



**13th Meeting of the 2023-2024 Student Government Association Senate**  
**November 7<sup>th</sup>, 2023 | 7:00 PM | Livak Ballroom**

**Call to Order**

This meeting was called to order by Speaker Ashleigh Clark.

**Approval of Minutes**

Minutes approved unanimously.

**Roll Call**

Senators Moody-A'ness, Kasmer, Teferra, Orr, Siegel, Wiltz, and Aliyev absent.

**Public Forum**

**Emily McCarthy**, Title IX Coordinator and Investigator; **Jenny Clayton**, Title IX and Equal Opportunity Support Coordinator; **Nick Stanton**, Director, Office of Equal Opportunity – Discussion of Expected Title IX Federal Rules and Addressing the Impact on Campus

- **Nick:** Content warning: sexual violence, assault, discrimination and harassment
- This is a quick overview, please get in touch with us or come to the office for more information.
- We were expecting new Title IX rules to be issued by the federal government in October, but they weren't so we are still operating under the same rules as last year.

- We are sometimes limited by federal and state compliance requirements, but compliance is the minimum we should be doing, and there is a lot more that we can do.
- Confidential counseling, prevention efforts, trauma-informed practices.
- We want to hear ideas or concerns you have.
- We address reports of discrimination and harassment, including sexual misconduct. Campus policy prohibits discrimination and harassment based on protected identities (race, ethnicity, gender, disability, religion, etc.). If you have concerns about how yourself or someone else is being treated based on their identity, even if you aren't sure it can be a good idea to reach out.
- This is one part of the bigger picture. It's important to work with students, staff, DEI, identity centers, Elliot Ruggles, etc. Proud of progress and want to continue progressing which has to do with listening and responding to student input.
- Overall goal is to help everyone feel safe and included on campus.
- Conduct may not be a policy violation, but it still may be a bias concern. So reach out to us about support resources even if you aren't sure if something is a violation.
- Autonomy of people raising concerns. Many have that taken away, we want to honor the wishes in terms of next steps and making sure campus is safe.
- **Jenny:** Support Coordinator job to support students going through concerning experiences, mostly focused on sexual violence, but also other bias or harassment.
- Many are afraid of a report automatically being an investigation, but that's not always true.

- First thing is getting an email to reach out with support resources, confidential, community, and in the office
- Help connect students with resources and with setting up individual measures like no contact orders, academic flexibility, housing or course changes.
- For immediate help call UVM PD or HOPEWorks which has confidential support and 24/7 hotline.
- **Emily:** Title IX coordinator and investigations role to coordinate response to reports of sexual misconduct and interpersonal violence.
- New Title IX Regulations:
  - Federal laws that tell us what we have to do when we receive disclosures about sexual misconduct, interpersonal violence, stalking, sexual harassment, etc.
  - Current regulations came in place in August of 2020 and we were expecting changes this year but delayed multiple times and unsure when they will come out.
  - We are continuing with current policies, evaluating them and thinking about changes we can make that will be in compliance with the laws we do have.
- Some policies to highlight:
  - Affirmative consent – actions or words to indicate consent, not just lack of a “no”.
  - Prohibition of engaging in sexual conduct with someone who is incapacitated due to drugs, alcohol, or any other reason such as being asleep.
- If a student decides to go forward with a formal action, there are a couple options.
  - Investigation option which is a disciplinary process. Interviewing students and gathering evidence, then there can be a hearing with the outcome of possible sanctions including suspension or dismissal.

- Alternative resolution which is meant to be a restorative process, repairing harm that has been done. Come up with an agreement that often includes educational components and restorative components. For example, the person who has harmed may have an impact statement.
- UVM has brought in a training to enhance the alternative resolution process. Program called STARSA coordinated by Dr Ruggles through the Dean of Students office.
  - Very individualized to work with students who have caused harm to come up with a learning plan.
  - This can be an option as part of the disciplinary process to reduce a suspension.
- The Title IX investigation and hearing process is complicated because of federal laws involved. Over the summer we produced flow charts to show the process and make it more understandable.
- There is a different process for non Title IX offenses, if conduct happened off campus for example. It is very similar but there is not a hearing.
- Under federal rules, this office serves as neutral investigators which means we can't be biased for or against an individual based on status as the person who was harmed or who caused the harm.
  - This means we also can't be an advocate for someone which can feel difficult. We encourage all students who meet with us to have an advisor or support person because that is an important role.

