

January 31, 2012

Roll Call

Finance—all present

Student Activities—all present

Academic Affairs—all present

Student Action—all present

COLA—all present

CODEEE—Senator Ferreira excused

Public Relations—all present

Public Forum (02:34:30)

Chair Caster: So, I don't know if you all have seen this. It is a wanted poster with one of our Board of Trustees on it. (Chair Caster reads off of the wanted poster). And I think that this is interesting to bring up in tandem with the fact that the president, or the UVM, officially received the second petition for our staff to unionize. And I think these are two congruent events. And I think that it will be interesting to see how they play out in the student body. And it will be interesting to see how this body reflects student opinion on unionization, the way that this body collected opinion on faculty unionization. And I think that this is a very interesting topic. And I know that in previous years, when SGA was a little bit more "liberal" "Eco Block," there was a lot of interest around these issues, and I think that it will be very interesting for how this plays out. And, that's it.

Taylor Jones: Okay, Hi. My name is Taylor Jones. I am a writer for the cynic, so I am going to be here at every meeting for the rest of the semester, and I thought that I should give all you, it's sort of like a business card, but not, and it has all of my contact information on it. You can contact me if you want to say something, or something to complain about. I don't know, any story you have. That's all.

Kyle Devivo: So, I'm going to address the same thing that Gavin just addressed. The first time I saw that was walking into the building today, but I am just so disappointed in our community. And you don't have to agree with me. This is just my personal opinion. I mean this guy is an alumni of UVM, his daughter just graduated UVM last year. He's been a trustee I guess for eleven years now. And none of his money that he is getting paid, not a dime has come from the University of Vermont. So I am just confused where our students get off protesting this guy, when he's here volunteering his time to the University of Vermont, especially at a time like, I mean, this is the meeting that we're going to be choosing the president of the university. So you know, I don't really see the point, and you know, I think that we should go out and support him because he has given so much to this university. And yeah, you know what, he makes a lot of money. If you disagree with that, then disagree with it. Fine. But you know what, he donates a lot of money to this school, which he does not have to do. And he's an UVM alumni. So you know what this says to me. This says, don't aspire to anything if you go to UVM. Don't aspire to make a lot of money, because you're going to get protested by the same school that you went to. And I don't think that that is fair. And I don't like that as an undergraduate student here right now. So that's just my opinion.

Old Business (02:30:02)

Bill recognizing Vox: Voices for Planned Parenthood at the University of Vermont.

- Senator Matthews: How were you planning on encourage male participation?
- GYT being educated, we organize a man cave, about having men involved, and you don't have to be open or talk.
- Senator Daley: Do you community advocacy group?
- Vox: we'll be working on that organization. World's aids campaign, we put facts about world aids.
- Senator Mansfield: Sex positivity?
- Making it an okay topic to talk about, make it safe. Healthy view on sex, we will have these conversations.
- Senator Pasterkiewicz: funding will be for vox or planned parent hood?
- We're not going to be asking for much funding, but not all students are for Planned Parenthood. Senator Siebert: Group discussions with health care professionals
- We do have a lot of honest and unbiased questions.
- Bill passes.

Bill Recognizing Electronic Dance Music Club

EDMC is a group of students who would like to put on dance shows throughout the year for students. It is a volunteer based group looking to broadcast their music to the students at UVM. They can also offer assistance for those students who want to learn how to mix their own music by bring in tutors such as ill Gates to help students. They are asking SGA recognition to get access to the Davis Center for either forums or the dance/music shows.

- Connor Daley: To me EDMC is the epitome of what the clubs at UVM should be. What have you guys been doing the past few weeks? What would a typical meeting look like?
- EDMC: We've just been going to each other's houses, and opening forums. Our whole thing is student outreach. We talk about ideas, and how to get younger members involved. We also talked about creating a blog to broadcast music and encourage questions and comments from our followers.
- Chair Goodnow: This is a great idea. I realize that sound equipment is really expensive. And it is a great alternative that you guys have your own sound equipment. But one thing that I look forward in a club is for it to continue. It just seems like it might be a large commitment to get people on staff that have sound equipment, are you looking to eventually purchase equipment for the club itself.
- EDMC: We just don't want to ask you guys for too much. Good quality mixer should be around \$1200 that would last a long time, so we were thinking why not use one of our fundraising events to fundraise for good quality mixers for the club.
- Senator Goodrich: Do you guys have any samples up for now?
- EDMC plays SGA a demo.
- Bill passes.

