



TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 15TH, 2011  
TWENTY-SECOND MEETING OF THE 2010-2011 SENATE

**Call to Order (0:02.06)**

*Start Time: 7:01pm*

**Roll Call (0:02.08)**

**Finance:** All Excused

**Student Activities:** Senators Moise, Mason, Lederer-Plaskett, unexcused

**COLA:** Chair Morgan, excused

**CODEEE:** All Present

**Student Action:** Chair Simmons, excused

**Public Relations:** Senator Boutwell, excused

**Academic Affairs:** All Present

**Approval of the Minutes (0:02.46)**

**From 2/8/11 - passes**

**Public Forum (0:03.00)**

n/a

**Old Business (0:03.23)**

**Bill Derecognizing Campus Progressives (0:04.04)**

**Chair Adams:** *[reads bill]*. I'll just go through, the last time we heard from this group was around elections. They were like, we want to be a club again. They had been really inactive for the past 3 years. I was like, ok cool come talk to me and come to the Policy Workshops and come to the Treasurer's Workshops and they were like, yeah, never mind. They're a group that prior to that was only really active every 4 years when there was an election and has since not been around at all.

*Open the Floor for Questions (0:05.15)*

**Chair Filstein:** Just curious, what's the amount of clubs that we generally derecognize?

**Chair Adams:** I don't know, I've only been here for a year so I will yield the floor to Speaker Chevrier.

**Speaker Chevrier:** Yeah, pretty much last year, we evenly derecognized around the same amount as we recognized.

**Senator Caster:** What are the benefits that come from recognition. Is it just financial assistance? Just for a little bit of clarity.

**Chair Adams:** What do they get from recognition? Why do clubs want to be clubs? A lot of it is because you can book space autonomously as an SGA organization. Otherwise you have to go

through a departments or pay. A lot of it has to do with having access to vans and money. A lot of it also has to do with wanting to be recognized as a legitimate part of the university.

**Senator Bennington:** Why, if we derecognize a club, what benefit does that serve the SGA and does that make it harder should that club want to be recognized again if they want to get back into action?

**Chair Adams:** Essentially, it does make it harder for them because they have to go through the recognition process, but clubs really are only derecognized once they are no longer functioning. If a group of people were to come together and say we want to be Campus Progressives, there is no Campus Progressives for them to join, so they would effectively be starting their own club anyway, so they should go through the recognition process again. They could essentially revamp the same constitution. That has happened in the past.

**Vote on Bill Derecognizing Campus Progressives - passes**

**Vote on Motion to Suspend the Rule – passes**

**Public Forum (0:07.54)**

**Richard Cate, Vice President of Finance and Enterprise Services**

**Richard Cate:** I think the plan was for me to come talk about the budget a little bit. I think it's mostly about your questions more than anything else. Maybe just a couple of points, as you probably know, when the trustees were here a week and half ago, the administration put forward the very beginnings of our budget work which would have us go forward with a budget cutting exercise combined with a tuition increasing exercise in order to balance the budget. The biggest growth item in the budget, by far, is financial aid. It would increase by \$10.8 million from this year to the next. Really the only other thing that is proposed to increase the budget at all is the line for compensation or combination of wages and benefit increases. That is about 5 million. Beyond that, the bulk of the budget is essentially level funded. What was proposed to cover that gap is a 5.8% increase in tuition and a budget cutting exercise in the vicinity of \$5-6 million. All that said, one other key element of this is, regardless of how much tuition increases we need to find another \$10-20 million dollars for financial aid in the coming years. There really is a disconnect between tuition increase and the financial aid demand because of the short term. In the long term they are better connected but not right now. That's really the short story and really about your questions.

*Open the Floor for Questions (0:10.17)*

**Senator Rifken:** Thanks for coming in. I have a few questions but I'll start with this one. I know you mentioned that the model we follow with financial aid is high cost and high aid. I know last year there was a little bit of talk when you came into SGA, but has there been any talk about trying to change that model or open another mode?

**Richard Cate:** I think the whole issue of where we are with tuition is driven not so much about want we want to do as it is about where we are at. There's a couple ways we can avoid the situation we're in. We can be a public institution and get a lot of money from the state that you are in and there are such institutions. Some institutions get 45-50% of the money to operate the institution from the state government. In our case for the total we're about 14% from the state. Only half of that goes to undergraduate education the other half goes to extension of the medicines. We're really only about 7% of our budget overall for undergraduate education comes from the state. The other way you can avoid our model is to have a large endowment. You can be Harvard, Princeton, Yale and get a lot of money from return on your endowment. We don't have that either. Our endowment is \$330 million. In some ways, the next choice is about the quality of the educational experience. What's left is we can either have a less expensive operation or we can

have much larger classes. We can have facilities that are not in good shape, and I'll be the first to admit that we need to do more with our facilities, not less. There are trade offs. Every day I'm always trying to figure out how do we get other revenue streams coming in, what can we do? One of things we talk about is whether or not we should consider trying to do more with online education. Trying to get a revenue stream coming in that doesn't require as much infrastructure, is less expensive to do. It isn't like we can turn a switch go to a different model tomorrow because the institution we've got, the facilities we've got, the people we've got take a certain level of tuition, unless we can find money from somewhere else. Is that a long-term goal, to look at other ways of doing it? Yeah, absolutely. Are we there yet? Not close.

**Senator Caster:** I was wondering if you could touch upon two things. So we're officially presented with a 5.8% increase and a budget gap that we have to fill that my experience on campus and looking at the university plan, we are financing massive projects like the building of the stadium, renovations in Mason, Simpson, Hamilton and Redstone, new dining halls. I'm just curious how that works and there has got to be a question in renovations in buildings while undergraduate students are facing these increases. Second, if you could discuss the implications of the capital campaign that the University is attempting to embark on and what that's going to look like for the endowment or if it will have any direct effect on reducing the cost of tuition based on an increased endowment, increased interest for undergraduate students.

**Richard Cate:** So, facilities. This whole discussion about the arena is confusing to anyone who looks at it. The intent, if any arena ever gets built, and I'm not confident that it will, but if it does it does it would not be your tuition paying the tab. The whole theory of the arena is to either create a partnership with a private enterprise that funds the project and we lease space to have Basketball, Hockey and other events in it, or we get a significant gift from someone who helps to fund the project. It's not about tuition. The renovations in the dining halls and residence halls, again is not paid for by tuition at all. It is paid by you in terms of the fees you pay to have a room or buy a meal plan but it doesn't come over into the general fund budget that we keep talking about. It's a completely different part of the budget. I'm not saying it isn't a cost to you, because it is, but it is not funded by tuition. In terms of the capital campaign, the preliminary goal is for it to be an 8-year campaign in which \$500 million would be raised. That's a half a billion dollars, that's a lot of money, but the problem with gifts like that are that generally donors say we want to give you money to fund this program over here or to do this small building project over there. They don't say we're going to give you half a billion dollars and you can take a return on it and provide more financial aid or boost tuition. Right now, only 1.5% of our general fund budget is funded by the endowment. It's this tiny piece. In a perfect place in this campaign, maybe we triple that or maybe we quadruple that, but in the end it's still only 6 or 7 percent of the General Fund Budget out of the endowment. The donors restrict their gifts for a particular purposes. Sometimes those gifts actually cost us more money. It doesn't fully fund what they want to do, so if we decide to take the gift we have to come up with more money in back.

**Senator Bennington:** First, a clarification questions, did you say that the budget gap we're facing is \$10.8 million?

**Richard Cate:** No, 10.8 is the increase in financial aid. The budget gap, if we have the tuition increase, is 5 or 6 million. So we're looking for cuts of 5 or 6 million.

**Senator Bennington:** What happens if we don't increase financial aid, both to the budget and to students needing financial aid?

**Richard Cate:** I don't think it's an option not to increase financial aid because there's a whole bunch of students that won't be able to come here. We've got to do it in my mind.

**Chair Adams:** There's an interesting idea in *The Cynic* this week, which is that when you sign up to come to UVM, you would be set in that amount of tuition for all 4 years. I guess other institutions do it so I was wondering if you could provide a little bit of insight as to why that

works or doesn't work.

**Richard Cate:** That can work but in total, you're still going to have to provide the same amount of money over a 4-year period. Your tuition the first year would be higher than it otherwise would be and it probably would be in the second year then it would moderate in the 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> year. Could we give you a guaranteed rate? Yeah, but we wouldn't be able to give you a guaranteed rate that would have you paying less over a 4 year period because it takes x amount of dollars to run the place. We have talked about that and some students bring it up but I think I get a sense from people when we talk about it as a way to reduce the cost to them and it just doesn't work that way. The places where that really works is when someone has a 5, 6, 7 Billion dollar endowment and they're back towing the rest of the money with the return from the endowment. We just don't have it. I keep hoping for that but we're not there yet.

**Senator Rifken:** When you, I was reading the Board of Trustees information in there and there's a couple of figures with Financial Aid and the increases in that, and my question is when you're counting in the average cost because there's a figure that has total cost and average cost after financial aid, is that including federal aid? Is that including state aid? I have two numbers.

**Richard Cate:** It's not counting all aid. It's counting the aid that comes in the form of grants, but not loans. Whenever we talk about financial aid we never count loans because that's a cost back to you. That's what it looks like after you get a Pell Grant and there's a grant from UVM.

**Senator Rifken:** That number for the average aid was a great deal larger than the average UVM funded award. I was just curious if the average cost after aid. I was confused about the definition of aid I guess. One was defined as UVM aid and the other one was just aid.

**Richard Cate:** The difference is in the Federal Grants. There are some restrictions with scholarships. The bulk of it is federal aid.

**Chair Monteforte:** Hello, thanks for coming in. Has UVM seen an increase in wealthier students coming in that don't need financial aid and does that help the university at all?

**Richard Cate:** We've actually had a modest decline over the recession. Students got needier during the recession. In many cases it may have been the same students because many families were adversely affected by the recession. The expected family contribution actually went down because the ability of the families to pay went down. No, it's been the reverse, not dramatically, but still the reverse.

**Chair Filstein:** Hey Richard. The Provost, and I think you might have been a part of it a couple weeks ago sent out a request to the university for ideas to reduce the budget gap? Is that what it was for? I was wondering how many ideas you've got and what will be the process for reviewing them and their feasibility?

**Richard Cate:** There's about 200+ comments we've got and what we're doing, right now we're reviewing them and trying to put them and categorize them so we don't just have a laundry list. So if we have 50 suggestions that say the same thing, we'll say we got 50 suggestions and here's what it said and in the not too distant future it will be up on our budget planning website so everyone can see what was suggested and what our response is.

**Chair Filstein:** My other question is about the endowment. If we're looking at \$6 million budget gap and we have a \$330 million endowment that's about 99% restricted you say, has there been any attempts to contact these donors? It's such an insignificant amount compared with the endowment, say can you release some of these funds, we need them, instead of putting the burden on the students and faculty?

**Richard Cate:** The problem with taking one time money to fill this gap is this gap is going to go on forever. If you don't close it now we'll have to close twice as much next year. We're against that. The university has more money in the bank than that \$6 million. We wouldn't need to go to the endowment, we could go in and take cash out. It wouldn't solve the problem because we're going to need it forever, we'll need it every single year. It just isn't responsible financial management on my part to suggest.

**Chair Filstein:** I guess, when was the last time we didn't have a budget gap? What structurally changed that now we're facing this gap every single year?

**Richard Cate:** it's not my intention to have a gap every year but the reason we're facing it is financial aid. There's nothing else moving in that budget of consequence. It's all about financial aid. It's the aftermath of the recession. In '09, '10, '11 and now '12, we've had to significantly increase financial aid to offset the negative impact. I have high hopes for '14 that this will not be a necessity.

**Senator Caster:** I'm curious, first of all I'd like to say thank you for the comment process you're going through for this budget. I understand that may not be most efficient decision making project that you could take on, but it is very inclusive and from my perspective I think it's wonderful. I don't know if anyone has it on them, but the press release from United Academics, they, again, these statistics, I'm unsure how they were collected, I'm unsure how they were presented and I'm unsure of the validity, but they said that from 2005-2010 less money was spent on academics and in light of the impact that you said financial aid has had, I'm just curious if you could enlighten us on that subject and have a conversation.

**Richard Cate:** In their stats, they indicated that they went from 51 or 52 down to 47. What I said, I'll just restate what is said when the reporters came to me after the press conference which is that with the numbers, I can make the numbers look any way I want to, anyone can. They were trying to be true to our accounting process, which says the only thing that shows up in the academic budgets of consequence is the cost of the people. If you go to our budgets and our financial statements, what you see in budgets of the schools and colleges is that they have some operating budget, fairly modest, but most of it's teachers. That assumes that when we built Jeffords Hall that we did it for some purpose other than academics and of course the sole purpose of Jeffords Hall is academics. They make a big point about debt service having grown in that period of time. Basically the mortgage payment on the buildings. Most of that debt service was purely for academic purposes. When you look at the cost of putting electricity and cleaning all of the academic buildings, again, that is an academic cost. If look at our budget straight on, they don't show up that way. I did an analysis allocating all the expenses back to where they belong and what it shows is the administrative portion of the budget has stayed the same throughout. The administration budget is 16% of the total. I reflected financial aid as a cost. They other problem with their numbers is they show financial aid as an administrative cost. I don't consider that to be an administrative cost. That's not money going into the pockets of the administration, that's going to trying to defer some of our high costs of tuition. All those pieces go together. As you alluded to, one thing my analysis did indicate is any shift in academic funding is, in face, a result of increased funding for financial aid.

