

**Date: October 29, 2013**

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

### **ROLL CALL**

Finance: Senator Garau excused

PR: Senator Fooks excused

SAC: Senators Renaud, Hershey excused

COLA: Senator Riley excused

AA: Chair Longyear excused

SA: All Present

CODEE: Chair Al-Namee excused

**APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES:** October 22, 2013 Minutes approved.

### **PUBLIC FORUM**

ANNIE CRESSEY: We have been collaborating with Campus Rec this semester to bring yoga, Pilates, and a variety of other programs to our new studio space. We made workout towels because the gym is no longer providing them.

KELLY THORNE: We both work on the first floor of DC in Living Well. With the opening of our new studio space downstairs, we are really curious and would like to get more student input about what students would like to see. We've only been here for a couple of years. LivingWell is the name of our office space. Our services are called education and outreach services, and it is one of the units within the Center for Health and Wellbeing. We have a variety of staff. We provide a lot of wellness events and educational programming. We're also charged to be a link of all of the center services within the Center for Health and Wellbeing. We try to have a lot of tools and resources that students can come in and take on their own. We offer a relaxation room as one of our ongoing services. It has a massage chair, yoga mats, and a computer with guided meditation. It's supposed to be a quiet and comfortable place to take a break. We are continuing to offer massage therapy. We have a lot of mind-body-wellness programs. We partner with Student Life to create DeStress Central. We are a space for some student groups to have regular meetings. We have a Living Well student advisory board that meets in that space. We also have a space where students can watch movies, listen to music, hang out, and relax.

ANNIE CRESSEY: We have two members from SGA that are on our Living Well advisory board. Be thinking of things that you'd like to see in Living Well that would bring you in to our space.

KELLY THORNE: We've chosen a 7<sup>th</sup> dimension of wellness model to follow and we encourage students to think about what dimension they are strong, weak, or interested in. The 7 dimensions of wellness include physical, spiritual, emotional, social, environmental, intellectual, and diversity and social justice.

Senator Lott: I would like to see the space. The blinds are always down and you can't see what is going on in there.

KELLY THORNE: We've heard that from other students too. We do appreciate that. There are some programs and events going on that prefer privacy. In some of our movement classes, some of the instructors have preferred to close the blinds. We did intend to have blinds that could open from the top and the bottom so you could see halfway in, but that did not happen. Our goal is to have the blinds up at the end of every day and always have the doors open so students can feel comfortable coming in. If you or someone you know are interested in health and wellness, please think of us as a resource.

ANNIE CRESSEY: We're having our first Freestyle Friday this Friday, so please come by. Please like us on Facebook.

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

Senator Ducharme: I've been working with Brian Reed over the past year to develop an advising document that restructures advising at UVM. He's been a huge advocate for this. We created a memo earlier this semester that asked the faculty and administration to address advising.

BRIAN REED: Over the last decade, there have been at least three major attempts to do something about advising, and they've all been denied. My boss, the provost, has an agenda about academic excellence. This document tries to redefine what advising is and create an action plan. I'm really interested in hearing what ideas you have about this as students. The student affairs committee plans to bring this to the faculty senate meeting in December.

Question by Senator Hickey: How does the Hub relate to advising?

BRIAN REED: We started this before the Hub came about. We would like a centralized location. Student services from each college volunteered to staff this on a rotating basis, so each college could participate in this and know what all the others do.

Senator Hickey: Are they all going to be in the same location?

BRIAN REED: Ideally, yes.

Question by Chair Redell: Where is the money for this going to come from?

BRIAN REED: A lot of this can be done without huge additional expenses. Faculty has advising responsibilities. We need to focus on rewarding and evaluating good advising. We can have student services staff come in on a rotating basis.

Yield floor to VP Birmingham.

Question by VP Birmingham: With this centralization of different advising groups, how are they going to coordinate?

BRIAN REED: I think it's getting more cohesive, not centralized. By integrating academic advising and the Hub, we have a link. The provost office probably has to take some role in the centralized function and ensuring that each school is doing their part.

VP Birmingham: Are these going to be new hires or are we going to shuffle people around that already know the system?

BRIAN REED: There will not be new hires.

