### 2011-2012 SG Senate Meeting

10/21/2011



Present: Vice President, Finance Director, Programming, Public
Relations, Student Relations, Director of Clubs and Organizations, Director of Services, CAST,
SCB, CIAS, GCCIS, KGCOE, COLA, COS, Greek, Women's, Cross Registered, NTID, Graduate, CHST
(newly elected), Freshmen (Newly Elected), CAB, OCASA, RHA, Global Union, NSC, Reporter,
WITR, OUTspoken, ACA, Staff Council, Academic Senate, Content Manager, Dr. Heath, Karey
Pine.

Absent: President, SAAC.

# Called To Order at 1:05 pm

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

- 1<sup>st</sup> by CAST, 2<sup>nd</sup> by GU.
- Friendly amendment; "Paul's Happy Hour" to "Pulse Happy Hour".
- 16 for. One abstention. Motion carries.
- Minutes pass as submitted with friendly amendment.

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

- SR: Amazing Maize maze tonight. Reading off names of those still going. Raise hand if you are not going. Only 8 people. Next week?
- VP: Viewing party next Friday. Next Saturday?
- Programming: That is the MSO Halloween blow out.
- SR: Axing amazing maize?
- VP: Going to rain tonight, so we are not going to go. Pot luck dinner instead Saturday Night. Does that sound good?
- SR: Canceling the amazing maize race. If you still want to go, let Marissa know.
- Pres Video Report: Sorry I couldn't be here today. Trip on to Washington DC. B2 live feed kick off, hope everyone had a great viewing party. Hearing Michael J Fox say RIT was his favorite college hockey team best part of weekend. Great reason to give him an official jersey. Housing proposal town discussing with town board. November 2<sup>nd</sup> at rush Henrietta high school. Large audience. They cancelled it this week to find a more appropriate location. This gives us more time for a more unified stand. Stay united on this issue and informed in our response to the proposal. RIT SG will be hosting an open forum within the next week, Tuesday, 5:30 pm. Inviting panelists to speak about their perspective. Opportunity to be better informed, and will better equip us. Don't let anger boil over. Oppose in a respectable fashion. Dining service implemented a pilot program, Ben and Jerry's will be open until 2 pm. As for today's election, you will be

choosing from very qualified candidates. Not going to be an easy choice. Stay attentive to detail, use your best judgment.

### **Old Business**

#### Freshman/CHST Elections:

- VP: CHST and Freshman elections. All candidates must exit the room (meeting not yet closed).
- SR: Does everyone have a packet? The candidates "resumes" are stapled in order of presentation. Freshman candidates first.
- VP: MSO reps for Representative Student Organizations and senators can vote.
- SR: Once we finish all freshman candidates, rip off the page of your choice and pass it up to me. Same with CHST.
- KGCOE: I already wrote notes on the bios.
- SR: Not a problem. This is their bios. Each candidate has five minutes to present, no visuals, nothing. Probably up to four questions. Anyone can ask questions. We can have a discussion ourselves afterwards. Any questions on how this is going to run?
- First Freshman Nominee: Anthony Ian Hennig.
- Anthony: Thank you all for choosing me as a worthy candidate to speak with you all. Inspired engineer and natural sciences. Young scientist. Numerous science fairs, national level. Public high school, French, German, ASL. Extracurricular activities. Robotics competition. Summer internship with NASA. Three major goals: RIT SG and the student body communication. Increase education about the roles of SG. Read through SG bylaws. Educate them about the roles SG plays in their lives. SG will be known as a source of good information and advocacy for the students. Create a unified, campus wide honor code and an honor code judicial system. My hope you will seriously consider me for this position.
- KGCOE: What do you mean by honor code? Many colleges in RIT have their own code of ethics.
- Anthony: Four things: Theft, forgery, lying and cheating. Detailed clauses, educated through the process, steps to go through so it doesn't happen again.
- KGCOE: Each college has to look at each student in their college. Helped collaborate to establish a precedent, students aren't treated differently.
- Anthony: Teacher comes to us, "I believe I have a student committing an honors code". Single, unified system, every student can know and even sign during orientation week.
- CAST: First goal says you want to enhance communication between SG and the student body.
   How would you do that? Any ideas?
- Anthony: I am always talking to students, what they know feel and want to change. Student speak out day. I want to be open to suggestions, comments, etc, twenty four seven.
- GU: Really good goals. International freshmen students? When I was a freshman, I went to class and my dorm, terrified, didn't know anything about freshmen students.

