

March 27, 2012

Roll Call

Finance- Senator DeVivo excused

Public Relations- all present

Student Activities – Senator Chaouch and Senator Colfill excused

COLA- all present

Academic Affair- Senator Campbell excused

Student Action - Senator Goodnow and Senator Manago excused

Public Forum:

Justin King: I just want to thank everybody. For those of you who do not know me, I am Justin King, and I am a junior here at UVM, and I am the president of Lacrosse Team, and I am also a member of the Club Sports council. It's a lot like this except we're not all wearing collar shirts. I just want to take a few minutes and talk about the CO2 offsetting initiative. Justin King presented a PowerPoint. For access to the presentation please email Justin King at justin.f.king@uvm.edu He talked about his calculation of the amount of CO2 tones emitted by the UVM committee. He also talks about the Tree Buddying program. They have decided to partner up with Feel Good and host an event on Friday March 30th 8-10pm. They are having a dance party at the Billings Round Room to raise money for a tree buddying program. The reason that I wanted to come here and talk to you guys today is that we're throwing an event this Friday, where all the proceeds go out to our fund. Our hope is to raise \$1000 through both programs, the feel good as well as the tree party this Friday.

Senator Nenopolous: What are you offsetting again?

Justin King: The CO2 that we emitted in 2010. So, UVM has to create a log for where each of our clubs goes to and what kind of vehicles we are taking. I just totaled personal vehicles versus vans. Vans run a different type of fuel so it's going to emit a little more CO2 than your traditional passenger vehicle.

Senator Nenopolous: With the United Kingdom Reforestation Program. Did you look at other projects that might be cheaper, say Honduras for example?

Justin King: So I don't know if this is what you were referring to but Honduras is one of the world's worst countries in this structure, so we could do a nut tree program there which would provide that incentive.

Senator Mansfield: Are you aware some of the reforestation in countries as far as native people and income gap?

Justin King: Okay, I am not sure as far as income gap, but I am sure that there are problems with the reforestation process projects. First one that comes to mind is if we were to send a thousand dollars to his organization that would guarantee planting trees in Kenya, if they planted a bunch of trees in a tree buddying program and all of the sudden refugees come and burn the camp down then we wouldn't be

sequestering it necessarily. A lot of these are concepts. There are renewable energy credits, similar to the hydro-powered investment where you are not necessarily sequestering CO2. The notion of tree buddying program is literally you are planting a tree and it's being sequestered.

Senator Mansfield: Have you considered instead of offsetting the exact amount to potentially helping build community relations in Vermont by funding something (inaudible) that could help low income families in Vermont in establishing a better Vermont relationship.

King: I think that's a wonderful suggestion. I am not entirely familiar with that, but I think that that's something that we can look into assuming that we get the funding. We are open to these kinds of suggestions.

Senator Etter: Did you happen to look into other Vermont local options, and what the difference in cost in doing something like that is?

King: We have looked into a Tree Buddying Program in Vermont. It is cheaper, but not a decent amount cheaper. But if we get more information, then we can definitely try a little bit local.

Senator Campbell: What were you looking for the SGA to do for this event for Friday specifically?

King: If I had one thing, then I would say first of all, come. And second of all, there are a lot of people here, so if there are any resources that you could pool, any sort of list serve. As of now we don't really have a huge amount of presence in the UVM community, which is kind of unfortunate, because this event would be like none other in the whole country. I did a little bit of a research and there is no program that is even considering such an initiative. And as far as the UVM community goes, this is right up our alley. So if you guys could help in any way to facilitate that communication, then that would be great.

Senator Campbell: Could you email all your information to Speaker Osef so he could send it to us and we could just spam all our friends with it?

King: Sure.

Speaker announces Senator Campbell.