**Senator Caster:** Just a point of clarification, the budget and the budget numbers there are reflective of expenditures on faculty. That is the numbers they are gathering from? It's just expenditures, not anything else?

**Richard Cate:** What they're showing is the cost of the faculty and staff that work in the academic units and the fairly modest operating budgets they have that allow them to travel and do some other things.

**Senator Bennington:** Thank you for clearing that up because that's been point of confusion for me. I'm wondering, I mean, Jeffords, I take classes in there and it's definitely an awesome place

to take classes, I'm incurring some of those costs, or even something like the Davis Center, I'm incurring some of those costs but it is enriching my student experience. I'm just wondering since we are still in the wake of the recession and it seems like our financial model isn't working, what are you doing to change it so that we are going to stop having this budget gap?

**Richard Cate:** We're cutting absolutely everything that we can find that is not related to the academic programs that still allows us to do everything else. There are things that are not academic that you need. We want to make sure we have adequate numbers of police officers to protect the community. We need to have people cleaning buildings. We need all those things. We are really stripping that back to the bones as much as we possibly can. The second thing is, which is not good news for you folks, is that we simply cannot continue 15-20% increases in financial aid every year. We're going to have to drop back so that the financial aid increase is only twice as much as the tuition increase instead of being 4 times. As I said, I'm hoping by 2013 we get back to some kind of incremental growth in family incomes so that the two intersect and the need matches the amount of money we've got available. We're never going to be flush but I don't intend to be doing this every year.

**Senator Caster:** Thank you so much for this opportunity. As part of the financial model which Provost Knodell and President Fogel really enlightened us on in the Presidential round table, it was very good conversation. The increase in students was a result of wanting more general revenue and then transitioning to less students. I'm just curious what academic resources need to be brought to the table for professionals in order to compensate for the fact that higher classes numbers and instructional capacity may be varying with the increase of students, again, noting that our teachers are much better paid now and we do have facilities. I was just curious if there are any other resources that you could list off that were given to academics in light of the increased size of the student body.

**Richard Cate:** There were 80 additional faculty brought into the equation. I'm not going to be able to give you an exact number but there were a large increase in the number of lecturers and teaching assistants as well. It is not as you know from the previous conversation, I'm not trying to claim that the number of faculty increased at the same rate as the number of students. We can't afford to operate at that model. It just doesn't work anymore. There were a number of people brought forward to assist in that process. It wasn't like we didn't do anything.

**Senator Benner:** Something I was curious about, in looking at the actual numbers for Fiscal Year '10, I noticed that revenues exceeded what we thought by about 4.5 Million and our expenditures were I think 9.2 million lower than we thought they were going to be. I was just wondering where that money went?

**Richard Cate:** Where the money went. We have a system called reappropriations for academic use only. So if an academic unit under spends by a million dollars in a given year, on purpose, that money will be put forward in an account for that dean's use when they get ready to hire new faculty. One of the biggest one-time costs that we ever incur is when we hire new faculty, often it requires providing them with a new lab or \$200,000 in resources so they can do their research. What the deans do is they accrue money, they under spend in a given year. Then maybe they happen to have Faculty leave and they hire lecturers that don't cost as much, they save there. About \$7 million of that money you saw there is in the bank in the name of the various deans for use in future years. The rest went into the bank. It is in fact there, it is the money I was talking about earlier. It is unrestricted resources. The cold hard facts of life are it's not a one-time solution. We could go into the bank and pull out 6 million dollars, but next year I'd be in front of you telling you how we have a \$10 million budget gap instead of a \$6 million budget gap and I don't want to do that.

**Senator Filstein:** Hey Richard. So I was here a few years ago when people were getting arrested in Waterman. I was wondering what are some of the lessons we've learned from that and how are we applying it to this?

**Richard Cate:** Lessons learned in regards to budgeting or in regards to communication with the campus?

**Senator Filstein:** With the planning.

**Richard Cate:** I think there's a couple of things. Some of you have heard me say this probably, but in my age, campus unrest in my day on this campus meant the entire campus was shut down for days. I was here and I was a junior when Penn State happened. I was in ROTC and most of this campus was demonstrating against the military at full force. I know all about campus unrest. I think that, saying that, I guess what I'm getting at is there are probably always some folks who feel the need to demonstrate the extreme position in certain circumstance. I think it's incumbent on the administration to do everything they can to allow folks other avenues to be involved. That's part of what we're trying to do with having people send in their recommendations. What I always worry about with any type of process is having people have expectations that we will do absolutely everything they recommended because sometimes we just can't do it. I think we really are trying hard to have ongoing communications. We talked to the senate. We now have President's Advisory Council we've engaged with a number of different venues and I'm hoping that we won't get to that point. We'll probably have to agree to disagree on some points, but I hope we don't get to that point. I think it was unfortunate for the folks involved in the long run because of what they had to go through. I sat with them and desperately tried to convince them that they had made their point and maybe they should leave before the police showed up. That's something I hope to avoid.

**Senator Alleger:** Thanks for coming in Richard. Another topic, I've been involved with the discussion around general education for this past semesters and beginning to come to the forefront is [inaudible] how those happen. My questions is, how does discussion between you and Provost Knodell, Brian Reed, about how this could happen, how general education programming [inaudible] including UVM financially. Do you have any idea?

**Richard Cate:** I don't if everyone knows about the gen ed so conversation. The underlying philosophy is twofold. One is that some of us believe that students that take a biology course on one part of this campus don't have to, if they move to another major, take a different biology course in another department because one part of the campus doesn't recognize what another did. A number of students have told us that they lose ground. They may have to stay an extra semester or even a year because they have to double take courses. The other major piece of this is the theory that we would like all students to leave with a certain skill set in addition to the specialized skills you learn. A Core education you need that allows you to be competent in the world that allows you to do what you need out there. The question is in this environment how do you to that? Most of the initiatives so far have more to do with changing the structure and process than about putting [inaudible]. There are things like curriculum where we're hoping we can get writing embedded into more courses and get professional development. That will cost some money but it's critical things that need to be done not and it's not an exorbitant amount of money. I truly believe that gen ed in the long run will improve the quality of your education without a significant investment.

**Senator Caster:** In light of, touching back on this capital campaign. How important to the university is this capital campaign and if successful what kind of implications can undergraduate students expect in terms of financial alleviations and investment and furthermore, what planning, as of right now, is contingent on the success of this campaign?

**Richard Cate:** I'd say that. I have to be careful about this. I'm not betting on the campaign to dramatically impact the project we currently have on the table right now with one exception. There is a project with our learning commons that would be through the library that would provide more gathering space, more technology, opportunities for students. Probably faculty offices as well. That is a keystone of the campaign. I think the other thing is that along with the creation of

the campaign, the new Vice President for Development of Alumni Relations has been charged with creating a separate foundation so that gifts to the university would be in the foundation. It would all come to the university but it would all be there. The reason that makes a difference is the data indicate that if you create a separate private foundation where people don't have to be in public view, they tend to be able reach out to very wealthy people and bring in more money. Part of being a public university is a lot of very wealthy people who might serve on the board if it wasn't a public board and they didn't have to be in the *Free Press* every time they meet and everything else, because they are people who don't make a habit of getting out. In the long run, in a 10-year plan that the new Vice President has, that has effort combined with the campaign would take the cost of all the staff for development of alumni relations and move them to the foundation and therefore free up a \$7 million hit on the general fund. That team costs us \$7 million. That \$7 million if the campaign is successful would move to the foundation and we'd be that much better off.

**Senator Caster:** Just to be more clear, within this capital campaign, we're attempting to set up a private foundation in which donors can come to without receiving the publicity of donating to a public institution which would alleviate some of the stress that comes from alumni relations and organizing donations?

**Richard Cate:** That's a piece of it. The other thing I would say [inaudible] other restrictive gifts, which would enhance the university in your experience but not necessarily reduce your tuition.

**Vote on Motion to Reinstate the Rules - passes**

**Old Business (0:43.07)**

**Bill Derecognizing Chinese Literature and Language**

**Chair Adams:** It's the same bill so I'm not going to reread it. The last time we heard from this group was somebody showed up at the beginning of the year wanted to again restart it. It was actually a group we didn't have contact information for. So they wanted to restart, mostly the advisor wanted to restart it, and then, again, then again the student wasn't interested in joining the Chinese Culture Club. The Chinese Culture Club doesn't want to be the Chinese Literature and Language Club, they want to be recognized on their own so they're going through that process. So again, it's a club that doesn't exist.

**Vote on Bill Derecognizing Chinese Literature and Language - passes**

**Bill Derecognizing Students Against War**

**Chair Adams:** Again the same piece of legislation. We don't have contact info for them. They've been inactive for two years.

**Vote on Bill Derecognizing Students Against War – passes**

**Bill Derecognizing the New Sudan Education Initiative**

**Chair Adams:** Haven't heard from them in years. I want to reiterate that these are groups that aren't functioning on campus, so keeping them around because we like the idea is just really silly.

**Vote on Bill Derecognizing the New Sudan Education Initiative – passes**

**Bill Derecognizing Vermont Campus Energy**

**Chair Adams:** We haven't heard from them in a year.



## **Vote on Bill Derecognizing Vermont Campus Energy – passes**

### **Bill Derecognizing The Elias Club**

**Chair Adams:** We haven't heard from them in a year.

*Open the floor for Questions*

**Senator Alleger:** What is Elias?

**Chair Adams:** No idea

**Senator Rifken:** Point of Information: I believe that they are a group for some sort of world peace thing. I actually joined their facebook group when I came to UVM but I never heard from them.

**Senator M. White:** Point of Information: They're a Sudanese relief organization.

## **Vote on Bill Derecognizing the Elias Club - passes**

### **Bill Granting UVMtv Compensation Rights for Advertising (0:47.39)**

**Chair Mallea:** So we have a representative from UVMtv coming into speak on behalf of the bill, however, you can go ahead and start reading it. Sorry that we sent this bill out on Sunday evening. We had to meet with UVMtv and ask them a couple of questions before we were able to write it. Thank you to those who emailed me asking what this bill is all about. Basically, UVMtv raises... why don't we introduce our guests from UVMtv and they can inform you more.

**Patrick:** Hi, my name is Patrick Tracy, I'm an Ad Representative from UVMtv.

**Michael:** I'm Michael Chaucer-Torello. I'm an executive for UVMtv.

**Danielle:** My name is Danielle Bilotta and I'm an executive for UVMtv.

**Patrick:** What we are here do tonight is try to get a bill passed so we can give our Ad Representatives commission based on the sales that they make with the clients. The thought behind that is to provide incentive for our Ad Representatives to do their job and to sell ad space for UVMtv. My main idea behind earning comp is that the job has to be taken seriously and has to fill what I think is necessary of the job versus just a chore, something you do for the club. I work in marketing part time for Student Life and I also do freelance graphic design and I've also worked for UVMtv in the past. I can say, with all of the amount of footwork that you do with the client and with the creative team in the studio that being an Ad Rep for UVMtv is very much a job. What I'll do is just briefly explain two jobs that we are looking for commission for, the percentage, and a little description of what they do. First off there is the Ad Reps, which go out and talk to prospective clients. They sit down with them and discuss one, their budget, and two the ideas they have for what they want for an ad. It's more of a face-to-face conversation than just looking at a piece of paper and reciting what you see. So what they do is they're really the liaison between the client and the creative ad team back at the studio. Their job requires different a lot of work in the sense of there is a lot of footwork you have to do between the client and the creative team in the studio. They have to keep communications between the two lively so that everyone knows what their job is and what they're doing and that the client is overall impressed and likes the end product, because in the end it's really what the client wants is what we should be giving. What the Ad Rep is really the liaison between the client and the creative team back at the studio. What we're looking for is to give them a 15% comp for the sales they make. We have a production charge and then we have an airtime charge. We're doing 12%. I'm assuming the same thing for managers as well? The second job is the Marketing Manager. The Marketing Manager

isn't so much the person who goes out and talks to clients as much as the Ad Reps do, but what their job is to make sure the Ad Reps go out to new clients and that no one is going out to the same clients. They schedule initial meetings for which a client and an Ad Rep meet. They also meet with Ad Reps to make sure they stay on schedule for when the client wants to air their ad and just keep tabs and organize everything that's happening on the ad side and on the client side. We're looking for a 3% comp for the ad manager on all the ads they organize and keep together and they help with which would be all of them. They're more of a managerial position where the Ad Rep is out there doing the footwork, talking to the clients, giving them a face for UVMtv rather than just a logo, giving them a person to talk to and work through. Those are the two jobs we are looking to comp. If anyone has any questions?

**Chair Mallea:** I'm going to read the bill and then open the floor for questions after that. [*reads bill*].

*Open the Floor for Questions (0:54.33)*

**Senator Benner:** Thanks for coming in here. The first one is why 12% and 3%? Where are these numbers coming from? The second question is what are your projections for how much revenue this new incentive will bring in in the next couple years?

**Patrick:** As for the numbers, we want to give them enough of a percentage to entice them to do some work. Since this is new ground for us, since we really are getting our ad department going, it is an experimental number that we feel that is enough to provide incentive but not enough to take away from how much money the club is getting.

**Senator Benner:** What are your plans for how much revenue this will bring in?

**Patrick:** I can speak for myself in the past year and a half have raised over \$2,500 for the club. Each deal is around \$1,000, \$1,300. We leave room for production charges and airing over a semester or a week is how we break it down. It really depends on our ad managers, but we do have a lot of connections with the Burlington Community who we work through with our Cat Card. Commercials we've done, we worked with Cat Card and with the amount of people that we have in businesses downtown and around the city, as well as campus clubs, there is a lot of potential we have to make money. Our ideal by the end of the semester is to make \$14,000. That's something we're shooting for and definitely would love to go over, but it depends on the people who we hire and I am here also to make sure we hire people who have the charisma, who have the drive, who have the desire to work in advertising.

