



## MINUTES

### 25<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the 2017-2018 Student Government Association Senate

March 27, 2018 | 7:00 PM | Livak Ballroom

#### Call to Order

#### Roll Call

#### Public Forum

- Richard Cate – UVM Treasurer and VP of Finance
  - The budget is about moderation when it comes on what to spend, making revenue, and setting tuition.
  - FY 17 total operating budget was \$654 million. Three pieces: (income/expense, offices, activities), general fund (tuition money), and restricted funds.
  - FY 17 gross general fund “revenue” was \$473 million.
  - About a quarter of the budget goes to financial aid.
  - FY 16 UVM endowment spending distribution was \$15 million. Almost half of this went to scholarships.
  - Private universities have to rely heavily on their endowment while public universities rely on the state. UVM isn’t able to heavily rely on either. This is why tuition at UVM is high.
  - Aside from the past two years expenses have been higher than revenue, which means that budget cuts had to be made.
  - In regards to fossil fuel divestment, in the actual endowment the investments are in the single digits, but the investments within hedge funds produces an unknown number.
  - The move mountains campaign will hopefully get “our kids” the opportunities to better programs. But it won’t pay for things like financial aid and teacher salaries.
  - The problem with anything that Vermont tries to support is mainly due to the population of the state, causing a very constrained economic base. There are no major economic engines in Vermont.
  - Everyone gets regarded the same when it comes to need-based aid (instate and out of state), but more in the recent past has gone to instate students.
  - The foundation was created in order to try and raise more money for the endowment. The gift fee does exist when groups on campus request money and it goes through the foundation.

#### Old Business

- Bill Allocating Funds to Fencing
  - *Passed*
- Bill Recognizing Students for Justice for Palestine
  - *Passed*
- Bill Recognizing UVM Social Work Club

- *Passed*
- Bill Recognizing Contra and Folk Dance Club
  - *Passed*
- Bill Approving FY19 Budget
  - *Passed*
- Resolution Supporting the Implementation of a Diversity Fee to the Annual Comprehensive Student Fee
  - *Passed*

## **Emergency Business**

### **New Business**

- Bill allocating funds to Climbing Team
- Bill allocating funds to AERO
- Bill approving allocation to Catamount Innovation Fund
- Bill recognizing Table Tennis Club
- Resolution urging Reslife to Operate for Extended Hours

## **Executive Reports**

- Speaker Tracy
  - Go Sixers.
- Vice President Woodcock
  - Please RSVP to the banquet dinner sent out by President Sullivan.
  - Been reaching out to different organizations in the Burlington community talking about bystander intervention trainings.
  - Student research conference is April 19<sup>th</sup> from 9-4:30.
- President Petrillo
  - Have several meetings coming up this week.
  - Meeting with Annie Stevens to talk about health services on campus.
  - Meeting with UPB and NoNamesforJustice about the resolutions.
  - Transition reports are underway.
  - Center for health and wellbeing meeting this week.
  - Renaming committee with the Board of Trustees has been formed.
- Treasurer LaPierre
  -

## **Committee Reports**

- Public Relations Committee
  - Ordered stickers for WILS.
- Student Action Committee
  - Got lockers in the Davis Center.
  - Working with CAPS for the future.
  - UPB resolution coming up next week.
- Academic Affairs Committee
  - Meeting with Registrar to talk about exploratory majors.
  - Putting a report together to send to Dean Falls.
  - Meeting with SCRT to talk about satisfying sustainability requirements.
  - Meeting with provost to get a status update on 18-credit requirement.
- Committee on the Environment
  - Trying to finalize carbon offset by April 17<sup>th</sup>.

- Rice fair on April 25<sup>th</sup> in Livak ballroom.
- Looking in to the tobacco ban and cigarette littering on campus.
- SaveOhno: 17 days left and going well.
- Committee on Legislative and Community Affairs
  - According to 7 days the water billing system is out a lot of money.
  - City of Burlington overcharged UVM 2 million dollars over 10 years for water, repayment plan has been put in place.
  - Lively city counsel meeting last night, they passed a resolution not in favor of rebasing the f35 aircraft.
  - 4<sup>th</sup> community coalition will be Friday April 20<sup>th</sup> from 3-4:30.
  - Annual Community Cleanup is Sunday, April 22<sup>nd</sup> from 11-1.
- Club Affairs Committee
  - Will hit 200 clubs at the end of this senate.
  - No new recognitions requests being accepted.
- Committee on Diversity, Inclusion, and Equity
  - Working on WILS, please sign up.
  - Working with NoNames to host a public forum.
  - Meeting with Beverly Colston on Friday.
  - Surveys have been sent out about religious spaces on campus, presenting a budget to IRA.
- Finance Committee
  - Thank you.

### **Senatorial Forum**

- Senators Peters, Deng – Catamount Innovation Fund
  - They are doing very well for a Venture Capitalist Club at Universities.
  - They received 25 applications and have 6 teams in cohort.
  - Demo day on April 13<sup>th</sup>, 2018.
  - See PowerPoint.
  - Collaboration of innovation at all stages of maturity.

### **Senatorial Comments/Announcements**

- Senator Scannell
  - Working with Senator Patel as SGA representatives on UVM food insecurity group, OSCR is hosting off campus focus groups and gathering questions.
- Senator Patel
  - OSCR is also doing an off-campus cooking workshop.
- Chair Mako
  - Comida Para La Gente is this Saturday starting at 6, put on by Alianza Latinx in the Grand Maple Ballroom.

### **Final Roll Call**

### **Adjournment**