

**Date: October 1, 2013**

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

### **ROLL CALL**

Finance: All Present

PR: Senators Cruickshank, Maslow unexcused.

SAC: Senator Renaud excused.

COLA: All Present

AA: All Present

SA: All Present

CODEE: All Present

**APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES:** September 24, 2013 Minutes approved.

### **PUBLIC FORUM**

LIZ BENNETT: I'm an undergraduate representative on the Clean Energy Fund Committee. I'm here to talk about what we do and the exciting projects we have going on. CEF was a student-initiated organization from the beginning. SGA endorsed the proposal for CEF and the next year the Board of Trustees approved the creation of CEF. The CEF is sustained by a \$10/semester/student imposed fee, generating about \$225,000 each year. The CEF committee consists of 6 student members, 4 of whom are undergraduates; representatives from the physical plant; a faculty member; representatives from the risk management office; as well as the UVM alum and Bob Vaughan from capital planning. CEF is designed to advance renewable energy on campus through research, education, and infrastructure, educating the students, staff, and faculty at the university. CEF is also responsible for educating the university about what is possible to achieve at the university in terms of renewable energy and technology implementation. We think of it in the context of the university's climate neutrality goals. Some exciting, current projects going on include the UVM AERO Cleanspeed Electric Racecar. AERO is the university's alternative energy racing organization. It's a student club involving over 40 student members, ranging from engineering to business to other majors. Students have been designing and constructing this project for the past few years. This past May, it came in 2<sup>nd</sup> in the international competition that the team entered. The team is currently improving the car with Clean Energy Funds. The Bamboo Helix Wind Turbines is a project that we approved to finance last fall. A few senior engineers are designing these turbines for their senior project. The Energy Action Seminar this fall is designed for ENVS and CDAE. The seminar series, much like the Climate Action Seminar series CEF sponsored last fall, is open to the public. These lectures have been highly successful and are very interesting. The Campus Comprehensive Renewable Energy Study was also funded by the CEF. CEF took bids from a few engineering firms and then highered a firm to conduct a feasibility study for a variety of renewable energy technologies at most physical locations on campus. The report came out last fall. The study was conducted into the summer, and 4 UVM students worked with the engineering firm as interns (two engineering students, a social media intern, and a video recording

intern). We're hoping that this study will act as a planning document, and will offer guidance to the UVM and CEF communities in figuring out what types of renewable energies are realistic and will be effective on campus. The Slade compost project, financed a couple of years ago, was recently completed. This project involved using compost to heat the Slade Greenhouse. It was a big learning process and involved outside contractors to figure out how students could be involved in the construction process. The CEF committee is currently soliciting ideas for projects for this spring. We've been doing a lot of publicity along with the Office of Sustainability. If you have any ideas you should definitely visit our website to submit an idea, it doesn't have to be a formal proposal at this point. You can submit ideas up until October 15<sup>th</sup>. After that, anyone will be able to comment and vote on the submitted ideas up until mid-November. There's information on the projects CEF has financed on the Office of Sustainability website.

Question by Senator Ducharme: How many ideas do you have so far?

Liz Bennett: We only have 2 proposals at this point. We do have a lot of projects that the Office of Sustainability is currently managing. We need more ideas for the semester.

Question by Senator Ben Cares: Have you considered extending the due date for the proposals? Why is that the due date?

Liz Bennett: That's what it's been traditionally. That's definitely something the committee would consider. The Office of Sustainability works with people who have proposed ideas and it takes a while, so that's why we have a due date.

Senator Krawczyk: Have you thought about having specific environmental classes have it as a project to get more students involved?

Liz Bennett: We've actually done that in past semesters. It hasn't happened yet this semester. I'm sure it's something that is going to come up at our next meeting. That has proven somewhat effective, in some cases in the past.

Question by Chair Al-Namee: How many projects do you actually implement after you receive the proposals? Is there a set number?

Liz Bennett: There's really not. It depends on our budget. We've collected about \$1.2 million since 2008. We've spent \$660,000, are encumbered \$160,000, so we have about \$460,000 left. A lot of these projects involve a learning curve for everyone involved, so it also depends on how many projects we can take on, people-wise.