**Chair Mallea:** The preliminary meeting that we had with UVMtv, Alex Nenopoulos revealed that 15% is around the industry average for compensating Advertising Representatives.

**Senator Tepper:** Thanks for coming in. This question is for either Speaker Chevrier or Chair Adams or Chair Mallea, but is there any precedence for university publications to compensate?

**Chair Adams:** There are 4 exceptions to this policy when we were talking to Blanka. One of them is *The Cynic* and the other ones are the farming groups that farm over summer. They pay student employees.

**Senator Caster:** I guess I was told and would just be curious if you as an organization are trying to maintain a profit and second what are you doing to provide an incentive for people to advertise with you? What has UVMtv being doing to improve yourself so that people would like to advertise with you?

**Patrick:** A big part is the image of UVMtv is what any media outlet wants to give a client is what we sell ourselves as. That's how we would attract our clients. Our image is we broadcast to every single dormitory on campus and since we are students and we know what students want and we

know who students are, we give that kind of unique perspective to clients where is to say if they went through another ad agency where they try to target a demographic rather being the demographic that they are targeting.

**Senator Caster:** If it's in the mission of UVMtv to be maintaining a profit. I don't know if that's necessarily true, I just heard that being said and wanted to clarify.

**Patrick:** We definitely want to be a self-sustaining club. Right now since we're mostly focusing on paying our bills and building a good rep with our clients, that way we have more of a foundation and we have more room to build. Our goals have to be very high. We do intend to create some profit so we can build and expand like any club would. Right now we have a realistic goal and kind of a what we want to reach towards which is making some profit right now. We want to be able to pay our bill and we figure that kind of foundation will lead to other venues and plans.

**Chair Mallea:** Just so the senate is aware, the Finance Committee and SGA have been working with UVMtv because as of next year they will be responsible for paying their rent in the Davis Center, their electricity, everything, and it's a lot of money so they need to start having revenue.

**Chair Adams:** Right now, yes, they want to be fiscally independent but it's more they need to start making money so that we can get out of debt so that we can then make money.

**Senator Juaire:** Thank you guys for coming in. Although I feel that Chair Adams and Chair Mallea make a great point that they do need to raise money to get themselves out of debt, the club is almost \$5,500 in debt. I feel like taking 15% away from the club's fundraised account to students who are gaining experience from the club already is a little questionable. I was wondering if you guys could speak to why you think the compensation is deserved versus the experience you are earning with UVMtv and how that will affect your resume and your ability to get a job later?

**Chair Adams:** Point of Clarification: Essentially what is going to happen is they're not paying them money out of their fundraised account, they're paying a portion of the money that is coming in. We're not promising the people money they're just getting a portion of what comes in similar to how *The Cynics* does it, but it's when the money actually reaches the Treasurer's office.

**Treasurer Salsgiver:** Just a point of clarification, they're about negative \$1000, not \$5000. They just need money transferred.

**Chair Adams:** You guys are less in debt.

**Patrick:** That's awesome.

**Chair Mallea:** So it's clear, I don't know if everyone understands this concept, but this is not costing SGA or the Finance Committee any type of monetary support. It's just granting them the right to make a profit off of advertising.

**Chair Filstein:** I was just wondering why we need to legislate for this at all?

**Chair Mallea:** It is a bill, which means it's internal business. Within the financial policies it states that clubs can't pay their members. Normally they couldn't do it.

**Chair Adams:** [inaudible]

**Senator Yeager:** Just a clarification, the \$1000 price tag that companies pay you, is that an average or is that above average?

**Patrick:** We just had a deal with Cat Card for \$1,200 for a production of a 2.5 minute ad which they are going to use for their own website for their own purposes. Since it's not our usual 30-second ad we just multiplied and gave them a bit of a discount because it is such a rarity that anything exceeds 30-second commercials. They're also such a loyal client we did give them a little bit of a discount on that.

**Michael:** The price tag varies extremely on the deal and on the company and how many ads they're buying and how long those ads run and whether or not they have the right to use those ads on their own website as well. That number is an average number for the type of ads we sell and the average contracts sell but it's a huge variable.

## **Vote on Bill Granting UVMtv Compensation Rights for Advertising – passes**

### **Emergency Business (1:03.49)**

#### **Bill Allocating funds to BUG**

**Chair Mallea:** How we are going to do this is I'm going to let Jesse give a quick PowerPoint presentation about what the legislation is on and then we will read the bill.

**Chair Simmons:** I'm going to stand in the middle like Cate because he's my hero. So a really brief, non-brief PowerPoint. I'm sorry to bore you guys but thanks for bearing with me. Bike Users Group is a group that we started a year and half ago. Myself and 3 other students who are no longer with us. BUG is trying to set up a bike-sharing program. Free bikes for everyone on campus. We want to increase knowledge about bikes, we want to increase access to bikes, we want more people to ride bikes as a viable transportation option because they don't burn fuels and we think that's a good thing. That's what bike is supposed to do. These are some folks on BUG, it's a little dated. We're doing a lot of different things around campus and in the community. Why a bike share? A few different things. At the university, a lot of environmental rhetoric and we want to follow that up by supporting the mission of education and encouraging bike use amongst our students, faculty, and staff. There have been a lot of surveys done with a lot of different bike shares around the world and one of the most amazing things is that Minnesota started a bike share with a bunch of bikes all over the city and in every bracket of bike user ship, everyone from people who use bikes every day to people who had never ridden bikes before, the provision of bicycles through a bike share increased bike use for every single group. I think that's a big deal. That's what I'm hoping is going happen on campus. Sometimes being given the opportunity to do something for free is an easy way to encourage someone to do something for the first time. A dream I have for the bike share is that it's going to get students coming through the University of Vermont every opportunity to ride a bike. They're fun and it's good exercise, but I see it as a viable transportation option in urban areas. Second, there is a lack of space on campus for students to park their bikes. Every year ResLife collects around 50-60 dilapidated bikes. So kids obviously don't have a spot to get maintenance done on their bikes. Bikes are falling out of use and thrown away. It's sad. We want to encourage kids to not bring bikes to campus and instead use the ones that we're providing. Finally, I think Burlington is a great geography to ride bikes. A little cold in the winter time but I've never seen a city with better upkeep of their streets and campus is always pretty pristine. I rode my bike all last winter and it was just a gosh darn dream not to mention the summer, the spring, and the fall to go down to the beach. UVM's mission is researching new ways of transportation and educate the populace about bike safety. Bringing students into this process [inaudible] transportation system and it's good for health and the environment's health. Quick history of bike share. First generation in Amsterdam in the 60s. This was the bikes share where bikes are sort of left out to be used. Also happened at UVM in 2006. A student for his thesis released 30 brand new beautiful bikes that were yellow and they were gone at the end of the semester because there was no way of tracking them or having people accountable for destroying them. Second generation, you get a little bit better with management but they've got to be managed by people all the time. Third generation boom, this is where we are now, started in '96. All over the world, my hometown of Boston just got \$3 million federal

dollars to put in a bike-sharing program. They're great. They're basically based on kiosks where you check in with your credit card and they read your stuff and you take a bike and they know where you take it from and they know where you bring it back. They're all models but in every one the kiosk can read the barcode on the bike so they know when it comes back. The problem is that it's really expensive. Building these machines costs a lot of money. To the university bike share, 3 of the largest bike shares have been made by university students. I thought that was totally fascinating. Municipal bike shares are super expensive. People all over the city can use it, so made by university students and faculty. It makes sense on a university campus. This great thing I'll talk about later. About 90 U.S. campuses have bike-sharing programs of different models and of different levels of success and we tried to base our model on the sample successes. The University of New England's [inaudible] brought cars to campus decreased from 75%-25% in a year by providing free bikes. Wow. After checking student ID cards system Bentley's system was used [inaudible] this fall [inaudible] and the university was able to get rid of a big parking lot. Sweet. Municipal Bike Share success. These are the tenets that I've been researching that usually make a municipal bike share successful. Progressive rate structure, which I'll talk about in a minute. Many bikes available, extensive transit network, that isn't that extensive and our network isn't that big, it spans campus. I'll show you a map in a second. I just thought this was great. Bikes located in high-density environments near universities and employment centers. One of the two things they said is that universities are good for bike shares. Our model, low cost 5-generation system. 5 hubs. One at Simpson, one at McAuley, one at Davis and one at Waterman. Basically, it's going to look like 10 bikes locked outside each hub. If you want to take out a bike you go to the front desk of a dorm and you swipe your Cat Card with the RA that's sitting there. I talked to Stacey Miller at Res Life and I've been assured of the feasibility of this system. You swipe the card and then you get a key to a bike outside. You take that key, you take that bike, you keep the key, the bike and the lock until you bring it back at any place on campus. If you're going from Redstone to the Davis Center you pick a bike up and drop it off at the Davis Center, return the key inside and you're good. It's going to be a designated hub so the bikes are separate. We're going to be buying bikes in a lavender color so we really make them distinct. Of course you have to sign a waiver so if you kill yourself on a bike it's not our fault. That will be done on the Lynx, much like you can sign bottled water ban or whatever on the Lynx. I talk about 5 hubs to be the base of the main program. We've got to start, we've determined that you got to start smaller to get to the bigger dream that we have of a 50 bike share, so we're going to start with a 20 bike share with 5 or 6 bikes at 3 hubs. We thought the three most important hubs were going to be Trinity, Redstone, and the Davis Center. Making Central Campus more accessible for some of the students who are pushed to the farthest perimeters and then of course one at the Davis Center. Returning bikes. Students will be able to bring bikes back to any hub on campus within hours of operation. If you come to a bike hub and it's past 11 pm, like you were out with it or whatever you will have the lock, you will have the key, you will have the bike. You can keep it locked and safe and sound until you bring it back the next day. All these responsibilities will be outlined when you sign your waiver, keeping kids accountable. Rates. We want to make this as free as humanly possible, but we don't want people to be taking bikes and keeping them for days on end because then there won't be bikes for the rest of the people. They're going to be free for first hour then a \$1 an hour. Not huge penalties but encourage people to bring the bikes back so that they'll be there for other people. Overnight, return the keys. If they're not returned for 7 days you'll be charged the full price of the bike. I work with Campus Recreation, this is something we do all the time, billing student accounts so it's not a big run around to track people down and get them to pay, just go through the student account method. People we've been working with. Campus planning has been very important helping us integrate this program with the campus master plan. Having a spider web of bike trails to link the campus to be safe and accessible and good for bike riding. Risk management. Really important. I know some of you who are around a while ago got to help me get recognized through risk management, which was a bloodbath to say the least. Now it's just the opposite because now we need waivers, which are really important. I've been working with them for long time. We signed a lease on a bike shop in the loading dock of the Davis Center, which is our head wrench Senator Alleger is in the process of setting up and getting together. The technicians, his minions who will work under him supporting the bike share will help with the sustainability of the bikes, when they get damaged fixing them are going to be

certified through exposure during volunteer hours at Bike Recycle Vermont. That was something Risk Management wanted to see. Transportation and Parking Services assistance over long terms really want to make sure this is sustainable. When I'm gone and other people in the group are gone that the Bike Share will continue to flourish. We try really hard to recruit people on campus and get people involved and feel like they have a place in our program and that there is something meaningful to do and contribute in any way that they see fit. There are 1000 bagillion things that have to get done to make this happen. Anything from planning events to building this network in which Cat Cards are linked to working with risk management to soliciting donations, fundraisers. We try to emphasize that there is a place for everyone to contribute to this and to getting new members to the clubs and having the club continue to be a big part of supporting the bike share and decreasing costs. Transportation and Parking Services is helping us with the long-term management and helping us with the billing aspect because they do billing all the time for parking tickets. Really quick, looking at a big limitation, Gioia Thompson in the Office of Sustainability has been helping me get together a plan for many more years than I will be around. It's really easy to think in the short term what I want to see next week or next semester, but thinking about this long term. The committee has been formed which I've been working with for the past few months which includes Campus Planning, Parking and Transportation Services, the Office of Sustainability, CATMA and some other good folks to help research it and to help us assess when it's successful when it's not successful. What are the criteria that we need to see to expand. I'm hoping that eventually we get to this 50 bike 5 hubs that will really more comprehensively cover campus. From this pilot and this outlines a bit of how this is going to work. Hoping to double the fleet of bikes to 30 if we have a smashing spring. This group is helping to develop criteria to judge it and hoping to have a full program in the future. This is the bike that we are planning on getting. Workman Industrial unisex. This price I think is a little dated. Lonnie helped negotiate from campus planning helped negotiate a quote from bikes. This is kind of an idea of what the bikes are except in a lovely lavender. Overall it's pretty cheap in the grand scheme of bikes. This is what we're hoping the bike racks are going to look like. Bikes a little bit separate from the rest of the bikes so that people can see when the bikes are there and so on and so forth. It's gone, it's telling you to vote for this. What happens when the bikes break? We take the bikes to our shop and we fix them. We are working on a partnership with Old Spokes Home downtown for overhauls. If something systemic with the bike goes down that we can't handle in our little shop we will outsource it to shop in town helping stimulate local economy. So on so forth. Bikes getting concentrated in one hub. Redistribute them with a Car Share car. University of Vermont has a partnership [inaudible] redistribute them in the short term. Also, incentives to end trips at underserved hubs. Basically, what municipalities have done is they've seen hubs that are underserved and they say people check out bikes at Redstone and bring them here to the Davis Center and then they get concentrated [inaudible] kids at Redstone use, you provide incentives such as a free overnight for ending trip at Redstone. That's kind of a cool way to work on that. What about Burlington? Really expensive for municipal bike shares. You have to have [inaudible] city level and that's really difficult. Having it linked to the Cat Card system is really useful because it keeps us from having to make these huge investments that cities are having to make to put bike shares in. It keeps our costs considerable lower than other programs. Looking to expand in the future and incorporate Champlain College, link their ID card system with ours and finding ways to incorporate the two universities. Potentially the shop that UVM has on Church, incorporating that to have a hub there so you could link downtown and other downtown businesses, getting them involved is really important. We don't want to leave Burlington out of it. Finally, this already failed at UVM because there was no accountability mechanism. I've studied what happened there and I think and Parking and Transportation Services, Campus Planning, Office of Sustainability and Risk Management think that we have a sufficient accountability mechanism to make sure that this doesn't happen again. I think that's it.

