

November 15, 2011

Roll Call

Finance – all present

Student Activities –Senator Bates excused

Student Action- Senator Zhao, Senator Manago, and Senator Kasnetz

Academic Affair – Senator Daley excused

COLA –all present

CODEEEE –Senator Talbot unexcused, Senator AL-Namee excused

Public Relations –all present

Public Forum (02:32:50)

Speaker introduces Kesha Ram:

Good evening everyone. I'm kasha ram. I am your local state representative. I'm sure I know all of you, but I don't have my glasses on so I cannot see your individual faces. But it's nice to see all of you. Before I begin any spiel I have, I really did want to congratulate and thank the COLA committee, and Katie for helping the Veterans Collaborative Organization, for the wonderful, wonderful Veteran's Day Celebration. (Applause). As some of you may know I served in the Legislature and I am clerk of the general housing and military affairs committee, and we have lately been monitoring all of the—our troops coming home from Afghanistan, as well as the National Guards major efforts in Vermont around Hurricane Irene. And they do a tremendous job. And I know that (inaudible) was able to attend the meeting, and I saw some very kind words from him. And I know that that means a lot to me as a graduate of the university. So I'm really, really excited. I was the student body president in 2008. So I sat where these folks are sitting, and you have a lovely new banner. Is that new? (Someone from the executive answers, "yes") okay. You know I really would like to just come back and talk a little bit about what I am doing in the legislature, but also see a few questions about my time here, how you can be effective in the Student Government, as well as any connections you would like to make to state or local issues. I was fairly involved as a student, not only the student government, but I was also in the Mayor's climate commission. I taught preschool. I tried to be involved in the community; I think that's really valuable. And I think that in terms of being a senator, it's really what you make of it. You know, you can pass a lot of resolution, but that might not have as much of an impact as using your role as senator to connect student groups together, to connect to the outside agencies, to connect them to the administration, to set up meetings with administrators, with trustees, with whomever you like and so I really hope that you take advantage of that. Some folks may also know I was recently reelected by the student legislator to the UVM board for a six year term. And I understand the student trustee selection process is on the way. And this is my first time of sort of being on the other side of the protest. I was very active in student labor action project, and student for peace and global justice and things like that when I was a student and now it's really different to be on the other side of the table, of course. I always welcome and love seeing students exercise their interests, and their passions, and opinions about the

university. I will highly encourage you to run for that position as student trustee or encourage those you know that are really maybe in (inaudible) about the direction for the university. The students can make a huge difference. And I think that the trend has been that a lot of business students who are, you know, interested in networking opportunities and that's wonderful, but that should also be balanced out with student who are interested in economic justice, and issues facing other students in terms of tuition, the employees, the faculty, the staff etc. So those are a little bit of my plugs. I guess I would say, as far as priorities, this year, in the legislature, we just had a large briefing on Irene and what the state looks like post Irene. I am on the housing committee, and I think that that is going to be one of our critical areas this year in the legislature. About 1200 homes were damaged beyond repair. 40% of those families were low-income, and almost half were in mobile homes. We have a large mobile home population in the state. And they are going to have a really, really hard time finding other affordable housing. Mobile housing is quite a bit cheaper than the rental market in the state. And we already had quite a bit of a housing crisis in the state already with people trying to find affordable housing. So I have been working on a lot of relative issues. I was once upon a time the only renter in the legislature; I now own a home across the street from campus. But a lot of the issues related to low-income housing are ones that I have sponsored in the past and will hopefully move forward this year because of the critical need for housing. For example fair housing and including low-income housing in protected status so you can't against low-income housing units in your communities. Pushing for the preservation for federally assisted affordable housing, which is under attack right now, at the federal level, and through local folks who want to get out (inaudible). And that would leave a lot of disabled and elderly folks without housing at a time when we already have a lot of homelessness and displacement. Transportation is of course a bit issue with Irene as well as insurance with judicial fixes so that people don't find themselves in the messes dealing with flood-insurance. Is anyone affected by the storm from the community that was affected near Vermont? I think that we also realized that, you know, we also saw a really dramatic weather event in the beginning of the summer for those of you who were here with what happened in Burlington. And Montpelier and other areas where we saw river and lake rise to record levels. So you know Mary Watson who is the dean of the Rubenstein School, just talked to the Fish Wildlife and Water Resource Committee today. She pretty much threw out a staggering statistic that we're probably going to see 61% storms in the state. So our governor, Governor Shumlin, also is one of the only governors who is talking about climate resilience, climate adaptation, as well as simply climate change so in a major way. We're probably going to be looking at flood management and how we create a more resilient and more adapted state into the future, and of course get off of our addiction to fossil fuels, and create a more alternative energy. So that's a little bit about some of our big priorities. Another issue that will affect student particularly is redistricting. Every state in country and congress goes through redistricting every time the census comes out. So all of the lines get redrawn at the state. Even local city council is going to be doing it in Burlington and the federal level. We don't have to worry about that, the federal level, because we only have one congressional district. But