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

PRESIDENT SULLIVAN: Welcome back. It's fairly lonely on this campus when our students aren't here in the summer. It's nice to have you back as the university is all about our students. I'm going to spend a few minutes responding to Chair Longyear's memo. These are matters that are obviously very important to students, and I think they are very important to. I will tell you where the domain of responsibility lies for each. With regard to course descriptions, that is in the authority and domain of the faculty senate. I have talked with the chair of the senate, Professor Julie Roberts, as recent as this afternoon. As a preface, matters associated with a curriculum are largely, if not

exclusively, in the domain and jurisdiction of the faculty and in this case the faculty senate. Course syllabi and course evaluations: faculty senate. Uniform course evaluations: faculty senate. Academic mentoring infrastructure is largely Brian Reed, vice-provost and some of his colleagues. Textbook affordability initiatives: I understand that there was extensive discussion last spring with the university librarian. In March she sent an email following up on next steps. As of this morning, she reports great interest and enthusiasm in working with you on this very important topic. Expanding the diversity credit option: faculty senate; that's at the core of general education requirements. Transfer credit policy and international students and how we bring them into the university and how they get socialized with our students: VP Chris Lucier who is enrollment management. As I looked at your list, I think you're absolutely right. They are very important initiatives. I understand in some cases they've been in conversation for a long time, and I would like to help facilitate moving these forward. In each of these cases I've had conversations since Friday with those individuals that are in charge of these. Each of these people should be back in touch with Chair Longyear and AA to make sure that the conversation continues. If you follow or have been at the faculty senate meetings, you know that they are deliberative and they can go on and on. An extreme example that is almost laughable involves the dedication of the Laddy Coors house, headquarters for CAS. President Coors was president of this university for 13 years, and left here 25 years ago to become president of Arizona State and subsequently is retired. He came back for this wonderful dedication in his name. In preparing for the introductory remarks, I learned that 26 years ago he urged the faculty and faculty senate to begin to consider a general education requirement. 6 weeks or 2 months before we had that dedication, I was at the faculty senate meeting where the faculty approved the first round of the general education requirements. When I introduced President Coors for his dedication, I underscored the point that sometimes it takes a long time for universities to get things done. I'm not saying that by way of defense, but I found it instructive that it has taken 25-26 years to get the beginning of a general education requirement. This diversity requirement was part of that.

Question by Senator Lott: Given that the tobacco-free initiative has zero proven support among students, why are you planning to go forward with this?

President Sullivan: I'm not sure about your assumption. While there was some division among students, I saw statistics last year that were certainly not zero. We need to be real careful on how we characterize. I received last year, shortly after I arrived as president, something stronger than a recommendation from a committee who had been working on this for a considerable period of time. It was more than a recommendation to me. I asked what the process had been up until this point and if there had been a declaration that we were going to be a tobacco-free campus. It turns out, there hadn't been. There was, in fact, a recommendation that sounded as if it was a done deal. I said we should slow down and begin a campus-wide conversation about whether or not we should do this, the costs and benefits, and what the implementing steps would be. I am the one that slowed down what a lot of other people wanted done immediately. I believe it's important that we have the evidence so that we can get a sense of roughly how many are opposed.

Question by Senator Matthews: Some of these issues on the memo have gone back and forth a few years between the faculty senate and us and they've been unsuccessful. You've had this presidential intervention now. Could you speak as to how these talks have gone? Were they successful?

President Sullivan: My conversations have been helpful, informative, and I think in good faith. I've heard people say 'we want to help and be supportive.' I can be a facilitator. I'm not sure anybody has really played that facilitator role before. I'm happy to do that. While I cannot control the faculty senate, I can keep inviting my colleagues in the faculty senate to take it up and have the appropriate hearings. I can nudge and encourage, but all of these are out of my particular domain. I suppose I might have some direct say about international students and transfer credit policy, as they come under enrollment management. I remember when I was in college I was the first student ever to be voted on the faculty senate. I was the only student for that year and a half. I understand the frustration of students about getting things done. I don't know that I know all the answers or where all the conclusions will come from, but I can facilitate, and if these can't happen, I can ask why and at least we'll have that information.

