



Students' Association Senate Minutes

Meeting of October 19, 2009

Speaker: Kierstin Hughes

Deputy Speaker: Dan Cohn



UNIVERSITY OF
ROCHESTER

SENATORS PRESENT: Arastu, Battacharyya, Brooks, Gonzalez, Guerra, Halpern, Hu, Junig, Nave, Rath, Strenger, Sussman, Tejada, Umesi, Yoon

SENATOR ABSENCES: Brookstein (excused), Mills (excused), Slone (excused)

CALL TO ORDER: 9:02pm

SPEAKER'S BRIEFING

Speaker Hughes welcomes the Senate and comments that three Senators are absent this meeting for reasons that are excused.

OPEN FORUM/CONSTITUENCY REPORT

Sustainability Sustainability Coordinator DeWitt announces that Strenger is Sustainable Senator of the Week.

DeWitt comments that the UCS meeting was today. Many sustainable initiatives were discussed, including the LED lights project. She is excited to have heard feedback from one student who found the Sustainability Minutes online, and emailed her with questions and comments. The SSC meeting is set for October 30 at 3pm in the Ruth Merrill Center. Everyone is welcome to attend.

CTLTR Senator Halpern comments that CTLTR had its first meeting that he was able to attend with Sonja Page. Page will be attending those meetings in the future. He thanks several people for their helping the Projects and Services Committee.

Hu thanks Hasan for her work on the taxi focus group.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Appropriations Treasurer Flack comments about the supplemental requests coming before SAAC this week. The Campus Activities Board is requesting \$1,200 for costumes. Flack comments that there is a guideline for performance groups that SAAC can only give \$12 per person to groups. CAB's request is different than if a performance group were requesting money for costumes, though.

Flack states that SAAC gave ADITI \$150 for a speaker and other programming fees toward Hindu Awareness Week.

Flack has been working on an addition to the equipment to the supplemental, which would make sure people are taking care of equipment appropriately. Next week he will bring an update about the money left in the accounts.

Strenger asks why CAB needs the extra money outside its budget. Flack comments that supplemental requests of this nature are expected to last a minimum of three years. CAB may have put something in the budget last year for the costumes, and it may have been cut out. According to Flack, this request fits very squarely with what equipment supplemental should be used for.

Hu wonders about the request itself; the numbers do not appear to add up to \$1,200. Flack will contact Hu shortly about the calculations after he has looked them over.

Sussman comments about different price options. She wonders why CAB did not choose the cheapest costumes to purchase; instead, they went for a middle-of-the-road price. Flack states that that concern will be discussed at the SAAC meeting.

Commun. Deputy Chair Strenger comments that Dinner at the Mel is this Thursday. He also announces that SALSA has been awarded the SA Spotlight.

DeWitt is pleased to announce that she will now be posting a Sustainable Tip of the Week on the Hive website.

Strenger comments that some Senators need their pictures taken for the Hive. He also comments that people who post on the Hive do not have to write their names on their posts, since the format already includes the author's name.

Halpern comments that all the Hive posts are now monitored by Chair Brookstein.

Nave asks about the time of the Mel Dinner. Halpern replies that Mel Dinner is from 6 till 8pm on Thursday.

Sussman requests that advertising posters be put in Riverview regarding SA initiatives.

Battacharyya asks about the price of the Mel Dinner. Halpern comments that the meals are \$17.99.

Policy Chair Brooks comments that ESW came up for preliminary. The motion to grant preliminary status was tabled so that the group could explore more options and gain more support from professors.

Sussman comments that there are still six groups that need to complete the renewal forms. Responding to a request from Guerra, Sussman will send out a list of those groups that still need renewed.

Projects Co-Chair Halpern comments that the first academic advising meeting will be held this Friday. He comments that Blackboard is changing and will soon include a feed from the Hive website and the Student Activities Calendar. It will also include a feed regarding upcoming events on campus, which will be under the control of the SA government. The Committee is also looking into improving

gmail.

Halpern announces that there is a focus group from 7:30-9:30pm next Monday in the Fauver Parking Office

He comments that the Committee has collected a lot of information about the taxi program, and developments are in the works. He mentions that new bike racks will be installed around campus shortly. He reminds the Senate that reservations for the Mel Dinner can only be made for 6:00pm. He states that Dining Services will be sending out weekly updates via email and that the Pit now serves ice cream. He also recently learned that soy ice cream will soon be available on campus.

