



TUESDAY, APRIL 21, 2009
SECOND MEETING OF 2009-2010 SENATE

CALL TO ORDER
START TIME: 7:07pm

ROLL CALL
FINANCE: all present
STUDENT ACTIVITIES: Whitridge excused
COLA: all present
CODEEE: all present
STUDENT ACTION: all present
PR: Buswell unexcused, Baron unexcused
ACADEMIC AFFAIRS: Hannaford excused

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: approved

PUBLIC FORUM

None

EMERGENCY BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

Rifken- Club of the Fortnight

Chevrier- Recognition of the Biomedical Engineering Club

OLD BUSINESS

Enhanced Registration- Taylor

Higher Education Opportunity Act- Federal mandates for institutions receiving federal funding. Internet course schedules for registration must include pricing for textbooks and materials. Required by 2010.

Multi-functional- improvements in info provided when registering for classes. It is unfair to students that this info isn't provided sooner. Also requires a standardized syllabus. BANNER has standardized template that isn't used. Criteria could be required. The system could provide learning objectives, grading criteria, academic integrity, rights and responsibilities. This will also address whether students have access to previous evaluations of professors and courses when you are registering. Passed resolution supporting development of online evaluation process and involve student input. Transparency and accountability are "buzz words", and this would hold faculty accountable. This gives clout when we go to the Provost for such changes and issues.

Wong- Good work! Amount of info asked of professors- what extent are we asking for info? When would syllabi be required available?

Taylor- Syllabus could be archived. Would only be an issue for new courses. Would also be reasonable to expect topics covered criteria (cumulative finals, etc) and textbook info available.

Cafarelli- Who is new Provost?

Taylor- They are going through the search process.

Cafarelli- Have you spoken with anyone in administration about this?

Taylor- I have spoken with Keith Williams (Registrar), Larry Cost (Education & Research Tech committee)

Church- Have you been in touch with faculty? What do they think? Build flexibility in to template?

Taylor- Only Faculty on committees (education & research tech). There may be kickback from some faculty, but I think this is pretty reasonable. This is both vague enough to allow for flexibility, but specific enough for us to hold them accountable

Frye- Separate archive for syllabi, etc?

Taylor- There would be a link to this info from registration page. Syllabus archive would be a separate archive.

Wilkinson-Ray- Are class evaluations public info?

Taylor- That's debatable. There are a lot of questions about what happens to this info. It's also debatable whether it is legal to make this info public.

Baron- Will professors be required to list whether TA involved and level of involvement of TA? Is there a review process before this goes online?

Taylor- Will make note of TA Involvement. Review will be at department level.

Resolution Passes

Resolution on Classroom Clickers-

Taylor- Tabled

Swearing in of Senators not present at last meeting- Gould, Sheva, Lynch

Appointment of Treasurer:

Jones- We're nominating Hannah LeMieux. She is currently abroad and won't be back until end of May. We have been in contact and we are going to try to Skype her in.

We chose this candidate because she has worked in the Finance office as a Work Study. She is familiar with documents, so they won't be foreign. She has been President of Women's Rugby. This is the position that is involved with clubs and funding and budgets. We think this will be beneficial. She's outgoing. She will be a senior.

Ash- Hannah is an English Major and a minor in Art Anthropology. We were impressed by her interview and application. She has made a time commitment to the position for next year. She will be an important part of our team. She's very friendly, has great experience working with her club. We are very confident in her ability and excited to work with her.

Just- What was your ambition for running for the position? What makes you feel like you'll be a good Treasurer?

LeMieux- My mission in running stems from my involvement in SGA in other capacities. After spending a year as Pres of Rugby and working in the finance office, I'm approaching the position from sides that are unique. It'll top off my UVM experience by combining the things I've learned

Glynne- Being Treasurer is a lot of work. What is your time commitment for next year?

LeMieux- I'm a really good student and on top of things. I've taken 18 credits most semesters, so I don't have a lot of classes left to take. I will take fewer credits, but I will have more time to devote to the job for hours and to be in the office. I don't think it will be a problem. I will not be in a leadership role (in Rugby). This will be my primary roll after academics

Chevrier- It's free cone day! What flavor would you be and why?

