

March 13, 2012

Roll Call

Finance—Senator Devivo and Senator He excused

Public Relations—all present

Student Activities –Senator Bates excused

COLA—Senator Wilich excused

Academic Affairs—all present

Student Action—all present

CODEEE—Senator Craine, Senator Al-Namee, and Senator Habib excused

Public Forum

Connor Daley: Hi guys. I just wanted to update you guys on the 20/20 initiative. For the new senators who did not get to see my original PowerPoint, I sent it out on the email. What 20/20 initiatives is, is it's a student response to university and the administration (inaudible). So instead of per department, per college allocation to the budget, they want to codirect their activities and see how the money is used rather than where the money goes. So the survey is 8 questions. It was sent out to every academic department. So the next two weeks, look for my email, and what we'll do is when we get all the responses, and we'll go over and look at all the responses and gather information about the student academic vision and where the students want the undergraduate experience to be. So it will come to the Senate for approval as a resolution or a bill. The chairs have the survey questions, so if you guys want to look that over, and if you want to fill it out. Although the electronic survey is easier to review.

Senator Nenopolous: Would an approved academic schedule fit into the 20/20 initiatives?

Senator Daley: Absolutely. The questions are why did you choose to come to UVM? What are some of the strengths versus the weaknesses? So the academic schedule would fit into that, absolutely.

Senator Mansfield: Are you asking about a holistic means of education including such things as the Living/Learning Center?

Senator Daley: Here's what I can tell you, it isn't phrased to target those things, but people have been responding with references to living communities as Living Learning.

Chair caster: What sort of recognition are you looking for from the faculty and administration, and to what extent do you see this influencing policy and decision making within [those agents]?

Senator Daley: The administration said that they were going to take it in as a student input.

Aditi Giri: First of all, I don't have my recorder with me, so if you could speak really loudly, I'm recording it on my computer, so just that reminder. And secondly, I am in the Catamount Dance Crew, which is a hip hop dance crew in UVM and we have our annual showcase at the end of the year. It's going to be on April 6th from 7-9pm. And I would love it if I saw some senate support there.

- Chair Burns: How will the student body know what you just said?
- Aditi Giri: I will have to type it, what I say.
- Chair Benner: Can I hear a list of songs that you will be dancing to?
- Aditi Giri: They would not be appropriate for me to say on the Senate floor, if that tells you anything.

Jay Taylor: Good Evening, everybody. My name is Jay Taylor. I was once a Julian Golfarini. I graduated UVM on 2010, and I have been working with Sodexo since then. I'm a marketing assistant these days. Things that I have been working on include the Ecowear. This is the new Ecowear soup container. Some sad news about the Ecowear, the plan was to launch it yesterday. But there was some confusion with shipping, so we'll launch them sometime between 3 days to a week. If you have the cow tag, then you are eligible to getting the soup containers, and you'll still get the 15% discount. We launched in Redstone market yesterday at the salad bar, and we launch it in Trinity too. We're well over 7,000 meals served for Ecowear, and that's 7,000 items of waste that we prevented from happening. That is it for that announcement. Brennans, new publicity, better distribution for that are. Global fancy have had his food. Created by, and so that will be Wednesday the 21st. last. Brennans will have free root bear and root beer floats on Friday at noon. And that is it for that announcement. Also, marketplace will have a French chef, and if you have been to any of the presidential search meetings, you have had a taste of what he is going to bring to the marketplace on the 21st of March. Lastly, I wanted to talk about the NCAA

contest we're doing at Brennans. Basically, you enter by donating a can product or a non-perishable good, and fill out your bracket and drop it in, and we will have winners for each round. The cut off is Thursday at noon. Winners get a new mini-refrigerator, drinks, and a check donated to a food shelter in their name. Also, tomorrow at the UVM game at Brennans, if you wear a green and yellow item of clothing or something that has the UVM logo, then you'll get some free fries from Brennans, and there is a pub quiz after that.

Chair Burns: So I assume that the cleanliness of rotting soup containers came back okay?

Jay Taylor: Oh yeah. We talked with Ecolab and we got the okay on everything. And once we got the approval from the health department, and we went through the whole process again, and now, we're good to go.

Chair burns: is there a next step in terms of type of eco wear to use like for the unlimited meal plans?

Jay Taylor: Unlimited is another beast. Right now, we're looking into expanding the soup containers. The idea is to start small and expand. So as of now launching the soup container is the main thing. We're really happy with the growth of the program right now.

chair caster: How has it been working with student groups on campus. Has it been affective?