Senator Campbell: So this presentation has to start with firstly I regret to say that I am not going to be on SGA next year. If I would have won Vice Presidency, I was going to put the music thing and the Top Cats and my thesis on hold, but I can't really do well on my thesis and pursue music wholeheartedly, and still do SGA. I kind of died musically this year a little bit. But with the help of our own Kyle Devivo I am going to start getting on shows in the area. I encourage you all to check me out. I am going to be in Brennan's on Friday because I entered in the Battle of the Bands, but I didn't get past the first round because I am not a band, I am a person. So they are paying me a stupid amount of money to play for an hour on Friday, which is awesome. But what would be more awesome is if there were people there to listen, so I am not just playing to kids who are bitching at me while they are trying to eat their pancakes. So if it's okay with all of you, I am going to play a song. And we'll have some time for questions.

[Senator Tom Campbell serenades Senate with a song]

Greg Possa: Hi guys. I am a sophomore and an engineering major, and yesterday I had my advising meeting. Upon looking at my schedule, I realized that I have not taken any diversity classes yet, and this posed a problem because next year my schedule is really packed. Basically I have not taken any diversity courses not because I am slacking off or because I don't want to. It's just that I have been choosing to take other classes instead of them. So now, basically now because I have not expressed interest in other areas other than engineering, I am basically behind on my classes now. So I have to take them over the summer, which costs more money. This isn't a big deal in the grand scheme of things. I don't see the requirement changing, but I think it's wrong because I have taken outside classes; UVM is making me spend more money. I am telling you guys this, because all the friends that I have talked to share the same opinion where diversity classes are basically all hindrance to us. They do have their perks in many ways, but I just feel like that is an opinion that goes unnoticed on the whole and I feel like I should share it with you guys because you are the people to talk to. So thank you very much.

Old Business

Bill Allocating Funds to UVM Crew Team

Bill Passes

Bill Allocating Funds to UVM Freestyle Ski Team

-Senator Keenan congratulates the Ski team.

Bill Passes.

Bill Allocating Funds to UVM Taekwondo

Bill Passes.

No Emergency Business

New Business

- Resolution regarding the Academic Calendar
- Budget Approval, which will be voted on it on April 10th
- Resolution Advocating Academic Advising

Executive Reports

Speaker Osef: He's going to send an apology message on behalf of their clubs for Senate running late today.

- He started his transition sheet for the next semester
- He will not be able to attend next Tuesday's meeting, so Vice President Vitagliano will be filling in for him, and he will not collect his stipend for that week.
- Chair Burns: Will you be fulfilling your other obligations as Speaker?

- Speaker Osef: Yes, you can send me your legislation and I can process all of that.
- Chair Burns: Why would you not collect your stipend?
- Speaker Osef: Because this meeting is one of my major duties as Speaker.

Vice President Vitagliano: thanks everyone for attending the meeting

- He hopes that the glasses will not be broken again for the banquet.
- Internal budgets are done.
- April 10th will be the next week after 5-7pm at Billings.
- Focused on transition materials, getting Vice President Elect Holland and President Elect Daley ready for their duties.
- Next week he's going to meet Jane O'Dell for the Strategic Initiative Program.
- He'll be sending out an email for what Strategic Initiative Program actually is.
- Jane O'Dell is going to speak for about 20 to 30 minutes next week.
- Next week he'll be running a meeting, so he advises people to be patient with him.
- He has some things to finish up in office before the transition of the new executives.
- Those thumb drives need to be returned.
- Senator Chouch: Is the banquet mandatory?
- Vice President: No, it is not mandatory.
- Question #1: there are few internal businesses to work on before he leaves the office, and doing some experiential learning for the new executives. So working with VP elect Holland will be in his agenda.
- Chair Burns: Do you have any sense of how many off and on campus positions have sent their packets?
- Vice President Vitagliano: That I do not know. Hopefully the elections chair Senator Chaouch has that.
- Chair Burns: Do you know where people would say you are on or off campus? For example when I sent in my packet, there was no "on" or "off" campus line.
- Vice President Vitagliano: That should have been a foresight of the Elections chair, so I do not.
- Chiar Caster: Would you like to yield the floor to Senator Chaouch to clear that up?
- Senator Choauch: I think when you hand in the packet you state whether you are "on" or "off" campus

President Golfarini: Congratulates the new President and Vice President Elect

- He is working on his transition report.
- He booked his trip to Washington.
- Tim Johnson got his interview on meeting the President.