Burlington's demographic line will change. So we will see population shift. We will also be gaining a legislative seat in Burlington, which is very exciting because our population has grown so much. And our district that includes the university has seen the largest growth of any district in the state. About 25%. We will have a new district. I'm really hoping to keep a majority of the campus in the district. Right now, Trinity campus is not and it's in Winooski and. So they vote for the Winooski reps, anyone who lives in Trinity campus. And I'd really like to change that and bring all of Burlington back into voting for Burlington Legislatures, so that's something that I will be working on. Higher education is always an issue, and as some of you may have seen the governor announced a new commission to reinforce partnerships between UVM and the State around job creation, particularly in STEM and entrepreneurs. A lot of us are pushing and saying that UVM does a lot of other great things too, and not just STEM and entrepreneurship. And that includes our education program, teaching teachers, nursing, medical sciences etc. as trustees and legislatures we will be monitoring that, to make sure that, you know, UVM remains viable and valuable for the entire state. So that's a little bit about Montpelier and I'd be happy to take any questions.

Chair Rifken: Thanks so much for coming in. So I had a quick question just kind of about state appropriation for UVM and how you kind of, see that working right now with the legislature and all that?

Kesha Ram: President Brimley himself has said himself that we're not expecting any money and we're not going to be asking for more money this year. You know, while I think that that is unfortunate, and you know I always want to see us invest in higher education, we are in really dire states after Irene. And there is so much homelessness and displacement. We don't see that much in Burlington, although they are sending folks to the Burlington area. But our entire state government complex was also under water. So most state agencies now have to relocate and we have to figure out a plan for financing new facilities for state government, so you know I think that we're still doing a lot better than the other states in terms of maintaining resiliency, and keeping our budgets solid. But that is because we are very fiscally conservative and we don't have a lot of extra money to invest. And my biggest priority for investment would be portable housing this year. So while I try to be one of the biggest advocates for more investment in higher education, I would really like to see us act in this critical time on providing more affordable housing which also affects young people as well, and it's an issue that I hear about a lot from our community.

Senator Osef: Hi Kesha. Thank you for coming in. My question kind of relates a little bit more towards Irene and the affordable housing, and kind of the mess at hand. I know to steal your phrase, (rest of the sentence is inaudible). And I was just wondering how the state's relationship with that is and how much money is proposed to coming and if there is anything that we can do to help?

Kesha Ram: Thanks, that is a great question. FEMA is running out of money; that is very true. But it's more because of congress actions more than anything else. And they still have held up their end of the bargain. Unfortunately, there are two issues that we're facing in the state. The maximum grant you can get, the maximum money to rebuild is \$30,000. That's not very much if you've lost your entire home. Some

people have lost the land under their home. So they are really, having to rebuild their whole lives, and \$30,000 doesn't really feel like a lot to them. A lot of people get far less than that, because that is in different pockets. So you get a certain amount for housing and certain amount to help meet your basic needs. They do try to be as flexible as possible. And that gets to the other issue that we're facing in the state, which is that we're very proud in Vermont. And a lot of people didn't take advantage of FEMA. And I say didn't now, because today was the last day to register. And they knew that there were people out there for FEMA assistance, or small business association assistance, which is a loan to help you rebuild. But they also have grants, and they also have a whole new mortgage into a really low interest loan. But we still have a lot of people who are saying, "I'm okay. I'm with friends and neighbors and I am going to make it." And that's going to become, you know, less and less the case, as we approach winter, and as we come out of winter. And so we're really worried about what's going to happen to some of those precariously housed families as we call it who really want to just make it on their own, but are probably going to be needing our assistance at some point, and we really have to plan for a human resources case reserve so that we have more money for social services, as well as just trying to create as much housing as possible.

Senator Chaouch: Again thank you so much for coming in. My question is more about in Burlington, how we have the occupy Burlington. I'm not sure if you have become aware of the situation that occurred last week. And I was wondering now that New York has kind of taken steps to shut down occupying their streets, as I read in an article this morning, what the legislature kind of going to do about taking action calls.

