## 2010-2011 SG Senate Meeting

10/1/2010

student government

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 (late), RHA, WITR,
SAAC, OUTspoken, ACA, OCASA, Academic Senate, Staff Council, Karey Pine.

Non-Present: Director of Services, Dr. Heath.

## **Call To Order**

### **Approval of Minutes:**

- Motion KGCOE, second by CAST.
- All in favor.

### Speak to the Senate:

- Invited speaker to RIT named P. M. Forni.
- Scholar in Civility and Italian literature.
- SG finance committee approved 500 dollar contribution to speak about Civility.
- Incident at Rutgers last week that was really an unfortunate incident.
- Implementing a Civility program on their campus, Dr. Forni is involved.
- Hope people behaving in a civil manner will prevent such an incident from occurring at RIT.
- Will be here all day Civility on campus during the age of the internet,
   lunch on campus, presentation for faculty and staff.
- Evening reserved for the students. Send student leaders, recommending how to get students involved.
- Oct. 21<sup>st</sup>, Thursday, Student leadership workshop at 7 pm.
- Would really like to have representation of student leaders, students are able to push the agenda sometimes better than adults, 'Train the Trainer',
- Open to our feedback and suggestions, provide some information to Dr.
   Forni, sign up sheet if you are interested in participating.

- Dr. Destler is contributing to this effort, chief diversity officer, Dr. Waters, many people are contributing on this big topic.
- Early December event, scholar on the area of social justice, spending a
  whole day with resident life staff, working out a workshop for student
  leaders and the general community, want to take this further may be
  coming to SG.
- CAST: What is the benefit of attending?
- Civility What's in it for you? Leadership skills you will need in the future, biological impact of inCivility, dealing with people who are not respectful, huge impact on individuals and society, ability to communicate and work collaboratively effectively, skills we develop and improve on. How problems are dealt with is the most important.
- No further questions.
- VP: We will be happy to advertise if you have any materials.
- Draft agenda will be distributed.
- Parin Herman: Freshman class senator (running), would like to speak to anyone who wants to speak to him after the meeting.
- Dr. Jeremy Haefner: Chief academic officer, Provost, all academic things go through him, want to make himself available anytime we would like him to come to senate, be available for Q&A, academic affects all aspects of campus, wants to hear concerns and thoughts on what movements are going forward, have a great year, would like to present on an institute of health science and technology, key initiative this fall.
- Santos: Freshman senator candidate who did not come to meet and greets,
   just wanted to introduce himself.

## **New Business**

**Fall Elections Modifications** 

- SR: Last year NTID moved to fall elections instead of spring, senate decided it would be beneficial to allow all freshman students in NTID (2 year college) to be able to apply in fall.
- Written into the bylaws as following same process as grad and freshman.
- Met with NSA and elaborated on the process and the change.
- Winter elections review committee chaired by someone not affiliated with SG, will critique fall and spring elections.
- Fall changes will have to approve.
- Chaired by SR, three voting seats, proposing to add a rep for NTID and Grad students from NSA and GSAC.
- Teraisa will vote only if there needs to be a tie breaker.
- Freshman doesn't have a clear rep so no one is going to be added right now.
- Nominees (3) will be formally invited to attend an NSA and GSAC meeting to expand their platform and inform their constituents, hopefully be able to have a more specific platform.
- Three nominees will still present to senate and will be voted on by senate.
- KGCOE: Grad senator and NTID senator, at least ONE rep or ONLY one rep?
   Needs to be clear for a motion.
- SR: Best to have ONE person, best planning wise to have only one person.
- KGCOE: No rep. in senate to vote on the final?
- SR: They may come to watch, but they will not be able to vote.
- Randy Jackson, NSA speaker: Like to discuss why community cannot vote for NTID senate.
- 4 problems: NTID runs differently than other colleges, cultural perspective senate may choose hearing instead of deaf, last year senator was almost fired, NTID senators representing a college, not just a group, should be left up to the students, not the senate.
- VP: NTID senator appointed by NTID community last year. We hope some of the recommended changes might be able to address these concerns, any additional steps we could take to address concerns?
- Randy: Don't quite understand the question.