LeMieux- I went to free cone day here! I would be Phish Food because it's my favorite. It has lots of things that make it tasty!

Ellis- What activities besides Rugby will you be involved in next year?

LeMieux- Besides Rugby, I am in a pottery club and I tutor.

Just- What experience do you have working with finances for the Rugby club, and working in finance office?

LeMieux- Rugby Pres- I kept track of everything for club. Our treasurer had other commitments and I was in SGA a lot planning trips and going above and beyond doing both rolls. I always did things on

time. I worked in SGA at the front desk and in the finance office and soaked everything up. I did a lot of things that the finance office workstudy employees did.

Greenwald- What influence did your experience at Camp have?

Lemieux- I was an A&C specialist at a camp. I taught classes with kids. I was given a budget to order things. I made lesson plans and scheduled groups. I've never been so organized. It taught me patience and how to work well with others. We planned every activity and scheduled interest groups every 3 days. I work until things are done right and I put a lot of time into things.

Rifken- How will being abroad work with you coming back and starting?

LeMieux- We've been talking about this as a group because it's tricky. I'd be back in MA in the end of May, then coming up to Burlington. I will work during the summer to transition. I have gotten all of the emails about UVM finances and I've read them. I've kept tabs on what's going on. It would be hard to think that UVM would be exactly the same. I can work extra hard over the summer to catch up and be prepared and ready to go when Sept comes. It sets me back, and I know this. But I acknowledge that I'll have to work hard for this.

Wong- You haven't been on Senate?

LeMieux- no

Wong- How will that help or hinder you?

LeMieux- I see this as something that we can both work on and learn from. I know it'll be hard and I'm coming in from a weird angle, but it's a unique angle that may be good. I will have to research and observe how you function and work together. I've read the constitution and looked through the website. I'll be present and understanding that I'm coming from a backwards angle. You'll have to bear with me, but it'll make both sides stronger in the end.

Wong- There are a lot of clubs and a lot of facets. How will you address that clubs operate differently?

LeMieux- I have experience with Club Sports and CSC. Diff clubs need diff things. By being present and addressing unique needs, I think I can address these needs. I understand that different clubs need to be treated differently.

Baron- In your experience, what is your opinion about how SGA has worked with groups? What ideas do you have?

LeMieux- Sometimes SGA tries to equalize clubs when they are different. We had to plan a trip in one week which was difficult given the restraints. I didn't have a lot of problems because I was on top of things. It could be very overwhelming, and I saw others had a hard time. Maybe there need to be more conversations and workshops. The info is a lot to take in. My club elects in the opposite season from others. When I came in, I was given a manual. I would implement more support for clubs that operate differently. I would increase communication b/w clubs and Treasurer's office.

Just- What do you plan to do while abroad to prepare to transition?

LeMieux- I don't have anything scheduled yet. I'm open to ideas, and I have time to do things.

Executive Session: start: 7:50, end 7:59pm

Passes

Treasurer's Oath administered by Treasurer Porter

Appointment of Speaker

Jones- Our nomination is Ana Dru Ellis

Just- I nominate myself

Just- I'm excited to be running. I think I'll do a good job on Student Action, and I'd be good as speaker. I've experience with parli pro. I'm well versed in the material and I'm a certified student leader. I've led IRA meetings and I have experience. I would like you to consider that I have a voice on Senate and I would hate to see this held against us.

Ellis- This is my 3rd year on Senate. I made a slide with some words to describe myself. These describe me and my experience on this body. I'm organized, reliable, I have institutional memory. I'm a history major with a minor in Community and International Development. I have a lot of ideas for the speaker job from speaking with many people. There are 5 things I want to do (on ppt slide) as well as others.

Cafarelli- Ana- can you detail your experience with Roberts' Rules.

Ellis- I was elected as a first year senator. I have been through 2 speakers. Both have used similar rules of order. I've seen how each has used their own way of interpreting rules of order. I think the rules are important for efficiency, but I will simplify them to suit our needs better.

Just- I've talked about Parli Pro and how motions are accepted and rejected.

Maciewicz- How would you implement voting transparency? How will you organize?