Question by Senator Krawczyk: I know there's a big push with the city of Burlington to have more students living on campus? What is your view on that?

President Sullivan: We have a new residential master plan that has been presented to the Board of Trustees. It has been distributed here. We can help communicate and facilitate a formal presentation if you'd like. We have a two-prong approach to that. We are contemplating building new residence halls on our campus and replacing some that have long needed to be replaced. That master plan involves taking down all the shoe boxes and replacing them with state of the art, and to work with the city government and see whether or not we can enter into a public-private development partnership to build some modest size residence halls between here and the lake, so that juniors, seniors, or graduate students who prefer to be off campus have safe, convenient, and comfortable living at a reasonable price. Both conversations are under way. We will need to cultivate and enter into an agreement with private developers. These are big projects with huge dollar values, and we want to be able to have a private partner who brings the investment in and works with us in building safe, handsome architecture that meet student needs, much like the Redstone Lofts. This new housing plan is one of the most exciting things we have going. To my understanding, the city officials are very excited about both plans. Some folks in the community believe we should have all students live on campus, while other people believe we should have more students downtown and less traffic back and forth.

Question by Senator Crespo: What do you have in mind for core requirements?

President Sullivan: I don't. That is 100% in the jurisdiction of the faculty. I do think it's important to have general requirements. Part of your education and UVM experience should be that regardless of your college, major, or minor, you share a commonality across undergraduates. There should be certain things so fundamental to the UVM experience that we all have to share it. I'm not saying what that is, but I think there are 3-5 areas that everyone should have as a UVM commonality. Every faculty member will have his or her own opinion about that.

Chair Longyear: What is your willingness to speak at a faculty senate forum on the issues and your support for students and making that known widely to faculty senate?

President Sullivan: Next Monday I will be at the faculty senate meeting, and I will be happy to pitch moving forward with a process.

Question by Senator Lott: If you could pick one area that is undeserving or less deserving of UVM funds and that you'd like to decrease the funding for, what would it be and why?

President Sullivan: If I have permission, I'd like to turn that question around and answer more positively, rather than negatively. It goes back to figuring out what the core of our university is and what we're good at. We should invest in those things that we have huge comparative advantage and where everyone will know that UVM is the best in or excels at. As an example, we sit on one of the most beautiful, natural, important lakes in the U.S. We have very strong research on fresh water issues. We ought to be supreme in that. It's a comparative advantage, given our location. There are many other areas like that. I'd like to see us identify what those are, and then put new dollars in new investments. I think we have to start at the core and work out. As you draw the circle out of the periphery, the further out you go, the less core it is. We can then figure out what we shouldn't be investing.

Question by Senator Matthews: We've seen that the university is going to start using the summer semester and the 5-year law program. Does the university plan on implementing other 5-year programs or advanced degrees and does the university have any other innovative ways to get students advanced degrees in a short amount of time and save a lot of money?

President Sullivan: I think we should be looking at a full three-semester curriculum. One of the great surprises last year when I arrived was the few people on this campus in the summer. We have one of the most comparative advantages in the summer: beautiful Burlington, the mountains, lake, and culture. We don't come anywhere close to using the capacity of this university. Combining that with my priority of trying to reduce the cost for students and the affordability, I thought we should mount almost a full semester of coursework in the summer. We can use all of these facilities all summer. We can really build up our community in the summer, and secondarily make additional revenue. That initial report is supposed to come to me this month, October. It's very promising. I'm really excited about the prospect. That has the potential of driving down the cost of education for students, and giving you more choice, in addition to integrating more online educational opportunities. I don't want to understate the complexity of building a curriculum. If you could do that, you could graduate in 3 years, and save yourself \$40,000 and get into the job market sooner. Everybody wins. We have begun to explore a 3-2 degree program with VT Law School. If we're able to accomplish this, you could get an undergraduate degree and law degree in 5 years rather than 7, and probably save \$75,000-\$100,000. People tell me you probably won't get it accredited. I smile. I use to chair that committee at the national level. It will be hard, but we have a good shot at getting that credit. A couple people have told me you can't train a lawyer in 2 years. I have taught for 30 years in law schools. Yes, we can. Won't it be great for this university to be the first to do this, to lower the cost of education for students? Thirdly, it will help

us recruit for VT Law School. I think that's another great opportunity for the diversification of our student body, in academic terms. I'm optimistic about both initiatives. Those can be the prototypes for other opportunities and big ideas about how we can have hugely successful UVM graduates, and reduce the cost of UVM education. It will require a lot of change. A lot of people won't like change. We have the opportunity to be on the forefront of higher education with a first grade product at a more reasonable price. Maybe it takes a while or we don't succeed, but we'll never get there unless we take the first step.