Kesha Ram: Yeah, I can tell you that I'm pretty sure that all of us, or 99%, as citizens legislatures, we make about \$10,000 a year. So most of us have to have other jobs. So we definitely hear the message loud and clear. I think you see a lot of democratic support in the state for the message. And I was at a regional conference meeting last night where we talked a lot about economic justice. And some of the things that we can do that relates so much to you know, closing that gap, and that gap does really exist in Vermont, and in a big way as well, between folks who are really struggling to get by, and those who have seen actual growth in their income during this recession. And so I have really been pushing with my fellow legislature and the district representative Chris Pierson for increased revenue and for that to come from more people who can afford it. And part of me doesn't even like the whole 99% and 1% thing, because there's a lot of great philanthropist in the state, and there are a lot of people who want to be taxed more, and are just Warren Buffets of the nation, and are coming to us and saying, "I don't pay enough on taxes, and you can do more." And I think that we would have to balance a lot of the interests, but I think that we've been waiting for a rainy day to raise taxes, and we have probably, and hopefully the rainiest day we will have in the next 100 years. And so we're really having to figure out how to make that politically palatable, as well as figure out what the money will be used for. You know, it's one thing to say that we want more taxes, we want it to get to social services etc., and we have a pretty tight budget in the state. So we want to make sure that we're investing properly in health care (inaudible words), the first in the nation. And so we're really looking at how to make

smart investments, but that message really resonates with us. You know, as far as more of the immediate concerns, I work at a domestic violence agency, and I was very concerned that someone had a gun in a tent in the park. And I do really support the action department of the police on enforcement, because I believe that they do a great job, and in many ways they try to be as respectful as possible. Where there were chaotic situations, and where bad things happened and civil rights were violated and they weren't treated with the respect that they should have been. Absolutely, but in general think what we're seeing in Burlington, we're not seeing Oakland, Atlanta, Plymouth, we're not like other places that sees a lot of brutality, that people aren't getting an equal opportunity to talk with the city about how to make it work. And so, I would really like those discussions to continue about how people could continue to demonstrate their free speech, but in a way that's safe for people, and I also feel like our social service agencies didn't do the best job that they can. But we have a lot of people living in the fringe that are attracted to these sites. And the more we can do to provide the social service to get out of their situation or to get mental health care is really important.

Speaker announces Senator Aliza Lederer-Plaskett

Senator Aliza Lederer-Plaskett presents a PowerPoint dedicated to Speaker Monteforte. Email Senator Lederer-Plaskett if you want to view this presentation.

Speaker announces Jon Lott:

Speaker Jon Lott: First thing's first. My resolution is completed. As advised by the executives, the rest of his presentation will be summarized. Jon Lott lists off facts/statistics about the Coca-Cola Industry, such as the Olympics and their various scholarships. He also reads off his written speech. You can email jlott@uvm.edu with any further questions about his petition in keeping Coke on campus.

Aliza Lederer-Plaskett: Hi. Thank you for coming in. I'm just wondering kind of how you justify the fact that since you initially started putting this out here sort of knowing that this body has advocated by in large, the president and the vice president presenting to the Board of Trustees that they wanted not making the contract with coke an exclusive contract, and look at alternative providers. I'm kind of wondering how you justify, starting off, you first started off saying you wanted to bring an initiative and a referendum because it showed that the student body wanted to have coke on campus. But basically what you're saying now is that you can't prove that we don't want coke on campus, you're going to put it through anyways.

Jon Lott: Not true, and let me clarify that. I don't believe that it is impossible, well it is possible, but with my time and schedule and all my other stuff, in a few weeks, I just want the resolution, I would like the senators propose to happen before the winter break, but if that doesn't happen, and if you guys shut it down, that's okay. I will just push ahead with the petition. In the event that UVM decides its beverage contract over winter break, I just don't have the time to show that students support this. So that, I still believe that students want this on campus, and when the

resolution, if it is proposed by a senator, will be backed with all the signatures I have collected thus far, so that it will give you an extra influence and reminder of the students that you are supposed to represent, and their opinions does matter, so if the resolution fails, or is not even brought up at all, I will continue with this petition as long as the new contract has not been signed by them, and if you guys can just, if you did vote it through, that would be great, that would save me a lot of time, so that I could tackle other issues like that stupid Harris Millis Dining Hall backpack policy. Chair Burns: I have two questions. Second one I am going to ask for a follow up for, so that would be great. First of all where do you get your statistics?

Jon Lott: The Cynic, the October 20th 2011 edition and the VSOFTE for all the other facts.

Chair Burns: So there are no local beverage companies that could provide the kind of fountain beverages that we have in the dining halls. So no matter what happens we're always going to have a large beverage on campus, minimum providing the fountain beverages. Given that we will at least have one of those. What actual arguments can you offer to take coke over Pepsi or any other beverage companies besides that in your opinion it tastes better, or in students' opinion, it tastes better, what, like is there any actual arguments that can be made that says that Coke is better than Pepsi?