Just- I can't offer an opinion other than the system we have for transparency but I'm open to suggestions. What we do is efficient. I think the speaker should have office hours. I will implement this on Friday afternoons and I plan to be in the office. I will also be in the office before the meeting on Tues. I have an outline on what happens with Legislation. Agenda and minutes need to go out Fridays. Legislation needs to be brought to the speaker by Wednesday for approval by Monday, then brought to offices.

Ellis- Transparency- I would disagree with Just. I think the system, based on conversations, has not worked. We don't have a clear record every time. I would print a sheet for the night to hand to each chair with the legislation for the night and the entire committee so they can be collected before roll call. I want 2 binders, one in office and one in library containing legislation and voting record. There will be a

copy in the office and in the library for anyone to access. Agendas and legislation- we need time to discuss. I would ask for by Friday so conversations can happen and friendly amendments can be sent. I would send everything out on Monday. I would bring legislation with me so if it passes, we can send it out Wednesday morning and let faculty and staff know.

Taylor- I've appreciated the ability of speakers to be intimidating and a hard ass. Do you think you could do this?

Ellis- Yes.

Just- I don't know if I need to work on it, but I will if I do. I will address things out of order.

Glynne- Importance of institutional memory? How do you see yourself fitting in? You can be criticized in many ways, and you have an important job. How do you see yourself handling criticism and going on with your work and life?

Just- My first year, a big debate was for Red Cross and Chair Glynne did a good job of running meeting. I've been criticized this year and I've dealt with it. In the past I was defensive and I've taken a more intuitive approach and I take it for what it's worth.

Ellis- Red Cross Meeting was the first heated debate I was part of. This was an exception. I've sat through two years and I've seen different pres and VPs and worked under 4 different chairs. I've seen how Speakers Glynne and Frank have run their senate. I think my experience will make Senate more efficient. Constructive criticism is the best thing anyone can receive. The speaker works for the senate and the senators should tell the speaker what they need. The speaker is still a senator. I've faced criticism before and I've grown from them.

Wilkinson-Ray- View on abstentions? When appropriate? Tool for lockdown?

Ellis- Abstentions are defined in constitution. I'm disappointed in use for senators who don't know. Unless you have not read legislation or you are in a conflict of interest. We should be able to ask why you are abstaining.

Just- I see abstentions as a conflict of interest. You should explain why you can't vote if you have a direct conflict of interest. You should vote if you haven't read legislation because it is your job. It's not fair to those who did research and wrote the legislation.

Wilkinson-Ray- describe conflict of interest

Just- Bill regarding RA's and compensation where you would benefit in a way that you wouldn't otherwise, you should abstain.

Ellis- Conversation with exec would be needed. This cannot be defined by one person. If you are directly benefiting from the situation, or if you know because you are involved.

Wong- Could you speak on attendance policy and your own attendance

Ellis- I missed committee meetings last semester for academics which were in danger. I came to senate after surgery. Attendance policy is up to chairs and exec. Committee meetings should count towards attendance. If someone is available to meet at a different time, it's okay to be flexible. Attendance was not enforced this year. We should be held accountable.

Just- I missed 2 meetings last semester- one for Post Secret (IRA event) to help. I met with committee or with chair.

McDonald- would you help put past legislation and votes on website? How would you encourage distributing legislation to students before voting?

Just- Kesha used to send legislation. I think it should be online. Passed legislation should be online. I think attendance should be discussed by all exec.

Ellis- There will be a binder for every academic year that we have legislation for. We don't have voting records for the past, but we will include records from now on. I would say that Pres weekly email should include info about legislation and it should be on website. I don't think students will go there on their own. I'd want passed and failed legislation on the site so students know what we didn't pass.

Glynn- Each speaker on this body has a different style. I was a hard ass, Mandy is more laid back. What will your style be?

Ellis- It depends on a situation. I will have a professional demeanor since I am running the meeting and conscious of what is going on. I don't think I'll be laid back. Robert's rules will come into play. I want a book with everybody's names and attendance. I want binders and legislation. I think my organization would help.

Just- I think it's important to have structure in meetings and establish order and speak in turn. I think chit chatting is disrespectful. I don't think I would yell. I want to make sure we're following our constitution. We're not legit if we don't follow const.

