

February 21, 2012

Roll Call

Finance Senator He excused

Public Relations: all present

Student Activities: Senator Colfill and Senator Chaouch excused

COLA: Senator Wilich excused.

Academic Affairs: all present

Student Action: all present

CODEEE: Senator Neill excused

Public Forum (03:11:12)

Ed Adrian—thank you very much for having me here this evening. As Dale said I am a former senator. I was a 4-year senator on the SGA. I lived in Chittenden my first year of campus, Red Stone my second year, and then studied abroad my third year, and my fourth year I lived off East Avenue. So I got to see all that goes on both on campus and off campus. I went to Vermont Law School and graduated in 1996. Worked for the James County State Attorney's office. Worked on a law firm in town, and I currently work in the Vermont State House. You have my propaganda or literature, if you will, before you. I am also sharing some literature for my colleague, Miro Weinberger. I've known about Miro for about 10 years, and what I have to say for Miro and the literature can speak for itself, but I think, in my opinion, the most important thing to me in an elect-official is trust and getting a straight answer. And Miro has given that to me for the last ten years. And I would like you to consider Miro. I'm actually running unopposed for the first time at the city council. This is my fifth race. I didn't necessarily have to come up here tonight, but I wanted to come up here because I think it's important that student community and the full time resident community continue in a dialogue about how best to move Burling forward. About how we can work together, and about what we can do for each other. I live on Brooks Ave and I was just talking to Sam over there, who I found out also lives on Brooks Ave, and I have to say that over the last 5-10 years, things have gotten far better as far as community relations. But, we still have a long way to go. There was a article on the Cynic today about UVM, entering into an agreement with the city of Burlington that are going to be paying some of the city police more overtime so that they control more some of the streets. I have to say, most of the student houses are great. There is a small minority that makes a bad name for everybody, and I think that those are the ones that we need to work on together. I don't think that it's fair when students are demonized. At the same time you guys are at different places in life. I got two little kids, and I think that there might be a picture of them, or at least one of them. You might sleep until 11am in the morning; I get up at 5am. It's just that we are in different places in life. Where we can find commonalities are the places that we can work on. I always introduced myself to my neighbors, or they introduce themselves to me. Things were better that way. I just actually looked up something really quickly before I left home today. Does anybody here have any idea tuition & fees for an in-state student? (Senators guess) It's 27,558 for in state, and it's \$47,534 for out-of-state.

So you guys know what you're talking about. You're pretty right on point. Those are big numbers. You know the number 47 is close to the median household income for a Vermont family. And that's one year, tuition, and room and board. And you guys are paying that, and your parents are paying that, somebody's paying that and it's going to need paying back. The fact of the matter is, UVM is not doing enough for you. UVM needs to be providing you adequate student housing where you can enjoy yourself, where you can be at home, and where you are not feeling that you are constrained by the university. I'm not saying that that's an easy order. I was just telling someone here down at the end when I was on campus, you know the drinking age had just turned from 18 to 21, and drinking in dorms were regulated loosely or if at all. Now you have a dry campus. You know I say this every year, but this is something that actually can be effectuated. There's no doubt in my mind, and I believe that UVM has entered this to save on insurance rates that's why it's a dry campus. I think it's treating its students unfortunately because you know you're out of state and where you are, you're considered as adults, transitioning from one situation to another. You're sort of neophytes if you will. And you should be treated as such. You should be given privileges. And to say that there is a dry campus, it doesn't make sense for you, it doesn't treat you with respect, and it doesn't make sense for the community quite frankly because I know you guys are going to want to drink, I mean that's pretty much natural. Maybe not all of you, but the fact of the matter is, is that it's a much better situation for everybody if you can do it in a regulated environment, and I think that that's something that the campus needs to work on. I've also been hearing a lot of stories and a lot of talk about this article in the Cynic today, talked about how people were paying, un-godly amounts of money on off-campus housing. A landlord has a house of 7-8 bedrooms. I've heard people who are paying \$700-\$800 that, that's a lot of money, a lot of money. And I think that UVM could provide housing for half the amount. I'm going to need your help getting there. The City Council is going to be entering into a (inaudible word) range of understanding with the University, where each side is going to agree to do something for the other side. And something that I am going to be asked for in the City council is certainly getting affordable quality housing that students want to live in. So I think, how much more time do I have? That's about all I have as far as my presentation. I'm happy to hear any questions you have, no questions too small, and no questions too big. So if you guys want to bombard me, then that's fine. If not, I can sit down as well.

Chair Rifken: I wanted to thank you for coming in and talking to all of us. I was just wondering what your views were on the resolution passed last week on 75% housing on campus and a lot of those issues.

