

Date: September 17, 2013

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

ROLL CALL

Finance: Senators Sinkula, Crelly-Byers, Ullman excused. Senator Garau unexcused.

PR: Senator Maslow unexcused.

SAC: Senators Renaud and Hershey excused.

COLA: All Present

AA: All Present

SA: Senators McNalley excused.

CODEE: All Present

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES: September 10th, 2013 Minutes approved.

PUBLIC FORUM

PROVOST DAVID ROSOWSKI: It is a great honor to be here tonight. It is a great honor to be at UVM. For those of you who had a hand on the provost selection committee, I'd like to congratulate you for a job well done. Thank you for giving me the opportunity to serve here. I'm entering about week 6 here. I have spent the first 6 weeks and will spend the next 6 weeks getting out and seeing every group on campus, even prospective students and their families. This is what I asked to do; it's how I asked to spend the first 90 days as provost. When I close meetings I often say, 'my door is always open, but I'm never there.' The reason I'm never there is because I'm out and visiting. I met some of you during move-in day. I remember being struck and saying to VP provost Andy Stevens, 'this is an amazing university.' For every one student moving in, there were 4-5 students helping him or her. I grew up in Boston, MA. I have been a Red Sox and Patriots fan forever. I went to Tufts for my undergraduate degree. I went to Johns Hopkins for my doctorate. All my degrees were in civil engineering, concentrating in structural engineering. I then entered a 24 year period in higher education. I went to some phenomenal public schools for 20 years, and then Dean of the College of Engineering at RPI for 4 years. I spent 20 years in higher education at universities that are similar to UVM. I like visiting with folks and getting to know people by name, so I really wanted to be a provost at a smaller university. I also really wanted to be back in New England, it's where I'm from and my family wanted me back here. When my wife first told me that I got a call about a position at UVM, I didn't have time to ask what the position was before she said 'take it'. I was thrilled at the opportunity. I am generally thrilled to be here. I wake up every morning and I say 'I cannot believe I'm at UVM and I cannot believe I have the opportunity to be provost at UVM.' Historically, the provost is the chief academic officer of the university. The provost has responsibility for the colleges and schools and all parts of campus to make sure it's on track. Today, provosts have a broader set of responsibilities including the academic mission and all of the co-curricular missions at the university as well. I am the chief academic officer and the chief budget officer. Sometimes these responsibilities will butt heads and I'll have to make decisions in the best interest of the university with the best input that I can gather. I also hold the

title of Senior Vice President. It's an administrative title that says I touch student life, residential life, co-curricular programming, and all of the budget models at the university. It's a complicated and exciting job. I've been attracted to it because I've had opportunities in the past to really shape curricular and co-curricular programs and move the university toward goals and objectives as a university. What I like doing, and what I was really unable to do as Dean of Engineering, is thinking about how a university can prepare graduates to be successful and throughout their careers. What program can we put together as a university to prepare those graduates? How can my schools and colleges think integratively? How can I help a university think about what a graduate of our university looks like? What makes us different at UVM than other universities? That's what gets me excited every day. As an engineer, you tend to be fairly quantitative. I am data driven. As a leader, it's a good way to be, but I'm a little more diverse than that. I have a liberal arts upbringing. In addition to attending liberal arts schools for my education, I grew up in a family of university faculty in totally different fields. While I'm data driven, I do have experience in understanding and integrating people in a great range of disciplines, such as at UVM. My commitment is in helping prepare students think both critically and integratively to create graduates that will be distinctive among the best universities in the country. Over the course of the year, you're going to see a number of opportunities for students to provide timely and meaningful feedback into fairly significant decision making processes at the university, including IBB. There will also be a story within the next few days in the newspaper articulating what I'd like to do in this first year provost. It also encourages you to follow me on twitter. Please do follow me; it's there for you. I started that when I moved here, a week before the new students moved here. I'm loving it and I'm getting some great feedback. You're going to hear quite a bit about focus on academic rigor, academic quality, and integrity of academic programs. You are the reason we are here. You should not only expect that of us, as educators, but you should demand it. We'll be talking a lot more in the coming year of our expectations for you as students, and our expectations for ourselves as faculty. One of the great pillars of the land grant mission is to provide economic development for the state and for the region. Never has that been more important than coming out of a recession, in a state with a population that is decreasing and where jobs are disappearing out of the state, this is a great time to be a land grant university. We have great support in the governor's office, the legislature and in Chittenden county. We'll become a more important player in Vermont, not only creating graduates, but also creating technologies and creating industries that stay in Vermont.

Question by Chair Redell: With a civil engineering background, I'm sure you can understand how it is difficult for women to participate in STEM and engineering, as it tends to be a male dominated field. What are your initiatives to make sure that women are included in the engineering program at UVM?

