



TUESDAY, APRIL 14, 2009  
TWENTY-EIGHTH MEETING OF 2008-2009 SENATE

CALL TO ORDER  
START TIME: 7:06

ROLL CALL  
FINANCE: Claire Howard (excused)  
STUDENT ACTIVITIES: all present  
COLA: all present  
CODEEE: all present  
STUDENT ACTION: all present  
PR: all present  
ACADEMIC AFFAIRS: all present

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: move Just from COLA to CODEEE  
Accepted

PUBLIC FORUM

Josh Miller-former SGA vice president

It's so good to see all of you here. I was asked to come in form a few senators who came to me weeks ago and asked me to come in and I said no I don't want to be here ever again but I was persuaded. Finally I made my decision to come in. I am nervous because some people in this room cast a vote to kick my butt into the gutter. I still do believe in the power of student government and student elections and student voice. Congratulations ECO reps because you are the voice of the people. However there were people who were voted out who should not have been. There will be little to no institutional memory of this institution. And that can be detrimental. Listen to the remaining meeting because they know there stuff even if you don't' like their opinions. Not everyone wins in a democracy. I do disagree with some things SGA has done over this past year. You cannot get cocky when next years elections come around you still have to campaign and know the art of campaigning. Find out what's wrong with those clubs and fix them. Put your priorities in the right place next year.

EMERGENCY BUSINESS

Issadore: We recommend an allocation of \$5250 to the cycling club. They qualified for nationals. We set aside money know this cost was coming up. They are UVM's most successful team and they plan on winning this year.

Lopez: How successful have they been in the past?

Pont of information: this year was the first year they had more than one person go to the world championships. They are the most successful team at UVM.

VOTE passed

NEW BUSINESS

OLD BUSINESS

Constitutional Amendments Article 8

Read section one VOTE approved

Read section two

Ford Hutchinson: add student body accepted

Forster: what was our voter turn out as a percent of the recent? And which ballet would it be on because I feel like 15% would be a bit much to expect

It was about 10% for senatorial elections

Foster: can we change it to 10% and define it as being senatorial election

I accept senatorial and not 10%

VOTE accepted

Read section three A

Glynne: It says for a reason but a reason could be we don't like you. I disagree with that.

I think it's a good reason if they violate the constitution but that's not the only reason. But what if they are not representing the student body

Candon: if you have 1000 people signing the petition I don't agree with it having to pass through the executive committee

I would like to here more about that we have that in because it was in the former constitution. We put that in there because we though it was significant that the executive committee be on board

Candon: friendly amendment to strike needing approve form executive committee

No

Just: I agree with Candon, they are chosen by the pres or vice pres. I feel that it's a conflict of interest. People are getting a petition with over 10% of the student body. I don't know why the senate can't know about it. Motion to strike 2 of section three second not approved

Maciewicz: friendly amendment to raise percentage to 20% and to strike the second. If 20% agree to it then would the executive committee really be needed? Accepted

VOTE does not pass

Section 3 B is read

Mensah: with the executive committee is the person brought up in question going to be part of that decision

No

Glynne: if it's made by the senate body I motion for a friendly amendment to add a violation of the constitution.

Point of information: when a chair does something wrong it's not against the constitution necessarily

We say that it's ok that the committee doesn't like you as long as the president approves

Just: for number 2 I think it should be brought to the attention of the executive committee but no vote to be required and it should be brought before senate to vote this is my friendly amendment.

Foster: I agree with Bob. The executive committee having this stop power allows them to have a veto over everything. And there is no were where there is a check on the power of executive committee. There has to be some way to bypass the executive committee. I motion to on this one the executive committee should be consulted but no mention of a vote

I deny that amendment

Just: I think that you bring up a good point. But in my experience I don't always have the best idea if they are doing their job. I think it's the committee members that know if the chair is doing their job.

But that's why it goes to the senate afterwards. If you are impeached you are brought before the senate. I deny that amendment.

Glynne: motion to amend this for an override for the senate body to a 2/3 vote. So if exec says no but the senate feels we should I think the senate should have that power seconded VOTE passes

VOTE passed

Read section 3 C

Mensah: can we do the same thing with the chairs and the speaker with the senators overriding the exec.