Jay Taylor: I am not a student, so I don't have that peer input anymore. So working with IRA, SGA, and Ecoreps has really made a difference. It was really once we had the student involvement that it started to take off. The cow tags have become a fashion accessory for some. Seeing someone who has a cow tag really makes me want to give them a hug. Right now we have about 6,700 using Eco wear but it's still not enough. And it's always about making it the thing to do as opposed to a thing that people are doing. If you have noticed in the Marshé, the clamshells aren't there anymore. They are still available if you ask someone, but just taking that option away has made a big difference.

Senator Mansfied: Have you thought about putting the eco wear inside Ben and Jerry's?

Jay Taylor: Yeah, that's a good idea. I hadn't thought about that.

Chair Goodnow: So you could only take the Eco wear containers one at a time? You can't have the soup and the clamshell?

Jay Taylor: Yeah, and that just to insure that you don't end up with a bunch of containers at the end.

Kesa Ram: Always good to see Jay Taylor. Thank you all for having me. As you know I am representative Kesa Ram, and I was the student body president was from 2007-2008. And as some of you may know, this is my first year where the senior class is not in campus with me. So I do hope that people do not feel deterred from approaching me, emailing me, writing to on Facebook. I just bought a house right across the street and I try to really open it up and have people over for tea. I know Senator Rifken was over the other day and she and I talked for three hours. She'd doing wonderful work, and I know that you all are doing wonderful work as well. So thank you for everything that you are doing. I can see from the agenda tonight that you guys have a lot to do. It's sad to see College Republicans get derecognized but they have been on a decline, I know. A lot of students talk to me and are republicans, and I would like to see it reinstated someday. When I was running, I am a democrat, but when I was running for legislation for the first time, I remember spending as much time with the college republicans as much as the college democrats. As some of you may know about Burlington it's not very often that a republican gets elected. I know it's been 60 years that a republican has taken office, so I really hope that both parties get represented well. As many of you may know, we just had an election in Burlington. And we have a new mayor. And I am sure you all know that we have a new president at UVM. And we have a new CEO at Fletcher Allen. There is a lot going on in Burlington, and it really speaks to newness and leadership and innovation, and a "fresh start" as Miro would say. So it's a really exciting time to be on campus, and a great time to make connections to bring the student voice forward. I just hope that you all are thinking about what students want and need. I know those are the things that I try to keep in mind. I just wanted to touch on three things I am doing on legislation and then I will just open the floor up for questions. One is, I see that there is a resolution requesting level funding for UVM from the states, and I am pretty confident that we will have level funding, and I am working on getting an additional \$4 million of fund for spires for priority (inaudible) As some of you may know, I am also in the board of trustees so it's a different role because I was elected by the people of Vermont to serve in the legislature, but I was elected by the legislatures and Montpelier to serve on

the board for UVM. As a trustee, my goal is to focus on the interest of the university, so some of my decisions are sort of “boxed-in” by that, and I know that some of you are in the board of trustees as well. I am also working on a bill that would prevent the use of credit information and employment decisions, so as we got into this bad economy and we’re now starting to work our way out, there have been challenging employment policies that have been instituted. In some states you may have heard that if you are employed, you are less likely to find a job that employers won’t hire people who are unemployed and that’s just kicking people when their down sort of thing. And another one of their policies is looking at someone’s credit score and making a decision of whether or not to hire them. And the idea is that you can tell what kind of job performance they will have and if they are likely to steal. Studies show that there is no link between the two. And the only clear link is if you are a month behind on your credit report then you’re more likely to not get hired. So taking that out of the employment realm of decision making would be really good for young people: women, people with disabilities, people who often have bad (inaudible) bill. Affordable housing is one of my number one priority, and I sponsored a bill this year that would make affordable housing a part of the (inaudible) act, so right now you can’t discriminate against certain identities. And this would look at protective housing units as an identity. The only people who you can discriminate against are poor people and this is the closest way of saying that we don’t want poor people (rest of sentence inaudible). I’m a close sponsor of the genetically modified labeling bill which a lot of students have emailed me about, and it’s definitely getting a lot of support. So I’d love to hear some questions.

Vice President Vitagliano: I had a question about the \$4 million. Is this in addition to \$4 million that Governor Shumlin wants to give towards engineering or is it like—?