Senator Fooks: As of last Wednesday, the Board of Trustees Investment Committee continues to refuse to divest from the top 200 fossil fuel companies, as has been advocated by the Student Climate Culture Organization. What is your opinion of the current state of the endowment? I've heard speculation that UVM is more so looking to competitively increase the actual endowment amount rather than focus on divesting.

President Sullivan: A year ago, the Board of Trustees established a university wide committee (faculty, staff, students) to consider recommendations to the Board of Trustees on the financial endowment. This is the first recommendation that has come through. That university wide committee deliberated for nearly a year, had open public forum, and lots of public conversations. They gave a formal report of recommendations sometime this summer. That report was transmitted to what is known as the investment sub committee of the Board of Trustees, who had their first public meeting last Wednesday. At that public meeting, the chair of the sub-committee said that this was their first formal opportunity to consider the recommendation. This is a complicated process; it's a complicated decision, and they will continue to discuss it and come back at a time that they're comfortable. When you become a trustee of an institution, you have an obligation to carry out certain legal, ethical, and professional requirements. In managing an investment or endowment portfolio, there are 3 cardinal fiduciary obligations and they apply to all trustees over money: maximize return on investment, try to minimize the risks of the downside, and to try to smooth out the volatility in markets, so you don't have huge losses or gains. The chair said at that meeting, that given the framework of their obligations, the committee has just started its work. No decisions have been made.

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

## **OLD BUSINESS**

Bill recognizing Anime Club.

Anime Club President, VP, Treasurer, Secretary present.

Anime Club Members: We began at UVM in August 2012. We have since grown considerably to 250 members. Given how active we've been, we felt it was finally time to be recognized as a club. We plan events and activities and meet on a regular basis. We will introduce members to a wide variety of shows. We will hold events such as film screenings. At the beginning of each week, we announce a new genre. Members nominate shows they want to see. The top three most popular shows will be screened on our weekend showing. The most popular series is selected for two additional screenings each week. Each semester we also hold a 'Best Of'. Recognition is, if not the most

important, an integral part of any clubs history. With our club, we have had some difficulty on occasion of finding times and locations to hold our meetings. With recognition it would be much easier to find a location where we can present our club. With recognition, we would also become part of the interests and activity fairs. This would help spread the knowledge of what our club is, and to show that we are willing to accept you no matter who you are. Our only means of communication right now is through word of mouth, and we'd like to improve that, as well as improve outreach to several clubs, and L&L housing options, so that we could cooperate between them and forge long lasting bonds. The most important part of recognition for us is to become part of the UVM community, so we can officially say we are part of the family.  
Bill read by Chair Kauffman.

Chair Longyear: What are your plans of fundraising?

Anime Club Members: We haven't officially requested funding in our constitution. We don't really need money. Most of the anime is provided by members of the club. If we need to, we plan to hold movie screenings or marathons in the DC or L&L.

Question by Chair Al-Namee: When is your general meeting time, and where?

Anime Club Members: L&L A102, 5 PM, Wednesdays and Saturdays

Chair Pope-McGraw: Do you have a Facebook page where people can figure out what is being voted on?

Anime Club Members: We do, yes, as well as a weekly newsletter.

Bill automatically called to question. Vote on bill, passes.

