2011-2012 SG Senate Meeting 9/9/2011

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

Absent: Academic Senate, Freshman.

Called To Order at 1:04 pm.

Speak to the Senate:

• None.

Old Business

• VP: Dr. Heath brought this up with me earlier today. We must acknowledge what happened ten years ago. We lost many people in the 9/11 attacks. I request a quick moment of silence to remember those attacks and where we are today. Thank you. You are up, Greg!

Summer Updates:

• Pres: Good afternoon, and welcome to our first senate meeting! Excuse me while we set this up. I wanted to give this update so we all know what happened over the summer. We had a very busy summer! We have already welcomed many new students. At convocation, I encouraged them all to dream big. I told them a story that brought people to our dodge ball challenge. We had a very successful club fair; our freebies were gone in minutes. I am pleased to be announcing two new senate seats. First is Taylor Deer, our first Greek senator in history. The second seat is still vacant. It will be for the new Institute of Health Sciences and Technology. We will be beginning the election process with them soon. This is an exciting time to be in SG. We are going to be a big part of the semester conversion. Student Government is constantly evolving, our gears are always moving. It is my hope you will each set a legacy for yourself. Dare to dream. We are a team here and we have the potential to really turn SG into more than a governance group. I promise to do my best, and I challenge you to show us what you got. Phil has an important announcement.
Housekeeping:

- VP: If you haven’t seen it yet, it’s pretty freaking amazing. Three years from now I will be standing right there. Anyway, on to Housekeeping updates. You now have name tags and polos. MSO reps will receive polos somewhere down the line, but we will take more about that later. Any questions? Please wear your polos at big SG events. Any questions? Cool, moving on. That background looks familiar.

Brief Overview of Robert’s Rules of Order:

- VP: So now on the agenda we have a very brief overview of Robert’s rules of order that I expect from all of you. First off, the agenda. I always put something funny on the bottom. As for items, reports and announcements. Announcements are events you are holding, events in your community, etc. Email those to me before the Thursday before senate and I will put them down at the bottom of the agenda. It will keep time down if you don’t stand up and announce these sorts of thing. As for reports, those are things the institute would be concerned about, and that everyone at the table could contribute too. How is your constituency going to be affected? Finally, items. These included very diverse items, possibly to be voted on, or discussion based. Michelle will be taking attendance at one o clock promptly for roll call. Be here, otherwise she will mark you late. Your attendance will be documented into the meeting minutes. If you cannot attend, email me as soon as possible. I’d rather know Monday then Friday. I would really appreciate it if you found a replacement from your constituency. Any questions?

- VP: Now we begin Robert’s Rules. No, they are not named after you Bobby. Motions are for when you feel the floor is ready to vote. We will motion for discussion, and then someone will second it. Whoever made the first motion can discuss it first, followed by whoever motioned second. We will bring up relevant points and then vote. If you don’t feel you are ready to vote, vote the motion down and we can return to discussion. Any questions on motions? Discussions. If you have something to say, raise your hand and we will go in that order. I have a pad of paper and pen here to right down the order people raised their hands. We are all equals in this room. We will go in order, be respectful, and will not speak out of turn. When you have the floor, stand. Yell. If you have any doubt in your mind that people can hear you, yell. Use your outdoor voice. Speaking in senate is very important. We want to bring up new discussion topics, not just stand up and say “I agree”. Show you agree by voting. I have an extreme difficulty with this, but please try to stay on topic. When you walk in that door, you are the senator, not the person you were before. Wear that hat. No personal stories. As for voting. Voting seats include college senators, community senators, and MSO’s that represent specific bodies. Nonvoting seats included cabinet, student service
organizations—which have a voice at our table, just no vote—advisors, staff, and other governance bodies. Next, don't bring your cell phone to meeting! Voting (ish). Basically, we will vote as a constituency. I can only vote to break a tie. Greg can overturn any vote with a veto, which can also be overruled with a 2/3 majority vote.

**President Pro-Tempore:**

- VP: So now, with our abundant knowledge, first voting motion, we must elect a president pro temp. They will serve as the replacement for either me or Greg in an emergency. Neither of us are planning a co-op this year, so it is not too big of a deal, but still, rules are rules. College and community senators are eligible. Open to floor. Do we have any nominations?
- VP: If not, I would like to nominate Vinny. We have a 2nd motion by Greek. Vinny, would you like to introduce yourself?
- CIAS: My name is Vinny, I am the CIAS senator. Phil nominated me because I was also on senate last year. Not sure what else to say. I will now leave the room.
- VP: Motion on the floor for Vinny as president pro-tempore. All those in favor? 17 are for. 1 abstain. 0 opposed. Someone go grab Vinny and bring him in?
- VP: Congratulations Vinny! You are now the official president pro-tempore.

**SG Grad Senator Appointment:**

- VP: One more nomination. Wyatt here has been nominated to be a new grad senator, since our current one resigned over the summer due to personal reasons. Same thing right now.
- Wyatt: I am Wyatt Strong, a physics major from RIT, and working on my material sciences masters. I am able, so I would like to represent.
- VP: Questions? Please head out and the motion is on the floor.
- VP: In favor? 17 for. 0 opposed. 0 abstain.
- VP: Congratulations Wyatt! You are now the graduate senator.

