

ROLL CALL

Finance- All excused

Student activities- Senator Allston and Senator Portman unexcused, Senator Weiland excused.

COLA- Senator Bohjalian excused.

CODEEEE-Senator Griffin unexcused

Student Action- All present

PR- All Present

Academic Affairs- All present

Public Forum (00:01:18)

4/19/11 and 4/26/11 minutes approved.

Gary Derr-

I appreciate the opportunity to talk with you all tonight about the Presidential search tonight. I am serving as the exec staff support for the search committee, and they asked me to be here to respond to the issues I know you address in the resolution. I will try to keep it short and try to break it into two parts, as to keep it to the five minutes here. Questions have come out about the budget and where the sources of the funds are and what it is going to be. I am passing around (The proposed budget), I do hope there is enough copies of it. Let me tell you how it was derived; I went back to the university archives and found the document that reflected the expenses that were incurred for the 2002 Presidential Search resulting in President Fogel. It totaled \$195,000, broken down by the categories that are documented coming around. In the records there were not a lot of details associated with what these specific expenses were, just the broad categories. So what I did, well started, was to look at the last 10 years coming to 2012 and compounded the budget by 5% annually. Just from a sheer starting point, I put down 5% compounded annually which gives us the amount of \$318,000. The largest ticket has to do with search firm expenses. The board made a decision and Chairman Coffee has been working on interviewing search firms to assist us with the search. (Not sure exactly what was said here00:03:21-25) There are several benefits of that I would be happy to address but it is a critical part and there fee is usually set at 33% of the total cash value of the first year salary of the President so in the 2002 search that was roughly \$90,000 and this year \$147,000. So that would make that the total cash value, this is not just salary, would be about \$450,000. The board is make no decision about what the compensation package will be for the new President. But that is just sort of a starting place. And the other big ticket items on here are the expenses for travel for the candidates. We anticipate that we will interview 10-15 candidates, off site somewhere. And

then we will bring the candidates there as well as the search firm there. And then there will be the occasional, so there will be the expense for the search firm, excuse me the expense for the search committee going to this offsite location. Last time around the search committee hired a staff member to work with the search and that is the \$23,000 (?) at the bottom. We are looking at right now likely not needing to do that. We think that the existing staff we have will be fine. So that \$38,000 we have a place holder for, but I think that realistically we may not need to do that. So that quickly goes over the budget. Next I want to talk about the student representation on the search committee. The Search Committee is about 20 members. It is the job of board of trustees solely to appoint the President. This committee will serve as a recommending body to the board of trustees and will provide feedback on the final candidates to the trustees who will then make the final decision. The committee is appointed by the chairman of the board with the exception of four members. Those are the four members that are voted on by the faculty. The rest are people that the chair through some processes selects people. They also require that there is a staff person, and two students on that committee. The chair solicits nominations from the President of the student government and the President of the Graduate student senate and from their selected the two. I know there is some concern about the representation of the number of students we have on campus versus the number on the committee. And I know there are citings of examples of institutions that have larger numbers of representations but if you do look at the other extreme and look at institutions that don't have students on the committee. And there are some recent searches Tufts, Virginia and UCONN done recently that had about the same, one or two members of the student body. I just want to point out that you the students have a vote on the appointment of the president that no other group on this campus has. What do I mean by that; You have 2 students on the board that will be voting on the President. There are no faculty, staff, or alumni reps on the board of trustees. But there are two students that at the end will be making the final decision about the 26th President of the University.

OPEN FOR QUESTIONS (00:06:58)

Sen. Lott- What is the expenses for gifts?

Derr- Sure, I honestly don't know and I tried to find out, my guess is possibly we gave the President and his wife a UVM sweatshirt or something like that when they came here. It's a small amount so I guess it had to do with something like that.

Sen. Campbell- Why do you go to an offsite location?

Derr- There are two reasons, one is the ease of travel. Picking a neutral site is often easier to get candidates there because often there are there for a very short period of time and then they return to their home or place of work. Second is that at this point the candidates are still confidential. Bringing them to Burlington could compromise that. So going to a location that is private that we have more control over allows us to ensure that the candidates are still confidential. I should add a little more about the budget here. We have an executive search account that we have and

amount around \$200,000-\$250,000, I am not sure on the exact amount. We charge executive level search expenses to that account. Obviously this is not enough to cover this. We will allocate one time funds to cover the balances. I don't know whether it has been announced to you all but we are in the process of looking for the Dean of the college of arts and sciences. We have asked for student rep on that committee, so there will be expenses associated with that search as well. We will don't be taking any academic funds to cover that.