**Senator Jones:** Questions about alternative resolution, can you clarify what happens if context or terms of resolution aren't agreed on?

- **Response (Emily):** Both people have to elect to go through this process. It starts with a notice of potential policy violation to both students, which means the complainant already opted in. Then we meet individually with both people to talk about terms and if there is no agreement then it can't go forward and it may revert back to an investigation if the complainant wishes that. Everyone can opt out before the agreement is signed, and there is provision about what happens if the terms aren't fulfilled after it is signed.

**Senator Jones:** What are you doing to promote and educate students and staff about medical amnesty policies? If students are looking to report an incident but are afraid of being implicated based on the context of a party having drugs or alcohol involved.

- **Response (Emily):** We have a provision in the policy which says we will not make findings under the Code of Student Conduct for personal violations like the drug and alcohol policy. As a practice, it is something we discuss with students before talking.

**Chair Bednarik:** Once you file a claim and decide an option, what do support measures look like? CAPS is very complex and hard to navigate, do you navigate that process for them?

- **Response (Emily):** Jenny works closely with CAPS and can help coordinate that. I have also helped students set up an appointment or call someone.
- **Response (Jenny):** Sometimes we reach out to a specific therapist or counselor to reach out and alleviate that stress from a student.

**Senator Poland:** Can you explain why the federal regulations were pushed back?

- **Response (Emily):** Proposed regulations are very long and if you are interested in what they say, I'm happy to go over that with you later. We don't know the reason for the delay.

**Senator Daniels:** You mentioned in the investigation process bringing in an advocate, who would be good for that role?

- **Response:** HOPEWorks have people, we also have trained advisor staff in our office. Federal rules allow that advisor to be anyone, we recommend someone who is familiar with the field, but friends are great as well.

**Michele Giles** – Discussion of Creation of a Universally Accessible Trail in Centennial Woods

- Conducted ecological monitoring study in Centennial Woods and been there many times as a TA in Natural Resources.
- Frustrated by not all students being able to equally engage in labs due to trails not well set up for people with mobility disabilities or injuries.
- This can be a first impression of being a Natural Resources student at UVM and we can do better.
- This summer I was trying to figure out if it's feasible, has to meet certain requirements and centennial woods is hilly which makes that difficult.
- Proposed route that would meet slope requirements is a little over a quarter mile.
- Official design would need to be done after a wetland delineation and archeology dig on the site.
- Here tonight to get feedback on ideas and what was presented.

**Senator Daniels:** Earlier today I went on a site visit to walk the trail, it's very cool. Can you talk more about the current state of the trail and where the proposed trail ends?

- **Response:** The current state is a mess. The trails are slippery, muddy, compacted, and suffer from erosion because of where they are. It's great that they are well used, but it needs to be a little more regulated.
- The current access trail crosses Centennial Brook and the proposed trail would end at an overlook of that. There are a few options for how it ends.
  - There is a little mound where it could just stop and be an overlook.
  - We could build out into the floodplain to make a more formally constructed and durable overlook.
  - We could make a bridge across to the main loop and then the current access trail could be restored for a while.

**Senator Wiltz:** I've walked Centennial Woods with an accessibility coordinator. It would require a lot of funding, effort, and maintenance to get the current trails up to standards where anyone should walk on them, let alone ADA compliant. Why hasn't it been kept up? Where does funding come from for this?

- **Response:** Natural areas used to have a budget for staff and equipment of \$60,000. They lost the manager position and the budget so it is now \$5,000 a year. That alone explains a lot. The boardwalks aren't good, the bridge is slumped down, lack of funding is a big problem.
- For funding, there are two grants I'm looking at. A Vermont Trails grant and a nationwide Universally Accessible Trails grant. I think Centennial Woods is a good candidate for these because it is a resource for everyone at the school and many people from Burlington use it as well. Currently trying to figure out exactly how much traffic there is.

- For the first steps I'm looking to apply for the Sustainable Campus Fund grant, and then the later stuff which is more expensive will be the other grants and possible donors.