**Chair Mallea:** So probably a lot of you are asking, why did this come up under emergency business? Well, they came in for supplemental funding this week and we were made aware that the people that they're using are offering them a deal through February 18, otherwise the price will increase, so emergency business. I'm going to read the bill and then take questions [*read bill*].

*Open the Floor for Questions (1:22.19)*

**Senator Yeager:** I was wondering is this just for the bikes or for everything to get started like absolutely everything?

**Chair Simmons:** The quote they gave us from Workman was including helmets, but other stuff is going to be paid for with BUG money that we fundraised and grants that we've got. Locks. The bike racks to form the different hubs. These are going to be financed partly through Parking and Transportation Services and our money. The \$7,500 is for exclusively bikes and helmets come with each bike and we want to encourage people to be safe.

**Senator Yeager:** You also mentioned that this is also going to be for the greater Burlington Community and I was wondering if that is because on campus students take the bikes down to the communities and back? How does this affect off campus students? Can they get in on this?

**Chair Simmons:** this is something we've been grappling with for a long time. In the short term, I think benefits to the Burlington community are giving students a more easy access to downtown, giving students this ability to get downtown if they don't already have bikes and then obviously the business to Old Spokes. Volunteers going to Bike Recycle Vermont. They're an awesome non-profit downtown that takes old abandoned bikes and rehabs them and gives them to low-income families. We're going to be sending our technicians to volunteer there to get their certification. It's unfortunate that we can't be opening this to all of Burlington right now, but the fact is to keep this from going to millions of dollars to start it, it has to be based on the Cat Card system.

**Chair Adams:** Hi Jesse. You're really going to hate me. We made you take out of your constitution anything about a bike share, so we can't give you money to do it until you put it back in. I don't think we can technically allocate the money to do this tonight.

**Speaker Chevrier:** Point of clarification: Where are you getting that from? What sort of grounds?

**Chair Adams:** That's why they could get approved last year was because they took out all the bike share stuff out of their constitution, from their mission, so technically you would have to change your constitution, which I haven't seen it, maybe it's happened or maybe it hasn't, but we have to back in touch with risk management.

**Chair Simmons:** This committee we have been working with have had Risk Management sitting on it so Sherry and Nancy have been working with us on this proposal. They're on the committee that's working for furtherance of this bike share program happening and they're supportive of this request. I don't know if that covers the necessary bases that we have to.

**Speaker Chevrier:** I used to do Student Activities, I'm under the impression that it's fine to do something that's not written into your constitution. For instance, the Pre-Med club is going to go on field trip but that wasn't written in their constitution but they got money from us last week to do it. As long as risk management has approved it, it should be fine.

**Chair Adams:** I mean, technically, BUG you guys have kind of fallen in standing a little bit lately which we need to talk about separately, but as far as I know constitutional changes, which this would have to be, because to be recognized they had to take the bike share out.

**Chair Mallea:** I guess I'm not seeing what the problem is because their Bike Share program has nothing to do with their standing as club. We have clubs that are hardly doing anything but if they want to better themselves as a club and request money for a conference to better their club, we give them money for that. We don't question if they're a good club. They're still within good

standing recognized by the Student Government and that's what should count. I also think if Risk Management has been sitting on this committee and has approved this program then that should stand for something.

**Chair Adams:** Friendly Amendment to add a be it further whereas risk management has approve this expenditure.

**President Mensah:** Point of Information: Last week I went to a campus Master Planning Committee which I think I even mentioned to Jesse... so the Campus Master Planning Committee that I was talking about meets two or three times a year to assess different things around campus and different initiatives such as the BUG or the bike share. When we met last week I think they were all in favor of this. Clearly the group has been keeping in contact with Jim Barr and the proper people and Risk Management has already approved this as well. The second thing is the process is pretty much moving because they expect a pilot program in April. Just to put that out there.

**Senator Tepper:** I'm confused how it would work on weekends because I know that Waterman isn't open and sometimes people aren't sitting at the desks in dorms that early in the mornings and how that would work.

**Chair Simmons:** We want to keep, we don't want to be increasing the hours that people have to sit at the desks. In terms of Waterman, that's something we'll have to figure out before we include Waterman in it next fall. Obviously hours in which the bikes can be taken out will depend on the hours in which staff will be available.

**Senator Tepper:** Have you checked with Chair Filstein to see if it's ok to make them lavender?

**Chair Simmons:** Chair Filstein no longer comes to our meetings so he has been released from any [inaudible].

**Senator Cooper:** This is an awesome idea. I'm fully in support. I'm curious as to what type of locks are you going to use. Are they going to be combination locks?

**Chair Simmons:** No, they're going to be key locks, which is important. The locks have to be pretty sturdy. We don't want kids penalized if they return the bike and the lock is clipped so they're going to be the u locks. Really sturdy, unclippable. They have keys so obviously you can't just learn the combination.

**Speaker Chevrier:** I first want to say I'm unequivocally for this and I'm extremely proud that one of our clubs came up with something like this. I also want to point out that, technically, SGA doesn't have to do what Risk Management says. They have the final authority. I could write a constitution and do everything and have it be the I like to jump off buildings without a parachute club and SGA would have to recognize we would then have to adhere to risk management's rules which would probably be we could talk about jumping off buildings but not actually do it. This idea that he has to have it in his Constitution and that we then can't allow this is not correct. Risk Management could if they we doing this after we gave them the money in which case the money would come back to us if we weren't able to spend it for what this bill specifies they need to spend it for. We are under no obligations. Second, if I were to take out a bike with my Cat Card and then I come back and I scan the bike and then swipe my Cat Card, what's to stop me from then taking the bike?

**Chair Simmons:** When you return the bike you would be giving the key to the lock back. If you didn't lock the bike and then took it then the next person to come along would be like, wow, that bike isn't there and it will be the previous user that will be accountable for it. Jumping off buildings, that's kind of like a hardcore club.



**Chair Adams:** I'm fully confident behind this added in clause just because it was such a hassle last year but I fully support this.

**Chair Simmons:** I want to get the club in pristine standing. I know our budget didn't go through the first time so we had to resend it, but any other things I'm right away.

**Senator Caster:** Wonderful and from the side of questioning from an IRA standpoint we're working on conversations about that. I was wondering about how this would work during winter. If could just give an update of what this model will look like in terms of their presentation to the Board of Trustees hopefully about incorporating bikes into the campus master plan. I remember that during that meeting they spoke about that briefly. I was wondering if anyone had been in contact with you about that and if we could turn this into something we could present to the Board of Trustees so that they would fork over a ton of money so we could make it better than it already seems to be.

**Chair Simmons:** Winter months are an important thing to consider. In other bikes share it's been really beneficial as a time to bring all bikes in and service them all and make sure they're all in good working order for the spring. Probably it's going to go, this is still stuff that has to be worked out for next winter with that committee. I imagine we'll go pretty much until the end of the fall semester and bring them in for the winter break and then release them sometime in March so we have a couple months where they will be out. We're working to make sure that all hubs are covered from the snow and the rain to help bikes. That's important. In terms of presenting to the Board of Trustees, Lane Ravin from Campus Planning is playing a huge role in the Campus Master plan and she's been sitting on this committee with me. I really can't understate the importance of that. I've had my wonders about how sustainable this will be once some of us have left and knowing that with a managing stake in the group all of those departments that I previously listed- Campus Planning, Parking and Transportation Services, Office of Sustainability, Risk Management- are going to be regularly meeting to assess and share in the Bike Share in addition to BUG is soothing to my soul.

**Senator Bennington:** I think this is an awesome idea. 3 questions. First, where are these bikes made? Sweet, got the answer to that question. Second, If you buy them February 18 or whatever when they're going to arrive here and do you have the tools and the shop set up so as soon as they get here you can start rolling or do you still have to buy the tools?

**Chair Simmons:** Great questions. I think it's going to take something between 10 days and 2 weeks to get here which will give us more than enough time to get them ready before our planned launch date sometime at the end of March which would give us 3 weeks to get them assembled and ready and everything like that. The tools are being bought. We're going to make a purchase with a grant that he got. Also our good friend is a really good dude, he's a grad student or maybe he graduated already, has made a huge donation to the group of tools and parts and all that kind of stuff.

**Chair Mallea:** I just have an amendment that came from Student Activities to me. We changed whereas UVM Bike Users Group is in good standing with the Student Government Association, we changed it to Bike Users Group is a recognized club with the University of Vermont Student Government because they only have 14 out of the 19 points.

**Chair Adams:** Point of Information: 14/30 points.

**Chair Mallea:** Which is borderline within good standing.

**Senator Ravech:** I was just wondering what's to prevent anyone from using the bike hubs, especially if they are going to be covered in the rain and the snow.

**Chair Simmons:** This is something the committee has been talking about a lot as well. We're debating different solutions such as putting a boot on bicycles that are left there, locking them, being like, again, you need to come see Jim Barr in Parking Transportation Services to get your bike back. We don't want to be doing anything detrimental to these bikes but we think that this will be a fairly self-enforcing thing after the first few times. You put adequate signage that if you lock your bike here you're not going to get it back without a big run around and I think that after people do that it's just not good for the program if your bike gets locked up for a little while.

**Senator Mustacchi:** Have you thought about what might happen during the Naked Bike Ride? What your role would be with risk management issues associated with that?

**Chair Simmons:** Let's see. We've been, I've been working the last two naked bike rides as far as Student Action, which is pretty funny. We've been talking about doing different benefits and fundraisers with the Naked Bike Ride but haven't really come up with any yet and aren't sure which direction we want to take. We were thinking of doing a clothing drive with the Naked Bike Ride so when you take off your clothes we'll save them and we'll give them away. In terms of the risk management aspect of it, if people are going to take the bikes into the naked bike ride and wipe out on them, I think the waiver would cover. If for some reason the waiver didn't cover that, if it was a university sponsored event, it would be fairly easy to just have them not be allowed to be check out on the night of the event.

**Senator Yeager:** Looking into the future because it sounds like this is definitely sustainable, what other forms of renting out bikes would be implemented besides Cat Cards? Don't they only really work for people that are in dorms? How would that work? I'm confused would the bikes be at dorms, right?

**Chair Simmons:** The way I conceptualized it is I call it the library model. Just like you check out a library book with your Cat Card you check out a bike. Instead of going to the library desk you go to the front desk of a dorm where an RA is sitting and they swipe your card.

**Senator Rifken:** The seats on bikes, maybe this is really silly, but being a short person I've run into this problem before. Is it like allen wrenches, is it one of those, because if you don't have the allen wrench and a really tall person rode it last, you have this little problem where your feet don't touch the pedals.

**Chair Simmons:** I should talk to Lonnie about this but this was definitely something we were negotiating when we were deciding which bikes to get was to have a quick release seats so they would be easily adjustable but not have it able to come all the way off so you couldn't steal the seat.

**Senator Allegger:** Point of Information: They're quick release but the way to do that is to wrap a chain from the seat stand on the frame to the bottom of the seat so there is an upper limit of the seat and you can't take off the seat.

**Chair Adams:** My question is where are you putting the bikes meantime? You're ordering them now but where are you going to put them until you get the racks set up? My second question is who in Waterman? Is it going to be the registrar's office that's handling it?

**Chair Simmons:** In terms of Waterman, that's something that we're working on with the committee right now. Hopefully it would be that desk right there in the front that we'd be working with obviously for next fall. Storage. I wish I had the name of the building, we just received word that we'd be able to use it. It's a room on Trinity that's free for storing bikes.

**Chair Monteforte:** Call to question

**Vote on Bill Allocating Funds to UVM Bike Users Group – passes**

## Bill Supporting the Appointment of Chelsea Fifield (1:41.52)

**Vice President Maciewicz:** We have one appointment tonight. I sent out the application and the bill last week so hope you all read it. [*reads bill*]. Boy is that poorly written language, it's a mouthful. After consultation with the appointment committee and an interview, I decided to bring Chelsea up for appointment. As always it's my belief that she would be the best for the job of those who applied. I have full confidence in her ability to do a good job. Let's now open the floor for any questions.

### *Open the Floor for Questions (1:43.54)*

**Senator Benner:** How many people applied for this?

**Vice President Maciewicz:** 3

**Senator Benner:** What are your three favorite things about UVM and three things you would like to see changed about UVM?

