



TUESDAY, OCTOBER 5TH, 2010
TENTH MEETING OF THE 2010-2011 SENATE

Call to Order

Start Time: 7:01

Roll Call

Finance: All Absent

Student Activities: Senators Golfarini and Malloy, excused

COLA: Senator Cheney and Chair Morgan, excused

CODEEE: All Present

Student Action: All present

Public Relations: All present

Academic Affairs: All present

Approval of the Minutes

From 09.28.10 - Approved

Public Forum

Leon Lifschutz, Club Sport's Coordinator

Leon: Hi everybody, my name is Leon, I'm the club sports coordinator. I'm employed by your very own Student Government Association so thank you for that. Folks just asked me to come here, you seem me around the office, so to tell you who I am and what I do on a daily basis. Again, I'm Club sports coordinator, I hang out in the office in the corner next to Jess. If you have any questions about office stuff and your fearless leader David is unavailable I'm more than happy to try help out a little bit. Mainly I work with our 53 club sports groups and I see a few of you around here, which is awesome. So my first question for you, how many club sports are there? 53 you're listening. Of those 53, how many people participate in club sports? You are good readers too, good. There are 1650 students overall that participate. I just want to tell you a little bit about the clubs that you support. There are a wide range of them from martial arts to dance to traditional team sports to snow sports. There's 53 altogether. This is my fourth year here at UVM. My first year we finished with 46 different groups and now we're up to 53 so we're growing quickly just like the student population is growing quickly and the rest of your activities. As well you can see that participation has risen significantly from 1250 to 1650 and we predict that rise again this year and early signs point to that as well. Club participation is going up too and this number is not only going up because there are more clubs but because each club is getting more active. On that note, you will notice the number of events has increased, almost doubled about 40% from 6.5 average per club and about 300 to probably over 500 and about 9.5 events held per club each year. So again, clubs are growing they are getting better and better and competitively they are growing as well. Again, 34 club sports attended some type of regional competition, which is, well over half, which is awesome. Jesse is nodding and they are attending again and I wish them all well. They haven't gone to nationals yet but 16 others have. Hopefully they do well in regionals and they get to go to nationals. That's kind of it, I have more statistics in there. If you are interested in the whole report I am more than happy to share that with you but that's kind of what I wanted to talk to you about today. Just to introduce myself and hopefully recognize some faces around the office. If you have any questions I'm happy to answer them now or later.

Open the Floor for Questions

Chair Simmons: Hey Leon, thanks for coming. I know we talked about the girls' team last time, they got money to go nationals because they were invited. Does men's club soccer have to qualify or can we just get invited as well?

Leon: It's an interesting SGA policy that I think that the finance committee is aware of but the current policy is that if its open or competitive you can apply for nationals' funding. The policy of the men's club soccer team in the past has been we won't go unless we qualify. Because of the particular governing body you have if you qualify we give you a stipend to go. So that has been your club's policy rather than the SGA's policy. It's obviously up to you all if you want to amend that at any point in time.

LuAnn Rolley and Candace Taylor, The Women's Center

Candace: Hey everyone, how are you doing? We've got some brochures and stuff that we'd like to pass around so we'll do that. I'm Candace Taylor, I'm the Coordinator of Programming and Leadership Development at the Women's Center.

LuAnn: And I'm LuAnn Rolley, I'm the director of the Women's Center. Thank you for inviting us. We were asked to come and give you an idea about some of the stuff we do at the center and how we engage students. Also, we wanted to share with you some of the stories that come to the center, some of the narratives and things that we hear, some of the situations that are happening on campus, we thought we would share those with you. But before we do that we are just going to jump into what we do and why we do it. Some of the stories that we're going to share are pretty intense so I just want to give you a heads up. Some of them contain sexual violence and they're pretty intense stories.

Candace: Before we get to that we just want to share that we do a lot of things at the Women's Center. Many do see us as a group that supports victims of violence, which we are, but we also do a range of activities and events. We support students in a range of way. For example the work that I oversee at the Women's center are the event coordinating. One is the vagina monologues is an event and a fundraiser to support victims of sexual violence globally. It's a great even to get involved with to empower women and connect women together and support them as well as allies of the community. We get together and support women. Right now we're doing the dismantling rape culture conference. It's a free all day event here at the Davis Center for folks to get a sense of all the ways that rape culture manifests itself here.

LuAnn: We also have a victim's advocate here on campus and her name is Judy Rickstad. She supports victims of sexual assault, relationship violence and stalking. And she works with faculty, staff and students. She works with women, men and the transgender community. And Judy is really connected, she's confidential and she's free. She's very interconnected with other offices on campus so we call Judy like the first point of contact. So if someone has experienced violence, if they disclose to Judy it goes nowhere unless you want it to. She can connect you with the counseling center, the health clinic. If you need support with academics she can speak to professors to help figure that out. Sometimes the person who has experienced violence is in the same classroom with the person who has perpetuated the violence so she also has to sort of work that out so that everyone is feeling safe. She can help folks get a relief from abuse order or just listen, listen to the story. I actually have a few numbers here. Between September of 2009 and June of 2010, so the last academic year, she supported 50 new clients, mostly students who had experienced assault. 24 of these cases were sexual assault, 6 were stalking, 15 were relationship domestic violence, 3 were physical violence, 1 was incest and 1 was sexual harassment. 15 of those incidences occurred on campus, 27 off campus, usually apartments. 5 were both on and off campus depending on the type of situation, stalking is the main example, and 3 were unknown.

Candace: We often talk about too that it's also a really underreported crime and are aware that there are many more numbers and things happening. The more we offer these resources to the community the more people we can support and that it is free and confidential. One of the pamphlets we passed out is how to support a friend. Many of you may encounter someone who may have a story of fear. So it's just some information on how to give support and also you have us as a resource.

LuAnn: We are also connected to ALANA student center and the LGBTQA center, our offices are all part of the same division. You probably all know there is a new Chief Diversity Coordinator, Wanda Heading-Grant and we have all moved under Wanda's leadership so we interconnect and collaborate on a lot of programs and before we jump in, do you have any questions or thoughts?

Open the Floor for Questions

Senator Doran: Is it too late to try out for vagina monologues?

Candace: No, tomorrow is the second day of auditions.

LuAnn: We encourage you all to attend and ask your friends to attend the Vagina Monologues. It's actually a fundraiser and there are two beneficiaries. One is, you might be able to speak to the global one a little better but the other piece is that the Women's Center benefits. We have a really tiny budget and all of the funds or a certain percentage of the funds we make from the Vagina Monologues support the dismantling rape culture conference.

Candace: The other major benefactor is the global campaign fundraiser and this year it's raising money for the women and girls' of Haiti. That's personally a really exciting and rewarding cause, especially given the major catastrophe and trauma there in the last year. There are a lot of women and girls that need a lot of support. Come out and show up.

LuAnn: Why use the Women's Center? To get involved in issues they care about, to meet the victim's advocate as we mentioned if they've experienced violence. We have work-studies, internships, volunteers. We are taking this new approach with the students that we are working with. We really want the students that come to the center, we really see the students as ambassadors to the center and to the university so that they learn about the programs that we're doing, why we're doing it, what are the issues facing women, how can men support those issues and then go out to the community.

Candace: Many women come to the Women's Center to find a space they really feel affirmed in and empowered in and what I really love the most are that people just start to talk and come to share stories and they find that they aren't alone on a lot of issues. They get a chance and the space to get to use their voice in a different way. So we get the chance to see students grow and develop and do important things in the community.

LuAnn: We're at 34 South Williams St. We have a great little house. There is a computer lab there and a kitchen. You are all welcome to stop by, you can watch a movie, you can hang out, you can cook food and you can get involved in the conversation. So now we'll read a couple of the scenarios if that's ok.

Candace: An undergraduate student is experiencing sexual harassment by a faculty member. The faculty member is making comments about the student's body and she doesn't know what to do. The student is afraid to report this for fear of retaliation

LuAnn: A first year is gang raped in her senior year in high school. She doesn't disclose this to friends, her school, her family. She enters her first year at UVM and things begin to fall apart because of the trauma and she needs assistance with her academics and adjustment.

Candace: A student is invited to a party in her residential hall. The student goes to the party at the invitation of another student but there is no party and no one else is there, the student is raped.

LuAnn: A student is struggling with an eating disorder and her illness is escalating and having an impact on her health, academics, and social networks.

Candace: A newly divorced, non-traditional student and single mother of a special needs child is troubled with navigating the UVM system in order to complete her degree requirements.

LuAnn: There are a lot more stories that come to us and a lot more situations. And what we try to do is find out what resources that these students need, how we can connect them to those resources. Do they need medical assistance? Do they need counseling assistance? We really try to connect them to all of the tremendous resources that are on this campus and as you know there are a lot of great resources on this campus. That's where, the Women's Center, we see a lot of intersections of identity so white women, women of color, queer students, students with disabilities. And what we try to do is give them a road map to places where they feel safe telling their story or getting support. And also just empower them to do what they need to do. And if we need to work with their family, we also do that.

Candace: Many of the stories are also true, we have just taken out the identities. These have all happened here. I just wanted to add that context, this is real. There is one last thing I want to share quickly to slightly speak my mind. Many of you know, this is a large college, I'm sure all of you in your own way have tried to navigate getting through the system whether through finding a class, or dropping a class or switching where you are living, or going to student financial services and sometimes you have to go through hoops. Imagine if you are going through something really traumatic and have been going through it over and over again and you just have given up. It's nice to find a space to help you figure out where to go or what film you need to get filled out. It's really nice. I remember being in college and there is always something so that's another thing I think we do is hold the stories and offer support.

Chair Mallea: Thank you so much for coming in, we really appreciate you taking the time. I know the Women's Center is really involved with the Vagina Monologues. I was curious if you are you doing any outreach with the UVM community or the Burlington community about domestic violence awareness month for the month of October?

Candace: Sarah Warrington who is our education outreach coordinator, she works, well we all do, we work on campus with folks but we also have amazing connections with community organizations like Women Helping Battered Women, RU12, Vermont Women Against Domestic Violence, so we are really integrated, across Chittenden County and Vermont. And so Sarah serves on committees to help plan sexual violence awareness months, events not only on campus but in the community. There are various other events such as Take Back the Night and various events that are a collaboration.