Provost David Rosowki: I can only speak from my experience that it has not been hard to change that balance in engineering programs, nationwide. At both Texas A&M and RPI, both traditional engineering schools, we had great success in not only retracting and retaining bright women students, but in significantly growing the percentage of women faculty in the civil engineering programs at both of the universities during my time there. I am not certain I accept the premise as much as I did ten years ago when I started in this

business of academic leadership. Today, in the field of civil engineering in particular, and across most of the branches of engineering, there is great balance in representation among men and women. The challenge is being met in bringing our faculty percentages into alignment with our student majors by gender. If there's an issue here at UVM, I will quickly find it with my new Dean of Engineering, who also built significant gender balance in his department in civil engineering at Colorado State University. I don't think the majors, themselves are presenting issues. If there are any issues here at the university, we will tackle those head on. I'll tell you, for example, my experience in civil engineering, about 30% in that major nationally are women. Women chemical engineering majors account for about 50%, biomedical engineering over 50%. Electrical engineering is still low. It is dropping in interest and perhaps in jobs. We're very close to 30% women today at the comprehensive engineering school, which is far greater than it was 5 years ago.

Question by Chair Longyear: You talked about building up academia and informed decisions and a commitment to academic rigor, quality, and programs, all of which I agree with. I want to know where you fit the release of course syllabi before registration into that informed decision-making and academic quality?

Provost David Rosowki: That is a great suggestion. I have honestly not heard about that issue until just now. By inference, I'm assuming that's not a widely accepted practice on campus, and I'm assuming there's no policy against that. Are you asking for the release of that semesters in particular, or would the last version of it suffice?

Chair Longyear: Students need a bit more to pick their courses. Theoretically a teacher could release a syllabus without any extra work and students would be exponentially more informed in whether or not they'd want to take that course.

Provost David Rosowki: I think that's a very reasonable suggestion. I'd be happy to look into whether or not that's ever been considered as a university wide requirement or even college level.

Follow up requested. Follow up granted.

Chair Longyear: Do you see that fitting into any kind of faculty requirements, whether through faculty senate or in the process of editing the teachers union contract?

Provost David Rosowki: That's a conversation I'm not prepared to have. I would certainly think that the faculty senate could figure out best how to implement that. I work closely with the faculty senate. My first step in this process is to find out what we are doing and what we have done. Then I'd find out if there's been any resistance, locally. Then I'd have a conversation with associate provost for curricular affairs and associate provost for faculty and see how and when we could discuss this with the faculty senate to see if that's something we could do. I think it's a great idea. I can't imagine that many faculty wouldn't agree that it's a great idea.

Question by Chair Asher: As you know, in the next coming years, the university is going to be running in a deficit. What is your plan?

Provost David Rosowki: I'm not sure I agree with the premise of the statement. I will tell you that we have a budget gap to close to prepare for the fiscal year 2015 budget. We will run a balanced budget for fiscal year 2015, like we always have. It's very common for universities to face gaps they have to close, especially over the last 5-6 years. Higher

education has been very challenged in America in the past half decade. The losses are not coming back, regardless what happens as we crawl out of the recession. These are permanent structural changes. You're seeing university buyers trying to figure out what they can and can't do, how they can optimize resources and create a budget framework that allows them to forward budget in a sustainable, stable way without the hiccups. There's a gap in the budget. It's not anything to be fearful of. We will close the gap. We will do everything in our power to keep academics protected, and we will have a balanced budget in fiscal year 2015. Don't worry. The interesting conversation is that conversation that will take place starting this month, over the next 12 months, to think about an entirely new budget model for the university. There is a website link on my page called IBB. I would strongly urge you to take a look at that. There are students who will be serving on the committees. If we do our job right, and I'm committed to doing it right, we will have an entirely new budget model for the university the first time in 22 years that's forward looking and relevant.

SENATOR JONATHAN LOTT: I'm going to talk about the censure tonight. I hope that after I'm done, you will vote against censuring VP Jack Birmingham and Senator Ben Hershey, if you hadn't already decided to vote to defend them. I wasn't at the retreat the night the two of them allegedly went to the bars, so I can't speak from first hand knowledge of the events. Through my conversations with some SGA members, it is my understanding that several SGA members, besides the two accused, had plans to go to the bars that night. I don't know exactly what happened next but only two SGA members allegedly went to the bars that night, to my knowledge. It is kind of strange to me that we're even voting on this considering how often some SGA members talk about getting wasted in the galaxy space, that is talk in the galaxy space about getting waste. Spend two hours in the galaxy space, and you're bound to hear several senators, even chairs, who will remain unnamed although several are under 21, talking about getting wasted, or talking about sex or marijuana. And you think that a few drinks outside of the retreat zone away from other SGA members during hours the SGA wasn't busy is such a contemptable action? Come on. One of the accused hasn't even been definitely proven to have drank. What the two accused people allegedly did, would've been legal for U.S. citizens of age, which they are. Even Chair Longyear proposed a party, or a get-together, for last Friday during last Tuesday's senate.

