



TUESDAY, APRIL 12TH, 2011
TWENTY-NINTH MEETING OF THE 2010-2011 SENATE

Call to Order

Start Time: 7:07pm

Roll Call

Approval of the Minutes

From 4/5/11 – minutes approved

Public Forum (00:01:06)

Gail Champine

Gail is from the office of student and community relations. Gifts to pass around to give thanks. Special thanks to Lucas Morgan.

Brian Reed

Brian: here to talk about the general education initiative. This is about trying to form a vision for undergraduate education at the university. To this time there has been no university wide set of outcomes. This is an attempt to establish things that are desired out by all of graduates. As of now, this has been 2-year process, 1st year came up with very conservative course credit based plan. Didn't really engage the campus at this time. In the fall of 2nd year, general education committee commenced an engagement campaign, visited all departments and all student and staff organizations and conducted survey. Helped form new version of general education, which is quite different outcomes based. Stand now that general education committee proposed set of primacies that lead to motion that has gone to curricular affair committee that will act on Thursday, if recommends then poll meeting factor senate. This is outcomes bases, flexible, subject to processes, and will be very healthy for university.

Questions

Filstein: what impact the vote tonight might have?

Brian: very powerful statement to have SGA endorsement.

Old Business (00:08:37)

Proposed FY12 budget (00:09:06)

Last Wednesday sent out all club budgets and intern budgets for FY12, been working on since January. Appreciate all that has been done during this process. In the newest copy I sent out to senate, you can see all of the requested amount of clubs as well as the formal allocation. And income budget, concluded description. Would like to open up for discussion.

Questions

Bennington: seems that clubs average 42% of what they request.

Mallea: last year 40%.

Bennington: is this inherent process or can things change and clubs stop asking for more money than they know they will ever get?

Mallea: last few years allocations around low 40%. There's been less money available to more clubs. Lots of clubs have asked for way more than the budget they got. One club last year got .01% of budget requested. Every club is unique, and we try to get them where they need to be.

Rifkin: have any clubs come in for appeals?

Mallea: 26 clubs came in for appeals. We allocated money to best of ability. No formal complains.

Filstein: what was the fee raised?

Mallea: we raised it \$5 a semester.

Filstein: what impact?

Mallea: more money available for clubs. We had really difficult time with finance this year, lots of clubs were unsure about how much of expenses they would have. We put in additional \$20,000 in supplemental.

Vote on budget- passes.

Bill allocating funds to blurp (00:17:01)

Mallea: (reads bill)

Questions

Castor: do you feel comfortable not allocating this in light of the fact that IRA has been comfortable allocating extra money to fund blurp?

Mallea: no personal opinion. I believe overall consensus with executive committee that

Moise: What else does the money in the fund go towards?

Mallea: All of the unspent budget of clubs goes into this fund and there is little under \$24,000 dollars in it.

Salgiver: any clubs that's fee recognized all fundraised money and all money that was donated goes into that fund. Never been touched but used as buffer.

Bennington: How are we going to benefit being a supporter? No confirmation that our name can be put on text message.

Mensah: our logo at end is not only benefit. They've been more than ready to put our logo and name on their flyers. They are looking into it to meet our demand to be in advertising.

Morgan: why is this not coming out of technology fund?

Mensah: Fund is only funded for 2 years. That is running out at end of year so they have come to us.

Mason: Logo on text message is irrelevant.

Chevrier: I sent out email. Lots of problems with blurp.it. Bus drivers have been unplugging it. Creating over/under crowding. Need to make changes to make it useful. Should be giving money back to clubs and other stuff, not a business. Should let other businesses fund this.

Filstein: motion to table until next week, or reintroduced in light of fact that other institution to raise the money.

Motion to table- does not pass

Tepper: want to change allocation to 42% of their budget. \$2,520.

Moise: bus driver unplugging issue is different issue than blurp.it issue. Would feel better if IRA were here to say they would fully fund it. This has been coming up way too long and needs to be resolved. This is good service to students.

Castor: had meeting with IRA executive last night. We shouldn't fund a business that makes profit off this. Please vote no against this bill.

Mensah: I brought blurp.it up to talk to you all in October. Don't understand why now there is a conversation about IRA funding blurp.it. We've known this for a month now that they are funding them \$6,000. Either we are going to fund this or not, we are going to look bad if we keep being indecisive.

Dougherty: want change amount to \$2,000.