Henley- My understanding is that speaker is an unbiased role. Do you see yourself as able to do this?

Just- We're here to conduct business. If we don't get along, that won't affect what happens in meetings.

Ellis- Speaker is unbiased, but can hand over gavel if deemed necessary. It is difficult to remain unbiased, but my experience is from a wide range. I like to take in info and learn. I think it would be easier because senators will be able to present ideas. I'd love to see and hear what others say. I think there's a point when new ideas need to be heard.

Burns- Rewrite constitution- what do you mean?

Ellis- Not just chair of constitution committee. I would re-open immediately next week and have communication over the summer about ideas to change. I have constitutions from the past 2 years. I believe there are inconsistencies. There needs to be creation of by-laws. There's a lot about what we can't do, but there should be what we can do. I want to cover more parameters.

Burns- I didn't see you at constitutional committee. Why weren't you involved?

Ellis- I had a time commitment that prevented me from participating.

Just- The structure needs a face lift. We need by-laws about logistics that can be readily changed. I worked on IRA's constitution last year and it's been a great change. This will be a main role of my position

Benes- What changes do you see us making for institution?

Just- This new group, I don't know what to expect. I'm excited to get to know you. I've heard great ideas in Student Action. I know there's a lot of motivation.

Ellis- Things need to change. Transparency needs to be fixed which will be a huge project. I don't know other ideas from other committees. This is an entirely new senate. I've seen many ideas put out and I was amazed at what we've done. I think we will be making changes to be foreseen.

Executive session- 8:41pm

Executive session ends 8:53pm

Ellis appointed.

Frank administers Oath

EXECUTIVE REPORTS

SPEAKER ELLIS:

Thank you and start thinking about constitution committee.

PRESIDENT JONES:

My first campus wide email went out and I'd love feedback. I plan on having an SGA matters blurb with links to our legislation. Adding extra stuff overloads the system. I want to make a plug for the naked bike ride. We will talk about finances from SGA, and whether they will. This is an issue that because of safety procedures there is a need for a financial obligation. It is in the air who should be financially obligated. This has to do with security costs. We tried to get student volunteers to help to alleviate need for outside security. If we can't organize to run this properly the University might try to do something about the event. The 27th and 28th there are hour long training sessions for volunteers. We need 175. Last I heard there are about 30. Contact me for training info. We met with Gary Derr earlier. Phase 2- depends on Trustee meeting in May. We're looking at trying to fill \$1million burden. I have details if you want. Next week Tues Wed Thurs from 2-3pm there is time for student interviews for candidates for the Provost. Contact your chair if you want to participate.

They are investing \$2.5million in a committee of Deans and Dept Chairs to allocate back to departments for improvements in quality of education.

Thank you for confirming our nomination for Treasurer, and we are excited for new speaker.

Wong- How did grad dean interviews go?

Jones- Interview went well. I have a preference, but we can discuss. They have different skill sets.

Maciewicz- Updates on gender blind housing recommendation?

Jones- I need to check on this.

Just- POI- passed by reslife. Going to BOT, will be for year after this.

VICE-PRESIDENT ASH:

Logistics- Please use your email accounts and make sure that webmail is checked from somewhere. A majority of info comes this way. We have name tents! Only 22 people are registered on The Lynx. I would like to see you all registered. It takes about 30 seconds. This is a good way to keep contact. There is a summer info and contact sheet that needs to be filled out by April 28. We need bio info for the website. We need all this for transparency. See me w/ questions.

Orientation- we have a table for SGA with info in the Davis Center. We need representation for those who will be around and can spend some time.

If you will be late or absent, please notify your chairs. Last meeting is next week.

Wong- If your email bounces back 3 times you will be automatically be kicked off the listserv.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

FINANCE- SEN. CAFARELLI:

We have some pending things during transition. We are learning how to do gas supplemental forms. We will have emergency business for Hockey next week.

STUDENT ACTIVITIES- SEN. CHEVRIER:

Many clubs are requesting recognition. I brought one in New Business and some may come in Emergency Business. We will discuss policy events for next year. We need to start planning workshops. Join the Lynx! It's really important and it's our networking tool for clubs.