Point of Information: A non-university sponsored gathering.

Senator Jonathan Lott: If we're so concerned with image, let's clean up our own presentation before we string up these two young gentlemen for something that didn't break any laws. Please vote against censuring VP Birmingham and Senator Hershey. I will not take questions. Thank you.

SENATOR MATTHEWS: Today is Constitution Day. I know it's just a small gesture but I have some bracelets that say 'Support Our Troops'. We just got a Veterans support coordinator. Veterans on this campus and in college experience a completely different set of societal norms in college and face a lot of mental health issues. I only have eight, but I hope that eight people can wear these to support our fellow veterans.

OLD BUSINESS

Chair Longyear: I made a few phrasing changes to the document since it was last sent out. The big goal here is to keep faculty and administration accountable for what is ultimately our education. AA and I, as for most students, think that not meeting these expectations does not prove to be that useful. These are definitely hindering our education and these are the goals of AA for the year. Resolution read by Chair Longyear.

Question by Chair Redell: I noticed that in the actual memo many of the bullets are quantitative, but the one about transfer students is a little more vague. Is there any rephrasing we could use? What quantitates more?

Chair Longyear: We're allowed to make informed decisions when we're choosing our courses. We have 40 words to go on for every course, at most. Most of those are used for prerequisites. We have informed decisions, but they're not nearly informed enough to at least make shortening the add drop period. There's disconnect there. We've been given less information, and we definitely need more than what we started with, and what we have now. We want to work towards taking steps that actively give students more information to make those decisions across the board.

Question by Senator Matthews: I had the same concerns as Chair Redell. I expect us to continually work towards our goals. Not specifically saying what we want is okay, because we're going to work towards this and once we feel like we've met our goals then that's okay.

Yield floor to President Daley.

President Daley: If we are looking for more specificity, I believe last senate the body passed an endorsement of framework for rights and responsibilities. Maybe that could be further endorsed in this document, if we're looking for specificity.

Yield floor back.

Chair Longyear: We want to keep the cost down. We went with a small, pretty vague, list because we didn't want to hold ourselves to unrealistic dates or standards. We want to be able to work with faculty through whichever avenues are best for us to actually accomplish these goals realistically. Our goal is to do this in a timely manner. With transfer credit policy, especially, I found that in the transition packet from the previous AA committee. All that was given to me was the fact that the foundation had been paid. I'd like to continue whatever initiatives had been started.

Resolution automatically called to question. Vote on Resolution, passes.

EMERGENCY BUSINESS

Point of Procedure: Can the speaker bring up legislation?

Point of Procedure (Speaker Conlon): This is not legislation, this is just business.

Point of Information (Speaker Conlon): Technically I'm a senator so I can sponsor things as well.

Speaker Conlon: As you all know, this time last week we were discussing a censure. Per our constitutional obligations, we did have to meet as a constitution committee which we did on Thursday night. We discussed both of the allegations and both of the censure proceedings separately and took votes within the constitution committee. Letter submitting a motion to censure Senator Ben Hershey read by Speaker Conlon. The constitution committee voted unanimously that the allegations did hold true. Therefore, we vote tonight as a body. It requires a simple majority to pass.

Motion to secret ballot, seconded. Vote on secret ballot, passes.

Question by Senator Matthews: Senator Lott had a good point that he never accepted guilt? Was an investigation done showing guilt other than a vote by the constitutional committee?

Speaker Conlon: Both members understood that they violated SGA policy and that they were consuming alcohol at the retreat.

Question by Chair Redell: Is there legislation or a bill we're voting on? How does this work in terms of documentation?

Speaker Conlon: You're voting on the censure. The documentation is the written proposal of the censure. The vote will be in the minutes.

Question by Senator Ducharme: Do the details of the censure apply to both cases?

Speaker Conlon: The censure process is the exact same for both parties, regardless of position. Three censures result in automatic impeachment.

Question by Chair Al-Namee: Can you explain how the censuring process would work? What does censuring entail?

Speaker Conlon: Censuring is a written condemning of someone's actions that do not coincide with the SGA constitution or the operational documents. One senator has to submit something to the speaker, then it goes to the constitution committee who decides if the allegations hold true. The allegations did hold true. It then comes to you all for a majority vote. If you all voted it down, the censure would be left at that point. For a secret ballot, you write your vote on a piece of paper, I tally them, and then I announce the vote.

Question by Senator Lott: Can we do this in executive session?

Point of Procedure: No we can't because the vote has to be on the public minutes.

Secret Ballot Vote to Censure Senator Ben Hershey. Censure passed. Division 18-7.

Letter submitting a motion to censure VP Jack Birmingham read by Speaker Conlon
Speaker Conlon: I spoke to him personally and he admitted to it and understands the repercussions that come along with that. Again, the constitution committee voted unanimously that the allegations did hold true.