VP Birmingham: Are there any ideas of where the centralized location will be?

BRIAN REED: It'd be in the Hub downstairs.

Senator Ducharme: The Hub has already had 800 hits and has been extremely successful. This document clearly articulates and has an action plan for implementation. The centralized advising is and is not the Hub. The services at the Hub are still new, and they're going to be evolving in accordance with this document. Please direct questions to me and I will forward them to Brian.

Motion to reinstate the rules, seconded.

Vote to reinstate the rules, passes.

CHAIR JORDAN REDELL: One of the goals of COLA and of OSCAR is to create activities and spaces in which students and non-students living together downtown can interact in positive ways. One of the ways we do that is Have a Heart. Halloween Have a Heart is trick-or-treat themed and is tomorrow from 5-6. We're meeting at Colchester Avenue. We're still in need of 10 more volunteers.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

### Bill recognizing UVM Olympic Weightlifting Club

Bill read by Chair Kauffman

Members introduce themselves.

Steven (President): We're ideally going to start this off as being a group specifically teaching people what you should and shouldn't do. We are looking to become a recognized team to enable us to help more people. We will be affiliating ourselves as a USAW, which will allow us to go to intercollegiate, national and international competitions. We'll be able to help club sports, the varsity athletes, and individuals who don't have the physical capacity that their passion has. We can help people with nutrition as well.

Question by Chair Longyear: What are your plans for fundraising?

Steven: We're going to host competitions that are open to the UVM public. We are going to do a UVM lift off and a Burlington lift off. We're going to have food-based fundraisers where we sell workout foods.

Question by Senator Crespo: Where do you plan on doing this?

Steven: We'll be in the university gym. We have already been in communication with Campus Rec, and we've gotten a pretty clear understanding as to when the best time would be for us to meet. Once the funding is there, we'll be investing in our own equipment, which will be extremely high grade and ideally be kept on the tennis turf.

Question by Senator Ducharme: How many people are currently involved in the club?

Steven: We have 42 individuals, 38 of whom are undergraduates, on our listserv. We have some continuing education and graduate students.

Chair Longyear: I'd like to propose a friendly amendment to include gender on the bill. This is simply based on your presentation where you emphasized gender equality.

Question by Senator Lee: How long do you expect until you are financially stable and have your own equipment?

Steven: With our current numbers, we are able to go at full capacity right now. Within this school year, we'll have our first couple of sets, including the platforms and the weights. We should have all the equipment we need by the time I graduate next year. The only financial needs we will need after that is replacement of the weights, which is relatively frequent.

Motion to call the bill to question, seconded.

Bill called to question.

Vote on bill, passes.

## **EMERGENCY BUSINESS**

### Bill Sanctioning VSTEP (Vermont Student Environmental Program)

Bill Read by Chair Kauffman

President Daley: Treasurer Barry received an email from procurement services Thursday evening. Upon the return of several vans from a trip to Pittsburg that VSTEP had sponsored two weekends ago, Hertz Rent-a-Car found some of the vans in disarray, with low gas tanks, and one with marijuana. During the investigation process, the club was on indefinite suspension. During that process, someone that was not a member of VSTEP came forward, apologized and owned up to the possession of the drugs. We met with the club leaders. They had tried their hardest to enforce SGA policy on the trip, and had actually met with the person in question before the trip. Although the individual was not a member of VSTEP, we do have to hold VSTEP responsible. VSTEP has proposed to have an alcohol and drug educator at one of their meetings to talk about university and SGA policies. Driving privileges will be suspended until the end of the semester.

Chair Redell: I will be voting yay on this bill and would encourage that you all do the same. President Daley, Treasurer Barry, and Chair Kauffman have done a lot of work to come up with these processes and I would ask that you all respect the work that they have done.

Chair Longyear: What happens to their desk in the galaxy space as a suspended club?

Chair Kauffman: After this has passed, they will no longer be a suspended club so they can have their desk space back.

Senator Lott: How many people were on the trip? What was the trip about? Why was the marijuana of a non VSTEP member in the van?

