

AGENDA • SG SENATE

09 - 10 STUDENT GOVERNMENT



1/22/10 | 1-3pm | SAU 1829

1) Call to Order

Called to order at 1:01

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(late)
CIAS	x
GCCIS	
COLA	x
COS	x
Women's Senator	x
CAST	x
RHA	x
NSC	x
NTID	x
OUTspoken	x
ACA	x
Global Union	x
WITR	x
CAB	x

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

3) Speak to the Senate

a. Toronto

- SG came to Finance Committee and asked for money for the Superbowl party. We need to vote on it, Finance Committee recommends approving it.
- VP: Last year it was decided if the amount was \$5000 it would come to Senate. If you have questions, Kari can answer why we went to Finance Committee. We have to vote on whether or not to go with the recommendation.
- OUTspoken motion to approve the amount, SCOB seconded
- Motion passes

4) Approval of Minutes 1/15

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

5) Presenters

a. Financial Aid & Scholarships – Verna Hazen

- Verna: There are a few new things, but I want to remind people that we are a part of enrollment management and career services. Our mission is to support RIT's mission, goals and objectives. We help support students and families and provide customer service to the students. There are a lot of rules and policies that we administer funds within guidelines. We're audited every year looking to find mistakes.
- Verna: A number of students are selected for verification. We have to collect tax returns and make sure they agree with what is on the forms. We have to look once a year at your grades because of the government, but NY has us checking every quarter. If a student is below, we send them a letter about it. So if a student hears from us

they have to tell us what went wrong and what they're going to do about it. That's why we look at all of that stuff.

- Verna: We also look at outside money sources. There is a new NY state loan program, it's a private loan. It's a way to get a cheaper private loan. We're also looking for outside scholarships. We're located in Bausch & Lomb, everyone has a counselor. We administer money from a lot of different sources. There is a change in FAFSA, next year co-op money is ignored. Make sure you catch that change.
- Verna: Last year our office processed \$243.8 million total. I just want to remind you to reapply for FAFSA. We want to encourage you to use Financial Aid Self-Service if applying for financial aid. It tells you what we have received from you and what is still missing. We try to put a lot of information there so you don't have to come into the office.
- Verna: The NY HELPs loan is a fixed interest rate for NY residents. We'll have additional information and other state sponsored loans on our website in the next few weeks. The NY State Budget is proposing to reduce the TAP award by \$75. We would really appreciate for you to write to your legislature and tell them that \$75 is a lot of money for you. What you send is more powerful than what I can send. <http://capwiz.com/cicu/home>
- Verna: Reapply for your FAFSA by April 1st. Use Financial Aid Self Service. Use your counselor for questions. Watch for scholarship announcements and Student Aid Reports. Check out the financial literacy information on our site as well. You also want to watch for NRS. What other information would you like?
- Grad: Do you have any aid for grad students?
- Verna: Our office rule is different for grad students. We give an allocation amount to the graduate office. They award it to graduate students.
- GU: Do you have special policies for international students?
- Verna: We have some special awards for international students. There are some funds through the international office that are for international students only. It is a small group of funds done in a separate process.
- NTID: Is it the same for all students or different for NTID students?
- Verna: It's the same for NTID students and RIT students. You do a FAFSA and we award based on that. There is an appeal process for RIT and NTID students where you can tell us what happened and why you need additional funding. Sometimes income can be different for the upcoming year compared to the year you use on the FAFSA. We would need a letter from your parents about how and why it's different. The only real difference is NTID has a different tuition charge.

- Karey: There are leadership scholarships that are separate from the financial aid students. You may want to mention those if you are looking for funding.
- b. Tech Committee
- Gerry: My name is Gerry, I'm the chair of the tech committee. Jackie asked me to give you all an update. Right now our focus has been a lot on the portal. We've seen a lot of problems and had a lot of complaints on this. We want to try to centralize everything a student needs to do into one place. We think this will benefit students.
 - Gerry: Some things we worked on in the past is the wireless and over the summer we finished up the gmail switch. There are about 300 – 400 students not getting e-mail. We're trying to move everyone over and we've been warning everyone that their mail would stop if they didn't. So there are about 400 students not getting e-mail. We've also been working on Laundry View.
 - Phil: We're trying to create an open source Laundry View called Tiger Laundry. The idea is a website that you can see how many people are using the laundry room and how much time is left. I'm also looking to have the machine e-mail FMS if the machine is broken.
 - Gerry: We're looking to explore the idea of alumni keeping their e-mail accounts after they graduate.
 - SCOB: For those unfamiliar with the portal, the current my.rit.edu is bad. It's not well organized and its broken. We're looking to revamp the entire portal. We're looking to create an iPhone App and a Droid App. We want to ask everyone here as to what features are important to you. We're looking into finance management, class management, maps, getting around campus and things already available would be made better.
 - Gerry: I know someone might bring up SIS but this week it looks like the teams have formed and will begin analyzing SIS. It's a huge undertaking.
 - Dave: The SIS project really is huge. We're working on changing out SIS. It is something that a lot of people want to do and we're trying to get that going.
 - Gerry: So I'll open up discussion to get ideas of things students might want on the portal.
 - SCOB: Don't feel restrictions to commenting on the portal, feel free. Anything about technology.
 - RHA: How about buying books through an iPhone App?
 - CAB: How about revamping the events calendar? You can mark you want to attend and get reminders.
 - Dir of Serv: I think it would be nice to have an events feed to my Google calendar that can be turned on and off. I think the events calendar needs to be brought forward better.