Question by Senator Lott: Was the constitution's committee's vote on this secret?

Speaker Conlon: It was taken by secret ballot.

Follow up requested. Follow up granted.

Senator Lott: Who proposed the secret ballot in the constitutional committee?

Speaker Conlon: Senator Matthews. Many individuals in the room thought secret ballot was best.

Motion to secret ballot, seconded. Vote on secret ballot, passes.

Point of Procedure: Does the speaker break ties?

Speaker Conlon: Yes

Secret Ballot Vote to Censure VP Jack Birmingham. Censure passed. Division 19-6.

Bill Supporting the Confirmation of Ben Cares to the SGA Senate read by Chair Al-Namee.

Ben Cares: I'm just excited if you guys approve me, and I'm going to do my best to take great responsibility as part of CODEE and SGA, so hopefully you will welcome me.

Vote on Bill, passes.

Bill Supporting the Confirmation of Jonathan Cares to the SGA Senate read by Chair Bowen.

Jonathan Cares: I'm excited to be here and I hope you guys vote me in.

Question by Chair Redell: Do you live on or off campus?

Jonathan Cares: On campus.

Question by Chair Longyear: This question is directed towards both of you. What are your reasons for joining SGA and what projects are you going to work on?

Jonathan Cares: I really wanted to get involved on campus. As a transfer student, I don't know that much about the university yet but I really wanted to be on a platform where I could represent transfer students well, and I have some ideas to do that.

Ben Cares: I've always been a member of SGA and student groups on campus and in high school. I thought it'd be a good way to get the inside scoop on campus. I'm really pushing for some environmental responsibility. I talked to Dylan and Pat Brown the other day. I really want to make some changes on campus and hopefully I can make a difference.

Vote on Bill, passes.

Motion to suspend the rules, seconded. Vote to suspend the rules, passes.

New members sworn in by Speaker Conlon.

Motion to reinstate the rules, seconded. Vote to reinstate the rules, passes.

NEW BUSINESS

EXECUTIVE REPORTS

SPEAKER CONLON: Thank you for bearing with us this evening. If someone asks you a question as part of their presentation, you can answer them. Please feel free to interact with them because they're trying to interact with you. Thank you for voting for the censure. It's something we had to do and hopefully it'll be past us and everyone will

continue to do great work in the future as we move forward. We met as a constitution committee. I know a lot of people asked last week about other repercussions, specifically for the VP. We voted unanimously to suspend VP Birmingham's stipend for last week. We talked about his representation of the body and him and I met about some of our non-binding suggestions.

VP BIRMINGHAM: I supported that censure. For those of you who voted for it, I think you did the right thing. Last week, I attended both the Treasurer's and the Club workshop to get a better understanding of how SGA interacts with clubs so I can be as helpful as possible in the galaxy space. This week, I finished up the last of my general check in meetings with members of the administration. I'm excited about that because now I can start focusing on some of the more fine points of what I'd like to be doing, including parts of Chair Longyear's legislation, professor evaluations, and other things such as resources for smokers as part of the tobacco-free initiative, programmed housing, the budget, and reducing duplicating majors across different colleges. I'm also looking forward to getting issue specific tabling going, particularly talking about Summer U and ways to improve food on campus. This week, I also made appointments to the Real Food Working Group, the Socially Responsible Investment Group, and President Daley is assisting me in appointing an individual to the Board of Trustees budget, finance, and investment committee. After speaking with a few members of senate, including Pat Brown, I came to the conclusion that I, personally, have a lot to learn about privilege, justice, and equity. It's a poor representation for the student body for me to not have a firm grasp on these issues that plague our school and our society. With some direction from Pat Brown, I provided Chair Al-Namee with information of a few workshops offered to the university. She had volunteered to spearhead that a little last week, so I thank her for that. I think that it would aid myself, as well as many others on senate, in gaining some perspective on the issues of privilege, justice, and equity. That being said, pleading ignorance is not an excuse for my misconduct in my word choice for last meeting and I apologize for that both to senate and the student body. I chaired the appointments committee and I'd like to congratulate both Senator Cares who joined senate and are very enthusiastic. I can tell that they're going to be doing good things. Finally, we still have several open spots on senate, and a few on campus committees that still need student representation. I've requested Chair Pope-McGraw to make that available through the facebook page so we can get better outreach and get more applications in, both for the senate and for campus wide committees. I have a broomball game at 9:10, so if anyone wants to come out and support me team, please do.

Question by Chair Longyear: Do you think

Question by Senator Matthews: Are you going to be issue tabling this week?

VP Birmingham: I think that's going to be started next week. We're going to have to reschedule with the EMS program through the DC so I'll be organizing that.

Question by Chair Longyear: What are doing to further your plans to take down Sodexo?

