## 2010-2011 SG Senate Meeting

9/24/2010

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

Absent: Director of Services, CAB, Academic Senate, Dr. Heath.

## **Call To Order**

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

SCB motion to approve, KGCOE seconded. Minutes pass.

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

- VP: Colleen asked to speak today because she is leaving.
- RHA: I was talking to the e-board of a club and heard its now 6 weeks to cut a check. I know there is a competition this club heads to and its now too late to cut a check because of this new time limit. I just wanted to raise that to SG's attention.
- VP: Is there a motion to discuss?
- Women's motion to discuss, OUTspoken seconded.
- Women's: What type of competition?
- RHA: We do three, through CAST. We do a construction management competition where we travel and have 24 hours to put a price tag on something. The other two are regional conferences where we compete with other schools. It's a steel bridge competition. We have to register for these, especially when we go to Canada. We've had a lot of difficulties in the past with transactions and making deadlines for the Club Resource Center. A lot of the times we have about 7 people trying to help. Since a lot of people in CAST need to have 5 co-ops, a lot of them are gone so this changes hands a lot. So going from the original 4 weeks to the new 6 weeks makes it worse.
- OUT: So this is something affecting all clubs?
- RHA: I know it definitely affects ASCE.
- OUT: So clubs recognized by SG?
- RHA: Yes.
- OUT: Do we know why it changed?

- RHA: We asked and they didn't really have an answer. Once the paper work goes to the other office, it takes 7 to 10 days for them to cut the check. So it must be something there that takes 5 weeks to get it back. I'm sure there is red tape but I know it definitely is a problem for ASCE. I know last year it came up in Senate to get more clubs recognized, and I think something like this would hinder that.
- VP: I think a lot of us are surprised to hear the change. Jeff, could you look into this further. Colleen, would you partner with him on this? You guys can sit down and find out why this is and then report back to us. If anyone else wants to partner with them on this, e-mail them. I believe you raised your hand to speak to senate?
- Rob: Yes. I would like to propose SG allocate funds for a bus to downtown from 10pm to 2:30pm on Friday and Saturday. It will help show that RIT cares about students. A lot of other colleges do this. It keeps people safe while drinking and it gets people to go downtown. I think we should start it and try it out. Then if it is successful we keep it, if not we don't.
- KGCOE motion to discuss, SAAC seconded.
- KGCOE: Would that even be something SG could consider? Could we afford it?
- VP: If we feel we want to move forward with it, we would move forward with it. Let's not worry about the money right now. Just using my best guess we would have to partner.
- COS: Liability wise, could we do this?
- Pres: I think you brought up a great point. We could probably come up with a solution. Randy might be a good contact too. We could figure out the money.
   The outcome is possible. If the Senate really wishes to make it to happen, we can.
- Student Relations: This is hard to talk about because it comes up every year. It
  would be different if it was just going to Rochester and not the night life. Dr.
  Heath would want to know about if someone passes out on the bus. We can't
  really foresee this.
- Rob: What about adding a public safety officer on the bus?
- VP: We never talked about that.
- RHA: What about having a bus where you could go see a play? Not just nightlife. That's a good consideration.
- SAAC: It gets brought up every year, we have a room full of students who are for it and a room of adults who are against it. If we could work in a bus starting at noon and go until midnight we could get a little more of a compromise. If other campuses can make it work, we could figure something out.

- OUT: I'll keep it brief, I know that last year Spring Quarter the women's center had a free bus to the public markets. Market it as more of a weekend bus, like Michelle said, starting it at noon and run it late.
- President: You're right. It has come up every year and they continue to say no. I think we need to ask why they say no, what are they worried about? If students want to experience a better culture we need to ask how we can make Rochester more accessible. Colleen brought up a great point of the theater. Why not have a bus. If we want to pursue it, we need to ask these questions.
- Rob: Could we have a town meeting where students and administration can discuss their points. If students want this, we might be able to sway them.
- VP: Would you work with us on this?
- Rob: Sure.

## **New Business**

#### **Finance Bylaw Changes:**

- VP: If you remember we had the proposed by-laws change to just edit the names. Are there questions or a motion to discuss? A motion to approve.
- SAAC motion to approve, OUTspoken seconded. By-law changes pass.