Burns: how long would this money be funded?

Mensah: for FY12 school year.

Bennington: I didn't know that IRA was interested into funding blurp.it until just now. What is \$6,000 going to? What happens if it's brought up again next week?

Jouer: \$2,000 seems reasonable. We represent on and off campus, IRA represents only on campus. This is a great opportunity for us.

Jouer: IRA should fund the rest of \$4,000.

Called to question- vote on bill

Bill vote- bill fails

Resolution endorsing proposed outcome for general education (00:40:35)

Filstein: (reads bill)

Questions

Adams: concern about execution part. Are we endorsing how they chose to execute assessments of these?

Filstein: All we are endorsing is the vision of learning outcome sand limitations process. There's no proposed plan on how the implantation is going to be. We are going to decide through process.

Castor: This is faculty run. In general education committee, faculty members advocated for this being a faculty led initiative.

Goodnow: education changes, are there anything in future for this breakdown to be changed? Is there a plan for that?

Filstein: process is set up for changes and tweaking.

Brian: at most universities, there is a 10-year review, and many are in 2nd or 3rd phase of general education revising. We are looking at other models and what the best practices are. There will be feedback on how this is working.

Voted- resolution passes

Resolution disapproving salary of new business dean (00:48:48)

Bennington: (reads resolution) this is not to attack dean or make him feel unwelcome. Very qualified but university is not in good financial state. We just think his salary is a little unfair. Did invite administration but they are all at dinner together.

Filstein: wife also hired and \$750,000 between him and his wife including all other benefits.

Questions

Mensah: question in terms of metrics; trying to push resolution through to get data plan from administration about how dean will bring business school to new level, have you asked for that or are you waiting for this to go through in order to get that?

Bennington: has been in email asking for plan. Email with President Fogol is supposed to remain confidential.

Devivo: Asked by administration to be tabled until they can in and talk.

Lovell: why is TRI as point of interest? Something needs to be done about decline in business school, which is why a dean would be needed. Metrics should be asked from every single school, not just business school.

Cesario: how much previous business dean?

Around \$100,000 less.

Devivo: we've been very unwelcoming. We should let administration come in and talk. It is very unfair to package them as a couple. Both are very qualified. Wife is regarded as the #1 family business expert in the world. Our business school has most of it dedicated to family business. I have done a lot of research on them and they deserve all the money they get.

Bill states this is a lot of money, not on how qualified.

Devivo: yes it is high for Vermont and faculty, but it is a modest pay for business school dean. Would like to see what it would've costs to hire other finalists in running for dean.

Lederer-Plaskett: if university wants to push the TRI, we should be staying to our strengths that we've promoted as the base of this school. Very reasonable modest salary for business school but UVM is not about that.

Rubenstein school dean makes \$168,000

Lederer-Plaskett: we have other strengths and we have a lot others budget problems. As newcomer, his salary shouldn't be accepted as okay. He needs to prove he is worth it.

Filstein: TRI was to focus investments on what we're good at. Upset about this because faculty was left out, same as student input. Money was thought to go to grad students. TRI is relevant.

Bennington: Jeremiah Church said that TRI was a bad idea. Relevant because we need to focus our investments. Administration salary \$1 Mil at time of Fogol coming here, 2009 was around \$7 Mil. Not saying we can forget academics involved in TRI, just saying we shouldn't be throwing this much money to one school. This is not the investment we need to follow the plan.

Benner: urge to retable. Should be able to hear from administration.

Adams: irrelevant to vote now.

Castor: agree with claim that they are qualified. Consistently heard student discontent with this. \$1.1 Mil was allocated to academic initiatives. If no funding then they will cut academic initiatives. The salary will not be cut. All money has opportunity cost. We should allocate it to other places.

Mensah: I will veto this if this discussion continues or veto this if passes. Needs to be tabled until administration is present.

Rifkin: I have received a lot of response about this issue. On other hand, not sure what this resolution is going to do at this point. It won't do anything to salary at this point. Not if this is right way for SGA to go about this. We should write letters from individual senators not just body. Needs more thought and discussion.

Cesario: Very important to make a statement because lot of buzz has been created. We need to show we are taking a stance. I find it hilarious we are showing him no respect. It is the least of his worries that we show him welcome.

White: if you are in catamount position involved in business school, this is point of conflict. If this affects you, then you should not vote. 5.4% increase to tuition next year, ridiculous to have pay on backs of us.