VP Birmingham: I've had a few different meetings. I've talked about Sodexo a few different ways. I forget the individuals name, but I met with him and he said it's certainly

possible to end Sodexo's monopoly. I'm going to be following up on a lot of the meetings I had and narrowing my focus a little more. I learned in that same meeting that a lot of the other companies that provide the same foods across the country are really not aligned with social justice principles and paying their workers fair wages. I know we're having some issues with Sodexo right now in keeping with the new ObamaCare legislation. However, these other corporations are also not very good to their workers and Sodexo does do a lot of things that apparently these other corporations don't do, one of them being signing on to the RealFood challenge. About 8% of our food is local, and 12% qualifies as real food. There is criteria for that that's on their webpage. Another one of those corporations is adamantly against the RealFood challenge. As far as what the university is looking for, as much as I hate to admit, Sodexo might be our best bet. I'm trying to find middle ground with Sodexo to improve the food on campus while also trying to advocate for student issues and mold Sodexo to be more like we'd like to see.

PRESIDENT DALEY: Today I had meetings with university colleagues and others. In addition to my duties to this body, I'll have further such meetings later this week. Last Wednesday, I met with President's Advisory Council completely about IBB, what Provost Rosowki mentioned earlier today. In tomorrow's Exec. we'll be talking about how we move forward in that process. Several members of the executive committee, and myself, had meetings with VP for Finance tomorrow afternoon. Before that I have a meeting with Director Alberto Saralto to discuss the finer points about how complex or equitable it'll be, so I'll get more information on that. Yesterday morning, I had my meeting with President Sullivan, updating him about SGA initiatives. He's very exciting about the memo that he'll soon be getting from AA, some of the diversity issues, community outreach, and our plan for this year. I'll be updating him regularly about that. The cabinet is a project I began last January. SGA is great for advocating for students and for governing student organizations, but sometimes it isn't as representative, because we don't have quotas for each class level, or college, or representative parts of campus. This is an advisory group of student leaders: IFC, IRA, Panhellenic Council, and a number of other schools and college representatives from around campus that are at the top of student involvement and know the issues on campus. I will be forwarding the names of the cabinet composition, which is set, in a memo to you all. I look forward to that and look forward to having a conversation about how the cabinet will kind of inform how I make my decisions, and how we interact, and possible partnership between the senate and cabinet. The trustee selection committee is now also set. We have two full voting members, student trustees, on the Board of Trustees. Most universities have one or none. Every year we choose a new student. The terms are staggered. Today, I just received my first expression of interest. I'm now officially opening up the nominee process. They have to be here for 2 years. If you know anybody that would be great, a freshman, sophomore, or a graduate student, forward their name. We're going to work on application materials and I'll be distributing them to you. I'd like to thank VP Birmingham for mentioning our appointment to the budget and finance committee. Rachel Burt is a senior in the School of Business Administration. When she is on campus, she expressed a very high interest in serving on the budget and finance committee. She is a marketing concentration. I want to remind everyone that Staff Appreciation Week is next week. PR will be doing some tabling further this week. The

idea we had was to get cards and people were going to write why they appreciate staff, and make a collage to give to staff. We're also going to be making a video interviewing students on campus about how staff has impacted them and how they interact with staff. We had a lot of interest for having tours for staff, led by SGA senators or chairs. Several staff at UVM don't interact with students and many are interested and they could see the facilities and what our daily lives look like. This is the 2nd annual Catamount Classic where student groups traverse the entire Long Trail to commemorate Avi, an Outing Club leader who died suddenly two years ago. If you are interested in creating an SGA team, it's the 28th and 29th. I have a flier I'll pass around to sign up. After I'm done with my report and after Treasurer Barry is done his report, we will have to leave to go to a conference call with student body president of UC Davis. We'll be talking about how students had an input in their transition to IBB that they did last year. Senator of the Week is Senator Akkeh for her work on community coalition, welcome bags, and for generally providing support for COLA.

Question by Senator Lott: Why do you think that it was a good idea for your cabinet to get a representative from IRA?

President Daley: I actually have two, the president and the vice president. IRA is the representative voice of all the students who live on campus. We interact with IRA a lot, when talking about Sodexo and on campus transportation, etc. I thought it'd be a good idea to have their voice.

Follow up requested. Follow up granted.

Senator Lott: Do you think their voice is representative of the students?

President Daley: I think they have a better reach, sometimes, than we do to the residents halls because they hear concerns from all around campus. They do represent the residents hall well, I believe.

