

## 2010-2011 SG Senate Meeting

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Present: President, VP, Finance Director, Public Relations, Programming, Student Relations, Organization Recognition, CAST, SCB, CIAS, GCCIS, KGCOE, COLA, COS, Women's, Cross Registered, CAB, Global Union, Greek Council, NSC, Reporter, RHA, WITR, SAAC, OUTspoken, ACA, OCASA, Academic Senate, Staff Council, Dr. Heath, Karey Pine.

Absent: Director of Services.

### **Call To Order**

#### **Approval of Minutes:**

- Unfortunately Minutes were not sent out this week so voting will take place for both last week's minutes and these week's minutes next week.

#### **Speak to the Senate:**

- No one here this week.

### **New Business**

#### **GCCIS Senator Seat:**

- Matt Reed on Co-Op (extended) and has appointed someone to fill his seat until his arrival.
- Back first week of November.
- Alex to replace him for the next two months.
- Handout for bylaws if a senator is gone.
- Replacement subject to verification by those at senate
- Alex is one of Matt's roommates, will remain in contact.
- Alex: 4<sup>th</sup> year, game design and development, known Matt since freshman year.
- Goals: work with clubs, participation, better relationships between those clubs.
- Vote: Yay or Nay.
- If not appointed, seat remains vacant until Matt returns.
- Dave makes a motion to vote.
- SAAC makes motion, motion is seconded.
- All Yay's, no Nay's.
- Appointed as Matt's replacement until Matt returns.

- Please introduce yourself and help him get acclimated.

### **Finance Bylaw Changes:**

- Sarah has proposed some changes.
- Really a simple name change, no procedure changes.
- Bylaw changes must be presented to senate, will be put on the agenda next week and voting will occur.

### **Institute Council:**

- One of the committees students are assigned too.
- 11 voting seats.
- One of the most important, Destler sits.
- Wed. 3-5, once a month.
- President and VP required to sit as well as 5 MSO's, 2 Senate/Cabinet and the other 2 may be appointed.
- Only five people went past Wednesday, really like to see the rest of the seats filled.
- Has to be the same person for the whole two hours.
- Please, if you are free contact Teraisa.
- Could count as office hours if you have office hours during that time.
- 11 seats must be filled according to Institute Council bylaws.
- NSC, RHA, OCASA, Greek council, ASA required.
- Would like the students to remain the same throughout the quarter.
- Someone rather than no one but same person is preferable.
- Only once a month! Not every week.
- [sgrel@rit.edu](mailto:sgrel@rit.edu) if you are interested so a set list of names can be given out.
- It is the premier governance group on campus.
- President gets informed, things get discussed, you really don't want to miss the opportunity to be at this table.
- Have your voice heard!
- Even MSO's not required may also be involved!
- Staff Council even has back up Reps.
- It poorly reflects on us that we can't get eleven students.
- Dave will voice the time concerns (3-5 is between two busy class periods) to the committee.
- Please let Teraisa know if you can help.

- When a student speaks up, the council does listen and does take students concerns to heart.
- What you say there DOES have an impact!
- The seats we are to fill ARE voting seats so you do have a say at the council.

### **Inspiration Quest Goal Setting:**

- October 2<sup>nd</sup> retreat, packets passed out by Karey Pine.
- Feedback last year: People wanted change.
- If it doesn't work, we will change it again. Always room for improvement!
- Retreat in the past exclusively skill building.
- This year: we all have the same center to serve students.
- In stressful moments, it helps to know people have your back and are all working towards the same goal.
- Agenda is still rough: slowly becoming firm.
- Cabinet, President and VP have spoken with Karey regarding the agenda.
- One session of skill building still included.
- Don't want to reveal too much – many surprises!
- Theme behind the whole retreat: we all succeed together, not just “me” or “my organization” ... but ALL of us.
- NO goal setting within retreat itself.
- Creative surprise that requires some homework in advance.
- Due NEXT MONDAY to Karey Pine: VERY important, you will receive feedback and they will be displayed.
- Identify something that represents your organization, some sort of symbol to represent its commitment to the community.
- Share with the other groups at the end of the day, will be placed on display in the fireside lounge.
- Way to remind yourself and the students of your promise through the year.
- Expand more on “symbol?”
- Brainstormed a list of words how SG serves the community.
- Trying to determine an “item” that represents all of those words in one.
- Good way to start the process of selecting a symbol.
- Quote will be placed with the symbol so it doesn't necessarily have to be “obvious”.
- One way to intrigue members, other methods of learning will be touched on during the day.
- All of E-board?