Devivo: how much money is coming from general fund to fund them?

Bennington: unclear but as of now money from business school is going towards salary. Information has no been presented on how this salary will be funded in future years.

Devivo: I had meeting with Fogol. 0\$ is coming from general fund. Business has made plan that faculty has decided to use internal budget.

Benner: how long that type of pay is sustainable?

Devivo: no, but I want to get the numbers. Shouldn't play into decision. Also speak that our business school is outside top 100 ranking. When he went to Concordia they were ranked outside 250th, now, after 4 years, ranked in top 50th. Everyone needs to consider investment and benefits.

Mallea: abstaining from voting. Agree this guy is investment to get business school where it should be. With 5.8% budget increase, his salary is not deriving from this. When is it going to come from this?

Call to question- not passed

Lederer-Plaskett: Inappropriate to say Mensah is going to veto it unconditionally. Should be called into question because student body is so ill informed about.

Mensah: completely false that board of trustee doesn't take account of senate or anything they say. Not trying to stifle any conversation but vetoing it will save time to bring in administration to get more info and have better conversation. More info needs to be put in next week with administration here.

Benner: no money from general fund 1st year?

Devivo: correct.

Benner: Motion to table

Motion to table- passes

Emergency Business (01:31:47)

Mallea: Bill allocating funds to cycling. (reads bill)

Tristan, club signer

Tristan: went to Perfection Motorsports, they offered great discounts. Want 8.5 x 20 ft trailer. Current trailer doesn't fit stuff and is very unsafe. Over \$200,000 worth of bikes last time trailer unhitched. Rotting out, wheels don't spin well, about 10 years old.

Questions

Mallea: elaborate invoice of expenses.

Tristan: base trailer with none of other stuff is retail price \$15,000, our price \$5,000. Downhill and cross country, wet bikes, need a vinyl finish. All walls are rotten. Need diamond plating for floors that are rotting. Bikes destroy linoleum. Want trailer to last longer than last one. Attach bikes by hooks in ceiling, lot of weight put in trailer ceiling. Overall, weight is not significant but the load distribution matters. Need to get aluminum roof. If you load bikes wrong, takes awhile to unload. With new trailer, will be able to access bikes better. Season starts 1st of March, necessary to have trailer before hand next year.

Yeager: What would warranty be?

Tristan: 3-year warranty. Hoping for 10 years out of it

Called to question- bill passes.

VSTEP (01:41:11)

Come to announce that resolution is going to be changed this evening to a student led initiative. 1587 students signed. Brings them over 10% limit. First initiative since new constitution. We want to introduce resolution formally.

Spoke with SGA last week, more than happy to answer questions. This is very time sensitive issue. Having passed by SGA will help get their foot in door.

Questions

Adams: speak a little bit more on what you want out of beverage contract.

Think it's explicit of what they want in resolution. Recognize they wont see all in upcoming decisions post 2012 when new beverage contract comes into place. We are setting bar high and this is how to approach it.

Called to question- passes.

New Business (01:50:43)

None

Executive Reports (1:50:49)

Chevrier: Superlatives
Chevrier got pied in the face.

VP Maciewicz: turning over position to will in hour. 3rd year in SGA continuously. Elected to change UVM Wanted to make a difference. When first in CODEE, talked about coke, which is still debated today. Takes time for change. Best experience ever. Tried to do his best and reach to everyone. Learned a lot. Next year will be around and taking job for UVM in summer.

Mensah: will have short speech at end of meeting. Finished transition elect to Julian, materials are awaiting him. Next board of trustee report is due next week. More than confident report will be good. Received final nominations. There was nomination form on website. Going over them throughout week with Julian and VP Maciewicz and giving names to Board of Trustee Friday. Blirpit was important but best interest of students would be for administration to be here. There is still information coming up on who's funding it therefore we need more time and information. Senator for week is everyone. Everyone has been hard working. Been on senatorial body since first year. This does go to end last president report. This summer, going to London and California then working with UVM, then law school hopefully.

Adams: what happened to 69th anniversary?

Mensah: would be nice but more monumental year would be 70th next year.

Salgiver: new treasurer is senator Jouer. Chris will be fantastic. Training him over next week and half. Thanks for everything. Very impressed over time on committee. Be here all next year. Applying to med school in fall.

Committee Reports (02:11:54)

CODEEE

Chair Herman: importance of what CODEEE has meant to him. Equity and diversity has been a lot.