Resolution Supporting a \$7.50 Increase to the Undergraduate Student Comprehensive Fee

Chair Burns emphasizes that this is unnecessary and that there was a lot of uncertainty facing student's graduation. He points out that it is a lack of poor sight on a student's part if they are surprised about paying the \$64 for the regalia. With all the logistical issues that are going to arise from this resolution, he expresses that the troubles outweigh the benefits, which is "just \$4." He goes on saying that this resolution is "ridiculous" and a "waste of our (senate) time." Senator Holland disagrees and states that senate has no right to judge how much \$4 means to students, and that that comment is out of line. Senator Etter expresses that efforts should be made to not have the regalia mandatory for graduation, than simply trying to pay the money over the 8 semesters.

Chair Goodnow underscores that the high cost of the regalia has been a students' concern at the University of Vermont for a long time now, and the reason that the idea is coming from the bookstore is because graduation is not on seniors' minds right now. He agrees with most senators' concern that this resolution will raise too many logistical issues for those students who graduate in more than/less than four years, those who decide to transfer, or drop out of college. Senator Mansfield sees how the resolution could be a good idea as it would be a burden that is lifted off of students' shoulders, and if the question of students not graduating on time comes up, then there should be a way that the money gets returned to them.

Senator Chaouch suggests rewording the resolution, because there was confusion about what the resolution was asking of students. At the end, Senate agreed that the concentration should be more on reducing the money of the regalia all together, and that it would not be fair to impose cost on one students for the benefit of another student. They came to the agreement that the resolution should be better worded, and that it still needs to work out some details. They agree to table the resolution for now. The resolution fails.

Emergency Business (01:21:20)

New senators were inducted and welcomed to Senate.

- Kevin Carita Rivero (on)—Academic Affairs
- Carson Casey (on)—COLA
- Julie Accardo (on) –Public Relations
- Kyle Heffrin (on)—Public Relation
- Harrison Keyes (off) –Student Action
- Vanessa Crain (on)--CODEEE

New Business (01:17:00)

- Bills derecognizing conscious magazine and the multiracial student group.
- Bill recognizing VSTEP as club of the month
- Bill allocating funds to (inaudible)

Executive Reports (01:16:26)

Speaker Osef—He allowed President Golfarini to use his iPad, just to look at his legislation.

- He washed the tablecloth

- Constitution committee has been super hard at work. They're going to be meeting this Thursday. They're going over 2 sections per meeting, which is about 2 hours. He suggests that they look at the changes that were made.

Vice President Vitagliano

- Congrats the new senators on being part of Senate.
- Dennis Mahony was appointed to the Board of Trustees this past Friday.
- The scarfs are here. There are 500 that will be handing out at Feb 10th
- He advises people to go to the Board of Trustees this Friday and Saturday.
- He's going to email the decision from the SGA about the comprehensive fee resolution failed by Senate.
- Question #1: he would love to get to know and meet all the new senators. He encourages new senators to come see him.
- Connor Burns: What times are the board of trustees meetings going to be?
- They start at 8am in the morning, and they go until 4pm, both days.
- Chair Caster: Is there any word on social responsible investment group?
- Vice President Vitagliano: He went to the first meeting, and they are going to be focusing on who is going to be part of that body, and what the responsibilities of that body will be this semester. They will be looking at investments and divestments this semester.

President Golfarini

- Welcomes new senators and encourages the new senators to stop by his office.
- The Feb. 10th hockey game is the only television broadcasted game that UVM gets this year, which is why the scarfs are going to be distributed that game.
- He asks people to recommend ideas for the video announcements.
- COLA's working on priority registration, so if anyone wants to join that, they should talk to Senator Rifken.
- Mobile blackboard is working. It is for any smart phone and droids, and that is all thanks to Trey.
- He talks about banning bottled water on campus. He has to get in touch with Jeff Wakefield, because he doesn't feel that there was enough of a SGA voice on that.
- He's going to be presenting the Board of Trustees report at 8:45am on Friday, so he needs the corrections for the oral report by noon tomorrow.
- Presidential search candidates are over. He has seen all 5 candidates, so if anyone has any questions, he'd love to talk his experience with them.
- He's going to be in NY next Tuesday and Wednesday, because he was asked to do an event for UVM student admissions. So he will not be present for next Tuesday's meeting.
- Senator of the Week: Senator Etter and Senator Ravach for participating on the student trustee selection committee.
- Question #1: to get oral report done by Friday at 8:45am.
- Senator Mathews: When are the scarfs going to be distributed?
- President Golfarini: Feb. 10th hockey game.
- Senator Nenopolous: How did the resolution of the comprehensive fee come about and what your role was on that?

- President Golfarini: He and Vice President Vitagliano got a package that outlined the resolution. He remembered Chair Goodnow talk about some of the “ticks-me-off” from students about the high cost of regalia, so he felt that it was a student issue that needed to be addressed regardless of it coming from the bookstore. He thinks that logistically it might be nightmare; nevertheless if they work out the logistics then it could be a good idea.

