



TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 8, 2009
FIFTH MEETING OF 2009-2010 SENATE

CALL TO ORDER
START TIME: 7:02 pm

ROLL CALL
FINANCE: All Present
STUDENT ACTIVITIES: Senator Fromuth unexcused
COLA: All Present
CODEEE: Senator Adams excused
STUDENT ACTION: Senator Church excused
PR: Senator Buswell excused
ACADEMIC AFFAIRS: All Present

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Apr 28' 2009 minutes passed, September 1' 2009 Passed

RULES SUSPENDED: Senator Glynne reads "Resolution Congratulating Chief Lianne Tuomey on Becoming UVM's First Female Chief of Police."
Senator Glynne: Call to Question?
Senator Just: Point of Order- Do we need to bring back the rules in order?
Speaker Ellis: NO we do not- All those in favor of resolution please say "I"- PASSES unanimously- Applause

Chief Tuomey: Thank you so much all of you. I appreciate it. Please do not hesitate to reach out to me or any of the other officers on campus. Have a very safe semester!
Senator Cafarelli- motion to reinstate rules
Speaker Ellis- All those in favor of resolution please signify with and "I"
Passes- rules reinstated

Speaker Ellis- any emergency business tonight NO

PUBLIC FORUM

No one

EMERGENCY BUSINESS

NEW BUSINESS

None

OLD BUSINESS

Appointments:

Vice President Ash- Thank you guys for your cooperation. I would like to call up four members for appt. One member dropped out tonight so we will just have five come before us tonight.

Senator Ellis: Please state your name year and blurb about yourself

John Lowery: 3rd year student, first year here. Nice to see you all. Thanks for the opportunity to be heard. I am qualified due to my ac success as well as life experience. I bring a lot to table. I know the meaning of true comradory, I have also seen great acts as well. I am better person due to this. Thank you. I am off campus applicant

Jeff Whitmore: Junior off campus political science, economics and spanish minor. I enjoy working with SGA in the past year. I want to be back. I love UVM community I do a lot of different things. Would appreciate the opportunity to come back and work with you all

Foster- Senior Political Science Major with Economics and Philosophy minor. Twice elected once appointed. I did not run last year as I had a lot of things going on. I now do not have this problem. I worked with Barack Obama campaign. I want to lobby statehouse on budget cuts and fight for interests of student. Thank you!

Julia- I am junior off campus student political science major. SGA as first year and sophomore but went abroad and want to get back on to SGA. Excited because of all the stuff that is going on

Lucas- On campus sophomore. Engineering major. Was on COLA. That's about it.

Questions

Senator Glynne- What else do you want to do on SGA? I have only two spots and you all applied for COLA. Where else do you want to go?

Lucas Morgan- Student Activities- I want to do some hands on stuff with student population. I did not do this on COLA.

Julia Michel- I want to do other things as all committees are important, Student Action is also where I want to go. Everyone works together.

Eddy Foster- I am also on cola, I want to be on CODEEE because I want to fight the power. I want to introduce bill to stop bottled water on campus. This is what I care about

Jeff Whitmore- I did not request to be on COLA. I did Academic Affairs last year and would like to know do this because is about learning and that is what we need to continue to do. However I now would like to be on Public Relations. I want to make SGA a popular thing so that everyone knows what's going on. SGA needs to be more publicly known. PR would be great for me and my initiatives.

Jon Lowery- I would like to look into Student action. Student safety is a very big thing. I am a personal protection expert. I know what to do I have military background.

Q Senator Chevrier- What did you guys do on senate when you were on and if not what have you done outside senate?

Jeff Whitmore- on Academic Affairs I did more than just resolutions I looked at academic structures. We got involved with academic integrity council and looked into violations of the code. I sat on council and figured out ways to guide students that were found guilty of violating this code. This was the best thing I did on SGA.

Eddy Foster- I did help out with Party Smart- I passed the gay marriage bill last year that was forwarded to all state legislators. I sent letter to all state reps and it passed the second time around in Montpelier. I helped to get gay marriage in this state.

