

***Tuesday, December 4th, 2012***

***SIXTEENTH MEETING OF THE 2012-2013 SENATE***

**Roll Call** (00:00:00) 7:00pm

Finance- Senator McDonald excused

Public Relations- All present

Student Activities- Senators McNally & Apisella unexcused

COLA-All present

Academic Affairs- Sen Hilton excused

Student Action- Senators Mathews & Kazinski excused

CODEEE- All present

--Approval of the Minutes from November 27th, 2012-- Approved

**Public Forum** (00:00:00)

**Annie Stevens-** Hi everyone, I'm Annie Stevens and I'm the Associate VP for University relations and Campus life. I'm also otherwise known as the co-director of the emergency operation group on campus. I am here to talk about the incident that occurred last night. How many of you know what I'm talking about? Okay good. I won't need to go into too much detail about the incident. I checked in with Connor and Samantha. I thought it would be good if I came in to answer any questions that you may have. I've been trying to respond to most questions during the day but, since all of you represent the students, I thought it would be good for you all to hear directly from me what happened in terms of our communication and then answer any questions that you may have. Maybe if I give a 5 second synopsis of what I think happened and then you can ask questions. Here is the basic protocol: When bad things happen on campus, the protocol has typically been, we have this great CatAlert system, if emergencies happen and we need to get to you quickly, we alert you with texts, e-mail, that is an emergency when we need to tell you an action (shooter, fire, whatever it might be). Whenever you are in harm's way. It is called a campus alert. We also have policy advisories. When bad things happen on campus and we want the general public to know that a crime has occurred and we may be seeking more information. It is not an immediate moment, no one is in danger, we've contained it. Last night it was the latter. It was a police matter. It was a drug deal gone bad, people had weapons. People were sent to the hospital. Typical protocol, send out the advisory. The Faculty advisory system worked, the e-mail was sent to them, with all of you students, there was a bug in the system. Students did not get it. First thing this morning, I find out that you all did not receive the message. There was a lot conversation on campus as to why you did not receive the advisory. In my 15 years, this has never happened. It doesn't mean that we cannot improve. I will be the first person to go to the emergency group and tell them that we need to reevaluate our typical protocol. We need to work on giving you all more timely information than what the system was giving you. In the moment, in any emergency, the first 30 minutes to hour, we don't have that good of information. But what I think we could give you is something very generic- 'something

going on in Wilks parking lot. Nothing too specific. I just want to give you a general sense of what happened. Questions about what happened?

**Senator Edelman-** How you make decisions about when to release students names?

**Annie Stevens-** Family privacy acts, your student records are confidential, there's only a few times where they are not. They aren't in this case, because they have been charged for the crime. Other instances where the campus needs to inform people in a case of security of the student. Typically, your conduct record is always private.

**Chair Keyes-** We definitely appreciate you coming in to talk to us, and the e-mail explanation that you send out today. Correct me if I'm wrong, but wasn't the notification only sent to on-campus students?

**Annie Stevens-** We tried, but it didn't send out due to the technical difficulties.

**Chair Keyes-** So, my question would be: Why wouldn't it be sent to all students? Because there are students living in the Lofts and Redstone Apartments that are considered off-campus students living in that area that would not have received the notification.

**Annie Stevens-** It would've been sent to all students at UVM. And it just didn't because of the technical problem that we encountered.

**Senator Macias-** If a crime happened in the downtown burlington area, is it possible that we could have a text message cat alert for crimes that happen downtown?

**Annie Stevens-** I can ask, but technically would be up to the Burlington Police. For notifications like that, it's totally up to BPD.

**Chair Pasterkiewicz-** When you say sending out to UVM students, you're mainly referring to the use of e-mail. Was CatAlert down as well with the list serv?

**Annie Stevens-** There's a difference where cat alert and what we did. We specifically decided to use e-mail because it was detained. Nobody else was in harm's way. Our e-mail was having the the problems. We only used e-mail, not CatAlert.

**Senator Goodrich-** We received a call and a text, when the woman with the toy gun happened. How is this different from that when this is a real event?