He comments that H1N1 cases appear to be leveling off. Campus officials are not as worried about a widespread outbreak, as we have already passed the worst part of the H1N1 flu season.

He will have updates next Senate meeting about Event Support. He will look into what occurs when Event Support is late or when things are not set up properly. He also will look into the current rule that Event Support requests must be submitted eight days in advance. Hughes asks Halpern to find out why Event Support changes room setups for standing meetings without reason.

Rath asks about the Bookstore Advisory Committee. Halpern comments that the Committee will meet on November 3. Rath asks if an email was sent out about the academic advising meeting he has planned. Halpern comments that the meeting is not solely devoted to academic advising, but also geared toward scheduling classes, particularly with regard to humanities majors who have difficulty scheduling science courses.

Strenger asks about students who have been moved to Staybridge Suites after their roommates have been diagnosed with H1N1. Halpern comments that there are certain circumstances under which a roommate with pre-existing conditions would be temporarily moved away from an individual with H1N1. Strenger also suggests that a bike rack be put near Spurrier.

Guerra asks if the Projects and Services Committee has anything to do with the newly updates schedules on the registrar's website. Hughes comments that we were not fully aware of these changes until after meeting with Deans Feldman and Lennie recently.

Weissmann comments that the feedback received about the new bike racks stemmed from more than 40 responses from students who had read Rocky's Report or the Hive website. Halpern comments that a lot of feedback was also received about where to put the bike racks on campus. That feedback is directly reflected in the proposal, which will be sent shortly.

NEW BUSINESS

Motion A. Motion to approve the Minutes and Attendance Records from the October 12, 2009 meeting by Brooks, seconded by Sussman.

Deputy Speaker Cohn introduces the motion.

Nave *moves to the previous question*, seconded by Strenger. The *motion passes* by an 15-0-0 hand vote.

Motion B. Motion to endorse the memo officially congratulating Anne-Marie Algier for receiving the Goergen Award for Distinguished Contributions to Undergraduate Learning by Sussman, seconded by Guerra.

Weissmann introduces the motion.

Strenger *moves to previous question*, seconded by Battacharyya. The *motion passes* by unanimous consent.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

President Weissmann comments that the editorial in the CT about the SA government is nice. He is pleased that we have done so much and we will continue to accomplish many things. The CT editorial commented about the low turnout at the Fireside Chat. But Weissmann believes that low turnout suggests students are generally happy with the University; a successful Fireside Chat is one that gets feedback from students, no matter how many.

On Thursday, Hughes, Crowley, Weissmann, and Pollack will be visiting the Eastman School of Music to attend their student government meeting. He invites the Senators to email him with anything they would like addressed at that meeting.

He comments about the national Sustainability Report Card. The University of Rochester's grade went from a B- to a C+. However, the University's grade for student involvement increased from a C to a B. The report even mentions the new Sustainability Coordinator position and Grassroots. He is confident that our school is doing better now with regard to sustainability than last year.

He comments about the Rochester Intercollegiate Council and congratulates Guerra on being elected chair. Since Guerra is chair, RIC will now include three UR representatives. Weissmann and Crowley will represent UR on the Committee. The meetings are open to everyone, but only official members may vote.

Crowley comments about the success of Pack the Park, and Weissmann asks for more SA representation at the events.

Weissmann comments about yearbook photographs. The legislative and executive branches will be taking the photograph together this year, including committee aides. He will send out a few options for dates and times for the picture to be taken.

He finally comments that ODOS has agreed to bring up the conversation about extended

Fall Break.

DEPUTY SPEAKER'S REPORT

Deputy Speaker Cohn asks if anyone is interested in attending the Mel Dinner. If enough interest is shown, he will make a reservation for student government.

SPEAKER'S REPORT

Speaker Hughes asks that Senators not use their phones to surf the Internet during Senate meetings. It would help us be more efficient and more informed. She wishes everyone good luck on midterms.

ADJOURNMENT

Brooks *moves to adjourn the meeting*, seconded by Yoon. The meeting is adjourned at 9:56 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,
Daniel J. Cohn