

Tuesday, October 23rd, 2012

ELEVENTH MEETING OF THE 2012-2013 SENATE

Roll Call (0:00:00) 7:00pm

Finance- Senator McDonald Excused

Public Relations- All present

Student Activities- Senator Kelley excused

COLA- All present

Academic Affairs-Senator Garau unexcused

Student Action- Senator Kazinsky excused

CODEEE- Senator Macias excused

--Approval of the Minutes from October 16th, 2012-- Approved

Public Forum

Patrick Brown- I would like to thank you for this opportunity to come to speak to a group of exceptional students. I have been here in Burlington since 1998, and I wear many hats in the community. So, for many years I have engaged students on a number of issues, issues that are pertinent to you all as students. My main objective has been the issue of the lack of diversity in Burlington and on campus. So, I know the issues that are of interest to you. One of my pet peeves is tuition. I do have some inside connections regarding this issue, and I know what is going on here. Before I go on, I must take the opportunity at this time to acknowledge the work of a man who shares my name, Dr. Patrick Brown. I refer to him as the other Patrick Brown, and he has been a father and a guide to many of you sitting in this room today. So, I encourage you who are seniors to send your first paycheck to Dr. Brown. My main reason for being here, very boldly and courageously I have stepped forward to run for Vermont State Senate. I already consider it a win, since it has been a tremendous experience for me. I'm running because of my extensive involvement with community projects involving the city. In fact, this afternoon, I spent on an interviewing panel for the city of Burlington, and one of the candidates is a graduate of UVM. One of the issues that I will be addressing will be tuition. Student often have to take on 2 or 3 jobs just to make ends meet. The University is going to ask: Where is this money going to come from? One of the ways that this university can help to support the tuition is trim some of the other expenses: number of VP's, lowering salaries. There are different ways that expenses can be cut. The idea is this: Whatever tuition you start at, that's your tuition throughout all four years. That's all the time I'd like to take, and thank you very much for your time.

Chair Dougherty- How will you specifically lower tuition? Will you be appointed to the budget committee?

Mr. Brown- The question isn't about lowering tuition, but keeping it stable for all 4 years of attendance.

Chair Dougherty- How can we as voters see that you keep your promise?

Mr. Brown- I have witnessed students having to put off their education because of the ever-increasing price, many students have to maintain 2 or 4 jobs. I will use my experience a knowledge of this matter to achieve my goals.

Senator Lott- What are your thoughts on Vermont Yankee?

Mr. Brown- Yes, Vermont Yankee. A huge negative impact on the environment, I've never personally went down to protest at the facility. Unless we can find a alternative source, which I will work towards, I'm not sure where we will go from here.

Senator Edelman- You had mentioned a problem of faculty members being over paid for their positions, correct?

Mr. Brown- No, I said administrators. Administrators are over-paid, faculty members aren't paid enough.

Chair Dougherty- Do you know what the pay raise from the period of 2008 to 2011 for the UVM faculty?

Mr. Brown- I think it was 3%.

Chair Redell- Do you know how UVM's faculty salaries compare to other universities of the same size?

Mr. Brown- I'm sure Yale and Harvard and all of these places the president makes much more than here at UVM.

Chair Dougherty- I think you missed the point of what Chair Redell was making, comparing university of similar size and reputation.

Mr. Brown- I know in a lot of Universities, that do pay much higher salaries. When Fogel started to raise salaries, he wanted to attract a more competitive market of applicants.

Old Business

Bill Recognizing Allocating Funds to UVM Crew Team- Bill Passes

Emergency Business

Bill appointing Elliot Asher to the SGA -- Passes

Bill appointing Jessica Riley to the SGA -- Passes

Elliot Asher and Jessica Riley are sworn into the senate body

Elliot Asher is appointed onto the Finance Committee

Jessica Riley is appointed onto COLA

New Business

Bill Sanctioning Cycling Club

Executive Reports

Speaker Ducharme- I sent you all an e-mail right before the meeting started. I want to get some ideas from the senate regarding what people want to change to the constitution. I just want

to collect as many ideas as possible. Like I said, the only body that may amend the constitution is the constitution committee.