- Anthony: I realize there is some representation issues, but I will be out there every day. I will be ready to approach. Be interested, attending cultural events to represent student Government.
- OUTspoken: Question 1, GLBT students. Big group of freshman already involved. How will you advocate for them? Regarding the honor code goal, why do you feel the current judicial system is inefficient?
- Anthony: Attend the meetings and simply being there. Be open and ready for suggestions and comments. Not revamp, I know RIT has a massive network of honor codes, but a judiciary branch where we have a council of students to see if they are or are not founded. Publicize, RIT does think about their students, visible and out in the open.
- VP: Do you still sign?
- Anthony: Yes.
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Candidate: Nicholas Giordano.
- Nick: Hello members of senate. First year political science and undeclared business double major, from Rochester, attended preschool at Margret's house. Dorm overlooks my old playground. Role of freshman senator would be a difficult role because of the dynamic constituents, different needs, different thoughts. Sat down and thought about if I am up to the task of representing these people. Brand new environment, new people, very different from high school, independence, responsibilities. All these people in the same position as me. I just need the leadership skills and communication skills to take this community where it wants to go. Looking to represent these diverse individuals. Credentials: Founder and head of a couple clubs in high school, recycle club, drama club, wrote the script, build our own set, Sherlock Holmes and the time machine. Big member of freshman mentor program, take what the freshman were telling me and help them work through their high school transition. President of model united nations club. RIT honors, Sleepy Hollow and RIT Players Welcome to Hell. My vision. SG is a bridge between students and the school, and serves a vital function to have the student's voice heard. Accounted for in decision making process. Hard pressed to find a freshman that could go into detail about change, but this holds true for all. We each have a piece of the puzzle. Collaborate on ideas to find this vision for what we want. Social networking to help promote each other. Go Tigers. Thank you.
- OUTspoken: GLBT freshmen, we have many of them, Have you connected with them, and how will you work with and advocate for them?
- Nick: I have been going to club activities, missed the last one. I am all for equality.
- VP: How would you represent those in the freshman class?
- Nick: Need to be represented no differently than anyone else, if not more in certain positions.
- OUTspoken: Do you know any ASL?
- Nick: I came in not knowing any at all, didn't know the alphabet even. Basic drama cues. Planning on attending no voice zone.
- KGCOE: What clubs are you in?
- Nick: NTID theater, delta sigma pi, Honors housing committee, RIT player's club. SG would take priority.
- KGCOE: Social networking that is a very general goal.

- Nick: I was running out of time. Great tool. The way to connect SG constituents to their representative, anyone can have a voice, easy system to view patterns, especially freshmen who are not knowledgeable in RIT but are in facebook.
- KGCOE: We do have a facebook, and a twitter.
- CAST: More specific goals?
- Nick: A lot of the big goals, not quite formulated, asking people about goals. Environmentally friendlier driers except next to an environment classroom, rocks in fountains, social networking, dorm to dorm. Formulate a real, set list of goals.
- GU: Have you connected with any international student freshmen?
- Nick: Connected with Netherlands transfer students in Sleepy Hollow. Stuck in the play.
   International studies, study abroad fairs, looked into global community, and interested in getting to know it better.
- GU: Ideas how?
- Nick: Going to events, house for international, don't know if I could go there that often, going to events, meeting them is the best way.
- Third Candidate: Shantavia Edwards.
- Shantavia: I generally love and live for being involved with school spirit and activities. If elected, I would like to strengthen the freshmen class, improve communication, more concrete plan for their future, and provide an amazing first year experience. Asked students about their fondest memories. View experiences as a slice of cake. You are the handlers of the ingredients of the cake. In the right hands, it will be a divine, smooth, rich and decadent cake. Eaters will think of it fondly, and want to relieve the memories. Help craft a great and enjoyable experience. Can I help you bake please?
- VP: How are you going to reach out and represent the GLBT and the international students in the freshmen class?
- Shantavia: I building hop. I met a lot of international students, friend from London, GLBT.
- FIRE ALARM, Re LOCATED TO FIRE SIDE LOUNGE.
- Shantavia: Active in GLBT. Just from listening to them, I hear about issues, take their feedback
  and do what is best for them. GLBT, when in a group setting, they don't want others to use
  negative terms for their sexuality, enforce that, politically correct language.
- Graduate: I see one of your goals is to improve communications with freshmen and upper classmen, have you talked to any graduate students yet?
- Shantavia: Yes, in a club for my major they talked about something similar. More of a bond, graduates have gone through what we are going through, and they seem to like speaking with undergrads. They want to reach out to under classmen.
- Graduate: What functions would you plan for improving communication?
- Shantavia: I was thinking of the event "Better for you, not for me". Grads know their mistakes, and could share their fun stories and hardships, underclassmen have trouble figuring out what they want to do with their major, getting discouraged, connecting with an upper classmen would help.
- SR: Continuing on to CHST. Write down what you want to discuss regarding freshmen. Alex first.