Julia Michel- I created Party Smart- I worked with Office of Student and Community Relations and other offices to create a website that educated students on safe drinking not abstinence. I also talked to students on campus and asked them what they were concerned with. Such things as educating students about dry residence halls.

Lucas Morgan- Chair Shackett and I would go weekly to Burlington City Council as well as monthly Community Coalitions meetings. I did a lot of research on Vermontt Yankee. I helped out with all of the small things. My opinion helped and forged what COLA was working on.

Question from Senator Barron- What is pub image of SGA?

Jon Lowery- Image of SGA is that it is the governing body of UVM. I would not change it. I think that SGA has done so much and can only grow and make its name even more positive.

Jeff Whitmore- My perception of SGA is that it is vague image. We are not that popular. We need to get our name out their more with students. If we can get out there more we will better our name. Image can be improved

Eddy Foster- I agree with Jeff, it is a mixed image of what SGA is. Students don't quite know what's going on. They think of Yankee and red cross, there is so much more. Students need to know about the good things we do.

Julia Michel- Image of SGA is shaped completely by stories that are in the cynic. Propaganda is making SGA image not well. Image should be shaped by the people in this room. Senators need to make SGA a better name. Too much turn over last semester which can be a positive thing.

Lucas Morgan- SGA is not well known. I applied last year and it was because my RA got me involved. I had to do a lot of research because I had no clue what was going on. A kid in my dorm is running and I really want to help him. This image can change SGA. SGA needs to go out in large gatherings and make image for itself and know what the governing body stands for.

Senator Just- What is one thing you would never like to see changed about UVM? What is the Animal you would like to be.

Lucas Morgan- I love community around UVM. I love the area and don't want it to change. If I could be an animal it would be a Cheetah

Julia Michel- I would not change the weirdness of campus. If I could be one animal it would be a Cheetah

Eddy Foster- I would not change how environmentally friendly UVM is. It should stay that way. I would like to be a HummingBird.

Jeff Whitmore- Naked Bike Ride should never go. I participate. I want to be a Dolphin.

Jon Lowery- I love the diversity. I lived in south for a while and people are close minded. Everyone is equal here. I would love to be a bear.

Question from Senator Henley- What do you do on campus beside senate?

Lucas Morgan- I am engineering major and have different view than most here. I represent a big amount of students like myself her on campus. I connect with that group of students.

Julia Michel- I write for cynic. I do a weekly column. I am going on trip with outing club this weekend.

Eddy Foster- I am former president of college democrats at UVM, I am involved with many campus advocacy groups. People know me and they like me.

Jeff Whitmore- I am in Greek life, I work at CSES, I represent a lot of different people her on campus. I do a lot of volunteering. Big brother to a kid in Burlington.

Jon Lowery- I try to be involved as much I can in the Catholic community- I just joined Catholic club. I work at ACT one and work with drug addicts. It is a tough job. I have been in political and legal realm my whole life. MY family is Lawyers and Politicians.

Question from Senator Barron- What are your top issues you will tackle on senate?

Jon Lowery- My main issue is student safety . I live downtown and here all these horror stories about fights and other things. This is bad stuff and would like to work towards ending these problems. Student safety is what is most important.

Jeff Whitmore- One of my goals is to improve overall image of SGA. I would do this by working with Public Relations. I want to tackle tax issues.

Eddy Foster- I want to tackle VSAC and student loans. State revenue is down and we have opportunity to spear head something to be able to make sure budget does not get cut. Higher education needs to be a high priority.

Julia Michel-I want to make a student bill of rights. A very in depth one that is just like any bill of rights. I want to further the party smart website. There are great t shirts that have been made. And we can do more.

Lucas Morgan- I want to tackle student housing and make sure that all students do not have to be pushed to live on campus. This cannot happen and I want to fight against it. What ever committee I get on I will work hard.

Question from Senator Wilkinson Ray- motion to move into exec session?

Passed.

Speaker Ellis- everyone please leave room.

Exec Session over!

Lucas Morgan, Julia Michel and Jeff Whitmore got on!