Jon Lott: Well my argument, more or less, is that students prefer Coke to Pepsi. And right now Coco-Cola is giving a shit ton of money to the University. (Burns interrupts)

Chair Burns: Point of information, that is only in the previous contract, that has not been a part of—Lott interrupts

Jon Lott: You're right, you're right! I suspect that I think that they're probably going to give more because—Burns interrupts

Chair Burns: Quick information. They won't be getting any.

Jon Lott: You know that for sure?

Chair Burns: Yes.

Jon Lott: Well, then that's really bad for the university. Well then I guess we'll just go based on what students want.

Senator Ravech: Hi Jon, I just wanted to point out a couple of things. I don't know who it is that came to me, but I know that it's someone from the administration towards the beginning of the semester who said that Coke is more than likely to stay on campus in a non exclusive contract. Jon Lott interrupts

Jon Lot: In an exclusive contract?

Senator Ravech: In a *non-exclusive* contract with other providers as well. So right now that is what the administration is looking for. Also in your resolution you said that they support athletic programs, however if coke does come back whether or not their contract is exclusive or not they will not be giving any support to athletic programs or giving any of the scholarships.

Jon Lott: Well the first part was that, this is probably going to come back anyways. And to that I pretty much want to say that I don't want to settle for just "probably." If I gave you an 80% chance that you could a bus or a car ride home Thanksgiving Break, would you take that, or would you buy a bus ticket and—(audience breaks out in laughter, speaker calls for order). Even if coco-cola isn't going necessarily, we

can at least sort of honor them, or at least the money they have given, that's great! The Coco-Cola has given over the last couple of years, 4.8 or \$4,000,820,000 to the university, which is something you should consider for their reputation.

Chair Goodnow: Hey Jon. Thank you for coming in this evening. I actually just had a question about the resolution itself that's being passed around. Just, within it, you specifically mentioned I think, in the very last point about bottle beverages, I had had a conversation earlier in the semester about sort of towards coco-cola still, but in more of a fountain oriented think, not just the dining halls but more at like the Marshé and the Market Place. I was wondering if coco-cola specifically being in bottles is an aspect of your interest with its stay on campus, or if moving towards a more reusable style is within your interest?

Jon Lott: I'm glad you asked that. It is worded that way because I do want to keep Coco-Cola and its other beverage products in bottles on campus, and here's why. Because if you want to buy a coco-cola at maybe 2 in the morning, or maybe to have in your fridge, you can't have a cup because as soon as that coke starts falling down, it starts going flat. If you have a bottle of coke, like Chair Caster does, you can reseal it anytime you want, and it pertains carbonation. You can buy if you want three of them, and off campus of course, use them as mixers, or whatever. Basically what it comes down to is flat vs. carbonation. I would not be opposed to having more fountain beverages, but I would be opposed to having less bottles. In regard to carbonated beverages, when it comes to juices and non-carbonated beverages, then that'd be fine.

Speaker announces Senator Connor Daley.

Senator Connor Daley gives a presentation about The Strategic Initiatives Project (SIP) & 2020 Initiative. Email Senator Connor Daley for a copy of the presentation if desired. He will provide a final draft of his proposal to Senate on December 6th, 2011.

Senator Devivo: So I have a question, kind of regarding, how you plan to, I know that I keep saying that STEM is already represented, but I don't want it to get lost in this net. I think there's a lot Stem could do going in the future for UVM, especially for the things that we're already implemented, and especially given the press conference, I believe that it was last Tuesday, given by Governor Shumlin basically saying in a lot more words that STEM is very important for the future for the state of Vermont
Senator Caster point of information: What is STEM?

Senator Devivo: It's Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics. But basically outlining the importance of that in the state of Vermont, and I just want to make sure that that doesn't get lost in there at all. Because I think that it is important for our students out there who are becoming active in the community whether they are here or whether they are graduates. I guess it's not really a question. But I guess how do you plan to implement that?

Senator Caster: Yeah, that's a great question, because I did focus more on the liberal art side in this presentation. But that's not what I meant at all. The first deans I went to were the deans of College of Agriculture and Life Sciences, and of Nursing and Health Sciences, because those really are the solid works of the University. We have

a great liberal art program, but what makes UVM really competitive are those graduate level offerings of agriculture. Because it's a state agricultural college and of engineering and health science, which have a much more rigorous accreditation than CAS does. So what I will be doing with that is, I will be going to the engineering department meeting as also mathematics department meeting, and addressing them and having them distribute physical surveys, in their classes hopefully. Because by no means do I want to belittle STEM because the way I see it is, it's not a balancing act between the liberal arts and STEM, because they do complement each other. Absolutely so.

