2010-2011 SG Senate Meeting   1/7/2011

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

Absent: Staff Council.

Call To Order

Approval of Minutes:

- 1st by KGCOE, 2nd by Global Union.
- All in favor

Speak to the Senate:

- None.

New Business

CAST Senator:

- Election of a new CAST Senator!
- All in favor of closing the meeting.
- All guests, including candidates, must now leave.
- MEETING CLOSED.
- Meeting has reopened.
- VP: Everyone was an excellent candidate, there are other opportunities to get involved if you don't get the position.
- Congratulations to Tim, our new CAST senator!
- Please feel free to join us at the table.

Old Business

RIT challenge:

- Programming: Please sign the birthday card for Kathy if you have not!

- Passing out now are the details of the RIT challenge.
- List of participants in the packet.
- Since there were only 17 participants, we eliminated a challenge-- the crossroads challenge.
- However, we will still be doing the discussion of what the crossroads challenge would have entailed at the RIT inn.
- Parkpoint, Wegmans (may be changed), Downtown are all still challenges.
- We need help escorting, moving, setting up, etc. Please get in touch, Senators contact Dave, MSOs contact Jeff. Please talk to people ASAP!
- VP: I Will be speaking more to the senators; Jeff will be reaching out to the MSOs.

MSO Calendar:

- PR: The promised MSO calendar is finally underway!
- MSO committee helped a great deal!
- A permanent one is coming eventually, but for now a paper one is set up.
- Please write your events so we can work together.
- There are general guidelines in the MSO lounge, don't worry about writing a freezefest event.
- Will need a contact for each MSO so we can make a contact sheet, find Marissa after the meeting or send an e-mail with a contact.
- VP: Reports now.

Presentations

Mid Year Reports:

- VP: Mid year reports; challenged senators to make a report, a ten minute presentation about what they have done and are planning to do. They can present in any way they want! It will be videotaped and published, we are hoping they will raise some awareness in the community.
- Second part of this: Asked the cabinet members if they would like to make reports as well, they would, and we would like to extend this to MSOs! E-board members can be included as well. The presentation will be recorded for you.

- **Chris Scott, KGCOE Senator, Mid Year Senator Report!:**
- Goals: Engineering Exploration Mentor Program, Engineering Affiliation Group, Improve student/dean relationship.
- Freshman with undeclared engineering major enter exploration. Most of the time they are "sold" a major from faculty/staff and don't get student input.
- The program would pair an upperclassman with an exploration student.
- They would meet on a regular basis.
- The peer mentor could be from a field the student is leaning towards.
- Peer Mentors could discuss co-ops, higher level courses, etc.
- Dean thought it was a great idea; hoped it would increase a spread of where the students go (normally mechanical engineering).
- Issues with the program: getting students to volunteer, keeping the ties close, would we pay them, etc.
- Karen Hirst is jumping through the hoops to do the administration part; trial run hopefully this spring so it can be implemented next fall.
- Affiliation Group: Seemed to not work for engineers. Too busy schedules; large groups of students cannot meet at the same time.
- Decided to meet one on one (or with a couple) of Individual student contacts in all different areas of engineering to talk about their specific areas.
- Example: Electrical Engineering, labs require expensive materials that are outdated and broken, many students to one machine, etc.
- Toured their labs, drafted ideas of what could be fixed, what was "budgetable", took an inventory of what needed to be done.
- Example of outline shown. Printers jammed, no one fixing it, list of solutions to these problems.
- Found department heads unresponsive; set up a meeting with Department Head with some students and addressed concerns, the dean promised to have new materials for the EEs.
- Hoping to fix one department at a time, boosting the whole college instead of tackling all problems at once and becoming overwhelmed.
- Thinking about implementing suggestion boxes where students congregate (crossroads, etc.). Go to where the issues are. Dean's office will also have access to these boxes.
- Senior Design: This winter and into the spring, Engineers in their fifth year go into Senior Design.
- All departments come together into one group, attack a problem and create a product.
- No senator has ever completed it before being a senator. Because of this, there is a lack of representation for this group.