Kesha Ram: No, I wish. This is that part of money and the organ is going to have to apply for it from the legislature because it is coming from the higher education trust fund, which are usually for scholarship for those of you who don’t know. So we do have some legislatures who are uneasy about “taking away scholarships” for Vermonters in order for this program advancement. But we’re trying to argue that UVM is good at finding scholarship money and making itself a need-blind institution to attract faculty staff talent here so we

can grow our program, so we have more revenue, and people will see us as an investment.

VP: Will this have any strict spires or will it just be imposed on engineering?

Ram: I know that the engineering one is helping women reenter the workforce. I mean there are a lot of complex systems programs going on. One we saw from the Rubenstein School for tree cover in the United States, and how much tree cover we have in the whole United States. Complex systems are really hard to describe but it's things like terrorism and how we protect our environment, and any sort of over arching system that we need to understand and approach with better tools and to save society. It's really important to bring that into our institution.

Chair caster: Can you talk about the housing opportunities for students in terms of affordability?

First of all, my overarching statement is that I don't think that students realize how much housing on campus costs. So, if you have issues of how people talk about you in city council or mayoral debate, or how students are used as a political football, if you're frustrated with that then the best thing to do is be active and registering and attending state council meetings. I think that there's always ways for students to have a voice, I just think that they need to use it. And that's really going to change the conversation.

Campus on housing and the meal plan is very expensive. When I was the student body president, I absolutely did not let them raise the housing or meal plan prices. It's just unjust, because food costs way more on campus. It's also expensive to live off-campus, and you should get the opportunity to live off campus. But unfortunately, there are few students, who are ruining that for the rest of you like setting off fireworks in their backyard, and that's a problem. That's what Burlington residents are concerned about. I remember we had a tomato plant stolen, and it was returned back dead. And it's just like, "what's your deal?" And it's frustrating for the neighbors who have to deal with issues like that. And that dynamic is always going to be there, but we need to work on that, and I know that the COLA committee is doing a great job with that right now. I've always wondered why we don't push for rent control in Burlington. I grew up in Los Angeles, and they had rent control. These are things that students should be concerned about. He's in a tough spot because it's the neighbors that have the power, so students

need to assert themselves responsibly and respectfully and in large numbers.

Chair Daley: is that \$4 million fund just for UVM or all of Vermont?

Ram: It's split into thirds. A third of it goes to UVM, another third goes to the state college system like CCV, and the last third goes to VSAP which helps residents, and people seeking professional degree, as well as students who are looking to go outside of Vermont to get their higher education. And that brings up an interesting point. We just had a huge demonstration of state college students at the Vermont State House, and their overarching message was, I have a lot of debt, please increase the (inaudible word) amount of higher education, but one of the underlying message that really concerned me was why are you giving the same amount of money to UVM as you are all the other state colleges. We have more campuses and more students who are Vermonters who are getting their undergraduate degree or medical degree or graduate degree and there's also a lot of people who stay here who graduate from UVM, and it's really concerning to me that students fight each other. And I would really like to see student leaders from all over the state to come together come to Montpelier and just say that higher education (rest of sentence inaudible).

Senator Mathews: I'm running for Vice President.

Old Business

Bill Recognizing VIA (Volunteer in Action) as Club of the month

- Bill passes!

Bill Derecognizing College Republicans

There was debate of whether or not to include a line on the bill stating that it is not Senate that wants the de-recognition of College Republicans, but rather because of the lack of members. Others stated that Senate should not have to simply because the de-recognitions are always in procedural accounts. Chair Benner clarifies that if students wish to start a new one, they could start one as soon as tomorrow. It does not restrict students from forming a Republic clubs or any other political party clubs whatsoever.

- Bill Passes

Resolution Requesting State-Level Funding for the University of Vermont.

- There was a lot voice from Senators, as well as former executives, about the importance of this resolution.

- Resolution passes.

No Emergency Business

New Business

- Bill allocating power to President Golfarini on April 14th and 15th
- Resolution regarding the Academic Calendar.
- Bill allocating funds to the Snowboard team

Executive Reports

- Speaker Osef: Gives Tan Award to Kyle Heffrin
 - Constitution committee will meet this Sunday
 - He will be forwarding legislation probably on Thursday
 - Filled out his bracket
 - Realized that his position is for one year, and he is going back to what he stated in the beginning that he was only going to serve until April, and staying until November of next year depending on his reelection to senate and completing his full year.
 - Chair Burns: Why are you only staying until November?
 - Speaker Osef: Because I want to give someone else the opportunity to do it. It's a wonderful job and opportunity.
 - Chair Burns: Will that be your decision even if there is no one else who is interested?
 - Speaker Osef: If there is nobody else who is interested, then I will gladly stay. But if somebody wanted to be speaker, then I would love to give that person a chance.
 - Chair Benner: That seems strange that there is no set date or period.
 - Senator Ravach: You also have to get reelected to senate wouldn't you?
 - Speaker Osef: Yes, that's what I meant when I said, 'depending on my re-election to senate' If I was not re-elected, then I would not be here. And the reason for my continuity partly is because of the constitution committee and also because I love doing this. I love coming here every Tuesdays and being with you guys.
 - Chair Rifken: Are you will be running for reelection?