## **EMERGENCY BUSINESS**

### **NEW BUSINESS**

Bill allocating funds to Shooting Club sports

Bill recognizing Young Americans for Liberty

## **EXECUTIVE REPORTS**

SPEAKER CONLON: Originally, I planned on talking about the constitution. I sent out the constitution again to the constitution committee. I'm soliciting comments on that. I've also spoke with members of the executive committee, to go over some of the ideas. I plan to now move forward drafting my own version of operational documents. As you know, Treasurer Barry is going over financial reforms. I'm going to talk to VP Birmingham about appointments, Chair Kauffman about organizations, and a number of you could probably help with elections rules. As far as public forum, there are definitely some people that don't look interested. When someone is speaking, especially someone like President Sullivan who only comes to us once a year, I really ask that you give him your undivided attention. I was actually looking at the Speaker when President Daley let me know that some people weren't paying attention so I had to look away from the Speaker.

When you're looking in the complete opposite direction, it's rude. You can tell when you're not paying attention. It's very obvious. It was a problem last week. We got called out on it last week. As an executive committee and as those of us sitting at the front of the room, we're trying to control and make our public forum speakers feel comfortable.

VP BIRMINGHAM: This week I met with Katie Dowd from athletics and spoke about giveaway options. We decided we're doing giveaways at the BC hockey home game. I will have the date for that game next week. I spoke with the Dean of Rubenstein Friday and I talked about how IBB would affect a small school such as Rubenstein, and he seemed to think that it would be positive for them. On Wednesday, I helped facilitate tabling. We had over 200 participants, which was very good. I would like to personally thank Senator Lott and Senator Madowitz who were going above and beyond to encourage students to give feedback during tabling. Yesterday, I attended the tobacco-free initiative steering committee and engaged in a productive discussion. The committee has been looking at how other universities have implemented a program, as well as trying to shape the overall identify of the program we're considering implementing. My role is focusing on emphasizing resources for current smokers to quit and letting them know that we're here to help. I've also appointed two individuals to sub committees on the tobacco free steering campaign. Senator Love will be on the community engagement committee, Jacob Schnider, a program director at L& film houses will be on communications sub-committee. I finalized the appointments for CAS Strategic Planning Sub-Committee: Student Success - Chair Bowen and myself; Faculty Improvement - President Daley and Chair Longyear; Diversity Inclusion - Senator Crespo and Chair Redell. There are two potential spots available on these three committees. Let me know if you're interested. There are six seats remaining on senate. We've received a few more applications. I plan on having the appointments committee meet Sunday night and hopefully increase the number of applications. I have recently sent out an email to the controllers of Listserv for several groups including ALANA, CAS, CALS, Rubenstein School, Women's Center. I'm still waiting to hear back from the Business School and the College of Education and Social Services.

Question by Chair Al-Namee: In your meeting, did you also speak about the girl's hockey games?

VP Birmingham: Apparently we've mostly done giveaways at the men's hockey games. I was just going with what we've done in the past, but I would certainly be happy to ask them about that during our next meeting.

PRESIDENT DALEY: I will send out my talking points to you all in an email. This week I had meetings with university colleagues and others. In addition to my duties with this body, I'll have further such meetings later this week. I'm very anticipating the conversation with Treasurer Barry about IBB. I would like to conclude with Senator of Week. For involvement in every neighborhood clean up, Senator Ducharme.

TREASURER BARRY: At the end of last week, I sent you all the proposed fiscal year financial policies for SGA as we move forward. I also linked you to the current actual document we have been using since about fiscal year 2010. UVM is switching from our