**Chair Anis:** You could reach out to the Rubenstein Student Advisory Board given that they are very engaged with this area and the School of Natural Resources.

- **Response:** Thank you, will do.

**Senator Carpenter:** If this is where the new dorm housing will be, is it possible to tie costs with sustainability or repair cost in with the dorms to get it approved?

- **Response:** Yes, trying to get the pavement redone as part of the construction. Thank you for the idea.

**Treasurer Sorensen:** Can you talk about the cost for the wetlands survey and archeological dig and who does those?

- **Response:** The University has a consulting team for archeology that would hopefully do this for free or at a reduced cost. For the wetland delineation, the first part is free to have someone come out and determine if there is a need for that. Then an expert would come in to do the survey. We're looking at probably \$10,000 total for those 3 things including the final design.

**Senator Richardson:** Have you contacted the SAS office? How did that go?

- **Response:** Yes, I reached out to them to get more information about who would be most helped by this.

**Senator Joshi:** Winter is coming. Will that slow this process down?

- **Response:** Yes, this is not an overnight process. The wetland delineation and archeological dig would need to be done in spring or summer and then the design process

could take some time. So probably at least summer 2025 to break ground on construction which is disappointing, but this is long overdue.

**Senator Daniels:** Are you planning to continue working on this after graduating or pass it down?

- **Response:** I want to follow this as long as possible, but I graduate in May and don't know where I'll be. I'm on the hiring committee for the Natural Areas Manager so I'm making sure this gets a lot of attention.
- Developing a rolodex of people in the area that the new hire would be able to reach out to. If you are interested in being part of that, reach out. Hopefully that person will come back to you in a few months with more information about this project being started.

### **Old Business**

Bill Amending Article XIII Section B of the SGA Constitution

- **Senator Richardson:** Motion to Table.
  - Motion **passed**.

Bill Recognizing Campus Impact, Sponsored by Senator Modun

- Club signers were unfortunately unable to make it today so they can't talk about it.
- Goal of exploring Christianity and connecting with the community.

**Chair Anis:** What does this club do?

- **Response:** Unfortunately they couldn't make it, and I can't answer questions as well as they could. From my understanding they are connected with an organization in Chittenden County and very focused on engaging with the community.

**BILL: PASSED** unanimously, Senator Modun abstained

Resolution Reaffirming Student Support for UVM Staff United, Sponsored by Chair Bednarik, Senator Petrosyan, and Senator Jones

- **Treasure Sorensen:** UVM Staff United is the staff union on campus. They organized two years ago to bargain with the University, and that contract is expiring in June so they begin bargaining again in January. Expecting pushback from UVM administration, so this resolution is to show our support for their efforts.

**Senator Carpenter:** I think UVM Staff United does great work and having unionized labor on campus is great. But I also think they have sometimes abused the fact that we have a pretty politically active and liberal student body on campus and used us as a mouthpiece without actually engaging with us in return. I think we are being used to advocate without reciprocation from them.

This is not a general support of them, this is us saying that we are against Kronos because the administration bought it without consulting the union. I think there are issues with that, but I don't think it is our place to say that or that it is right to put ourselves into the conversation.

This resolution won't really drum up student support, but if it is elevated to the Board of Trustees, this holds weight.

- **Response (Chair Bednarik):** I disagree, I think we have worked continuously with Staff United and we met with multiple people while writing this resolution.
- To the idea that this will be a resolution and nothing afterwards, we have plans to work with them to get more student support and be out there more. They were out there during Convocation and that was not seen by everyone because not everyone was here.
- We have plans to change the relationship and make students understand that this is a basic need and right for every staff member who contributes daily to how UVM runs.

- **Response (Treasurer Sorensen):** They did not approach us about this, this started two years ago when they organized, myself and others approached them and wrote a resolution supporting them at the time. After Annie Valentine came in I approached her about reaffirming that support.
- For more information: Kronos is a time management system that UVM bought which sets your hours strictly. If you show up late or stay late you have to go to your supervisor to get them to change the hours in the system. The current practice, which has been in place forever, is to trust workers to report their hours.
- The effect would be, if you were meeting with our SGA office coordinator or financial staff for example and it hit 4:30 and they have to leave but you haven't gotten the issue resolved, they would have to either stop the conversation right there or go to their manager and get them to change the time to get paid for their work.
- This feels like over-policing and a loss of autonomy for workers. Students aren't able to be successful without staff on campus so we need to support them.