- Speaker Osef: I will be reelecting myself to senate, but his position as Speaker depends on whether or not if anybody else wishes to run for his position.
- Vice President Vitagliano clarifies that Speaker Osef is entitled to completing his full year because it is a position with a one-year term.
- Treasurer Juaire: shows Senate a spreadsheet about the clubs that want to appeal their budget and their history of what they have been allocated.
 - Application for Treasurer Position will be going out soon.
 - Senator Caster: Why don't they keep the money that they don't spend?
 - Treasurer Juaire speaks about the process of unused club funds at the end of the year and why it comes back to the SGA at the end of the year. For details, please contact Treasurer Juaire at the SGA office.
 - Senator Daley: Are you planning on being the Treasurer again?
 - Treasurer Juaire: I have not decided, yet.
- President Golfarini: talks about executive compensation
 - He showed his schedule for his visit to President Obama
 - President Obama will be coming to UVM on March 31st
 - There is a chance that he and Vice President Vitagliano will get to meet him on behalf of the SGA.
 - He went to faculty senate last week. It's a show. He encourages everybody to go. Some of their concerns for online course evaluations were that students might fill it out when they are drunk.
 - He's going to meeting with the finalist on Shiman scholarship.
 - Senator of the Week of Break: Speaker Osef
 - Senator of the Week: Senator Accardo.
 - Aditi is awesome! Go watch her perform.
 - If anybody plays basketball, come talk to him.
 - Senator Daley: going to NY on Friday, so he hopes to get all his work done before then.

- Vice President Vitagliano: He is going to announce the winners of the SGA awards during the banquet.
 - Glasses came in.
 - The menu has been finalized
 - Everybody should have received an invitation for both Administrative Dinner and SGA dinner. Please RSVP to that.
 - He has finalized transition Report.
 - He has met with Vice Presidential candidates, and answered their questions.
 - Question #1: He needs to start his year-end report, so he'll be doing that.

Committee Reports

- Finance: Appeals are this weekend.
 - They had supplemental hearing this week.
- Public Report: Presidential and Vice Presidential elections
 - They are going to prep for Senator elections right after that.
 - Also helping out with the debates.
- Student Activities: Thanks for passing the legislation
 - Talks about the Student Life Awards. Student Activities will be presenting at the Club Banquet Award.
 - He's working on his transition report
- Elections Committee: made the televised debate optional. Candidates need to let her know by tomorrow if they are going to come.
 - Elections Committee and her met. They have a lot of questions for the candidates.
 - She's not sure when the debate is going to be airing on UVMtv, and there was hope of maybe putting it on the weekly report.
 - Brennans debate plans is finalized.
 - Senatorial Elections: packets are going to be going out on the 23rd, and the following Thursday is the packet are due
 - Elections are going to be taking place on the April 4th and 5th.
 - President Golfarini: Having you been soliciting the student body at large for questions?

- Senator Chaouch: We're going to post it on Facebook, and twitter account, so we can solicit questions from students.
- Chair Rifken: Is there going to be a moderator?
- Senator Chaouch: I am going to be moderating.
- Senator Neill: Is there anyway there can be a blurb in weekly video encouraging students to ask questions and about elections.
- President Golfarini: Yes.
- Chair Burns: Will the format of the debates be given out?
- Senator Chaouch: For tomorrow it's going to be different. But for the Brennans debates, I think we're having a committee meeting on Sunday, so she'll talk about that there.
- COLA: There is a new city councilor.
 - There will be community coalition on March 16th from 2:30-4pm.
 - She passes around a Neighbor Cleanup sign up sheet after St. Patrick's Day. You get free bagels and beverages.
 - Police Luncheon is tomorrow from 12-1:30 at the Silver Maple Tomorrow.
 - She would love some help setting up.
 - Thanks senators for passing the resolution about level funding
 - There is \$500 grant for students working with a community member. So they are opening up the grant. The application is up already.
 - They are trying to get Miro to come in and speak.
 - Chair Dougherty: Do you know if Ruloff got elected?
 - Chair Rifken: I believe that he was not.
 - Speaker Osef: Have you thought of drafting, congratulatory letter to the mayor-elect from Senate?
 - Chair Rifken: I hadn't thought about that, but that would be nice.
- Academic Affairs Report: Resolution on the academic calendar will be coming up.
 - He hopes to meet with David Shiman about enhanced section descriptions.
 - Online course evaluations have been postponed by the faculty