VSTEP VP: The trip was a conference for environmental and social activism, racism, sexism, etc. There were about 60 UVM students that went. VSTEP was the only group going on the trip that was SGA recognized, so VSTEP rented the vans. Most of the

drivers were not VSTEP members. We informed everyone on the trip that they were going to be VSTEP members, but unfortunately that was not understood.

Senator Lott: Do you think we should vote to censure you?

VSTEP VP: Yes.

Senator Lee: Who was in charge of the van and why was it not properly inspected before they returned it?

Yield floor to Treasurer Barry.

Treasurer Barry: The vans were dropped off at 4 AM. When they dropped them off at Hertz, Hertz inspected the vans properly. Everybody here is a member of VSTEP and every SGA club.

Senator Garau: How did you come up with the value of the self-imposed ticket?

Chair Kauffman: The self-imposed ticket was VSTEP's idea, and they came up with the value.

Motion to call the bill to question, seconded.

Vote on calling bill to question, passes.

Vote on bill, passes.

#### Bill Sanctioning the Vermont Cynic

Bill read by Chair Kauffman

President Daley: Similar to the previous censure. After a conference in New Orleans, 3 Cynic members were given citations for underage drinking. SGA funds were used to go on this trip, so they were representing UVM. We'll provide a censure and then we'll work out with them some type of community service project to educate the Cynic.

Question by Senator Lott: How many Cynic members went on the trip? Do you think we should censure you? Were there any of age Cynic members at the same bar as the underage members?

Mike Eaton (Editor in Chief): We had 6 members of the Cynic attending the conference. I absolutely think you should vote to censure us. This does need to happen. We will be covering ourselves in the next issue of the Cynic. We do believe in credibility and believe that we should be held responsible for this. The answer to the third question is no.

Motion to call the bill to question, seconded.

Vote on calling bill to question, passes. Division 18-10-3.

Vote on bill, passes.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

Resolution in Support of the Vision and Action Plan for Academic Advising at UVM  
Resolution Acknowledging CAS Departments Publicizing Course Syllabi

### **EXECUTIVE REPORTS**

**SPEAKER CONLON:** I am incredibly disappointed with the decorum during public forum. I do ask that you follow my policy. Please keep your cell phones away. It's obvious when you're not paying attention. In regards to Senator Lott's title request, we almost unanimously voted to keep titles in senatorial forum, but if you do not want to use titles during senatorial comments and announcements, that's okay. Please email me if you're not going to be attending senate. Chairs, please forward me all emails you receive. I have followed up on all attendance issues. There's no snapping on public forum.

**VP BIRMINGHAM:** I met with the tobacco free initiative sub committee on communication. We're still working on branding and imaging. I have a meeting this week about quitting and helping individuals take steps towards quitting and providing resources and positive reinforcement to those individuals. We're still looking for representation on a committee for Transportation and Parking as well as on the Student Employment Office. If you're interested, please contact me. I'd like to recognize all the new members of the body for coming in with such a positive attitude. I was reached out to by one of the Deans for CAS. I'll be working directly with him on a pilot program for some type of universal course evaluations. Please sign these cards for those that did the diversity and social justice presentation.

**PRESIDENT DALEY:** This past week I had meetings with university colleagues and others. I met with the President's Advisory Council to discuss the housing master plan which was presented to the board this past February. Some faculty didn't think it was appropriate for them to be talking about residential housing, but I told them that it was. It was a really good conversation. Thank you very much for understanding my communication about VSTEP and the Cynic. We're trying to make that process restorative for the club while holding them accountable. For his work on SAC, Senator of the Week is Jason Maulucci.

Question by Senator Lott: What were some of the other names for the Hub?

President Daley: There was a lot around career and experiential learning, and how to integrate that into a theme. One name proposed was 'cielo' which means the heavens in Spanish.

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**FINANCE:** We had two hearings today. We met with Chair Kauffman, president of the alpine ski club. They requested \$2,000 for an additional weekend. We met with the sailing team who qualified for nationals in Newport, RI. Their total request was \$1,350.

**PR:** We're still working on VSOP. I met with WRUV to discuss a relationship we could build with them. We're working on creating uniform SGA email signatures and PowerPoint slide backgrounds. Tabling is 12-3 this Wednesday. I was hoping to push UVM Voice and the Facebook page.