**Senator Arnone:** Has UVM Staff United come to Public Forum before?

- **Response (Treasurer Sorensen):** Yes, when they were organizing they came in. Annie Valentine also came earlier this year to talk about UVM Staff United as well as the Center for Health and Wellbeing. We would like to have them back soon to talk about the upcoming efforts.
- **Response (Chair Bednarik):** Week of Kindness has been working with them and they are planning to contribute to that as well to support the student body.

**Senator Halvorson:** Did you share what your plans are to continue with this relationship? What will it look like if this resolution is passed?

- **Response (Chair Bednarik):** If this resolution is passed, next action steps are to meet with Staff United about priorities as they enter negotiations.
- During Week of Kindness we want to have a formal rally to show support and give the opportunity for students and staff to talk one on one. This would be a more formal setting showing SGA and student support of the union. We would have a copy of this resolution and later students can sign on to show their support to show it is a collective thing.

RESOLUTION: **PASSED** unanimously, Senator Carpenter, Chair Bednarik, Senator Petrosyan, and Senator Jones abstained

Bill Establishing SGA RSO Debt Mitigation Plan, Sponsored by Chair Elkort

- **Treasurer Sorensen:** This is a plan to help clubs who have grown negative fundraising balances get back to zero, because we have many clubs in that position right now.
- We are using the money clubs have returned to SGA to clear out their negative balance by giving that money back to them.
- This is a one-time thing, not occurring annually.

BILL: **PASSED** unanimously, Chair Elkort abstained

### **Emergency Business**

### **New Business**

Bill Recognizing Puzzle Club

## Senatorial Forum

**Senator Richardson** – Discussion of Bill Amending Article XIII Section B of the SGA

Constitution

- This article deals with the impeachment process. The issue I found is that there is no bar for what qualifies for impeachment.
- People have presented some concerns to me so I'm here to get feedback on the wording.

**Chair Bednarik:** I'm excited to see you bringing something up. My concern with the wording is that it is quite vague and dangerously so, leaving this very up to interpretation of the person reading it. For example, there are no definitions of what "detrimental conduct" or "appearance and legitimacy of SGA" mean and that can change from year to year. I don't know exactly how to change that or what it should look like, but I would love us all to talk about that.

- **Response:** I intentionally didn't want to be too specific so there would be room for debate on the floor. Even if the Judicial Committee finds that conduct meets this bar the Senate should be able to debate that. I was struggling to figure out wording without just listing everything that someone could do. The whole goal is to get something better than what we had which was nothing.

**Senator Ibinyopakaka:** Can you explain what this line should specifically be doing?

- **Response:** When Judicial goes to investigate someone for impeachment, they have to decide if there is enough evidence before bringing it to the Senate.
  - I asked "what's the bar", and my understanding is that it is whatever Judicial decides, and that feels too subjective.
  - I want this to be able to guide Judicial better and also be something that the Senate can look at when deciding on impeachment.

**Senator Halvorson:** I would support this if you explained “Constitutional obligations” or changed the wording to just list the obligations instead as the Constitution is a working document and can be changed at any point.

- **Response:** So more specific listing what the obligations are outside of the Constitution?

**Senator Halvorson:** Eliminating the word “Constitutional” and having clear criteria without referencing a working document.

**Senator Daniels:** On repeated notices, I believe it was agreed on a 3 strike policy, so that might be good to include.

I disagree with Senator Halvorson’s point, the Constitution is there to reference despite it being a working document it is what guides us. It is there for a reason. Although it can be subjective, I think that Judicial is there as a group of appointed Senators to decide these things and what should be brought before the Senate. I think this is vague enough to allow flexibility, but specific enough to guide our operations.

**Senator Carpenter:** I think the current process already has the bar set and it is tied to your Constitutional obligations already. In the Judicial operational documents it references those sections of the Constitution. I don’t think there is a need for this new paragraph. We already have something in the Constitution and operational documents

- **Response:** We are planning to revise this to reference the Judicial operational documents.

