

AGENDA • SG SENATE

09 - 10 STUDENT GOVERNMENT



10/23/2009 | 1-3pm | SAU 1829 Room

1) Call to Order

Called to order at 1:02

2) Roll Call

President	x
Vice President	x
Finance	-
Programming	x
Public Relations	x
Director of Services	x
Student Relations	x
Organization Recognition	x
KGCOE	x
SCOB	x
CIAS	x
GCCIS	x
COLA	x
COS	x
Women's Senator	x
CAST	x
RHA	x
NSC	x
NTID	x
OUTspoken	x
ACA	
Global Union	x
WITR	x
CAB	x
Greek Council	x

OCASA	x
Reporter	
SAAC	x
Academic Senate	x
Staff Council	x
Freshman	-
Grad	-
Dr. Heath	x
Karey Pine	x

3) Speak to the Senate

4) Approval of Minutes 10/16

- a. CIAS motion to approve, COS seconded
- b. Motion passed

5) Presenters

a. Parking & Transportation by Randy Vercauteren

- Randy: You are our customers, we're supporting you in our operations. It may not feel like that because we are the enforcers however. We are now a part of FMS. I am now the actual director instead of the interim like last year. I have Gill with me today to help. Rick LaClair is here as well. I want to go through the program quickly. I know there is a lot we can cover.
- Randy: Today we will talk about the parking status, residence transportation shuttles, and the bike paths. We did redesign the stickers, they are 40% smaller than last year. Every member of the RIT community should have a sticker. Last year restrictions were put in for housing.
- Randy: As of today, these are the areas who have restrictions on where they can park. We have 3,061 cars associated with those residence, 5,635 cars for faculty, and 11,526 total commuters. We sold out of reserve passes. We have 8,882 general parkers competing for around 3,000 spaces. The most popular lots are generally full by 8:30 am unless you have a sticker. During max capacity times there are maybe 200 – 300 spaces available.
- Randy: The green in this map represents commuter or resident parking and the orange is reserve parking. Resident parking restrictions continue to work. At the end of Perkins is The Province, which is a new housing development. Edwards Group is building this, they have been working closely with us. They will have 816 beds. There is a new sidewalk that went in last week. A traffic

signal will go into that intersection next year. The summary is we are maintaining regulations as they are today. We are not adding additional spaces at this time. We will ultimately have to do something but not right now.

- Randy: In the spring you approved a new transportation system. We created those and have been using them this year. This map shows the bus stops all around campus. The feedback we are getting is that it works very well. We know the buses are full and are attempting to get more buses for those peak times. This shows you the concept of the new routes.
- Randy: Last is the bike issue. Our goal is to stop the competition between pedestrians and bikes. We have identified safe and recommended routes for bikes. We have also identified areas that are unsafe. This is a recommendation from us on how to get around campus safely on a bicycle. We have some signs and paintings on the ground. It is only a little more than a minute difference to take the bike routes. We are developing two paths, a north and a south.
- Randy: These are some concept designs. The north has to go around the field house. It is only .1 miles which isn't that far. We will do some major changes as well. Any questions?
- NSC: How do you plan to enforce the walking vs biking?
- Randy: That has been an internal discussion for a while. My hope is as we provide better pathways they will be desired by bicyclists. As members of the RIT community, I think peer pressure will help. By being nice and asking people to take the bike paths we hope to encourage people by positive enforcement.
- CAST: You said you sent an e-mail at the beginning of the year and I told you I didn't get it. Could you send it to senators and we can send it out?
- Dr. Heath: You and your staff have been doing a great job. A question in my FYE class this week came from a long boarded. He was talking about the walk zone and bike zone and how the bike zone took him onto a parking lot around the field house.
- Randy: We encourage traveling south. We have not developed the northern area yet. We don't recommend the parking lots since it is unsafe. My conversations with public safety is that if someone is going the same speed as pedestrians it isn't a problem.
- GCCIS: I have a specific suggestion. Can the line at the John street intersection be adjusted? It is dangerous with buses turning right and the cars turning left.
- Randy: We wrote 41,000 citations last year. 17,000 were warnings. Of the remaining 24,000, 64% were voided out. About 30% of the citations are warnings, that is our preference.
- Pres: With enrollment growing, at what point will we need to increase parking?