- To remedy this, going to interview the students and the faculty of senior design.
- Already set up a meeting, getting more contacts to be interviewed through winter quarter.
- Possible Changes: have multiple groups work on the same project headed by the same teacher.
- Have it not be the first time a teacher has worked on a particular project, that way the teacher can address questions and not be learning it for the first time themselves.
- Will produce an end of the year report for Mark Smith (director of the program), what's good and what's bad, take advantage of what they are doing right.
- Committees: Calendar Conversion, All reps of a different subcommittee, all fall under umbrella of calendar conversion, everything incorporating the semester change.
- Intersession, what will be held, when.
- Leaning towards a few credit bearing courses for catch up, limit to about three credits, 6 hours a day, limit to one class, power labs during mini semesters.
- Major issue: will not be covered by financial aid.
- 5 by 3 model, 1 and 2 credit courses for engineers, necessary introduction courses, salaries, etc.
- Not allowed to discuss everything yet.
- Alpha Sigma Lambda Honorary Society Selection Committee: Must be a senior, 3.4 gpa or higher, active member for at least one year in two or more institute activities.
- SR: Maybe could have your own student committee? A student committee?
- Thing is many of them are making actual reports; all ideas come up to the big committee.

- **Next Presentation: Graduate Senator Report, Christopher Schauerman!**
- Dean Andrew Moore oversees everything.
- There are 3000 grad students in over 80 programs, accounting for 16% of the student body.
- Making a transition to graduate school at RIT, more ability to change things on campus, hoping for as much as 25% of the student population.
- Goals: Increase communication between senator, advising committee, and students.
- Goals: Development of interactive and collaborative forums for graduate students.
- Came from a graduate clipboard survey that was put out a couple years ago when the graduate office was just getting started. Lead to graduate research symposium and advising committee.
- 2011 survey in production, contributed part of what was important in becoming graduate senator.

- Hoping for a publication club where students around campus with different focuses come together to come up with new information for publication.
- Would like grad students mentoring RIT students applying to graduate school at RIT.
- First survey had over a 1000 students respond, taken very seriously.
- Graduate Tea Events: Informal social event once a month, never in the same location or hosted by the same people, normally about 40 people come and interact but this varie with each college, wine and cheese event in Vignelli center, over a 100 students beginning of winter quarter, lots of interactions, from this decided to host a graduate student ski trip to Bristol in collaboration with the freezefest event.
- Graduate Research Symposium: Almost 80 graduate students presented their research, consisted of poster sessions and oral presentations, from all fields of research, expecting more people to attend next year.
- Currently serving as a communications officer for the graduate research symposium.
- The event cost over $15,000 last year, hoping to get sponsors again this year.
- Already contacted 100 different companies.
- Diana Rhoten is the next keynote speaker, has appeal to many people.
- Goals: Increase communications, GSAC newsletter, quarterly publication to students and alumni, first edition biography, know your senator and committee, description of upcoming events.
- Welcome grad students to 2011!
- Hoping this will become a larger component.
- Graduate student spotlights, identify outstanding and interesting students, highlight them on the website and in the newsletter, make this a more integral component, so everyone knows what's going on, not just graduate students.
- Graduate Student Spring Picnic, many colleges do this, meet everyone, say goodbye, hopefully big success as it was last year.
- COS: Are you targeting students who are also in BS/MS programs?
- Absolutely, especially in engineering and sciences, they have different needs so we pay special attention to them.

- **Vincent DiCairano, CIAS Senator Mid Year Report!**
- Game: Throughout this slide show there are three lies, so you have to pay attention.
- Showed some photography.
- Goals: Tiger tracks, "beautification", fix website.
- Tiger Tracks: CIAS does not have Tiger Tracks! Only college that does not have it.
- Was supposed to start summer quarter, but is no longer possible because of the upgraded SIS system.

- However, this new system will have a tiger tracks program for all students.
- Booth is ugly; murals are needed, more signs to help navigate, end the graffiti problem.
- Must create a proposal and give to a committee for building renovation.
- Website is completely flash based and horrible; was already supposed to be going under construction, old technology.
- Add a submit now button to their portfolio digitally, put space on the website for each club, set up something similar to a blog, post blogs about what they are doing.
- Hoping to release website by beginning of spring quarter.
- Cannot show any images, but promise it is very media centered.
- First Friday: Tradition in CIAS community, first Friday of every month, drive a school bus full of students downtown.
- Creation of CIAS executive board: What would be the best way to reach out to the entire school? Past E-board had every club president, within a few e-mails we had first meeting.
- Dean came, basically bashed the college for the whole hour, recommended a student satisfaction survey, clipboard survey, dean advised they must have some form of data before anything can happen.
- SAU Showcase: Didn't get much a response the first time, much more interest for the upcoming two months. Woodwork, glass, jewelry, ceramics, anything can be displayed.
- Search for the new dean: Invited five (actually three, that's one of the lies) candidates to meet the e-board, didn't get a say in the final decision but it should be announced soon.
- Does not drive a school bus, second year, only 3 dean candidates.
- No questions.