I understand it is Judicial’s job to go through this process, but I would feel uncomfortable deciding whether someone should be impeached if it came up because there is no bar.

The US Constitution has “high crimes and misdemeanors” which is incredibly vague, but it is still a bar and I want something similar that can guide future Judicial committees and future Senate.

**Senator Carpenter:** I feel that right now the operational document has a reference to those paragraphs already and gives some guidance on what is impeachable. That vagueness is already there for Judicial to debate that and be uncomfortable and if they decide not to bring it, then the Senate as a whole can still override that if they need to. I don't think this is necessary.

**President Eisenberg:** Vagueness is inherent to the Constitution to allow for interpretations, I think this is a more sustainable way to write this. "SGA image and legitimacy" clause seems shallow and not representative of SGA's purpose. Maybe "detrimental to SGA's mission" instead.

- **Response:** Thank you, that would probably be better wording.

**Senator Wiltz:** I think the vagueness is an advantage, we don't want to list out reasons and not think of something. I agree with President Eisenberg, maybe reference UVM's Common Ground as another set of standards.

- **Response:** Thank you, good idea.

**Vice President Purple:** I tend to agree with Senator Carpenter. We went through this last year on Judicial and didn't see a need to update anything. The reason we are in these positions is to deal with that difficulty and discomfort.

**Senator Aliyev:** It is hard to decide whether to impeach someone, but that is why we are there on Judicial. I think the Senate believes we can act within the current terms.

- **Response:** I'm bringing this up in case someone brings an impeachment in the future because I would feel uncomfortable voting as a Senator without a standard we can debate over.

**Senator Joshi:** Do you have any example standards?

- **Response:** We are representatives of SGA outside of this room. Conduct is referring to things you have participated in that could damage the legitimacy and reputation.

**Speaker Clark:** Point of information: Conduct refers to a report made to Judicial which is then deliberated for a week and this would be brought before the Senate. My understanding is this deals with that deliberation.

- **Response:** The point of this is should we bring something to the Senate?

**Senator Petrosyan:** What are the Judicial operational documents? Are the standards for impeachment included within those documents?

**Speaker Clark:** Those documents are on the SGA website. They lay out the process for impeachment proceedings and what qualifies for impeachment.

#### **Chair Bednarik – Week of Kindness Updates**

- It happens in two weeks. Presenting the master calendar, there is a gap on Wednesday as we are currently working through scheduling and rental issues.
- Monday:
  - DOSA (Division of Student Affairs) tabling from 9-10 am multiple locations handing out stickers, gratitude cards, calendars, and getting feedback from students.
  - SGA is sponsoring the flower bouquet building session in the Davis Center.
  - All day handing out self care goodie bags. Senator Garavan put together a list of things that includes hot cocoa, vitamin c, snacks, goodies, etc.
- Tuesday:
  - Sun Catcher Art Building in Brennans with a few Senators there handing out supplies. People can pick up a packet with supplies and leave or sit down and build it there.

- UVM Dining Hot Cocoa and Cider Bar, the timing is still being discussed so it might not be on Tuesday.
- Queer and Trans Mindfulness Circle from PRISM Center. They do that weekly, but just wanted to put that on here and make that emphasis on being kind.
- Wednesday:
  - Tie Dye T-Shirts are now fabric markers to make that easy for students to stay or grab and go. We are hoping to get customized shirts with the SGA logo and the marketing for Week of Kindness
- Thursday:
  - Staff United with the formal demonstration will be either Thursday or Wednesday.
  - Living Well gratitude card making 11-2 pm.
  - WAGE Center 10-1 pm.
  - Club Carnival is turning into Hot Cocoa and Clubs. The original idea didn't end up working out, but ActivitiesFest is great and we want to have the same idea with SGA supplying hot cocoa and it will be more relaxed. Hopefully that original idea for Club Carnival will happen next semester.
- A couple more things to be set and planned, this is not a strict final schedule.
- We are asking for volunteers, I am taking this week off but I will be making the excel sheet next week so please sign up for something.
  - I want this to be SGA dominated and everyone to sign up for at least one slot if you can. Write in whatever you can do to the excel sheet.
- Blueberry marketing theme with socks and scarf and ice skates for stickers and poster design.