Cesario: issue of watertower article, conversation of concerns. Went dismantling rape culture meeting today, huge success, workshop led by Moe worked with that article and conversations about that article.

Student Action

Chair Simmons: this body is really easy target for anyone. Everyone needs to keep going and great job everyone. For next year, please remember that we're all working for same things and on same side. Different opinions and that's healthy. Value the intentions of other senators. Appreciate arguments of those disagreeing with you. Senate is structured in bureaucracy, but everyone did a good job in stepping out and taking leadership. Don't be confined to certain roles. Gave out gifts.

Public Relations

Chair Monteforte: PR doesn't produce many bills or resolutions but love it. Important to represent SGA. Faith in Trey. (shows video).

Academic Affairs

Chair Filstein: Zed wasn't able to make it to banquet. Thanks for approving outcome of general bills. Chair Mallea left as leader so I was left to do it. One of best decisions ever. Gavin will be great. I haven't been the nicest but I thank you for everything.

Allager: working on expanded course info. Monday we were able to get pool of all courses, got expanded info, along with survey from subcommittee to students. Looking over data, 119 total classes that expanded descriptions. 14 of these are diversity classes. English and Spanish are courses with most expanded info followed by religion and music. Sending list to everyone. 4 questions attached to fill out.

Filstein: got offered job in Siberian teaching hunting and ballet.

Finance

Chair Mallea: lot of weight off shoulders after budget passed. Appreciate overriding veto for cycling fund. Hope next chair learns to provide more information to the senate body. Good for new senators to see this business. Got to learn how to deal with \$1.8 Mil budget. Applying to colleges for student life departments.

Student Activities

Chair Adams: Committee was tough but we figured it out. Congrats to Benner for handling SAC next year. I'll be here next year. (Gives condom to Lederer-Plaskett)

COLA

Chair Morgan: Friday, there is a COLA meeting. Last week meeting was about noise. One resident sent email about bottles being smashed in front yard. Meeting tomorrow at 12pm. Sunday,

community clean up 11am. Student neighborhood initiative grant update Friday. Commend Rifkin for all work she's done. Thanks for everything.

Senatorial Forum (02:4548)

Lederer-Plaskett: Committee would like to give Kofi a waxer and soothing kit.

Mensah: preface this by saying over past year, everyone got to know him, he has tried to do his best to stay calm. You will all be faced with challenges, important to face things with a cool head. Don't want to but ending a good year on negative vote. All of us are meant to represent the student body. To ensure needs of students are met. On more occasions, there have been many problems. More times we bicker than we uphold charges. Serious allegations against VP Maciewics, Julian Golfarni, and myself about criminal activities about election. All allegations are false and not based on fact. Confident full and fair election was held. Feel complaint was meant to start media firestorm. Reasons behind senate not being notified first was because it was proper protocol. Second, being labeled as coconspirator, can only laugh, had I actually taken legal action so that Julian won, I can assure that Julian would've won by more than 21 votes. If I helped him criminally, I would've done more to help him win. Lastly, in the coming weeks, all of this should be resolved. One thing wont disappear will be accusations on my personal character. I've never been more disrespected by someone who I did so much for. Allegations of me threatening her are false. What about rest of community? I will not have my character called into question on false allegations. I told her to give examples of these threats and she has failed to. I want public apology made, stating the claims were false. If not, I will take legal action to file lawsuit against her. Will be suing for libel, which is written defamation. This damages our reputation. On that, congratulations to new and re-elected senators. Become familiar with SGA and what its done and what it is all about. We increased our visibility through everything we've done. This all adds towards our legacy of the past 7 decades. It has been a pleasure serving as president. Best of luck to new senate.

Moise: upset this issue didn't come to SGA personally. Personal thing about it is that Lederer-Plaskett went to public with allegations of being bullied yet you are doing in return the same thing. Sad about Blirpit not passing. Enjoy it a lot and would hope new senators try to take new approach. Thank you to everyone for past year.

White: Don't care about departing senators, because success is coming your way. Can't wait to share a place with you next year.

Lederer-Plaskett: my document speaks for itself, either read or not read. I will address fact that I wrote the complaint not that I have any doubts of Julian Golfarni as president; it was about every year's elections have become more and more dirtier. I can speak to the fact that I was bullied by President Mensah and I can speak to the fact that he did say such things, but you don't require them to approve it when they're not requiring retributions. I stand by everything that happened was true and I would like to congratulate Julian Golfarni, he will do a great job. Never a personal matter, just about setting a fair and open election for the future. I will let the issue go. I believe I did the right thing. And now the next person to run for office won't be bullied the way I was.