- VP: We've added the NSA member to the voting committee and mandated the NTID student present in front of NSA, do you have any suggestions to further address your concerns?
- Randy: Let candidates go to NSA, NSA has representation from within all the community, submit a suggestion to senate based off that feedback.
- SR: After the candidates meet with NSA, ask as a group to formalize a 'pro and con' of each candidate, do not just want a name of which candidate is best, a list would be more helpful for Senate.
- Cross Registered: Two hearing vote seats on election voting committee, would like them to know what deaf culture is like, NTID senator should have deaf representation.
- VP: Do want rep from NSA to sit on the committee, need a discussion on the amount of people who will sit on the elections committee.
- CAB: All proposals just brainstorming now?
- VP: Was already approved in week one, want a 'final draft' to be ready to be brought to senate next week.
- SR: Isn't formally written out in bylaws (outlined), this is a friendly amendment.
- SAAC: Eventually, NSA elect NTID. Should be a COMBINED effort for election, although they are representing NTID it is a school wide decision, we need to make sure they meet our criteria to sit at this table.
- Karey Pine: Before people come here, see NSA and then have a pro con list, then there will be a discussion to pick final three, final elected at senate.
- Many groups are going to want to pick their own senator (instead of senate), trying to figure out 'appointment' and 'election' to be fair to all parties.
- VP: Original idea is a rep from NSA on the committee (voting seat) that's narrowing down the pool, then presents three candidates to NSA, then they would come to senate.
- Pres: The process cannot stay a hybrid, it needs a change. Going to need help setting up a review committee with a non SG group, hoping they will

- be able to come up with a model on what they think will work best and it will be discussed at senate.
- KGCOE: NSA should vote on their top choice, in a transition face, but it feels like were going backwards having SG make the final decision.
- SR: Pros and Cons list will come from the NHA.
- KGCOE: Can they rank them as well? We aren't part of that community.
- VP: Clarification, NSA is not the NTID community. Senate will probably
   VOTE using a lot of weight on the Pros and Cons list.
- CAB: Constituents can choose representation better then SG can. Why do we need to see their logic?
- SR: Agreed, but it is either the whole NTID votes or we use this 'hybrid'.
   This is an ADD ON to the people who already got their signatures, etc. Next week we would have to amend by laws, tabled till week six etc, the time restrictions are not giving us the time to make major changes. This late in the game this hybrid is the best solution we can find.
- VP: This will be the second time we changed something on NTID in the
  middle of their running, with the process we have now we are going to be
  able to find a good candidate, students have gone and got signatures, filled
  out their bios, etc. If we make more changes, were going to have to leave
  the seats vacant even longer. We need their representation as soon as
  possible.
- KGCOE: Motion to approve fall election modification as it stands as long as we get lists of Pros and Cons from NSA and GSAC.
- VP: This doesn't need to be tabled because it is not an actual amendment to the bylaws. Want to clear everything is written down, not in our bylaws.
- SR: Interview starts Monday. Decision cannot wait another week.
- SCB: Second motion.
- Motion passes, no nays.

#### **SG TV Senate Broadcasts**

PR: Huge file to video all the senate minutes.

- Implemented the podcasts last year, work together to put together a two
  minute video to update the RIT community what happened at senate,
  always upload the recorded minutes to the website as well.
- Feel it is in the best direction to move away from videotaping senate.
- Minutes will still be recorded and placed on the website.
- Without recording Senate every week, at least 14 extra hours a week will be given to the PR staff to improve the services offered to students.
- VP showed an example of an SG podcast.
- VP: Started producing these videos last year and we've gotten pretty good at them, better use of our time into videos like this that people can get on the web whenever they like, more accessible, better information to people, there are students out there who watch SG TV, Josh does special project videos, Rob might be able to help out more without two hour long session videos, not written anywhere that we have to record but we have done it for a long time.
- OUTspoken: Probably a change for the better, time could be better spent else where, minutes will be posted to the general public?
- PR: Minutes will still be uploaded to the website every week, we are in the process of recreating our website, huge process.
- VP: Minutes characterized in the DML, you can browse the collection from the last few years, SG Update videos and text version of the update with a link to the minutes on the bottom.
- RHA: We don't need to publish two hour long videos, but what about keeping the films on file for reference some day?
- VP: Would need to figure out a way to categorize the film so it will actually be helpful in the future, minutes are an official record.
- COS: Pod casts on TV as well?
- PR: Yes.
- CAB: Where is the archive for the videos now?
- VP: Not available publically, right now the storage space is at three terabytes because of senate, need to decide how to address that moving forward, don't want to just REMOVE it.

