

## Meeting Minutes

February 2, 2009

Call to Order at: 7:06 PM

### Roll Call

Finance- all present

Student Activities Committee- Senator Burns excused

Cola- all present

Codee- Senator Valenta

Student Action- all present

Approval of the Minutes: 1/27/2009 Minutes passed

### Public Forum

Sarah Roberts: Student Professional Developmental Fund

Roberts: Thank you for letting me come today. I'm a psychology major at UVM. Ben asked me to come and speak about the student professional development fund. This money is for the society of women and sexual health. I'm using the funds to help with the conference in Italy. I'm using the money for lodging food cost and travel insurance. I'm happy to use these funds and believe it will be academically enriching.

Chevrier: are you presenting?

Roberts: I am presenting

### Wake Boarding Club

Nicole- We want to be a club at UVM recognized by SGA. We want to present what we want done as club. We have weekly meetings and agendas which are posted on a website by our sponsors. We have different fund raising events such as bake sales and other events at Brennan's. Our first sponsor was Burlington Boat Club. Every member would do 5 hours of community service. We do weekly podcasts. We had a dance party last week making 200 dollars. In the future we want to have more bake sales. We were approached by Mike who is a student and he is looking to get a competition for wakeboarding between colleges. We are still in the talking stages but we want to get into a competitive stage along with just having fun riding time. Kansas wants us to come down and ride but that is unrealistic. We would also get sponsored for equipment. We've also been doing a lot of work to contact sponsors but we haven't gotten a lot of commitment until we are a recognized club.

Goodman: what is wakeboarding?

Wake: it's like snowing boarding on water where you are dragged by a boat.

Whitmore- With the weather and having a 150 members and only have a few boats what are the logistics with having a lot of people and not a lot of boats?

Wake: The season is April- May we are going to have club days where you sign up in advance. You pay for your own gas for the boat and then take the boat out with about 6 people.

Benay: Do you have a coach? Have you looked into the legal surroundings? How many life jackets? Who is responsible in case someone gets hurt?

Wake: We don't have a coach. We are waiting to hear back from the insurance company. Everyone must have a life jacket on the boat. All boats must have a certain amount of life jackets, and we are looking into wet suites.

Chevrier: I wanted to know if the executive board was made of senior members?

Wake: There are only 2 upper classmen.

Ash: I'm just curious about the budget of your club do you have a semester long budget?

Wake: We've had a lot of offers for donations. UPB was a big help at Brennan's for drinks. We've had a couple of items donated. The big push for these sponsors is they see our club as a community club as well. We don't have a budget right now and we've gone wakeboarding and done fundraising so we wouldn't need a huge budget. We are also taking with a local wakeboarding school. This could also help with the whole coaching issue. Faculty members have also offered their time to help out.

Dave Zuckerman

Zuckerman: I hope your semester is going well. The state is facing significant challenge like everyone else. Please take a look at the statistics I handed out today. One thing you should not do in school in ride kayak tied to the back of cars in the snow. Its one thing I did before the wakeboarding club. What you'll see is the UVM statistics appropriate state history are the facts. The UVM funding has not been large. CPA has gone up 75% we have clearly lost ground. Since I arrived we were 31% behind and now we are only 26% behind which isn't significant. One thing I wanted to talk about is how expensive school should be in state and out of state. Applications for out of state have gone from 8 thousand to 18 thousand so the money hasn't stopped people from applying. The president was speaking about how many people actually pay the full the price. Instate students often get grants and loans, and many out of states students don't pay the full amount. A couple of things that are going on are that the government proposed a 20% increase to the UVM budget which I don't support. The reason I don't support it is because it hurts our k-8 school systems. The money will be taken away from those grades. I just wanted to be honest and say you should look at the whole picture. A lot of people don't go to college and we have some of the public schools in the country, and we should keep it that way. Today we passed a bill that would give support to VSAC. As you know credit is very hard to obtain and VSAC is one of the best loaners but they are having trouble to get money for loans. The state is saying we can fill that gap by lowering the rates. So hopefully that bill will go through which will provide 50 million dollars of leverage from the state. Hopefully that is something we can do to keep Vermonters college cost down. I would encourage an entourage of UVM students to come down to the state house politics works when people are there. Also the issue of marriage and marriage equality. We hope to have that bill moving through the senate hopefully before the end of the year. I suspect it would be allowed to become a law without a signature which is legal in the state.