**SAC:** Thank you to everyone for voting to sanction those clubs. We're getting close to the end of club check-ins. We appreciate everyone's help with club check-ins.

COLA: Thank you to the 6 people who signed up for Have a Heart. I sent out links for registration for Halloween cleanup and Veterans Day. We're working with SHORE for our Halloween cleanup. We're meeting in Billings at 11 this Saturday morning. We're going to be driving around with Parking and Transportation Service trucks picking up pumpkins. If you have any snow shovels that you can lend us to scoop up pumpkins, please let me know. We're continuing to coordinate the roll call and reception on Veteran's Day. There is going to be an information session for prospective students who may be Veterans. President Daley and I went to city hall last night and sat in on an open forum discussion about basing F35 planes at the Burlington airport. Neither resolution was passed.

AA: I will be emailing my report this evening.

SA: Senator Matthews resigned yesterday. Senator Madowitz is narrowing down her bussing schedule for events. Senator Falques has finished reserving rooms upstairs for finals. Senator McNally has received survey results for the CBW basketball court. Senator Cares has sent out an email for the holiday shuttles. Senator Lovett just followed up with the water bottle refill stations, and those will hopefully be finished by the end of the year. Our committee had a great video conference on Thursday with a company called Double Maps, a bus tracking software. We got a very impressive demo. Hopefully we will be getting our price quote for UVM by the end of the week.

CODEE: Chair Al-Namee is at a dinner and discussion hosted by Teach for America. We're continuing working on equity week. We're thinking of extending it. We're meeting with the assistant director of the sustainability office so that we can have some type of sustainability training. The comment boxes are starting to be put up. We'll hopefully be working with PR to advertise their existence.

## **SENATORIAL FORUM**

Chair Pope-McGraw: I know we can call bills to question and skip the remaining speaking order, but I ask that we reserve that for when conversation is no longer progressive. I don't really appreciate the snide remarks that are coming towards our committee. I think the friendly amendment to include gender on the first bill was unnecessary. I think that it should be assumed that all genders are included in all students.

Chair Kauffman: Thank you to Senator Ducharme for doing all of the work on the advising documents.

Chair Redell: I believe these bills (from Finance and SAC) are formalities to be put in front of the senate. In supporting the work of those chairs, I'm going to vote yay every time.

Chair Bowen: The job fair is tomorrow from 2-5. I encourage everyone to go and check it out. Volunteering goes from 11-2 and there is a free lunch.

Chair Longyear: Our presenter made a point to emphasize gender equality in weight lifting, so I thought that should be carried out in writing.

Chair Pope-McGraw: Thank you to the senators who signed up for tabling, but unfortunately we do not have enough people.

Senator Ducharme: I will be bringing the advising document to be recognized by the SGA next week. I firmly believe that we should support this document. I encourage you to provide comments and feedback on this.

Senator Lott: I don't think it was necessary to include gender on the bill.

Senator Madowitz: There will be pie and cheesecake after senate tonight in the galaxy space.

Senator Crespo: Please keep our conversations from diversity training in mind when you speak.

Senator Krawczyk: As someone who has weight trained before, I think putting gender into the bill would be very helpful in getting all students to join.

Chair Longyear: There are gender differences.

Speaker Conlon: Thank you to all of those who attended last week's social justice training. I appreciate Chair Al-Namee's hard work. Despite Senator Matthew's blunt comments, I did really appreciate the passion he had for this body. He was our longest serving member on the body. Please don't use the floor to attack someone else.

## **SENATORIAL COMMENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

VP Birmingham: My broomball team will be playing in the playoffs at 9:55. We are undefeated. I would like to propose that the executives be allowed to speak during senatorial forum and senatorial comments and announcements. I feel like the entire body seems to attack each other a lot. I understand that there may be disagreements, but sometimes we should keep some disagreements to ourselves.

## **FINAL ROLL CALL**

Finance: All Present

PR: Senator Fooks excused

SAC: Senators Renaud, Hershey excused

COLA: Senator Riley excused

AA: Senator Ricardo excused

SA: All Present

CODEE: Chair Al-Namee excused

**ADJOURNMENT:** 8:49 PM, recorder (1:50:47)