Luann: And we didn't plan any large programs this year but two things that are happening. One is tomorrow actually, in Unity Lounge at 1:30, we are having a conversation about domestic violence. But also right now Sarah is working with community agencies to develop bulletin boards specifically around these issues that we are going to be posting in residential halls. It might just pop up or we might be showing a film, sometimes the collaboration happens quickly. I know that we're probably going to be doing something for 16 days of activism, which starts in November, and touches specifically on domestic violence issues.

Bryce Jones, Former SGA President

Bryce: How's it going senators? I hope you all are enjoying your role so far, it only gets more exciting as I'm sure your illustrious chairs have told you. You do very important job and I want to

commend you all for showing up here this lovely Tuesday evening. I'm here for two reasons, the first one is just to put a name to a face, I'm one of the student representatives on the Provost Search Committee. The other is Julia Michel for those of you that don't know her, she couldn't make it here to introduce herself. It is a confidential committee but we are going to try to keep you as a body informed of the process as it goes. Off the top of my head, the first sort of big due date is the application and that's October 28. You will get a campus wide email if you are a student saying what the criteria is so if you know any faculty members that you think are qualified you should really encourage them to put in an application. If any of your professors ask you or if anybody asks you, the search committee is not absolute. So, at the end of our process, depending upon how many applicants there are, we are only going to suggest three names and then it's up to President Fogel to make his final decisions that then has to be approved by the Board of Trustees. There are only three positions on campus that actually have to be approved by the Board of Trustees and the Provost is one of them. The first task that we have to do is send in questions that are going to be interview questions. That's why I wanted to come here to ask you to send me questions any particular questions about any issues that came up either late last spring or now in terms of more student affairs, sort of the position of the Provost and what is their relationship to the students, etc. Otherwise Julia and I will just sort of create our own that we think we think will be good but we just wanted to incorporate the student government. On the second note, I came across Jeannette White, I think is her name, she's one of our state senators right now and she's actually one of our UVM trustees. She really wants to see Vermont pass a law so that 17 year olds can register to vote if they are going to be 18 by the time the poll comes around. There are several states that already to that, Vermont is not one of them. So, I was kind of looking, I don't know how the committees are but I was kind of thinking more COLA oriented or if anybody else is interested just let me know, send me an e-mail and I will pass you along. There is supposed to be a student, I apologize I forget their name, that was working on it last year and is probably still going to be involved in it this year but I just thought that would be a cool initiative that Student Government could be involved with. But yeah, that's all I really wanted to come in and say, introduce myself. My email is bjones1@uvm so if you want to email me or whatever.

Senator Filstein: I heard mixed things but is this search restricted to only people that are currently at UVM or are you accepting applications from outside?

Bryce: No, they are doing an internal search.

Senator Filstein: why is that, why aren't they trying to get the best that they can get?

Bryce: President Fogel feels that an external search involves a longer time frame and with the additional time it would take to get the applicants and publicize the positions and for that person to get acclimated to UVM because even though we are a flagship university of others we're sort of unique still. And there would be that much time for them to get in their position and feel comfortable with UVM. He felt it would be better to do an internal and that we have faculty that is qualified.

Senator O'Brien: Hi Bryce, thanks for coming in. Do you know when is Provost Knodell's term is done and what is to become of her after?

Bryce: I don't know when her term, specifically is done but I know that they are trying to get someone approved by the December meeting. So I am assuming that once they choose this person there will probably be a transition period. I don't know if they will be the Provost in January when classes start up again. She was a professor, she was an econ professor so I'm sure she'll just go back to teaching.

Senator Benes: Thanks for coming in, I just wanted to know, were you planning on coming in before I sent my wall post on facebook or after?

Bryce: No, I actually didn't have any plans to come, before or after, but I appreciated the wall post.

Chair Monteforte: Where are you from?

Bryce: Boise, Idaho

Senator Filstein: Do you have any plans or would you consider coming back to the body as a senator? Or in any respect?

Bryce: I'm sure Amy does a wonderful job with the minutes and I hate that positions you will never see me taking minutes. I don't know, I have an internship at the state house this semester so I am pretty busy with that right now and it looks like you have a full body, right? So we'll see how things go.

Old Business

Bill Recognizing Anna Lavenberg for her Good Deeds

Chair Monteforte: So you know Anna was in here a few weeks ago to talk about her Walk for Tolerance that happened. We thought it would be a cool idea just to pass a bill saying that she's awesome, just to commend her for her work because it's rare that people do stuff like this so we thought it would be cool to pass a bill. I will read the bill [*read bill*]. She's also here tonight and very embarrassed but if this passes we can hopefully give her a nice round of applause.

Opens the Floor for Questions

Senator Sadeghi: Thanks a lot for writing this, Nick and thank you for being here actually. I just have two, maybe three points. I would say first of all the format of this. You know, Anna did a great job addressing an issue that has been so large right now, especially in the media especially in the circumstances of the time we're in. But I felt like a bill is not the format, and thank you for this, but if SGA wants to send her a thank you card, or a nice little gift certificate, or take her out to dinner, I don't know. But a bill is not, I think, the way of addressing it. And second of all, instead of commending the person, which, great job, commend her ideas. We have 2 'whereas-es' and one 'let it be known'. If we are going to have our bills so watered down, let's instead of commending this Anna Lavenberg, let's commend her idea on prejudice and racism and whatnot. I would just like to hear everyone's ideas and opinions.

Chair Monteforte: First off, we do have a cool certificate for her too. It's just a bill so it's in the system and known.

Chair Adams: And we pass bills recognizing people slash clubs all the time, there's another one coming up after this one. So, it's common for governance bodies and it's also common for SGA and the idea that bills slash resolutions have no effect outside of this body is obviously, I mean, Anna, she's here. It comes up all the time.

Senator Cesario: I kind of want to second what Ali was saying. I was kind of confused why, number one, bill recognizing, I thought maybe it was more appropriate as a resolution but I guess since it's recognizing it's a bill. But, I just feel like, I'm trying to think of a diplomatic way to say things, a lot of people do really great stuff on campus and it's happening right now. We should have a bill recognizing Paige Atkinson for organizing Community Work Day. I just don't think that this really should be legislation that we are focusing on.

Chair Monteforte: I see your point. If you come up with something else you want to put in I am happy to put it in. But, I mean, it's just that other people do good things all the time and some things do go unnoticed but she did come to Public Forum to tell us about that. Part of my job for Public Relations is to let students know what happened and this is one way of doing it. If you do know of other students that have done great things then please let me know because we can give

them something like this. It was an opportunity we took advantage of just thinking that she was here, and we liked what she did. It's not the only person who ever does anything good.

Senator Lober: What other actions SGA has taken to inform the student body and to recognize her for her good deeds.

Chair Monteforte: It had been discussed last week at Brennan's thing and will also be discussed tomorrow at Brennan's at Noon. Probably get some flyers out, I would like to change the bulletin boards around and things like that, put it on facebook.

President Mensah: Also in the weekly campus wide it was on the agenda for this week that we were recognizing Anna for her good deeds.

Chair Monteforte: And a certificate.

Chair Adams: And Dani is filming this right now.

Senator Lober: I just have a suspicion that a very small proportion of the student body checks the SGA matters section and checks historical legislation. I think there might be a better way of getting the message out there like *The Cynic* or even just putting in a notification in the weekly email Kofi sends out but not in the form of this is what is going to be discussed in SGA and more in the form of this is what happened last week, let's recognize Anna for it.

Senator Sadeghi: You guys bring up good points and I know you say we recognize clubs and people. I've been on SGA for a year and maybe it's sipping my mind, but again, addressing this, I feel like we can't just add or amend this. I think we need to table this and go back and as I said commend the ideas and not the person. As you said, we should be commending every single person. Next week I'm going to write a bill commending my roommate for his cleanliness and being such a great person.

Chair Monteforte: I feel like that's a little bit mocking, I know this is a small piece and it doesn't need to be discussed totally

Chair Adams: The idea that we can send someone a thank you note or a letter is true. But we are a governance body and our job is to pass bills and this keeps coming up. Passing a bill recognizing is us passing a bill recognizing. This is our thank you note and our pat on the back. So, the fact that it's coming from the body and not just from me and Nick means more than us just writing a note.

Senator Filstein: This is probably more appropriate for you, Speaker, but why is this bill in recognition but it seems like Bills are more for things that we do and enact and resolutions are more for expressing our views and opinions on things? I could be wrong there.

Speaker Chevrier: So, bills are for internal business so we recognize clubs and we allocate funds and those are bills. So this is an internal thing because this is as a body saying that we are taking the opportunity to thank Anna for her good deeds. A resolution is more we are formally suggesting something to the administration in our advisory role. So a resolution in support of in-class registration, that's us taking our time to suggest something. Whereas we are not suggesting something right now, we are owning the fact that we are thanking her for her good deeds.

Senator Filstein: So when we do things like, just legislation we have later today, it's either a bill or resolution, it seems like when we express our opinions about something it isn't internal, it's not like we're allocating money or starting a club but it is spread out to everyone. To me it doesn't seem that different from a bill about priority registration because it's our opinion on this matter like, it's our opinion that Anna did a great thing versus we're allocating money.

Speaker Chevrier: I guess the arguments can be made both ways. The writers of this legislation chose to make it a bill and since you can have arguments either way, they chose this one so I think it's completely satisfactory. If somebody were to propose a resolution recognizing the Claire Chevrier club I would tell them that they to change it from a bill to a resolution. This is not a case where I think they are putting it in the wrong category.

Chair Adams: This also like, again, the rugby bill is in is the same thing and we can have questions about that after. Recognizing is the action. It's internal business in that internally we are recognizing.

Chair Monteforte: And it's our job to tell everybody else what we recognize.

Senator Lederer-Plaskett: I just wanted to clarify because I think that it should at least be specified within the bill, regardless of whether or not the bill should be or not, Because it was the Walk for Tolerance, I think it should indicate what the Walk for Tolerance was and that prejudice should be identified within the bill at the very least. Friendly amendment to add a prejudice that runs contrary to the spirit of the University of Vermont and community to insert, do you have a specific prejudice that you were thinking of?