Senator Goodrich- Do you feel that it's necessary to change the constitution?

Speaker Ducharme- I am open to any changes that people may want to make.

Chair Conlon- Wouldn't have Jon been able to make his point on the previous bill?

Speaker Ducharme- Uh, I asked for questions regarding the bill.

Chair Conlon- I think the normal protocol is that comments and/or questions would be allowed.

Speaker Ducharme- I may have made a error.

President Daley- Point of procedure: The Speaker may deny anybody the floor that he wants.

Senator Edelman- Do you think that senators ought to be able to propose changes to the constitution, or just members of the constitution committee; and if the latter, what is the logic behind allowing only members on the constitutional committee to make changes?

Speaker Ducharme- When I think of proposing changes to the constitution, I think of concerned students coming to suggest ideas to.

Senator Edelman- Is there an advantage to having only members of this committee presenting changes to the constitution?

Speaker Ducharme- This is something that could be amended, that could be changed. I'd say that there is a unique advantage in being on the constitution committee.

President Daley- Last week I had meeting with University colleagues and others. Welcome to new senators. Board of Trustees student application will be available Thursday morning, first info session will be on November 1st, 7pm in 326 Jeffords. Pat Brown will be the first speaker at the info session. Last year during the SIP, a plan by the provost to identify a certain amount of money, and to better identify for the University spends its money strategically. One of the suggestions is an administrative review program- mainly looking into degree programs, are faculty producing enough research? We don't know how efficiently the office of provost or office president is working. I was solicited for 2 nominees, from that group of two the provost will choose one. They won't be reinventing the wheel, plenty of universities to look to for ideas. I'm in the office all day tomorrow, so please come see me. Richard Kate (VP of finance for UVM) will be coming in to tell about text book buying program. Student would be paying a certain fee and you would get your books from the university. Same concept of high school, he will be coming in soon to talk to you all. The executive committee will be in 7pm on Sunday, thank you for those who sent comments about my cabinet proposal, I will be sending out an email. Senator of the Week is Senator Hildinger. I believe there are right now 5 or 6 positions on the cabinet, they are completely unfilled, the mechanism for choosing them had not been flushed out. I have most likely filled the cabinet secretary position by Margaret Love. All positions are open on the cabinet.

Vice President Holland- We still have two open spots, one on Finance and one on COLA. One is an off campus position and the other is for an on campus student. I know of a few people who will be leaving for studying abroad. I am anticipating a mid-year election and I really want this election to be more publicized and this year I want to make everyone aware of that. First year student advisory board is Thursday: hour long meeting somewhere in between 1-3pm.

Please let me know if you are interested. Give aways at games- draw string bags, green bad with gold string with seal. working on pinnies for next year. I want senate to be involved with what the pinnies look like. We'd like to do an anniversary event, maybe with some funds that have been set aside.

Senator Lot- How much money did you say you have set aside?

VP Holland- I underspent for the retreat by about \$1,000.

Committee Reports

Finance- Thanks for passing crew. We will be having another big capital fund (+80,000). We had supplementals this week.

Public Relations- This week our big focus was how to get UVM Voice out there. Chair Conlon and I met with the PR.. holding off to launch it until the second week of spring semester. We're working on VSOP. Tix-me-off will not be continued in the interim. VSOP will be sent out before thanksgiving break. Please note that the VSOP has no set time when it should be sent out, other than at some point during each semester.

Student Activities- I did meet with cycling, we came to an agreement- educational sanctions, volunteer project. CSES has decided not to pursue anything because this is the direction that we are proceeding with. After next week's sanction, this will be the end of all this drama. For clubs it is our responsibility to sanction Cycling, the sanctions were their idea, the co-presidents brought these ups, Leon and I agreed that they are appropriate. If we decide not to enforce the 173 other organizations would be at risk for paying for their own insurance. We issued a lot of censures last week. Lots of clubs coming up for de-recognition, as well as recognition. Alysha attended club sports council, looking for information regarding allocation of club sports. hazing workshop.

