

**Date: April 9, 2013**

**Session Opening:** Start time 7:00pm; start time with recorder (00:02)

## **ROLL CALL**

Finance – All present

PR - All present

SAC - All present

COLA - All present

AA - All present

SA – Chair Conlon excused

CODEEE - All present

**APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES-** April 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2013 minutes approved

## **PUBLIC FORUM**

Gail Champnois: Thank you and congratulations to everybody for all of the work you do for the university. For any of you leaving thank you for your service, for those of you staying or are newly elected thank you for your service. I'm with the office of student and community relations and we are an office of three people so we don't really get anything done without many many volunteers. Many of you have done our neighborhood cleanups, we do welcome backs in the fall greeting new students into the neighborhoods, so without your support and your help there is not much we can accomplish and to let you know that we thank the students in the community and all the good work that you do. Our office has an off campus life newsletter. We have about 90 people from the Mayor's office, city council, and neighbors all on that so they can see the work that you are doing, and we also have meetings to make sure that students are on the forefront. So tonight is a night of thank you from our office, and first we would like to thank the committee of legislative action. In particular I do want to thank Jordan who's the co-chair of our community coalition. Jordan just won an award that she will be receiving on Friday for the Vermont campus contact for student engagement, so congratulations. She has done the job of arranging all the neighborhood cleanups and also working on the online tutorial, and thanks to all the members of the coalition. And thank you to Lake Champlain Chocolates who has been a phenomenal help to our office. My other thank you is to Connor and Samantha for being such fabulous leaders in the community, for all of your hard work I really appreciate it and you can share these with the new members in the second go around if you so choose. These are for everybody else so you can pass these around on the back it tells you what they are. This is our have a heart to heart, done by local kids asking you to please remember that they are in the community and that late night activity really does disturb them, but that they are also excited and love being around UVM students, they bring a lot of vitality to their lives. Thank you again, I know we have a big clean up on April 21<sup>st</sup> and that's being planned by Tom Bennet and also Maha has been involved in doing some upcoming cleanups and you will probably see us around. If you are moving out of town we will have a public safety table down at the Davis Center next week so you can get lots of information about how to move out successfully and I know if you have lots of questions about moving out, about conflicts with neighbors, landlords, or if you just want to get involved with the community please let me know. Thanks very much.

Speaker Ducharme: Any questions for Gail? Comments?

Senator Redell: Hi Gail, I just wanted to thank you again for all of the support you do for our committee and for student government and thank you so much for all of your support to me in this past semester it has been

really awesome to work with you, so thank you.

Speaker Ducharme: Would anyone else like to speak on Public forum for 5 minutes? Nick Monteforte.

Nick Monteforte: Hi I'm Nick Monteforte, if you don't know me that's okay but I just wanted to come up here and use Mitchell Snowe's excellent typing skills and I wanted to congratulate my amazing senior friends on SGA, Andrew Dougherty, Chris Jaurie, Samantha Holland and little Adam over there. Just wanted to thank them for all of their work on SGA, I'm so proud of them for being on senate when they are seniors and things are tough and there is a lot of stuff going on. I want to say thank you and congratulations to all.

Speaker Ducharme: Would anyone else like to speak on Public forum for 5 minutes? Seeing none we will move on into old business.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

### **Advocates For Exceptional Children Today (AFECT)**

Presented by Shelby Sprung

Mission is to identify children and families in the Burlington area that require assistance and provide them with anything they need. We meet once a week and plan activities to do with residing at the homeless shelter in Burlington. The children love it, and the parents do as well because it gives them 2 hours of child care, so they can have time to themselves which they don't get very often. This month is autism awareness month so we will be around campus this month handing out stickers and lollipops to spread awareness. We will also be participating in relay for life next weekend; we have already raised over two thousand dollars. We are also working with think college to spread the word to end the word, a campaign to end the use of the word "retard". Would like to be recognized because he resources SGA could give us would allow us to perform much more work in the community and get many things done.

Speaker Ducharme: This is a bill recognizing club AFECT as a new program under Volunteers In Action. Does anyone have any questions for Chair Keyes or for club AFECT? Seeing none the bill is automatically called into question.

Bill called into questions and passes.

### **Conflict of Interests Constitutional Amendment**

Our goal is to make the constitution smaller and more useable. This conflict of interest section hasn't been used in the past three years. Nowhere in the US constitution, which is what ours is based after, is there a mention of conflict of interest. By eliminating this section from the constitution we can make our constitution more easily understood.

Speaker Ducharme: We will not open the floor for questions starting with Senator Redell.

Senator Redell: Are you suggesting that senators continue to practice conflict of interest but have it within a system of policing ourselves instead of having it in the constitution? Or are you suggesting that conflict of interest shouldn't exist at all and that people should be able to vote on a bill even if they have a conflict of interest.

Christian Matthews: Even when there is a monetary decision involved our constitution says you have to abstain from the vote. I just think that we are all old enough to make the decision for ourselves.

Senator Mustafeyev: At my old university we had the same section about conflict of interest. If we can't enforce the rule it doesn't mean we have to remove it so why do you think we have to remove it?

Christian Matthews: It would be great if we enforced the whole constitution but that's not what happens. Like I've said it really is unnecessary, we are not using it and it is outdated.

Speaker Ducharme: Are there any more questions for Christian? Seeing none the amendment is automatically called into question.

Amendment called into questions and passes.