**Annie Stevens-** The decision was made because, an entire class saw that woman, she got on the bus, ect. (more people saw her). It was a very clear decision. I agree with you, I think they're too close of situations that is causing us to questions using the e-mail system, and why not CatAlert? Some of this is based on Cleary Act, regarding a timely warning. It's very clear in our policy what we do.

**Senator Gachette-** I don't understand the reasoning behind having the cat alert system separate from the e-mail system.

**Annie Stevens-** That is what we are now asking ourselves. Where we are at this point in technology. We used it (CatAlert) for Hurricane Irene, we're at a point where we're asking ourselves whether or not we should use both, or one.

**Senator Macias-** Is that meeting open to senators?

**Annie Stevens-** I think we should get our heads together first, and then I could come back and talk to you all.

**Senator Macias-** What's a good method to keep animosity down? I was warning my friends not to go outside by means of FB and text, etc.

**Annie Stevens-** You go do that, on those media websites. Distinction is between knowing you all are safe, like, I knew last night that you all were safe. But, the distinction of because you don't have information, you not feeling safe. There's an emotional part about safety, and there is an physical part. We've got some federal guidelines to deal with. Its not an easy road, but we've working through it.

**Senator Asher-** Is there a monetary cost between the two systems?

**Annie Stevens-** We already pay a vendor for the CatAlert system. Both are at our disposal, we're going to go with what's more important to the campus community, rather than which costs less.

**President Daley-** Technologically, is there any group of faculty or staff, whose responsibility to confirm that the e-mail was successfully sent out?

**Annie Stevens-** As of tomorrow, there will be someone who will be in charge of confirming that it went out.

**Senator Foley-** If there any faculty member that could receive the e-mail just to check?

**Annie Stevens-** Yes, that is what we will start to do. We need to ensure that we are getting better than that.

**Senator Lott-** I was wondering how and what time specifically you found out that the students didn't receive the e-mail.

**Annie Stevens-** It happened about 6:15-6:30, I knew around 7:30. The advisory went out around 10:30. Police services calls me directly when an incident occurs.

**Senator Lott-** So, the police were the ones who told you that the students didn't receive the e-mail?

**Annie Stevens-** No, police were the ones to call me about the incident. I didn't find out that the e-mail didn't send out until this morning.

**Annie Stevens-** If you have suggestions related, tell Kevin and Kevin will communicate those concerns to me.

### **Alec and Dan from student climate culture**

**Dan Cmeila-** We're just here to touch base from last week. I have to say that I appreciate the integrity and desire to be thorough. We are going to be delaying our presentation to you.. We think for the sake of the continuity, it would be preferable to defer your questions about the nuance about divestment to that meeting that will be during the beginning of next semester. Why are we here? Because UVM isn't the only governing body that's being silent regarding climate change. Ask yourselves: Do your fellow students support climate change? Do you? From my conversation with University members in this community, there has been an overwhelming positive response to our mission. Your job is to represent the will of the students, we think that it's pretty clear that the will of Vermonters is to do something about climate change. If we do nothing, nothing will happen. We also came here to bring you all our stack of petitions for you all to see. Also, check us out on Facebook. We asked these students if they wanted to help fight climate change. Now, we just want to follow up with you guys and maintain our relationship, we think it's important to work together. We want to give you an opportunity to represent the will of your constituents. We have one observation: there is a concern that to accept that climate change exists, is to accept our divestment campaign. That's not really true. If you have serious qualms

about supporting a false image about supporting climate change, about supporting our campaign, then you can just vote no to it at the next meeting. Even if it means divestment, it shouldn't matter if it's true, and it shouldn't matter if it's actually representing the will of the student body. Just think about it, let's try and be reasonable. Do UVM students believe that climate change exists and do they want to do something about it? We think the answer is yes. We've spent a whole semester gathering input from students. We've gotten hundreds of petitions by doing dorm-storms, talking to students, etc. that way, and less than 5 people have said 'no'. I think that it's pretty clear where the will of the student body lies. The question is: Who are you guys representing?