- SAAC: Saves a lot of memory? Rob?
- Rob: Biggest advantage, two hours here and then MORE than two hours, senate takes up 7/8 hours of a 10 hour week, more special projects people actually want to watch, gives more time to work on those sorts of projects.
- KGCOE: Don't really see a need for video feed because we always have the minutes, only real reason for the video is to 'see' us.
- VP: People generally seem to think this is a good thing, don't need to vote.
- PR: Direct references to solve issues come from the minutes, not from the video feed.
- SAAC: Videos seem like a waste of time. Not many people know when senate even plays, we are a tech school, podcasts seem like the way to go, much easier to make and to give information to the public.
- WITR: Do you have a concrete number of people watching these videos?
- VP: No, no exact number.
- SCB: Highlights from the videotaping in the podcasts? Senate is a good watch, good to archive.
- VP: Should we waste time and money on videotapes? Or on other ways of reaching out to constituents? It would cost money for more storage.
- Pres: Quick question Imagine SG stopped showing senate meetings, only two people would not be okay with just stopping, but all others are okay with just stopping.
- SR: If we were a brand new SG, would we think to record our videos, knowing how much time and money we put into recordings? Institute Council doesn't record, no one else does.
- PR: About a 100 students might love SG videos, but we need to spend this much time and money on the rest of the 16900 students. We represent the entire campus, not just those 100 students. With more time, we could put more effort into the podcasts, so those will be even better representations.
- CAST: Agrees with PR, extend SG update, make it longer, cover all parts of the meeting?
- COS: People who actually want to watch the senate meetings on TV, can they not attend the meetings? They could just attend the meetings instead.

- VP: Senate videos are only accessible on campus, podcasts could be reached by everyone, on and off campus.
- CAB: But videotaping and archiving the meetings makes everyone accountable for every word they say.
- VP: No where does it say we have to record senate, we could look into it a bit more, look at financial impact, but this is why we review the minutes to make sure everyone is accountable.
- Rob: Important things do get said, sometimes Destler presents, etc. We could record on a case by case basis; people don't need to see our 25 minute debate on SG videos, etc.
- VP: We don't actually have the capacity to film everything as it is, we have to switch tapes part of the way through.
- President: No decision has been made yet, feel free to e-mail us if you have really strong feelings.
- OR: Tell Michelle if you want your words quoted so you are held accountable.
- VP: We will be moving on for sake of time.

# **Old Business**

#### **Club Resource Center Financial Procedures**

- VP: Does Jeff or Colleen have an update for us?
- OR: Plan on meeting with Colleen next week, will update you then.

### **Rochester Transportation Update**

- President: Some good news, some bad. Bumped into Destler and HE brought up that the transportation system needs to be reviewed. He agrees with us, which means we will get support.
- Bad news, haven't meant with Destler yet. That should be sometime this
  week. A lot of participants are thrilled to be apart of this effort, we will do
  well!

# **Presentations:**

#### **Student Government Vision: 2010-2011**

- VP: lots of activities to talk about our goals, inspiration quest is TOMORROW (October 2<sup>nd</sup>), final draft of SG goals which will be given to institute council and presidents round table.
- Pres: Spent the last few weeks gathering information from everywhere.
- First Programming: We want programming that has a PURPOSE behind it. Dorm challenge two years ago because of housing operation complaints, we want a model similar to this.
- Second Representation: Want to make sure we represent our students and constituents WELL.
- Third Operation: How we work as a team, with other organizations, etc.
   Fourth Communication and Facilitation: Communication and public relations.
- Wanted to take all opinions and turn it into a strategy, this is going to be brought tomorrow, let us know if you have feedback to add.
- SR: Purposeful programming! Relate programs to our students and their needs, innovative programming, cost-effective, stay on budget! Make sure money into an event is LESS then what students are GAINING!
- Student participation! Gain feedback with mechanisms like the iClicker, open forums that GAIN feedback and facilitate information!
- Pres: Internal Operations, how we work with each other and identify as SG, need to provide constant support and inspiration, everyone here has their own agenda, SG wants to make sure everyone gets their individual goals accomplished, senators have a greater reach than cabinet, want to work with senators to help their constituents, create an inspiring presence within SG, KEEP the SG office open!
- Relate with people! Remind the student body that we ARE here. Board of trustees give a paragraph statement giving SG's purpose, must find a way to fulfill that purpose, including efficient senate meetings.

