



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

Absent: NTID, Greek Council, Staff Council.

Call To Order

Approval of Minutes:

- 1st by KGCOE, 2nd by GU.
- All in Favor.
- Minutes pass.

Speak to the Senate:

- None.

Presentations

- Will be chatting with senators after a brief meeting about RIT challenge.

RIT E-portfolios!

- A committee was formed a few months ago about forming an RIT E-portfolio.
- No definitive answers; still in the formulate stages.
- Does anyone know what an E-portfolio is?
- SAAC: A regular portfolio you would give to employers but virtual?
- Could be for anyone, including yourself. Something you would want to store as an artifact. Designed to showcase your work.
- Having Access After Graduation, flexible use and set up (applicable to your own preferences), interface with other utilities (Linked In), tailoring it for multiple audiences.
- What do you think of the idea? Should we spend time on the groundwork? If we should, what sort of things should we consider (beyond the matters already mentioned)?
- VP: When looking at implementing the portfolio, what part of this will be brought to the students by the institute? In classes? Or is it on students, to use it themselves?

- Little bit of both; many things you already have to do, we can't tell faculty they have to use it but we feel many of them will want to utilize it; write a paper, version a, version b, etc. Will people find it useful? Depends on how students respond to it.
- OUTspoken: Are there thoughts about how to ensure in this system that your intellectual property stays yours, and people can't just steal it?
- Yes, as of right now we are assuming this would be stored on an RIT server, it is a huge concern, not sure how it will play out but it's being thought about.
- CIAS: Is there a limit to the amount of space?
- Sure there will be, but what that is, we aren't sure yet. Depends how many people use it, and what they are using it for, another reason we are including the rfi (request for information), we want the limit as high as possible, we want you to store as much as possible.
- Pres: Would it be available to me post graduate, or only people connected to RIT in the present?
- We are looking at developing a pilot for a small group of people to see how it is used; but the answer is yes, students probably wouldn't invest time in it otherwise, at the very least there will be an export option so you can get to everything you need, e-mail might also be extended in addition to this.
- Finance Director: Are you working with the MS department in the college of business, students for classes have developed an ePortfolio design for RIT.
- We have not looked at that, but we will.
- VP: I think that students would be very interested in using this system, especially after graduation. It's hard to show the work I can do on a hard copy piece of paper; might depend on how it is "branded", and how much it screams "RIT" when you open it. Wouldn't want it to appear as an "out of the box" RIT system, would like it to look like something we put effort and design into.
- You are talking about showing your materials to people outside RIT?
- We are hoping for personalization, good point, because naturally they would want to make it RIT.
- SR: Will it be free to students?
- Expectation is yes, but that is still in consideration; money from RIT comes from students anyway, I'd imagine there might be an "enhanced" version that might have a cost.
- SR: Do you think it will still have its introduction in FYE so students work on it their whole college career?
- Would expect that it would be incorporated.

- SR: Pilot programs; do you have students from different colleges sitting on it? All student needs are different. Maybe after five years, or however many years after their last class, if they don't want to buy it, it becomes deleted. Before deletion you could have an option to buy it, people would be more enticed to buy it only once instead of a yearly fee.
- SCB: Is there going to a group function to it? That way it seems more like a "group locker" ..?
- Ideally it would be able to handle projects as well; could have a wiki like aspect to it. A lot of what we ask students for is collaboration, so it would make sense to have.
- No other questions; thank you for your feedback, informally: is it worth investigating?
- Everyone raised their hand.

VP Mid Year Report:

- If you would like to present a midyear report (MSO's), please send Dave an e-mail and let him know.
- VP: I'm using a new format, "pressie", it gets mixed reviews, so we will see how it goes.
- I will be talking about my experience over the summer, and of course as the vice president.
- As director of services, I worked on a server for the Mac computers; got a new TV in the office, computer finally for a teletype, new guest computers, print management, SG voting application, few other things.
- Server: Never used to have anything backed up, but now everything is backed up. We also have a network share for the PR and services team.
- First goal for the year: Improve the RIT student leader election process.
- The process needs a lot of help. We need to look at how we elect in the fall versus the spring; we need to look at NTID and Grad and see how we can incorporate the voices of their constituents. Right now there is responsibility of behalf of the VP and SR positions in the process, those responsibilities need to be more clear-- and lastly the voting application.
- Elections review committee; chaired by non SG member, made up of reps from senate and hopefully non affiliated students, charged to make a list of recommendations for changes to the bylaw.
- Need to solidify roles of the cross registered/NTID senator.
- This year is the first X-registered senator ever and the first time NTID was elected in the fall.
- Wanted to make senate more accessible; forever indebted to Bobby and Marissa, people are definitely noticing the "whose your senator"?