**Senator Edelman-** Why do you want us to pass this resolution?

**Dan Cmeila-** Because it's true, and the student body wants you to, and it's your job.

**Senator Edelman-** Does your resolution talk about the divestment campaign?

**Dan Cmeila-** No.

**Senator Edelman-** Speaker Ducharme, is that true? The resolution as it reads, does it mention the word 'divestment'?

**Speaker Ducharme-** It does not appear to mention divestment.

**Senator Edelman-** Does the copy that you sent out to senate contain the words: 'divestment' 'campaign'?

**Chair Conlon-** POI- it did include the word investment and has been edited.

**Alec-** I can offer an alternative answer to Dan's response to your first question. A major point of us bringing this to SGA, is to have it go through a governing body. We have all these petitions and we can tell individuals that students are concerned. We're here to acknowledge that this is an issue that students are worried about.

**Senator Edelman-** Will you be using us passing the resolution to further the divestment campaign?

**Dan Cmeila-** I'd say that, yeah, you know, we'll use this resolution to go in the direction of divestment. This is an ongoing process that's going to happen for a long period of time. You all will have another opportunity to vote the divestment down. We should try to remove ourselves from the politics of the situation and focus on the truths of the situation.

**Alec-** We wouldn't imply that SGA supports the divestment campaign. What we would say that SGA accepts and believe that something should be done about climate change, and take that as you will.

**Chair Keyes-** The reason that I wanted to ask that question, this is the same language you used last week. So we can go back and tell the board that SGA supports this issue. This seems to be a way around the real objective of your plan which is divestment.

**Dan Cmeila-** We are trying to say that .. We are trying to fight climate change.. The first two were similar to this, there was a third one about divestment. And think about whether or not they are true. that's your job. If you are all against divestment

**Chair Keyes-** I don't disagree with you on climate change. How is this within the SGA scope of responsibilities?

**Dan Cmeila-** Aren't you supposed to represent the will of the body?

**Chair Keyes-** We are already working with clubs against climate change.

**Dan Cmeila-** They're not talking about climate change. You guys should be trying to represent your constituents.

**Senator Heffrin-** I don't doubt that you have student support, I'm wondering why you haven't tried to become a SGA club prior to coming to us?

**Dan Cmeila-** It does take a long time. We operate among a census of our core group. We've gotten recommendations from the SGA that it wouldn't be necessary.

**Chair Redell-** I think that everyone should hold their comments and questions for during the actual resolution.

**Dan Cmeila-** We came here so that we can establish a long term relationship with you guys.

**Senator Edelman-** This is true, most UVM students know this is true. Why does the UVM SGA need a resolution stating that it is true?

**Dan Cmeila-** Humanity acknowledges that these are all truths, but they don't publicly announce that. We're trying to promote discourse.

**Alec-** We believe that the SGA has more power than the student body does, this is why we are here asking for your support.

**Senator Asher-** It seems that this is behind the divestment campaign.

**Dan Cmeila-** You have an opportunity to vote down the divestment campaign. No, divestment is not included in here. We asked that last time, and you guys wanted that information. The student body wants to see this happen.

**Chair Dougherty-** When will we have a chance to vote down divestment?

**Dan Cmeila-** When we bring it back to the senate, you can vote it down.

**Senator Cantell-** What percentage of the student body are represented by the petition?

**Dan Cmeila-** Anywhere between 1,000 and 1,300. There are more everyday. It's delineated in the petition if you are a student or not.

**Chair Pasterkiewicz-** Have you crossed checked to see if anyone signed more than once?

**Dan Cmeila-** There were a few. But, honestly, I bet that's more petitions than you guys get for most resolutions.

**Senator Heffrin-** Did you explain exactly what divestment is?

**Dan Cmeila-** The dialogue that I had with many of the students we talked to went a little like this: 'Hey do you guys know that the endowment is invested in fossil fuels, and that we can take a cultural stance by restructuring out investments.'