Ed Adrian: I was one of the proponents about adding the 75% housing in there. I think that it's a win-win situation. Again, I want to make sure that the housing that the university builds is adequate safe and affordable and also ones that treat students with respect. And that means allowing them to engage in adult technology. Does that clear—I want to make sure that I am clear. I don't want there to be any questions that go unanswered, so I encourage follow-ups.

Speaker announces Steve Churchill.

Steve Churchill: Hi, guys. Thanks for having me here. Well, I don't have mailers in front of all of you, and to be honest I was unintentional, but it actually turned out to be a better representation. So, you can read those mailers about Miro and his campaign, and I feel like they're pretty adequate representation. The misrepresentation of Kurt Wright's campaign, of our campaign is that there aren't people like me behind it. That there aren't people like you behind it. I'm a 25-years-old recent college graduate from California. I went to UCLA. I live in Burlington, I have a small business here, and I'm pretty much liberal as you can get. And I support Kurt Wright, wholeheartedly. It's sort of a better representation for you to look at me, and look at yourselves, and if you take a look around the room, you'll see that I'm not really that different from any one of you. And my ideals, the issues that are important for me personally, are probably same issues that are important for many of you as well. So while there isn't a great deal of Kurt Wright outreach here on campus, that's something that we're looking to address even though the election only has about 3 weeks left. I really just wanted to come here and, would it be at all possible to divert any remaining minutes to Q&A. So what I would like to do is basically just open up the floor, and say that any questions you have, any issues that are important to you that you genuinely do not believe are important to Kurt Wright or people like me on his campaign. Ask, by all means.

Senator Nenopolous: I would like to hear your thoughts to sell the Burlington Election department

Steven Churchill: To be honest, that was what got my support for him. Coming from California, I'm not used to municipally owned utilities. It's not something that I grew up with. It's a great concept. I think that it's amazing. I think it's incredible that Burlington has had, you know Burlington Electric, that it's solvent, that it is successful, and that it's been successful for so long. That being said, look, we're facing a 100 million dollar deficit over thirty years. It's a big amount of money. Our annual budget is about 54 million dollars. It's that big. We're borrowing 4.5 million dollars every year from our general fund just to pay for our pension short falls. So every year while more and more people retire, we have to borrow more and more money because our credit rating has taken a hit because of the debacle of Burlington telecom. Well, the pending lawsuit of the city, we can't really go back and borrow more money to address issues like that. Look I don't want to sell BED. Kurt does not want to sell BED either. It's a misconception. His proposal was to investigate the sale. If all the environmental standards were met, there was an insurance in there which is an everyday thing that goes on in transactional contracts that the rates would not go up, that we would look into it. And it did look like it was a good deal. We put it up to the public code, so at the end of the day, nothing happens that that voters don't support. I mean I backed him on it because it's not BED that's the big deal for me. It's that attitude of saying we've got huge problems to solve and efficiencies and finding little loopholes here and there, that's not going to address \$100 million over thirty years. It's a simple fact. So, it's not manipulating things that are important to Burlington. It's math. It's all it is. The reason why I bring it up is because I worked with the Burlington Electric Department before and they are rolling up smart grid, which is going to be all over Burlington, all over Vermont. And I personally believe that there is going to be a lot

of economic growth from that, a lot of jobs to be made. So how important do you think that smart grid is to the Burlington Community.

Steve Churchill: I think that it's incredibly important. We're releasing a policy platform in the next week that I personally have been crafting for the past two. And I can tell you that, we've been criticized for not having a plan B, this is a plan for lack of a better term, it's like triple A. It's far better than selling BED. It addresses all of their plans. It reduces the deficit by 25% in the first 10 year. This is something that we're looking into. If this proves solvent, then we'll completely abandon any investigation of BED whatsoever. That is absolutely important, and that only strengthens the value of BED, especially to the community, and that's something we can't overlook. So that's why we're looking into other alternatives and if those alternatives prove viable, we'll completely disregard it all together.

Speaker announces Ron Ruloff.