TREASURER BARRY: Last Tuesday, we had our Treasurer's Workshop. Chair Kauffman and Chair Asher were great in facilitating that. It was a great turn out. We had more than 300 students come and experience the workshop, so clubs are now in full swing. Our finance office now has the opportunity to interact with everybody from the 150 clubs we support, so we look forward to that. On Sunday, Pat Brown and I went to the ALANA retreat and spoke with them. We heard their concerns and talked about how some of our budgeting process works and how the finance office runs and ALANA's input with that process. They took a lot away from the experience, as did we. We're looking forward to working with them throughout the course of the year. I will be on the IBB steering committee, working closely to shape this budget model for the rest of this fiscal year. We will implement beginning fiscal year 2015 and fully implement fiscal year 2016. I invite anyone with questions to come speak with myself or President Daley, who are both very involved in the process.

Question by Chair Al-Namee: Thank you for the Treasurer's workshop. It was great. Are you planning on sending out a survey to those who attended the workshop to get feedback?

Treasurer Barry: Yes, I'm going to do that. I just have to think of great questions to ask them to get great feedback about how we can shape the workshop moving forward. Last

year we did one survey at the end of the year. This year, I'd like to send one out after the Treasurer's workshop, the Budget workshop, and at the end of the year, while it's fresh in peoples minds to shape these programs going forward and maximize our interaction with students.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Finance: Today we had two supplemental fundings. Tennis has entry fees for tournaments at UNH and UMass they want us to cover. Orchesis Dance Club needs a rehearsal space that they can't get at UVM so they have to go off campus and they need funding for that.

PR: We're trying to figure out the Staff Appreciation Week staff. Senator Cruickshank has been working on filming a video of students on campus talking about staff. During tabling sessions, we had people fill out note cards. I'll be typing those up. Tabling this Wednesday 12-3. I cannot make it, nor can anyone on PR. I'm going to pass around a sign up, so if people could sign up for that we'd really appreciate it.

Chair Redell: Where have the presidential weekly emails been since the beginning of the year?

Chair Pope-McGraw: I've been talking to President Daley about that. He's been taking responsibility for that but he has not sent them out so I'll continue to talk to him. I understand that is under our purview but in the past, it has been done solely by President Daley because it's easier to coordinate.

Chair Longyear: Is there no better time to pick tabling that somebody from PR could show up to?

Chair Pope-McGraw: I'm working on it. The problem is Chair Kauffman booked this back in February to get this continuous time. It's really hard to get a continuous time to table. We were just looking at it today and everything is booked. I will probably just grab any spots that we can. I think it's very important that as the committee running the tabling, that the committee members should be there. I'm aware that it looks bad that we can't be there, it's just an unfortunate timing with classes.

Question by Senator Lott: Is it President Daley's constitutional duty to send out an address every week?

Point of Information: He has to establish communication with the student body, which you can interpret for whatever you may wish.

Question by Chair Redell: You noted that there was not a lot going on in the world of PR. What are your initiatives in the following weeks to ensure that there are things going on in PR, for social media, etc?

Chair Pope-McGraw: A big thing for PR right now is to push Facebook and Twitter because we don't have a lot of people following us. We're working on that. Tabling is a big thing. We're going to have members talk to the other committees to see what they're doing and see what they want published and push our presence on campus.

Question by Chair Longyear: Where does UVM Voice fit into your plans?

Chair Pope-McGraw: UVM Voice is joint run by both Student Action and PR. PR pushed it last year, and that's what we're doing at tabling. Student Action will take action on that. UVM Voice is pictured outside the UVM Marketplace. We have posters we put out when we table. Ideally, people that do tabling talk about UVM Voice.

Question by New Senator: Staff Appreciation BBQ is 11:30-1 next Monday, so I think a lot of us should volunteer, so do you agree that we should volunteer?

Chair Pope-McGraw: Staff Appreciation BBQ is new to me. I will address President Daley about that and see if we can volunteer and either him or myself will email you.

Yield floor to VP Birmingham.

VP Birmingham: I just want to remind people that Chair Pope-McGraw just inherited that position at chair. He's stepped up in SGA to take that role, so just keep that in mind with some of your criticisms.

Chair Pope-McGraw: That being noted, please, if you have an issue with me or don't like that I'm not doing something, let me know. I can't improve without hearing criticism.

SAC: Last night we held the annual fall club workshops. We had a pretty good turnout. 75% clubs actually showed up. The 25% of clubs that didn't show up will be taking a test on the material they missed because it is important material for them to learn, mostly about hazing. We've been working on getting the club liaison forms updated so we can get those going and start club check ins. We have a bunch of people that are working on forming new clubs that we will be hearing about in the coming weeks.

Question by Chair Al-Namee: Great job on the workshop yesterday. It was fun and interactive. Are you sending out a survey to collect feedback?

Chair Kauffman: I haven't really thought about it yet, but it's definitely a possibility.