- They would like as many of E-boards as possible, you will be mixed up during the day and it's good to be represented.
- RSVP?
- Another letter will be sent out this week, make sure you reply, an RSVP line will be included.
- Where do we meet?
- Check in lobby area of CIMS, will be directed to the main room.
- Turned back over to Dave:
- Hopefully you've decided what items and goals you would like to bring to the retreat.
- Senators goals will contribute to SG goals as a whole.
- Today we are going to establish SG goals.
- Find common trends between cabinet, senate etc. for SG to make a goal for the community.
- Break into groups of four or five and what goals should SG aim for this year? How might your constituency play in? Try to think about the whole body as well.
- Going to hold a "work session".
- At the end we will have a mini presentation from each group.
- Right your name on the packets so Dave may know who worked in each group.
- Raise your hands when you have a group.
- Groups worked independently for about 15 minutes.
- Around 1:54 pm Dave asked for a wrap up.
- Around 1:56 we resumed session to discuss.
- One person from each group stands and highlights main points from each section.
- Hand in packets at the end.
- First group:
- Programming: More social events between MSO's, cabinet, senators and everyone interacts.
- Student Advocacy: Increasing point of contact, putting tables in SAU or on quarter mile so students can know who the reps are.
- Organization/Teamwork/Development: more social activities outside of meetings, dinner, one on one lunches so we aren't strangers.
- Collaboration with Other Organizations: volunteer within other groups and be visible as student government.
- Group two:
- Programming: cook off, inner group bonding, movie nights.
- Student Advocacy: student lounges in colleges, area to be away from work for students, 24 hour computer labs, 24 hour library, college murals.

- Organization/Teamwork/Development: more than just fliers, day of fun, going to each other's events, must support each other.
- Collaboration with Other Organizations: Mix up the faculty, invite dept. heads to events.
- Group three:
- Programming: broaden definition of who is SG, get students involved with SG by new means, bring a constituent to senate, try to bring one person to senate with you.
- More school spirit through athletics!
- Dorm challenge into global village, student speak up day, make it bigger! More tables! More people!
- Competitions.
- Dorm Storm: One dorm on a weekend and sit in with a floor of kids and asking them how they could be more comfortable.
- Organization/Teamwork/Development: divide between MSO's, senate and cabinet, try to get rid of that separation, try to make us feel like one whole group.
- Make the campus feel like they are part of us also.
- Group four:
- Programming: innovate, get NEW people involved, it's almost always the same familiar people.
- Student Advocacy: let students know when major developments are happening on campus, inform them!
- Organization/Teamwork/Development: create a diverse campus, support women, unify the greek councils.
- Collaboration with Other Organizations: Work with college senators and staff to get involved with the community.
- Group five:
- Programming: Student Speak Up day MORE than once per year, once per quarter?
- Student advocacy: bringing more constituents into student government so people know how SG functions
- Organization/Teamwork/Development: Freshman could check off what groups they are interested through email so they could get updates relevant to their interests.
- Collaboration with Other Organizations: work on getting more restaurants and vendors with tiger bucks and debit, raise awareness on where they can already be used.
- Group six:
- Programming: increase student attendance, find different ways to better advertise SG to the student population
- Student Advocacy: develop better relationships, smaller and more personal ways to go about forming relationships

- Organization/Teamwork/Development: increase mandatory meetings, make sure leaders are there, better communication, more dedication.
- Collaboration with Other Organizations: build collaborations that aren't already made, mix up different organizations to work together for different types of events.
- Work sessions aren't normal here at the meeting, but it was necessary for us to form real and meaningful goals.
- Send packets forward.

## **Presentations**

### **Changes in General Education:**

- Elizabeth faculty member in biology.
- Chair of general education committee.
- GE hasn't been reformed for a LONG time.
- In the process of revision as part of the semester conversion.
- GEd: State of NY mandates 60 degrees of a BS degree must come from GEd.
- Can include multiple disciplines.
- BFA: 30 credits of GEd.
- Other programs have different programs as well, mostly within NTID.
- GEd normally controlled by college of science and liberal arts, other colleges haven't had much say.
- EVERY college should have a voice in this process.
- Academic Senate formed new committee to look at GEd.
- Oversee assessment of the program, set it up and see if it works.
- Determine which courses are GEd and maintain the catalogue.
- Getting a new SIS system to make it easier for everyone to find which courses are GEd and what they count for.
- Need to build a set of principles that compliment RIT's mission, serves the students, reflects diversity, conforms to state definitions and work with RIT's mandates.
- 19 learning outcomes by the time you graduate, framework must reflect these outcomes.
- Seek advice from COS and COLA since they have been in charge on this but all colleges will be involved.
- Must think about budget, benchmarking against other colleges
- Deadline Nov 1<sup>st</sup>, in the phase of getting feedback from different groups before it goes in for approval at academic senate.
- One rep from every college, dean council, academic senate.