## **Old Business** (00:40:39)

Resolution Recognizing Climate Change as an Environmental and Human Rights Issue

Commitment is one of UVM's four pillars (Environment)

Climate change is direct threat to our generation and those that will follow

Bill is just recognizing the problem of climate change

Petition states: "UVM should divest in fossil fuels"

**\*\*Bill is called to question\*\*** Yes (9) No (19) Abstained (7) -Does not pass

Resolution Recognizing International Students Bill of Rights --Resolution passes

Advocates Rights and Responsibilities

Difficult assimilating the language  
Support Internationalization  
Bill Derecognizing Her Campus UVM -- Bill passes  
Bill Derecognizing Racquetball -- Bill passes  
Bill Derecognizing MIS -- Bill passes  
Bill Derecognizing Students for a Sensible Drug Policy -- Bill passes

### **Emergency Business** (01:32:19)

**None**

### **New Business** (01:32:38)

Bill for a Constitutional Amendment Stating that Anyone Can Make Changes to The Constitution

### **Executive Reports** (01:33:29)

**Speaker Ducharme-** As speaker, constitution committee has started moving forward. We've got some great ideas. Senator Edelman has some great ideas. We're sending out the constitution out over break to make sure everyone is acquainted with the document, actually making it shorter. I'll be getting in touch with the committee soon. If you'd like to change anything, let us know. Attendance, some of you have cut it pretty close. I do allow 4 excused absences, and 2 unexcused.

Senator Macias- You send us the Agenda before the meeting. But, on the website, the last one is from October. Can you keep those updated?

Ducharme- Sara Fletcher in on the ListServ and she receives the agendas. She is the person who manages the website. I will talk to her about making that happen.

Senator Edelman- Will you make a policy for a definite deadline for changes to bills and resolutions?

Ducharme- I would like it in my inbox by Sunday. I was not aware that it was edited on this computer while I was downstairs. It's not fair to the senate. We cannot vote on a bill that is different from the version sent out on the listserv.

Senator Heffrin- Would you be open to having reports or legislation, therefore earlier, allowing more discourse and edits to be made?

Ducharme- We'd like to make an amendment to the constitution, that you have to have the bill and resolution sent out to the senate, a whole week for edits to be made.

**President Daley-** Envisioning environment open forum, 20 students, UVM is aligning programs and dept. with fourth pillar,. Student ideas left over from capital campaign. How UVM can become a better leader in environmental action. Chair Conlon and I met with athletics director. The interim provost interviews will be held this Thursday and Friday.

Senator Heffrin- Did divestment come up?

President Daley- Yes, Dan was there and proposed the plan. He did propose that a new academic program could be an internship, with the proxy voting and studying certain high polluting companies. proposed an academic program.

**Vice President Holland-** Elections committee has been put together. The Chair is Chair Conlon, go see him if you're interested in being a part of that committee. We have spaces in both on and off campus. I there are at least two in each. The holiday party is tomorrow at 3 in the office. Tell your friends, there's going to be food. Over the break, I'm going to be in contact with people from past SGAs.

Chair Pasterkiewicz- How long do you anticipate the holiday party will last for?

VP Holland- It depends on how many people attend. For those who are leaving this semester, we will be missing you, thanks for all the work you have done.

**Treasurer Juaire-** Had first ALANA roundtable- point was to make experience more equitable. Senate and galaxy space, the senators keep space noisy, and don't approach because it's intimidating. Galaxy space is for everyone. A lot of people were screaming in galaxy space today. My job happens during the week. Over winter break, I will be doing SGA work. I will be planning budget workshops, two workshops the week we get back. If they have questions, I will be preparing materials of everything they need to do. Talking about 465 different checks, 865,000 dollars. One of those 230,000 alone. In addition to my SGA work, I serve on audit committee for the University. UVM \$65,000 fined for violation. Meeting with Gary Derr, compliant services does not become audit services. We didn't properly report the accurate number of sexual assaults on campus. UVM does not have an independent compliance office. If you have any questions let me know.

Senator Lott- What the big check was for?

Juaire- Ski and Snowboard Club- to Stowe resort.

### **Committee Reports** (01:48:41)

Finance- met with 2 clubs tonight, The other one was for trampolines

Chair Redell- What were the clubs and how much

Dougherty- 1,500 for ski team, ...

Public Relations-VSOP is done, got results a few days ago. UVM voice, we now have the posters. working on a few details. Should be ready by beginning of next semester- haven't done the e-mail yet. Keep an eye out for that unique video.