Committee Reports (01:05:20)

Finance—budgets were due Friday, and so far they have estimated a total of \$2.6 million for clubs. But that’s excluding 42 clubs that are sitting on his desk right now. So he estimates that the total will be somewhere around \$4 million.

- They also had a few supplemental to do.
- Chair Benner: what are the consequences for clubs that do not submit their budgets on time?
- Chair Dougherty: It’s 10% per day that they are not submitted from the due date. So today it would be 40% that is subtracted from their allocated funds for the semester (including the weekends).

Public relations: he welcomes all the new senators

- He ran through the budget really quickly and bought Photoshop and camera, and he hopes that the next president will continue video messaging.
- They’re working on the poster project; he already emailed senators about it.
- Speaker Osef was talking about social media, so they would like to have more likes on Facebook to get more students involved in Senate.
- They’re working on the Burlington Mayoral debate
- You can ask questions through tweets for the mayoral debates at Brennans 7:30pm on Feb. 15th. You just have to ask the question followed by #Burlymayoral.
- Chair Rifken: How are the numbers on the emails and the videos going?
- Chair Denton: email had 2,000 views on emails. It’s averaging about 50%-60% of UVM who view the emails. There are 300-400 average views for videos.

Student Activities – thanks about recognizing EMC and VOX

- Multiracial Student Group asked for de-recognition.
- VSTEP is the getting voted club of the month, because they were able to get bottled waters off campus.
- Talks about other clubs that will be on topic for future SGA meetings.

COLA—working on the Montpelier trip, which will fall in the same day as the Mayoral Days, so they are trying to work that out.

- They are also tabling the next few weeks.
- Priority registration, she sent out a doodle last week, but she has not been getting a lot of replies. She explains what priority registration is—which is basically parties signing up for priority registration, so any complaints the parties get, they will get a call to warn them. Then if the noise continues then that is when the police intervene. So if people are interested in the idea, they should speak to her.
- They’re working on the police luncheon
- She has a volunteer sign up sheet for Mayoral Debates.

- Senator Daley: Is Community Coalition this Friday?
- Chair Rifken: No. It's in another two weeks.
- Senator Chaouch: If you're working for mayoral candidates, can you still volunteer?
- Chair Rifken: We can talk about that later.

Academic Affairs

- Academic calendar. He had a meeting with Julie Roberts. Students are reporting being in stress from the month of September to November from the lack of breaks in the middle. Julie Roberts discussed with him some ideas about the academic calendar, which Chair Caster does not approve of.
- Faculty senate will be talking about online evaluations on Feb 13th
- They're going to be tabling this week from 2:30-3:30pm this Thursday.
- They're also working with public relations about the academic calendar.
- Chair Burns asks about the minimum amount of days that students have to be at school.
- Senator Pasterkiewicz: You need a minimum of 67-71 days each semester.
- Senator Habib: how is this "one day off" affect with the 3-day weekend?
- Senator Pasterkiewicz: It's would be either one or the other.

Student Action—they're bringing in awesome water bottles

- Cigarette butt issues are getting addressed after spring break
- Hoping to get more tabling hours for the next couple of weeks.
- Working with PR for a month of service.
- Kevin's working with class availability via mobile app
- He talks about Jon Lott's email about publishing all of the bills for resolutions that will be brought up on Facebook. He thinks that's a good idea, and some of the comments that were mentioned deserves more student voice.
- There's a student technology fee that a student pays \$50, so not there is a committee where each of these projects go.
- Chair Rifken: First month of service is cool. Is there a possibility to COLA getting "ticks me offs"?
- Chair Goodnow: He thinks that that's a great idea. He is a little hesitant, but if he were given the opportunity to filter what gets sent out to the senate, then he'd be happy to send some out to the entire senate.
- Chair Burns: You are constitutionally obligated to send it.

CODEEE: ALANA is hosting a breakfast this Friday.

- Vending contracts and beverage contracts are being talked about.
- He has been emailing other universities about campus food pantries for underprivileged student. He thinks that it has potential to be a really good program.

Senatorial Forum (00:34:50)

- Chair Caster: The Campus Climate Survey went out. He suggests that people look at it.
 - The university has officially received the petition for unionization.