Jeff Whitmore is on Public Relations

Lucas Morgan is on Student Activities

Julia Michel is on Student Action

Speaker Ellis- The three new Appointees take oath of office from Speaker Ellis. They are excited!

Applauses

Constitution-

Speaker Ellis- Please every one understand that this summer the constitution was rewritten. It will now be operable. On Saturday the constitution committee met for seven and a half hours and it went well thank you all. We will go through the entire constitution by sections. Senator Ash has gavel.

Senator Church- Did edited version get sent out. When was this. That was at 1:04 am this morning.

Speaker Ellis- We will be starting with the preamble. Any questions?

Just I forgot did we send this to the student body.

Speaker Ellis. We do not have to and I did not. Must be presented in public hearing. Our meetings are public.

Vice President Ash- Any questions on article 1?

Any questions on article 2?

Senator Maciewicz - PASS

Senator Glynne- are we aloud to offer friendly amendments on documents.

Ellis- Please wait till operational document section.

Vice President Ash- Any questions on Article 3 or 4?

Senator Glynne- on article four sections A and Section 4 are repeats.

Speaker Ellis They are different because subsection A is for Appointees and 5 is for those who are elected.

Senator Church- The section which says that senators have to be at both first semester and second semester retreats is redundant. Friendly amendment?

Speaker Ellis- I will not accept as in section one it clarifies this.

Senator Church- Are we all SGA members then?

Speaker Ellis- Yes both exec and leg branch.

Senator Church- I offer another friendly amendment?

Speaker Ellis- I do not accept

Speaker Ellis- It now says each member of senate is responsible for attending retreats.

Senator Glynne- Friendly amendment on Article 4 Section B sub 17 to say 48 hours instead of 24 hours.

I would also respectfully ask that you get rid of vice chairs. This happened two years ago and I would like to know get rid of it and the vice chair does not know what is going on.

Speaker Ellis- Before accepting this I would like to recognize a member of the constitution committee to talk about why they decided to put vice chairs in consitution.

Senator Maciewicz- This vice chair is just someone who takes the place of the chair when he/she is absent. It is nothing more we need this.

Speaker Ellis- I would like to hear form more members of the body.

Senator Cafarelli- I do not want to have to single one member of the committee out to have more power than others. It would be too much training to give to that individual.

Senator Just- I hear these good points. Is there a way that it can be optional?

Speaker Ellis- I accept Glynnes friendly amendment to strike this.

Senator Wilkinson Ray- Are you going to put vice chair in operational documents?

Speaker Ellis- No

Senator Wilkinson Ray- So vice chairs have no power?

Speaker Ellis- Vice chair was never in constitution anyway. Now that this out of constitution chairs can have a vice chair if they want to now.

Speaker Ellis- Vice chairs are not members of executive committee. You can send member of committee and that is up to chair of exec committee.

President Jones- My exec meetings are open meetings. So any one can come to it.

Senator Wilkinson Ray- Follow up Article 4 sect A sub 11 Each member of senate shall hold office hours. Senators do not have offices?

Speaker Ellis- Every committee has office hours and any committee members can use those desks.

Senator Wilkinson Ray- So how many hours do my senators have to do?

Vice President Ash- When I sit on DC advisory committee I see that each lease for a desk require 15 hours a week. So divide those amongst the committee and you will get each persons hours.

Senator Church- Does every member of senate have to have hours?

Speaker Ellis- yes

Senator Just- section B of Article 3 Does this mean that senate as a whole does not vote on this rather the exec committee.

Speaker Ellis- Appointments process is voted on. This process then goes as amendment into operational documents. These processes will evolve throughout the year. If the next president decides to change appointment process then it will have to be done two weeks into year semester.

Senator Glynne- Article 4 subsection B What do we do when there is no chair. Why don't we have President or Vice President named interim chair.

Senator Church- Art 4 sect 3 Sub E Just want to change eggings to beginnings just a quick grammar check.

Speaker Ellis- That will be accepted

Senator Taylor- Section F 1 B please change faculty senate committee to Faculty Senate Curricular Affairs Committee

Speaker Ellis- So accepted

Senator Glynne- Does our advisor have to be Director of Student life?