**Chelsea:** My favorite things are Billings. I love that building. I'm a tour guide and I always take my tours in there. It's very Harry Potter-esque and I think it has a very rich sense of history and tradition at UVM. I love that UVM is very accessible. I think it's very easy to be involved in a lot of things at UVM and to change your interests whether that is academic, political, social engagement. Furthermore, I love that at UVM I feel like nothing is pushed on you and I feel like that's something I always stress in my tour. I love that at UVM if you're for something, great, and if you're not for something that's great too. I just love that there's a lot of acceptance and diversity. I talked about this in my first meeting. I really wish that professors were required to put up their syllabus before registration. I don't think it's enough to have just the description up there and students need and deserve to know what materials they will need for the course, what the expectations for the course would be. I think there would definitely be a lot less add dropping and scrambling around trying to figure out where they need to be. I also think it's a good opportunity to get books online which is cheaper for them. Sometimes you can email the professors for the titles but it doesn't give you them in the most efficient manner so you have to wrestle with buying more expensive books through the bookstore or going two or three weeks into the class without the books. That right now is probably the biggest thing. I also have heard, I don't know if this is true or not, but our compost and recycling isn't actually as efficient or effective. I'm not really sure how I would change that but I would like to see that changed. I think a lot of that is just student education and student responsibility to educate themselves. I'd like to see that changed. I'd also like to see changed, I think SGA is accessible but I'd like to find a way to empower students to SGA actually find the information that SGA provides.

**Senator M. White:** Hi. Glad you came in. Three quick questions. These are ones I've asked others. 1. Are you comfortable making decisions without the full support of the student body if you think something is right or you think the university needs something? 2. How does your plan for the future AA fit into what they've already been doing. Are you comfortable making decisions without the full support, I'll give you an example. We had an issue with Coke earlier this year, it was our mission to try to get off campus but then we had a poll of student opinion and they said no so that kind of changed our feelings.

**Chelsea:** I think ideally it's always great to have student support when you make a decision. I know that accessibility and knowledge base, SGA tends to have greater accessibility and knowledge base and I think that's why we elect people because we elect people who we hope will represent to the best of their ability their voice. Yes, it is obviously be my first preference but yes I would feel comfortable doing that.

**Senator M. White:** The second part of that how does your, at the end of your application you wrote a lot about enhanced course registration, who does that plan fit into with what AA has been doing?

**Chelsea:** I heard that they were trying to get professors to put up the description so of the classes and I think takes it to another level if that's what AA has been doing.

**Senator Rifken:** On kind of a more serious note, I was just wondering what your favorite flavor of ice cream was?

**Chelsea:** Coffee Heath Bar Crunch with lots of rainbow sprinkles.

**Chair Adams:** So you are also from the College of Education, which means I'm not an orphan anymore, single child. I was wondering what sort of perspective you think that makes you bring to the table?

**Chelsea:** I'm a Social Work major and I think that will bring a unique perspective. I think that's a major and a profession that demands that you can carry on a truthful and respectful dialogue and I think negotiation is about and I think dialogue is about truly understanding where someone is coming from, and If you truly understand each other you can reach a much more effective end.

**Senator Benner:** For someone who is interested in Academic Affairs and as someone who is not in the College of Arts and Sciences, what is your idea of the idea of General Education at UVM?

**Chelsea:** In all honesty I've kind of been going back and forth on it a lot. I originally was hoping to double major and minor but that was not going to be possible without me taking 18 credits a semester because my second major was in a different college. I think that there's benefits to the general education requirements. From my understanding previously in the fall semester is that hopefully the gen ed requirements would make it easier for students to double major across colleges. At the same time, as a Social Work major, who is probably not going to do a whole lot with biology lab, I think my time could be better spent in a psych class, a human development. Within the department, we do have biology classes tailored towards social work. I think I could be a lot more supportive of gen ed requirements if it could be promised that there would be courses that met the requirements but were tailored towards people's majors.

**Vote on Bill Supporting Confirmation of Chelsea Fifield – passes**

*[Administers Oath of Office]*

**Vice President Maciewicz:** I've been talking with all the chairs, President Mensah and I, and we will be appointing Chelsea to the Student Action Committee, so congratulations.

**Amending the Operation Documents (1:52.43)**

**Vote to open the operational documents – passes**

**Speaker Chevrier:** I'm going to have to dig through all of these. Alright, these are the proposed changes and we will have to vote on all of them individually and as we go along I will explain the reason behind it. Article 1 6 A currently says examples of campaign materials include "posters, banners, buttons, t-shirts, facebook groups," we're adding facebook events as well as we've already seen, some of the people that have taken out packets today have events and groups so we also want to make sure that's also clearly a campaign material.

**Vote on change to Article 1, 6, A – Passes**

**Speaker Chevrier:** Section C Number 2. It previously read the “The SGA does not reimburse candidates, however receipts documenting all campaign expenditures must be turned into the Elections Committee in the SGA office no later than one day after the polls close” and we’re turning that into or via email daily.

**Chair Adams:** Friendly amendment to change daily to weekly

**Speaker Chevrier:** Unless other people also agree with that, I’m going to go ahead and decline that friendly amendment and hear my thought processes. Last year there were issues because people did not understand that they were violating a rule. This way we will be able to catch if there is a violation and say there is a problem here. It is more difficult, it’s a pain in the butt for the people that are campaigning that they will then have to email me a pdf copy of it or that they’ll have to walk into the office. It’s also a hell of a lot more work for me because I’m going to be tallying all of it. I think it’s necessary to make sure that we catch an error immediately and not after 400 posters are potentially illegally put up. It’s difficult, it’s a pain in the butt, but I’m willing to do it and I think the candidates should be willing to do it.

**Senator Tepper:** If someone doesn’t spend money that day do they email you saying I didn’t spend money?

**Speaker Chevrier:** It’s only when there are receipts.

**Vote on Change to Section C Number 2 – passes**

**Speaker Chevrier:** Under section C 3A we’re just going to scrap the whole thing. So it previously read “The endorsement must be documented and confirmed by the Elections Committee with the endorsing person(s) and the candidate before the endorsement can be made public by the SGA, the endorsing person(s), or the candidate.” Then last year problems arose because for instance if Chair Filstein was running for President and BUG wanted to send out an email on his behalf saying they formally endorsed him, potentially running candidate Filstein was not aware that BUG did, but technically Chair Filstein would be violating the constitution and subject to a sanction just because a group really liked him and wants to endorse him but didn’t know the rules. It’s silly. It’s also never been done before. Previous Elections Chair Rifken, did anyone actually submit a formal endorsement?

**Senator Rifken:** Not last year but in the past there have been formal endorsements made by clubs and organizations

**Speaker Chevrier:** The other thing about this is even if, the reason why this was originally added is so that someone can’t say I have the full endorsement of the entire UVM school and actually not have it. I have the endorsement of Ski and Snowboard Club, even though Ski and Snowboard Club never endorses. That’s a problem, but you can still be sanctioned for that because it’s lying, even without this

**Vote on change to Section C 3A – passes**

**Speaker Chevrier:** One more change, two. It previously said under sanction “if the Elections Committee deems it necessary to sanction a candidate, the Elections Committee will ask the candidate in person to come before the committee,” which just sounds really silly. Now it just says to come before the committee in person.

**Vote on change to Section F 1a – passes**

**Speaker Chevrier:** Under Article 3 Section A3 since we are having multiple debates we wanted to put parentheses around an s so it is possible for multiple debates to exist.

**Vote on Change to Article 3 Section A3 – passes**

**Speaker Chevrier:** I want to thank everybody for doing that and for the awesome Constitution Committee Members who helped make the changes.

**Chair Herman:** More I guess a point of clarification, are we allowed to propose other changes to the document as well, like now or later?

**Speaker Chevrier:** Point of Information: if anybody ever wants to change something they can motion to open the operational documents, we're about to motion to close it, but that's what it says in the constitution is that anybody has the right to make any changes, but preferably people who want to change something should come to Constitution Committee meetings so we can talk about the language so it's not just added immediately without previous thought.

**Vote on closing the Operational Documents - passes**

**New Business (2:00.27)**

**Chair Mallea:** Bill Allocating Funds to Alpine Ski

**Speaker Chevrier:** Proposed Changes to the Operational Documents

**Executive Reports (2:00.53)**

**Speaker Chevrier:** So quickly I wanted to point out, I realized this while I had food in my mouth so I'm not going to get mad if you forgot about it too, but if we motion to suspend the rules you're not allowed to eat again. For the new Senators, it's common courtesy to not eat during Public Forum. People have taken the time to come in and talk to us so we should not have food in our mouths.

**Chair Simmons:** Point of Inquiry: For Public Forum, what's the protocol on snapping and hats and stuff?

**Speaker Chevrier:** So that kind of stuff is something that is at the Speaker's disposal because it's not written into the Constitution anywhere as to whether you are allowed to do it but common courtesy in the past is that you're not allowed to yea or nay when somebody is coming up to speak, especially because it's really rude to nay when they are speaking to you. I'm personally all in favor of this new snap I think it gives encouragement and it's not as interrupting. If someone disagrees with me and thinks that they can't hear when they snap, but I think it's encouraging. I wanted to again remind everybody that you have to submit legislation by Thursday if a bill that was brought up under New Business last week is not here because it wasn't submitted. I'm really going to start to do that if it wasn't in by Thursday then you're either not going to vote on it or it's going to come up under Emergency Business and I think that's just a common courtesy to everyone in this room, because the reason that I have to send out this Legislation and the agenda 48 hours before these meetings is so that everybody can have the time to read and if you're not having the time to read the legislation beforehand then you shouldn't be voting on it because you don't know enough about it most likely. I also wanted to apologize for not being here last week, I was really sick. I'm also going to quickly do elections updates while I have the floor. Packets went out today. If you're planning on running for President or Vice President you're already behind the game because other people have already signed out their packets. I also wanted to clear up a bit of confusion that happened today. Some confusion in the packet it says to run you have to be a member of the Student Government Association which is confusing because that sounds a lot like senator and of course you're allowed to run if you're not a senator. Historically, a member of the Student Government Association has been defined as someone who pays the Student Activities fee. You are a member of the SGA and you have to be a member of the SGA to run but you don't have to be a senator to run. I got a lot of really confused texts so hopefully that clears it up. It's also something that if you want to change the wording around it then we can play

around with our Constitution but that's how it currently is. While last year as Chair of the Student Activities Committee I always said that the most important part of my job was to sanction clubs that do bad things, but that luckily it's not part of the job to look for clubs who do bad things. You're not allowed to sanction a club if you see they are hazing but if someone brings it to your attention then you're obligated to respond. I kind of want to implore everybody to not take that approach with elections. If somebody sees someone doing something wrong. Somebody mentioned to me that it was possible that people had declared their candidacy before having taken out their packet, which is a violation of the rules. It was also told to me that somebody who hasn't actually taken out packet was saying that if people voted for them they would give away chair positions, which is hugely illegal. That person did not take out a packet. If you hear something is going wrong with elections, if you hear somebody very illegally promising chair positions, I would suggest that it is your duty as somebody who wants to leave a legacy here or is going to be working under or with whoever is president next year to keep an eye out for those sorts of things. If anybody has any questions about the rules that we just passed or anything about the elections please come talk to me. I'd be happy to talk to you about it.

*Open the Floor for Questions (2:05.16)*

**Chair Adams:** Since we just changed the operational documents regarding elections but packets have gone out with the old rules, how is that being mediated?

**Speaker Chevrier:** Packets didn't go out with the old rules. Since I knew we were going to do this week because I was too sick last week to do it, I crossed out, what you saw here is more or less what's in the packet except for one thing and Jess has a list of all the different people who have taken out packets and I will be emailing them tonight to tell them that the crossing out stuff that is in their packet is now the actual rules and the one thing that was added that wasn't in the packet is now a rule.

**Senator Yeager:** I was wondering what's the update with the elections committee and scheduling and things like that?

**Speaker Chevrier:** I passed around a sheet last week, I wasn't here, the week before that, asking people to sign up and I didn't get a lot of response so then I sent out a doodle to all of Senate and less people filled out the Doodle than had signed the sheet. We need 5 people. Historically, it was only a chair that did elections but last year there were lots of issues and there needed to be a committee. The committee really only necessary for a couple of reasons. 1. People power during the debates. 2. Creative ideas, more minds are better than one. 3. I guess if there are any sanctions it's better to have a group of people accountable having made the decisions instead of one person authoritatively choosing one side or the other. I'm going to until we have the 5 people we need. The Constitution says we need 5 people on a committee one of them has to be from PR. I'll resend out the same doodle but only 3 people have taken it and that's really frustrating.