Student Activities- Few other clubs that we need to followup with. Their status is still in question. Students for a free tibet, will be following up with them at the beginning of next semester.

Senator Macias- Can clubs bring you their bills to avoid grammar issues?

Chair Keyes- Clubs can't submit bills.. It's the responsibility of the senator.

Senator Lott- If a club is falling, could anyone just announce themselves as president of the club.

Chair Keyes- You would have to maintain the basic expectations of the clubs. If one person was interested in restarting the club, we hold off on the derecognition. It's not our job to save every organization that we recognize.

COLA- I'm going to pass around this sign-up sheet.. wrapping gifts in the church st. mall. President and I are attending the community planning committee for Ward 6. If you would like to attend, please join us. Community coalition is on Friday, OSCR, group is working on doctive lock teams. Ishm street, Buell, building relationships between residents and students. Senator Goodrich is graduating, and I want to thank her for all the work she has done for COLA

Academic Affairs- Isabelle worked hard on this, meeting with Jennifer Prue, flushing out parts going into the document. Henry met with faculty senate physical planning committee, recently audited the university's finances, nothing too substantial. Questioned budget surplus. what is being done with that. Today the interim provosts have been announced. If you have anything you'd like to go to the committee. Completing transition packet within the next couple of weeks. Parting speech: Aya, true ways and friendly smile, Baby Kev, first great friends here at UVM, and first running mate. To my committee, you're an amazing group of individual. Chair Wooley I have full confidence that you will be an excellent replacement on AA. Dylan, my future roommate in China, you have been a great friend and I can't wait for our adventure in China. To the body at large, if you let SGA change your life, it can. As of right now, I respectfully submit my resignation

Senator Macias- Do you think you could be in contact with SGA while you are abroad?

Chair Pasterkiewicz- Maybe I'll Skype in during public forum

Student Action- Giving out water bottles tomorrow, target 100-150 out of the 500. We spoke to Mr. Quran, very nice. He wants to have those conversations. We didn't get too far into the issues. Thank you to all the senators resigning this semester.

CODEEEE- We invited Barb Johnson to come to our committee meeting. She told us that we're thinking way ahead of the game at this point. Where does the money for this come from? There are a number of organizations hoping to fund this. Those students who have an opinion to start a working group. If you know someone who is interested, I will send you her way. Forming that working group on this issue. hopefully this working group will start working. Second semester of next year, promotional ads, she doesn't know what this would look like. by the third year, they would still not know what it would look like There would be no actual policy change. I personally, want to be on that group. If you would like to represent the SGA on this group, please get in touch with her

Senator Lott- I think 12 is too small a number. Who is going to decide which students are a part of this board? Will you please tell me when and where you meet with Barbara Johnson next time?



Chair Alnamee- If you would like to meet with Barb Johnson, you can on your own accord.

### **Senatorial Forum**

*None*

### **Senatorial Comments and Announcements**

Senator Edelman- For those sticking around in Burlington, use contact sheet and contact me or senator Heffrin to go to Stowe.

Senator Heffrin- On my way to senate, I noticed a promptly displayed piece of art in the Davis center, art is subjective, there is 3D genitalia at the bottom of the stairs.

Senator Auchincloss- Henderson's will have free coffee 5-10 during finals.

Senator Macias- I went to the off-campus living workshop, it's two hours long. But it was very helpful.

Senator Cantell- Tomorrow is the holiday dinner at all three dining locations. Looked at Redstone menu, prime rib fresh cod, etc. starts at 4:30pm.

Senator Ghazey- Does that offer extend to next semester?

Senator Edelman- Yes, no classes on MWF.

Senator Lott- Tablecloth is still not clean.

Chair Redell- I washed the table cloth, that is paint.

Senator Goodrich- I'm graduating!! Don't ask me what I'm doing. I will be here next semester, but not as a student. It's been a lot of fun. Thank you for everyone who I met from last year.

Senator Ducharme- Go to North side, 12, free pancake breakfast.

**Motion to Adjourn -- (02:15:09)**