COLA: Thank you to the few of you who participated in welcome bags. I've heard a lot of positive feedback from that. For the people that we did catch at their doors, we had a lot of positive conversations about feedback for the university and what off campus culture is like. Senator Akkeh has started to plan neighborhood clean ups for which I will send up a sign up sheet. At the retreat, someone brought up that they'd like COLA to plan more community service events. We are more than happy to plan community service events, but we need your presence at those community service events, otherwise they are entirely ineffective. North Union, Isham, Buell, Bradley, and Hungerford are priority streets. Community coalition as initiatives in these streets already. People stop and thank you for picking up trash. It's important to pick up trash, but it's also important that our community sees UVM students picking up trash, so they know students are engaged and care about the UVM community. We had Community Coalition on Friday which was really positive. There was a great turnout, including student turnout. We summarized all the things we did last year and talked about goals for the future.

Question by Chair Al-Namee: Thank you for putting out the Welcome Bags. I've heard great things about that. What are your other projects going on other than neighborhood clean ups?

Chair Redell: We're working on planning a Veteran's Day event. In the past, COLA and the Student Veteran's group have worked on that. We're working on that, but it's still in the initial stages.

Follow up requested. Follow up granted.

Chair Al-Namee: Are you planning on reaching out to other organizations to volunteer? What are your plans to get the student body involved?

Chair Redell: Senator Akkeh had a meeting with the president of the graduate student senate to talk about getting graduate students to volunteer. Yield floor to Senator Akkeh.

Senator Akkeh: I drafted an email to send to all the club signers. Once that's finished, I'm going to give that to Chair Kauffman, and he's going to send that to all of the clubs. I've also spoken to fraternities and sororities to see if they'd like to get involved.

Yield floor back.

Chair Redell: That being said, that doesn't mean that members of senate shouldn't sign up for things. We still are in critical need of volunteers.

AA: Thank you all so much for passing the resolution. I went to the CAS curriculum meeting, which was awesome. They have this new program called CourseLeaf, which President Daley was working on all summer. It's how they are now adding, proposing and editing new courses. I sat through a demo. There is so much potential for lengthier course descriptions, and you can upload course syllabi. We're really going to try to work on that. They plan on not printing the course catalogue in about 2 years, which is the ultimate obstacle in lengthy course descriptions because they don't want the page count to be thousands. If they're all online, it's just a huge database. My idea is to NetID and password protect it so that students can access all of the information without being able to edit it. It costs \$140,000 which came from bonds set aside for this. It's \$15,000 a year to maintain it. It's going to be the same amount of money from the same account, even with the new IBB. We want course descriptions minimums. Today, I called all of the Dean's Offices, inquiring about their curriculum committees and if they wanted student help. I'll get back to them. College of Nursing & Health Science wants us to find them an appointee, so they were awesome. Honors College was taken back by my request. Senator Ducharme is making a lot of progress with his advising for high-risk drinking and substance free housing. Currently, the advising document drafts were August 28, they're not yet ready for distribution. Currently working with faculty senate on professional development advising. Senator Hickey is new. She's going to be working on Courseleaf and course descriptions. Senator Kane has a proposal for a course idea for energy alternatives at UVM. He talked to Professor Watts about maybe increasing the Clean Energy fund for students \$20/year and reallocating funds by possibly decreasing money we give to IRA. PR, you could totally get involved with competition between dorms with clean energy.

Question by Chair Pope-McGraw: Can we get more information about the clean energy competition? Have you talked to IRA?

Yield floor to Senator Kane.

Senator Kane: I have not talked to IRA. It's going to take a while to figure out which dorms are more energy efficient than others. I'm not quite sure what it will look like yet.

Question by Senator Lott: What's the difference between substance free housing and the rest of the on campus housing?

Yield floor to Speaker Conlon.

Speaker Conlon: Those are students that especially identify themselves as not wanting to be around substances. Everyone understands that the UVM dry residence hall policy is exploitable. With over 5,000 students living in residence halls, there will be some alcohol and/or other drugs that sneak in the front doors.

Question by Senator Dolph: Is there a way to have the Honors College integrate their program more into the curriculum, because as of now all of the courses you take for them count as electives, and it's your responsibility as a student to email the head of the department just to get credit for your major? They're really poorly integrated, and it shouldn't be harder, as a student in the Honors Colleges, to get your courses to count.

Chair Longyear: At the curricular affairs meeting, we did talk a lot about improving new honors college seminars, and where they fit into CAS. I will definitely bring that up with the chair. I can cc you on that email if you'd like.

SA: Thank you everyone for supporting the bill. It's come to my attention that longboard safety is something that we need to be addressing. There have been several reports of staff members injured in longboarding accidents. We're going to be looking at some sort of policies. I've done a little research on that. University of Auburn has an interesting policy on that. Last Wednesday, I have a meeting with the police services liaison. She will be coming in next Tuesday to show a video on campus safety. It's an emotionally action packed video, so everybody be ready for that. She'll also be working with President Daley and I to make a J walking video. I'm planning on going to the IBB meeting tomorrow afternoon. Senator McNalley is currently at Sodexo action meeting, sponsored by the VT Fair Food campaign. I thought that is something SA should be present at. That's a campaign that is talking about healthcare for Sodexo workers. There's an apparent policy where Sodexo is trying to cut employee hours so they don't have to pay health care requirements, as per their contract. The Jeanne Mance bussing is still in very slow progress. If anybody wants to get involved in that, I could use extra hands. Senator Matthews just had his first meeting at the LivingWell student advisory board.