No Old Business (01:42:22)

No Emergency Business (01:42:20)

New Business (01:42:17)

- Bill recognizing a specific club to be determined as the Club of the Month.
- Waver for endorsing bare-foot on campus

Executive Report (01:41:48)

President Golfarini: The Naked Bike Ride has been cancelled. He gives some facts about why it has been cancelled, referencing President Brimley's letter. He stresses to everyone to make sure that the right information is out there, because his Facebook has been filled with questions and statements about the issue.

- Yesterday, he attended a Board of Trustees meeting where they talked about executive compensation, and the UVM's masters degree program. President Brimley also talked about taking a trip around Vermont for whoever is the new president.
- Talks about how Jane O'Dell winked at him.
- Cynic wrote the SGA a Thank You card about the new computers
- On Thursday he is going to have lunch with some members of the Senate and they're going to be meeting with the colossal general of Israel, who is going to be visiting campus.
- Senator of the Week: Katie Rifken!
- He asks for a round of applause to COLA as a club
- Mustache Movember is still going on.
- He asks senators to let him know about their plans for Thanksgiving.
- Question #1: He asks for people to keep their syllabi.
- Senator DeVivo: Why do we think the Naked Bike Run should be cancelled? Because he thinks that the cancellation is making it more of a dangerous situation for those who choose to participate regardless and there's going to be no supervision or paramedics.
- President Golfarini: When speaking with Tom Gustafson, Tom told President Golfarini that the University is going to claim the space and have an event

where the Naked Bike Ride would be held. When asked what would happen if there are going to be a bunch of people biking naked, Tom said that there would be nothing done. The university simply does not want to be associated with event anymore, so they are just removing the funding, and ultimately leaving it up to the students. There was word of canceling the Naked Bike Ride a couple of years ago, but they were given a second chance. Nevertheless, the incidences have not stopped being reported.

- Senator Lederer-Plaskett: Point of information, there has been decline in the number of incidences. The problem is more so that the incidences have not gone away.
- Senator Devivo: Have they considered using UVM I.D.s?
- President Golfarini: That's what they want to do with the event that they're planning. He suggests that the senate and the students look out for more information that the administrators will send. But as far as President Golfarini is concerned, he feels that they are extremely unprepared for the reactions and the rebuttals from students.
- Chair Caster: What are they going to do with \$30,000 since they do not have to invest it in the Naked Bike Ride?
- President Golfarini: There's talk about a "Campus Hop" with different vendors and food around UHeights.
- Chair Burns: talks about his meeting with Pat Brown who expressed to him that the Naked Bike Ride is not safe. But Chair Burns feels that there's going to be so much more sexual assaults if the event is cancelled. He says that he has never seen students so outraged over a decision that the university has made. He asks the President if there was a lot of student support and SGA support, if he would support continuing the Naked Bike Ride in some way?
- President Golfarini: expresses that he as a president cannot endorse an event where people get sexually assaulted after.
- Senator Burns: points out that the Naked Bike Ride itself was very safe. Just the before and after period where people were drunk and naked and not in the protected area were very dangerous. Now, that is going to happen including the Naked Bike Ride portion of it, is what he is afraid of. The way that it has been going is the safer approach he feels.
- President Golfarini: If the students are going to do partake in the event regardless of the administration, then he would like to see more money be invested in the safety aspect of the event.
- Speaker suggests that since the President doesn't have much information since it was just recently brought up, so any further questions regarding the Naked Bike Ride issue, talk to President Golfarini at a later time.
- Senator Nenopoulos was going to ask him on the president's leadership stance on this issue, but he respectfully disagrees on President Golfarini's views about the situation, and voices that any approach in keeping the Bike Ride on campus should be taken.
- Senator Campbell: points out that the senate is admitting that this highly dangerous activity that they need to protect students from, which seems very strange.

