would encourage you to write legislation about that. Also, going off of what Senator Mason said, is there, this is my question to you, is it the amount that financial aid is going up for out of state students and down for in state students proportional to the amount of in state students that are coming. I know that it's like 70% to 30%.

Senator Caster: Point of Information: With these statistics that I listed off, these were increases that we proportional to the amount that they were paying relative to that amount. I know it's hard to explain. It's reliant based on understanding of how the numbers are set up. Vermonters face a larger increase based on the amount that they pay than out of state students. From how I'm perceiving these numbers, these numbers, Vermonters are paying more while statistically receiving much less aid.

Senator Rifken: Point of Information: number wise, the difference in cost because there is a whole chart there that shows total average cost and aid and it's a reduction of about \$17,000 reduction for in state and out of state. Percentage wise it's different. It's about 58% reduction for in state and about a 39% difference but the actual amount of money that is the reduction is the exact same.

Senator Tepper: I just wanted to say I'm super happy that the Resolution Supporting Planned Parenthood passed and if anyone doesn't know what a pap smear is, you can feel free to ask me.

Senator Alleger: What's a pap smear?

Senator Tepper: I will be happy to answer that after senate.

Senator O'Brien: I have a few things, Alyssa could you forward that video to senate about the bottled water?

Senator Ravech: Point of Information: Giselle said she would I will as well.

Senator O'Brien: Just some food for thought I just want to pass on a message that I received from a student I talked to that came into the meeting. While we are doing some really amazing things, some things that were brought up to me was he was disappointed with the lack of professionalism that we brought forth in the meeting. Some examples he gave were texting during Dot Brauer's presentation on LGBTQA, talking in corners, and lack of substance in some reports. Whether some weeks have more exciting and fulfilling reports and information than others, if we want students to come in here, I was very embarrassed to hear that and I think we should keep that in mind. While it is a long meeting and we're not going to not be goofy sometimes I think we should remember how we portray ourselves. I just wanted to bring up those instances as food for thought. I think it's great that everyone is going to bring forth their concerns about legislation but I'm confused why people were questioning the relevancy of the Planned Parenthood Resolution to the UVM student body and the state. With the gay blood donation, I don't think anyone should say this is my own opinion, they are both very relevant to the student body and setting an example for the state and the nation. Aliza, I just have a request that you update senate on how you're putting forth the legislation that we just passed to State Representatives and beyond and

the next VSOP that we are going to be putting out March 16 will be on AA and CODEEE and the one after that will be on late night dining and tuition proposal questions and we expect the results from that will come back just before the Board of Trustee meeting and it's really exciting to have both of those facts.

Chair Adams: Sorry, I also meant to include this in my report. One, when Demonyms was presenting no one was paying attention and I almost stopped her from speaking. Right now you all are sitting very still but since it was right after public forum you all were wiggling. I don't care if you do that when I'm talking but if when club is talking that's really disrespectful. I almost stopped her presentation to call everyone out but I figured I'd save us all a lot of embarrassment and bring it up now. Along those lines, with the office, I know I'm one of the biggest perpetrators, but when we've been in there a really long time and are goofing around clubs legitimately think we don't do anything all day. So we should also be aware of what we're talking about and obviously I'm not trying to squash all personal stuff that goes on in the office because obviously I do it all the time, but if we are there make sure we're doing some work. Along those lines, be careful how you talk about clubs. People on this body have said I don't like this club or I don't like that club and that gets back to me and clubs get really worried that is going to affect their funding or personal biases are going to come into play. So just be very cautious of those types of things.

Senator Caster: To address what you just said, I agree with you completely. We have more out of state students and they require more financial aid. That's a specific plan by President Fogel to increase the out of state students so that they will take out loans to pay to finance those buildings and to pay to finance what they say is academic quality but really has transitioned to experience. I guess my second question would be for anyone on the budget ad hoc, as far as revenues goes it defines is as a net tuition, and I was curious how net tuition is calculated in financial aid and how much of the net tuition is composed of loans we all take out don't know if we are going to pay back right away or not.

Senator Rifken: I would love to chat with you afterwards in this because I don't want to get into too much detail here. I'd like to say for Speaker Chevrier if people are being disrespectful during meetings, because I have done it too, I would love for you to call people out. Call me out if I'm texting, call me out if I'm talking in the corner. I think that should be done more.

Senatorial Comments/Announcements (3:07.50)

Senator Mason: I would love for everybody to go into the SGA office and look at our Step Team's first place trophy from last year and our second place plaque from this year because it feels good to be great.

Speaker Chevrier: On the note of it feels great to be great, so David sent out an email calling for nominations for student life awards and so I had the opportunity and honor to sit on the Student Life selection committee last year and it was really cool. Everybody who is nominated, we spent hours in this room talking about all the wonderful things students like you do, students like myself, so it's a great opportunity to be recognized for things that you do even if you don't win, not that you're not a winner. You are invited to a free brunch and stand up. It's a really great thing. I've already nominated a few of you. If you think someone on your committee is doing a great job this is a great way to tell the world.

Senator Lederer-Plaskett: On behalf of two ALANA students, I would like to encourage you all to go to the exploring bias and discrimination conference the Saturday after we get back from spring break, the 19th. It's really great I'm presenting a workshop that's really not all that planned so I would encourage you to go to other ones. That's that weekend and it's supposed to be really great. It's mostly students and hired lecturers. It's should be really interesting.

Senator Vitagliano: To follow up what Senator Mason said, as from the Squash perspective we didn't do as well as the step team but we came in 3rd at national this year which is a big deal for of clubs at UVM.

Senator Bennington: My band playing New York City Sunday March 7, probably Philadelphia Saturday March 6 and if any of you are from the Philadelphia area going home for spring break, and Albany Monday March 7.

Senator Caster: I'm glad that Senator Lederer-Plaskett brought up the exploring discrimination and bias and I believe that IRA got, as of right now, 560 signatures for the bottled water ban.

Chair Adams: I just realized we didn't figure out what we're doing with the legislation in terms of if we're all signing, if we're cosigning it, if we're writing a separate letter so obviously its comments and announcements so I would love to see that brought up on the listserv tonight.

Speaker Chevrier: It would have to be told to me by tonight.

Senator Tepper: I just sent this out over the listserv yesterday but there is a mistake in the invitation to the people's university nuts and bolts of organizing Sunday March 20 not Saturday. It's going to be an afternoon with free lunch so sign up because it's going to be cool. You learn how to do stuff you want to do. It should be good.

Roll Call (3:11.38)

Finance: Senator DeVivo, excused

Student Activities: All Present

COLA: Senator Sadek, excused

CODEEE: All Present

Student Action: All Present

Public Relations: Chair Monteforte, excused

Academic Affairs: Chair Filstein, excused, Senator Ballas, unexcused

Adjournment

End Time: 10:11 pm