Chair Tepper- Are there any plans to have any more open forums for students?

Derr- (00:09:30) One of the things we wanted was to have as many student voice options as possible and community input from across campus. We have had very encouraging input from the online survey. We had a forum for students today, attendance was not strong so far. We are discussing more forums in the fall but with a different structure. What we will probably look at in the fall is help letting us know what you want and when we go to look at candidate material, help us know what you want to do. Probably early in the fall. The document you are working on tonight is really critical; the student government's response to those five questions and our intent is to post those on the web and provide them to all candidates.

Chair Rifken- About the representation, I read over the BOT report and it just called it students in general and I think at the time there were no grad students and it was with SGA. Was that taken into consideration at all?

Derr- Sure that was taken into consideration and what we have done for the last couple of searches since the graduate students came on board; We would write to the SGA President saying, please include names of grad students. So at that point there was discussion about your role as representatives of Graduate and Undergraduate students so when we moved forward on asking for nominations of students to be on committees we always would ask that you send us both and we picked one from each so that we have representation.

Chair Rifken- Would it be a lot of extra resources to add more student representation? Is it even possible?

Derr- I think that it is possible. I think it is a decision that the chair would have to make, and then it would have to be approved by the board of trustees.

Dan Filstien – something about a leadership profile and what we would like to see in the new President. Was unable to hear clearly.

Derr- We have a long descriptor about the university and about what we, where we are at right now, opportunity, challenges. What are we looking for in a candidate.

Dan Filstien?- Is there anyway to make those characteristics available publically.

Derr- Certainly. Sure, we have to consider a very rough first draft may 19th, it will be on the Presidential search website.

Chair Tepper- So, just from past experience with these things, I know that at a certain point they get confidential. When will this happen?

Derr- We have to follow open meeting regulations for the state of Vermont. We can only go into executive sessions if there is a discussion about particular candidates. When it gets to the point when we are talking about candidate a b or c, or when we are talking about 4-5 candidates and whittling down or talking about interviews, that is the point we can enter executive sessions so my guess is looking back at the minutes of the previous search, is that the initial meeting of the committee was open and then slowly declined over the year. The other part of the process that when we think will probably occur in mid January when we will announce the 4 finalists that we will bring to the campus, which would include a time for interview by the sga. We talked briefly with Will about how to do that and what would make sense, hopefully the same group of people to interview the candidates. Like previous search, there will likely be an open forum. You will have an opportunity, I don't suggest all of you at once. A group of 5 to 10 people of sga would be good. You will get to interview all four, or up to four candidates. We had 4 last time, one withdrew after announcement.

Former Chair Filstein- (0:16:18) Hey everybody, yall know me, I came tonight because I really miss kyle, I came to give advice, share my past experiences and answer questions some of the new senators might have so I jotted down a couple points and feel free to ask me questions anytime. Main thing, there isn't really one. Being in senate is interesting, most of the time it wears on you, you don't always agree with people all of the time and things often spiral out of control. It's important to keep in mind why you are all here, it is important to not take yourself serious. Whether you are a chair, a speaker or the President, we are all students at UVM. Whether you are a first year or a senior, it doesn't really matter. Yeah some people are getting paid but is kina a false hierarchy but they don't really do that much more, they do secretarial work so I just wanted to remind you, if you are a chair, don't talk down to other senators. The president's job is to represent the sga to the administration. If they are not doing a good job communicating your views you gotta challenge that, make sure they are truly representing your administration, that ties into attitudes and being humble and public forum. Pub forum, sometimes people come on public forum and you don't agree. But they are here to educate you. The point is listen to what they have to say, ask them questions and don't debate them because you disagree. Public forum is not about debating the issues. You can do that on senatorial comments and announcements. So treat the public forum guests respectfully, I hear that last week people left feeling pretty offended and it is just unfortunate and doesn't make senate look so great.

Don't be afraid to vote on legislation because it is controversial or because it is not popular necessarily with other groups. Your job is to represent students and what is best for students, if it goes against some group you want to be buddy buddy with, they will understand and still be professional with you. Don't be afraid to challenge authority.

Do your due diligences, when legislation gets sent out, read it. If something doesn't make sense, email the person who wrote it, a lot can get done on the list serve before Tuesday night so you are not all here for an hour debating.

Personal attacks and drama brings down the moral, people need to be mature and handle it outside the senate. We are all here to represent students and push things in the right direction. Keep the issues outside the senate

Another thing that was kind of challenging last year were the Constitution docs. There are too many versions with too many copies floating around. Straighten that all out and it will save a lot of time. I am really disappointed only 2 leaders are women of out the 10 leadership positions. Not a really good representation. My final point is the Cynic- I don't know if you know about yellow journalism, but that is essentially what that's they do. Hold their feet to the fire. Talk to the reporters, this is what we are doing, don't waste time with drama. Don't expect them to be sitting here taking notes. You have to reach out to them.