- SR: Communication! Using our services team better, improving website and increasing web presence, maintain comfortable environments for students to be heard, transparent with finances with cleaner and more structured financial guidelines for financial process. New and innovative advertising methods, simplify the SG brand, identify ways to streamline message to the RIT community, all advertisements have correct information.
- Pres: Student Issues, "Just Walk In" SG office people can walk in and talk to
  us, open forums for all students, where are comfort zones for students etc.,
  surveys created with an INTENT, questions straight to the point, SG E-mail
  distributions not trying as much because they can become annoying,
  popcorn for feedback and write down the feedback so we can help
  students.
- Challenge RIT Administration to improve the campus and involve affected students in the goal-setting process!
- Want students who have an awareness of the problems because they are important in coming up with solutions!
- Representation: Want to establish a Student Committees Initiative, utilize student speak up day data to find patterns occurring on campus, look for underrepresented students and CHANGE that under representation, participate as a significant voice in RIT's "shared governance" model, be TRUE to constituents, we all want that, to represent the student body.
- SR: On the agenda! Club Fair Day! First year we e-mailed the students from the list and many of those students picked up election packets.
- Inspiration Quest goal develop and collaboration, Horton Speaker, Trick or Treat Challenge, SIS System open forum still in baby stages, ITS asked SG to hold this form to be reviewed since students should have a say, RIT challenge is a morphed form of dorm challenge to live in apartments to focus on transportation (including the RIT inn).
- Monthly Senate fun night out! Bowling, movies, etc. Challenging presenters to come to senate with an intent for student feedback, encouraging challenging and supporting the growth of our co-workers.

- T-shirts, face book page, SG updates over senate meetings, new expense approval form process, updates updating updates and a NEW SG website!
- Fall elections modifications, future open forums (international students, transfer students, disability awareness), SG member at EVERY academic senate and staff council meeting! SG college committees and purposeful representation on campus wide committees.
- QUESTION FOR YOU: What do you foresee SG's role being in the transition from quarters to semesters?
- Pres: How are we going to support this?
- VP: Revisit this next week when we have more time to devote to this, finish up quickly and come BACK to this next week as it is very important.
- SR: SG plan to expand our international sites, kind of serious instead of just a joke.

#### **Breast cancer Awareness Month**

- Women's: October is breast cancer awareness month!
- Women's center and student health center involved.
- Oct. 3<sup>rd</sup> with RA's from 3 pm to 7 pm, making ribbons in Grace Watson hall.
- Giving out breast cancer ribbons Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday handing them out in SAU, need help, e-mail if you can help.
- Oct. 25<sup>th</sup> health center speaker would like SG representation, Oct. 27<sup>th</sup> speaker will speak on health issues and breast cancer issues.
- Will send out a reminder e-mail.

#### President's Alumni Ball

- Karey Pine: Friday Night, Oct 15<sup>th</sup>, first night of homecoming brick city weekend.
- Ball open to all with the understanding if you sign up for the ball you CANNOT attend the comedian.
- Dress up occasion, free food, hang out with SG friends, networking with alumni, FUN... Free food!!

- Opportunity to see the number of alumni that really care about RIT and to honor them for their care, energy and time. RIT is a young university so it's sometimes hard to see the history, this makes it more tangible.
- Completely FREE, you do not have to pay! Sign up sheet will be sent around, please make your decision TODAY so all preparations can be made,
- Riverside Convention Center.
- CAST: Do we get a plus one?
- VP: Needs to see where we are at in filling our tables and we might be able to might accommodations, right now no.
- Greek Council: Can we send representation from E-board?
- VP: First preference actual MSO rep, sending someone in your place if you can't make it would be great.
- Karey Pine: Signing up means you ARE coming!
- VP: Who will be able to attend Al Pacino reception?
- If you are WORKING the event, you are welcome to attend the reception. Everyone at the table including SG staff members.
- WITR RHA and Greek Council still need representation. You can go if you signed up to work!
- Karey Pine: The reception is different this year because of our speaker's profile, reception IS a limited amount of people, not just anybody can come in! Different then other years!
- VP: Everybody working event will be saved two seats for someone to join them during the talk, new column on the sign up sheet for how many seats you need (up to 2), will be saving seats for E-board but they cannot bring parents, friends, etc.
- E-board members and parents in reserved seating NEED their own ticket!
   MSO reps make sure E-boards know.
- Karey Pine: This year reserved seats will be LABELED, not like the last years.
- Hoping this will sell out, means more limitations this year and more expectations on plan communication.
- SR: If we were invited by the president's office, who do we respond too?
- Karey Pine: Respond YOU are coming, do not respond for your parents.

• VP: Passing around the sheet to save seats for your parents, if you don't need seats please put a zero so we know you had a chance to fill it out.

# **Reports**

### **Senate Reports:**

• Skipped because of time.

## **Committee Reports:**

• Skipped because of time.

### **Advisor Reports:**

• Skipped because of time.

# **Adjournment**

• SAAC: first motion to leave

• CIAS: Second motion to end.