Ray: Thank for you coming out tonight and being honest. One thing Douglas had mentioned was combining state and UVM college system? Also what are your thoughts on Vermont Yankee?

Zuckerman: I do think it's something that is worth talking about. I think it's worth exploring. Many states have university state college systems. I do think in economic times it's important to think outside the box. I know that UVM professors are paid more than state professors. UVM salaries could go down if combined. We could have different campuses that specialize in nursing, premed, arts and so forth. Our state college system was set up when getting to Johnson was a half day trip. I think there are a lot of areas to explore. Vermont Yankee I saw it a couple of years ago and for me it's a no brainer and that we need to invest in wind energy, solar and get rid of nuclear.

Lopez: Nuclear is the most efficient source of energy we have today would you support it if it was non problematic?

Zuckerman: If the technology is there then yes. The cleanest energy is the energy we don't use. I think it's a more complex picture and if it could be done cleaner and safer I would reconsider.

Glynne: were you invited to Vermont Yankee tomorrow?

Zuckerman: I've already gone so I was planning on staying in.

Glynne: We've had trouble speaking at with the board do you have any insight?

Zuckerman: I have a decent relationship with the lobbyist but get in touch with me afterwards and we can talk.

#### Emergency Business

VanBacker: We are constructing a party smart website for people to party smart and safely during the weekend. We believe this will be a positive and constructive resource for university students. It's a pretty straight forward bill.

Issadore: I'm just confused to why we need this bill. I know that Chris has had some weird issue. I'm confused to why you need to set a deadline.

Shackett: I set a due date last week and it got postponed it's been going on for a year now and I would like to get it done.

Jones: Why do we need a bill for it why can't we just do by the deadline?

Shackett: It has a lot more power when 41 senators mandate it. Having it come from you guys not only does it show that the students support and with setting a date it sets more power.

VanBacker: We wanted this up as a resource and we need this support not to just 3 people pushing for it but the entire student body.

Shackett: It could have been launched 2 or 3 months ago but hasn't because of delays.

Kennedy: In the end Jay and I decide whether it uses the SGA logo. The Women's Center doesn't believe the website steps back to value the goals of party smart. We should work with these offices for the benefit of the community.

Shackett: These parties were formed when we just in the middle of setting up the website on a CC E-mail.

Paquette: The bill recognizing the student Asian American group. This is Melisa who is the chair of external affairs. Where the student government association of Vermont recognizes the AASU is being recognize the club of fortnight of the dedications to the University of Vermont.

Sanders: derecognizing the Elvish Language club. The Elvish Language club is officially a derecognized club of the University. The fact is that we haven't received any information from the club for a year and a half. They haven't met for the past 2 years.

Sanders: The bill derecognizing the Muslim Student Association. The group has failed to contact SGA and failed to whole group meetings. In this case after contacting the club the president, advisor, and treasury we discovered they have not been at the university.

#### New Business

None

#### Old Business

Resolution Supporting the Use of Pre-Paid Cell Phones in Residential Halls

Lopez: University sees the individual landlines as very expensive. SGA recommends a plan where the student has the options to use a prepaid phone. This bill is to remove landlines, but student have complained saying they won't get privacy.

Wong: Change that to who because students are people not objects.

Burns: Say if I need to use the phone and the front desk is closed what should I do?

Hutchinson: That would be up to res life to figure out.

Glynee: I sell phones at best buy and prepaid phones are not cheap. It's actually cheaper to keep a land line than to have prepaid cell phones. Also prepaid phones are easy to hack. Service would also be an issue because of bad service.

Hutchinson: We were looking into options we would look into specialized contracts to get a cheaper deal.

Lopez: These phones are going to be taken away regardless of what the students do. This is a plan we are trying to recommend this plan to reslife.

Ellis: have you gotten support from reslife?