- Pres: WITR streaming on the portal.
- Prog: What about a section on the portal for transfers? When I came I didn't know the difference between all the websites. Just make it clearer on the portal so students know where to go.
- VP: A blackberry app.
- Gerry: We aren't going to develop it for one platform. We're going to design it to work on everything from the beginning.
- Dir of Serv: I would like MyCourses brought to the fold. All our sources are separate.
- Gerry: One of the other things we've talked about is trying to get more people to use MyCourses actively. Students have a giant disconnect between current progress in class and a grade. So the entire quarter students don't know how they're doing. That will take more of a culture change on campus.
- Dir of Serv: When I was talking to Kari about transfers, I don't think its just a problem for transfers alone I think its a problem for students in general. We need to strive for 100% of students to know what to do and where to go. Freshman don't understand it either.
- Gerry: That's one of the major goals of this project, to bring everything students need to do to a central place.
- CAB: I think the multiple log in on SIS is a problem. That seems to be new.
- Dave: One thing we did this year was replace a piece of software to allow more students to use it at a time. I didn't notice there was a double log in and I don't know why there is.
- Gerry: We saw it didn't kick off as many users as in the past. Small steps.
- CAB: I think students should be able to log in ahead of time in case there is a hold on their account rather than finding out at 6 AM.
- Greek: We've been working with a group that brings all of the events and calendars together. So a club section would be cool.
- NTID: More time in SIS would be good, 3 minutes isn't enough. Also, the gmail log out is annoying. You have to make sure you're logged out.
- Gerry: Because we control the log in's we didn't want to give Google the names and passwords to Google. It's a limitation of the system. If it was different we would have to give Google everyone's information.
- SCOB: The SIS issue is being addressed on an institute level. You can contact us with questions.

6) New Business

a. Superbowl Showdown

- Prog: This year we're going to have the Superbowl party on Feb 7th. It's going to be bigger than Horton was. We're looking at having

1,000 to 1,500 people. It's going to be an all hands on deck event. If you are paid by SG you should be attending. It's a way for SG to connect. There will be inflatables and all sort of cool things. I'll pass around a time sheet with different jobs. Also, SG is co-sponsoring an event with OUTspoken and NSC called S'More Lounge. It's to promote awareness of sign language. I need people to help setup and decorate as well as working the event. I know it's a busy weekend but some help would be great.

- Karey: That weekend is also Freezefest. So we all will be there. I look forward to seeing all of you all weekend. Five o'clock on Saturday is the dedication ceremony.

b. SG Updates

- VP

1. VP: I want to explain SG Updates/Reports. The reason why we were more strict about it is because people were saying "I plan on meeting with my Dean". That is not a report. If you have met or have ideas and want help you can mention that. If you are doing something, this is the place to share. If you have questions or aren't sure about what to share you can ask us. Also, the money being thrown into the fountain is going to the Haiti relief. Sunday we are going bowling, we are meeting in the office at 8:15. We will pay for shoes and the game. We have vans but if you have a car and are willing to drive meet us at the office. Also, if you are not getting e-mails, let me know.

- Pres

1. Pres: In terms of the calendar, President Destler is having a meeting so we'll find out in February. Also, we have a change to the bylaws. I would like to get your feedback.
2. Greek: We do have some members from other schools. We have nine city chapters. But I do understand for voting membership. I do think it should say that.
3. WITR: If you restrict it to students we have faculty and staff as members.
4. Pres: They don't pay fees so they should not vote.
5. WITR: I just mean in terms of membership. I support the voting membership change.
6. OUTspoken: We just revamped our bylaws, we changed our voting members to full time matriculated students on our mailing list.
7. Pres: So we'll just add voting before membership.

- CIAS

1. CIAS: I currently have a petition out to get hand-dryers in CIAS. If you know anyone in CIAS or are an MSO with CIAS students, please help. Only CIAS signatures are valid.