Being on senate is a privilege, even though it is really hard, it is a privilege. You get access to a lot of important people, professors couldn't get access to some people you get access too, take advantage of it and be on your game. That is about that.

Owen Willis Rachampbel- (00:23:53) I am a cemetery trustee in Huntington Vermont and I am here to recite the first page of the hobbit by J.R.R. Tolkein. "Recited the first page of the hobbit."

QUESTIONS- Some senators jokingly asked Rachambel about the recital.

Bennington- (00:28:33) Hey, that was awesome. I guess I am in the same vain of ex chair. Ask questions on public forum, especially with people of the admin, its really important to engage. Be respectful, don't debate, it's really disrespectful, and creates a hostile environment and a hostile environment becomes exclusive and people don't feel welcome. People then want to overthrow their governing body and Check out Africa. We don't want overthrow of the sga going on.

Also I dunno if this is true but the cynic said no hats were allowed, that shits wack yo. That is so unnecessary. I am a forestry major, I couldn't show up to a meeting presentable in certain situations. That cuts out a whole population that couldn't be on senate. It's totally a subjective standard. Final thing, I think the resolution expression disapproval of the presidential search party is right on. I went to the forum were only 5 of us showed up, which was real disappointing. Get your voices heard. It's a good opportunity to think about how we can make this process better for the next time. Making it better for other students you are never going to know, but if they care to find out that 2011-12 senate was thinking about them ten years ago because we can

and you have the responsibility to this student body to make sure their best interest is up front. I hope you all vote yay on that resolution, it is pretty rad.

Sen. Lott- I believe we are letting this stand until it dies, what do you think about that. I was talking about a resolution about the salary, I could be mistaken, but I believe the general consensus is that we are going to ignore.

Bennington-I was talking about a resolution about the disapproval of the Presidential Search, that I am pretty sure it exists, I read it. I don't know if you have read it, you are voting on it tonight.

OLD BUSINESS (00:34:24)

Rules suspended so that voting on clubs could happen sooner.

EMERGENCY BUSINESS (00:35:40-01:18:10)

Recognition of clubs: Amnesty international, Psychology Club, separating IEEE and AERO, recognizing them as two separate clubs and Students for justice in Palestine.

OLD BUSINESS (01:18:58)

Senator Lederer-Plaskett presents the revised version of the resolution to pass the policy on stalking. Some revisions include citing that was questioned in previous meetings. A few senators add some friendly amendments to the resolution and then it was passed.

Constitutional Changes (01:38:45)- The senate votes on changing the clause referencing soliciting votes electronically during the SGA Presidential campaign. The senators make several friendly amendments to clause including smart phones and be more specific about the time in which technology can be used in the campaigning. The constitution amendment passes

Constitution closed (02:02:04)

The rules were suspended so that the senate could vote on the resolution about the Presidential Search Committee with Gary Derr present and hear from the Campus Kitchens.

Bill granting compensation for campus kitchens (02:03:27) The bill was proposed to change the compensation of the Campus Kitchen so that they could use their grant money they won for certain club activities. The Campus Kitchen explains what they do, making meals for the community and teaching the community about nutrition and food. The bill was passed.

Resolution disapproving of the presidential search process (02:11:30)- The resolution states that the sga feels like the committee should have more student representation and cost less. Senators discuss how different institutions have had more or less student representation on their search committees. The senate brings up the fact that this resolution seems to be about two topics and should be amended into two different resolutions especially because by adding more people to

the committee would be upping the costs of the search committee. Gary Derr explains the large cost attached to the search firm. The part of the resolution regarding cost is removed altogether. Another section is added referencing more undergrad representation to the next Presidential search committee. The Vice President brings up the fact that even though there are 10,000 students at UVM, only a handful applied to be on the committee and even fewer have come to the public forum.

RESOLUTION PASSES (02:57:43)

Motion to reinstate the rules.

EMERGENCY BUSINESS (03:00:00)

Open the operational documents. Several changes were made to the operational documents.

At 03:06:59 the recorder stopped recording the meeting as it was full. The Executive reports were given; Minutes were discussed. A motion was made to change from seconds to minutes. Summer plans and tasks were discussed. The executive board gave explanations of how there summer hours were going to be spent. Each of the committees talked about what they were going to be doing over the summer and in the beginning of the following semester. The meeting was adjourned early at 11:21 pm.