**Senator Ibinyopakaka:** What do you mean by Club Carnival?

- **Response:** The plan now is not to be a fundraising event anymore, that will be next semester instead. Planning to send out a form to gauge club interest and get in contact to allow them to showcase who they are and what they are doing.

**Senator DeGroot & Senator Wiltz** – Presentation of Career Day Project

- Career Day Event on 11/27 from 1-4pm in the Grand Maple Ballroom, encouraging everyone to come.
- Anyone from any College or School can get resume advice, professional headshots, there will be presentations.

**Vice President Purple:** Is there support or help from Senate you need on the day of?

- **Response:** We will have people for tables, but possibly for facilitating, so walking around and directing people where things are. We can send something out to the Teams.

**Senator Ibinyopakaka** – Presentation on Storage Scholars

- Working on a project to bring Storage Scholars in for a partnership with the University.
- They came in last year to Public Forum and were trying to get a partnership, but it was too late.
- I was inspired as an out of state student looking for more helpful storage options because renting a storage unit and dealing with that is difficult.
- I would like to also get this storage as an option year-round to help out study abroad students.
- They have an option for shipping to school, so out of state students can ship to campus.

- Having a contract partnership would allow them to have key access to the dorms.  
Currently you have to make an appointment and meet face to face, but this could be contactless.
  - You would pack up and just leave boxes in your room so they can come after everyone has left campus to move stuff out after finals week, or move in before the start of semester.
- Easy to integrate this because they also use StarRez which is what UVM uses for our housing portal. They could possibly just add a button on the housing portal for this.
- I think this is beneficial because they provide boxes and supplies for free compared to many other companies who don't. They don't have limited capacity compared to local storage in town or other places.
  - Pricing is fairly competitive, \$380 to \$450 for the summer, and based on what you are storing rather than on the size of a unit.
  - You can track your packages in transit similar to FedEx or other shipping services.
  - They have a local facility here as well which is nice and means boxes are less likely to be damaged or take a long time to arrive.
  - They have already contracted with Champlain College last year.
  - They also have a program to have internships and hire students on campus to do the moving so it wouldn't be random people coming in to do this. There are already students here who have been hired by them.
- If the contract doesn't go through SGA could have a partnership instead with some financial contribution and a discounted price or something like that.

- I have a meeting set up for next week to talk about next steps.

**Chair Bednarik:** Have you talked to ResLife at all regarding access? RAs get a lot of boxes from people shipping here and it blocks up the mailroom, so that could be good to alleviate that. Having boxes there when they are trying to do inspections as people are leaving could be hard.

- **Response:** I haven't talked to ResLife yet. Bethany and Sam tried to set up a meeting, but it hasn't worked out yet. We would definitely like to meet with them and talk about this. There could be a provision in the contract for who would have access.

**Chair Bednarik:** You should consider talking to people at different dorms, because everything looks different considering how to fit things in a mailroom or room with furniture. Also thinking about if there is stuff from multiple roommates before they arrive and there could be a conflict with people saying something is missing.

- **Response:** They talked about relieving the mailroom issue because it is just going directly to the room.

**Senator Keppel:** Key access would need to be planned to only be available after all students left, that is a safety concern. Also I think getting permission from all roommates would be good.

- **Response:** Contract will list when things happen with a timeline. They would not be allowed to go in until everyone left. We can talk about provisions for move in as well.

**Senator Jones:** I'm wary of SGA endorsing or subsidizing a private company. What do they want to get out of SGA? If we support this, how do we mediate liability regarding possible theft and safety issues?

This sounds like just another company, it can have benefits, but we don't necessarily need to partner with them. I do see the benefit of contactless delivery but that could become an accommodation with ResLife rather than subsidizing a service.

I don't see the need for a partnership since they are already marketing to students and there are other companies who do the same thing which provides competition and leave it up to students to decide.

- **Response:** My goal is not for SGA to subsidize this. They want to move forward with a contract with the University. This is more about a formal agreement to allow key access than about endorsing one specific company over another.

**Senator Petrosyan:** You mentioned earlier that they don't use storage units. How do they keep track of peoples' stuff?

- **Response:** They didn't explain to me in detail, but I would imagine they have a barcode or some way to track packages in.