Ron Ruloff: I'm making third run for war three city council that I have made. It's a four way race. I'm going to give you some idea of why I am running. The initial cause was the BED scandal. When 17 million disappears in the security treasury, and the entire city council is sitting there, and no body noticed all these little dollar bills, tracing around the auditorium, is anybody awake? Is anybody doing anything? I've talked to city counselors. We're part-time. You're making \$3,000 stipend. Some city councilors want \$40,000 a year. The city cannot afford it. And then you talk about the handout]. I went to the mayoral debates, and I had a dispute with Ms. Lederer-Plaskett. She is a very nice person, and like many students, she's very indoctrinated with the idea of diversity. And that everything that happens in Vermont or in the United States is the result of some criminal plot either by George Bush, or either by white people, or either by whatever you want. And it never stops. I mentioned a particular incident when I lived in Brooklyn, NY. And there was a riot, and they let social security in and that's not much. So I get two Japanese roommates and we take a pretty good-sized apartment, and it was always in some poor area of town. The Puerto Rican environment did not like me living there, and they did not like foolish immigrants moving in. The two most racist groups in NYC are the Puerto Ricans and the Dominicans in my opinion. I have watched a murder outside my apartment building with a body on the street. My Japanese roommate stared at it and said, "I just saw that guy run up, and kill them." Yeah, well what happened was there was Spanish music playing all day long, and a group of polish investors had bought a building across the street. At 11 o'clock the police came to break up the permit, and they last all 11. About 10 young polish guys come out and they do a kick dance. "We are the Pollack." The Puerto Rican kid gets a knife, and lets one of them have it, right in the gut and he's dead. They have rallies after this. They were going to hire the dream team, but the dream team hired a representative black person, and they were black. The Puerto Rican said, "Nah, he doesn't want to represent us." The patriot between Puerto Rican and blacks in New York is tangible and real. And if you say, we're all going to be one big happy melting pot, you're wrong, because we're not. The idea of diversity is to import humanity from abroad, and I'll tell you it doesn't work in New York City,

and it doesn't work in Vermont either. I saved an article, and it's written much better than anything that I can write, and it represents a lot of what I think. [He reads the article]. Racism happens with every race. It happens with whites, blacks, Puerto Ricans, Chinese you name it can have racist attitudes. And because you're white doesn't make you racist. It just makes you white that's all. I can't believe the attitude of students today. I graduated from Michigan in 1971. What happened happen there with the black action movement were that the black kids would go around and march our dorms attacking whites, the bookshelves in the library were overturned, and one of the best ways to show what the black students thought of the whites was to set it on fire. This happened numerous times. It didn't make every black and every white hate each other. I worked for a black guy. I did the audiovisual job as a part time in Michigan. Roy Hunter, he was an artist. He got into Michigan and did his thing. I don't know where he is now. I wish him well. I'm not seeking black friends or white friends. Most of the kids are white most of you are white. Most of the people you're going to be meeting are white. Okay, you think you're racist? I don't think so. And if you're black, you have every right to be here. If you're any other race, you're right to be here, and be judged on the same basis as anyone else. Affirmative action has pretty much destroyed this country. Of course, it sets up a racial standard, and gives people the same racist advantage that whites had before integration. Do not confuse integration with diversity. [He goes on to talk about a congressman and how he brought the idea of diversity in the United States with the immigration law. He further talks about the hostile actions in his neighborhood.]

Senator Daley: How many students are in War 3, the war you're running for?

Ron Ruloff: I don't know, does anybody know. How many of you are in war 3? How many people are registered to vote? Boy, I picked the wrong forum.

Speaker announces Cyril Brunner.

Cyril Brunner: Hello my name is Jonathan and I am the president of the UVM outing club. I'd like to thank the president and the vice president and all the senators for allowing us to speak today, and also the large contingent of our leader community that took time out of their busy schedules to support us today. With me is Fiona Burn, our vice president and Cyril Brunner, who is our treasurer. [He presented a PowerPoint to the SGA. For a copy of this presentation, please email Cyril Brunner.]

The PowerPoint talked about the hours that the outing club students dedicate to the organization, and their fiscal year 2013 budget. So I am going to hand the next part of our presentation to Cyrill.

Cyrill: So unfortunately I'm not here to talk about the outing club, but I am here to talk about the fiscal year 2013 budget. So, I'm here not only as a member of the outing club, but also as a student representative of the university—a university that you guys love and clearly care for. And as you all know, the budgets were due 2.5 weeks ago, and I am sure the finance committee has been hard at work dealing with over a 160 budgets. It's a grueling process and one that people can get frustrated in, and it's a little hard to take care of. So, when I turned in my budget in

time, I sent all the information to the finance committee, and I went to the desk to turn in my contractual agreement, and there was no one waiting for me. And usually when you turn in a budget you also sign up for a budget hearing time, and since no one was there, I didn't get to sign up for a budget hearing time. And, this past Thursday, Andrew sent me an email saying that we have meeting on Saturday. This meeting was at anywhere between 10-2pm, which is pretty flexible for a Saturday. But unfortunately, John, Fiona and I were all leading trips at the time, and Keith and Joel who are our last years' leaders were also busy at the time. So we tried to reschedule, after some email contact, we got scheduled to 5pm on Saturday. John went to the meeting at 5pm. And, the meeting went great. And when we got to the end of the meeting, we were informed that since we did not schedule a budget hearing, that there would be a 15% decrease on our allotted amount. So that's the amount SGA would give us after. And since we had to reschedule that meeting again, we were informed that there was another 5% decrease, so that's a total of 20% decrease on the outing clubs' total allotted amount. So I'm sure you're all aware, but one of SGA's main role is the sports clubs, as much as they can. And that punishment just seemed unfair. And punishments should match the intentions and actions of the crime. And it just seems a large amount for that. And as a second year treasurer of the largest student run organization on campus, it's a huge burden for me, and now I am stuck with the responsibility of having almost a 150 students next year not going on an outing club trip, which is a huge amount. 150 students is a no small group. It's been a huge burden on me, it's been a huge burden on our entire leader community here, as they won't be able to lead as many trips and involve as many people, and we just feel that the 20% is unjust.