### **Student Speak Up Day:**

- Student Relations: I have two cards to pass around. One is for Peter Briggs at Barnes and Noble because he donated gift cards for prizes. The other is a Get Well card for Dr. Heath since he is out for a few weeks. Now we have presentations. I received an e-mail to meet with Judy and her GA to talk about the follow up for Student Speak Up Day. This is Donald, he is a GA charged with "closing the loop". Student Speak Up Day was a public event on the quarter mile where 54 departments were present for students to ask questions and give surveys. The departments had to get back to us with their data and an action plan. Here is an example of a survey and an example of a response. That's what Student Speak Up Day was. It ended with results and action items, and that's where we stand now. Donald is going to talk a bit about the Student to Student Survey.
- Donald: This was done by the Office of Student Affairs. It was done by 4,074
  undergrads about the experience at RIT as a whole. There was a scale
  student could rate things on and a comments section. What we're looking to

- do is take the data and make a collaborative effort to close the loop and let students know what was done.
- Student Relations: We're trying to figure out what the next step is so that students know what they said helped us make changes. We decided to make a committee called the Student Feedback Committee. Who's in? Any questions? Donald and I will meet again and brainstorm more ideas from what we know on these topics and then meet with you who want to be involved and get your ideas. So who wants to be involved?
- Organization Recognition: With those nine areas, how will you determine what is number one?
- Donald: We'll have to see what kind of trends we have. We can use that to determine what is priority.
- Student Relations: They're all kind of competing with each other. The student survey was all pretty general. The student speak up day survey was very specific to departments. That's why we want to collaborate and showing the general feedback.

#### "Get Stuff Challenge"

- Student Relations: So Greg kind of asked me to be creative and think of new events we could do. So I kind of thought we could host a community service event. I borrowed the name, it was the Do Stuff for Stuff challenge. It would be to give back to the community and inform the community of Rochester's needs for donations. This event is a project/event/race. Teams race against each other to collect donatable items from a list in order to win a prize. Students would sign up with 5 or less students on a team. Every student will get a "shirt" to show they are "official".
- Day before Halloween, October 30<sup>th</sup>, Saturday. Give out pamphlets to the community giving facts about the homeless, etc., "reverse trick or treating".
- Around 25 items, compiled by contacting local shelters, soup kitchens, etc.
- Food Link, Open Door Mission, St. Peter's Kitchen, etc.
- Any improvements, additional ideas, prizes, etc.?
- Need the prizes to still be "community service focused", shouldn't be worth more than what we are working towards.
- Get the buzz started, make teams, etc!.
- SAAC: All for the idea, but HATE the date. LOTS of kids leave RIT for Halloween, weekend prior or the weekend after? Might make the date more accommodating, people go to other colleges, etc. Noon to three?
- COS: What's preventing them from BUYING the items instead of going door to door?

- Student Relations: Stuck on prizes, Look into having it verified, not going to prevent anyone from deciding to give something that is NEEDED.
- COS: Should be a COMMUNITY event.
- Finance Director: Maybe verify with a SIGNATURE? Or have someone initial the item they gave? It is a charity event, hope people are being CHARITABLE.
- Digital Camera take a picture with the person, maybe create a collage with all the compiled photos at the end of the event?
- SAAC: Prize: Maybe candy with Halloween theme? One team might cheat, but not every team, this IS a charity event after all.
- Public Relations: Two weeks after a box in the office asking people to drop the items off, free popcorn, opening it up to the community.
- GCCIS: Prize maybe for the first place, but maybe just a party celebration for all the teams after.
- Don't want the list to be uneven, easier to give away canned food not sweatpants etc, competitions want it to be fair.
- SCB: Drag out for a few days so more teams could accumulate more things, drive more competition between the teams.
- KGCOE: Substantial reward can't be dragged out for many days and give any timeframes (like 3 or 3), homecoming weekend everyone is here, parents could get involved, show off SG and RIT to the parents, best way to show were a community that gives back.
- VP: Very difficult because we're going to need to partner with different organizations, everyone already has commitments, awesome idea but there is no infrastructure capable of supporting it.
- Student Relations: Think of a better name? Definitely better name than "Get Stuff", will take into account all the suggestions, hopefully be able to come back with a better date next week, MSO's, constituents have teams, etc.
- VP: Feel free to start talking about this to other students, not an event for just people in the room, want to reach out to everyone on campus.
- COS: Organizations for animals also, not just people oriented.