Chair Adams: I can yield the floor to Anna on this one, but it's my understanding that this was a walk for tolerance generally speaking.

Anna: Originally, it was in light of what was going on not just in our community but in the United States and in the world regarding the Muslim community and how they are being treated in New York. And then it kind of snowballed into more of a tolerance for people and diversity and others people's decisions. And I just wanted to thank everyone for their support. I didn't expect this and I really appreciated it. I hope that next year this can continue. And I know that Greg has emphasized the fact that he really wanted to do it as an annual thing. And just kind of to spread the idea of tolerance across the university and our community. That was my mission and I thank you for that.

Senator Lederer-Plaskett: I think that a Walk for Tolerance is an incredible thing and I think that I heard the turnout was awesome. I think that there should be a really defined thing and it should be treaded upon really carefully because people, I mean if you are only talking about the Muslim community you want to be very specific as well. While things are inappropriately aggressive on the United States level I think what is going on in NY is an arguable thing and there are validities on both sides of the argument. So I think it's necessary to table it for a week. Or not.

Chair Adams: My understanding of the issue was that it was a Walk for Tolerance in general and we are a social justice university so I feel as though saying that tolerance is within the mission of the university is congruent.

Senator Tran: Two friendly amendments. One to add commas after whereas. Friendly amendment to add to the second whereas 'by organizing a walk of tolerance'. That would specifically state what she did because by reading that it's very vague. And then I don't know any super details about that except that it was a Walk for Tolerance so if there were any other details.

Chair Monteforte: Accepting

Senator Katz: Friendly amendment can we say that it's a bill recognizing Anna Lavenberg for her role as organizer of the Walk for Tolerance?

Chair Adams: Can we say for organizing a Walk for Tolerance?

Senator Benes: I'm curious, since there are a lot of great students out there like Anna that deserve some type of recognition I think it would be kind of cool if the PR committee would be willing to take it on to have like a UVM student of the month and also making this the first resolution that we have a UVM student of the month. So Bill recognizing Anna for the student of the month for September.

Senator Benes: Friendly amendment to change to Bill Recognizing Anna Lavenberg for UVM student of the month for September.

Speaker Chevrier: Point of Information: This would make it unequivocally a bill.

Chair Monteforte: That's good

Chair Adams: I think setting something up like that is great and if anything we should be recognizing more students. I just think that we can't just expect PR, I mean we can decide right now that PR is going to do this for the rest of time. I would say, can we keep it as Bill Recognizing Anna Lavenberg for the Walk for Tolerance and they can start recognizing people each month when they feel necessary or maybe we can recognize them by their action and not by month.

Chair Monteforte: We will keep it as said but we will definitely take that into consideration.

Senator White: motion to call the bill to question.

Vote to call to question? – passes

Bill Recognizing Anna Lavenberg for organizing a Walk for Tolerance called to question – passes

Resolution in Support of Chris Armstrong, President of the University of Michigan Student Assembly

Senator Vitagliano: Alright, I am first going to start with a brief PowerPoint with some background information on this resolution. Currently the Student Assembly President Chris Armstrong is being targeted by the Lieutenant Attorney General of the State of Michigan on the premise that he is a homosexual leader on campus. The Lieutenant Attorney General, his name is Andrew Shirvell, he has received a lot of criticism by students from the University, as well as the actual Attorney General who respects his first amendment rights in that he can say what he wants outside of his duty but he does not support Andrew Shirvell in the circumstance. I have this article to just show Andrew Shirvell's kind of actions towards Chris Armstrong. Andrew Shirvell has a blog right now called "The Chris Armstrong Watch". This is kind of the leading picture when you first open up the blog. It's currently set to invitees only. It's no longer a public blog but when it was these pictures were available to be seen. Andrew Shirvell has called Chris Armstrong a racist elitist liar for trying to bring in homosexuality on University of Michigan's campus. Racist liar, part of the KKK. Some quotes that Andrew Shirvell has expressed towards Chris Armstrong. "Somebody that is there to promote homosexual rights for homosexuals at the cost of heterosexual students." "Racist elitist liar" "A privileged pervert". The last one is a post on his blog. "Outrage alert: Armstrong engages in sexual acts in churches and children's playgrounds" which is absolutely false. These are just saying that he is a representative on the student council. He has basically just shown a lot of hate towards Chris Armstrong on the basis of being a homosexual individual. Since then, Shirvell, there has been a restraining order filed against Andrew Shirvell to kind of protect Chris Armstrong from him. Shirvell has taken a personal leave and upon returning will be facing disciplinary actions from the state of Michigan. That kind of gets into the bill. Has everyone, I believe Chair Adams sent out to us a YouTube video showing the interview between Anderson Cooper and Andrew Shirvell, I don't know if anyone has seen that? I think most have. If they hadn't we can watch it. I'm assuming all of you have seen it and its eight minutes long. This is the resolution that I along with many edits from both Vice President Maciewicz and I got the director of LGBTQA to come up with. [reads resolution].

Opens the Floor for Questions

Senator Tran: Hi, ok so I totally think I support this idea, I think this is super wrong. However my question is why do you think this is our place at a different university to step in? There are plenty of things wrong in this world that we don't step into other issues that are kind of irrelevant to the University of Vermont student body. So, I guess, in what was is this different?

Senator Vitagliano: Ok, so I feel that this is relevant both with our University's visions and mission statements that we value diversity among all of the students and we feel that all people should have the right to express themselves how they want. Part of how this does reflect on us is that we do have members of the senate and executive board that identify as part of the gay community. This kind of shows that we stand by our elected leaders as well as other people in the senate.

Speaker Chevrier: Point of Information: The Student Government Association at the University of Vermont is charged to work within the UVM community, the Burlington community, the Vermont community, arguably within the country and the world. We have passed and voted on legislation concerning people who were taken as hostages or taken as political prisoners in Iran. We have passed a resolution supporting the right to marry and rights for the popular vote in the country. This is something that we have been tackling and not only that we choose to tackle but we are supposed to talk about larger issues that go beyond the University of Vermont.

Senator Cesario: This is pretty awesome, I'm all for supporting other universities who are similar to ours. I have a few friendly amendments with like grammar stuff. The third whereas, friendly amendment to change it to the University of Vermont values equal rights for homosexuals and all members of the LGBTQ community. It comes across a little awkward. So like whereas the University of Vermont and then in the 'be it resolved' friendly amendment to make it more terse and succinct. Regardless of the sexual orientation that calls on... I guess just either saying remaining a student leader or saying remaining student body president. Something to just make it shorter. Feel free to disagree with me, anyone.

Senator Vitagliano: Does anyone have anything to build off of that on how to word it?

Chair Simmons: Hey, I'd like to make a friendly amendment too. Changing the part where it says, I watched the interview with Anderson, and he was very clear that Shirvell, that he wasn't harassing him on the basis of his sexual orientation so I think we should go a little bit further to say on the basis of his support for people of homosexual orientation and his support of gender neutral housing. I want the second to last whereas the harassment of Chris Armstrong on the basis of his sexual orientation and his support of homosexuality.

Senator Vitagliano: It seems like that from the kind of interview, but within, kind of going through *The Michigan Daily*, which is the University of Michigan's student newspaper, it was more on a basis of sexual orientation. The interview with Anderson Cooper was obviously slightly skewed to make him seem not fully what he was representing. Through other sources it was based on his sexual orientation.

Chair Simmons: I totally agree and I think that it was based on sexual orientation. But I think that Shirvell and his side are saying they were protesting him on the grounds of his support for this specific issue, his support for forwarding his homosexual lifestyle by supporting gender neutral housing. I think the resolution would be stronger if we addressed that, if they were going to say it wasn't about sexual orientation then we are going to say that we support what he's doing anyway.

Senator Vitagliano: How would you like to enter that?

Chair Simmons: And his support for gender neutral housing because that was the thing specific thing that Shirvell was talking about.

Senator Vitagliano: Where though?

Chair Simmons: On the basis of his sexual orientation and his support for gender-neutral housing.

Senator Mason: I completely agree with what this resolution states, I'm just curious on, I know this is for supporting what is going on in Michigan. But it kind of seems like from interviews and different things I've seen it seems like it's a police matter. I don't know if anybody has any information on that because if it's on harassing, it's kind of on a different scale than disagreeing with what this guy is saying. I also don't know if we know the history of the communication law, like with a public figure, I don't know if they consider him a public figure because when you are a public figure your personal-private things are not really kept as secret because you are in the public. So, I don't know if that plays into how he's getting away with saying such outlandish things. I don't know if you want to take that into consideration as well because once you jump into that you can get some kind of backlash. Granted, this is inappropriate.

Senator Lederer-Plaskett: Point of Information: Technically, although he was, there has been some lack of clarification as to whether he was appointed or elected but because he did all the work, proven outside of the office it still falls within his first amendment rights. They can't take direct police action for anything apart from the fact that he was essentially stalking the kid.

Senator Vitagliano: To go off of what Senator Lederer-Plaskett said, he did technically voice these opinions when he was not during his office hours. So either after hours or on the weekend or whatever times those were, that's when he was stating these ideas, so it is under his first amendment rights. There is the investigation going on looking at whether, even though you have the first amendment rights sometimes it's not reasonable to express them in the way that he did. That's kind of what's coming up after he comes back from his leave there will be a discussion as to disciplinary actions will be taking place. This resolution is for, at the end of it, where we stand on what should and we want to give our input on how we think that this situation should be dealt with. So this is kind of the end of it would be really be relieving Shirvell of his duties and this is showing that the University of Vermont supports that aspect of the situation. So that's why we are discussing this resolution.