- First Candidate: Alex Lemenze, for CHST senator.
- Alex: To begin, fine with being known as the CHEST senator. Third year biomed and biotech, dual enrolled in colleges. Working on a strong connection between students and dean, basically a miniature senate within the college, run programs out of that, disparate group, unite, fundraise. Bring the "Bodies" exhibit to RIT, spoke with our dean and Dr. Watters, ready to make a proposal, at least in Rochester. Alliance with Rochester general health system, doesn't exist much to the students, make it more known to students what it does, how it benefits us. Establish a connection with the other hospitals and strong as well, all three major a part of our system. Volunteer services class, EMT, fire fighters, real world application for many of us, medical system, biomed, PA. Good to see what real world applications we could use. There is no computer lab in building 75, always have to walk to building 8 to print. New building should have a lab. Far reaching, but own building for our own program. One legitimate classroom in building 75, the new building is for the biomed engineers, building geared for biomed students, PAs, etc. Talk to students, what do they want?
- ACA: AALANA students are having issues with the transition. Goals to help students make the transition easier?
- Alex: More mutualistic existence with COS at this point. Everyone has been in COS for a long time. Those students should still be dual enrolled COS students, incoming freshmen be exclusively CHST.
- Graduate: What is the bodies exhibit?
- Alex: Based out of NYC, cadavers dissected in special ways to show their nervous system, skeletal system, etc., exciting for students going into the medical field.
- Graduate: Could this be a teaching tool?
- Alex: It would be both. Good for RIT as a whole, a lot of people know about it and will come to see it.
- Second Candidate: Jamar Frater.
- Jamar: Third year biomed. Rich history in COS, alumni network, transition a difficulty that a lot of students are going to have to face in the coming years. Well driven, well motivated students can build and grow from this hardship. Shape what our college is going to become. This imitative we worked on together. I know what these students are capable of, and I would represent them best I can. Make sure everyone in this college knows who I am. Hard time knowing who to talk to when they have issues. Planning an all college meeting, talk about all the changes, let everyone know I am available. Hold weekly lunches students can attend. Part of all the events affiliated with the college, cook out, so they know they are represented by someone who has a face. More importantly an alliance exists between RGH and RIT. Very new. As senator, I would like to make it more present in the mind of the students. Research opportunities open up. Student life is concerned, continue partnership with COS. Issues of COS are still being heard and dealt with. Diversity and inclusion. All groups are working together to make sure all goals are met. Strategies to make sure every student is involved in the founding of this new college. No computer lab space available. No color prints for their students. Printing and computers

- available to these students ASAP. Cooperation within the CHST programs, medically oriented careers, shame for them to not work together. Issues I will work on even if I am not senator.
- KGCOE: COSSAB, meeting at same time as SG, is that a problem?
- Jamar: Minutes are sent out to everybody. It is easy to not attend all meetings and still be very involved. Times change by quarter.
- Motion to close the meeting: 1<sup>st</sup> by CAST, 2<sup>nd</sup> by KGCOE.
- No opposed, no abstentions, meeting officially closed at 2:14 pm.
- Meeting officially reopened at 2:28 pm.
- VP: Congratulations and thank you all for applying. Close race for everyone.
- SR: Winners can sit at the table once they are announced. Everyone else is still welcome to stay.
- Freshman Senator: Shantavia!
- CHST: Jamar!