- Randy: We are going to continue to look at that closely. One option is to restrict freshman parking. We are not doing that but it is an option. We also want to provide a better ride sharing program. We still have to look at how The Province comes into effect. We will ask them to do the same as not Park Point with parking on campus. It's hard to say right now.
 - OUTspoken: I hear a lot from people that the buses have improved but there are glitches once in a while. When I get complaints where should I have them send those?
 - Randy: The parking and transportation e-mail. parking@rit.edu. We know there are glitches. What we are hearing overwhelmingly is that the system has improved though.
 - Dir of Serv: Have you or your staff thought about what you are doing with golf carts?
 - Randy: From my department, a memo went out last week requesting all utility vehicles not be used in the walk zones unless absolutely necessary. A memo also went to athletics and housing. Yesterday was ROAR day I saw golf carts going up and down the quarter mile. I might reach out to public safety about it because people do rent carts. We do need to correct that.
- b. Proposed 2010 Calendar by Mary-Beth Cooper
- VP: For this meeting we are discussing the calendar, not voting on it.
 - Dr.Haefner: On the fall of 2010 calendar we have to look at a change out of our usual cycle. We are coming to you with a very rapid discussion item and possible change. There is only 8 months to implement it. We brought it to Academic Senate yesterday and the discussion was very lively. Faculty believed this was not workable from a curriculum point of view. It would require substantial course rewrites for that quarter. Dr. Cooper and I felt the discussion needed to happen.
 - Dr.Cooper: The calendar committee has representation from many perspectives. Each year we take a look at the calendar and go through the process of how we might make changes. The good news is we are going to have a conversation. This conversation is about responding to the issue that orientation is too long. Orientation is a support function for academic issues. In a response to thinking about this differently, we have this.
 - Dr.Cooper: What we want to go over is what do we want to carry forward with future models? How critical is it to you to have labor day off and a shorter orientation? We are here to hear what your thoughts are.
 - SAAC: For athletics starting on a Wednesday that has a problem with pre-season and matches for fall sports. The Labor Day issue is you are only seeing a professor once before you have to decide if you want to take that class or not. Also, its a four day weekend for

- those who have no classes on Friday. I think it would be a mess party wise.
- Dr.Haefner: Can you help me understand the athletic issue more?
 - SAAC: My season starts at the end of August for pre-season. Wouldn't that screw with residence halls as well because of kids moving in?
 - Org Rec: I think it is true that the add/drop period may be a problem. There are some night classes that are only on Monday's so you wouldn't see a professor at all. Also, that would seem like a holiday weekend. As a freshman your goal is to meet people that first weekend. People are going to go home and you have no one around to meet.
 - Dir of Serv: My favorite piece is the shorter orientation. I was stressed out because of how long it is. My only concern is to look at not cramming all the old activities into those days. This year RA training was shorter and it felt rushed. I personally don't understand the four day weekend thing, many colleges have it and they're fine.
 - CAST: I like the calendar, I see no big issues. I have a friend who attends a quarter system school who has labor day off.
 - CAB: I don't understand week 10.
 - Dr.Cooper: It would only be Monday Tuesday and Wednesday in order to make up for week one. There would be a two day study period.
 - CAB: Also, what about the two week break? Is that gone for good?
 - Mary-Beth: How do you feel about that?
 - CAB: I liked it, having the two weeks. Is it coming back?
 - Mary-Beth: It can be reviewed.
 - OUTspoken: I think having holidays off is important. Perhaps instead of having the actual day off, we celebrate it on a different say. Also, I agree that partying wouldn't be an issue.
 - RHA: I like the idea of changing something. I feel narrowing down orientation is important. I don't mind class on Monday or starting on Wednesday.
 - NSC: I support this. I don't feel that partying is a legitimate reason to turn it down. We are all college students and responsible for ourselves. There are some students who live in the dorms who don't have a place to stay during freshman move in. There was a very short time for upperclassmen to move in. This four day weekend would give them time to move in. If you are an RA you have no time between training and having your students. This would give them time to meet with their students and develop a community. I feel this will help more than do any damage.
 - Pres: There are a lot of classes that meet only once a week so the problem of only having one class before add/drop isn't really an issue. As for labs, I haven't had a lab that met week 1 so I don't

know if it really would be an issue. Also, taking off the calendar before bringing it to us I don't think it is fair.

- Dr.Haefner: For this calendar, I understand your point. From a point of view of my office and the president's, appointing this after such a strong concern from faculty there was no way we could do it. That's why we are here now to start talking about it for 2011. There is just not enough time with this much concern.
- Dr.Cooper: In the past, the conversation has been somewhat limited. It opened up some issues we don't really understand. Such as labs, they would need to go back and look at it. From you guys, I have heard that labor day isn't an issue. But previously it was a huge deal. Your issues are those that are important to the RIT community. What drives this decision is the curriculum.
- Pres: I don't want to lessen the value of the faculty, but I feel taking it off before coming to us wasn't fair.
- Prog: From a project based major, those two study days would greatly help me. It would help to have a break to gather yourself for these.
- PR: I don't think it should be a large concern to keep move in day on a Sunday. For holiday's, we just don't have them. For that first weekend, having it extended will cause most people to go home. I think someone told me that during that first weekend here it helps determine if students stay at RIT. It is an important weekend.
- Dr.Haefner: From an employee point of view they would value that time off to be with family before school starts for their kids.
- Dr.Cooper: Some parents can't take the day off. Its important for some parents to be involved. If we move these days to weekdays, we may hear from family's who couldn't participate.
- VP: I believe people have time to plan around these days because they know months in advance. Is it important to you to have labor day off? (majority is no)
- Dr.Cooper: Are reading days important? (yes)

6) New Business

a. Registration

- Pres: I have been having meetings about registration as a whole. Primarily, registration technologies are old. They have some new updates. Registration is now over 300% faster. Wait time went from 45 minutes to 15 minutes. My first topic is registration time. They are open to see if students want to change it.
- OUTspoken: Not that I enjoy getting up at 6 AM, but the registrars office opens within two and a half hours of that time. I feel morning is better than late night. Usually, I find out about registration a day or two before.
- Pres: Please keep your constituents in mind.