Senator Lederer-Plaskett: Thank you for bringing this up. I saw it pretty much the day after the video came out and it's absolutely horrific. That said, I think that this is an awesome bill to pass because in the first few days they weren't going to press any kind of police action even though the guy had been sitting outside his house filming him with a camera on his way to class. It's only with pressure and the enormous amount of media attention that this has gotten him facing legal action when he returns. I'm fairly certain that there is a system of checks and balances so while we can state our opinion, and I'm absolutely all for saying that he should be relieved of his duties, there is a system of checks and balances that is similar to what happened in New York with Elliot Spitzer that it does have to go through as separate party kind of like the electoral college. While we absolutely should make the push for it we do have to keep in mind that this is an extremely conservative political area in Michigan and they have a lot of issues going on politically right now as well. So while it is great to voice our opinion we do have to keep in mind that there is a system of checks and balances they would have to be negotiated.

Chair Adams: Point of Information: It was in a different news article, Mike Cox does have the power to relieve Andrew Shirvell of duty, he's just choosing not to.

Senator Filstein: This is really good and I'm going to vote for it. And thank you for writing it up. Friendly Amendment that the be it resolved in my eyes has two parts so there has to be it further

resolved. The first part is supporting Chris and the Second part is calling on Cox to fire him. So I think that let's make that a separate clause. Also, have you been in contact with Chris at all?

Senator Vitagliano: I have tried to contact him, he hasn't responded. The general kind of consensus is that he is, not avoiding the situation but keeping it as low publicity as he can. I have also been in touch with *Michigan Daily*, which is their newspaper as well as trying to get in touch with the LGBTQ services at the University of Michigan, but not really gotten any feedback.

Senator Filstein: Have you considered sending it to their SGA and also the attorney generals' office?

Senator Vitagliano: That is definitely a possibility if this passes.

Senator Benner: Yes, to this first be it resolved I'd like to add a friendly amendment to be it resolved that the University of Vermont Student Government Association fully supports Chris Armstrong remaining president of the Student Assembly at the University of Michigan regardless of his sexual orientation. Just because I think that student leader is a little bit redundant. And then can you scroll up to the first whereas m just because I saw some extra commas in here. I think that after 'on the basis of sexual orientation' you can get rid of that comma. Another question that may be a point of inquiry for the speaker, are we not allowed to use periods in bills?

Speaker Chevrier: The way we are supposed to be doing it is commas after every stanza.

Senator White: Some people brought up that this isn't really our place but I just wanted to put this into context. Let's say that Senator Burns is an elected official here of our student government. And if our Vermont deputy attorney general or whatever Shirvell is decided to call him, let's say, sideburns satanic or say that they have picture of his sideburns on the web with Nazi flags or rainbow Nazi flags that we would call him out. That is a ridiculous abuse of power and it's just obscene that an elected official of a state would go after a kid.

Chair Adams: Friendly amendment to add a whereas the Student Government Association of the University of Vermont has passed a resolution supporting the establishment of approving gender neutral housing at the University of Vermont, because that is another connection between us and them.

Senator Vitagliano: I kind of like the idea of that but I don't think it needs to be in there.

Senator Wilich: So for the last whereas I think that governing officials should allow student leaders to function in their student body without outside pressure is just really vague. So how about friendly amendment government officials should allow student leaders to functions freely under the position the student body elects them to hold. So it's just getting the freely in there. And then take out elected before student leaders. Outside pressure could be anything, it's so vague. But this is great, thank you for doing this.

Chair Simmons: I'm sorry Josh, I didn't mean to silence you there. As much as I like to get myself out there. My henchman Burns says that it's somewhat grammatically vague to say whose sexual orientation and whose gender neutral housing. So, friendly amendment on the basis of Armstrong's sexual orientation and support of gender neutral housing.

Senator Vitagliano: how would we transition in to the next?

Senator Burns: just a comma after housing.

Senator Vitagliano: Is that saying that supporting gender-neutral housing is unjust?

Chair Simmons: It's saying that the harassment of him on the basis of his sexual orientation and support of gender-neutral housing is unjust because Shirvell says that he's harassing him because he's supporting gender-neutral housing.

Senator Benes: call to question

Vote to call to question: passes

Point of inquiry: do we have time to abstain?

Speaker Chevrier: We're not doing time to abstain for call to questions, I guess I'm not doing that.

All in favor of the Resolution Supporting Chris Armstrong President of the University of Michigan Student Assembly – Passes

Emergency Business

Bill Allocating funds to UVM cycling

Chair Mallea: Alright,, so we got this request on Monday so coming up it's under emergency business because they need these funds very soon. So I'm going to read the bill and if you have questions feel free. [*reads bills*]

Open the Floor for Questions

Senator Benner: First thing, friendly amendment could change the 9 to spelling it out, n-i-n-e, because it's a number under ten? Second, friendly amendment is the period after the third whereas change to a comma and a comma after the 8 and three 0's.

Speaker Chevrier: Point of Information: Grammatical changes can be made after the bill has been passed. So if I open it up and there are a lot of periods where there should be commas I will change them.

Senator Vitagliano: What is the original amount that the UVM Cycling team asked for?

Chair Mallea: It was upwards of \$10,000.

Chair Simmons: Just curious, you usually say you give half, why eight to ten this time?

Chair Mallea: So it's up to the discretion of finance committee. There is no written rule that we are going to allocate you some percentage of the request. It's really based on the hearing, where the club comes in and expresses their need, their fundraising efforts, how involved they've been, if they've been working with the finance committee and the treasurer's office, if they're in good standing, it's all taken into account. We grill the clubs just as much as you grill me. We ask them how many nationals are you planning to attend this year? How many members minimum can they take but still afford to compete at the national competition. All of these questions were considered to decide that we think \$8,000 should be allocated.

Senator Ballas: What and how long are the nationals for cycling?

Chair Mallea: They need the money by next week. So, I'm not sure, I believe it's at the beginning of November.

Senator DeVivo: Point of Information: The nationals are October 13-17th.

Speaker Chevrier: I also want to point out from a Student Activities standpoint that they Cycling team is one of our best club teams as far as bringing home the titles. Not that we should allocate funding on how athletic they are but they normally do bring fame to the university with what they do and they do compete at a national level. They have brought home titles at the national level as a team and individual racers.

Chair Mallea: Just to follow up with that, one of the goals for Finance this year was to allocate based on their performance, how involved they are with the UVM community, what they are giving the university in return. This club is very active in the university and they have proven that they deserve this allocation.

Senator Mason: I'm just curious on when did they put this funding request in since it's such late notice? Did they give you a proper breakdown on the amount of money asked for to get to California and what else will they be doing with that \$8,000?

Chair Mallea: The request was submitted, the Finance Committee got the request on Monday afternoon. I brought it up under emergency business. Normally I would bring it up under new business next week but since there is a time constraint it had to be under emergency business. When they fill out a request for supplemental funds for nationals, they are required to do a cost breakdown of all their expenses. If they don't give it to us we make them give one to us until we decide. So basically the cost of the trips, the cost of the hotel is, what the registration fees are, basically everything is accounted for.

Automatically called to question

All those in favor of Bill Allocating Funds to the UVM Cycling Team - Passes

New Business

Senator Benes: Resolution Encouraging UVM to progress towards STARS?

Executive Reports

Speaker Chevrier: A few things, I want to after last meeting go over the differences between out of order and personal attacks. So out of order is when somebody as the name suggests, speaks out of order. So if as I was talking and senator O'Brien decided she wanted to start talking as well, she would be out of order. It's not when somebody says something that you don't like. A personal attack, on the other hand, is as that name suggests when someone specifically attacks somebody both on this body or is one of our guests. In the past, this has been called out. Speaker is not that fun of a job, I would much rather be working with you than to telling you to stop doing obnoxious things or to be authoritative or to tell you when you can and cannot speak. So just as a general rule, if it's something you wouldn't say to one of your family members, you probably shouldn't be saying it. The Golden Rule is something that we all probably should have learned by now and I feel like we probably need to apply it to senate. I really don't want to be that person who has to call you out for being a crappy person. But if you are going to force me to, then I will and it will just stink for all of us. Also, for those of you who filled out the constitution committee doodle today or this past week. You are caught because I sent out that doodle and asked all constitution committee members in my report last week and only I think three people actually filled it out and everyone else did this week. I want to remind everybody that it is your senatorial duty and due diligence to read the executive and committee reports that are sent out to you via email. Also, I will be implementing time limits, so I did that today but it didn't really matter. I will be saying well we have blah up here and he will speak for ten minutes and then we will have 5 minutes for questions. After those ten minutes if it looks like that person is going to exceed that time limit we will have to vote on whether or not we want to grant more time. I originally thought it was going to be kind of time consuming and was hoping to avoid it but it looks as though it's gotten necessary. Also, there is this funny thing called emails and I and other people on senate send them out. We could have not sat here for as much time as we had if people send their friendly amendments or suggestions to the authors of the legislation in advance when it was

sent out originally. That's why they are sent out. It's not so that I can do it for fun it's just so that you can read them and give your suggestions then and not have to make them now. That's it.

Open the Floor for Questions

Senator Mason: I'm just trying to figure out what the time limit thing where that came from? I don't know how I feel about limiting people and telling people that they can only speak for ten minutes and they are only going to get questions asked to you for five minutes. If it's an important issue that is going to take longer than ten minutes there shouldn't be stipulations put forth to them, it sounds rude to me. Also, friendly amendments, I thought that to do the friendly amendments was to get the feedback from the person who actually wrote it, if they actually felt that they need to change the line. If you sent them an email, I don't know how that would go for emails. If you sent them a line then they say no I don't want to change that, I don't know how that would go.

Speaker Chevrier: I completely agree with you about time limits, that's initially why I wanted to avoid doing it. I'm sorry about not being clear with my example. Everyone wouldn't be given ten minutes. What I will be doing is I am going to be asking the speakers, like I have for next week already, how long they want to speak for. For instance, I asked the people from the Women's Center today how long they said 10 minutes and they said 5 minutes for questioning would be fine. If they had said 30 minutes that would be the time limit. If I get there and someone said they need 2 hours, I might haggle with people. But, I agree we voted in exec that people overwhelmingly thought there should be time limits, and that's how we will be implementing them on a trial basis. If it seems like we are just taking more time voting to extend time then we might just change it again. As far as friendly amendments, the way that would work is if when you get a bill and you read it you say, huh this should be two stanzas slash paragraphs instead then you would email that person and hopefully create a dialogue with the author of that legislation instead of doing it here which I think is frustrating to the author who has put a lot of time into it when someone is suggesting a million things to change although no one ever too the initiative to do it.

