

AGENDA • SG SENATE

08-09 STUDENT GOVERNMENT



4/10/09 | 1-3pm | Field House Reception

1) Call to Order

Called to order at 1:04

2) Roll Call

*President	x (late 2:04)
*Vice President	x
*Finance	x
*Programming	
*Public Relations	x
*Director of Services	x
*Student Relations	x
*Organization Recognition	x
*KGCOE	
*SCOB	x
*CIAS	x
*GCCIS	
*COLA	
*COS	
*Women's Senator	x
*Freshman	x (late)
*Grad	
*CAST	
*RHA	x
*NSC	
*NTID	
*OUTspoken	x
*ACA	x
*Global Union	x
*WITR	x
*CAB	x
*Greek Council	x
*OCASA	x
*Reporter	x
*SAAC	x
*Academic Senate	x
*Staff Council	x
*Dr. Heath	x
*Colette Shaw	x

- 3) Speak to the Senate
 - a. Alpha Sigma Alpha, Phi Kappa Si
 - Our event is around the theme So You Think You Can Act. It's basically a big talent show to get RIT students together at Imagine RIT. 11AM to 3PM on the Greek Lawn.
 - The Fisher House provides housing to families who need to be relocated.
 - b. Caribbean Students Association
 - We wanted to announce our big event, CSA week. There are many events everyday. Tuesday is Taste of the Caribbean, Wednesday is Jamaican Comedy in the Webb Auditorium, Thursday is a local Rochester band in the RITZ, Saturday is Carnival Day starting at 12 as a parade. We're looking for participation in the parade just walking and maybe wearing a t-shirt from your organization. We have entertainers, people on stilts and fire eaters.
 - OUTSpoken: Just to let you know, we're planning on participating.
 - PR: Have you sent the flier to SG TV so we can get it up?
 - There were some technical difficulties but we are resending it today.
- 4) Approval of Minutes 3/27
 - a. RHA motion to approve, NSA seconded.
- 5) Presenters
 - a. Student Activity Fees – Dr. Cooper
 - Cooper: You asked me to come and we're going to talk about student activities fees and how they are distributed. I want to tell you about the budget and how its determined. When there is a fee increase its my responsibility to bring it to the budget committee. Each year we prepare our budget requests. Ultimately the President and the Board of Trustees makes the decision of the budget and how we're going to increase tuition. When we have fee increases it has to come up through me to that board. In the past we have been very cautious about fee increases. Dr. Destler is very concerned about the fees students are paying, so he's trying to be very conscious of fee increases. This year we were told to be very limited in our increases.
 - Cooper: The student activities fees is one area Mike and his area takes care of. I'll turn it over to Mike.
 - Mike: I asked Matt to copy and pass out to you a summary sheet. How many of you know what the fee is? Part time students pay a separate fee. (referring to passed out document) We gave you a budget outline for 2007 – 2008. If you look you will see that every year we're getting over 2 million dollars. You will see all the subtotals of what is spent and where. Fund raisers from MSO's and clubs are the major funding.

- Mike: Every year you get your stipends and you know right off the bat to save that and where its going. There are also salaries and benefits added to the budget. Based on how much someone is paid, they get certain benefit packages. There is a portion of money every year that is taken out in order to repair the Field House, this money is taken out and allocated for later use.
- Mike: 23% of the budget is to pay staff who provide service and programs. The next thing you see is the cumulative budget for student organizations. That includes your operating accounts, stipends, PR budget. Every organization is different. As you continue down you'll see clubs. We have 3 tiers of clubs. Tier one is clubs who don't get a budget, tier 2 can request up to a certain amount a year, tier 3 can request a budget based off of what they think they need, they are also required to do fund raising. We have a number of programs and services. Those are programs that have come to us as areas of need.
- Mike: For example, we really need late night programs. The field house is open late nights for your use and that comes out of this. You'll also notice Co-Sponsorship and Additional Funds. Clubs are given a budget but they can request additional funds, co-sponsorship is working with other organizations.
- Cooper: I want to be sure we answer your questions about the fees. What would you like to know?
- Stu Rela: You mentioned for the budget committee you had representatives from different governance groups, I was wondering if there was student representation?
- Cooper: I don't believe there is. The meetings are intense and it would be difficult for students to go to all of them and go to school so we would have to look at how its possible. But we should look into it, maybe a team or something. What else would you like to know?
- Academic Senate: A student wouldn't be allowed to sit in on student affairs, you can't sit in on your own area. It gives you an unfair advantage to comments.
- Cooper: There is a lot of confidential information so we would have to work through that.
- OUTSpoken: Over the last few years we have had more clubs and MSO's come up, is there a way to increase the budget without increasing tuition?
- Cooper: We could build into my budget request next year, fees that are directed t clubs and organizations. You can request this, the problem is as you lose or gain people you have to pay attention to who else these fees cover.
- Mike: I brought in a list of things we funded for 2007 – 2008. For example last year SAAC got a full budget. There was a lot of discussion for a GLBT center last year. There was talk about senior