**Vice President Maciewicz (2:07.08):** I hope everyone is having a good week. Congratulations to Chelsea. I know she'll do a great job happy and I know how happy Student Action is to finally have her. Keep on going what you guys do. They Lynx improvement task force is up and running. President Mensah will be running the first meeting because I have a prior commitment but it will be this Thursday at 7. It's going to be really cool for those of you who use the Lynx and think it's a pain. like me. It needs some serious improvements and maybe even replacement. If you're interested in coming you should tell President Mensah. It will be fun. This week was the first meeting of the President Student Advisory Council, which I talked about a lot. 25 student leaders from across campus including a lot of us here meeting with the Senior Administration to be a sounding board for what's going on. I think it went pretty well. It obviously has some room for improvements but it hasn't existed in 20 years. Give it time. I hope it continues next year after I'm gone. As always, if you want anything added to that agenda send it to me when the meeting comes up. We're doing a review Jess, and I and a work-study of all of the storage in the back of the office. If anyone's ever been back there it's kind of a mess. You can sign out a locker if

you're a club that needs storage space but over years it got kind of lost or clubs have storage space and they don't keep anything in it. Some clubs have swiped 3 or 4 lockers. People are kind of piling their junk up there. We're going to give everybody an ultimatum to keep their junk out or we're going to donate it to charity including our old computers and we're going to reassign all that space based on merit and need. That's going to be really fun. Not so much but it's really important and it's something I want to leave whoever takes over for me something they don't have to do because it's something that has been promised by SGA since we moved into the Davis Center and basically it's like a big landfill for stuff clubs don't want anymore. I just don't want to leave that anymore. If you want to help move some junk or throw away things or donate it, in a few weeks I might be taking you up on that offer. Or if you're good at organization you should come help me. For an email I sent out today I need someone for the Transportation Advisory Council. Possibly someone from BUG. It's an appeals process. It mainly deals with parking tickets right now but it might deal with bike violations in the future. I really need an SGA senator to serve on it. It's only a semester, it doesn't meet very much. Basically, people get a ticket for parking illegally or doing something transportation illegally you can file an appeal and if it's deemed that there is some possible chance that a case can be made there is a little panel of and undergrad, a grad student and an administrator that kind of mediates it and sees if it should be overturned. It's not the most exciting job in the world but if you've ever felt ripped off by TPS, which I feel like I have a couple of times, I think it would be good to have one of us there rather than just leaving it. So please shoot me an email. It's important even if it's mundane, but I really do need somebody. Two more things. Signs are finally here for the office. We're putting them up now. Every desk will have little office hour signs. We have a map of the galaxy space they're numbered so you don't have to bother Jess when you're looking for Ski and Snowboard Club because you can see it on a big map. We also have a sign in the hallway that says SGA. We got a good deal on it, it's really nice so check it out. I know we've been talking about it for a long time, it just took forever to make them. When they're all up we're going to repaint the space over spring break so it will look really nice and spiffy. The last thing, still seeing some clutter in the galaxy space. Not your mother but every morning I throw away empty food containers. The coffee tables are covered in coffee. I know we're students and we're a little prone to clutter but the food is gross and it's in violation of the Davis Center lease. I'm not your mother nor am I a maid and neither are the people who work for us. It's actually got so bad in the kitchen that we've had to close it. We're actually going to be further restricting, it's going to be closed until further notice because we're not going to do your dishes. Are staff is accountants and specialists, we're here to advocate for students, we don't need to be washing dishes at 9:30 in the morning. I'm barely awake as it is and I'd rather be talking to students than washing your dishes. There are garbage cans within a 10 ft radius. I don't mean to nag but it's not how I want to start my day picking up trash because it's not my job. Unfortunately we're going to have to deal with it until people take responsibility for their actions. You bring it in you throw it out. That's kind of the rule. You bring food in bring it back downstairs. If you use kitchen when it's open again you make a dish you wash a dish. It's easy. The organization saves, it makes work fun, it's easy to do. So please make me stop doing it so I don't have to keep talking about it.

*Open the Floor for Questions (2:12.47)*

**Speaker Chevrier:** I was wondering what is happening to the water jug if it's going to be closed and second is it an open space? There was an ex-senator who thought it was be closed because he was trying to get in but it turns out he had just jammed and that's why it wouldn't open. Is it an open space? Isn't it paid for by the student fee for the Davis Center and why is there a punch card on it to begin with if it's supposed to be open because it's paid for by us.

**Vice President Maciewicz:** It's kind of undefined and it has changed. It is a space intended for those who treat it responsibly. Our office is a public space, it's funded by all of you, but just like all other open spaces, if it's abused it is a privilege and not a right. You don't have a privilege as a student to have a kitchen wherever you want a kitchen. I don't like the idea of closing it. When we first came into office it was open whenever the Davis Center was open and literally the dish would be full as if people we having dinner parties in the office. It is a privilege. We're not going



to keep it open because our staff is not going to do your dishes. We're closing it until we think people get the message. Yes and no it is a public space but it is a privilege and not a right. If you trash the kitchen in your Residence Hall, your RD will probably close it for a week. We're not doing your dishes, we're not maids. If you'd like to increase the student activities fee so we can have maids do dishes, that's your call. The water cooler will be staying. Money used to be set aside specifically for the water cooler but we had extra money in the office budget so we decided to keep it since it seemed popular. If you feel otherwise let me know.

**Senator Yeager:** I've heard rumors in the past there has been a trash can in the office space. I know that could actually eliminate a lot for the trash on the inside.

**President Mensah:** The trash can is actually still there. The location where it was last year across from CODEEE has been moved to sort of over where Free To Be is. Maybe we can look into getting two trash receptacles in the office but there is 3 trash bins in our galaxy space.

**Senator Yeager:** It could cut down if it were more visible.

**Vice President Maciewicz:** I'd be happy to ask the Davis Center for more trash cans, but I've honestly seen people leave their trash on top of the trash cans instead of putting it in the hole. The lounge space you could probably throw your Davis Center container and make it into the trash can and people still leave it there. I'll try to get another one, they'll probably give it to me, but throw away your trash.

**Chair Simmons:** I just want to advocate for keeping that, I totally hear what you're saying. I saw a thing of dishes in there. When I was in there for my office hours it was just as easy to clean the dishes in the sink. I live with like 8 people and there's always dishes in the sink. I think maybe something where fitting it into the month of service or something like that. As a body we could allocate on of our office hours or half an hour of office hours or something with people use the kitchen to give back and clean a couple dishes. I totally agree with you, it's not your job, it's not Blanka's job, it's not Jess' job. I think it could be a cool move for us to participate a little bit in the cleaning of that space. I just think it's a wonderful thing to be able to open up to students coming through. We spend so much time trying to get ourselves out there and then we spend so much time trying to get kids to come to our office space. The thing that they want to use is the kitchen. I think it would be really great, I hear what you're saying, I'm not trying to make light, but it would be cool if us could help in vein of getting people in there.

**Vice President Maciewicz:** I have to respond is no way is cleaning up after irresponsible people service to anybody. No. Students who come in and abuse our space and then having to devote student advocacy to do cleaning that's inappropriate. I would appreciate if anyone sees a mess in the kitchen and you want to help out, I would appreciate if you chip in, but I don't agree with the idea of using anyone's office hours or the month of service to do that. I don't want the kitchen to stay closed but we're going to talk about it with the office staff and try to think of a way, because this has been an ongoing problem for years. Really try to create a balance. We're trying to balance openness but not disregarding irresponsibility.

**Senator Mason:** I don't use the kitchen at all so it doesn't really hurt me if it's closed but for people who do use it and don't violate any of those kind of rules because you're not a maid and no one in there is a maid so you shouldn't be cleaning up after people but for the people who don't abuse the right I just think it's kind of wrong to get it closed off. My questions is it just going to be closed off when the office leaves like the regular people like Blanka and them, or are they not going to be able to use kitchen as well as the other clubs as well that use the space too because it's not just senators using the kitchen.

**Vice President Maciewicz:** The door is usually closed at night but anyone who has the password can still get in there. The difference is we used to leave it open when we were here and then close

it at night so people weren't in there when the office was closed. The only difference now is that the door is closed during the day time too.

**Senator Tran:** The sign on the door has been up for a while and I was wondering if a) we could take the sign down and leave it closed or write a nicer sign. I feel like it's kind of mean.

**President Mensah (2:20.00):** So I am going to start off with Senator of the week which I usually start at the end of the report but this certain senator has a really important exam tomorrow that they want to ace so this week's Senator of the Week is Senator Ravech. Her gift is downstairs, I'll give it to her tomorrow. One of the reasons quite a few people nominated Senator Ravech is 1) because of visibility within the office and 2) the whole water bottles with her committee. She's really been passionate about in the office in the last couple of week's she's really trying to get the purchase orders through. Sending out multiple emails to senate with clarifying question also that I and other people have about the water bottles, really pushing that forward. I'm really excited to see the water bottles when they come in because I think the design looks really cool. Senator of the Week, Senator Ravech. The second thing that I want to talk about since it was brought up is the kitchen. Again, I do apologize for anyone in here or for the student body at large that the kitchen is closed, but again, it was a decision that we made simply because it's unacceptable. There was actually a Senator, Senator White, that falls in line with what Chair Simmons said about members of the SGA going in there and cleaning and to me it's more about the principle. We're not maids, it's not in your job description to go clean up after people who simply can't wash a dish. One of my chores growing up was to wash dishes and to clean my apartment for an hour a day and it becomes second nature. If I go into the kitchen and I eat I know I'm not going to leave my dirty dishes there for someone else to go wash. That's ridiculous Blanka or Jess have to take time out of their days to go into the kitchen and clean. I do apologize if the note is a little bit snobby but I did want to get everyone's attention. The first note that I put in on top of the sink was to make people mindful of the fact that it's privilege and it went through stages. We didn't just close the door immediately. It was I put that note almost when we got back from spring break and two, three instances there was still a pile of dishes that got piled up. To me and Jess and a couple other people in the office that's unacceptable. So the kitchen door is closed. In terms of access I think Senator Mason asked and David addressed it, if someone wants to get into the kitchen, one they will most likely have a code if they are a chair, two, they can come to myself or Jess or David if they really need to get access or they're really hungry and want to heat up food. We're not going to deny them that but we just want people to realize how much having a kitchen space is a privilege. How many students get to bring cold food from downtown and go heat it up somewhere. If you're going to use our space I would really like it to be respected. Wednesday I had a conversation with Vice President Cate. He kind of touched on a lot of things he touched on here. A lot of people have been asking about one time funds and those one times funds typically come up when the state or a donor gives us money and I know that sometimes one of the things we look at is going into our endowment, but we can't go into our endowment every single year to take out \$6 or 7 million because the following year we're going to have to make up the money we took from the endowment instead of fixing the problem. The past two years when we were getting stimulus money from the Federal Government and last year when we received a one time state appropriation, tuition was balanced for less than 4%. Now for the past two years we are trying to patch up to tuition increases that really didn't increase the percentage that they should have in the past 2 years. The second thing is I created the budget ad hoc committee. There have been a lot of students that have been around the senate floor that have been asking for the creation of this committee just to get a better understanding of the budget. I formally created and you have up until tomorrow 4:30 for people to signify whether or not they are interested and I've received quite a few responses. I'm also looking for a chair and naturally you never sign a contract before seeing what the duties are so I'm actually going to type up something and send it out to the senate listserv. I'm actually asking for more people to join the committee and also listing what the chair duties would be. Last week David and I and also Filstein, Cesario, and Tepper had lunch with the Arts and Sciences Consultant Group headed by Chris Lucier who did the Student Success and Satisfaction survey that was presented to students last week Thursday from 3:00 to 4:30. A lot of interesting finds in there. I also sent out the PowerPoint to the senate listerv so if anyone has any

questions about that or need to clarify just ask myself or David. With the Affirmative Action and Equal Opportunity there is an update. We finished the phone interviews and now we have advanced a decent amount of people for in person interviews, which will be starting shortly. I actually have a meeting tomorrow at 8:30. The Presidential and Vice Presidential packets are out and they are available and I encourage everyone that has signed out a packet. I'm happy you signed out a packet because I'm interested to see what the campaign is going to bring. I've already seen and heard a few people's platforms for why they are running and it seems really good. The only advice that I've given is that again, come and seek out the previous administration, not even just David and I because most of the decisions that have come this year have come with the advice of past Presidents and Vice Presidents. I feel like that's one of the best ways to lead is to see what other people have done in the past. Also just to focus on why you're running and why you would be the best candidate. I think that makes you a really strong candidate and I think that makes you stand out. Just a word of advice on that. Promotions and my emails. I actually got the idea from the Public Relations committee, aside from the fabulous job that they've done all year long, one of the things was the leftover hats from the hockey game was they created a new fan page and the first few people that liked the page were able to come to the SGA office and get a free hat. That's great that's almost like what UVM Program Board did at the beginning of the Spring Semester with the coffee mug, but if you like the fan page and showed that you liked it you get a free item and I think that's a great thing. The way that I am adapting that I had initially was going to do a quote of the week and up to 5 students would send me a quote. The first 5 students I select the best quote and the following week it goes into the email and they get a free hat. A few hours ago Senator Benner had a great idea to try and get student feedback. The VSOP polls are not going out not because the Public Relations committee has been slacking off but because there are so many different surveys going out that it would defeat the purpose. Senator Benner's idea was to ask one or two questions in my weekly emails and first respondents in that will receive a free scarf or a free hat or something else. This week's question is about tuition and what thoughts are about tuition. I think that was a great idea and hopefully will get students to start to read the weekly emails. We've already had a great amount of students reading them ever since the boycott on course evaluations. The last update that I wanted to give was on Club 590. It's with campus programs. They've tapped different organizations such as SGA, BSU, Free To Be, to put on events to try and throw more students back to campus when BSU hosted their good success. Hopefully SGA can keep that up. Our theme is a night in Hollywood, party like a rock star. So we've worked that out so we're going to have free mocktails, free energy drinks and a couple of other things. It's going to be this Saturday from 10-1 in Brennan's. Again, this is an SGA sponsored event so it would be great if you could join the facebook page and start spreading the word because we do want to support the university and this is one of the ways to get kids to party on campus with great music and show that SGA can throw a rocking party.

*Open the Floor for Questions (2:29.29)*

**Chair Simmons:** As someone who is part of the somewhat dinosaur age of my liking capacities are limited to being on a computer and not smart phone-ness in my pocket, I am deeply offended if by any unfair advantages given to the new cyber children with doohickies on their phones.

**President Mensah:** If I'm understanding what you said I think you said that iPhones are superior and crackberries suck?

**Chair Adams:** Are we using the really cool party smart t-shirts that COLA had printed a couple years ago for Saturday night?