Chair Monteforte: I'm sorry if I've forgotten, so when we edit the bill do we have to send you the edited one or do you just save it here?

Speaker Chevrier: I save it here.

Senator Filstein: I know the discussion on the time thing is kind of confusing, we've had a lot of different proposals. I'm not clear if it's we're them 10 minutes or we're giving them what they ask for unless it's ridiculous and then we'll cut it back? And then there is the voting to extend our question time and voting to extend their speaking time, so just a clear definition of what that is?

Speaker Chevrier: So I will be asking all of our guests, like I already have with Peg Boyle Single and Kesha Ram who are coming next week asking how long they want to speak for. They sent me an email back saying how long they will speak for. So, when they come I will be saying they will be speaking for this amount of time. When if they get to that amount of time I will stand up and say that we have reached their time limit for what they wanted. Do we want to vote to extend their time? If there is a motion to extend their time we will vote on that and additional time will be awarded.

Vice President Maciewicz: I'd like to start out with a congratulations to Senator Vitagliano for writing a very nice resolution, that's how you do research people. Someone was obviously paying attention at the retreat. To all of the others of you who did resolutions and bills tonight, good job, to all. I am going to start out with retreat evaluations. Please fill them out while I'm speaking to you and then give them to your chairs afterwards. I know they are a little long but just try to finish them before the end of the meeting. They are helpful feedback for future VPs. I know that a lot of the things that I put in the retreat were from feedback that I found from the past ten vice presidents.

Don't put your name on them but please be honest. Honesty definitely will help future vice presidents give you the best possible experience at the retreat. Another sheet I'm going to pass around is two opportunities. One is a trash pick up this Thursday from 3-4 if you are free, I know a lot of people have class. I live on North Union Street and one of my neighbors is starting a pilot trash program so for half an hour every other week we just go around and pick up the trash, the beer bottles. It makes the neighborhood look a lot nicer and it gives students a really good reputation. My neighbor was actually hostile to me when he first met me but then I helped him pick up trash and now he like, won't stop coming to talk to me, which is good. It really helps alleviate the problems we see with downtown relations. If you are free please do it. I promise it will only take 20 minutes. I will be there, after you can come have a snack at my house or something. Also, if you are interested in being on the Technology Innovation Fund or Campus Accessibility Taskforce just put your name on this list and I can send you information. The innovation fund doles out the student fee that we pay to get like new computers and new Wi-Fi. So if you really like technology and want an opportunity to decide how to spend a good chunk of change this is a good committee, very low time commitment, I think it only meets 2-3 times a semester. And the Campus Accessibility Taskforce is making sure that campus is accessible to people with physical and emotional disabilities. Ramps, services for learning disabilities. This is just information and we can talk further about appointments. President Mensah will take more about this but I just wanted to introduce the concept. We had a meeting with Vice President Lucier from Enrollment Management and they are unveiling something called student success and satisfaction which they are calling S cubed, I will email around. It's a whole bunch of different surveys that they are tying together to make sure that you have the best possible four-year experience. They start with gened which I know we hear a lot about and residential based learning taskforce like living where you are learning with the same people, which I know we do some of that now. Student employment taskforce, which we heard about from Marie Johnson when she was here last week. Schools and colleges and how they are working to implement this. Retention, why do people leave, how do we stop it? and the first year experience. President Mensah will talk more about those and I will send this sheet around. But that's something new we want to talk more about it but I just wanted to introduce people to the name because it will probably become a buzzword like TRI and Gened, so S cubed. I wanted to touch on the meeting today, since I can't speak during Senatorial Forum. I think we were a little rude to Anna Lavenberg today. I get that there was disagreement whether the resolution or the bill was appropriate format. I a) disagree and think this should have been handled before hand. This was basically a glorified thank you letter. If you think its so controversial that we have to speak about it for 25 minutes then President Mensah and I can just write thank you letters on our own. But, I think it was just a really nice gesture that turned into a theoretical debate for 25 minutes. That really was just a) rude and b) entirely pointless. And that is just my personal opinion because I can't speak other times at the meeting. We recognize a lot of groups and if you feel like we shouldn't be recognizing her because we aren't recognizing other people then why aren't we introducing that legislation? You can introduce any bill you want, it doesn't have to be Chair Monteforte. You could introduce a resolution recognizing any student at any meeting. So I thought that was rude, especially with her here. I just want to urge you all to do your homework before you come here. Read it again and if you really fundamental think that was not the way to approach it, before the meeting, not while standing here over something so mundane. And that's just my personal view. The last thing I wanted to mention that this week is suicide prevention week. There was a moving memorial last night on the green. It's just that time of year that's really busy. People are getting stressed. Check in with each other. It can be hard and a lot of time it can strike people that you don't really expect. So ask your neighbors and your friends and your roommates how they're doing. Mental illness is a lot more pervasive than I think we like to recognize. We don't want any more suicides if we can help it so take care of yourselves and I hope you have a nice evening.

Open the Floor for Questions

Senator White: On the topic of talking about people while they are here, and I also wanted to bring this up when we did appointments. When we did appointments we had these people stand

up in front of us and we sort of discussed their credit, in front of them and whether or not we should be saying good job to Anna in front of her. Is there a way we can change the protocol on that and sort of have the people step out? Because I sort of feel against that and wrong about talking about people in front of them, it's just weird.

Vice President Maciewicz: We used to go into executive session a lot more and we stopped. The difference is we can't debate their qualifications in public. But if there was something extenuating that needed to be said that's of a very personal nature, like we cannot recognize Anna Lavenberg because I actually know her and she's actually a blatant racist. Like that's something that we can't discuss in public because it's damaging and very personal information and then we could move into executive session, but we can't discuss theoretical qualifications about what this should be. It's a very fine line, maybe Speaker Chevrier could add to that.

Speaker Chevrier: We are only legally as a public institution supposed to go into executive session for personnel matters. If you do feel as though we are discussing personal matters than you can motion go to into executive session and we vote as to whether or not we do want to go. And then if it passes everyone who is not a senator, so our minute taker and anybody else who is sitting here will leave and we will be able to discuss something that does not show up on the record.

President Mensah: Good evening folks hopefully everybody had a joyful homecoming weekend and family weekend. I have a bit of a long report, there are just a couple of different bullet points that I'm going to touch on. To start off with what Vice President Maciewicz said we had a meeting with Chris Lucier the Vice President of enrollment management early this afternoon to discuss the S cubed, as they're calling it, which is the Student Success and Satisfaction. I'm very happy that this is something that is on the radar of the office. The outcomes that they are hoping for with this are to enhance academic and co curricular engagement of students for success as undergraduates and to be a successful tool for graduates to hopefully go on to exemplify our missions and values. David pretty much gave an overview of the chart. There are different committees that are going to focus on the coordination and integration and synchronization of all these action steps that are hopefully going to be pushed through for FY11. I'm just going to touch on a few of them. There's the Student Employment Taskforce which is how to expand work study students so that's something that's being charged by Marie Johnson who is the director of Student Financial Services and she came in last week to talk. There is also the Retention Study that Chris Lucier is actually chairing himself. It's a control, they actually contracted a consultant last March to engage the conversations about why first and second year students are leaving this campus. So they would actually email them and be like why are you leaving. They've actually potentially gotten thoughtful responses back from students saying I came here for the University's academic rigor but maybe I didn't experience that in a large lecture hall. So things like that are what they're looking for. Hopefully within the next week and a half there will be a survey that is going to go out to a random sample of UVM students. And even within that random sample they are going to make sure they have different schools in the university and a good proportion of ALANA students in that sample just to talk about retention rates. Also, the first year experience is just going to make sure that they are staying on top of academic and co curricular activities and the one that is chairing that survey is Annie Stevens. We spent about 25 minutes talking about Student Success and Satisfaction, I'm still getting used to that term, but also while we had the ear of Chris Lucier, I asked him about priority registration and what the status was of that. So we spent a good length in senate last week discussing priority registration and afterwards I sent something along to Chris Lucier including the resolution on priority registration that passed last week. His opinion is that the resolution is a fair and reasonable solution that was passed by the body. It is now on the table of Jane Knodell who is the interim provost. She is the one who is making these decisions as they are academic in nature. The main reason that we wanted to vote on this last week was because we wanted to get on the ball and hopefully it will be implemented for next semester. But right now it's up to her to make the decision. Unfortunately, as each day goes on so does the likelihood of this being implemented for next semester. There was talk about how if everyone was taken off uber priority registration this is something that could happen for