- Two years from now, someone who saw that poster will remember there is a senator for each college.
- Efforts like this will make senators more visible.
- We stopped filming SG videos; a lot more time goes into the SG update videos, getting much more views, they are coming out faster, etc.
- We need to get people to senate meetings; will get working on creating a “constituents’ day”.
- We don’t do a good job of letting students know what is going on before senate, we are just good at after. We need to work on letting them know before.
- New focus on facilitating senate; didn’t want a horde of presenters, some presentations have not changed over the four years I’ve been on senate, but I think we’ve found a good balance between our time and the department’s time.
- We have had extremely successful elections; great candidates, every candidate we have seen could have done a great job, and that has not always been the case.
- Started a tech committee, Bobby is doing all the work, over 30 students were there, 5 or 6 people expressed interest in leadership roles, and no one in the room had an affiliation with SG.
- Only one returning senator this year; there were a few growing pains, but now everyone feels comfortable with their roles.
- SG rep on staff council.
- Future! Documentation for senators (and cabinet), many senators have specific roles charged by their college and we need documentation of these roles.
- Elections are fast approaching; we need to get more people here.
- Any questions?

Next Presentation: Renee Cook, College of Science Senator!

- Goals: Increase student interaction and involvement, strengthen the ties between COSSAB and COS senator, help students connect and develop better relationships with faculty.
- Would like an updated list of the clubs and organizations in COS; lists aren’t current and lack contacts.
- Host a college of science club fair so students could participate more readily; trying to get a list of which clubs are active.
- Hoping this fair will be hosted at least once a quarter.
- COSSAB – college of science advisory board; they tackle many of the same problems as the senators.

- I have gone to events of COSSAB, helped host the gala, and made myself very available to them. It has been a bit of a rocky road but I won't give up.
- Research competition is difficult; many labs are already full, and students don't always have good relationships with faculty for letters of recommendation, etc.
- Classes are just big enough to become another face in the crowd.
- Would like to solve this problem with a bi weekly lunch hour with a professor; hosted by teachers of each discipline; attendance limited at 10 – 15 students, using an RSVP system.
- Would encourage attendance with a raffle to have lunch with the dean.
- In the process of speaking with the dean to see if they will support me; even if they don't give support, I will host this luncheon anyway.
- What is next? Cross registered senator has helped identify problems for the deaf and hard of hearing COS students.
- Planning on investigating the possibility of a COS community service day.
- Greek Council: What would you do if the request is really high for the luncheon?
- A few more students would be fine; if it's a larger number, we will host that faculty member again, or if this keeps happening host multiple faculty at a time. This will promote cross disciplinary learning.
- SR: In relation to recommendation letters and not knowing a COS professor; if you could engage the faculty and ask them and members of COSSAB if they feel like they know enough about students to write letters, or if it is difficult for them, etc.
- They have said it can be very difficult to write a quality letter for students they barely know; COSSAB hasn't given much support, but they need to support those students who want to get involved but don't know how.

Cross-Registered, Alicia Wooten!

- Goals: Set up a cross registered students committee, improve deaf and hard of hearing services, work with access services to help create an improved website, and help NTID students transfer into RIT.
- Want students from every college on the board; would be nice to have more than one student per college, will help with individualized changes within colleges, would like monthly meetings to hear feedback.
- Large issues for deaf/hard of hearing.
- The director, Rico Peterson, would like to set up a meeting next week.
- Want to improve interpreter request system; opportunities for remote interpreting, tutoring, meetings, etc.

- The academic support center has tutoring in building 8, but many of them don't know sign; if students need last minute help they might not be able to go to that tutor. Remote interpreting would help with that; a computer or some sort of portal of communication.
- Brainstorming ways to improve services inside and outside the colleges.
- NTID to RIT transition: Many NTID students are having a hard time transferring in; will be meeting with Laurie Brewer, academic affairs for NTID, working together to set up a forum to help the faculty and students to understand the difficulties transfer students face.
- Will be trying to emphasis when a student is NTID and when they become a cross registered student.
- Equal access at all information desks for deaf and hard of hearing students, to get communication portals like the aim computer in the SG office.
- My job is also to make sure that all communities are equal and able to access information from each other.
- Want to reduce the hold time for cross registered students during registration.
- Awareness event, hosted by all colleges, in an effort to make RIT a mainstream campus.
- VP: Do you think there are a lot of desks that don't have communication portals?
- No specific number; Greg has brought that to my attention, I need to look into it more.
- SCB: How many students responded to your e-mail for the committee, do you need more people?
- Two; one from SCB and one from COS. I'm thinking since I posted it before break many of them have been taken down. I'm hoping to put more up and send out an e-mail to all deaf and hard of hearing students.
- NSC: How many students total do you want?
- Two students from each college.
- No more questions, thank you.

Next presentation: Deirdresha, Women's Senator!

- Goals: Unite the women at RIT; most women groups stick to their own college or group.
- Wanted more support for these groups and for all the women on campus.
- Wanted women on campus to utilize career opportunities and all other opportunities available to them; not many women have taken advantage of these.
- Lighting the way ceremony for incoming freshman; lead the walk, it was a great turn out, one of the best in the past few years.