Speaker Ellis- I don't know

Senator Just- Can we change number 2 to SGA exec branch.

Speaker Ellis- Accepted

Vice President Ash- Article 6 will now be discussed

Vice President Ash- Article 7 will now be discussed

Vice President Ash- Article 8 will now be discussed

Vice President Ash- Article 9?

Vice President Ash-Article 10?

Vice President Ash- Article 11?

Vice President Ash- Article 12?

Senator Just- never mind, PASS

Vice President Ash- Article 13?

Senator Henley- Does 10 percent always have to be the number for a petition.

Speaker Ellis- No, but that is they way I would like to keep it.

Senator Henley- A petition with a large number of signatures bears a lot of weight. Does this block the students voice? I think it should be more.

Speaker Ellis- This petition has never been used, the student voice will always be heard in this room as this is a public meeting.

Senator Glynne- 10 percent is all who votes any ways so we are not blocking any student voices.

Ash- Article 13?

Senator Just- As far as impeachment goes oh know! I am on wrong article

Vice President Ash- Article 14?

Senator Just- I don't think we should be using this process for impeachment. It should be fewer signatures. There should also be more involved in impeaching people.

Speaker Ellis- I feel that the way it is said in the current setting it should just be kept the way it is. The only way this can happen is by doing something unconstitutional. There is a very set process laid out. The old process was absurd this new one that I have laid out is really good. I hope my explanation helps.

Senator Just- I understand

Senator Taylor-Sect D sub 2 since when is chair of AA no longer third in command. Treasurer should not become third in command.

Speaker Ellis- Who should it be then? Elections are called instantaneously and this is never going to happen, we should leave it the way it is.

Senator Allendorfer- Going back to article 9 sub A we should not define conflict of interest as conflict.

Speaker Ellis- This is a sticky situation as all of us where so many hats. It is impossible to specifically define it. It should be specific for each case.

Senator Henley- two questions? The treasurer filling the position? My concern is that the student body would be deceived as the Treasurer is not a student elected position.

President Jones- The treasurer position is one who will probably never have to take this position of power and I don't think we need to worry about it.

Senator Henley- If the speaker of senate becomes VP temp is it not a conflict of interest when speaker takes VP position?

Senator Glynne- two things on conflict of interest it has come up three times in my years and has never happened even though it has been petitioned for. On appt's the student body has the faith that us senators can do our job to be able to successfully appt new senators when vacancy happens

Vice President Ash- Article 15 or 16?

Senator Glynne- The constitution is our operating document- So what I propose is that we make it harder to open so that we can keep it as good as it is now.

I propose that we do another check that makes it very hard to open this up. We need to add some teeth to this.

Speaker Ellis- Do you have a specific friendly amendment to offer?

Senator Glynne- A three fourths vote of the Senate and a letter from our advisor.

Speaker Ellis- I would like to see the letter first?

President Jones- I think that this is a foolish idea as we should not have an administrative step to open a STUDENT document.

Speaker Ellis- I think in a student wide vote we should ask if they want us to open it?

Senator Just- I think that we should always have two weeks prior to voting on amendments to this document.

Speaker Ellis- Are you saying to student body only or do you think it should just be senate only.

Senator Just- Change one to two.

Senator Wilkinson Ray- Do to the number of grammatical changes I think that the speaker should be able to change little things like commas on the fly. Also the administrative letter that Senator Glynne was talking about is not a good idea.

Speaker Ellis- I agree with you Senator Wilkinson Ray.

Senator Maciewicz- I think that any amendment should be approved by $\frac{3}{4}$ of body.

Speaker Ellis- I do not accept. But I do agree with Senator Glynne that $\frac{3}{4}$ vote should be the approval vote for amendments.

Senator Altendorfer- Administrators should not be governing us, we should be governing ourselves. I think that students should have a say whether or not the constitution should be opened. But we should be conscious senators.

Speaker Ellis- I wish it were that easy but from being on for three years it is not that easy.

Senator Frye- I don't think that students really care about this constitution.