programming. As your having discussions throughout the year, we're listening and incorporating them already.

- Org Rec: One thing we talked about was club sports being a real draw on the budget. Thats sucking a lot of our pool. We are going to be having meetings in the future to talk about this. We're also looking at space wise.
- SAAC: I know that its being looked into club sports being part of this center then student government.
- VP: I was wondering how we could be involved prior to your budget meeting. Could you bring us a draft before you go to your meeting?
- Cooper: We would have to look at what you would want to see. I ask all my directors about what they need. There is a big difference between needs and wants. I make a decision and only bring forth 8 needs. I would be happy for you to look at the student life perspective and see your part. You could tell me if some of the things you asked for aren't that important.

b. Marlee Matlin – Molly McGowan

- Molly: I am here to talk about Marlee Matlin. Kaitlyn has worked very hard to set this up. We need a 5:30 shift and an 8:00pm shift of volunteers. Her main event is her speech in Clark Gym. When she is finished there will be a break. After is a meet and greet where she will sign a book or poster if you wish. She will then go back to her hotel. Its crucial we have enough help. I'm not sure what the ticket count is but we're hoping more people come out.
- VP: Are SG people selling the books or is that the bookstore?
- Molly: I'm not really sure what is going on. My recommendation was for you not to sell it.
- OUTSpoken: I got a message from Kaitlyn saying to buy the book at the book store.
- Molly: I recommended that and I think that might be whats going on. Anything else?
- VP: What to wear?
- Molly: Probably your SG shirts. I want to make one more announcement. We send students to a Leadership Convention. Can you talk about it Adam?
- CIAS: It's a 6 day event. Everyone brings their own experience. You're able to get deeper into topics then usual. I had a great time, it has definitely changed me for the better.
- Molly: I think we've sent 9 or 12 students. Every student has sent me a page or two email about how their life was changed for the better and that was the exact wording. What you need to know is in the next few days I'll be sending an e-mail about it. It's going to be about a weeks turn-around. There are 4 spots available. If you are interested let me know if you have questions.

- 6) Old Business
 - a. MSO Guidelines Draft

- 7) New Business
 - a. Resolution 0809-1
 - Pres: We're going to do something different we have ever done before. I'm going to pass it around, its the first resolution ever. (reads resolution right from paper)
 - Pres: We kind of got thrown into this because we need to make sure our student employees won't be effected. I believe in writing this that it clearly states SG's position. We are open to talking about it but we stand with student employees. I bring it to senate as our official discussion.
 - CIAS: Censure means?
Pres: It is the antonym of enforce.
 - VP: I think it leaves out two big points. Tuition and representation.
 - Org Rec: It was very interesting to be in the debates, but it brought up the issue of students being included. There is great concern on tuition.
 - VP: If they do unionize, wages will be increased and union workers will be a fee, FMS is paid through tuition. Dr. Destler said tuition will increase if this union forms.
 - Dir of Serv: If a union comes on campus there will be a push for full time employees and students would lose jobs.
 - Pres: We can't guarantee that student employees won't be affected, we can't guarantee tuition won't go up. At the debates I saw that there was a small group very vocal about it. I think that shows there might be a problem in a managerial position there that could be looked at.
 - OUTSpoken: I would like to motion for it with Matt's suggestion. Tuition and affect on governance.
 - Motion by OUTSpoken, CIAS seconded
 - Vote passed
 - b. Roll Over Meal Debit/Meal Plan Programs
 - RHA: Teraisa and I had a meeting this week and looking into the possibility of roll-over debit. State law says that all debit must be used at the end of the quarters so it is absorbed into the budget. I was looking into roll over but there was the issue of if there is \$400 at the end of each quarter then you have \$1200 at the end of the year which makes you feel worse. I was looking into maybe roll over of \$100 or \$200 instead.
 - OCASA: I thought we talked about different levels of meal plans that better fit.
 - RHA: By making them less, there is a significant change in the budget for food services.