- Second event was breast cancer awareness month; know a few people personally affected, went to the health center, res life, and women's center, made breast cancer awareness ribbons, met with a health coordinator and created a "stall talk" for educational awareness of breast cancer.
- AAUW – American association for university women. RIT has been a member for a while, but communication has diminished. A director reached out in late October and invited me to a conference with student leaders in the Rochester area. The conference focused on how to get women as a whole to go to college, etc.
- We don't really know the services AAUW offers; but they will offer free presentations so women can know how much they should be making when they graduate, etc.
- I am currently working with them to bring these services back to RIT. They are free since RIT is a member.
- Believe and Achieve! On February 1st, young girls from inner city schools, age 8 – 18, will be watching the women's basketball game.
- Want to show female athletes support from the RIT community; showing young girls what they can aspire too, they can come to college, they can have a career.
- Mentors will be assigned to the girls, many of these female mentors are student leaders.
- Future events; Women Organization; Women in Business, Women in Tech and Computing, all will come together to have a meeting about these groups. These are all great career groups, everyone needs to learn how to write a resume, and their services need to be extended to the entire female population.
- Leadership Conference. Many leadership opportunities for women to know about; June 2nd to June 4th. Many women expressed an interest in attending. Will talk about the possibility of sponsoring women to go to the conference at the University of Maryland.
- Self Defense; wasn't on my agenda, but many people sent an e-mail asking for it. Would like a self defense class. I have heard of a specific dojo that trains women, I'm looking into that dojo and checking to see if someone can sponsor that.
- "I am Every Women", Every female has some basic value, it's for every kind of women, working with the center for women and gender, hoping to get many people on campus out to the event.
- VP: Believe Achieve, if you are a female leader at senate how do you get involved, and how do males get involved?
- Game is at six, 4-6 will be food and autographs, even if you have class till six please come enjoy the basketball game.
- Males can help serve pizza, help control everything, etc. Males should come to the female game as well.
- Males will sit together at the game.

- COS: Date?
- February 1st, Tuesday.

Reports

Senate Reports:

- COLA: College of liberal arts is getting a new lounge! Mailed three signed letters a day to Dr. Destler's office! It will be located in front of registrar office.
- RHA: We are working on re-doing MSO hallways that goes from Grace Watson to the res halls, Reporter and SAAC need to submit a mural design, hoping to have it done by the 29th, please get those in.
- COS: Leading a mini challenge during the RIT challenge, if you know any vegetarians in global village or in the apartments please send them my way.
- OUTspoken: Tuesday, no disrespect event, video clips to discuss media and phobia, talk about ignorance, etc.
- CIAS: New CIAS dean announced; Lorraine Justice.
- ACA: Mind and Body program, health program, speakers coming in, AIDS, HIV, Depression, will be doing an AIDS screening on Feb. 3rd, more information please contact me or e-board, hope to see you all there.

Committee Reports:

- SR: Currently talking to a non SG individual to be chair of elections review committee, if anyone is interested please let me know if you would like to sit on the committee. If you are interested, it will be a fast process because things have to be tabled for a week, need suggestions by week 9 and need to solidify by week ten. I have a timeline, etc.
- VP: We do need to find a good mix of MSO, SG, and none of the above. We might not be able to get everyone on the committee, but there will also be an elections committee that will facilitate the elections and certify it, etc.
- Global Union: Wed. was the international student forum, thank you for showing up, turn out wasn't that great, questions flowed and were answered, hope to do it again soon.
- PR: I have beautiful, fluorescent orange shirts for everyone involved in the RIT challenge. Wed., please wear your SG polo for the opening ceremony, Thursday wear the orange shirts and name tags, Friday name tags and orange and brown. I have a list of all the people officially signed up, if you aren't on the list you need to be added. Try to wear the shirts Monday and Tuesday of next week.

Advisor Reports:

- Karey Pine: Leadership scholarship info has been sent to all of you; looking for great people to apply. If you plan next year to be involved in leadership, please apply.
- SAAC: Anything for grad students?
- Check the website and check with the person in charge.
- Thank you to everyone who came on Sunday and participated in the video; hope you are looking forward to the video on Friday, shown freezefest weekend. We are not going to show it at senate. Ritz is going to open for overflow fans so it will probably be set up to be shown there as well.
- OR: Which video version will be used?
- It has probably already been decided.
- Next weekend, 21st and 22nd, our women's hockey team--ranked number one nationally—is playing a game against number three in the nation! We are hosting a show down for the group on Friday and Saturday of next weekend when they play one of their biggest rivals. We have never filled ritter for a women's game, ritter holds up to 2100 people, we really want to fill up the ritter arena on Friday and Saturday to support our team. Black out Friday night, going to be give aways, face painting, corner crew, Saturday will do an autograph session, RITZ after party, free pizza, soda, etc.

Adjournment

- Meeting adjourned.