**Senator Wiltz:** My roommate used them, she wrote her name on all sides of the box and there was a code on there too.

**Vice President Purple:** I have experience working with them as well. Once they give you the boxes, you take a picture and send it to them. They scan it to see the items a person has and you can use that to hold them accountable if anything is damaged.

**Senator Rice:** UVM already partners to rent microfridges and it is delivered to your room. They already have a system to bring those to your room, so I don't think that should be hard.

- **Response:** Those are actually brought in by UVM staff. But since Storage Scholars is hiring students, I think it would be a similar thing.

**Senator Poland:** If they don't have units, what is the facility located near here?

- **Response:** It is a storage facility like a big warehouse.

**Senator Poland:** If there are issues about contactless and key access, I would support a relationship in some way with possibly a designated spot.

**Senator Siegel:** What is the final conversation here? Are you hoping to pitch this to administration?

- **Response:** Yes, getting in contact with people who are in charge of contracting to discuss this with them.

**Senator Jones:** What are you looking for from SGA in regards to this?

- **Response:** Looking for endorsement, they need help getting the word out and we could advertise on Instagram or with tabling.

**Senator Daniels:** A suggestion for the contactless process is maybe a faculty member or person from ResLife is there to supervise. Pictures when things are delivered to mitigate roommate disputes.

- **Response:** Yes, that would be laid out in a contract.

**Senator Fleming:** I know the Residence Director and others have contracts going through May after students leave. The week after finals there are still students here before graduation.

## **Executive Reports**

### **Speaker Clark**

- I appreciate everyone's patience and consideration for items on the agenda.
- Working on uploading past bills and resolutions. Was going to be on Teams, but for the sake of continuity, thinking of another platform, possibly a document on SharePoint.
- New project for motion cards to be placed in each placard for aiding procedure.
- One more meeting before Thanksgiving break, the scheduling calendar for Public Forum will be coming up when we return.

- We have speakers scheduled for the rest of the semester which means someone will have come in for every meeting this semester.

### **Vice President Purple**

- President Eisenberg and I had many administrative meetings as the semester winds down
- Supporting many projects.
- Working on a personal project which will be announced soon.
- There are only 3 more SGA meetings this semester, and we have some Senators leaving us for study abroad in the spring. If you have loose ends to tie up with projects, I will reach out but also please don't hesitate to reach out to me.

### **President Eisenberg**

- Vice President Purple and I met with President Garimella, you can ask us later about specifics of that meeting.
- We were asked to appoint or recommend a Senator to the Catamount Core Curriculum Committee. Please come up to me after the meeting if you are interested because we need to do that by tonight.
- My main thing until February is appointing a new Board of Trustee Student Representative. If you are interested in applying for that, you need to have at least two years left at UVM. Talk to me if you are interested in being on the selection committee.

**Senator Daniels:** What is the time commitment for the Catamount Core Committee?

- **Response:** Unsure, I think it is probably not much, maybe a monthly meeting.

**Senator Siegel:** Historically the Student Representative has been a graduate student. Why is that and are you doing anything to try to mitigate that?

- **Response:** I don't have the specific evaluation rubric with me, and haven't been on the selection committee in the past. My understanding is that people in the graduate college have more administrative experience.
  - Also we should note that this role is serving the interest of the University by giving the student perspective, rather than necessarily serving the interests of the student body.

### **Treasurer Sorensen**

- Thank you for passing the bills this week, I'm working on telling club signers who will be affected.
- We will introduce the plan to all signers at the upcoming budget workshop on Monday at 6:30 in the Grand Maple Ballroom. All clubs will be notified, and Bethany will make those adjustments over winter break.
- Yesterday I had a Board of Trustees Audit Committee meeting where we reviewed UVM's annual financial reports and UVM audit results.

**Senator Jones:** Motion for paper committee reports.

- Motion **passed**.

### **Committee Reports**

#### **Public Relations Committee**

- I just wanted to give everyone a shout-out because I have had lots of fun stuff to post lately.

- I'm helping out with a lot of different initiatives including the debt mitigation plan, strategic plan email, and eventually the student trustee search.
- I've been working on a legislative update post about the resolutions we've recently passed.
- I've started looking at some different events for next semester so if there is something you want to see, feel free to reach out to me!