- Chair Benner: What precisely was the sexual assault? Was it rape or was it just like groping?
- A senator voices that it does not make a difference
- Chair Benner: It absolutely does.
- Senator Lederer-Plaskett: The sexual assaults were both aggravated sexual assaults. But there were other reports of incidences like that in addition. So it can sometimes be seen as sexual harassment rather than sexual assault.
- President Golfarini: feels that The Naked Bike Ride in some way is promoting rape culture, but at the same time, he is not pleased with the decision made.
- Senator Matthews pointed out that we had Kake Walk at UVM, so you cannot use tradition as an argument to keep this event.
- Senator Devivo: The point is that the event certainly promotes rape culture. And he is worried that something bad is going to happen somewhere else.
- President Golfarini: shares the same concerns as Senator Devivo, but tells him that the administrators are prepared to deal with the consequences.
- Senator Chaouch: Feels that the event they are going to plan instead is going to be a waste of money, because the people who would normally show up for the naked bike ride, are not going to attend the event replacing it.
- President Golfarini: the space is going to be claimed, and he assures her that there is going to be an event, just not sure what it is quite yet.
- Senator Chaouch: expresses that it makes her very angry that her money is going towards an event that no one is going to show up to.
- Senator Nenopolus: there was no public opinion process, he asks if there was any way that they could ask the students' opinions and present to the administrators all the facts at the same time.
- President Golfarini: The initial reaction is always outrage, but after explaining some of the concerns facing the event, until the meeting, there has been no opposition towards the decision. He thinks after presenting facts, people will be more accepting of the decision.

Vice President Vitagliano

- The job application for the new office coordinator position has been closed. There were a total of 88 applicants for this position. He plans to cut that down to 6 tomorrow. He plans to prepare questions, and hold interviews the Monday or Tuesday after Thanksgiving Break.
- The third information session about the Board of Trustees selection committee will be this Thursday at 7pm, at the Livak Ballroom.
- He had to change the scarf designs but they will be here on time
- Talks about the thefts in the SGA, including the iMac desktop, so if anyone has information about that, please let him know.
- There's a new policy that everyone has to swipe into the office after 4:30pm, to hold people accountable for going into the office.
- There are not going to be any cameras in the office, but the Davis Center is going to be installing a camera in the hallway next to the SGA office, because the camera located in front of the Henderson's café is not going a good job.
- Planned and booked the banquet for the end of the year for April 12th the last meeting of this term from 5-7pm.

- SGA Administration Banquet is on March 27th 5-7pm
- There will be a workshop on Jan 17th with all the committee chairs instead of a meeting.
- There's one off-campus and one on-campus position available.
- A restriction to the Advisory Council is that you cannot be a varsity athlete to avoid conflict of interest.
- He asks Senate to be respectful to those speaking on public forum
- Urge committees to speak with each other before bring up a resolution.
- Pat Burns will not be able to attend this evening due to animal problems.
- Presidential search is down to 10 individuals. Interviews for them will be held by the end of December.
- The first day that they will on campus is on January 28th
- Question #1: He wants to figure out who the next office coordinator will be, since there are so many applications.
- Senator Matthews: Who should we direct people to about positions for the off-campus positions?
- Vice President Vitagliano: The Lynx has the application under the SGA forms section. But he suggests Senator Matthews to direct the people who are interested in the position to him.
- Senator Osef: You said you're going to narrow to search for the new office coordinator to 6 by Monday?
- Vice President Vitagliano: 6 by tomorrow
- Senator Osef: Is there any way Senate members could give their input on the candidates. .
- Vice President Vitagliano: Respectfully no, because it's time-consuming process as it is, and it falls on the Vice President to handle the application process. But President Julian and Treasurer Juairé will be representing Senate as a whole.
- Senator Nenopoulos: Does Blanca have a say?
- VP: yes. Blanca will have a separate interview with the candidate. There are three interviewing steps to go through. One with President Golfarini, Vice President Vitagliano, and finally with Treasurer Juairé, then the second interview with Blanca, and then the last one with Pat Brown.

Speaker Monteforte: Appreciates the presentation from Senator Lederer-Plaskett at Public Forum, and reads a letter to the Senate about his experience as an SGA member and a speaker. He hopes that the Senate continues to be time-efficient and effective in their meetings, and wishes everybody good luck.

Senator Nenopoulos: when will the new speaker be determined?
 Speaker Monteforte: In about six minutes.

Vice President requests a motion to suspend the rules. Approved. (00:54:50)
 Nominations for candidates for the next speaker: Dale Osef, Andrew Dougherty, Haley Wilich, Senator Ravech, Senator Sean Keenan.