- Every student can reach outcomes, new writing guidelines it must conform too, breadth and depth (wide variety of courses across a range of disciplines or study an area in depth), allow students to make connections across disciplines.
- Take what you learn in class and apply it to different classes.
- Want GEd to support your program and major field of study.
- Want to make it easier to use, tag each course that has been approved.
- Want it to be intellectually stimulating for students and staff.
- University-wide engagement
- Not disciplinary based but outcome based; what is you want to know? Categories will have certain outcomes, based on what you're learning in the courses.
- Cross knowledge across disciplines.
- Writing intensive.
- Two courses: foundation, brand new freshman seminar course, academic based, NOT FYE.
- First year writing intensive course.
- Perspectives: Defining what those categories will be.
- 15 credits still working on
- 12 credits math and science, two math and two science courses.
- Not just science/math, but courses that MEET these outcomes.
- Ethical reasoning, social analysis, problem solving, etc.
- Immersion: Concentrations will no longer be liberal arts based by GEd based.
- Could be from a cross of colleges, as long as it meets the outcome.
- Addition of two more courses you could have a minor.
- 60 credits on SEMESTERS, it is 90 on quarters.
- Left over credits are electives, many programs will tell you which ones you have to take.
- BFA degree is difficult to build flexibility in because it is only 30 credits.
- Trying to maximize flexibility and meet student learning outcomes.
- Process for review:
  - Any course put together will go through curriculum committee and college.
  - Must meet NY state laws and learning outcomes.
  - Are other colleges excited about this responsibility or increased workload?
  - It is VOLUNTARY, so they are not forced to implement GEd courses.
  - Many colleges are excited to include their college as GEd.
  - Some will probably be reluctant because of budget and programs.
  - Are there going to be steps taken that information taught in courses won't be redundant?

- One of great things about semester conversions all courses must be re written and re approved, so it'll be possible to avoid redundancy when course outlines come through.
- Sometimes there will be some "redundancy" so there is reinforcement of skills without overlap of content.
- Is there a student on the committee?
- No, Academic Senate set membership and no student was involved.
- It would be a great idea to have a student or a couple of students.
- What does writing intensive mean?
- Writing committee says three writing courses must be taken.
- New requirements: MUST get a paper back and be able to rewrite it, for example.
- Program even has to offer one, some are excited about it and some are not.
- THROUGHOUT the experience, not just offered by English department.
- Hoping there is no "both", but FYE and first year seminar class will be combined as ONE.
- Colleges won't be hosting their own first year program anymore.
- Consistency will be brought to advising throughout the campus so every student gets what they need.
- Critically important we have systems in place to get students through the semester change.
- Will make sure no students will be harmed in this process, hoping for signature to allow flexibility to make sure students graduate on time.
- Will have an electronic system to make it easier for students to know what they need to graduate.
- Writing committee will design the new writing course that will be like writing seminar.
- Would love to have a capstone in the future but right now there is no capacity to pull it off.
- One more questions, all other questions given to Dave and he will forward them.
- What is a capstone?
- Senior level experience, final thing you do at the end of your program, like a senior thesis/project/etc.
- Arts and Expression will probably become a category, at least one writing intensive course and many of these might be writing intensive.

### **RIT Recycling Program:**

- Laura is here to speak to us about recycling.
- Laura is the new recycling administrator.
- Goal to recycle 50% on campus.
- Have only currently recycled 38%.



- Gained local, national and regional recognition.
- Recycle mania events, Earth month activities, etc.
- Would really like to reach that 50% goal this year!
- Definitely obtainable this year!
- Lots of top universities already at 60%
- Recycling is really just common sense – it's the right thing to do.
- Always looking to lower waste management fees.
- Any questions or ideas, contact Laura.
- Any specific ways SG can partner with the administration?
- Really looking for ideas, opinions, anyway to get students to get involved and promote collaboration.
- Looking for improvement for the program and how students can recycle.
- Only one place on the quarter mile that has recycling!
- That would be a great place to start.
- A lot of students actually WANT to recycle, but if it's not convenient they won't do it— make recycling areas more accessible to students.

## **Reports**

### **Senate Reports:**

- CIAS: Two days again opened the Vignelli Center, love to have everyone check it out.

### **Committee Reports:**

- Wed, Sept 22<sup>nd</sup>, SG will sponsor a BBQ and promoting fall elections and handing out sunglasses.
- Sending a sign up sheet around.
- Keep October 16<sup>th</sup> free because a lot of help will be needed with the speaker in the field house.
- Expecting a sell out, more numbers with committee report.
- Come help out and you get to meet Al Pacino!
- Also need held before the event if you are busy during the event.
- Global Union: This Sunday Dan Nainan, comedian, free, swipe ids to keep records.
- Ingle Auditorium, Doors open at 2:30 pm and show begins at 3 pm.
- Over 20 packets have gone out, 2 have been returned.
- Thursday Sept. 23<sup>rd</sup> 6 – 7 pm SG Office Student Speak up Day
- Friday September 24<sup>th</sup> 3 – 4 pm in SG Office

- Dave went to Institute council on Wed.
- Our enrollment this year is higher than expected, retention of returning students increased. 500 more.
- Overseas retention is 700 students larger.
- New NTID president in the next few months, a few deans will be stepping down at the end of year.
- Over 2700 tickets already sold for Al Pacino.
- Get tickets ahead of time!
- Hockey is already over 3,000 tickets.
- Athletics think they can sell out the entire rink.
- Registration for all the events is up a 1000 people more than last year.

### **Advisor Reports:**

- Al Pacino: Parents are welcome, but no, parents cannot meet Al Pacino.
- Can help save seats for your parents so you will be able to sit with them.
- Dr. Heath's last senate meeting for a couple weeks, little surgery out for two weeks, will miss inspiration quest, we will see him in a few weeks.
- Movie night of Al pacino – which movie?
- Greg will email the group with a few choices and we will have a vote next week.
- Two motions to end the meeting.