

Tuesday, September 11th, 2012

FIFTH MEETING OF THE 2012-2013 SENATE

Roll Call 7:36pm

Finance- Senator Attleman unexcused, Senator Carrera excused.

Public Relations- All present

Student Activities- Chair Keyes excused, Senator Heffrin unexcused,

COLA-

Academic Affairs- Senator Garau unexcused

Student Action- All present

CODEEEE- Senator Crane unexcused

Rules are suspended to swear in new senators.

Public Forum (0:3:28)

Thomas Sullivan- So your officers invited me to come by and reach you, but I'd like to spend time to talk to you all about what you'd like to talk about. I've been here about eight weeks, so, a lot of the upper-class students have been here a lot longer and have experienced much more than I on campus. I have a lot to learn as well. I would like to take any questions that you all may have.

Senator Attlemen- Hi, my name's Alex Attleman, I'm a Senior. I'm pretty interested in working with Connor regarding veteran affairs. I know that the University of Minnesota had a pretty great program, could you elaborate on what they had that made veteran affairs so great? What resources do you think that UVM needs in order to mirror the progress in veteran relations?

Thomas Sullivan- It's a great question, and I apologize for not knowing exactly what we have in support of veterans. At Minnesota we had a special admissions policy, academic and career services center geared towards veterans. We were benefitted from that because of a federal grant that we received.

Senator Cantell- What's on your agenda for changes of the University.

Thomas Sullivan- First thing, our responsibility to financial access of the university. What is that tuition point, so that student don't have to have the anxiety of taking out loans to attend our university. I think our university has done a great job. 100,000,000 towards scholarship. 41 million comes from the State of Vermont, 1/2 going to Vermont students, 1/4 going to agriculture school, and 1/4 to the medical school. 45% of Vermont students attend this university for free. Affordability and financial aid is my top priority. My second priority is how can we lift the university up in terms of quality and excellence. UVM will/is a premier public research university, though small in size.

The way we can protect these two policy goals- by identifying .. Probably half of my time will be spent off-campus raising money for the University. The value of your degree is directly dependent to the reputation of the University, and you will have this degree for the rest of your lives.

Senator Redell- In the past couple of weeks, UVM students have been the victims of a number of attacks happening downtown and on-campus. How can we make sure that this is a safe campus and that students are not victims of crime on campus.

Thomas Sullivan- The safety of our students is of the uttermost importance. How can we make sure that our students will be safe? Violent crimes tend to be random, generally these are not strategic. When it's not a predictable place. And hopefully deterrence- I'd like to encourage you to take a friend or a buddy- particularly late at night. Meanwhile we trying to do everything we can.

Senator Lott- I have two questions- University staff is voting to unionize and Naked Bike Ride.

Thomas Sullivan- I'm not really sure what the Naked Bike Ride is, per se, however I can imagine what exactly it implies. In regards to the staff voting to unionize, I believe it is next friday, where the staff will have a chance to vote. I understand that the University is neutral on that. The University wants everyone involved to get as much information as possible and to encourage everyone to vote how they would vote.

Senator Kasnetz- Where do you see student enrollment heading?

Thomas Sullivan- My predecessor increased enrollment by 1,500. We also suffered through a financial crisis- not allowing the university to hire faculty to accommodate the increase in enrollment. The actual number of students- we're still modeling that from a number. My impression is that our graduate school is a bit undersized to be considered the renowned public research university. We've asked the Dean of the graduate school to look at the malnormality. What's the average size of a class at UVM: 31.

Chair Paterkiewics- You mentioned new academic investments, and I was wondering how you plan on approaching SIP and SPIRES.

Thomas Sullivan- We live in a complex world where there are many complex systems. This is a university in a state where agriculture is very important to the economy of the state in which it is in. How do we sustain the environment so that we can have healthy food, healthy lives. preeminent to the environment- something in the humanities. I want to make sure that our liberal eduction is the most important. nature, science and meaning.

Senator Mathews- Comprehensive Capitol Campaign- Could you tell us more about that?

Thomas Sullivan- Your 4 years here should be well balanced. We have one of the most beautiful campuses in the country- deferred maintenance. We simply have to have first grade facilities. Renewal of the physical plant that we have here right now.

Senator Kazinsky- What are your plans for making the campus more environmentally friendly?

Thomas Sullivan- I'm an environmentalist- for every tree cut down- I want two planted. there will be many more plants and shrubs making our campus even more beautiful.