Academic Convocation:

- Specifically focusing on Fall convocation.
  When it first started, convocation focused on just first year students. Broadened it to include the families as well as the students.
- Want to hear your impressions of the event; what did you like or dislike, what would you like to see?
- Event is in the morning, family orientation, tiger walk goes first, series of speakers, welcoming remarks, little more than an hour, after that go on to meet deans, etc.
- Fresh: Loved it; loved the orange and brown for parents and students, great way to meet first year students, make them feel like they belong at RIT.
- Length, content, anything else?
- Fresh: Made posters with our dorm floors, built a community before school started, it was great.

- SAAC: Didn't enjoy it, was forced to miss practice, kind of a waste of time, needs more personal interaction.
- COS: Speakers were fantastic this year; length of their speeches were a little long, maybe shorten them and add another student speaker as well, flash mob at the end was very fun.
- SR: Haven't felt the same excitement since tiger walk (except Detroit hockey game), amazing experience many campuses don't have, as an RA It put students into their own community early on, gives them a purpose with the floor banner, didn't like that once you came in you have to sit with your department but could sit where they wanted.
- VP: One of the only shared experiences we have at RIT; we celebrate our diversity, but that's one of the true times we come together as RIT students, but it would be better to let students know exactly what it is.
- Pres: Thrilled presenters had a time limit; some people went on and on before, when you can get any point across in ten minutes.
- RHA: Also a freshman, it was confusing during the tiger walk but the actual convocation was really nice.
- Fresh: Someone mentioned worries student had; came off the freshman facebook page, that gave a good impression that people were looking after us.
- KGCOE: What about having it at the end of orientation, when it's with people you've spent the last seven days with?
- If we moved it to the end, we'd lose the families, but we have talked about moving it to the end of that day.
- Tiger walk is more for alumni and faculty/staff than for students.
- Explanation is in the program but the students don't get to see that; that should change.
- PR: Wouldn't recommend moving it to the end, it was a nice send off for the parents.
- COS: Meet your OA in the morning, welcomed into the RIT community, commuter students can be integrated into convocation that way as well.
- VP: Meeting must be adjourned, would love to put a student on the committee for this.

Reports

Senate Reports:

- SR: Next week is the International Student Open Forum.
- Building 9's auditorium, SG, and GU, will need help handing out iclickers and collecting surveys.
- Ethnic club tables will be set up outside.
- Name tags with what country you are from.

- Will need people in the audience to start asking questions so people feel more comfortable.
- Fresh: Tiger Olympics, A New Event in the Res Halls.
- Promote interaction, hoping to begin at the end of January.
- Will be continuous event until the end of the year.

Committee Reports:

- VP: I have attended Staff Council, they haven't done much, Dr. Waters gave a money presentations, RIT is good on funds.
- SR: Before Spring, I will be looking at the bylaws for the election process. The elections review committee will draft remedies, SG and MSOs are welcome to sit on committee, if you would like to be involved please contact Teraisa.
- COLA: E-portfolios, each student would get 1 gig, starting to look at prices, it will be free.

Advisor Reports:

- Karey Pine: This Sunday at noon! The RIT lip synch video! A group of students in Canada did a lip synch video to "I Have a Feeling", but we are going to do Eye of the Tiger!
- The video will be shown as a kickoff to the freezefest hockey game, Friday night for the crowd before the team skates onto the ice.
- It will be used around campus and for other sporting events as well.
- Show up at noon for pizza and soda, we will overview positions, very little recital is involved.
- We are going to run through it ONE TIME, we will not mess it up!
- Wear orange or RIT gear! Meet at campus center, we will eat at fireside lounge.
- PR: Anyone can come, MSO's could promote on facebook with an update about it.
- KP: ANYONE came come! Not reserved to just leadership positions!
- Fresh: Are we singing?
- KP: Going to be a lip synch, mouth or sign it, any sound you make accidentally will be taken out.
- Possibly make a facebook event page, it's easier to link to things for MSOs, might get more people involved that way, and we can invite people.
- OCASA: What if we are only available until one?
- KP: It would be nice for you to come and interact for a little bit, you don't have to stay if you can't, that's fine.
- COS: How long is it going to take?
- KP: Have been told 12 – 4 pm, could be finished by 2 – 2:30 pm.

Adjournment

- 1st by GU, 2nd by SAAC.
- Meeting adjourned.