next semester. But since there is still discussion about which certain groups will get uber and which certain groups will not get uber, that is forming more of complications because there are still some decision making process around those. And that might not lead to this passing until fall 2011. Also, last week there was a bit of ambiguity around how many students have priority. There's about 400 athletes, 350-400 ACCESS students and then Honors College is actually the one that makes up the most amount of students with priority registration on this campus, which is about 800 students. It's one of the selling points of this university to give Honors College students priority registration. Also, you think about it there are also advocates that have priority registration and EMTs that have it and different other groups. And know that all of these other groups have already been engaging in the conversation about how to reduce the number of students within their prospective groups that have priority registration. So that's where it stands. He said it was actually helpful, the resolution, on his end and hopefully Jane Knodell's end in making a decision for priority registration and the future of priority registration. Also, next on my report is Annie Stevens contacted Vice President Maciewicz and I as well as the president of the Inter Resident Association, Eric Graham, to start thinking about the naked bike ride for fall 2010. For all the first years who might not know what the naked bike ride is it's an end of year celebration where students pretty much strip down and go naked and pretty much run around campus on a bike, skateboard, whatever they want to. It's just a celebration that classes are over and it's been a UVM tradition for quite a while. Unfortunately, over the past couple of years it seems that more creeps have come to watch the event than most students who just watch it in good nature. So there has been more money being put towards the event in terms of increased security, increased lighting, things of that nature. A month or two before each naked bike ride there is a taskforce that is created to talk about the upcoming naked bike ride. Annie is asking Vice President Maciewicz and I for names that would like to be on that taskforce. So if anybody would like to serve on that taskforce which will be meeting each week at the end of this month please email Vice President Maciewicz as soon as possible. This past weekend during homecoming there was a harvest fest where actually with a couple of other people from dining services and College of Agriculture and Life Sciences gave a press release statement about the UVM and SGA's support of keep local farms initiative. I unfortunately wasn't here for the beginning of this last year, I was doing a study abroad, but what I've learned is that milk was going supposed decrease 10% but there was a study and a reach from SGA from previous members of this board that went out into the student body and surveyed and interviewed them and most students were in favor of not letting the cost of milk decrease 10% and keeps the same price and that 10% would go to struggling farms. Last year a check for about \$4,000 or so was presented. This year because of all the 10 cents back from the hundreds of thousands of gallons of milk on campus we gave the keep local farms initiative \$5,200 which is going to go towards struggling farmers. The next thing on the report is that our partnership with UVM Athletics is going to continue. In previous years Senate has funded the athletics department in buying apparel which means that our budget goes to fund apparel that we as senators give out for two games during the hockey season. So we go to two hockey games, one in the fall and one in the spring, the dates have already been set. One on February 5th or 6th and one sometime in November. The first apparel that Erica Hunt who is the lady that we have been in contact with from athletics, she is going to order 500 scarves and on the scarves one side will have the athletics logo and one side will have the UVM logo. This increases representation of SGA among UVM students. We are still in the decision process about what that apparel is going to look like for the spring semester. So if you have any suggestions, please send them towards Vice President Maciewicz or myself. I also want to thank everyone for offering your opinions and then voting for the resolution regarding Chris Armstrong. It's saddening that these instances of hatred and bias continue to happen not just even on a local level but also on a national level. So I'm really glad that the conversation was open and I'm proud that you as a body actually passed it. I've also over the last couple of days been in contact with Chris Armstrong, I reached out to him through the suggestion of a mutual friend and actually sent along the resolution for him just to know that students across the nation that this on their radar. I didn't say whether or not it was passed or not but I did say I would let him know so maybe this is something that you and I can work on in the next couple of days to cohesively send him another email. I do think that this touches onto my eighth point that I had. Even though it seems tedious at times that these discussion about whether or not we should

pass a bill or a resolution recognizing someone, I would really like to commend the folks that spoke up about the importance of passing certain bills. I think it really keeps the body alert and more attentive to what is being passed and the significance of certain things. So if you pass this legislation what does it mean? And I think that this resolution in support of a fellow leader sends a strong support from UVM, especially being in Vermont, that this is on our radar and that we care about this and this is not something that we want to see happen to any student in the United States or even potentially abroad. For a bill recognizing Anna Lavenberg, I forget who made a suggestion that this is something we can do to recognize a student of the month, I think that is something I will be talking to the Public Relations committee more about, it keeps more students thinking about SGA, these are the types of things that SGA are doing and they're recognizing me. I think like many students don't think they are recognized by the SGA especially if they are not on a club or something of that nature. As I sent out in an email earlier, 2 or 3 days ago, the Board of Trustees meeting is October 29-30 and my report is due tomorrow at noon. It takes them a couple of days to compile the binders, which are pretty hefty, and they get them to the committee as a whole for them all to review before. And actually what I have been told in the past that of all the things the members of the committee review and go over the most it's the governance reports from Student Government, from GSS, from Faculty Senate because within those reports they get a real sense of what students are feeling on campus. So unfortunately haven't received any feedback from you, which is perfectly fine. If you all think I will do a good job on my own thanks for that confidence but I would really like in the next few hours to have ideas about what to include in report. In my last report to the board in May, which was actually my first report, I expressed that the new administration that had come into senate, we were transitioning into our new roles and the three main goals that we were focusing on were accountability, visibility, and legacy. You know it's been about 6 weeks since classes have started and we had four meetings at the end of last year so I would really like you all to think about those moan goal and I would love all of you to adopt, to see if we are working towards those goals, if we are being more accountable to our actions, if we are being more visible to students and what kind of legacy it is that we are leaving here as a student body when we graduate. When we come back 10 years from now how would we like to see this board, how this is run and can you say you had an effect on that? Thank you to all the ones that have been engaging in public forum conversation with the different folks that have come from different diversity and equity units. Over the summer I was thinking about this that during my 2 years it saddens me that there are so many different groups on campus that we haven't heard from and I felt that this was one of the underrepresented groups on campus that we don't frequently hear from. So we've already heard from two, we heard from the ALANA student center last week and from the Women's center and hopefully in the ensuing months we will continue to hear from other offices like the Office of Affirmative Action and the LGBTQA Center. On the 26th we are going to hear from the head honcho, which is Wanda Heading-Grant who just took on the new position of the chief diversity officer. She will talk about her new role and how she will continue to support the mission of the office. I would like to recognize the senators of the week, it's 3 weeks coming. The first senators of the week from last week are actually going to be Chair Nelson and Senator Filstein. The priority registration was on the radar for a while and emailing Vice President Chris Lucier and making sure those lines were being communicated and not wanting to miss the ball. And potentially changing priority registration for next semester was something that they were adamant about. The Monday before the Tuesday meeting I'm sure they didn't leave the Davis Center until about 11 or something, working on this emergency resolution so we could have this conversation about it. The second person I wanted to recognize that unfortunately isn't here is Lucas Morgan. Over the past week he's been doing a lot with finding time, even as an RA, to go to city council meetings and contacting OSCR about the issues that the Burlington and UVM community has been having with police officers lately and suggesting the coffee with a cop. The other senator I want to recognize this week is Chair Adams for the situation that arose last week with the kayak club in the previous days before last week. I feel that she did her best to convey the situation as quickly as possible to her committee and they delegated last week before the meeting and she stayed after to make sure to craft a bill so we could be informed of the situation and take swift action. I know that was long.

Chair Monteforte: I just think it would be beneficial to our organization if you could in your power get us all free scarves.

Senator Filstein: I know in the past we have been able to push back to 4 or 5. Is there any way you could send out a draft of what you have so we can sort of critique that and what you have as opposed to just giving you a whole bunch of random ideas up front? Maybe send us a draft, because I know last night you were able to get it in around 4 or 5 and they didn't care.

President Mensah: I will look into that.

Committee Reports

Student Activities:

Chair Adams: Hi guys, so a couple things. Softball and Badminton. Nancy Langan from Risk Management I think is finally understanding the waiting game and how much it's not fun because she's knocking on the insurance agencies doors. I was told I would have an answer by tonight. I haven't checked my email so hopefully both of them by next week. Thanks for letting Leon come in and talk. I just think, he's in our office a lot and it's important we know he's associated with SGA. He came in to our committee meeting and he really shed some light about how he does his point system, which he developed two years ago with former Chair Sanders. We are going to try to take that and adopt it to make it a more inclusive with the student activity liaison program. The liaisons are making contacts and have been doing so with the Finance Committee, which is awesome. We are searching through clubs who missed the policy workshops. They will be receiving an email from me shortly to attend a make up workshop. So basically there were a bunch of clubs who couldn't make it or forgot or whatever. So hopefully we will be making that up with them, no harm no foul. Last week something arose about our committee dynamics. That led to a meeting with some of the members of our committee and David and Kofi. Everything has been worked out from our end. I know it was a source of a lot of senatorial gossip, which is really fun so if anybody has any questions, speak now, or forever hold your peace. Or if you have questions about the rest of my report feel free to ask. Also, whoever started the rumor that I'm running for SGA president, that's absurd, so please just stop spreading that around because it's not true at all. Generally with gossip let's make sure we know what's truth and what's not before we spread it around.

Open the Floor for Questions

Senator Ballas: You said that when clubs don't come to the meetings you were taking into consideration a 10% decrease in something or other. Is that this or something else?

Chair Adams: Elizabeth Salsgiver, the treasurer, was cutting budgets by 10% if they missed the treasurers' workshop but they were offered the opportunity to take a quiz and if you passed the quiz you were ok. I'm just going to sit down make up workshop for the clubs that missed. And if it continues to be an issue then they are not in good standing with SGA.

COLA:

Senator Sadeghi: Chair Morgan will email out his report.

Senator Katz: Chair Morgan is emailing out his report.

CODEEEE:

Chair Herman: Ok, this weekend I got a chance to meet with Wanda Heading-Grand and we discussed several issues. One of the main issues we discussed was men of color on campus and she gave me a person to contact, Keith Smith. He's the men's outreach coordinator and he's looking into a forum on the landscape for men of color on campus. If you don't notice, it may not be obvious, but men of color on campus tend to just slide by in their 4 years. You don't see many men of color in leadership roles, they just ease by for whatever many reasons. This issue leads to many men of color failing out of college because they have many other issues they don't want to

discuss with anyone. A lot of the people that don't return back to college from the ALANA community are men so we're trying to figure out why is this. An the forum of landscape of men of color and I'm looking into ways on how I can assist with that. I had a meeting with someone from VSTEP this week and we had actually a great conversation about collaborating with other organizations because most of the members in VSTEP are the same major and the same school. The majority are Environmental Studies majors or something concerning the environment. In the future I am going to speak to members of VSTEP about maybe going to different communities like Black Student Union and other organizations on campus and having a workshop for them about recycling and educating different people on campus. I'll keep you updated on that. CODEEE is also looking to change our what we're about section on SGA looking into doing a new improved vision of that in the upcoming weeks.