current budget model to IBB. SGA, as a result of that, wants to be more flexible. We want to anticipate that there might be less funding. We want to be encouraging clubs to take on the role of fundraising more heavily and have them be more involved in the community. We want to control budget inflation and reduce wasteful spending by focusing money where it is needed. Clubs request about \$3.2 million/year through funding. We get about \$1.2 million. In fiscal year 2004, clubs requested \$1.75 million and SGA handed out \$750,000. We've only gotten a little more money since then, but the increase in budget requests has gone through the roof. We don't have the resources. We understand that sometimes clubs are trying to work the system, to maximize how much they can get allocated every year. We want clubs to work with us to get a fair budget request from us, rather than try to work the system. Every student at UVM pays an SGA activities fee. The SGA activity fee and money that went unspent the year previous go into our general fund. From there we fund the administrative duties of the SGA, student organizations and club budgets, and supplemental funds. We're always going to have to fund administrative costs; that's unavoidable. We're looking to give out more during budget season, focusing the money where it's needed, and trimming off from supplemental funding. Hopefully, money will be handed out right the first time, and there will be a reduced need for supplemental funding. We're moving from an incremental model to a more responsibility centered model. Clubs will be more responsible for justifying their needs to the SGA. On their budgets, they're going to have to justify the expenses over a certain dollar value. They'll be justifying to us why they need it. That way, we'll have a better idea where money needs to go to get the best utility. Organizations will have more reward for following the rules and remaining in good standing. We will look at that more favorably during budget season. We're looking at using tiers that will require clubs to fundraise a percentage proportional to their club request. We have different levels for different requests. We looked at total revenue from clubs and requests from clubs in fiscal year 2013 and created the tiers accordingly. We didn't want to hurt clubs, but help them in pushing them to fundraise and help supplement their budgets. SGA will no longer be funding wages and summer stipends for a good number of the SGA organizations. There is a list of a select few organizations that will still receive stipends. SGA is not an employer. If clubs want to fundraise on their own time to pay for summer stipends, they are more than welcome to do that. We will not be giving out student money to fund a job for someone else. Students attending conferences must be returning to UVM for at least one semester after. We want to make sure the information is getting transmitted to club members. Food will be funded for organizations whose main purpose involves food and for cultural activities in which food is a central part of the event. To remove some of the ambiguity of this, we will have a separate budget form for this. The results we help to achieve is having more accuracy when we allocate money, reduce organizational budget inflation, increase independence for clubs with revenue, reduce volatility in requests (consistent year to year), and incentivize leaders for next year to be involved.

Question by Chair Bowen: You have a lot of information about allocated funding and requested funding. Can you speak a little more about spent money and how much we actually recover from clubs that don't spend all of their funds?

Treasurer Barry: Each fiscal year, we have requests for \$3.2-\$3.6 million. We hand out roughly \$1.2 million. We recover \$200-400,000. That money gets recycled back into our budgeting process, funds administrative costs, supplemental funds and club budgets for the following year.

Question by Senator Ben Cares: Have you considered telling these clubs that they should look at past years budget and justify any surplus that they want for the upcoming year?

Treasurer Barry: It is in our financial policies that clubs with leftover money can be penalized in the subsequent year. This has been under-enforced in the past but we will be enforcing this more.

Question by Senator Lott: Are we going to get to vote on it?

Treasurer Barry: We spent about 5 months making this document. It's 20 pages. We read it out loud to each other. We sent it to Pat and Blanka, who reviewed and critiqued it. They gave us feedback. We had the Executive Board review it last week. You guys are now reviewing it. We're going to take your feedback and bring it to club signers. They're the ones who are really going to be affected by this. We're going to bring it back here and you guys can vote on it.

Question by Senator Hershey: You mentioned that clubs that have an excessive budget that isn't spent could be potentially penalized in coming years. Is there any possibility of appealing that? I've been meeting with some clubs and there have been a few people with concerns that previous leadership mishandled their budget.

Treasurer Barry: Absolutely. In our financial documents, it says a club has the right to appeal any decision the finance committee makes. It would go to an appeals committee. We'd review it. We don't want to penalize any clubs for a mistake that might not have been theirs, so we would definitely listen to their concerns and make a decision.

Question by Chair Longyear: How many student senators replied to the document you sent out last week?

Treasurer Barry: No senators replied.

Question by Senator Matthews: Do you see any increases or decreases in the student activities fee due to IBB?

Treasurer Barry: We have had an increase in the upcoming year of \$2-3. Because of this budget model, we don't see a need right now. We have to look at all of the numbers and see where we are.

Yield floor to President Daley.

President Daley: We want your feedback. There will be more opportunities for input looking forward. Please send your input to Treasurer Barry. Sometimes it is more effective to work on something like this in a small group. We'll also be sending out to a number of university offices and officials. This whole project has been part of the financial reform committee. I asked Treasurer Barry to chair that over the summer along with Chair Asher and Senator Ullman. Please continue to provide feedback. It'll only make this document better. Yield floor back.

Treasurer Barry: Come in and talk to me in my office. If you feel like something might be a little unclear, I can help you understand this better. If you haven't read it yet, please go home this weekend and read it. We want feedback; we want to get this right the first time.