COLA- SEN. GLYNNE:

We've contacted administrators and community members and we will continue outreach. We're going to city council on Monday and we have Community Coalition on Friday. We have a meeting with Joe Spidel and Clarence Davis, maybe Karen Meyer to introduce everyone. We'll work on green economy issues. This will get our foot in the door for other issues. For summer we'll try to meet w/ state and federal reps here in VT. We'll discuss state of VT economy. Let us know if you have any issues you'd like us to take up.

CODEEE- SEN. WONG:

CODEEE is on the Lynx! We're looking at food on campus and issues. Compost, freedom of information act, re-evaluate American Red Cross, banning plastic bags on campus, sustainability in curriculum.

McDonald- We gave out reusable water bottles today and no bottled water was sold. Fox 44 News will do report on it at 10 tonight.

STUDENT ACTION- SEN. WILKINSON-RAY:

Tix me off- encourage people to use! Talked about meal plan, involve Feel Good. Talked about nutritional labeling, Student workers bill of rights. SGA visibility- have table during lunch in Davis Center.

Wong- I sat on Davis Center focus group. Talked about revamping Brennan's. Kate Strotmeyer and FM are working on this.

PR- SEN. RIFKEN:

Relay for Life is this weekend. We need people on our team!

Buswell- Relay is a 12 hour marathon. We'll walk in shifts. You receive pledges for cancer research.

Rifken- Please join the team. We are tabling Thurs and Fri. Please sign up to table outside Davis Center. I have schedule of events. We raised money with our handprint board.

Naked Bike Ride- We're having a clothing drive.

VSOP- Poll sent to all students. If you have questions that you would like included, please send them to me.

I hope some of you are available for Orientation.

Buswell- Can committees submit questions for future legislation?

Rifken- Yes, this would be useful.

ACADEMIC AFFAIRS- SEN. S.TAYLOR:

Senator Burn's signature will be on the bill passed tonight. Our committee will focus on budget cut issues as they relate to academic quality and layoffs. I have several committee members who are eager to take this on and investigate and we will put together a formal recommendation in the form of legislation. I'm also interested in how we can conserve academic quality in the face of potentially irreversible layoffs. This is part of my reason for putting together a resolution regarding clickers. This is a good way to take attendance in large classes and to assess student level of comprehension and to assess fairness of exams and quality of education. It encourages engagement. I understand and agree with the concern for producing additional waste. I will also look into current use of clickers and issues with them. I'll email more about our committee activities.

Cafarelli- I have a clicker in my room. Do you want to mandate recycling of clicker?

Taylor- You can reuse clicker and it can be used in multiple classes. It would be nice if someone could manage recycling used clickers.

Buswell- Will the resolution formally advocate for policy of use of clickers?

Taylor- For recycling or recirculation

SENATORIAL FORUM

Jones- I forgot in my report- I need to select an Elections Chair. I don't know a majority of the senators. I am appointing Chair Rifken for first year elections so PR can run this. We will have to change this so that Chair Rifken can run again next year.

Cafarelli- Is this a nomination? Do we vote?

Jones- It's just an appointment

Glynne- Very effective deliberation on Speaker. Good job to everyone.

SENATORIAL COMMENTS/ANNOUNCEMENTS:

McDonald- It's earth week and tomorrow is earth day. There are a lot of events going on. Key note speaker tomorrow- Global Ecology and Social Justice- 4-5pm in Silver Maple. Thurs lecture by Jessy Tolkan from Powershift. www.uvm.edu/climatechange has schedule.

Venman- Students stand up organizing a sit in at 2:45 on first floor of DC

Buswell- May 2 is state wide green up- try to reserve some time to clean up.

Ellis- it's holocaust remembrance week and there are events- www.uvmhillel.org for events

ROLL CALL:

FINANCE: all present

STUDENT ACTIVITIES: Waldvogel excused, Whitridge excused

COLA: all present

CODEEE: all present

STUDENT ACTION: Brown excused

PR: all present

ACADEMIC AFFAIRS: Hannaford excused

ADJOURNMENT

MEETING ENDS: 9:43pm