COLA- COLA has a busy weekend coming up. If you have every been downtown after halloween, you may have noticed a lot of destruction caused by students. We are taking on the responsibility of cleaning up that mess. There are a number of groups to help. If you are free this weekend, please sign up to help us of. OSCAR, Have a heart campaign- students walk around campus letting students know that there are families that live downtown and its important to be mindful when walking down town. Friday, October 26th at 5m there is going to be a meeting at the Pearl house. It's a rockin' time. I'm passing a sheet around and I suggest that you sign up. We are moving forward with Veterans' Day. The Monday after Veterans' Day, we're doing a role call. Individuals call out the names of people who have lost their lives in combat since 9/11. You can call out any amount of names, up to you. You can contact Chair Redell if you are interested in participating. I had talked to Gail about doing a cleanup on thursday, the day directly after halloween, but that was difficult because it's on a school day. If there are people interested, they should contact me directly.

Academic Affairs- Faculty senate has been fairly quiet lately, which is really alarming.. CAS CAC meets next week. Isabelle meet with ELL (English Language Learning), giving more information for international student when they arrive on campus. Taylor and I will be meeting with Jennifer Prue and Larry Cost on faculty senate to discuss advising. I will be meeting with Keith Williams and Julie Roberts to sync our plans for the rest of the semester. Bridget will be meeting on Friday with the Student Services office in the CNHS.

Student Action- Adam already talked about UVM Voice, we have the e-mail set up. Working on a number of other things to make it more accessible. Using a text message service to make it more convenient. Julie has her meeting about trashcans tomorrow at 2pm- stay tuned. Water bottles- Finance allocated money for 675 dollars towards bottles. I will not be revealing the results of the LL mural until later on in the month. Hot Bar is now in the Simpson Market- not running, but being set up. I just sent out a Tix-me-off regarding the library.

CODEEE- We had a second meeting with Barb Johnson regarding the antismoking initiative on campus. When the University advisory council was originally discussing this initiative, the health of students was more of a concern. We asked her how that it would be implemented. There will not be a cop following you around. They are following the Michigan State University model. They have a system where you can report a smoking incident online- Barbara doesn't want this. Barbara will be in on November 13th. She wants our support on advertising this. Maybe we could do a video of her with President Daley. In my committee we're talking about drafting a VSOP. We want the public's opinion. This anti-smoking policy would ideally be a 3 year plan- hoping to take this year as the first year of implementation. Senator Crane is working on Earth day. If you have ideas please go her way. Senator Martinez and I went to Environmental and Equity Leadership conference this weekend, it was a great time.

Senatorial Forum

Chair Redell- COLA is a very small committee, COLA benefits from more membership, if you're interested in COLA come talk to me.

Chair Keyes- Please come talk to me if you still have concerns regarding the Cycling Club.

Senator Edelman- I'm not a smoker, but couldn't we work towards creating designated spaces on campus for smokers. It would be much more effective and enforceable.

Senator Ghazey- Too much of a gray area, it nullify the whole campaign.

Senator Mathews- I don't want this (working towards the anti-smoking initiative) to seem like the opinion of SGA.

Chair Alnamee- Designated smoking spots on campus would not fly. We either go all the way or not at all.

Senator Crane- The model that we would be following is coming from Michigan State. Smoking ban is a new thing across US campuses. Many universities have enforced an anti-smoking policy throughout the United States. However, we still don't have much feedback on what schools are doing thus far to enforce said policies.

Senator Edelman- If doesn't make sense to me to say some or none, because you aren't compromising. Why is she weary of some sort of enforcement, if there are clear benefits, after all, we do have a no-alcohol policy. Where does your committee stand on this?

Chair Alnamee- For my committee, we're for a student run initiative. I don't like the idea of someone running after me asking me to pick up my cigarette butt. There is a multitude of questions that we need to be asking. Looking at my notes from the meeting, Norwich installed a smoking free campus and students started chewing tobacco.

Chair Conlon- I want to commend Chair Alnamee and her committee on the Smoking-Free document with all of the information pertaining to this discussion.

Senator Goodrich- Who is Barbara Johnson?