Hutchinson: We have gotten some support.

Whitmore: What obligates the university to provide communications for the students to the family? What are the chances that one of two students not having a cell phones for roommates?

Lopez: Students pay a lot of money for accommodations I think a bit of money can go towards that.

Hutchinson: You're right probably 90% of the student body has cell phones but what about international students or for people who don't have the money for cell phone plan. It could be used for students contacting finance or calling a relative in the states.

Whitmore: when you live off campus your phone and internet is a lot more expensive. I pay a lot more to live off campus. Is this economical?

Hutchinson: landlines cost 500,000 dollars a year.

Lopez: We are supporting this for students who can't afford a cell phone. Students aren't going to ask every week to borrow a cell phone.

Jones: I think we should be recommending an action plan that would go somewhere. You haven't done enough research to connect the dots.

Hutchinson: You can't just look at the plans and say I pick this one. As a whole package we have to research and bargain for because it's on such a large scale.

Issadore: What you're explaining isn't written in the bill and I don't support this bill.

Goodman: call to question.

## Executive Reports

### Speaker Frank

Frank- I sent out an e-mail explaining the rules. I want you all to know the new constitutions. The first half we've amended and the second half we haven't gotten to yet.

### President Taylor

Taylor: Couple of things, Chair Krodel is resigning next Tuesday. We have to find an intern chair during the process. Emma and I will be soliciting chair applications. I believe it has been sent to the PR committee. If you are interested please feel free to apply. We were discussing SGA funding and expanding the paper and we decided we are not going to move forward to it. The reason is because the papers are easily available online. We are going to put bookmarks on university computers for the paper. It's going to save a lot of money. I'm a junior and I could run for re election but I'm not going to run next year. I'm going to be Rally at the hockey games and start a racquet ball club. I Have hockey tickets for Friday and Saturday.

Candon: are you going to run for election on senate?

Taylor: I'm not going to.

Glynne: Do you know how to skate? This is three years before we've been hanging out before and after hockey games and you're bailing.

Taylor: yes I know how to skate. You'll still see me.

Cafarelli: Do you want your rally cat to remain a secret?

Taylor: I won't be taking the head off and saying hi because that is traumatizing for little kids.

Just: what is the update on the technology fund and VPN.

Taylor: I gave the update two weeks ago, but there is no update since the last one.

Vice President Kennedy

Kennedy: I'm going to e-mail out most of my report. What I need from you are photos. I will send out an e-mail asking for whatever consent. Sorry I was so distracted last week and I got my last gym credit. I will be e-mailing out the rest.

Whitmore: what types of pictures do you want?

Kennedy: I'm looking for anything saying we are fun students and are on SGA.

Committee Reports

Finance- Chair Issadore

Issadore- We've spent a fair amount of time preparing for this and hearing in the past.

Mallea: If you not busy tomorrow at 5 we are going to do fundraising for SGA in the office.

Student Activities- Chair Sander

Sander: I will be e-mailing most of reports. We'll be having the SCUBA club coming in soon and they'll be coming in early so it's not an hour long interview. We are also derecognizing clubs. Next week is winter activities week.

COLA- Chair Shackett

Shackett: Video cameras channels 3 and 5, and 9. I need to work on the cola budget this week. Not much to report.

Candon: we are going to have someone to come February 24<sup>th</sup>. We are having trouble having someone come from Vermont Yankee, and Zuckerman is going to help out.

CODEEE- Chair Jones

Jones: Next week for new business we'll introducing the open government act. We are having trouble we want to write specific and we want all work together to find a common ground. We want to send that out to the list serv. Mikayla is working on her bottled water campaign. I brought this up if you have any questions concerning about the progress she would be a great person in contact with. If you guys were wondering what the budgeting for the committee. This Thursday at 5PM united academics is giving a presentation addressing their concerns about the budget concerns.

S. Taylor: What time is that meeting?

Jones: I believe it's at 5 but I'm not entirely sure.