Another Outing Club representation: So one of my main concerns, when I took office, late last semester was every single decision that I come to, it's two things: can we do it safely, and can we get as much people out in the backcountry as possible. That's kind of what governed by philosophy when I took over this amazing organization. We're 8200 years old, there's a little controversy on the history. (Senators laugh) And we've never had an accident, which is incredible, and I can only attribute that to the support that we get from you guys, and the leader community. And I would hate to see this change. And with this 20% reduction, I am scared, because I feel like we can't put out as many trips as safely. And that's something that just really scares me. So, we just wanted to come here today, and hear what the senators had to think, and here what questions you had.

Senator Mansfield: Had you known about the 5% reduction, would you have found a way to avoid that?

Outing Club: We discussed late Friday night, early Saturday morning about that, and if I knew that, then I would have tried to find someone to cover my shift at the trip. Cyrill was leading an avalanche certification course; he's the facilitator for that. Fiona was leading an ice-trip and I was leading a senior leader cross-country on a day trip. So I felt, again, coming back to safety, we couldn't put up those trips safely, if one of us missed those trips. So at that point, that's what my decision was.

Had I known that there would be an additional 5%, of course I would have tried to make the meeting.

Senator Mathews: You said that this is your second time. So, you have schedule budget meetings in the past. So, why didn't you send an email instead of not showing up. I understand that there was no one sitting there, but why didn't you send an email trying to communicate your schedule?

Outing Club: I mean my second time around; things have changed in the front desk at the SGA. Jess is no longer there, and Sarah's been there in the past. So that's been a little bit of a hassle. Of course, it's my responsibility. But I don't know how many of you know me very well, I've never missed any deadlines, and just because I didn't read an email, and didn't send an email, to me that does not seem fair that I lose 15% because of one small miscommunication.

Senator Goodrich: I understand that Outing Club is a huge club at UVM, but I believe that there needs to be some I don't want to say punishment, but other clubs, I'm sure, have missed their budget and have gotten in trouble as well. So what would be a fair reduction or something?

Outing Club: I do think that the punishment should fit what happens. So I'd have to say something like handing in our budget earlier next year, like punishing the people, like we did make the mistake, but I think that by decreasing our budget by 20%, you are directly hurting the participants, and I think with that the punishment just doesn't fit what there is. Just something like that, making our jobs a little harder by handing in the budget earlier next year, or something along those lines as opposed to hurting the trip participants and the safety of those trips.

Senator Nenoplous: I'm just curious about the timeline of when you knew about having to schedule the meeting, and what timeframe was like?

Outing Club: So there's multiple emails sent out saying that budgets are due this date, and on that email there's 10 items, and at the bottom of that list, there is an item that says if it's over \$15,000 you need to schedule a hearing. So, from that point until when I was told that I have to attend this meeting, there was no email in between. That was like roughly 2 weeks, and at that point, I had to attend another meeting, and there was never any time to say, "oh, you forgot to sign up" or any mention of the 15% decrease. There was no mention of that whatsoever.

Senator Heffrin: with this 20% decrease, how much money will you be losing from your overall budget?

Outing Club: So if you were to look at the average of the past, we've received about an average of \$60,000, so 20% of \$60,000 is \$12,000. So, it's a lot.

Senator Campbell: Students who aren't leaders have to pay to attend a trip, correct? How much would the price increase if you took into account your budget with the ticket to go on the trip?

Outing Club: So, SGA supports us for transportation, and several other guide costs for instance. So, I'd say that it's about a double increase, and then for specialized trips such as ice climbing and rock climbing, those would probably quadruple because guide costs are huge.

Senator Keyes: So, if you guys do end up with 20% budget cut, do you have any plans in place to cover that cost? Be that increasing the cost of trips or doing fundraising otherwise?

Outing Club: We already do a fair amount of fundraising. It would come down to our trips. Our average is 60 trips a semester, and with this new budget, we were hoping to expand that. We sold out in our general meeting this fall right away. People were lining up, wanting to go on trips, and we just couldn't facilitate those trips, because we were completely maxed out, gear-wise, leader-wise, and transportation-wise. So we would have to lower the total trips to somewhere we'd go from 60 trips, to somewhere between 30-40 trips, depending on what the final number was.