- CIAS: So basically its a closed loop and all your debit, whether you use it or not, funds them.
- RHA: Yea.
- OUTSpoken: Right now I think that people who have left over debit at the end of the quarter they just go to Sol's or the corner store and buy stuff. I really don't know what solution to work towards.
- OCASA: When you met with them, did you mention how people change how they buy per quarter? I spent more winter quarter.
- RHA: Yea its a prediction. It is different for every individual. For me when I hit winter quarter I was hurting and it would have helped for winter quarter if fall had rolled over.
- Org Rec: I think its a good idea for \$100 roll over so they have some flexibility.
- Greek: They kind of rely on us not spending that money at the end.
- RHA: Its all prepaid anyway, they still get it at the end of the year whether you bought something or not.
- Freshman: I asked about numbers, they don't know how much they get at the end by absorbing because they get the money at the beginning of the year.
- SAAC: I was just thinking instead of a number get a percentage.
- CIAS: If we're saying we're going to get \$100 of roll over, whats the difference between \$400. I'm afraid if we only let some of it roll over, students will get unhappy that not all of it does.
- VP: It comes down to the fact that people should not be relying on spending one amount every quarter. If we roll over a small amount or a percentage I think that would be better then nothing.
- Org Rec: I think we should table it before we have a decision made. I think we need numbers before we make a decision.
- SCOB: I think you should still pursue it, I also think you should figure out what the students would want.
- SAAC: Could we get some sort of prototype?
- RHA: Like a pilot program.
- VP: Bring our concerns back and see if he wants to come present to us.

c. SG/MSO Tunnel Murals

- VP: I printed a floor map that you all have.
- RHA: There is an SG logo here but there is nothing else. There was talk about an ImagineRIT mural and I said sure but I don't have the power over that. Turns out I do. There are 10 spots on th concrete. If you can count, there are 10 MSO's. I just wanted to see what your thoughts were. Are you willing to do this?
- VP: I would want this done by the end of the year.
- Org Rec: Would there be space if new MSO's are created?
- RHA: Yea.
- Global: I think it would be an excellent idea. I think a deadline for this year wouldn't be reasonable since everyone is busy.

- OUTSpoken: I will tell you it isn't happening at the end of the quarter. I worked with Art House and it took us a while with art students to do it.
 - Stu Rela: We're in elections right now and the mural is kind of like your vision. Would next years board have to follow through?
 - RHA: Its really just your logo with a background. You need to submit a drawing of it.
- d. Greek Housing/West Side of Campus Construction
- VP: There is a lot of construction on the West Side of campus. Living in UC is frustrated. I know the Greeks are unhappy about this.
 - Greek: We understand that construction has to happen. But we really would have preferred notification. We would like to talk about a better way to do it. We also have space being taken away. A fraternity had a brother pass away and they planted a tree for him. Construction came a dug it up and was going to through it out but someone saw and stopped them.
 - Greek: Programming is an issue. Greek housing parking is going away come fall. Communication would have helped. We're having problems filling houses.
 - Org Rec: The fence in my sororities house is a foot from the back door. The way to get in changes daily. I have been hearing they would be there until 2010. I know my sisters don't want to live there. Already people have gotten tickets for parking. I have heard in the past Riverknoll students got compensation when they were put out. I think the Greeks feel put out right now and its a big problem. People are moving out and its a big debt issue.
 - Pres: I lived in a house over there, we were \$16,000 in debt. We paid it off but are now accumulating a debt because we can't fill it. If there is a way to financially compensate these houses, that would be the appropriate course of action. Communicating the status on a weekly basis would be a good idea.
 - SAAC: I think communication is a good idea. I also think one permanent pathway would be a good idea.
 - Global: I live in Riverknoll and the same thing goes for us. Maybe that whole section especially Greeks, maybe a small pathway.
 - Dr. Heath: My office could set up a meeting and see if we could get together and hash some of these things out.
 - VP: I'd like to be at that meeting.
- e. Global Village & Kitchens
- VP: I'll have Jim come in.
- f. Referendum Questions on Ballots
- Dir of Serv: This won't happen, we ran out of time.
- g. Message Center
- VP: We need to talk about this next week.