- For senator of the week: Samantha Holland, Connor Daley, Connor Burns, Gavin Caster and Tom Campbell for their work on their own campaign as well as doing their Senate work.
- Question #1: Getting President Elect Daley prepared for his presidency.

Committee Reports

Finance: Thanks Senate for passing those three bills

- He will send Senate an email about budgets.
- Budgets for College Democrats got a little screwed up, so he's working with the club about that
- They also had supplemental hearings

Public Relation: beginning to work on his transition guide for next year.

- Next week April 2nd, he wants to do a focus group for Naked Bike Ride. So next Monday at 3pm, he is holding a drop by focus group for what an alternative could be for Naked Bike Ride.
- He found his budget from last year, so maybe they might be able to buy the poster.
- This week, there is a video about off-campus noise. That will be going out tomorrow afternoon to keep noise down during holidays.
- Next week is our last video, so any ideas or suggestions, let him know.
- Chair Burns: How long is that focus group going to last on Monday?
- Chair Denton: 1 hour.

Student Activities: shares his pride about the fact that one of his own members

Senator Holland is going to be Vice President next year.

- If anyone is interested in Student Activities, please talk to him.
- I had an interesting with a woman about using the lynx during the summer.
- Club signer's elections are coming up.
- Working on his transitions. He has 12 pages so far.
- President Elect Daley: Would that somebody who might replace the chair of student Activities be you in the future?
- Chair Benner: No.
- Chair Burns: How will you be on senate next year?
- Chair Benner: I am not planning on being on senate next year.

COLA: if anyone is interested in joining the COLA, contact Chair Rifken.

- Student Labor Initiative Grant is going on. If anyone looking to better the neighborhood then they are looking for students like that, so talk to her.
- Wanted to thank everyone for Have a Heart
- Greek Life is going out this weekend for Have a heart

Academic Affairs: he and Senator Daley will be having a meeting with David Shiman, the president of United Academics.

- There is no system of evaluation for advising, so Senator Campbell is entering a resolution to try to improve that system.

- For the academic calendar, he's working on finding that space for the fall break for a break for students.
- Working on his transition report for Academic Affairs chair, so come talk to him if you are interested.

Student Action: He will not be collecting his stipend because of he did not manage to fulfill all of his duties as chair.

- So he will be emailing out his report
- He has been working on his transition report, so if anyone is interested, come talk to him.

CODEEE: working on his transitional report

- Talks about his goal for cigarette smoking on campus by next year.
- There is a survey about tobacco free campus. People are really responding about it.
- Still planning International Day, so they will have dates in the next few days.
- Freedom Seder will be tomorrow at 7pm in Waterman Memorial lounge.
- He would appreciate people sharing the survey on their Facebook.
- Speaker Osef: Could you send me a reminder about the Seder Dinner tomorrow?
- Chair Burns: Yes.

Senatorial Forum

Chair Caster: finds it annoying that administration says that Naked Bike Ride does not exist yet they are still putting out security measures on behalf of it. It's double line of logic.

Senator Mathews: Chair Dougherty, could you send out how budgeting works?

- He agrees with the "no smoking" initiative simply because he has severe asthma and he cannot go to the Bailey Howe Library just because he will have an asthma attack.
- He talks about the controversial poster of the dismantling rape culture, which states in large font "Men Rape", and in a small font about "Can Stop." He is backing off as a volunteer for that now.

Chair Benner: Apologizes for not going to the Administrative Dinner.

Speaker Osef: recognizes Senator Burns, Chair Caster, Senator Campbell, Senator Holland and Senator Daley for a cordial campaign.

- If anybody has the job as speaker, talk to him.

President Golfarini: reads the email from Blanka about the work that Chair Dougherty has been doing for allocation of SGA clubs.

Chair Burns: talks about Greg's point about Diversity courses and the need to make the courses more interesting. Concerning senator Mathew's point, he expresses that if UVM cannot even enforce the 25 ft. rule then how are they going to enforce the tobacco free campus?