Chair AlNamee- Barbara Johnson is on a faculty member who is on the University Advisory Council. Students and faculty discussing issues on campus. Issues such as: How can we get students to improve their health?

Senator Goodrich- What did Michigan State do to uphold this policy?

Senator Crane- They had a policy for multiple offenders. If a student was seen smoking multiple times they would have a meeting with faculty members, and eventually fined.

Chair AlNamee- They have a system of watching each other. So, if I'm your boss and you're my employee and I catch you smoking on campus I have to write you up, and if it repeats I have to write you up again. To me, it sounds really creepy. It got to a point where it wasn't being enforced anymore due to discomfort.

Chair Redell- I think that a ban like this would create a culture change- We should be working towards having a statement from students worried about health, igniting a want from them to make this change.

Senator McNally- If it wasn't enforced, there wouldn't be smoking butt receptacles. When forced off campus, where are students supposed to go and smoke?

Chair Alnamee- Yes, I acknowledge this concern. There are a few resolutions- quitting, nicotine patches, etc. You can still see people smoking on Church Street despite the ban. I think the butt receptacles would be gone, this we need to discuss further.

Senator Crane- Custodial staff come from foreign countries, and are predominately smokers, your point is very valid that they would have a hard time finding places to smoke on campus.

President Daley- I can speak a little about enforcement. Some Universities said if you smoke and are on the university health care plan, you will be kicked off the plan. A group was created called Students for a Tobacco Free UVM, based out of the Medical College. I received a solicitation from them, and so when I leave tonight's meeting I will forward you all info regarding this.

Senator Foley- Regarding the video- I wanted to get student opinion before . A decision hasn't been made yet. I wanted to pull students who maybe wouldn't have a habit of smoking. So, to clarify, when are we allowed to make a decision?

Chair Alnamee- Since the enforcement is not that strong, technically, the ban won't take effect until 3 years from now. Miss Johnson is willing to listen to students, and she will not be able to do this without the help from students. It's the general opinion that matters. Miss Johnson will be coming in to Senate on the 13th of November.

Senator Ghazey- When I came out of the meeting, I didn't think of it as a ban of smoking, but more of a movement towards a more healthy lifestyle. Many students come to UVM starting to smoke. We're trying to help out the campus as a whole. Less of an attack on everyone. Before we move forward with this on campus, we should go out and ask students.

Senator Crane- It would rely highly on PR if it were to actually be instated.

Senator Edelman- First, this is a question to President Daley: Do we have the power to do this? If we passed a bill to ban smoking on campus, would it actually be installed? Is there precedent for us having a referendum, allowing students to directly vote on this issue?

President Daley- There is a mention of this in our constitution. 5% or 10% of students need to sign a bill, before we do send it out as a referendum.

Senator Edelman- I'd like to motion an informal poll.

--Does the Senate feel that this (Smoking ban) is an issue that should be brought in front of students to referendum?-- Yes (19) No (11) Abstained (1)

Chair Keyes- I think this is a half-formed poll at this point- we need more student input, let's make sure we have something concrete before we bring this to the student body.

Chair AlNamee- Let's just make sure the distinction is clear between a tobacco free initiative and an actual smoking ban.

Senator Goodrich- Let's just wait for Barbara to come in, so we can ask her these questions.

Senatorial Comments and Announcements

Senator Sinkula- On November 7th, Entrepreneurship Club will be hosting the co-owner of Fuse marketing.

Josh Ducette- I'm not a smoker, I don't believe that it is the job of the administration to tell us what we can and cannot do. Perhaps considering other initiatives? It seems that secondhand smoke is not the biggest concern currently.

Senator Mathews- 9pm Dodgeball team on Thursdays.

Senator Martinez- TedTalks, UVMx, in Rosa Parks room, talking about election, noon, tomorrow, free pizza.

Final Roll Call

Finance- Senator McDonald excused

Public Relations- All present

Student Activities- Senator Kelley excused

COLA- All present

Academic Affairs- Senator Garau unexcused

Student Action- Senator Kazinsky excused
CODEEE- Senator Macias excused

Motion to Adjourn -- (01:46:03)