Ryan Little: My name is Ryan Little. I'm a senior here at UVM, business major. I work at Akes' Place. I'm a bartender there. In addition to being a student at UVM, and in addition to having hobbies that really don't matter to you guys, I don't know exactly how to word this, I like to do a lot of live music. I am also about 80% disabled by the marine core: left ankle, left knee, right ankle, right knee, right shoulder, right clavicle, lower back, spine, head trauma. I lose my train of thought very easily, asks Katie. It's weird when you have these ailments. I set out body scanners when I go through security at the airport. It is what it is, but I am here just like you guys. I'm going to school. I try to do well, hopefully looking a good job one day. And, I have noticed that after I got out of 5 years of honorable service in Marine Corps, is that getting out is really challenging. Getting out and trying to assimilate back in a culture that I once was familiar with that I was isolated from for quite some time, and within that culture, I had a different set of values that were instilled in me. The marshal culture, it is very interesting stuff. But I didn't think that it was that way. I thought that I was going to do my 5 years, do my time get out, go to school, get my degree, because I am the same Ryan to me. And, I realize that when I got out and I met people, they asked me what year I was and I said I was 23 and a freshman, and they got a little confused, so I figured I had to explain a little bit further. It's tough, and the best way I can explain that, or relate to that. I'm sure that all of us at one point or another were in some sort of a team, some sort of a hobbies, or special interest group. And you hung out with all these people. If you think about your group of friends, the ones that you pregame with and go out to the bars with, think about how long you've known them. What ties you together? Is it a frat or a sorority? Is it a team? Is it hobbies? Is it just because you were roommates on the same floor? Think about what commonalities that you share. Now, I don't want to make this kind of point, but I kind of have to. It's the same reason why girls go to the bathroom in numbers. They're comfortable with the people that they're familiar with. Now, it's challenging when the guys I fought with, the guys I suffered with, the guys I sweated with, led with, something that really represents me as an individual and something that has shaped and molded the person that I am today. It's hard when you don't have that. And that explains why in august of 2011, the American Psychological Association came out with a statistic, and they did a survey that almost half of all student veterans think about suicide at one point or another while they're in college. 20% plan it. When I am with my boys, when I go visit some of my friends, and some of my friends come and visit me, it's cool. It was that basketball team that somebody may have had in high school. Now, when I am trying to get to know someone, first off I only knew

one person when I came to the state of Vermont. I am from Chicago originally. So, I started with nothing. It's just another vet too that wanted to be understood. And I realize when I am interact with other people, they naturally put me—because we as human beings, when we first encounter somebody new, like say for example, you got a group of friends, right? All that common ground, say a group of couples or whatever. And one of the single friends in that group brings somebody new in that group. We're asking ourselves as soon as we meet someone new, is this person going to harm me? And we try to eliminate those feelings of uncertainty by talking to them, by relating to them, by sharing stories. Example: you meet someone new and they're like, "yeah, I'm from California." I'm going to tell you about the time that I went to California, or how much I love California or how much I hate California, or whatever. But when I say I'm in the military, someone may understand what it's like to their own limitations. See to the individual, they're trying to relate to you. You know, I tell someone that I was in Marine Corp. I don't avoid it, but I prefer not to throw it out there right off the bat. But when I do meet some people, they instantly try to relate to me. It's human nature to try to relate to me, but at the same time, it creates this whole gap, where someone who may be less social like myself might have some trouble. I've had perfect example. One of my boys that I was in Afghanistan with, we went on every single protocol together, side by side, stood every single post together, and slept next to each other. And few months ago, he just got out of the psych ward. So I kind of use him as kind of like a comparison, kind of as a template. But, there's a lot of people of different shapes, sizes and backgrounds, MOSs, which is Military Occupation Specialty for your job, because just because you went to the military does not mean that you went to combat. There's a huge percentage of individuals that did not. And say someone who was a cook for example, says that they were in the military, and someone else says, "was it crazy, bro? what was Iraq like? What was Afghanistan like?" I'm serious and it happens. And when they say that they were cooks, they're going to understand it, the way they want to understand it. And this individual might not feel valued. I'll wrap it up. There's a lot of people that need help. There's a lot of people that have a hard time on both ends of a spectrum, not just a veteran but the way they are received. Societal norms dictate a lot of things. And in an area like this where there is not much recognition and understanding, there's a lot of different interpretations. And we like to have that feeling of belonging,, that psychological need of belonging fulfilled. And it's tough. I didn't know what to do, when I first got out. I was out for 10 days before I started UVM, and I was going crazy. I didn't have structure. I didn't have anyone telling me what I couldn't do. This is a proposal for the importance of establishing an office of Veteran Affairs at UVM, which there isn't. I had to dig a lot and I had to figure a lot things on my own, and usually the hard way. You're trying to access resources that out there for veterans, the ones that keep getting amended, and so on and so forth. I'm on a few different commissions and communities at UVM. I recently started working with Senator Bernie Sanders, on the advising committee, which is a direct liaison between the student veteran voice and population and implementing policy. I have been able to see the way a lot of things go. And, I think it's really important. Because, in order to help veterans realize their value in order for them to be productive members of