Vice President Vitagliano makes it clear that this initiative is coming from the University Benefits Advisory Campus, not President Bramley.

Chair Dougherty: any questions about budgets, then email him and he will respond about how budgeting works by this weekend.

Dismantling Rape Culture Controversy

Several senators expressed their distaste with the advertising for the conference. The poster was a mere tactic in order to gain student's enragement about the issue and attend the event. Senator Devivo expresses that regardless of the intent of the poster, it always comes back to straight men raping women. He is a straight man and he has never rapped a woman. The women's center is always encouraging gender equality but what about this issue. Why was it Men Rape and not the other way around? The advertisement backfired, because anger is not going to fix the problem. Students were already motivated to join the cause. The poster ended up offending more than encouraging supporters.

Tobacco Free Campus

Senators agreed that as student representative they should not support the tobacco free campus, because a lot of students rely on tobacco as a stress-reliever.

Diversity Courses

Senators agree that there is not enough support from students about diversity courses. Students feel that it is a hindrance to their education more than a benefit. Senator DeVivo points out that the issue is not diversity courses, rather it is advising. He is not having a problem with his course load because he has an advisor who tells him what he does and does not have to take based on the work that he has done outside of his academics. On the other hand, diversity courses are important because employers are likely to hire UVM students because they understand culture even as an engineer or business major. Senator Mansfield points out that experiences can count as diversity credit. Whether its studying abroad or worked with various causes, you can get credit for it. In terms of the courses not being interesting, students have the capability to change that by talking to their professors and encouraging the classes that they teach to submit their classes under diversity courses. She encourages that any questions about the diversity credits be directed towards her because she has been doing a lot of work with them. Chair Caster shares Senator Devivo's idea that advising is the key to solving this issue for students.

Senator Chaouch: wants help for the Election Committee.

Senator Campbell: He agrees with the admiration on the Naked Bike Ride issue simply because there are three arguments that is keeping Naked Bike Ride; tradition, which he points out that NBR has not even been around for a decade, running naked, which anyone can do during the daytime, and getting drunk and running naked, which is not something that Senate should encourage. There are also

more people watching people run naked rather than running naked themselves. So the event is mainly about seeing people naked, which is disturbing.

Senator Nenopolous: has been working on a Public Service Announcement so if anyone is interest in videography, call him or email him. He also expresses that there needs to be a discussion with the students and the neighborhood community about what certain expectations from both bodies. He also talks about his amazing experience working with COLA.

Senator Devivo: talks about having an off campus relations movement. He tells Senate about his encounter with a woman and how drunken students destroyed her fence. He expresses that things need to change in UVM's association with the community.

Senator Chaouch: explains Senate elections.

Senatorial Comments and Announcement

- Senator DeVivo: Swing-a-thon: with AEπ for Fisher House Foundation. Also pet a puppy for \$1.
- Senator Osef: talks about Melissa Jenkin's tragedy.
- Senator Daley: talks briefly about his relationship with Melissa Jenkins. He encourages everyone to go to the memorial.
 - Everyone wins the fashion award
- Senator Kaznets: Feel Good is having a pre-show at Radio Bean at Saturday at 7pm.
- Senator Al Namee: This Thursday at 5:30 at the Green House Multi Purpose Room the Muslim Student Association, there will be a lot of Middle Eastern Food.
 - On April 15th, Kids for Peace walk. The main goal is to bring students form Jerusalem and Israel (Muslim, Jews and Christians) to Vermont. They will live here for 2 weeks and interact with one another. So they are trying to raise money for airfare for 20 students. She encourages people to donate.
- Senator Craine: Donna Brazil is holding a keynote speech in Ira Allen chapel this Thursday.
- Chair burns: go to Freedom Seder.
- Senator Keyes: Month of Service is happening. All events for this are available on the Facebook page.

Roll Call

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COLA: all present

Academic Affairs: all present

Student Action: all present

CODEEE: all present

(7-9pm)