## **Reports**

#### **Senate Reports:**

 Public Relations: RIT has an SG facebook page, had been associated with RITchie the tiger, didn't feel like that only represented SG, Facebook is a great advertising and involvement recruitment, already 300 people, already a discussion, get all the senators posting, etc. Everyone needs to be involved, weekly speaker have a discussion about it

- the week before to get student feedback, 2,000 people total by next week there will be CUPCAKES at senate! EVERYONE get your friends to like it!
- VP: Makes it easy to SPAM the right people! Filter to RIT!
- SAAC: Tons of athletes on a Sunday night (where we can accommodate an entire dorm)
  what are they looking for to get to athletic events? Why stop there? Other MSO's could
  come and ask these students questions about what they want, if you want to be
  involved it will be some Sunday in October, raid the dorms, they are coming to us so we
  need to go to them.
- Student Relations: Academic Senate, committee charged with faculty academic freedom, faculty self publishing, policy on how professors can charge students for self published material, who makes sure the info is valid to the course? Price limit?
   Professors are mandating something THEY published and then make a profit from us, academic freedom does not mean profit, they have our back, they won't let this happen!
- COLA: First advisor board for college of liberal arts is up and running.

#### **Committee Reports:**

None

#### **Advisor Reports:**

- Karey Pine: Just came from department kick off meeting, October the 15<sup>th</sup> (Friday) senators at 4 in the RITZ welcome with favorite faculty, almost everyone signed, please give a name if you have not yet so invitations can be sent out, Senators need to be there since you nominated. 4 pm 6 pm.
- 6 pm downtown Rochester alumni president gala, traditionally SG has sent 1-2 tables of people, this year people need to STAY, not ideal to have you leave after dessert, Craig Ferguson is coming after, don't sign up to go to the gala if you're going to that show, commit the whole 6pm 10pm, Senators are allowed to leave RITZ around 5:15 to get there on time.
- Saturday you are committed 11:45 am SG office with provided lunch, 12:15 going to
  the field house to work and host Al Pacino, MUST host the event, usher people to VIP
  seats, will more than likely be a huge crowd, 4500 4700, over 3000 tickets sold
  already, still two and a half weeks to go, get your FRIENDS TO BUY TICKETS! Probably
  going to sell out, sign up sheet with e-mail address to get updates about Horton
  schedule, agency confirmed there will be a meet and greet and photo ops, speaker is a
  little shy and eccentric, limited photos, group yourself, he is happy to be coming here,
  be respectful of his space and time, live interviewer, Al Pacino will speak on a topic

- related to his work, very exciting to have a full house, KNOW you are committed from noon to 5.
- VP: All hands on deck in the past, reached out to many leaders of MSO's etc., this year might not need support from MSO Eboards, might end up needing the help but not necessarily now, CAB is also helping out with the speaker, if you MSO rep cannot attend please make it very clear to VP and Karey who you want to be your replacement because of who gets to meet Al Pacino at the end, will figure out reserve seating for parents, check your E-MAIL for this information and do the reservations ahead of time, go back to E-boards and say we might not need their help.
- Karey Pine: Tell # MSO reps might reserve their seating, can't pay for their tickets but we might be able to get them closer to the stage, parents STILL need to buy tickets, we will just be saving them a seat, official list doesn't need a ticket, but parents DO.
- Student Relations: Appropriate attire?
- Karey: Typically business dress attire, you could wear polos with nice pants, not jeans, dress nicely. NO JEANS!
- VP: Business casual, polo with a nice set of pants, not an SG polo PLEASE wear your name tags, if you don't have name tags use your best judgment, presidents office might be making name tags for everyone.
- Karey: If you have family in town and you don't want to be busy on Friday, that's fine, that's mostly an optional night.
- Inspiration quest! Many have received goals nice and typed up, RHA, WITR, OCASA,
  Global Union, SG have turned in, PLEASE turn your goals in, huge display item displaying
  goals to the community, PLEASE give goals! Needs to be ready for next Saturday! CIMS,
  10 am, breakfast in the morning, all speakers confirmed, interpreters being confirmed,
  Find a symbol of your organization and bring it to the retreat! Don't forget to bring it!
- VP: Senators goals are a part of SG goals, personal goals you should bring with you, but you don't need to turn anything into Karey!
- Karey: Looking forward to a great weekend! Send some good energy Dr. Heath's way. There will be vegetarian options for food!
- President: Staff council had a dialogue about the registration system, some people hate it, some think its fine, E-mail stories about registration to Pres because unsure on how to represent the SG opinion on this issue.
- VP: Thanks for people wearing orange and brown! Remember everyone needs to show up for the secret prize!
- Elections BBQ rescheduled, this Wednesday, whatever shift you signed up for BEFORE hoping it stills works, but let Dave know if your schedule changed.
- Meet and Greet from 3-4 pm, free pizza, please stop by and meet some of the prospective members of SG.

# **Adjournment**

• SAAC: first motion to leave

• KGCOE: Second motion to end.