society post Marine Corps, post army, post marshal culture. It's really important to have resources allocated to helping them get through that adjustment. You know, I'm not a pessimist, but I was a little more hostile and aggressive when I first got out, and first came here.

Senator Nenopolous: What do you see the office doing?

Ryan Little: What I would like to see is to have kind of a one stop shop for veterans, who like when I first started, I did not know how everything went. If I had a problem about my money, if I had a problem about my funds, my GI bill, getting registered for classes, it's a process, that's pretty intricate, and complex and usually by the time you understand it, there is another change. Create some sort of one-stop shop for veterans, where they can have one person dedicated towards not just attending to veterans needs, but there was a survey done last year, and I read a bunch of interesting personal reflections on individuals and they got spat on by a teacher. Or talk smack to by an individual, and it's not noticed and not reported. Essentially what I want is to be able to establish an office that provides guidance, mentorship, and a way of dealing of the things that have gone unnoticed and under recognized since this new generation of post returning Iraq and Afghanistan veterans that are attending higher education.

Senator Kaznets: thanks for coming in, and thank you for your service. Do you know off hand, how many veteran students there are at UVM, and how many there are in Vermont?

Ryan Little: In University of Vermont, I believe there are about 130 individuals who is in the chapter 33 post 9/11 GI bill. Out of those, many of them are dependents. But if we're looking at the undergraduate standpoint, there are currently 99.

Chair Burns: So when you say a "one stop-shop" could you elaborate more on that? Do you think that some psychological help could also be included in this office? Like an all-encompassing thing?

Ryan Little: Absolutely. There has been a lot of things that have been discussed, that are floating around the community between the veterans assistance committee, and I'm on President Bremley's commission on diversity inclusion, and we're collaborating a bunch of ways, a bunch of ideas for what would be done and implemented. And I've got a meeting tomorrow with a few individuals going over that one survey, and seeing what could be done to improve the method of research, as well as how to figure out what needs to be done. One of the things that I think would be really beneficial is some sort of informal mentorship, because I'll fit that stereotype, a lot of us are stubborn, and they don't want to seek help. And they don't think that they need it. And if they have a way of going to a centralized location, where they get to see someone who did what they did and go through UVM, and being able to link up with them, and say, "hey, I know what you've been through." And that was one of the most helpful things for me, was seeing not only in my battalion, but in my company, fought in combat, we knew a bunch of same people, we put up with the same amount of crap at one point, but we cross paths, and seeing him about to graduate, really motivated me and made me realize that it's possible you know having a traumatic brain injury, you know because I got a rocket shot at me, and it just missed me, but it was close enough to knock me out.

Seeing other people deal with that kind of thing, it's motivating. And I think it's really important to help veterans realize their value.

Old Business

- Resolution in Support of Establishment of an Office of Veterans Affairs.
 - Resolution passes.
- Bill allocating funds to club gymnastics
 - Bill passes.
- Resolution regarding Expanded Section Description
 - Resolution passes.
- Resolution Concerning Funding of Addition Police Patrols.
 - Senators feel that the \$35,000 coming out of student tuition to a solution that is not going to be effective and it is not the right way to go about this issue. Chair Goodnow suggests tabling this resolution because he has not heard a lot of student opinion on this. Amendments were suggested. Senator Campbell thinks that the money should instead go to a better pilot program or priority resolution, rather than funding the Burlington police. Senators voice that one is not going to solve issues with more authoritative roles, but by teaching students how to work out situations within their community.
 - Resolution passes.

Emergency Business (01:28:56)

- Senator Manago asks to count the votes for the last resolution. Resolution passes 31/23.

New business (01:27:55)

- Bill allocating funds to shooting sports

Executive Reports (01:27:33)

- Speaker Osef: thanks everyone listening to him and sending him the legislation by Sunday
 - He will not accept any proxies for public forum. If people want to speak on public forum, they are going to have speak (electronically or personally) directly.
 - Researched some constitution this weekend. Going to take out that academic standing clause that Senator Mathews suggested.
 - He's going to have a productive meeting this Sunday in the constitution committee.
 - Chair Goodnow argues that senators should be able to be tunnels for people who want to speak on public forum. Speaker Osef disagrees and says that they need to come to him first.
 - Senator Campbell: Was the racist guy proxy, is that why you're bringing this up?
 - Speaker Osef: No, he wasn't.
 - Senator Al-Namee suggests the idea of having captions about what each speaker is going to talk about so senators have an idea for what they should expect prior to the meeting.