### **Committee on the Environment**

- Nothing to report.

### **Committee on Diversity, Inclusion, and Equity**

- Hey everyone! Some minor things to report today:
  - Senator Daniels is continuing her work on her bus stop seating project. She conducted a site visit with her project manager and the head of parking and transportation. Things are moving along, and they will be looking at seating options in the near future.
  - This week Senator Joshi has been tabling diligently to gauge student interest in vehicle theft prevention locks.
- Other than that, we are all continuing to work on our projects, if you want more specific information take a look at the Excel Project Tracker in the Teams!
- Also, to all RSENR students (I know this is a small number), interviews are being conducted for a new Dean. All RSENR students are welcome and encouraged to attend lunches to meet the candidates. If you want a say in who the University hires, then you should attend if you can. Please pass this information along to any RSENR students you may know. Take care and have a great week. Thus concludes my report.

## **Committee on Legislative and Community Affairs**

- Hi everyone! I hope your week is going well. I just wanted to take a second to thank everyone that came out for the Community Cleanup! We had a lot of community members go out of their way to thank us for cleaning up Burlington, which was so nice to hear and that couldn't have been done without your help. So be proud of yourselves!
- As for committee updates, everyone is still making great progress on their projects. I want to shout out Senator Garcia who met with Living Well this week to talk about two upcoming harm reduction centers coming to campus. She'll be helping them with advertising these spots which is really awesome.
- Chair Teferra and I will be talking about the Resolution Addressing UVM's Response to the Palestinian Community, so if anybody wants to be a part of this conversation, please let me know and I can give you some information about our intentions going into this conversation.
- And the highly anticipated song of the week: Sweet Nothing by Taylor Swift! You guys should be proud of me for waiting this long to choose a Taylor Swift song, but it was bound to happen at some point.

## **Student Action and Well-Being Committee**

- Hi everyone! Thank you for feedback and support regarding the Week of Kindness updates, I am so excited to see it all play out in two weeks - eek! so soon!
  - Reminder that next Tuesday, I will have an excel sheet with all the possible times/dates to volunteer...please, please sign up when you can! The more volunteers we have, the easier Week of Kindness can operate.

- As for the CSAW committee, all of us are working on our individual projects and chugging along. Nothing too much to update on that part. As always, if anyone needs anything at all, please reach out to me, remember to be kind and to take care of yourselves. Thus concludes my report!

### **Club Affairs Committee**

- Hi All! I hope everyone is doing well. There are a few updates this week:
  - Senator Halvorson met with Living Well to discuss adding Plan B vending machines in the Davis Center.
  - Senator Connors met with Jeff Frolik from Engineering to discuss the option of in-house panic button development. She has also received a physical copy of the ROAR panic button — feel free to reach out to her if you have any questions about it.
  - Senator Modun is working with Speaker Clark on reviewing past legislation.
  - And Senator Ibinyopakaka will continue her storage project with your helpful feedback in mind.
- The committee is collaborating to review constitutions from all recognized organizations to ensure that they are up to date and include the provisional statements (like financial obligations and statements of non-hazing) that all constitutions are required to have. We will be reaching out to organizations who do not have UVM Clubs pages and/or do not have their constitutions on their page by the end of the month so they can provide us with necessary documents.
- Have a great week, and I will see you all on Tuesday!

### **Academic Affairs Committee**

- Hi all! I hope you are doing well-- AA does not have much to update at the moment, we've been occupied with our projects.
- Together, Vermont had their first meeting this past Sunday and will meet with Mike Scherling soon for next steps. Take care of yourselves during this busy time before break :)

### **Finance Committee**

- Nothing to report.

### **Senatorial Comments/Announcements**

**Senator DeGroot:** Pack the Gut for Women's Hockey is this weekend, hoping for a new attendance record.

**Senator Ibinyopakaka:** Taiko workshop this Saturday from 12-2 in L&L classroom 315. You don't have to have experience, we will also be performing.

**Senator Daniels:** UVM NSSLHA is having a cookie fundraiser Friday night, the order form has launched so fill that out if you want cookies.

**Senator Siegel:** My fraternity is doing grilled cheese Saturday night.

### **Adjournment**