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

FINANCE: This week, we met with 3 clubs. Shooting sports is requesting \$3,000 to get to a shooting event. Team requesting \$1,300 for a saddle for one of their horses. Roller hockey requested \$1,000 for 5 more helmets for additional members.

Question by Senator Matthews: They requested \$1,000 for 5 helmets? Could you explain why helmets cost \$200 each?

They gave me an invoice for their helmets and they cost \$200 each.

Senator Hershey: Is there any fact checking that goes into requests for funds? I've heard rumors that clubs will over emphasize in order to get additional money, particularly for safety budgets.

Chair Asher: This summer, we worked on that problem. All the requests come with an invoice about how much each item costs. As part of this model, we're going to put together a committee. If we decide that there are falsely asking for funds, they'll be sanctioned. Yield floor to Treasurer Barry.

Treasurer Barry: We do generally fund very heavily for safety, because safety is so important. When they submit an invoice to us, we take it and we send it to procurement who reviews it, and the company only gets paid the fair value for the item. If there's unspent money that gets pulled back from their account into ours.

Question by Senator Lott: Was that \$1,300 for one saddle?

Chair Asher: Yes.

Follow up requested. Follow up granted.

Senator Lott: How many saddles do they have and must they all ride simultaneously?

Chair Asher: They have one saddle. They're requesting another saddle so that more people can ride.

Follow up requested. Follow up granted.

Senator Lott: Can you email me a picture of the saddle.

Chair Asher: I'll email you the invoice of the saddle.

PR: I'm passing out the weekly sign up for tabling. We're going to ask students how they feel about the new Blirpit system, as requested by Chair Bowen. There was a lot of complaints about Blirpit, so it's no longer a system. Talk to Chair Bowen for more information about that. We talked to COLA and we're requested to do some work for Veteran's Day, including Senator Lott making a video. We'll be working with Student Life's student graphic team to help make a poster. As suggested by Senator Matthews, he recommended that we start submitting the senate to UVM Bored, so I will be doing that to hopefully increase our attendance.

SAC: Thank you for approving Club Anime. Next week, we have another one. We have

completed or have scheduled about 40 club liaison check-ins, and are scheduled to complete them by October.

COLA: I'm passing around a sign up sheet for this weekend's neighborhood clean up, Sunday, October 5<sup>th</sup>, at 11. This weekend's streets are Isham Street, Buell Street, Bradley Street, Hungerford Terrace, and School Street. This past weekend, there was a lot of positive reinforcement from neighbors. A total of nine individuals on senate have signed up for either welcome bags or neighborhood cleanups, not including my committee. I'm sure Chair Pope-McGraw also struggles with this. It's not fun to ask you to help with something every meeting and have a really low turnout. I want to encourage you to come to at least one cleanup this semester. Many people brought up at our retreat that they want to do more community service. Senator Pope-McGraw and I are giving you opportunities to do community service with senate, and I would really appreciate more participation. We are continuing to plan our Veteran's Day event. We're excited about working with the Student Veterans to do a roll call and putting out flags like we've done for a number of years. Senator Akkeh and I met with OSCR to talk about our off campus living workshop. We set a goal that we'd like to make three focus videos by the end of this semester. I want to announce a neighborhood planning assembly meeting in ward 6 this Thursday at 7. There are 6 wards in Burlington. Each ward holds monthly neighborhood planning assembly meetings. This Thursday, President Daley and I will be sitting on a panel where individuals can come and voice their concerns (positive or negative) about the impact of UVM and Champlain on the community. Please let me know if you're interested in coming and I would be happy to give you a ride.

AA: We are currently delegating throughout the memo with my committee. Each senator will be researching topics in full detail in preparation for a meeting with President, Provost, Deans, President Daley and I. This week, I have meetings with faculty senate, CAS curricular committee and faculty senate curricular committee. Congratulations Senator Ducharme for Senator of the Week.