**President Mensah:** If they are available.

**Chair Adams:** Point of Information: There are 15 at my house.

**President Mensah:** If anyone is interested in coming in to Saturday's party in I am Partying apparel that COLA created two years ago, grab some from Amanda.

**Chair Filstein:** Have you heard back from Gary Derr?

**President Mensah:** No, he's on vacation this week. I did call him last week Friday just as he was leaving his office. The situation is he's not waiting on anything from me but he's waiting for something on the Faculty Senate end and I forget what he said but I wrote it down.

**Speaker Chevrier:** Point of Clarification: What are we talking about?

**President Mensah:** At the end of last semester with the boycott David and I had a meeting with Jane Knodell and a few other senior administrators and one of the moving steps to talking about course evaluations would be setting up a committee that would involve members within SGA and members within the faculty senate. As of right now that committee has yet to be created because we're waiting on something on their end.

**Senator Benner:** Two things. First thing is the questions on the email was only 10% mine and 90% Senator Rifkin's. I just stole it and sold it as my own. Second thing, we spoke a little bit earlier about how the budget ad hoc is not only open to senators but students as well. I'm wondering from you ways in which you feel we can get the student body engaged to join that committee who are outside of the senate.

**President Mensah:** Aside from the lovely piece you wrote in this week's email, talking to other students. As senators one of the things we like to do is go and engage the campus population. Engaging the student population and letting them know if you're concerned or confused about tuition because you feel like a 5.8 tuition will really impact your ability to study here at UVM next year or you just really want to get a firm understanding of the budget. Clearly people are confused about it because *The Cynic* which is supposed to represent news going around campus. In their front page news they put that the decisions on the budget is postponed until May. Someone reading that might be like, oh, ok they might really be considering changing the 5.8 budget, but no, the budget is always decided in May. So that was a mistake and thousands of students are reading that because the Roots were on the cover so a lot of students have been picking up *the Cynic* this week.

**Senator Tran:** My question never got answered, can we take the sign down from the door?

**President Mensah:** I will look at the sign and see where it might need changing and look into changing it. It might have been abrasive but at the same time I really want people to look at it and think. It's annoying. It's something David and I have been pushing all year long in the galaxy space. It's annoying to walk by and see banana peels everywhere and see coffee seeds everywhere. It's just unprofessional and I hate bananas.

**Treasurer Salsgiver (2:34.07):** So it's 9:30 so I'll try to keep it short. It's been a while since I gave a report. We had the Treasurer Workshop, the two spring ones which we've never had before so I'm definitely going to recommend to the next Treasurer that they do it again. It was really well attended and Chair Adams was able to do a mini-policy workshop too. I'm still enforcing the tests, which I made. It's all going really well. I've gotten a lot of positive feedback about it. I did the Audit Committee meeting. Two things that came out of that that pertain to SGA is the W9 enforcement, the added paperwork that every club signer now has to do is going to remain. The Audit committee thinks that it's a really good idea and that it's going to benefit the university so that's one thing. They're also considering centralizing the temporary employee salary and wage situation. I don't know if you're familiar but the audit committee came upon a lot of temporary employee salaries that were incredibly high for the industry standard, so they're considering centralizing it and looking into all of the different employees. Continuing conversations about need based financial aid for club members who can't afford to be on a lot of

different club sports like hockey. There were 7 different club members saying they could no longer afford to be on this team that they were a part of for 3 years. So that's something I'm talking to Leon and Blanka about a lot and Pat as well. I've been working with Leon for coming up with some more quantitative way or objective way to come up with salaries for different coaches. We looked at female coaches versus male coaches and male coaches are being paid substantially more across the board in the same sports. We're looking for a way to even that out or figure out why that is. This is the second month that we're doing budget transaction detail reports. It takes an immense amount of time to send them out so I wanted to make sure they were still helpful for club signers. I kind of sent out an informal poll to 50 random club signers and I got about a 90% response rate that was really positive and a 10% response that they were undereducated. I kind of revamped the PowerPoint that I made explaining how to read the report and sent it out again. I got positive feedback from that. I've been really busy with P.O.s. There was a weekend two weekends ago where between 5:00pm on Friday and 8:00 am on Monday I got 215 emails. It's definitely a busy time of the year. That's about it. If you want any more details let me know.

### **Committee Reports (2:37.07)**

#### **Student Action (2:37.10)**

**Chair Simmons:** Hey guys. Ok. I guess I'll start with late night dining. There's been a lot of hubbub I talked to Paul Bahan, I actually ran into him outside right before this meeting, which was lovely. We're really pushing for a 10-2, a late night dining option on campus talking about the reality of student's sleep schedules being a bit later than the rest of the world's it seems. Talking about, I don't know who raised this but some brilliant soul pointed out that Alice's and the Marché are both open in the morning together and they're right next to each other doing a lot of similar things. As I talked about in my previous report one of the concerns with late night dining would be that they can't just continue to offer new hours without reducing them somewhere else. Paul and I were just discussing making one or the other Alice's or the Marché open in the morning for breakfast where you can get coffee, breakfast sandwiches, bagels, breakfast food and then open the other one up for more hours in the evening as a potential option for shifting some of that. In terms of late night dining, for the survey, seeing whether we can release a survey about it. As someone said before, the concentration of surveys going out right now. Senator White had a meeting with *The Cynic* in which we passed on some of the questions that dining services had for students so instead of sending them out in a poll including it in the article like if you're interested in late night dining, would you want this to be open at x,y,z locations, what hours would you want it to be open for, what foods would you want to have offered. If we can't release a poll at least we're trying to solicit student feedback on that front somehow. Bottled water. As Alyssa was already applauded for her efforts, which I think, are well deserved, they should be coming in soon. We were blown off again, rather Senators White and Benner were pushed back on the library once again. They will be meeting with them two days from now on Friday so getting after it.

#### *Open the Floor for Questions (2:39.54)*

**Senator O'Brien:** I'm curious on *The Cynic* if you let them know in any way that students can give us feedback, did you say talk to SGA or talk to *The Cynic*?

**Chair Simmons:** I just said give them my email.

**Chair Adams:** I was wondering if on the library front since they seem to not want to meet if you guys have just considered writing a bill without their input.

**Senator M. White:** A little bit of a misspeak. Last week it wasn't a flop. Last week we thought we were meeting there just wasn't a meeting at all. This week is the real this Friday is the real

meeting now where in previous weeks it has been you didn't email us fast enough so we're going to push it.

### **Public Relations (2:40.58)**

**Chair Monteforte:** Hello, hello everyone, I hope you are all having fun. As Chair Simmons said, surveys are on a hold. I think I talked about this last week, but basically there are other important surveys going out and they don't want to clog the survey to student ratio going on. VSOP is on a hold. We're trying to wait and see what happens with that. They said around March hopefully so I'll keep you updated with that. A new facebook page has been created by our lovely PR Committee here. Tell your friends to like that please. Right now Facebook is a person, which is not that great so now we're converting it to a page where we can track how many people click on our page daily so we can track. Encourage all the people that you know to like us on Facebook. That's awesome. As Kofi said, Club 590, please come. It's on Saturday from 10:00-1:00 in Brennan's. It's going to be fun, dancing, free stuff, hopefully it's a success. As Elections Chair Chevrier said elections are going out for P and VP. I have a fancy little sign up right here. We're going to be having debates as we said in the op docs changes. We're doing something fancy this year. We're going to interview people with our camera here that we have about questions that they have for the President and Vice President that we're going to play on a screen off of YouTube during the debates. We're going to press play on people's questions and then candidates are going to respond to it. So that's pretty cool. We're going to be in the Davis Center on 4 days next week, Tuesday and Thursday so please sign up, it will be a great help. It will be awesome. We've got some other cool things in the work. That's it for now.

### **Academic Affairs (2:43.01)**

**Chair Filstein:** Good morning senate. 60% of Academic Affairs was at Faculty Senate yesterday. It was quite a turnout. Really informative, we got some good nuggets of information. Moving a long with enhanced course descriptions and we'll be giving you guys a nice little presentation about what we're pushing and what you should expect to see from the faculty next year. To do a little update on Gen Ed I'm going to yield the floor to Senator Caster.

**Senator Caster:** So just two major points for Gen Ed. Just know that it's not classes that they're changing, it's outcomes. The things that they're focusing on right now is assessment in terms of are you going to be able to be assessed on these outcomes of classes or extracurricular activities and the allocation of resources based off of what they want to improve. I'm personally pushing for the role of the advisor in the new Gen Ed departments because I feel like that's a pretty underutilized resources and that's something we wanted to touch on as Academic Affairs.

**Chair Filstein:** The final thing as Kofi mentioned, the S cubed, the Student Success and Satisfaction report the school paid a boatload of money to an external consultant to produce. We're going to start combing through that because I feel like there's a lot of valuable statistics and information in there and we're really happy about that. We're really happy about VSOP and that's it.

### **Finance (2:44.32)**

**Chair Mallea:** Hey guys so we had a very jam packed schedule tonight and sorry I had to leave halfway through. We had a budget hearing with a club that was not able to meet at any of our scheduled times. Thank you passing both pieces of legislation tonight. I will email out the rest of my report.

### **Student Activities (2:44.54)**

**Chair Adams:** Thanks for derecognizing all those clubs, which are fun. Basically they are all organizations that don't exist anymore which is cool. UVMtv that makes sense because they are a media group comparable to *The Cynic* even though they have considerably more debt. They're

working on it. Thanks for passing that as well. We have coming up we're looking at how we market clubs as a whole and looking to as we move forward with the Lynx things we might want from a different kind of group and things we've come up with that we want to see SGA doing or using an outside source to do is a calendar sort of like the bored calendar but with weekly meetings and events going on from the club side. We're looking about how to do that so that we as senators know when all of our clubs are meeting and two everybody else does as well. It's sort of centralizing that. Fall in Love with clubs, I sent it to Kate Strotmeyer, it should be up on the flat screens but we only received 5 clubs responses and no other committee emailed me anything. It's basically like one little slide, which is kind of sad. Hopefully as we move forward with some of the newer marketing tools people will be more willing to engage. Alex and I are working, IEEE is a recognized club by SGA but they kind of branch off with Arrow so they're an electrical engineering club and Arrow builds a car so they sort of adapted Arrow to participate in Arrow competition. Needless to say they are splitting if you hear mumblings Alex and I are working on it. If anyone has any good suggestions we're sort of thinking about it more creatively, as creatively as possible, so we don't hurt the club that is functioning to recognize the club that is recognized but really should have been derecognized. It's a headache. Sorry for the BUG bill, I really am in support, I'm really glad they're doing what want to do. It's just literally months of risk management conversation so I wanted to add in that whereas so that I knew they weren't just working with BUG but they had given BUG their approval which to me was clutch. As far as the good standing thing goes as we have this point system., basically to be in good standing is kind of undefined. We have all these categories so as being in good standing, missing some, missing most or missing one or being sanctioned. Right now it's kind of if you're being sanctioned you're not in good standing so we're kind of working on redefining that so that's part of why we offered that friendly amendment.

#### **COLA (2:47.48)**

**Senator Fitzgerald:** Chair Morgan will email his report.

#### **CODEEE (2:47.57)**

**Chair Herman:** I want to email my full report but I want to say 3 things real quickly. The meeting with Alan Josie the director of operations is finally happening Thursday at noon. It's about compost in the Davis Center and a possible pilot program in the Davis Center. That's finally happening after 2, 3 months. I also began to comb over the 77 slide PowerPoint of Arts and Sciences. Just some quick things that I noticed already that we'll be speaking to Annie Stevens about as we said, the Students of Color section which some interesting things were they felt that they were less likely to fit in and feel comfortable. Only 20% agreed to this statement as opposed to 52% of other student. Students of color said they value their UVM experience more highly than other students. Another interesting thing was out of state students of color receive twice as much institutional financial aid as other students. I'll be contacting Annie Stevens and Chris Lucier to see what the survey drew and is implying and where they will be going from here and will there be student input? Lastly is I did go over to America Red Cross Friday and I met with an older gentleman. He wasn't much help. He gave me a number to contact someone and it happened to be a general number that I've been calling already. I contacted David Maciewicz' contact from last year and left her a voice mail, no response. I'll email out the rest of my report.

#### **Senatorial Forum (2:49.58)**

**Chair Simmons:** Thank you so much for voting for it. Really great questions to be working for. Senator Yeager's. Two other things. I forgot to mention in my report I still think we're going to go through with this trial late night dining thing where we're putting on ourselves with clubs. I think it might be delivering it so it would be bicycle delivery of late night dining options so you can call and get it delivered. I haven't done much work on that yet, I confess. The last thing, I would love to see any of you at ALANA breakfast as it is the most incredible thing. For those of you who don't know it's 9-11 at the ALANA house on Redstone on Friday mornings. They put

on a breakfast and it's just glorious bountiful robust luscious and succulent breakfast all at same time for you to enjoy and wonderful folks, you get some really great conversations. I'd love for you to come.

**Senator Caster:** First I would like to say on behalf of being a Redstone resident, thank you Jesse. Second, it's unfortunate that Alyssa left because I wanted to draw attention to the absolutely fabulous eco-ware container that will hopefully replace these goddamn things. It's sort of making the transition to these containers that we can reuse and taking advantage of the resources that we as student leaders can revamp that system and get rid of any kinks in the system and be as sustainable as possible and have these containers and not have to continuously get these sort of things and be less sustainable. If student action could have that conversation as to how we can use these containers. I know that is something I was talking about with IRA.