Senator Osef: All righty. Good Evening everybody. I, unlike some of the other people who were caught off guard by their nominations tonight, have been thinking about this for a couple of weeks. Okay, so. I have been attending the constitution committee; I have been working with the executives, working with Nick. I have been kind of; he has kind of been my mentor through this process. I believe I can be an effective speaker because I am unbiased, I am committed to the student voice, anyone who knows me knows that week after week I stand up for our audience who didn't get a chance to speak, who didn't get a chance to articulate their views fully. I have, let me see, thoroughly reviewed and annotated the constitution. I have thoroughly reviewed and annotated the au ducts. The au ducts are for two primary reasons. They outline the appointments process, and they outline the, oh I am having a Rick Perry moment here, they outline the elections. I sit on appointments committee, I sit on elections committee; I am familiar with both of those processes. I am familiar with the constitution. I spent this entire weekend that was not devoted to Biology, pouring over Robert's Rules of Order. I am familiar those. And I am fully prepared to be your speaker. I have tentative rules of order that I have developed. My rules of order consist of four pillars of respect. The first pillar of respect is going to come out of the respect for the students. That's why we're all here. That's what Nick just said. That's why we work as a body. That's what we strive to achieve. The second pillar of respect is a respect for yourselves. Come in here, be prompt, be on time, be dressed however you deem appropriately. Know your information before you go into a debate, before you go into whatever else it is that we engage in. The third pillar of respect is respect each other. Please, please, please I will not tolerate anyone constantly arguing or constantly belittling or constantly taking a personal attack on someone else because we all know that nothing gets accomplished. I will gabble you. I will not grant you a follow up. I do not want to see arguments. I do not think that that's efficient or effective. I do plan on preserving Nick's rules of order as far as time limits go for Public Forum: 10 minutes for speakers who let me know 48 hours ahead of time, and 2 minutes for people that are in the audience, or senators, or whomever else without a question period. So that will be maintained. Also, I will be cracking down on attendance, if I am elected your speaker because I have gotten several complaints from chairs, who have been speaking to me about lack of attendance at committee meetings, as well as lack of attendance at senate and whatever else. And for me a lack of attendance is a lack of enthusiasm, and a lack of interest. I don't believe that you're fully invested in Senate, and/or fully present at a Senate meeting, unless you're here from beginning to end. So, an unexcused absence at the beginning is half an unexcused absence toward a full-unexcused absence. And a full-unexcused absence at the end is half an unexcused absence towards your full tally of unexcused absence. You're going to be allotted 3 unexcused absences, and then you'll have a conversation with me about how to precede from there. So, yeah, that's basically my plan to run Senate. I also want to hold a speaker's forum. I want to be able to kind of engage everybody in the constitution. I have been going to constitution meetings. They're awesome. They're great. They're a lot of fun. I really want to engage all of you. I really want you all to be a part of this process. I want you to feel comfortable coming to me. I have a personal relationship with almost all of you. I love you all so much. I mean I'm not trying to butter you up, but you know

how I feel, and you can come to talk to me. We'll get things accomplished together. I want to have a big forum, open forum in the constitution. I want you to understand it. I want you to understand what works. I want you to understand what you want to change. And together we can make this work. Together, we can do exactly what Nick just said standing up here. We can move forward, and be the most efficient governing body that ever was at this university. I feel confident as your next speaker as I can be the stalwart of those principles and that I can execute them properly. Thank you very much!

Chair Denton: I am just wondering, do you have any previous experience in a position like this? I mean it sort of sounds like you already planned on what to do with the position. But, do you have any experience in a position like this where making those decisions sort of on the spot that could sometimes be unpopular?

Senator Osef: Yes, I have, and I am not afraid of that. I was the president of my high-school class four years in a row, so I made plenty of decisions that were unpopular. My class was 98 kids, and say 90 of them wanted something, and 8 of them didn't. If that decision falls on me, and I'm the one who has to make it, and I'm the one who has to sign off on that, of course it's an uncomfortable situation but it's something that I have out of respect for myself and out of respect for my peers, enough comfort in the fact that I can handle that appropriately, and that I can hear both sides before I come to any decision. And if my decision does not please everybody, then I will be compelled to move forward in a respectful and happy manner with those who (inaudible)

All the rest of the nominees refused their nominations, because they felt that Senator Osef would be more suited for the role of the speaker.

Senate goes into executive session.

Dale Osef takes oath of the new speaker

Rules are reinstated.

Committee Reports (00:43:11)

Finance Committee: They only had 1 supplemental today.

Student Activities Committee: The chair is going to email out his report.

COLA: Congratulates the new Speaker for his new position.

- 18+ nights → they're still waiting to hear back from that
- The chair shows pictures from Veterans Day 11/11/11 and the 6,313 flags that were displayed for anyone who died in combat. Gives thanks to all those who participated in making the event possible.
- Senator Daley commends Katie for the ceremony and asks for a round of applause for her.
- Chair Goodnow: What happens to all the flags?
Chair Rifken: they are going to be stored in the basement, and used for other occasions.

(Ad hoc) Comprehensive Campaign Report: Tomorrow night at Spruce Room at 6-8pm. Senator Daley wanted to bring to the Senate an idea called "Teach for

Vermont," which works with refugees, and work with other parts of the University of Vermont like the College of Arts and Sciences and Nursing and Sociology majors and integrating them with the State as a whole.