Student Action- Chair Walsh

Walsh- There was a lounge space audit that was done and it is working on being distributed at res halls to watch movies or study. Also working on the naked bike ride task force. I met with brown about student worker bill of rights. Who on campus has contracts. Student action also participated with cola in a lighting audit and not much has changed since the last. Also working with CODEEE about the water bottle initiative.

Public Relations- Chair Krodel

Krodel: Congratulation to everyone who worked for the pancake breakfast. Keep your eyes peeled for events we want senators at. We are going to be doing fan fest in March where we all try to go. The official coffee with Gogel is going to be once a month, whether it's free coffee is maybe. My resignation is official February 11<sup>th</sup> there will be a chair. My reasons are personal.

Wong: What's the layout for the coffee chat?

Krodel: It would be a table in the Davis center what we need is incentive for people to go. In theory it would get bigger to a once a month panel.

Academic Affairs- Chair Taylor

S. Taylor: I wanted to update you guys to the propose changes to the fall 2009. What I'm saying still requires approval from administration. I really appreciate all the feedback I got from the e-mail I sent on the listserv. There is something like thanksgiving break and reading days where there is reading days. People always have projects due up to the last day of classes. The one constant theme is for the reading

day before final exams. When I talked last week they said they wanted to start the fall three days early and the group that met and agreed on that proposal and failed to take in account other groups like track and reslife. So it's back to the drawing board on that. The new proposed schedule with start on August 31st and we would get October vacation which we would get a three day weekend. Wednesday would be a reading day and Monday Tuesday we would have classes. It seems strange that we shut down for nine days and then get back together. Anyways this is all temporary. The following fall we would have a whole week for thanksgiving. One of the problems we have is that classes start at 8:30 and not 8 and we've had a lot of scheduling implications. Along with that it is required we now have 6 days of final exams instead of 5.

Ash: Has this been completely solidified? How are people going to be informed and give feedback?

S. Taylor: well if you listened it requires the approval of faculty beforehand.

Election:

Corthell: Next Tuesday will be packets for presidents to run. You need 500 signatures anyone who is interested in becoming president. Anyone wants to help me please do. I talked to the cynic and UVM TV and they are going to be filming it. Also looking for panelists as well.

Wong: What kind of people are you looking for this panel.

Corthell: A very wide variety.

Senatorial Forum

Glynne: I'm happy we voted down the cell phone bill. I don't think that what UVM should be doing with the budget deficit. The cynic was brought up it reported that Ben Stein was going to be a the commencement speaker this year but he declined because people in the community showed resentment. This is a public university so religion isn't something that is hinder. I was hoping we could speak next week about on the public forum about the compensation of IRA. Lastly I wanted to talk about the open transparency act.

Mandy: Someone who voted the act down has to bring it back up.

Glynne: The person who voted it down has to bring up something different.

Lopez: Maybe the cell phone resolution wasn't successful. It was my first time thank you for your honesty and feedback. I will look more into the logistical parts next time.

Candon: Voter transparency act is standing behind your vote and speaking your mind.

Jones: Why did the party smart need to be emergency thing? I suggest we have our debate and vote outside of executive session any comments?

Foster: I want to say I want to get a finish product for the party smart website. With your thing Bryce I'm with you.

Lopez: Transparency act I don't see the reason why we should bring up a bill.

Foster: I know wasn't here last semester about the voter transparency happen. Would I be mistaken about Roberts?

Frank: you would not be mistaken we use Mandy rules of order. Last year what we did is that we had one year. This year we are having series constitutions amendments.

Senatorial Comments/Announcements

Benay: It's someone's 21<sup>st</sup> birthday at midnight and I was wondering if anyone wanted to do a song with me?

Everyone: no

Mensah- They sent me a camcorder and they uploaded 30 different segments.

Corthell- First of I don't appreciate Seth stinks on my list. It is senator Candon birthday anyone who wishes to celebrate please stop by my place.

Wong: Please buy your tickets for vagina monologue.

Taylor: come see me for hockey tickets. Board of trustee are in town for the so I will be e-mailing out material.

Roll Call Adjournment

Finance- all present

Student Activities Committee- Senator Burns excused

Cola- all present

Codee- All present

Student Action- all present

Adjourned at : 8:58PM