- Speaker Osef: He states that he will try to the best of his abilities to let senators know, but there are no promises, just because he would feel uncomfortable inquiring.

Vice President Vitagliano: the glasses are ordered for the banquet

- The banquet is under way. There are 3 awards that will be given to senators. We will be voting on those next week.
- The end of the year banquet will be on April 10th from 5-7pm.
 - Tomorrow the president of the university will be formally announced at the Silver Maple Ballroom. Following that there will be a campus wide reception to go meet the new president. It will be a great opportunity to get to know him.
 - This week, he's been at the Social Marketing Campaign, and he's been working with them.
 - Budget hearings this week were very interesting. He commends the finance committee for the work that they have been doing.
 - Thanks senators for passing the Veterans resolution.
 - The gymnastics bill—he expresses his frustration that it was passed for \$6800, and no senators asked questions or inquired anything, when they have had half-hour debates for amounts half of that for other clubs.
 - Question #1: he wants to work with the potential candidates that running for vice president for additional information.

President Golfarini: It's Mardi Gras today!

- Packets went out today. The beginning of the end for Will and Julian as president and vice president.
- Tomorrow, President Golfarini will be giving a speech before the new president.
- He's working with Tom to meet with President Obama on April 14th and 15th, and he requests senators to talk to their constituencies about what 3 things they think he should say to President Obama.
- He requests for a senate vote on a legislation that would extend his power of presidency for 2 more days, because his meeting with the president is 2 days after his term of presidency is over.
- Question #1: practicing the speech for the new president.
- Senator Goodrich offers her assistance with the newspaper.
- Chair Burns: What does this executive power mean? And will you become the dictator for life?
- President Golfarini: No, we can stipulate for only the days of Saturday and Sunday on April 14th and 15th. And he inquired if the new president of SGA could come with him, and there isn't a way to do it since he needs to register in the next two weeks.
- Chair Burns suggests it be every year for the extended presidency.
- President Golfarini: Well this is the first year, and that's why he feels that it's important that he's there at the inaugural session.
- Senator Casey: What are you going to talk to the President about?

- President Golfarini: Over the summer, when there was a budget deficit and the two sides could not come to an agreement, they sent out a letter to a bunch of college presidents, that person actually got on CNN, and kind of threw that, which left President Obama really impressed. So the President created a summit where you get to meet with policy makers as well as the President.
- Have you thought about bringing the President to the university?
- President Golfarini: That's something that the administration would be interested in.

Committee Reports (01:08:00)

Finance: Budgets are chugging along

- He had make-up meetings for club signers. Out of 10, one club did not show up, and they had requested over \$100,000 for their budget, so that club will not be receiving anything.
- There were additional supplements that needed to be done.
- Senators share their concern that the 5% extra punishment for the outing club not attending the budget hearing time was a little too harsh. Finance stood its ground and expressed that they were following protocol. Senators commend the work that finance has been putting for all their work, but asks the committee to reconsider based on the active student participation with the Outing Club. Lowering their funding would hurt the students more than it would hurt the club runners. The committee points out that the organization has known about this deadline months in advance, and they have been more than lenient with the Outing Club before. They view that the 20% is perfectly justifiable.

Public Relations: VSOP went out. It's been out since Thursday. They're thinking of how we can expand it a little more.

- Looking to get more like on Facebook.
- They wanted to see legislation.
- A white board in the tunnel is updated every Monday that updates students on what students are doing.

Student Activities: emailing out his report.

COLA: priority registration—Senator Keenan and Chair Rifken are working on it.

- Looking at grievance process with the Burlington
- March 14th is the police luncheon
- They're trying to get Obama here.
- They went to Montpelier last week.
- Tabled today, they used the white board
- Anyone who is interested in COLA next year, come talk to Chair Rifken.

Academic Affairs: communicating the resolution with Julie Roberts.

- Riker has been working on academic calendar, enhanced section description
- Senator Keenan: People who don't have a room for biology room.
- Chair Caster points out that the Arts and Sciences majors do not really have one either, and to continue using the Dana Library.

Student Action: email out his report
CODEEE: thanks for passing veterans bill.

- Talks about the library hours.
- ALANA student center is working on a social justice movement where the theme is Harry Potter.
- Tabling in the next week or two, and asking students about how they feel about beverage contract, and water bans.