Senator Just- pass

Speaker Ellis- I will be making change to this document during our recess.

Vice President Ash- Seventeen?

Vice President Ash- Article 18?

Speaker Ellis- Bryce please put in general guideline under subsection 4 of 18

Senator Church- What processes are you referring to in the operational documents?

Speaker Ellis- They come in to package but come in two different staples. One constitution and one operational documents.

Senator Church- What?

Speaker Ellis- This is our first operational documents This works way better than bylaws.

Senator Church- is approval different in operational documents.

Vice President Ash- any further questions on article 18?

Senator Just- Operational documents should be bolded!

Speaker Ellis- I did not do this because it is a part of the constitution, I do not accept

Vice President Ash- Moving on to SGA operational Documents.

Speaker Ellis- these operational docs follow much different guidelines.

Vice President Ash- Appointments process?

Senator Taylor- Can we vote on constitution?

Senator Buswell- Abbreviations should be acronyms.

Vice President Ash- any further questions on appointments process

Senator Glynne- I think that the number of signatures for elections is low. It is too easy for 80 signatures. I think it should be 250!

Senator Cafarelli- I think this would be campaigning getting this many signatures.

Speaker Ellis- It is not campaigning the way Senator Glynne has said this, there should be more signatures required.

Election Chair Rifken- I think that we could up the number and it is a thought I have had before. It can seem daunting for 80 signatures but it is up to the body.

Speaker Ellis- The way to solve this is by hearing what the body has to say, and that right now campaigning is not defined. An amendment will come when more research is solidified, this is not going to affect first year elections. Lets give Election Chair Rifken more time.

Senator Just- Pass

Senator Buswell- I would caution against upping the number too much but we should up it a little bit.

Senator Wilkinson Ray- I think that the number should stay low so that more kids will join and there is more involvement.

Speaker Ellis- President and VP have to get a lot more because they have a much bigger job as being the face of the organization.

Senator Wilkinson Ray- We should lower P and VP sigs so that more people will want to take position.

Senator Henley- I think that students should get 80 signatures because they are not quite committed when they are getting the signatures.

Senator Just- We need to move on.

Vice President Ash- I think we need to now talk about recognizing organizations.

Senator Chevrier- I wrote these guidelines and I like them.

Vice President Ash- I would like to open up the floor for code of conduct.

Vice President Ash- Any questions with SGA agenda template?

Senator Just- It should not have dates on it.

Vice President Ash- Legislation template?

Vice President Ash- Anyone comment on oaths of offices?

Speaker Ellis- Standing committee chairs is new because they should have an oath to. Bryce please change all obligations.

Senator Buswell- Is SGA student Government Association or does it mean something else.

Vice President Ash- any further questions on oaths?

Speaker Ellis- has gavel back.

There will now be a recess for five minutes.

Speaker Ellis- I will now read all amendments that I just typed in during our recess, VP ash has the gavel.

Speaker Ellis- Here are all my changes!

Vice President Ash- Questions about Article 16?

Senator Just- I think content is the better word to be put in the specific question.

Senator Buswell- Does it have to be in that form?

Speaker Ellis- I believe the content is in the right form.

Senator Church- Sections A number 7 that it is sloppy and lazy and you would not find this in any other governing document.

Senator Rifken- I think the way Speaker Ellis has it is perfect.

Speaker Ellis- in response to church, my successor will know these rules very well so we do not have to worry to much about it.

Speaker Ellis- All other changes you folks are aware of.

Speaker Ellis has the gavel and floor!

Vice President Ash has gavel back

Speaker Ellis- Motion to vote on dissolution of old const and solution of new const

Senator Just- Point of order, I think we should discuss all changes

Speaker Ellis- They have all been discussed.

Vice President Ash- This vote is to move to vote on constitution.

Motion Passed

Speaker Ellis- What we are about to do is adoption and dissolution of old and new

Senator Just- Two things If we do not have constitution we are not a legitimate org. Why do we want to dissolve a constitution.

Senator Wilkinson Ray- New senators should not vote as they have not studied this new const

Senator Cafarelli- call to question

Speaker Ellis- We are going to now adopt a new and dissolve and old

Heads have been nodded

Ellis- All in favor of dissolve old and adopting new please hold your hand high?