- He feels that there is a tone that we have of addressing each other in Senate, and he wants Senate to be a little less aggressive and a little more fun. He wants to change the tone of the SGA
- Senator Daley: He wanted to update people on the dean search committee for the College of Arts and Sciences. They narrowed it down to 8 candidates. He advises senators to email him about what qualities he would like to see in the new dean for the college of arts and sciences.
- Senator Mathews: Talks about Chair Burns and his rudeness on Senate today, and how senate should be a little bit more respectful in addressing each other.
- Vice president Vitagliano: He talks about Students Actions efforts, and how it did shape part of the decision that Richard Cate did.
- Senator Devivo talks about the wanted poster. He announces that Chair Dougherty has made a Facebook group called in support of Bill Ruprecht. He encourages people to join him and his protest against the wanted posters.
 - Advises senators to give him input on which candidate it was that struck them, because he wants to make the best decision on which candidate he votes for.
- Senator Daley: He thinks that the comprehensive debate resolution was a well-argued debate, and that's the kind of issue that Senate should be addressing, and not political issues.
 - The 20/20 initiatives, by the end of next month, he will have a document drafted up and present it to senate.
- Senator Holland – As student leaders, she feels that they should watch what we say, when it is directed about students not just on Senate but at the office as well.
 - She is also hearing both sides today, and she feels that students only get exposed to one side of the protest, which is why there are so many people against Bill Ruprecht. She feels that it is Senate's responsibility to give students the right facts, and end any misunderstandings.
- Senator Chaouch: she lost an election committee member, and she is looking for new members for the elections committee.
- She going to start looking into doing the constitution committee
- Sepaker Osef: The Constitution Committee got rid of the 'on' and 'off' campus for suggestion to the body.
- Chair Burns: L/L ad hoc committee, the submissions for themes are going to end on Feb. 10th. He understands that he was out of line, and he lets everyone know that he loves everyone dearly.
- Senator Nenopoulous- talks about the bottle water issue, and how it is a big step for our universities, it gives him hope as environmental studies major with great initiatives like these being taken. He does state that it is a little risky telling student that they can't buy bottled water, but it is a necessary risk.
- He expresses his views on the board of trustees issues, as well as the comprehensive fee resolution.
- Senator Campbell: What happens in this room gets filthy as possible, and just because Burns and him were talking at each other, doesn't mean they "aren't making love."

- Chair Caster: has an issue about calling UVM a “business” because not a lot of business lowers its price so that its “product” is affordable for students. He also thinks that it is Senate responsibility to address some of the negative stereotypes about members of the board of trustees, and help understand the situation better, and at the end, be better representatives for the student body.
- Senator Wilich points out that Bill Ruprecht hires a lot of UVM grads.
- Senator Al Namee- talked about the beverage contract and the university’s approach to provide water in better ways for students and visitors of the University. Pat Brown wanted SGA to suggest ideas on the topic, please email them to Pat Brown.

Senatorial Comments and Announcements (00:12:27)

Senator Devivo: Talks about the “Sleep out for the Soldiers.”

- Chair Burns is going to be pledged into Kappa Sigma tomorrow tonight.
- They’ve raised \$1330. His mom will knit you have a hat and scarf if you raise \$100.

Senator Goodrich = If you’re interested in volunteering for Obama for America, and campaign in Vermont, there is going to be an informational meeting on Feb 11th at the Davis Center at 2pm.

Senator Nenopoulous: he needs 2 more people for his dodgeball team.

- He’s also trying to get more video gigs for UVMtv.
- He encourages senators to talk to their professors about any possible jobs for UVMtv.

Senator Keenan: He wants the new senators to come say “hello.” He talks about group psychology, and how in a group setting it is inevitable to come across in conflict, and that is half the fun about getting together in the group. The arguments that happen on Senate are not meant to be taken personal, and each comment have points that just needs to be deduced from the criticisms.

Senator Daley: Jess Fuller and Senator Dougherty win the fashion award.

Chair Goodnow: The Penguin Plunge is on February 4th. They’re always looking for volunteers. It is from 1-3pm and 7-11pm on Friday, 7-11am on Saturday and 1-3pm on Saturday.

Senator Manago- he’s a new DJ at WRUV, his show is from Saturday 8-10pm.

Senator Mathews: He’s going to send out an email about Relay for Life called “Bros against cancer”

Chair Rifken: Can we join if we’re not ‘bros’?

Senator Mathews: “Bros” is a general term for anyone.

Chair Burns: Alana Student Center at 8:30am for breakfast. He also encourages people to help out with cooking and cleaning.

Senator Holland—Aliza used to be on student senate, she started a Relay for Life team for SGA, so Senator Holland doesn’t know if the two relays should collaborate.

Senator Mathews: We’ll change our name to Bros and SGA.

Vice President Vitagliano encourages the new senators to meet with him for a few minutes after the meeting.

Chair Burns: Senator Habib made the cookies.

Roll Call (00:00:40)

Finance—all present
Student Activities—Senator Allston excused
Academic Affairs—all present
Student Action—all present
COLA—all present
CODEEE—Senator Ferrira excused.
Public Relations—all present

(7pm-9:35pm)