

Date: November 5, 2013

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

ROLL CALL

SAC: Senators Renaud, Kayser excused

SA: All Present

CODEE: Senator Cruickshank excused

Finance: All Present

AA: All Present

PR: All Present

COLA: All Present

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES: October 29, 2013 Minutes approved.

PUBLIC FORUM

OLD BUSINESS

Resolution in Support of the Vision and Action Plan to Strengthen Academic Advising at UVM

Resolution read by Senator Ducharme

Question by Chair Redell: How can we measure improvement in terms of academic advising?

Senator Ducharme: We're going to do this through exit surveys about various aspects of UVM. For the 2011 class exit survey, quality of academic advising was the 3rd lowest of a set of metrics. We're also going to do this through individual advising relationships. This document proposes a way to measure academic advising in individual advising situations.

Question by Senator Ben Cares: How are you going to assess advising and create and give these awards to advisors, when it seems like advising is different across all colleges and is subjective to the student and how they are performing under their advisor?

Senator Ducharme: I think it's going to be a dynamic process that captures the relationship between the student and the advisor. There will be an opportunity for students to nominate advisors for an award. The incorporation of a notes section will be a way to quantify that relationship and measure it. The rewards process is still being figured out, so I'm not sure what the rewards will be or look like.

Chair Redell: I do support the work of AA but I am going to vote against this resolution. I think it would be better if specifics were added into the resolution rather than saying 'improved' which is very vague.

Senator Ducharme: I agree that the language is vague, but I think the key is to show our support of the document.

Question by Chair Bowen: Is the seventeen page document going to be attached to this resolution when you send it to faculty?

Senator Ducharme: Yes, it will be.

Resolution automatically called to question.

Vote on resolution, passes.

Resolution Acknowledging the College of Arts and Sciences Departments Publicizing Course Syllabi

Resolution read by Senator Hickey

Question by Chair Redell: What is the purpose of this resolution?

Senator Hickey: To get more awareness and acknowledge the departments that have posted past syllabi online. We're not trying to punish the departments that haven't; we're trying to acknowledge the departments that have and give those that haven't the opportunity to do so.

Motion to call the resolution to question, seconded.

Vote to call the resolution to question, passes.

Vote on resolution, passes.

EMERGENCY BUSINESS

NEW BUSINESS

Bill Allocating Funds to Women and Mens Clubs Lacrosse

Bill Recognizing ALANA Gear

Resolution Disapproving of the Shutdown of UVM Confessions

EXECUTIVE REPORTS

SPEAKER CONLON: As you can tell, we changed the seating arrangement based on a conversation in executive meeting. I'm going to be spending some of my time this week working on the constitution. I'll hopefully be setting up one on one's for people that are interested prior to Thanksgiving. Chair Bowen and I meet regularly regarding the constitution, so we have some ideas.

VP BIRMINGHAM: I'd like to commend Senator Ducharme for stepping up in Chair Longyear's absence. I'd like to commend Senator Ducharme and Senator Hickey for the work they've been doing in the past couple of weeks. If anyone is sure that they are not going to be coming back to senate next semester, please let me know. We are going to be appointing a chair for the elections committee, so let me know if you're interested. I met with Kesha Rom, a former SGA president, and a current representative in the state legislature for Chittenden Country. One of the biggest things she emphasized to me was the importance of having strong internal relations on senate. I feel the morale has been a lot better than it was at the beginning of the year, so keep that up. I also met with a few

people from the athletic department about giveaways for the men's hockey game. We narrowed it down to either a winter hat, a basketball jersey, or a practice hockey jersey. We still have to look into the costs of all of these, but I'd like to here all of your feedback. I met with the tobacco-free initiative steering committee and they established their goal date for the policy change implementation will be fall 2014 following an awareness campus next spring semester. I personally expressed an objection to that date. I do understand that pushing back the date will only prolong the amount of time it takes to phase in a tobacco free campus. If anyone has any questions or would like to serve on the steering committee or a sub-committee, let me know, as there is definitely room for SGA representation.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

SAC: My committee, along with the help of Senators Riley and Love, have been doing a great job with club check-ins. If anyone is interested in helping with them second semester, we have to do 170 in 2 weeks. Last time, we brought ALANA Gear up for recognition, they had all of their stuff in order and SGA did not approve them as a club. ALANA Gear runs trips and other activities off campus for ALANA students. They serve a different purpose than the Outing Club, which is a confusion that SGA had. In the past year or so they've been running in collaboration with the ALANA Student Center and the Outing Club. That is how they are getting their funding and resources. They want to be recognized so they can be their own club.