I think that would be consistent. I accept

VOTE passed

Section 4 read but 1 does not apply anymore

Candon: is there a way to go back and address 1. I motion to suspend the rules to go back to the amendments we didn't vote on Motion passes

Return to section three A

Ford-Hutchinson: friendly amendment with override from the senate accepted

Foster: would I be correct to assume this is the only mention of impeachment. So if this passes then in order to impeach the president or vice president you would have to get 20% of the students' signatures. That's 2000 people. That's not going to work, that's a lot of signatures to impeach and that's twice as many people who voted in the present election.

I would be willing to reduce to 10% if everyone is on board with the override from the senate with the executive board vote back

Forster: shouldn't there be a way for a senator to do it without the signatures?

That's how the senator would do it, by getting the signatures.

I think they are necessary because the president and vice president are directly elected by the student body. So if the senators don't like them, but the 1000 people voted for them should be the ones to vote them out.

Accepted 20% to 10%

Foster: when we keep doing the senate override with 2/3 of the votes. It means that the executive votes don't matter because you need 2/3 vote anyway for it to pass

I am going with 10% and executive committee with possible override

VOTE passed

Motion to reinstate the rules second VOTE passed

Move back to section 4 read section 4 A

VOTE passed

Section 4 B read VOTE passed

Section 4 C read VOTE passed

Section 5 read

We thought that if they are elected by the student body they should give a statement, but I am willing to listen to reason why they shouldn't have to

Lopez: I am concerned with if they have and it's a personal reason is that ok and they can just say that?

Yes

Maciewicz: what if they refused to give a statement

There is nothing we could do I supposed

Maciewicz: motion to strike 5 B second does not pass

Foster: I agree with you but what if they don't come back to school and can't, there has to be some way of getting around that. Friendly amendment add if able. Accepted

Cafarelli: friendly amendment to change to oral or written statement of reasoning. Because making them stand and say it could be a form of humiliation.

I think that it's in the best interest of SGA to be notified why someone is leaving. I will say must give an oral statement if able or a written statement can be read

Whitmore: I am going to speak in favor of section 5. The turn over rate in SGA is very high and I think there are a lot of people who were elected who aren't here anymore. And I think there needs to be some accountability. We are supposed to be student leaders here.

Krodel: call to question second passed

VOTE passed

Section 6 A read

Glynne: This year we found out the night of voting on the new vice president. You should give us at least a week. Accepted

Ash: what happens in the event of a break of the university and the institution is closed. Would that one-week not apply? Friendly amendment for academic week accepted

Robertson: president nominating the new vice president. We could effectively not have a vice president that get elected by the majority because if only one person gets brought up over and over again.

Are you proposing to add in a stipulation that not just the new president will be responsible but the senate could do it as well?

Robertson: I would propose that the applications get sent out to the senate as a whole and voted on it by the senate as a whole. If you have enough support out side of the new president you should be able to be brought up.

Glynne: can we motion to amend it so it says that after waiting period the senate can bring nominations to the floor by a 2/3 vote.

Foster: It's better if you make it that if the senate brings up someone and they are voted down that the president can't bring them up again

Just: when you open it up to the senate that's 40 people who can bring people up and that can get messy. I think that the president should make a recommendation because they have to work with that person.

Read the new amendment VOTE passed

Section 6 B read VOTE passed

Section 6 C

Glynne: Is Blanka included in this process

Not in the final decision

VOTE passed

Section 6 D

Just: where is the treasurer in all this? Are they a chair person? How do they get removed?

No. The treasurer is hired position and is not even a senior so it's not in the senatorial power to do that or not.

Candon: I think applications should be made available to the entire senate. And anyone on the appointments committee can nominate any applicant.

I will deny that amendment and hopefully the new senatorial body will discuss that when they form there own constitution

VOTE passed

EXECUTIVE REPORTS

SPEAKER FRANK:

Ask you all to ratify the constitution. I know there are some flaws and we haven't touched the bylaws.