8) Committee Reports

- a. Women's: We talked about plans for 20/20 for NTID and RIT working together and an ASL minor. They talked more about what they wanted the Deaf Culture Center to be and what there plans were.

9) Cabinet Announcements

a. Vice-President

- VP: I had a COLA senator but he got a job and left. I have some others I'll bring to you.
- VP: I'm talking about getting ISBN numbers on the books website so we could find it on other sites.
- VP: I will be investigating students being on the president's round table.

b. President

- Pres: A lot of students have been talking about Time Warner's new charging structure. The congressman is looking into that. House.senate.gov is where you can get information.
- Pres: We're going to notebooks again next year. We had a lot of appreciation for the union open forum and having the video online. Matt and I met with the President Monday about communication. We will send him an e-mail with our concerns and he will address them
- Pres: Last Friday we had the Board of Trustees meeting. We are on track for students next year. The President has pledged that lounges will return when Global Village is completed. We also talked about student satisfaction on campus. 45% of students felt connected to the campus, 70% of those students would come back. Also, about 88% of those 45% said it was because of a meeting with a professor outside of class.
- CIAS: Since we had MSO's in the books last year, are we having Senator's.
- Pres: We are putting construction of campus in this years book.
- PR: I understand wanting senator's, but getting coordinated seems to be a problem. It was hard getting profile pictures as it was and we have a deadline of May 1st.

c. Finance

- Fin: MSO Budget review will be this weekend.

d. Student Relations

- Stu Rela: I'm going to take over for Kaitlyn for now and the Elections BBQ Monday.
- Stu Rela: One more thing, the scholarship dinner is coming. You should all have gotten e-Invites. So please RSVP.
- Org Rela: Anyone can work the BBQ since voting will be in a different place.

e. Director of Services

- Dir of Serv: Vote is done. Building 70 is next for wireless. iTunes U is ready.
- f. Public Relations
 - PR: I'm still PRing for Marlee. Also I have posters for Art Awake
 - VP: That's an intercollegiate thing we're doing.
- g. Organizational Recognition
 - Org Rec: We're working on a distinction between RSO's and SSO's. Also, have your clubs contact me for the displays for the banquet.

10) Senate & MSO Accomplishments

- a. Global Union
 - Global: Our event went really well. We're also adopting a video program to show international students what RIT looks like. We're still looking for a videographer
- b. SCOB
 - SCOB 5:30 April 24th at Love n'Cup, it will be great again like last time.
- c. CAB
 - CAB: Tonight is Country Event, Indian Jones is being shown Thursday
- d. RHA
 - RHA: It's Friday, where is your orange and brown? Also, RHA is having a monthly BBQ the 15th.
- e. CIAS
 - CIAS: We're starting Creativity and Emotion, its like our job fair. We're also looking at the speed bumps in Colony that have destroyed the underside of cars. We're looking about replacing them or something.
- f. OUTSpoken
 - OUTSpoken: I need help with our BBQ promoting ImagineRIT
- g. OCASA
 - OCASA: Yesterday was Pizza Bomb.
- h. ACA
 - ACA: We had a good turn out yesterday. Fashion Africa show is tonight. We hope to get more collaborative efforts. Our Star awards will be a collaboration this year.
- i. Reporter
 - Reporter: We helped moderate one of the debates this week. One concern we have is getting information to students about the candidates. I would like to propose the Election Committee look at giving more time.
- j. WITR
 - WITR: Greg has been elected as the new general manager.
- k. Greek Council
 - Greek: We had our first expansion in a while. We have a new colony who will work on becoming a new charter.

11) Governance Reports

12) Advisor Reports

a. Dr. Heath

- Dr. Heath: This week we had students meeting with Diversity candidates. Please fill out a form about them online if you met with them. The campus center looks great. I will talk with the project managers to get everyone in there. The longer we wait, the more you see done.

13) Adjournment

- a. RHA motion to adjourn, seconded OCASA
- b. Adjourned at 3:01

Announcements

- Elections: VOTE! Monday, April 13-17th, 2009 sg.rit.edu/vote
- Elections BBQ, April 13th 11:30am-1:30pm, Kodak Quad
- MSO Budget Reviews next week!
- Marlee Matlin, April 19th, 7-8pm, Clark Gym (show up at 6pm)
- SG Annual Banquet – Monday, May 4th, 2009, 5:30pm SAU Cafeteria

Next Meeting

- Policy of Policies