### **Bill Approving the 2013-2014 SGA Budget**

Presented by Andrew Dougherty

The SGA finance committee in conjunction with the finance office has worked hard in allocating funds fairly for the next physical year. Funds have been allocated to all SGA clubs within the budget. The SGA senate hereby approves the budget for the 2013-2014 physical year.

Speaker Ducharme: Questions or comments about the bill? Chair Redell?

Chair Redell: Did you use affirmative action process when creating the budget?

Chair Dougherty: One of the things we noticed is there has been a huge discrepancy in terms of men's and women's athletic clubs. We have worked to balance this out over the past few years.

Speaker Ducharme: Further questions or comments? Chair Redell?

Chair Redell: How much money was allocated in the budget last year?

Chair Dougherty: I think it was 1.243 million dollars.

Speaker Ducharme: Further questions or comments? Seeing none the bill is automatically called into question.

Bill called into question and passes.

### **EXECUTIVE REPORTS**

Speaker Ducharme – I have had an excellent time being your speaker. It was an unexpected role but I really enjoyed it. Thank you for your support. All of you who are not returning I wish you the best in your future endeavors. All of you who are returning I will see you next week.

VP Holland – This year has gone by so fast and I have enjoyed every day of it. Coming into college I did not think I would take on this role but I have really enjoyed it and found it to be a great experience. I really appreciate all of the work and support you guys have put into SGA, I couldn't have asked for a better group. I have a lot of confidence in my replacement Jack Birmingham and I know you guys will continue to do great work next year. I wish you the best in your studies and your career here in SGA. Thank you.

President Daley – This past week I had meetings with university colleagues and others. I wanted to say how much I appreciate this body particularly in front of the new senators. I appreciate everything you've done whether you've only been on the body this year or for three or four years. I am really looking forward to next year. I want to say that this year has been so much fun and very constructive. Sam has been my guiding light, my inspiration and she has kept me in control. One of the questions that Sam asked me was "Do you like me? Are we friends?" She will be a part of my wedding, whether or not she will be wearing a white dress I don't know. You are all senators of the year. Thank you very much.

Treasurer Juarie: Thank you for the opportunity to serve at this position for two years. It has done a lot to transform my time at UVM. I had a grad school interview last week and I was finally told I need to stop talking about all of the good things I had to say about this senate. Thank you all so much for everything.

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

FINANCE – I want to thank Chris for his two years as his treasurer position. I want to thank my committee, these guys make everything happen. I think they deserve a round of applause. There were some awards I didn't get to give at our dinner. Jordan thank you so much you make exec so much more fun at 7 in the morning. Thank you so much; it has been a great three years.

PR – I would like to thank Conner, Sam and Chris. I want to thank everyone for their help with tabling every week we really appreciate it. I would like to thank my committee particularly Knight and Sam, but Jackson has also been a great help.

SAC – Thank you to everybody who has made this an experience. It has been frustrating at times, but overall it has been really great. Thank to all the senators, particularly with the rate of turnover we have had this year. Thank you to everyone who has come to join us and sought out student activities.

COLA – Hello everybody. Please come and join our neighborhood clean up on April 21<sup>st</sup>. Community coalition is on Friday, if you are interested in that it is at Gail's office on Pearl Street. I would like to thank my committee for being so dedicated. Thank you for all of your hard work and thank you to everyone else for being my friend.

AA – We had another great week in AA per usual. This next week we have a meeting about books on reserve for a pilot D1/D2 program. It's always tough when there is a change of who's in charge; it was nice that it went so smoothly since I came in halfway. I just wanted to say that I've had a really great semester so thank you.

SA – (Message from absent Chair Colon read to senate) Hey everyone, wish I could be there celebrating with everyone. Thank you to my committee as we got a lot done this year. Thank you to everyone for assisting in the launch of the UVM voice system. Whether or not senate is in your future for next year I wish you the best of luck.

CODEEE – Thank you so much for a great year. I was fortunate enough to be a senator on this committee as a first year student. I think we really changed CODEEE a lot; we did about 8 projects this year and have a lot planned for next year. I was fortunate enough to work with a group of people who were really ambitious and dedicated. I want to thank everyone on the committee who supported me. I want to thank the seniors who are moving on and not supporting us next semester.

## **SENATORIAL FORUM**

Speaker Ducharme: Would anyone like to speak on senatorial forum? Senator Martinez?

Senator Martinez: After the first executive report we did not clap for Knight and he gave a great speech so I just wanted to give him a round of applause.

Speaker Ducharme: Thank you senator Martinez, thank you everyone

Speaker Ducharme: Would anyone else like to speak on senatorial forum? Seeing none we will move on to senatorial announcements.

## **SENATORIAL COMMENTS/ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Senator Cantell: I would like to thank you all for a great year. And with that I would like to swear in our new senatorial body.

Speaker Ducharme: If you will be part of next year's senate please join me at the center of the room. If you are a new senator or will be returning to the senate next year please raise your right hand a repeat after me.

Senatorial oath is performed.

## **FINAL ROLL CALL**

Finance – All Present

PR - All Present

SAC - All Present

COLA - All Present

AA - All Present

SA – Chair Conlon excused

CODEEEE - All Present

Speaker Ducharme: There is a motion to dissolve the 2012-2013 body and it has been seconded. All in favor? All opposed? Congratulations the 2012-2013 body has been dissolved.