Simmons: I talked before about the fact that everyone is in public positions. You're going to get criticized for everything no matter what. It's part of life. Want to push everyone on body to assume the best intent, give benefit of doubt that everyone is here to do better, and once given benefit of doubt, if someone attacks you, let it go. You know you did the best you can. Worst thing to do is to defend yourself. Body is behind you.

Benner: disgusted by the face that we are saying that we are going to wait to see if IRA will fund blirpit. That is bad government. Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday more budget tabling.

Bennington: Satisfied about new dean's salary bill being tabled. This school is in good standing to operate first on principals and values and second on bottom line. Understand new business dean salary won't be coming from general fund in 1st year, but that was not a sustainable financial situation when facing a budget deficit. There is a tuition increase being imposed, and unionized faculty is being asked to take 0% increase in salary. Used to be a lot of activism around campus, that doesn't exist anymore. During hard financial times it's hard to ask for more money, but administration is good at squashing political discontent. I'll be back next week to get people to pass resolution.

Mason: For incoming senators, do what we did well better, and to what we did worse fix it. Lets keep personal things outside of senate. Next thing, elections, hope the next body dives into elections because things are not right.

Senatorial Comments/Announcements (03:26:02)

Lederer-Plaskett: take back the night is on the 20th

Ravech: relay for life this Saturday

Swearing in of Julian and Will

(President Mensah swears in Julian Golfarni)

(VP Maciewics swears in Will Vitagliano)

Everyone comes up who is now new chair of committee

(All sworn in by Chevrier)

All new senators brought up to be sworn in

(Sworn in by Chevrier)



TUESDAY, APRIL 12TH, 2011
1ST MEETING OF THE 2011-2012 SENATE

Start time: 10:44pm

Roll Call

Public forum

CAC meeting Thursday 4-6.

Old business

None

Emergency Business

Devivo: resolution still on table for new business dean's salary

New business

White: Split and Computer amendment.

Exec reports

Vitagliano: honored to represent you. Senate info and contact forms now on lynx. Within tomorrow be put on lister for committees. Chairs can start setting up 1-on-1 meetings with Julian and myself. Anyone interested in being elections chair for fall, get in touch with me ASAP. Within next weeks I will be organizing the standing committees that are all around campus, roughly 30.

Golfarni: speech prepared for next week. Glad you got to see that meeting. Everyone should understand that the real work in senate doesn't get done in meetings; it gets done outside of meeting. Rob Cioffi has sent out email with few questions, would like us to put together 5-10 page document to answer questions. 3-6 senators to volunteer to draft this up. Board of Trustee report upon us and would really like to see current committee chairs to send blurb about what me and Kofi to incorporate.

Finance

Dougherty: 3 supplemental meetings this week, all under \$2000 dollars, which means we don't have to bring it to senate to approve.

Student Activities

Benner: excited for upcoming term.

COLA

Rifkin: thanks to everyone. Thanks Pat Brown for being here. I'll send emails about everything.

CODEEEE

Tepper: excited. Someone emails me about coffee stirrers on campus. We should work on getting rid of them.

Student Action

White: 1-on-1s this week. Blood ban committee. Want to move it forward.

Public Relations

Denton: excited. Looking into VSOP about sustainable beverage system. VSOP stands for Vermont Student Opinion Poll.

Academic Affairs

Caster: excited. Get any info to me about enhanced course info. Give me what outcomes you want to see. Advising complaints, give me student opinions and your opinions.

Senatorial Forum (03:55:27)

Lederer-Plaskett: dismantling rape and culture conference. UVM doesn't have policy about stalking and harassment. Need to work towards it.

Devivo: question for Caster, who's going to sponsor resolution pertaining to salary regarding new business dean.

Adams: Chair Tepper, Chair White, and myself.

Rifkin: anyone interested in looking into budget, budget adhoc committee, if anyone interested, come talk to me, meeting tomorrow 7pm Davis Center.

Senatorial comments/announcements (03:59:45)

Castor: 4/19 movie "Home" at amphitheater

Adams: springfest Saturday, if outside, 1000 more tickets available.

Roll Call

Adjournment

End Time: 11:13pm