Senatorial Forum (0:30:12)

Senator Goodrich: We need to do something about the Outing Club. This is not going to go away, because it affects a lot of students, and it's a huge club so there has to be some give and take

Senator Campbell: proposes a system where you take a half of the 20%, and have it set aside for supplemental funding for outing club

Spaker Osef: no proxies for public forum, he just prefers to talk to them directly. He just wants it to be a little more uniform.

Senator Mathews motions for an informal poll for whether the 5% penalty against the Outing club should stay. Motion agrees that it should stay.

Senator Collan: Got over 130 submissions for the L/L murals. The voting for the themes will begin this week.

Senator Allston: emphasizes that the Outing Club is not the only one that's been penalized. She feels that if you're going to make an exception for one, then you need to make it for all. This is not their first time they're doing their budgets.

Chair Caster: feels uncomfortable that they took the informal poll because it is intruding on the finance committee.

Senator Casey: The extra \$3,000 for your 3 hours seems like a lot for their budget. It's a huge amount of money.

Chair Dourghtey: No budgets have gone out yet, so you don't have the basis for you \$3,000 argument.

Senator Ravach: Water bottles are on their way. We're getting 300, and they'll be giving those away in conjunction to talking to students about the changes coming to the contract in January and in June. She suggests some joint tabling with CODEEE.

Senator Ferriera: I live in downtown Burlington, and the noise level is high, but if UVM is going to continue having these extremely high admission rates, so it's UVM's fault that Burlington is getting so out-of-hand. He doesn't think that programing is going to help, because most of the noise that is being made is by drunk people, and he doesn't know how much of the programing knowledge they are going to use when they're already not in the state of mind. He asks COLA a question about the Pilot Program

Senator Keenan: Champlain College is also another college that is right down there. The pilot program is 6 weeks. He worries that if we don't give it a shot, and give some empowerment to the student voice, then that is some action that is being taken on by the students who are willing to be considerate to the Burlington community.

Chair Goodnow: appreciates senators who speak to students and bring up their opinions on senate matters.

Senator Holland: She thinks that it would be a good idea to do some community outreach as an entire senate body.

Senator Nenopolous: The university can do a lot better job consulting with the students and having them interact with the community a little bit more. Just opening up a discussion about how neighbors feel about how their weekend is like, how they are disturbed, what their concerns are, and then having students speak about what their weekends should be like is something that the university needs to do. Putting more money on police enforcement is not helping the problem, and will not make a lasting impact. When he tabled today, he said that just talking to students, he found out information that he had no idea about, and that was just within the 15 minutes that he was there. The drinking age is also a problem, and it's creating problems, and they're leaving campus to do that. He comments on the Outing Club, and how it was a big mistake on the part of the Outing Club, but in the end, failure is something you learn from. So next year, he is certain that the outing club and the other clubs will learn from that, and be much more attentive to the dates.

Senator Goodrich: talks about broadcasting the fact that students can anonymously submit their "Ticksmeoff" and it goes into a Ticksmeoff email where everyone can check it, not just the student action committee.

Senator Goodnow: the Ticksmeoff poster downstairs is a little misrepresenting, because the Ticksmeoff online is anonymous, and it gets sent to him or any other chair of the student action committee.

Senator Ravach: there was a Ticksmeoff about the lack of microwaves in the Davis center, and there is more than one student voice behind that.

Senatorial Comments and Announcements (08:33:09)

Chair Burns: Friday "Sleep out for soldiers." He talks about the raffle tickets. And those tickets will be sold on Thursday in the Davis Center Atrium 10-4pm.

Senator Al-Namee: Show up at the Shobha dinner this Friday, service starts at 6pm. It's Mexican food.

Senator Ravach: On Saturday, go to Tri Delta for their philanthropy event called Delta Desserts. You pay \$5, and all the money goes to St. Jude's Children hospital. It's from 12-4pm.

Senator Daley: Senator Casey wins the fashion award.

Chair Denton: Marketing Club is having a meeting at 5:30 Kalkin tomorrow.

Senator Habib talks more about ALANA's social justice event.

Senator Daley: declares that he has decided to run for president of the SGA.

Senator Keyes: Adaptive Sports has been selected as a finalist as one of the university's top three, so they're in the running for \$10,000. So he'll be sending down a group to America East Basketball Finals, the first weekend of Spring Break to hopefully be awarded the grant. Volunteers in Action is hosting Club 590, this weekend. It's a '90s Trivia Night.

Senator Goodrich: talks about college basketball.

Roll Call (00:01:47)

Finance: Senator He, Senator Devivo excused

Public Relations: All present

Student Activities: Senator Chaouch and Senator Coffill excused

COLA: Chair Rifken and Senator Wilich excused

Academic Affairs: All present

Student Action: All present

CODEEE: Senator Neill excused.

(7pm-10:12pm)