Senator Kasnetz- Brief thoughts on the housing situation?

Thomas Sullivan- 60% of our students live on campus- very high. I hope that we can promote all of you to live very near- but off campus. The more student that live near campus the more involved they will be. It is in our interest to have student near campus. It is unlikely that we will require upperclassmen to live on campus- despite the wishes of City Council. Resident halls are very expensive. There are a few residential halls that are a little iffy- I'd like to remodel those and maybe even tear those down to build new buildings. How do we encourage you to do it, while still allowing you to have a choice.

Chair Alnamee- How do you think we will increase diversity on campus.

Thomas Sullivan- We have a very low international student enrollment. Vermont is a state lacking diversity. I appreciate the opportunity and look forward to working with you all. How do we increase the total student experience here at the University of Vermont.

Vote to reinstate the rules.

Old Business

None

Emergency Business

None

New Business

Bill allocating funds to club shooting sports

Bill allocating funds to UVM TV

Executive Reports (8:20pm)

Speaker Osef- Thank you very much for suspending the rules, and allowing respectful yet casual conversation with president Sullivan. Our friend note taker Siebert has asked me to remind you all to project your voice. New attendance policy, Table cloth is a mess- please remember to take care of it. Name cards will be here by next week's meeting. Letter regarding student safety- From Suzanne Friedman. There is a police non emergency number that you may call.

VP Holland- Retreat is over- was very successful- for those who didn't attend, I will be sending you all info. Appointments are coming up. I need one person from every committee so that I can hold the appointment meetings. Chairs, please talk to your committees. I'm still looking for one more senator to join board of trustees. I need two more students to sit on Davis advisory committee. If you have any interest- let me know!

President Daley- Meetings with University colleagues, Thank you all very much for attending the retreat, and thank Sam for such an awesome time. Under budget by 1,000. By the end of next week there will be a list of positions. Last night spoke at faculty senate. Faculty senate is very important as they control all academic calendar decisions. Working forward to make sure students have a voice in fundraising campaigns- mainly ideas (travel, research, study grants) The cabinet idea is supposed to outline my priorities- but also to make sure the senate has as much creative opportunities as possible. In the meantime, please advertise appointments- please get in touch with. Question #1- Helping VP Holland with appointments.

-Senator Mathews- What can we do regarding library capacity?

Last year architects came in to increase the function-ability of Bailey Howe- said architects drafted a feasibility plan. Creating a library advisory committee within faculty senate. Bailey-Howe is going to need a lot of remodeling. Library should be top-priority. If needed, I will create an ADHOC committee.

Committee Reports

Finance- 7 supplementals, two of which more than 1,000.

Public Relations- Sent out e-mail experimenting with time of day that the e-mail is sent out.

Student Activities- Finalizing liaison report form on the lynx. Starting the recognition packets for clubs. September 29th will be the workshop for club presidents

COLA- working through a lot, Voter registration and absentee ballots, as well as veterans day.

Academic Affairs- Education research, curricular affairs committee. Meeting with Provost Knodell on thursday, so if there is anything that you all would like me to bring to her let me know. Assessing the ability of studio art classes for non-majors.

Student Action- Re-do tix me off name- please send suggestions. Davis center worried about microwave getting stolen. L/L Mural will be moving along. The final 5 will hopefully be ready for viewing by next week.

CODEEE- Great first meeting at retreat. Looking into tabling.

Senatorial Forum

Senator Attlemen: Veteran affairs- immediate plan is to present more information to university officials regarding veteran relations. UVM does not accept grants from the GI bill. A suggestion- could we have a senate directory?

Senator Attlemen- there is no point of contact in student life, admissions, specifically for veterans. The resolution that was passed at the end of last semester. this is at a stand-still.

Chair Keyes- VCO

Senator Mathews- The word diversity does not mean racial diversity. To say our university is not very diverse, it ridiculous. Student climate survey- Experience bias 52%

Senatorial Comments and Announcements 9:04

Speaker Osef- thinking of having a potluck at some point in November.

Senator Iseah:

VP Holland: creating a directory of past SGA Presidents, VPs, and treasurers.

Roll Call

Finance- All present

Public Relations- All present

Student Activities- all present

COLA- Senator Goodrich excused.

Academic Affairs-All present

Student Action-All present

CODEEE- Senator Crane unexcused.