VOTE passed

Thank you guys for a great year

PRESIDENT TAYLOR:

End of senate slide show

VICE-PRESIDENT KENNEDY:

Thank you all

COMMITTEE REPORTS

FINANCE- SEN. ISSADORE:

Thanks for passing all the bills I presented and I will let you know that for the first and only time I know we fully allocated on one supplemental request.

STUDENT ACTIVITIES- SEN. SANDER:

We are getting into some core issues clubs are having and tried to provide them the support they needed.

COLA- SEN. SHACKETT:

Demarcate took over city cancel as president

CODEEEE- SEN. JONES:

Earth week starts Monday

STUDENT ACTION- SEN. WALSH:

In Jay's last campus wide email he talked about how every one here is eligible to sign up to be a volunteer for the naked bike ride

PR- SEN. CORTHELL:

Yield to Ana Dru Ellis

Ana Dru Ellis: Saturday at Spring Fest we are having our canvas but we need volunteers so contact me if you want to.

ACADEMIC AFFAIRS- SEN. S.TAYLOR:

We have some resolutions for the upcoming term

SENATORIAL FORUM

Benay: read my email. I can't do the relay because I can't walk. We don't have money to donate. If anyone still wants to have a team it's still registered under my name. If you want to talk to me about it let me know. Sorry

Sander: to returning senators congratulations and keep up the good work. For all the new senators congratulations and start the good work. For those not returning there are a lot of leadership opportunities and ways to impact change at UVM so check those out.

Lopez: the issues about diversity and the environment are a big deal but that's not all we stand for. Bring attention to make sure you guys hear all sides of the spectrum. Students have the ultimate power not senate. I wish you the best of luck.

Glynne: I am very sad to see Chris not back. If I could give a Gormley award to anyone I would give it to Chris. It's been a crazy year. I pride myself for being the voice of the minority. But next year I will be vastly outnumbered and I am sad that I will be the only returning member of COLA.

Candon: I thought that there was a great opinion article in the cynic about VT Yankee. To then newly elected senators I hope that when you hold strong opinions you do your research. To the new elections chair I hope you cap the number of people who can run in a group and campaign with each other. I don't think that represents the voice of the majority.

Mensah: Been a great time working with all of you. Ever since I got on the SGA there have been a lot of great characters and you all really do listen to the students so well, externally I think we do a god job. But internally there have been a lot of issues. I feel you all need to listen to other people when they are talking and try to form opinions while they are talking but not necessarily try to shut down the other person. It's always a good thing to come to senate and bring our full attention to senate. I am going to be spending the semester in Washington so that's why I will not be here in the fall.

Foster: In the three months I have been here we have done a lot of good but we have come to a fundamental disconnect. We forgot where we came from. I disagree with limiting the amount of people who could run together as a ticket.

Benay: There are a lot of people who aren't chairs who aren't saying thank me. There are a huge number of people who won't be back here who did a lot of work who deserve recognition and I wish there was a way everyone could know what all of us did.

#### SENATORIAL COMMENTS/ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Whitmore: I had a great year. Thank you. I won't be returning next year but to the new senate the best of luck. I remind you that there are 7 committees all of equally deserving. There should be equal attention given to all the committees and I wish you all the best of luck.

Wong: Good Asian Drivers are coming back to campus and you should go. And Friday at 7 in L/L there is a taste of Asia thing.

Mensah: I know that some senators might not like the ECO block coming in but the attitude you are showing them tonight does not represent good senators. The student body did not vote for you so come for appointments next yea. For the new senators try not to have too much of a solidified agenda because the student body needs the best committee members to work for them.

Lopez: I was angry I lost but I am curious what these people are going to bring.

Pres. Taylor: UVM racket ball club meets on Sundays at 7

ROLL CALL:

FINANCE: Claire Howard (excused)

STUDENT ACTIVITIES: Jessica McCarthy (excused)

COLA: all present

CODEEE: all present

STUDENT ACTION: all present

PR: all present

ACADEMIC AFFAIRS: all present

ADJOURNMENT

MEETING ENDS: 9:04