2. Pres: Why, what about writing a resolution?
 3. CIAS: The Dean said to have students sign a petition
 4. Greek: Why won't they put dryers.
 5. CIAS: It's something that costs money and they don't want to spend it unless nagged. In other news, I'm also working on this Artist Smart Poster campaign. Our goal is to create banners combating negative comments towards art students. If senators could think of places in their college where banners would be ok, that would be great.
- Org Rec
 1. Org: We've accepted two clubs in the last three weeks. Also, thank you for your help with the tier zero discussion. We have been removing red tape for clubs, so if you hear more complaints let me know. We will be having club space lockers arriving soon.
 - RHA
 1. RHA: We will be having a conversation about dinning services at 2pm in SDC and specifically about Global Village.
 - Stu Rela
 1. Stu Rela: I went to a meeting where we discussed what would should be done if a natural disaster happened on campus or if a building is down or part of a building. I told them they should come to senate. They were also discussing if something happened and we had to leave what would happen with grades and how much of the course would need to be finished per credit.
 2. RHA: When you say that a building is down. What do you mean?
 3. Stu Rela: Like if there is a leak or flood or asbestos. Something that keeps the building from being used. They want to know how we should notify students.
 4. Fresh: I think going on your point as to what is too small, I think everyone should be notified if a building is down. Students have the ability to take classes in all colleges.
 5. Karey: Would the curriculum committee be able to work on this completing courses better?
 - OCASA
 1. OCASA: We had our pizza bomb and it went over really well. We will be having Movie Monday's and Wii Wednesday's at night.
 2. Karey: Their office manager is retiring next week. Jane Hutchinson's party will be on the January 27th at noon. If you know Jane or have friends who know her, stop by.
 - OUTspoken

1. OUT: Greek Council and OUTspoken are holding an event together. There will be a speaker. There will also be a meeting about getting a gay fraternity on campus.

c. Committee Updates

- Provost Honors Advisory Committee
 1. Org Rec: We're come up with a proposal and will be drafting changes.

7) Old Business

a. Shared Governance Vote

- Dir of Serv: We have another change to the bylaws about extending a voting seat. Take a look and we'll vote next week.
- OUTspoken motion to discuss, RHA seconded
- OUTspoken: Regarding these voting seats, it's nothing personal, but as a student body I think only students should vote. I feel the same way in reverse, only staff should vote at staff council. There are two views I've seen: since they are giving us a voting seat we should do the same and if they shouldn't have a seat then we shouldn't. That's how I feel.
- RHA: I think my big thing on this is a courtesy to them. My problem is that under our bylaws we are students representing our constituents and they are not students. I have no problem changing this but as we are now I don't know how we should.
- Dr. Heath: I think now you are making a decision based on whats courteous. I would agree that this is student government. This is the only place that you vote and we don't get a vote. I would hope we always vote in the best interest of the students. What if you were taking on a very important issue and it was very close and Staff Council and Academic Senate tips it to something many of you wouldn't want. I think as a staff member my governing body is Staff Council. I would encourage you to think about that.
- NSC: I understand that SG has representatives on each of the other governance bodies. I think having two here would be a bit much for us who have one on theirs.
- Pres: I think we're having a discussion because there were questions asked. There was perception that it isn't fair. If we decide not to do this, then we should evaluate if we think we should have seats in their groups. We shouldn't rush this decision. I do agree with Dr. Heath.
- VP: How does everyone feel about removing our voting seats? I do agree with Matt, if we don't pass this I think we should remove ours. It's more important for us to sit there then to vote.
- CAB: Whenever you vote for anything its to help. If we vote at their meeting, we're doing it to help. I don't know how them voting here would help.

- OUT: I agree with Matt, I don't think we should vote there if they don't vote here. The three bodies sit on Institute Council and that is where we can discuss things. That body clears up everything.
- Pres: From my perspective, I haven't really come to an instance where I've felt the need to vote. I've abstained a lot.
- Dr. Heath: There is a difference between have representation and a voting seat. I think Staff Council and Academic Senate being here is important but I think we can have that without offering a vote.
- Academic Senate: I wanted to convey to you that to your credit there was an imbalance between the groups. I have not heard from faculty that there is a tremendous desire to get a vote. As part of shared governance it is very valuable to sit here and hear you and you'll come hear us. Institute Council is a good melding of these groups. I'd also say, if you would give us a vote, I think we would agree that we would never be a deciding vote. Do not feel like you are going to be viewed negatively by faculty or staff. This is an important deliberation to you.
- Greek: I think it would be really important for us to bring something to Institute Council that we should keep that balance. Maybe Staff Council shouldn't have a vote at Academic Senate.
- Karey: If you do decide to ask at the Institute Council level, you should research the history behind it. It may just be a courtesy.
- KGCOE: Is this going to be tabled?
- VP: It would have to be anyway. Next week you would vote.
- KGCOE: With some of the comments brought up, do we need an ad hoc committee to look into it?
- Greek: I think we can make a decision as students. Then decide if we want to pursue the institute level.
- OUT: We voted on this last week.
- Pres: It was a straw vote.
- Dir of Serv: Because that changes have been proposed, it will be on the agenda next week where you can approve, deny or table further.

8) Adjournment

- a. OUTspoken motion to adjourn, seconded Greek
- b. Adjourned at 2:40

Announcements

- Orange Hair Challenge at 6pm and 8pm

Next Meeting