Senator Nenopoulos: Is there a way to get credit where you can take your classroom time and substitute it with that work.

A senator points out they might be eligible for a service learning credit.

Academic Affair: There's going to be with the Committee on Research and Technology with the faculty senate to talk about publishable course evaluation

Katherine will continue to have a meeting with Brian Reed to evaluate whether or not the diversity requirement is working or not.

Suggest for senators to keep your syllabi to survey which classes have not had an enhanced course section description.

Senator Chaouch: points out that not most Romantic Language don't have enhanced course description.

CODEEE

- Jess Kraus followed up on his email from Senator Burns.
- Cigarette Butt updates will be coming up soon
- EcoReps are going to gather butts outside of residence halls.
- Naked bike ride: had a meeting with Pat Brown. He questioned the short term affects in his meeting with Pat Brown, and his response was, "Well, I guess we're just going to have to wait and see." An answer that surprised Senator Burns the most. He is going to spend almost all of his efforts working for the safety of the students in this issue.

Student Action: Senator Manago is working with cigarette butts specifically around the library.

- Senator Ravech is working on the water bottles.
- They're making progress with the printers on Trinity campus.
- The chair and senator Manago with passionate group of individuals about the direction of Sodexo.
- Senator Mansfield: Is the Sodexo work regarding localvore issues as well or just the general infrastructure of Sodexo?
 - Senator Goodnow: Yes. The student group had not organized thoughts yet. Interpreting their thoughts would be a part of it.

Public Relations Report: He's going to email out most of his reports.

- There are still more T-shirts
- They are going to be talking with Academic Affairs about working on next VSOP

Senatorial Forum (00:21:30)

Senator Aliza Lederer-Plaskett: Reads the Naked Bike Ride email from her freshman year. She says that assaults have happened in past years. The only difference is that last year two women reported it to the Burlington Police. She believes that the

reason why the university is acting now is because it reflects upon the university. She thinks it's ridiculous removing the Naked Bike Ride from the university, because people are going to partake in the activity anyways, and not taking responsibility does not mean it is going to be taken away from the reputation of the university. She feels that it is inevitable and it will be more dangerous if there is no supervision for the event.

Senator DeVivo: feels that whether or not the Naked Bike Ride happens, then it is their job as student leaders to educate students, specifically women, about the dangers of participating in this event. Feels that education for awareness has been lacking/non-existent through the history of UVM.

Senator Ravech: This past Thursday, EcoWear had about 3000 meals sold. They are looking into further extension program, but so far, there have been over 5000 EcoWear meals sold over the last year.

President Golfarini wishes the minute-taker a Happy 19th Birthday!

Senator O'Neal commends Public Relations for their work.

Senator Devivo educate the public about what the deal is with the budget, because there's a complete miscommunication from the public about the Board of Trustees.

Senator Lederer-Plaskett: 2nd annual month of service great of service in March/April of Spring semester. She is going to find out about what's going to happen with the mayoral debates tomorrow.

Speaker Osef appreciates Senate for electing him as a speaker.

Chair Rifken: feels that students should be aware of the financial aspect of Naked Bike Run.

President Golfarini: It's \$2500 each semester for the Naked Bike Ride.

Senator Wilich: didn't get that great of a response from the three schedulers.

Nevertheless, she heard back from the third one today, and thus she is able to go through the proper channels.

Senatorial Comments and Announcements (00:09:10)

- Chair Burns: Leadership and Civil Engagement and ALANA is holding a bias workshop Thursday Nov. 17th at 6pm.
- Senator Lederer-Plaskett: Raise money for an actual Relay for Life Team. The title is called "Team Impeach Cancer." Wants for everyone to fundraise \$50.
- Senator Daley: gives fashion award
- Senator DeVivo: Feb 24th + 25th his fraternity is going to be sleeping in the front lawn for fundraising.
- Senator Lederer-Plaskett: Are you going to invite the Lang House?
 - Senator Devivo: Yes, that issue has been addressed, and they will be invited
- Chair Rifken: A last off-campus living workshop is tomorrow night.
- Senator Siebert: Anyone traveling to coastal Maine, I would love a seat in a car.

Senator Daley: Congratulates Dale Osef on his new position of the new speaker.

Roll Call (00:01:10)

Finance – all present

Student Activities – Senator Bates excused

Student Action – Senator Zhao, Senator Manago, Senator Matthews, Senator Kasnetz
excused

Academic Affair – Chair Caster excused

COLA – all present

CODEEE – Senator Yuan and Al-Namee excused, Senator Talbot unexcused

Public Relations – Senator Kaufman excused.

(7pm-9:20pm)