- Senator Daley and Senator Campbell are working on academic advising
 - Senator Mansfield is still working with the diversity issue.
 - He encourages senators to come to Faculty Senate meetings.
- Student Action: they are tabling tomorrow 9-11am.
 - Kevin is working on microwaves
 - He is looking into ways to revamp the tiksmeoff.
 - He's taking submissions for new names.
 - There have been a lot of tiksmeoffs about the finance committee, but he's sure most of them are due to misunderstandings.
 - There is a cool dining service meeting tomorrow.
 - Senator Daley: When are your committee meetings?
 - Senator Goodnow: They are from Wednesday from 5:30-6:30pm.
- CODEEE: AJ is working on the social justice retreat and international enrollment.
 - Vanessa is working on international day.
 - They are going to an ad-hoc committee about that.
 - There is a university benefits committee, and he will be gathering student input about that.

Senatorial Forum

- Senator Holland: speaks about the Feminist Club and how they are not a militant figure, and how they want to help this campus. They are supportive of Senator Mansfield's diversity project as well as tackling issues such as having gender-neutral bathrooms in some of the buildings.
- Senator Conlon: The L/L mural voting for themes will end on the 16th. He is also looking for artists to paint the mural.
- Senator Osef clarifies that he misunderstood the constitution since there is no part that clearly states how long his speaker position lasts. He ends by stating that he is happy to step down next year if somebody else is interested in the position, but if nobody is interested, then he will gladly continue his role of Speaker.
- Senator Mansfield: Faculty Senate is voting on Online Course Evaluations. She encourages more SGA presence in the Faculty

- Senate, if not for the issue of course evaluations, then at least for their lemon squares. It's the second week of April from 4-5:30pm.
- President Golfarini agrees that there should be more student presence in Faculty Senate, because it did make an impact that he and Senator Devivo were there during one of their meetings. It made them more conscious about how the decisions and the comments they were making.
 - Chair Rifken: Gives Senate a Veterans Update. Senator Sanders is coming up and talking to the Veterans about his experiences. They are working towards getting an office for them, but what she needs is more student support, because she is not too sure about getting an office for the Veterans club.
 - Chair Caster talks about the issue with derecognizing clubs. It's arbitrary to state that Senate did not "want" to derecognize the club, mostly because the process of DE recognition is based purely on procedural grounds.
 - Chair Burns: Since elections are coming up, he thinks that it would be better if they change the "on" and "off" campus label of the SGA to just all students. He thinks that Senate should vote on that soon.
 - Senator Mansfield: D1 and D2, she's trying to figure out how to evaluate those, so if anybody has any ideas, please contact her. She also talks about compostable bags being placed dorms seeing as how there are no composting units available for residence buildings.
 - Senator Etter: Explains his reasoning for doing the informal poll during the DE recognition process in Old Business.
 - Chair Caster expresses his understanding for Senator Etter's intentions behind the informal poll.
 - Senator Campbell: Did the amendment that Senate made on the Constitution take effect?
 - Speaker Osef: Yes, they are in effect.
 - Chair Benner: talks about the political discrimination on campus and states how that is the most common discrimination that is never talked about. And that is what made the DE recognition of College Republicans a more sensitive issue for him.

Senatorial Comments and Announcements

- Senator Keyes: After the Brennans debate, there will be talks about an Exhibition Hockey Team with Alumni at 7:30pm.
- Chair Burns: Mega Shabbat on Friday. There will be a Freedom Seder tomorrow for those interested. LGBTQ award is on May 3rd. Race Gender and Sexuality on Friday. Get in contact with AJ about specifics.
- Senator Mansfield: Tomorrow 2-4pm there's an Energy Efficiency meeting in Atrium.
 - On Thursday, "We the people conference" 7-9pm at Ira Allen Chapel .
- Speaker Osef: Wednesday night Waterman Memorial Lounge 6:30-8:30pm, there is a Women are Watching Panel.
- Senator Mathews: You should register for Dismantling Rape Culture Conference.
- Fashion Award: Senator Mansfield

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