# **New Business**

### **Henrietta Family Law Change:**

- VP: Serious topic we need to discuss. Proposal on table for Henrietta town legislation is the
  proposal to change free standing house unrelated people down to three. This will affect 3,600
  students. It does not include Park Point, Province, and Westbrooke commons. Open forum next
  Tuesday night at 5:30 pm.
- Karey: There is a proposed legislation that would impact a number of students. A specific neighborhood, the Preserve, but it would affect all of Henrietta. Student Government's part, Greg and Phil and OCASA, we are trying to get word out to the students in the preserve area. Neighbors are angry and frustrated. Students understand their role right now and new town council meeting. The more well behaved we are, the better our advocacy. Problems in our communities makes it harder to have good advocacies. Greg created a letter asking for support from Oak Mills, general student residences, we need help, Beary is taking the lead. There are 20 to 30 houses. We cannot leave the letter in the mailbox, but you can leave it in the door. This is really important info from us. Go in groups only because we don't know some of these residents, conversations were angry yesterday. We need to get through this two week period. What if you do feel your safety is at risk, what can you do? Alert public safety that our students can contact them, open forum after meeting private for those residents specifically, those students have a connection to some RIT people. Next Tuesday as well, it is a generic letter I can forward you a copy, door to door campaign, student to student outreach, different for you to say please help us then us saying "behave".
- ACA: November the second, busing students, look for more info from SG leadership. 7 pm, Rush Henrietta high school.
- ACA: Forward the letter to students.

- PR: Made fliers for the event on Tuesday, we use the wide format banner for the actual town hall meeting. If busses are provided we will put that on the flier as well.
- Karey: I can also get some kind of summary of the legislation and the process.
- CIAS: What is the reason why this is being discussed?
- Karey: For me, two things happened. Chili passed a law already. Wasn't as broad, street by street law. Our Henrietta friends, sub division who felt they were buying a home in a suburban development, ending up having a lot of student housing, parking lot, plus students have parties and "things" happen, disrupts their neighborhood experience. Constitutional now. They made it broad. There are other models out there, and we need to share that with Henrietta, four people to three does not mean you won't have neighborhoods of students. Right now there are only 25 homes. Is that the goal you want? Dialogue has stopped. Advocacy behind the scenes, but we do not have the final say.
- Outspoken: I can't go to the open forum. How will those of us who can't go get that info?
- DofS: Will be filming it, filming the interpreters, up almost immediately. On SGTV, look into a computer. Will be on SG website.
- ACA: Off campus piece of it, rustic village?
- Karey: Rustic is Brighton. Province is industrial and Park Point is commercial, not in this law.
   Current legislation, Chili, Henrietta, and Brighton probably won't be far behind, it changes the rental rates. Westbrooke not impacted.
- SCB: Economic implications, college students looking for housing. It is going to have the same result as a rent ceiling.
- Karey: Greg did some research, when it was supposed to be last Wednesday, US students
  contribute to Rochester area \$130 million dollars just by being here. Community service hours,
  he has that number, not an approach that is missed. Move people out, shopping etc will not be
  this town anymore.
- SCB: Landlords will shut down.
- Karey: Students have joined FB pages, variety of places have been phenomenal. Not reacting out of anger, even this is a threat to their housing. Applaud our students. Great to watch you work well as a community of students.
- KGCOE: Higher officials?
- Karey: Town supervisor is attending our forum. Proposer of the proposal is meeting with us Tuesday morning.
- Director of Clubs and Organizations: 3:30pm, leave to the community, at least four if not more people. Get it done quicker.
- SR: Pulse Happy hour 4 6!
- Dir. Clubs&Orgs: If you free up your schedule, stop by the office at 3:30.
- VP: Executive decision to skip reports.
- SR: 11:15am SAU for the open house on Saturday!
- Motion to adjourn: 1<sup>st</sup> by KGCOE, 2<sup>nd</sup> by SCB.

# Adjourned at 2:50 pm