- SAAC: If you have an 8 am class, you have to get up early for registration. I like the idea of a late night registration. People might have more patience at night.
- Women's: I know some people have to work at night so a lot of things on campus are still open. It might interfere with registration.
- Pres: There are athletes and food service workers who are at work at 6 am so it's not a win win for everyone.
- CAST: I agree with everyone so far. In my college most people want to register later, everyone is awake at night.
- COLA: I know it is competitive in the morning. But there are still people who don't bother. Getting up for registration is a semi need and a preference.
- NSC: We feel the need to register early. Registration happens in the 7th week, registering at night might be a distraction from work for classes. In the morning, most aren't worried about that stuff. Most students do homework at night. You can always register at noon.
- Greek: I know there is a few students I talked to who had to miss part of their 8 am because they had to look for other options. So if it is late, students wouldn't skip as much.
- Pres: Lets get a straw vote for keeping it at 6 am? 7 am? and 10 – 10:30 pm?
- VP: See Matt for additional questions.

b. Superbowl Party

- Prog: We received an invitation for SG to come to the midnight breakfast. We want to go show support for the freshman. I have a sign up sheet going around. Also, we have Campus Week of Dialog coming up. We are working on an SG banner. I'm sending another sign-up sheet for that.
- Prog: We do have the mural event coming up. Please e-mail me if you would like to come help, also e-mail Phil your design.
- RHA: I have gotten a couple people who have sent their logos. This is supposed to be artistically creative, not just a copy of your logo.
- Prog: The Superbowl party is changing a lot. It is now part of Freeze Fest. It is Sunday Feb 7th 2010. It is in the Field House and free to all RIT students, faculty, staff, and alumni. One of the features is comfy couches. We are looking into getting inflatable chairs for our giveaway. There will be pizza and wings as always and a tentative beer garden.
- Prog: There will be \$5000 worth of prizes. We are getting huge screens to project on to. We are also getting SG t-shirts to give away. We will have games during half time. There will be inflatable activities. We are looking into getting the quarter back accuracy inflatable. This is the layout of the field house.
- NTID: Will you be throwing out the t-shirts or giving them out?
- Prog: I haven't thought about it yet.

c. My.rit.edu

- VP: We want to gather feedback about my.rit.edu.
- GCCIS: First, if you click on the academics tab, the schedule doesn't show like it used to. It might be beneficial to combine this into mycourses.
- Dir of Serv: We have talked about it on tech committee before. The problem is that this isn't a portal. It just links you to other places. It goes back to the fact that none of the systems RIT has talk to each other. It isn't the portal that is the problem, it is the technology the portal is supposed to connect you with. The first thing that needs to be addressed is the multiple log ins.
- SCOB: I have always had a strong opinion on this. I think they need to talk more. I think my.rit should become more of a social form. This is the most effective medium to get events out to people.
- VP: The financial part does update. But academics and today @ rit need more work.
- Dir of Serv: Some of the best systems I have seen implement things we want people to use into things they have to use. Such as Chalk Board. It gives things we try to get people access to in with things they need to check like homework.
- VP: We delegate this to you Tech Committee.

7) Old Business

- a. By-laws Revision
 - GCCIS motion to approve, COLA seconded
 - Motion passed
 - VP: Next senate meeting we will have the top ten freshman senators come in. We will try to have a little information about each person before they come in. You guys have to read it though. There will be six graduate students coming in as well. We need to get through 16 applicants.

8) Reports

- a. Organizational Recognition
 - Today is Dr. Johnson's birthday. She wants as many people as possible to sign the pledge form for climate action.
- b. President
 - KDR withdrew their impeachment request after senate last week. The investigation showed none of the charges were enough to impeach Stephen DeVay.
- c. Programming
 - So you know, we found out that Elly Rosenfield has been ill so we sent her flowers. If anyone thanks you, that is why.
- d. Vice President
 - We are hoping to get all of SG together for the Halloween party.

- GU: We are very excited about it, it will be in the SDC. We are talking to tech crew about getting smoke. Also, there is a costume contest.
- NSC: The reason why it is hosted by three MSO's is because we usually all have separate parties so we just decided to combine. If anyone wants to help, please do.

9) Adjournment

- a. CAST motion to adjourn, seconded COS
- b. Adjourned at 2:55

Announcements

Next Meeting

- October 30, 2009 SAU 1829 Room