SA: We're in the process of redesignating a lot of our projects and goals for the remainder of the semester and for next semester. We've been sorting through a lot of voice submissions and are coming up with new projects. We're working with PR to publicize what we have done so far.

CODEE: Thank you to everyone for participating in the social justice workshop. Today, I had a meeting with the ALANA Student Center to review the new budget process for clubs and collect their feedback. They are very excited about the new model and so are we. We are working with the international student orientation that will be happening in January. We're working on including the sustainability aspect in the first year orientation. The eco-reps are present, but we can do a lot better than that. The Clean Energy Fund is now taking votes on proposals. Next year we are thinking of involving the environmental engineering students with the Clean Energy Fund. We are working on equity week; it looks very promising. We are starting to work on mental health awareness week.

FINANCE: We had a bunch of meetings today. They just finished so I will send out my report tonight.

AA: Thank you to everyone for your guidance and support. We're looking to make an informative video about textbook affordability, especially for first year students. We're investigating the feasibility of requesting course descriptions and syllabi. We're looking at how recitation schedules will be affected by IBB. We're trying to get a little more structure.

Question by Chair Pope-McGraw: Would you be recommending alternatives to the bookstore for textbooks?

Yield floor to Senator Kane.

Senator Kane: It's going to be a general information video that includes all the options for buying books.

PR: We decided on a VSOP about budgeting. Senator Maslow is working on a uniform email form for SGA.

COLA: Senator Akkeh's Halloween cleanup was this weekend. We're finishing planning our Veteran's Day event. Veteran's Day roll call set up is at 7 AM. Roll call will be in the morning. Our reception is at 1:45 in Waterman Memorial Lounge. After that there is an information session about resources for veterans on campus.

SENATORIAL FORUM

Chair Pope-McGraw: We will not have tabling this week as there are not enough people to table.

Chair Al-Namee: CODEE is collaborating with IRA on an event on the week of the 19th and 20th. There will be tabling and an event where we will be facilitating an activity and helping people participate. We are talking about the possibility of putting social justice training in our operational documents or include it as a part of our retreat.

Yield floor to VP Birmingham

VP Birmingham: There is a proposal to get 2 Toyota Prii as part of our fleet for clubs to use instead of vans for small groups. It would save us a significant amount of money. I would encourage everyone on senate to vote.

Senator Lott: I submitted a proposal for solar panels on top of DC. Vote for mine.

Chair Bowen: The Prii get 95 mpg, while vans get 10 mpg. A trip to Boston usually costs \$160 and it will now cost \$16.

Chair Al-Namee: You have to create an account to vote, please do it. I will send out the link.

Senator Lee: Good job SAC on the airport shuttles.

SENATORIAL COMMENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Senator Madowitz: Let me know what food items you would like to eat after senate. I will be making them.

Senator Cares: There will be candy after this meeting.

Chair Al-Namee: Women's varsity hockey is this Friday at 7. The event is called 'pack the gut'. They need to break a record higher than 1,500.

Senator Crespo: Thank you Senator Madowitz for supplying the food last week.

Senator Lott: I'd like to give a birthday shout out to my father.

Senator Love: This Friday the Dewey House is cooking a meal in the Dewey House in Harris Millis.

Chair Bowen: Saturday at 7 men's basketball is opening their season against St. Mikes.

Senator Madowitz: This Friday, FeelGood is having \$1 sandwiches from 11-3. \$4 still goes to the Hunger Project; IRA donates the other \$3.

Yield floor to VP Birmingham.

VP Birmingham: My broomball team is 5-0 now. Our game is at 11:15 tonight at the Gutterson Gym. Please come support me.

FINAL ROLL CALL

SAC: Senators Renaud, Kayser excused

SA: All Present

CODEE: Senator Krawczyk excused

Finance: All Present

AA: All Present

PR: All Present

COLA: All Present

ADJOURNMENT: 7:53 PM, recorder (53:02)