It PASSES

Applauses

EXECUTIVE REPORTS

SPEAKER ELLIS: Thanks for everyone for a great constitution debate tonight. We will have a fun retreat this weekend.

Questions

Wilkinson Are rules of order done?

Ellis this will happen at retreat

PRESIDENT JONES: Congratulations to all new appointees. I also want to apologize having the past two weeks pretty intensive. Today was a big feat for us to accomplish. After this weekend things will run more smoothly and we will be able to do more fun things. The first thing I should have started with is that Dave Maciewicz is our new chair of CODEE. I need to also talk about we need to find a senator to sit on the socially responsible finance work group. If you have interest talk to myself or VP Ash.

VICE-PRESIDENT ASH: VP Ash showed a five slide pp presentation on the retreat. It will take place at eagle camp in south hero, VT. No personal transportation. Come fed? Agenda has been sent out to exec committee. Pat Brown, Lu Mulvaney-Stanek and Frank Cioffi, and Leon Lifschutz will be speaking. You need to bring sleeping bags.

Questions?

Senator Altendorfer- Van drivers need to be early

Vice President Ash- yes they do!

Senator Buswell- Get here on time

Senator Henley- I will be leaving Burlington at 6 due to my commitments on Saturday.

Vice President Ash- Please all senators who will be late come talk to me at the end of meeting.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

FINANCE- SEN. CAFARELLI: E mail report. Also I think we should do comments and announcements on list serve

STUDENT ACTIVITIES- SEN. CHEVRIER: talk to senate during retreat

COLA- SEN. GLYNNE: I want to apologize I have football game and cant come to retreat. Community coalition this Friday, Police chief of Burlington and UVM will be there as well as President of Champlain college. Burlingotn city council meeting at Contois Auditorium.

CODEEE- SEN. Maciewicz: e mail report.

STUDENT ACTION- SEN. WILKINSON-RAY: naked bike ride task force has been going well. Food committee meets after.

PR- SEN. RIFKEN: activities fest is tomorrow. Elections is tomorrow on lynx.

ACADEMIC AFFAIRS- SEN. TAYLOR: Not here emailed out

SENATORIAL FORUM

Senator Just- Ok a couple of things first thing is that we have awesome chairs as well as exec members. I voted no on constitution because are student body has no idea what we did tonight. We need to get all e mails out earlier. I did not see everything.

Senator Venmen- I am going to bring guitar to retreat.

Senator Wilkinson Ray- Minutes that are so old should not be sent out right now. I did not get time to look at them.

Vice President Ash- The old minute taker fell of the face of the earth. I would like to thank Former COLA chair Chris Shackett for his work tonight in taking minutes.

Senator Buswell- I am starting a composting thing at UVM and it should be cool.

Senator Glynne- WE should give all of exec a round of applause for the great new const

Senator Just- We should not be doing resolutions for every little thing on campus

Senator Glynne- COLA will be doing this all year

SENATORIAL COMMENTS/ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Henley- 3rd annual Vermont eco fest is right after farmers market on sat while everyone else is at retreat, tell your friends.

Senator Hannaford- UVM has adopted a new solicitation policy. I think you should read the new policy. There is a big issue with free speech on campus

Senator Altendorfer- Outing Club meeting this Thursday.

President Jones- Send me all cool events and things you have to complain about and I will take care of them in my campus wide.

Senator Glynne- Come to activities fair it is a lot of fun.

Senator Wilkinson Ray- Open mic at Slade tomorrow night at 8.

Senator Waldvogel- Come to Amnesty international table I need help tomorrow.

Senator Buswell- Senator Barron has expertise in environmental finance.

ROLL CALL:

FINANCE: All Present

STUDENT ACTIVITIES: All Present

COLA: All Present

CODEEE: All Present

STUDENT ACTION: All Present

PR: all Present

ACADEMIC AFFAIRS: Chair Taylor Excused.

ADJOURNMENT

MEETING ENDS: 10:37pm