**Fall Senator Elections:**

- VP: Next up. Fall senator elections.
- SR: Hello, I am Sarah Thomas, director of student relations. I am going to speak with you briefly regarding fall senator elections. We will be electing a freshman senator this fall. We do have packets in the office. If anyone knows of any awesome freshman, please recommend them to the office. They are due the 23rd at noon. Packets for the institute of health sciences and technology are also in the office, however freshman are not
eligible. Eligible applicants will have been on RIT campus for two plus quarters. Please recommend students to our office.

- SR: Institute of health sciences and technology elections are running parallel with the freshman senator elections, not spring. We will pick the top three of both and they will present to senate and we will pick the winner.

**Introductions:**

- VP: We are way ahead of schedule. We should do some quick introductions.
- CAST: Christian Fortuna, CAST senator.
- Molly Johnson, Staff Council rep.
- Dr. Heath: I have two roles, associate vice president of student affairs and SG advisor.
- Karey Pine: I also have two roles, director for center of campus life and advisor to SG.
- Reporter: Jamie Arn.
- Richard Latham, KGCOE.
- Hiram Taylor, COLA senator.
- Shannon Harrington, SCB.
- Nikki Steinberger, Women's.
- Peter Mikitsh, GCCIS.
- Taylor Deer, brand new Greek senator.
- Marissa Blockus, Programming Director.
- Vinny, CIAS senator and president pro tempore.
- Sarah Thomas, director of student relations.
- Phil Amsler, VP of SG.
- Greg Pollock, President of SG and honored to be here.
- Bobby Watson, director of services.
- Wyatt Strong, Graduate senator.
- Anna Vecchi, director of public relations.
- Helen Yu, NTID senator.
- Peter Raia, RHA.
- Cheyanne Davis, director of finance.
- Gerliee Cristina, NSC.
- Jonathan MacDonald, cross registered senator.
- Wesley Wander, COS senator.
- Andy Watson, WITR.
- Devan Musa, SAAC.
- Christian, OUTspoken.
- Global Union.
Senate/Committee/Advisor Reports:

- SR: All senators are required to sit on at least two committees although we would prefer at least three. We have 43 committees and are adding more. We need someone assigned to all of them. Either next meeting or emailing out the list, pick three, I am really pushing for three. Actually, we will do a signup sheet next Friday, that way everyone will pick different committees rather than all of you picking the same one. Please be aware.
- Pres: Executive board members could also be a good fit, please recommend committees to them.
- DoS: I am chair of Tech committee. This year we are really going to push for student involvement. We will be sending out a massive message center email to push for it.
- VP: Questions?
- SAAC: Senators or everybody?
- VP: Everybody who sits at senate.
- Graduate: I met with GSAAC this morning, should I talk about that? I have questions for you guys.
- VP: Only if it is pertinent to the whole senate.
- VP: Advisor reports?
- Karey Pine: You all, I hope, received an email about MSO leadership retreat? 3 - 5 pm next Friday. It will be a kick off for how we are planning to journey together to help create some concrete realities in terms of change. Last year we found it a great collaboration event. Join us next week, 3 - 5:30 pm, dinner will be provided, activities, announcement to get more money for you guys. Next week is money and food. Next event is October the 1st, Saturday, all day, 9:30 am to 5 pm, not CIMS, in the campus center. Dr. Heath will be your lead in charge that day, I have class and will be thinking of you all. Look forward to a great day, met with our group, how do we collaborate together, how does my department support your department? Please plan on it, Greg really incorporated MSO, cabinet and senator, SG was loudest and proudest group, let's continue that tradition, go to apple fest. I started it, go support me. It started in 1998. At first there was just food, students came, and it became a student event. Everyone
asked, “can we have a table?” departments wanted tables, and now it is huge. Please go and support us.

**Today’s Schedule:**

- VP: Today's schedule! We will BBQ as soon as we are done here. We are going to Global Village from two to four with Dr. Ward, student auxiliary services. Chicken breast BBQ with everybody, and then we have apple fest at four o’ clock. Karey Pine is pumped, so you should be too. When we are done at four o’ clock, please head over.
- Bobby: This BBQ is for us, don't invite any friends.
- Outspoken: I have outspoken prep stuff, do I have to attend the BBQ?
- VP: If you have work, meeting, or class especially, you do not have to go to this. It is meant to be social time for us so we can get to know each other. Just come to the next one.
- SR: At the bottom of your lovely paper, we have two meet and greets scheduled for the 15th and the 20th, 6 - 7 pm. Possible candidates can come meet senators and meet SG and get to know what we are about. There will be pizza, please come and enjoy us.
- VP: Apple fest goes until six, but I have on the schedule until 8 for clean up. Tonight Greg and I will be going crazy at the carnival. You should all join.
- Karey: Opens at either five or four.
- Adjourn motion, first CIAS, 2nd KGCOE, adjournment. 1:43 pm.

**Adjournment at 1:43 pm.**

- Meeting adjourned.