**Senator Bennington:** In response to the email that Senator Lederer-Plaskett sent out talking about smoking on campus I started working on a letter and I sent it to Senator White and Senator Lederer-Plaskett that we're going to work on some more and send out to people from the physical plant, library, res life, whoever else we dream up is involved to address the issue of smoking on campus. Not to ban it but to figure out a way to enforce the currently unenforceable 25 feet from all buildings rule and also to address the problem of all the cigarette butts that are on the ground all time that are really gross. I'll send the letter out to the list when it's done and if you're interested in working with us, let me know.

**Senator Caster:** Point of Clarification: There is no legislation being written by IRA at this time. Just for future reference I think it's a little inappropriate to send out an email and speak for an organization...

**Senator Bennington:** Point of Clarification: What are you talking about?

**Senator Caster:** In the email sent out by Senator Lederer-Plaskett it mentioned that something was being done through IRA and that was just untrue. Nothing is being done.

**Senator M. White:** Cool. Hey everybody thanks again for passing the BUG Bill. I'm not really a part of BUG anymore but super exciting. Number 2 cigarette stuff, super excited to be working with those two super stars. I think something really important is going to come out of this and not having to wade through clouds of smoke to get to the library. I'm a smoker and I still think it's important. Number 3 and lastly I've been super honored slash humbled to work with how fantastic you all are over this past semester slash year. If you received any of my emails last year saying SGA sucks and here's why I think so. I just wanted to take this opportunity to announce that I'm going to be running for president. I have this nifty little packet that I need some signatures on that I chose not to pass around. I will be downstairs after the meeting to talk over my platform really anything you want to talk about and with that I would like to encourage you to do that. I would love to see you all.

**Senator Lederer-Plaskett:** I also am running for President and Mike and I have made a really nice agreement that this will not be an awful campaign which I think everyone would appreciate a break from. There's kind of been a peace treaty so we're both running. We have our separate platforms, different Issues matter to both of us. I passed my packet thinking it made things simpler but I'd like to encourage everyone to talk to both of us to see what issues matter to each of us. I will address the IRA issue when my turn is up.

**Speaker Chevrier:** First I wanted to touch upon things that are getting confused. Point of information is when you stand up and you have a fact to share. It can never start with I think. It's just a fact. I'm going to give you an example rundown again because everyone misuses it every single time. If somebody says come to Club 590, it's going to be in Brennan's, crap, I don't remember what time it is. That's when you stand up and say point of information, it's at 10 pm. Point of Clarification is when you're asking a question. It's not point of clarification I think



that... it's point of clarification, what are we talking about? Point of Clarification who is Richard Cate? And then someone can point of information the factual answer. Also, I took my question off because I was going to vote for it anyway but for BUG don't you need to have swipe cards to have access to all dorms and they are going to be inside of dorms, so how are you going to get into the dorms if you're not an on-campus student who lives in that dorm? Also, as far as sanitation goes, I thought when Senator Mustacchi asked her question it was about I don't want to get a bike after someone has sat on it naked. I was wondering if there's going to be any sanitary provisions. Also, this is just something silly but it makes me really uncomfortable. If you put your nametag out then I've added you here, unless you're from Finance and then you should keep waving it. If you put it out then I put you down. I always get really self conscious if you're putting it out it looks like I'm skipping them and I go to them next even though they're already on there. So just try to keep track if you put your name out I'm going to put you down.

**President Mensah:** Two things I forgot to mention. One of them is about blurpit. For some students that are on campus Blurpit is an amazing tool. Blurpit started my Sophomore year and it was being funded for by the Technology Innovation fund because it was a new technology so it was innovative as to how to track buses so that students are not standing outside in -5 degree weather waiting for the bus. The issue that is rising this year with the blurpit system is that it is no longer under Technology Innovation Fund because it was an innovation but it's not longer a new innovation. So therefore, they are looking for funding and as you can recall some of them came to our meeting to talk to us about increase usage and if I'm correct they're receiving about 6000 text messages a day for blurpit. I use it religiously I don't leave my apartment sometimes until I know when it's coming in front of WDW because I hate the cold. Austin who is one of the representatives who came to speak to us and is one of the head partners in Blurpit is where can they find funding. One of the requests that they asked us is \$6,000. I know that's a large sum of money so as of now I asked the leadership Vice President Maciewicz, Treasurer Salsgiver and Pat Brown to see where we can pull the funding from and what their thoughts were. One of the initial things was to see if we can partner with IRA so tomorrow morning I will be emailing the President Eric Graham to see if we can form a partnership because I really do think this is a great way to publicize SGA more that we are funding this system that 100s of people use every day. I think that students will be annoyed if it no longer exists. I have to applaud Senator Benner and Rifken again because the idea about getting students to respond to the email is already a hit. I received 5 responses from students that are asking questions about the tuition and 2 students at large that are interested in joining the ad hoc committee that are non-senators.

**Chair Herman:** About the op docs for the President and Vice President. I just wanted to bring it up to the whole body before I bring it to Constitution Committee. I thought about this from last year's election. I'm not sure about adding if it's in there about adding that all campaign materials posted must be presented before a committee before they are put or something like that.

**Speaker Chevrier:** Point of Information: legally you can't have it in the constitution because SGA has no legal grounds to say you have to be posted because it's going to be posted at a public university so they have every right to post it. I originally thought of the idea of having that because I thought it would be a great idea but Pat Brown said legally it's not allowed. It is in the packet currently that although it's not specifically written that they have to, it is very strictly suggested they do turn it in. I'll put myself on the speaking order to explain that.

**Chair Adams:** Hi friends, so I've been talking a lot with Senator M. White about this and Speaker Chevrier can yell at me later but raise your hand if you are sitting in this room and you were elected. Lower your hand if you're on exec. You guys can lower your hands but looking around that's not a lot of people which I don't think is a bad thing but it does mean we really have to take a conscious effort to account for the student voice. In thinking of how I'd like to have all of you over Friday for pizza perhaps we could take on different sort of personalities of UVM so perhaps imagine what it would be like to be in the College of Nursing and Health Sciences and come up with the top issues that those issues see on campus rather than operating from our own viewpoints since a lot of us have been sitting around this table a lot lately. I would open that up to

all of you. We could dress up like them and just generally have a good time. We don't have to do that but today we spent a half hour talking about the kitchen in the SGA offices and I think you'll find very few students outside this room who think that's one of the most important issues on campus.

**Chair Mallea:** Just to inform senate, the Trustees Selection Committee that is charged with finding the next student trustee has finalized their last round of interview and will be meeting this week to finalize the candidate to put forth for the next student trustee. I will inform you next week who it is.

**Senator Lederer-Plaskett:** A couple of things. Addressing the IRA issue, specific to my email that I had in front of me a second ago, I actually said that I spoke to Eric Graham, not IRA as a whole, he is a friend of mine but beyond that he is the President of IRA so he did say that we could collaborate and talk about doing it and bring it before IRA. Since I sent the email after the last IRA meeting and the next IRA meeting is tomorrow nothing could occur. I would expect that he probably didn't write anything within the last 48 hours but he and I were talking about the possibility of collaborating but I haven't written anything for today. Second of all on a totally separate note I was going back and looking at alternative sources for where blood donations have occurred. I have found a couple places like hospitals that do blood drives but I also recalled something I saw at a thing called Mama Blues this summer which is a feminist convention of sorts- where else would you expect to find me? They have what they call a blood mobile and it's really creepy in name but basically a roving blood bank and there is a chapter in Vermont so I thought that may be something that in the process of trying to limit some of the more offensive policies that come with donating to the Red Cross maybe there is a way of getting them up here on a more frequent basis.

**Senator Vitagliano:** Good evening everyone. I wanted to say following in Senator White and Senator Lederer-Plaskett's idea that it has been a pleasure working with everyone in the senate this year, we got a lot of stuff done and I hereby formally announce that I will be running for vice president next year.

**Senator Benner:** I just want to follow up that one of you asked about legislation for the library. Senator White and I aren't are planning on putting forth legislation unless the library a) fails to meet with us for some reason or we find it would be conducive to do so.

**Speaker Chevrier:** Again, we legally can't mandate in our constitution that candidates have to do something we don't legally have the power to do. The packet does point out that we're suggesting that they submit their pdf of images they are going to be showing on posters to myself. The reasoning that I gave in the packet for that is that if there is a problem. Let's say Mike says something offensive on his poster and Aliza wants him to take it down. If we have already approved his flyer than she should only be dealing with us and there should be no tension between the two of them because he's took the initiative to send it to us and we've accepted it. However, if Mike chose to not send it to me and a complaint is brought forth, it is very likely that we will be siding with the complainant because they do not feel the need to show it to us first and then we will be formally asking them to take it down if there is a problem.

**Chair Adams:** People can say this but isn't the Red Cross policy regarding homosexuals donating blood, isn't that a national health policy and not something specific to the Red Cross?

**Vice President Maciewicz:** Point of Information: Yes. There is a debate whether if you refuse to abide by it you can actually still give blood but it's pretty universally accepted.

#### **Senatorial Comments/Announcements (3:08.04)**

**Senator M. White:** Monday 12:00 aka President's Day we're going to have the next organizational meeting of the month of service. It's going to be sweet you should really all be

there. We have 13 events right now. I'm shooting for 20 because I think 20 is a hell of a number. Also, Saturday night before Club 590, UVM idol will be happening and I will be performing. Me and my one man Taylor Swift ukulele cover band. You should be there.

**Vice President Maciewicz:** Hi, a friend of mine who is a student artist at UVM is working on a project for UVM pride month, which is in April. We are working on a campaign called silence = suicide which is following which is a famous saying from the 1980s in a group called Act Up so we're doing a teach in large lecture halls about stopping bullying and speaking out for those who might feel not welcome at UVM so if you're interested in coming to the teach ins and being in one of the classes see me or send me an email.

**Chair Filstein:** Thursday at 5:00 Gail Collins who is a *New York Times* columnist is coming to Ira Allen Chapel. She is an awesome feminist. She's written a ton of history books of women in this country so I suggest you go. Also, Bernie Sanders wrote an amazing op ed in *The Cynic* about social security which is going to pertain to all of us in 40 year when we're trying to require comfortably.

**Senator Lederer-Plaskett:** She's awesome, go see her. You should see Cornel West on the 25<sup>th</sup> at 4:00pm on a Friday so there is no excuse not to be there. Additionally, the 24<sup>th</sup> the day before, I'd love it if you would all bake for me again because we're having another bake sale because so successful. Mike White should frost more Oreos for me. I would really appreciate if you pass around a sheet and send it out on the listserv. Also because I have a tendency to forward lots of feminist article I find to the listserv, I passed on doing it today to tell you now. Basically, South Dakota has essentially brought up a bill today because it was during senate today, in which it legalizes the right to kill an abortion provider under justifiable homicide. There will be a tentative meeting that will be coming up in the next 4 days. Basically, there are a group of people getting together to discuss it. I believe the feminist majority is holding something to discuss it. I will also have the information on the listserv.

**Vice President Maciewicz:** Point of Information: Cooler head have prevailed and it has sent back to the committee where it is from. Basically what it said is a women has the right to kill whoever is trying to attack her when she's pregnant. It's better but it's still South Dakota.

**Speaker Chevrier:** Point of Information: that's a good example of a good point of information.

**President Mensah:** You all are really raunchy. 69 frosting Oreos. I didn't think of 69 69 when I thought of 69<sup>th</sup> anniversary.

**Chair Monteforte:** Point of clarification: what dose 69 mean?

**President Mensah:** Don't ask me. Quick event. so some of you may know I'm a member of the Boulder Society, which is the senior men's honor society on campus, and since last year we've been trying to bring back a UVM tradition that is called Winter Carnival. Winter Carnival was in existence for UVM for decades at a time. It was really well attended by UVM students as well as the community at large but there was really a lot of negative connotations to it and it fell off. Now the Boulder Society is trying to bring it back in a new exciting twist. This week is actually our Winter Carnival. The events start off tomorrow from 6-7 so if people like gingerbread house making and if you like little children, they're going to come with their families and they're going to make gingerbread. There's a lot of other stuff going on. There's an a capella concert that is going to include the newly recognized ZEST and Hit Paws and free food. At the Lafayette plaza Boloco is providing free burritos. I will send a facebook link to our listserv. The events start this Wednesday and go to Sunday. There's even a poker tournament if you all are interested in that. I really appreciate you supporting boulder and helping bring back this tradition.

**Senator Vitagliano:** Hi everyone, sorry for hitting up the listserv about the Squash bake sale. I kind of after the fact forgot to mention it last week, but thanks to everyone for going. We reached

over \$150 in our sale so it was really successful for us. Soon I'll let you know probably next week we're going to do a garden themed one so we're going to sell flowers and food.

**Chair Herman:** There will be 2 events occurring next month one is March 19 the Exploring Discrimination and Bias Conference in the Davis Center. The other is the Race Gender and Sexuality conference that occurs March 18 and 19 , which is a 2 day conference and is occurring I believe in Billings. I'll be sending you an update on that.

**Senator Lederer-Plaskett:** Sorry, last one I promise. The Dismantling Rape Culture conference is April 14 and sign up starts in a week and a half so you should all sign up or I will guilt you into it.

**Chair Adams:** Happy belated valentines day and thank you to all of you who made me feel really awkward at the beginning of this meeting.

### **Roll Call (3:15.27)**

**Finance:** Senators Lovell, DeVivo, Juare, excused

**Student Activities:** All Present

**COLA:** Chair Morgan, Senator Rifken, excused

**CODEEE:** All Present

**Student Action:** Senator Ravech, excused

**Public Relations:** Senator Boutwell, excused

**Academic Affairs:** Senator Alleger and Knowles-Thomson, excused

### **Adjournment**

*End Time: 10:14*