

- Updates
 - Congrats on Peer Advising Program
 - First Year Student Experience Committee
 - The more engaged you are your first year, intellectually, socially, culturally, on and off campus, the more successful you are, academically and in every other way.
 - This committee puts a focus on making the first year experience great, from recruitment to the end of their first year; supporting and encouraging the whole way
 - Bringing together people from all over the University to ask questions like: What are we doing right or wrong? Are we really asking student what they want?
 - This committee is trying to come up with practices, academically, socially, and culturally for first years
 - Focusing high impact areas that keep students here; working, studying, and playing together
 - A bond between the entire class: common seminar, common courses, orientation, convocation, etc.
 - Ties in with the Peer Advising Program and the 4 Year Plan
 - Homecoming
 - October 1, 2, 3
 - Homecoming, Reunion, Parent's Weekend, and launching a Comprehensive Campaign
 - Comprehensive Campaign
 - Making major public announcements and receiving many gifts
 - Financial aid and scholarship donation are the number one goals
 - Will be at 50% of the goal when the announcement is made on Friday
 - Will finish successfully by the end of 2019
 - Construction
 - Central
 - Tore down Shoeboxes
 - Tore down Angel
 - Started construction on STEM complex
 - Will tare down Cook Physical Science after first STEM building is up
 - New First-Year only residence hall to come
 - In one year, UVM Medical Center will build a new five story single-patient wing
 - All done by the end of 2018
 - Alumni House
 - It was an old fraternity house that is now being renovated for social gatherings of 200+ people
 - Will be done in spring 2016
 - Billings
 - Space will be converted for a Special Collections Library, Holocaust Center, Center on Vermont History, and the Humanities Center

- Will be done within the next year
 - Miller Research Farm
 - \$5 million addition
 - Walking/Bus paths will change according to construction
- Questions
 - Is the Emergency Department staying where it is? (Senator Fortner-Buczala)
 - It will stay where it is. The new wing of hospital will come out of the hospital, but ED is staying put.
 - Is the library going to be connected to the new residence hall (Senator Brattstrom)
 - Yes, a catwalk will connect the two together. This will create first year student engagement and also because the back of library (facing the Fleming Museum) is ugly.
 - There will also be a new dining hall attached to the new residence hall
 - What services will the Humanities Center provide (Senator Cares)
 - Support the teaching and scholarly activities of students and faculty
 - Bringing in guest speakers, seminars, talks, poetry readings, etc.
 - Will there be International elements in the new residential hall? (Senator Zhou)
 - There have been conversations about residential learning communities, but nothing concrete (Pat Brown)
 - International first-year student will live there
 - International Food:
 - There will be different platforms and stations, but nothing decided yet
 - Educationally elements built into the dining hall
 - Is there any talk about gender-neutral floors/bathrooms in the new residence hall? (Speaker Simpson)
 - Annie Stevens, Vice Provost for Student Affairs, would know more
 - All the bathrooms will be private; all will be gender neutral bathrooms (Chair Brandt)
 - Are there going to be offices in the new residence hall? (Speaker Simpson)
 - No, it will just be residential and food
 - There will be a bike storage and repair shop
 - There is a Burlington Ordinance that for every x number of bikes, you need to have a shop
 - What are your sub-goals for your Committee on Alcohol and Other Drugs? (Senator Patel)
 - The more engaged you are in the academic, intellectual, and social part of the university, the less likely you'll be involved with drugs and alcohol
 - At any university, you'll find alcohol; it's big part part of college life in general
 - We want students to make good judgments about their own behaviors, build a culture where people to talk about good behavior, help out friends when they seem to have had too much or gone too far. We want UVM to be intellectually, socially, culturally, thriving, and safe environment.
 - We have issues and we need to help fix them
 - New brain science is telling us that a young woman's brain fully develops at age 25-26, while male's doesn't fully develop until 28-30

- If you modestly use alcohol or drugs, especially marijuana, it will affect the development of your brain
 - If you have 1-2 joints, your short term memory is lost
 - Promoting knowledge, information, good behavior, managing your adult transition, and good practices
- Is any action being taken to lower tuition? If so is there a timeline? (Chair Ryan)
 - No, tuition will not be lowered
 - All economic research shows it's more efficient to have higher tuition, and then use financial aid and scholarships to discount
 - If it was done the other way, people in middle/lower class wouldn't be able to afford it
- There is no linking body between environmental initiatives. What do you think of an idea to form a President's Commission on the environment? (Senator Ford)
 - Great idea; did it first year here
 - "Imagining the environment"
 - Finding out how good UVM really is this environmental sprint. Where are we really good in the environment, compared to other colleges?
 - Made a committee that reported we have enormous strengths in environmental sustainability, but it's all fractured; it's sitting all across the university in little places. There's no unity.
 - Last two years
 - Have been trying to bring everything together
 - A university wide institute on the environment will be launching this fall to give some coherence and cohesiveness to great services.
 - Environment, culture, and financial sustainability are important to think of together
 - New sustainable GenEd has been started
- So what will this new institute bring in? (Senator Ford)
 - It's virtual and then maybe in some sort of physical space eventually
- Are there going to be spots for student involvement? (Senator Ford)
 - Yes, research assistant opportunities, internships (on and off campus), and more courses offered
 - Going to be the unifying approach, rather than then sitting aside
- What is your opinion on moving ALANA closer to campus? (Senator Crespo)
 - Committed to moving it, but don't know where it would be moved to
 - The closer to campus the better, because it's not in a good facility now
 - There are number of options floating around
 - Annie Stevens is working on a plan to bring a substantial number of student affair affiliated offices into one cluster together
 - ALANA would be put there
- Do you have plans on increasing the amount of color at the university? (Senator Crespo)
 - Yes, we are working on increasing domestic and international diversity
 - Vermont and New England is limited in diversity, so we have to broaden our reach
 - Admissions officers hired for this and geographical reach has been extended

SGA Senatorial Meeting with President Sullivan: Tuesday September 22, 2015 at 7pm

- Do you have a percentage or goal? (Senator Crespo)
 - No, but we know we want to grow
 - We don't want to give a number/percentage because we don't want a law suit associated with a target or quota to stifle the goal of increasing in general