Question by Chair Al-Namee: I've been approached by several students that would like a bean bag chair lounge in the library. Do you think that is something your committee could work on?

Chair Bowen: Last year we were denied a microwave in the library, so a bean bag lounge may be a bit of a reach, but we'll look into it.

Point of Information: You should have them contact UVM Voice.

Question by Chair Longyear: Can you be more specific about how faculty have been injured in longboards?

Chair Bowen: I don't know exactly how many incidents. I had a meeting with President Daley and had to do some really fast research on that last night. He has a lot more research on that. The fact that a single staff member has been injured by a longboard is not okay.

Senator Cruickshank: Is J-walking a ticketable offense in Burlington?

Chair Bowen: Yes, \$125 fine and 2 points on your license. Police services and Burlington police have contemplated posting officers to write tickets for J walking. This is a happy medium, so that's why we're working with them.

Question by Senator Kayser: Have you talked to them about the ridiculous cross walk between Main and South Prospect where you have to wait 3 minutes until you can walk?

Chair Bowen: In 2008, Main Street was going to be built as a tunnel that goes over our student walking tunnel. There were going to be giant foot bridges, but 2 environmental science majors protested that there was no more view of the lake, so that plan was denied. That is why we have 4 lanes and cross walks implemented.

CODEE: Welcome to the new senators. Last night, I had a meeting with Brian, who is responsible for curricular affairs, about diversity training for D1 and D2 professors. They are very on their way with this. They've already formed a panel. The committee is meeting again this Thursday. They've made focus groups with students to get student feedback. They're going to meet with staff on Friday to get feedback on their experience. They are thinking of drafting legislation soon, probably this semester, to faculty senate. The training program is something they're working on right now and will be implemented by the end of this year. I will be serving on that committee and reporting back to you with the progress with that. It was a very effective meeting. I will be sitting in on the staff meeting Friday. Senator Martinez met with someone yesterday requesting that we're available for international students. We want to collaborate with them. As for greenwashing, Senator Letendre met with Pat Brown about composting in DC. The compost is not composted if it's contaminated. The big contaminants are utensils. We're looking for more cooperation and awareness on campus about composting processes. The first diversity facilitator will be Erin Kane, I'll be meeting with her tomorrow to come up with a plan. We'll have the training on a week day. I will try to find out a time that works for all of us. I will be working on organizing executive retreat to get our goals for this year.

Question by Senator Lott: Have you talked to dining services or considered getting compostable utensils?

Chair Al-Namee: They've done that in the past and the compostable utensils melt, so they switched back to plastic.

Point of Information: The compostable utensils used here in the past were shown not to be compostable.

Senator Fooks: Did you also look into recycling?

Chair Al-Namee: Yes, because the recycling is also being contaminated on campus. We're going to start an awareness program with Eco Reps.

SENATORIAL FORUM

Chair Bowen: I forgot something in my report. I'm having a meeting with Pamela Gardner and Holly Wilkinson. They are the director and assistant director of the career center, to talk about a prospective job fair. I'm looking for feedback. I've gotten no formal or informal feedback at all. We should all be thinking about jobs, so any feedback from anyone about that process would be excellent.

Senator Matthews: I need someone to pick up my place for LivingWell meetings. I'm going to be gone at the end of December. It's a once a month commitment and they serve dinner. I also need someone to work with Keith Smith about continuing mens issues. I have a Powerball SGA fund going, give me \$3 if you want to get in on that.
Point of Information: If you don't play, you don't win.

Chair Pope-McGraw: I appreciate the 3 people that did sign up for tabling, but I don't think 3 is going to be enough, so I'm going to cancel tabling for this Wednesday.

COMMENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Chair Al-Namee: Trip leading applications for alternative spring break are on theLynx. I encourage you to apply. I applied myself. They're still looking for 20 more people, so do it.

Senator Akkeh: This Sunday, OSCR is hosting a Babysitter Mingler 10-12 in the Davis Center.

Chair Longyear: I apologize formally for the informal, non-university sponsored gathering that was supposed to be last weekend. Both nights, I was held at work until 11:30 at night. Soon, soon.

FINAL ROLL CALL

Finance: Senators Crelly-Byers, Ullman excused.

PR: Senator Maslow unexcused.

SAC: Senators Renaud, Hershey excused.

COLA: All Present

AA: All Present

SA: Senator McNally excused.

CODEE: All Present

ADJOURNMENT: 8:58 PM, recorder (1:58:03)