Senator Benes: Hey everybody, so STARS on the resolution is on the table for next week, it's what Gioia came in last week and talked about. I will probably send out the copy that I have later this week. Also, I've come up with ideas for compost possible having lids on bins. A lot of people that have trash are walking down and just want to get rid of it as fast as possible and they throw trash anywhere. So we are thinking that putting lids on the bins would deter the throwers that just want to get rid of it and for those who actually want to invest time to put it in the bin. There's a lot of trash that is getting into the compost and its getting really contaminated. Also, I wanted to touch base with the Clean Energy Fund, I'm sitting on this for senate. I'm beginning to want to brainstorm ideas about how to rethink that. Right now there are \$600,000 sitting in that fund and \$250,000 gets added per year through the student comprehensive fee, about ten dollars per student. This funds is used to fund renewable energy projects throughout the university. Before, they used to have a request for proposal saying exactly what they want to see as a renewable energy project at UVM. Now we're kind of switching to a request for ideas so UVM students will be able to say I want to see solar panels on the greenhouse or I want to see this! So we go through those proposals and see what ideas are legitimate and be able to create proposals from there. There are so many other projects need funding throughout UVM as opposed to green things. Such as the compost facility down on Spear Street, if we had funding for that it would be amazing, it would be a really good student experience. Landscaping around campus. So I'm thinking we might be able to try to open this fund a little bit. I don't know what others might think about that but I would love to hear feedback.

Chair Herman: Adding to what Josh is saying about the funds and other people needing funds I'm also going to start looking to the diversity equity fee. If you haven't heard from the last two speakers from the Women's Center and the ALANA center, their budgets are very very very small and they have to fundraise and stuff like that so I think it's definitely something that should be looked into given that we have all the other fees. Diversity I think should have a fee for something like \$2-\$3 per person so that's I'm looking into that.

Open the Floor for Questions

Senator Mason: Just have a quick question about the compost lid thing. I just want to make sure we're not getting the lids just assuming people throw their trash in there so much as people don't know what goes in the compost.

Senator Benes: Education comes first but there have been a lot of educational campaigns that VSTEP and other organizations have conducted, like in the Davis Center you have those signs saying this is what goes here. So education is very important but contamination in the compost still happens as much education as we have so I think it's worth looking into and seeing what it looks like.

Student Action:

Chair Simmons: I read the compost stuff in *The Cynic* today and it caught my attention too. Just another thing, just to add to what Josh was saying, half of the trash that they sampled, half of the mass was compostable. So not only is tons of trash ending up in the compost but tons

of compost is ending up in the trash. Which say extraordinary things about the intellect of us college students when it's posted what's supposed to go in. Still positive though, results indicated that there is a 42% reduction in food waste, that's wonderful. Otherwise in the world of Student Action, moving ahead with Coke there's another meeting for interested parties on campus at 6:30 right after our committee meeting at 5:30 where we are going to be going over our first draft of the essay that we are writing. It's really encouraging to hear all kinds of interested people, both people that I know on a personal level and also someone from *The Cynic* contacted me about it because they are trying to write an article about it. Someone, Maya Fey, a sophomore in a policy class is writing an essay on it and wants to come talk to us about it. It could be pretty cool, people around campus are talking about it and are interested and I think that's good. There was an article on bottled water, which is a related topic, so it's definitely encouraging. This Friday we will be tabling to get some opinion on coke stuff from 11-2 in front of the Davis Center. So come by, tell people to come by, I'm excited to hear what people think. I have contacted and having a meeting with the police to have some talks which we are working with in conjunction with COLA to have a coffee with the cops. And I have contacted Jay Taylor with Sodexo to see if we can get some coffee and donuts.

Public Relations :

Chair Monteforte: Hello everyone, I hope you all are having a chiming week. David pretty much said what I wanted to say about Anna's thing. If you have other people you want to recognize please tell me, I'd be happy to sponsor other people's bills. We are going to be looking into the student of the month thing, that would be pretty cool. Other stuff going on, UVMTV was here filming. This is just a start of what is going to be going on I think they are just doing public forum for now until they can actually get a crew here, they want to film the entire meeting. If you haven't noticed in *The Cynic* there has been at least one article about SGA, that's never really happened before and I think that's pretty cool. We have chosen an apparel for SGA for the new year. I will be sending out an email after the meeting telling you what it is and if you want to update your size. VSOP is coming up very soon. The theme of the VSOP is going to be asking about five questions and getting opinions on Coke products and water bottles. We really just want to get an idea of the entire university and what they think about that before we make any drastic decisions. After that there will be VSOPS going out periodically and I will be presenting a format about how to present questions before it gets sent out to students. Club Rugby was tabled tonight because they were too cool to get back to us. If anyone was unclear on that, my committee doesn't pick club of the month, the Student Activities committee recommends a club to us and we just do the publicity part. In case you didn't know my committee is awesome.

Open the Floor for Questions

Senator Tran: Did you say you were going to do multiple VSOP polls?

Chair Monteforte: In the words of Katie Rifkin it's VSOP not VSOP Polls. Technically we are supposed to do a VSOP every semester but I think we have the capacity to do as much as we want. They aren't going to be long surveys because everyone hates long surveys so it's going to be quick easy things. We are also working with institutional studies and its just going to be sent out to random students all the time.

Senator Tran: I personally think that that's probably not going to work too well. Students already don't like SGA emails. I think if we have one poll every semester than we are more likely to get a response, like if we have one poll every six months.

Chair Monteforte: Yeah, I mean, I totally understand your opinion. We go back and forth about this a lot. We've met with Pat Brown and we've met with statistics professors and institutional studies and this is what they're all saying, so we're kind of going with their professional opinions. If you have questions I will be more than happy to talk to you after.

Academic Affairs:

Chair Nelson: Thanks for the update from Chris Lucier, we're really glad to hear that he was responsive. So some other things we've been working on this week. We are looking for a new title but the academic liaison program, no one wants to call it that. Academic Outreach Program, I don't know, we're working it. But regardless, it's more about the substance than the actual name, we've been opening up communication with the different colleges to start talking about what we are involved with on senate and what we are doing with priority registration, course evaluations, putting syllabi online and other things like that that are coming up. And then we want to tell them what we are doing and get their feedback and hear about more of their issues in each college. It's been debated amongst senate to switch the representation to show each college but it seems to keep going back and forth. What this is trying to do is still get that network tangled into the rest of the university so we are getting a voice from the College of Nursing and Arts and Sciences and Ag and Life Sciences and there are like 9 colleges. So the goals are to meet monthly or bimonthly with a student representative from each college. We're started looking for students who sit on Dean's Advisory Committees. It's kind of tricky because each college has a different set of governing bodies so we are trying to weasel our way in there to find some students who would like to be communicating with SGA and know what's going on in their colleges. I've already heard back from College of Ag and College of Business and so we're slowly putting things together. I think it will be really helpful. Next order, faculty contracts. I know I've been kind of touching on this on and off and now I want to bring it back with more emphasis right now because I think we've slowly been able to understand more and more what's going on with it. We recognize that with faculty contracts coming up we have a really huge opportunity to start raising questions. Faculty contract only comes up to for review every 3 years. That 3 years is now. We really want, I definitely want, some of you on senate will see this come up again, but the function of the union is to define work, basically what the faculty is doing. So this is our opportunity to say we want you to have this as part of your job. Such as saying like, ok, what is your role in providing course evaluations and providing syllabi? There are some things in the contract now that say they have to do course evaluations but only readable by professors. There is some clarifying I need to do on that. What this is all coming down to is that there is a forum on October 7 from 4-5:30 hosted by United Academics which is the union. They have invited faculty, students and staff concerned on issues with the contract. It looks as though they are mostly concerned with cost of cuts at UVM. Please take a look at this, I'm going to be soliciting all of you to go because it should be really good, I'm going to try to get off work for it, and to kind of raise questions with faculty as to what we as students expect from them. In an indirect way they kind of work for us. One quick announcement on commencement, so you all heard, I think it is an academic affairs issue, it is being changed to pre-2010 form so it's a school-wide ceremony and then each college has their own graduation ceremony.

Open the Floor for Questions

Senator Mason: On the topic of the contract, I don't know when you guys are going to go over what may be included on there. I may have an idea for something if it's not already on there about professors getting back within a timely manner with emails. I know personally I've gone through this and a lot of other students have gone through this where they'll send an email to a professor when something is due in about a week and they don't reply until maybe the Sunday night when it's due on Monday which is just unacceptable for me. When you expect us to get your work done and get to class on time and prepared then I expect the same respect.

Chair Nelson: Just to follow up on that, I definitely agree with you and I think that the issue we would be looking at and the way that we would be asking them for it is that, I think that, I'm going to put some personal opinion in here, I think that we should hold the same expectations to professors as they do to us. Why is it that I am asked to turn in an assignment on a specific date when I haven't received my previous one back? That's kind of the relationship that I see. It could correspond to emails or anything in the classroom that is expected to students.

Chair Adams: I was just going to give my input on college liaison program, I think that's a really good idea, I'm a big fan of liaison programs. A lot of the reason we don't have more

representation on the body is because people are in programs that are taxing, time-wise. So I think that it might be more beneficial not to put added pressure on people who are already asked by the deans to provide feedback but to try to find students that might have a little more free time.

Chair Nelson: We are going to try to feel it out, we're just sending our feelers out there, to just try to get an understanding and we're working with people in the Deans' offices, that's who we've started communication with, to help find students that are good.

Finance:

Chair Mallea: Alright, so thanks so much for passing the Bill Allocating Funds to UVM Cycling this week, they will really appreciate that. We had a lot of requests this week. UVM Freestyle Ski came in this week and requested funds for a camera that they need. Women's Ultimate Frisbee came in with two separate requests, both for tournaments that they are travelling to that weren't previously requested in their budgetary process last spring. UVM Women's Club Soccer came in requesting funds for a game against Yale and BU. I will email out, there were a lot of requests this week, I'm sorry I can't remember all of them off the top of my head. I will email out all of the requests.

Senatorial Forum

Senator Sadeghi: First of all, addressing Vice President Maciewicz' and Chair Monteforte, I hope I wasn't being rude. I know the comments were addressed to me, that's just why I wanted to clarify. That's why when I saw her I positioned myself and brought her first before I brought up the topic, her bill. It correlates perfectly with what Chair Herman said with men of color. Raising awareness and what not. We talked about the bill recognizing Anna Lavenberg for what, 25-30 minutes. And people are saying we should be doing this over email, we spend too much time on it. However, you know, each chair has been speaking for 20-20 minutes. We talked about the Resolution in Support of Chris Armstrong for a good amount of time. In terms of this, recognizing Anna Lavenberg, what was her message? Her message was prejudice going against that and raising awareness of racism. We don't spend enough time talking about it whether it's the classroom or this or that. And SGA, which is a forum that we should be talking about this. And also the message we are sending with the bill recognizing, there is no direction in this bill, that's what I was trying to address. There was 0 direction. If I were a student and opened that up I would say, Great, Anna Lavenberg, what's her message? Where's the walk for tolerance? What am I trying to get from this? And there is no direction in this bill, unlike the Resolution Supporting Chris Armstrong. It was very succinct and got the message across. And that's the way our resolutions and bills should be.