SA: I'd like to thank PR for hosting tabling session on Transloc. If you have any more questions about Transloc, talk to me. I had a phone interview with him last week for about an hour. Their company is from North Carolina. It's more sophisticated and updated than Blirpit. UNC, UVirginia, UMass, BC are currently using it. We're going to be getting in touch with them and seeing if that is something that they benefited from and if that is something their students enjoyed. We had a lot of problems with Blirpit which is why we don't have it. My personal view is that it is not a necessity, but if that is something that students want then we will be considering that. Thank you to President Daley for helping to spread UVM Voice again, which he will hopefully be talking about in his biweekly video. Senator Madowitz is meeting with the Varsity Soccer Coach and moving forward with bussing to hockey games, basketball games, concerts, festivals, etc. Senator McNally is still waiting on feedback from ResLife about improving the dismal basketball court behind CBW. He is also still in contact with the VT Fair Food campaign about Sodexo employees and their response to that. Senator Jonathan Cares is getting in touch with RA's about the bussing program to Jeanne Mance and continuing the shuttles

to the airport during breaks. Senator Matthews recently met with Police Services. He also just sent a report to IFC in regards to the 1 in 4 program.

Question by Chair Redell: How are you working with IRA in some of your initiatives that involve student living on campus?

Chair Bowen: I've had meetings with both Brianna Young, my counterpart on IRA, and President of IRA.

Question by Senator Crespo: Will the busses include the Redstone Express?

Chair Bowen: We're still not dedicated to getting Transloc, but if we do, that can be a possibility.

CODEE: Thank you to everyone who showed up to apple picking. Last Friday, I attended the faculty forum on diversity on campus. There were about 40 professors. We broke down in 8 different groups. I facilitated one of the group discussions held there. We posed three questions and collected feedback from professors. They're very aligned with students point of view. We're currently compiling the feedback we've gotten. I'm very optimistic about the outcome of the committee. SGA social justice workshop will be October 27<sup>th</sup>. The facilitator will be visiting our meeting next week. She's very excited and we're still on the planning stages of that. I visited the hazardous waste management plant that is off Spear Street for a class. While we were walking through and learning about what type of resources they offer, one of the students suggested collecting aerosol cans that the waste management can collect. The suggestion was adding another bin on campus for the disposal of these. That will be something we will be working on. We're still meeting with EcoReps and people from the International Student Affairs committee.

## **SENATORIAL FORUM**

Senator Lott: I'm going to be getting the footage for the Veteran's video the next three days, so if you'd like to be involved in that, let me know.

Chair Pope-McGraw: I appreciate all the people that did sign up, but we don't have enough people signed up, specifically between 1 and 2. I'm going to send this around again. It does count as office hours, so if you're in the office, go down and table instead.

Chair Bowen: There are water bottle refill stations in the dorms, which was promised to us last year. Yield floor to Speaker Conlon.

Speaker Conlon: I did speak with the director of Residential Life and she said she was planning on helping us with that. I'd be more than happy to follow up with that along with you.

## **COMMENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Senator Kayser: This month, my sorority is having a flag football tournament. Half the proceeds go to the Derek Schueler foundation, the other half to victims of domestic violence, specifically to Women Helping Battered Women. The teams are co-ed, 8 people, \$10/person. It'd be super fun to have an SGA team. The winners might get tank tops or t-shirts. It's either the 19<sup>th</sup> or 12<sup>th</sup>. I'll have more information next week.

Senator Matthews: Young Americans for Liberty is tabling tomorrow between the DC and Bailey-Howe from 2-4. I'd love to see anyone come out and show your support for social and economic liberty.

Chair Al-Namee: ALANA breakfast in the ALANA student center this Friday 9-11. I will be there, so you should come. It's a great opportunity for you to eat great food and meet people.

Senator Kane: This Friday at 5, my L&L community is hosting a poetry artwalk focused on the issue of conflict, in particular the conflict in Syria. Professor Gregory Gauss will be doing a speech from 5-5:30. There will be free food, jerk chicken and beans and rice. It's located in the area of the woods when you exit the tunnel. Please come.

### **ROLL CALL**

Finance: All Present

PR: Senator Maslow unexcused

SAC: Senator Renaud unexcused

COLA: All Present

AA: All Present

SA: All Present

CODEE: All Present

**ADJOURNMENT:** 8:45 PM, recorder (1:45:21)