Senator Mason: I know I've stated this before, not in the last meeting obviously, but I know a lot of people on this body read *The Cynic* in general and you saw that on the front page was students dining on the floor in Harris Millis. I know that we cannot have Simpson open, but if there is any way, and I've talked to staff within Harris Mills and within the Davis Center, and I was just talking to the woman, I forget her name, who works at the sukhi's station, telling her about the problem. Marketplace is only busy at certain times during lunch I think it's like 12-2. If they could stay open later, maybe til like 9-ish, I think that could help relieve pressure off of the Harris Millis staff. Although we are representing the student, which is a huge problem for me if students are dining on the floor because it's a health risk and if anything kind of happens to them it's going, the walls are going to bleed with all different things that are going to happen with that. I feel as though the administrative staff of this university could care less about that. That is a huge problem to me. That should definitely be addressed. That should not be an alternative saying that you have to go to this other place or we're going to have a shuttle bus or something that's a whole bunch of sideways going about the problem and the issue. The problem is we need to have students not dining on floors because that is a huge health risk in my book.

President Mensah: I want to make a plug in again for all of you when you leave here in the next few minutes to just take 5-10 minutes and send me some thoughts on the direction of SGA I

personally would like folks to focus on the 3 main goals that was already said, but feel free to send other suggestions that you have. Also, seeing the budget cuts thing being passed on made me think of some other information that had been passed along about different universities and their programs also being cut. To think that last year we only cut one athletic varsity team, well 2, baseball and softball, I tend to group them together. The University of California at Berkeley cut 5 intercollegiate sports teams. Men's Rugby, Men's baseball, Men's and Women's' gymnastics, and women's lacrosse. And just recently the University at SUNY Albany will no longer be keeping their language classics and theater departments. So this economic downturn is clearly still impacting other universities in other cities more so than at UVM. We have seen cuts but I think that the cuts that have been happening at other universities have been at a different level than UVM has made cuts.

Chair Adams: I want to say that I think that senatorial forum is kind of being misused and that things that should be coming up in senatorial forum have been coming up elsewhere and vice versa. I can only speak historically, this year it seems to be used to talk about how senate meetings are run, which is what I'm doing right now which is ironic. In the past it's been as a way to facilitate the discussion. So I think it would have been really helpful for me and Chair Monteforte and Chair Simmons and Chair Nelson to hear feedback on what you thought about a Bill Recognizing Anna Lavenberg for her Good Deeds last week so we could have used it for this week. It wasn't meant to be a political statement. David was kind of right, it was meant to be more of a glorified thank you note. That's sort of what we saw it as and I think that maybe if we had this conversation last week it would have saved us a little bit of face, not that she took anything you said personally. Same thing if we are going to talk about agreeing or disagreeing about what people say in their reports we should probably save it for forum as well.

Speaker Chevrier: I want to give some suggestions with how to deal with problems with Sodexho. In my sophomore year they decided to close Cook Commons on the weekend. I don't know if you guys know where Jeanne Mance is, but it is really far away, from everything. I was horrified because you legitimately have to go uphill in the snow to get to Cook Commons and you have to like trek uphill in the snow to get to any other dining facility other than Cook Commons. So it being closed the same year as they did you can use points for pizza was disastrous. The people at dining services, I think, didn't really realize that. So I sent them a few emails that didn't get responded to. I started showing up to Melissa Delaney who I think is Sodexho's coordinator or something. I did a one person sit-in in her office until she would talk to me. And by the time she finally did agree to talk to me she had no idea where Jeanne Mance was. She had no idea it was a mile uphill to Harris Millis to eat on the weekends and she had no idea that Jeanne Mance was the only place that does not have a bus that runs during the day. And then they immediately changed it. So bringing these kinds of things directly to the source is something that I would suggest doing because it works the best.

Senator Lederer-Plaskett: Thank you to everyone for being so nice to Lu and Candace when they came. They've been trying to come to public forum for a little while. They are honestly two of the nicest people you will ever meet. They are determined to change things around the university a lot. And basically, just being here and being welcomed even though we all tend to get a little aggressive when we disagree about things that fact that we were all really welcoming was really appreciated so thank you.

Senator Mason: I forgot one little piece of what I was going to say. The whole thing with the bus audits, I am just trying to figure out why we're involved in that but how do we support that as much. With the whole taking the numbers who is intoxicated on the bus kind of thing because I know they are getting a stricter policy, like no bags, no food, no bottles, no anything, they're going to do random ID checks. What is our role and our opinion on getting rid of this bus and helping by taking statistics on it? I personally never signed up because I don't agree with taking it away, I believe students will be at more of a risk and that this will devastate a lot of students who don't have transportation on the weekends so I don't know why we are or if we are fully supporting it.

Speaker Chevrier: This is one of my favorite topics. I am with noise task force at the end of last year to try to figure out the noise. Through that, I was invited to sit on off-campus safety shuttle group. So, sitting on that group as a student I went into that thinking that obviously the bus will always exist because it would be very stupid of the administration to cancel it to have people walk back. When you sit in and listen to the administrator's point of views, they're saying that well, the bus right now is more unsafe. There are people that are trying to get off the bus while its moving, there are people that are trying to dive in front of the bus to get it to stop, there's people throwing up on the bus, if someone throws up ever or runs into the driver because they're drunk then the entire bus is unsafe. In both scenarios, either having the bus or not having the bus, there are safety issues. In one scenario the administration is responsible and in the other they are not. I have taken the initiative and am trying to get people through the neighborhood noise taskforce so that we can get more information on what actually happens on the bus. I know one of the greatest issues is that the things that really stink are the things that stand out and we really hear about. You hear about the one instance where someone may or may not have fallen onto the bus driver but you don't hear about the 68 other bus trips that went perfectly. I have been trying to gather information through the neighborhood noise taskforce and soliciting help from people on senate to do the bus audits so that we can give accurate information. Because nobody had previously ever done that and it's only the bus drivers and Green Mountain Security who sometimes miss things and weed things out and sometimes over exaggerate. So that's why I am doing it. As far as I know, SGA has never taken a formal stance on whether or not they want the bus to exists. I sit on the taskforce, Kofi does as of recently and Chair Morgan actually came to one of the last meetings. So if you have any suggestions for Bill or you want to take a stance let me know, I would love to help you.

Senatorial Comments/Announcements

Senator Doran: I don't know how many of you plan on participating on the global work party 10/10/10. But my house, we didn't actually officially post our work event but we going to be building a food house on that day so that next year we can get early start on our food and try to focus on local food. Some of you might know where I live but I think we are going to be convening in Battery Park that morning and we are going to split up and do our separate work party things. I'll probably be standing there with a sign or something. I don't know if anyone wants to come. It probably won't take your whole day so if you could come and help us build and do other things, it would be fun.

Senator Lederer-Plaskett: There is an evening at 7pm in the Cormley Room a meeting of what is now known officially as EVAW, end violence against women. It is a Greek Life program. We are currently seeking resources both inside and outside of Greek Life. Please come if you have anything to contribute.

Senator White: Along with what Senator Doran said, BUG is organizing a bike ride down to Battery Park from campus and I will be sending out an email about that.

Chair Simmons: I would like to invite everyone, just one more time to our meeting on Thursday. It's a really exciting time for us over at BUG. We just got approval, we're on the last wonderful saga from risk management about getting certified to give out bikes and getting certified to fix people's bikes. Pat Brown is giving us space in the bottom of the Davis Center, which is better than our wildest dreams. We are splitting up different responsibilities and priorities about how we will allocate our time now that things are falling into place. So again, we'd love to have any of you. Billings 8:00 on Thursday.

Senator Corkins: If you do happen to be walking through 350 activities Sunday in Battery Park, I'm a part of a group called the Vermont Sustainable Heating Initiative. We go by VSHI. We worked on building a freezer this summer that doesn't require electricity this summer and we will be finishing that so come help us.

Senator Vitagliano: I'd just like to thank everyone who gave their input towards my resolution this evening.

Vice President Maciewicz: Please remember to give your retreat evaluations to your chairs and bring them up to me. Alost this weekend is the Translating Identities Conference, it's super cool, I sent out the link. Registration is super easy, its free, you just go to the website. It just explores gender and sexuality identities. It's student run, its super cool so please register I'd love to see you there.

President Mensah: Just two quick things. One of the big things was collaboration and I always like to support other clubs. Class council is putting on two events this week and we do fund class council so we do want to make sure that they succeed. On Thursday for anyone who loves free wings, the Sophomore Class Council is hosting a free wings night on Redstone Campus beginning at 5pm on the quad. The wings are from Wings over Burlington, which are amazing. The 2011 class council is putting on senior night at RJs this Thursday. So for any of you that are 21+ or have friends that are 21+ and if they are seniors at UVM they are encouraged to go. I do encourage students to go out and enjoy themselves but be smart about how we are partying because I think that it sends a message to the Burlington community that not everyone who goes downtown act belligerent.

Chair Monteforte: Just a comment of what Senator Benner and I learned today that you might find interesting. So way back in the day we learned that from the VSOP students did not want an off-campus bus. But the university did it anyway.

Chair Adams: Ok, this is kind of cool. David Nestor who hired Pat Brown and used to advise SGA told me that in 1974 SGA passed a bill to dissolve itself and for the academic year the next year there was no student government.

Chair Maciewicz: Point of Information: SGA has actually dissolved itself twice, once in 1969 and once in 1974.

Roll Call

Finance: Senator Linde, unexcused

Student Activities: Senator Golfarini, excused

COLA: Chair Morgan, excused

CODEEE: All Present

Student Action: All Present

Public Relations: All Present

Academic Affairs: Senator Wilich

Adjournment

End Time: 9:43