Present: President, Vice President, Finance Director, Public Relations, Programming, Student Relations, Director of Services, Director of Clubs and Organizations, CAST, SCB, CIAS, GCCIS, KGCOE, COLA, COS, Women’s, Cross-Registered, CHST, Greek, Freshman, NTID, Graduate, CAB, Global Union, NSC, Reporter, RHA, WITR, SAAC, OUTspoken, ACA, OCASA, ACE, Academic Senate, Bill St. Jean, and Kate Blackburn.

Absent: Staff Council.

Called To Order at 1:03 pm

Approval of Minutes:

-2/07/14

- 1st by KGCOE, 2nd by Pres.
- For: 17, Opposed: 0, Abstentions: 1
- Minutes pass as submitted

New Business:

Lee Twyman Regarding Civility/Ombuds Office

- VP: First we will be starting with a presentation from Lee Twyman from the Ombuds Office about civility.
- Lee Twyman: Just going to speak verbally, hello everyone, my name is Lee Twyman, from RIT Ombuds. Our office is available to students, staff, faculty; if there are issues you can’t get resolved, need mediation, something to help resolve dispute with another person, something personal, our office is right near Artesanos. I will provide more info about that later. I am representing my office, and a group of people with the topic of civility, meaning how we interact with each other, in a way that is respectful in communication and behavior. It is a topic that is very hot on many college campuses. There is a group of us that have been working on this issue for a couple years now. We have been working to get examples of both positive and civil and not civil or positive experiences on campus. At the town hall, we had a large turnout from Faculty, but not a large turnout from students. So looking to find a way to gather people and their experiences related to civil experiences on campus. We are going to working to get times with clubs and organizations to get some of those interactions people have had. If you have other ways of getting out to the campus, I would appreciate that. Given what I have said, do you have any questions?
• Cross-Reg: I am wondering if you could, go to the town hall meeting, and maybe there are students with transportation, and that is something people could provide to get there and from the town hall meeting?
• Lee Twyman: We are trying to outreach to you to meet with your organizations or colleges, so that you don’t have to come to us.
• SR: I saw the postings; my schedules conflicted so I was unable to attend. Another outreach to students, civility is really broad, and culturally broad. In terms of getting useful student participation, somewhat more specific what civility looks like, somehow conveying what, more than the term? Something specific, students can respond to a question and works to what goal.
• Lee Twyman: We struggled with that for a long time ourselves, we are hoping that RIT itself will come up with a different word or definitions or terms itself for civility. Right now we have a list of examples of what we mean by civility, how we treat each other. Connecting successfully and working well together with others, doing something and interacting. Looking at how we can promote this.
• Grad: I am very curious to know what we do with that information?
• Lee Twyman: What we are hoping to do, first of all, did with faculty and staff, are there issues related to this on campus, is it not an issue, or pockets of issues that we can fix this? Is this a wonderfully civil campus, maybe students aren’t having problems. Part of the reason for this is, the people that come together to talk about this, probably interact have issues of civility in department or clubs and organizations. We want to know from the campus community. If there are specific problems, we want to provide opportunities for development.
• Grad: Many students have courage to talk about problems. Can put focus, if we do like that, lots of suggestions, people can’t always communicate, then can put a suggestion in.
• Lee Twyman: So something online, or suggestion boxes.
• Grad: Online, but anonymously, can do the box, can provide a truth.
• Pres: Going through all clubs, easier to go to meetings, there are things with all groups. You can try Reddit, great way to have a conversation.
• SR: Understanding the concept of civility, there seems to be kind of, this is a question/suggestion. There is a distinction of civility or harassment. There is civility and then not harassing people or threatening them. The difference between a student experience bullying,
• Lee Twyman: Yes, yes, there is a fine line.
• SR: On a day to day basis, getting a long well.
• Lee Twyman: When we ask people about how they interact with people, it is very general. Line around harassment, do you think students understand that enough? I don’t want to limit the conversation, so if there are limits, I don’t want to limit.
• SR: Is this civility or is this harassment? I hear what you are saying. It included all of that in the first email.
• Lee: Does branch out and can include discrimination. There are different ways of dealing with those.
• Nick: Is there a Facebook Page for Ombuds? Is there a website?
• Lee: There is a Facebook Page; we are currently still looking for a website.
• Nick: I will email you within the next couple days.
• Lee: We are looking for people who would be interested in having Ombassadors. There’s me and Dawn. We hear a lot of we wish we had known about you a long time ago. You aren’t replacement for the office, just try to market it, wear t-shirts. If there are people you know who would be good spokesman for this, let me know! You can email me at: Lee.Twyman@rit.edu

**Academic Calendar Proposal 2015-2016**

• VP: We had people here to speak about first proposal, threw it in a bag, and came up with this. This is the final calendar, Dr. Heath here to help talk about this.
• Dr. Heath: I was involved in sitting in talking about the calendar. One issue with faculty was an uneven amount of days during the week in the semester. This was a primary concern. There was some discussion about having a fall break. Discussion about Muse Day and if it was too confusing. There was a discussion about the week during Thanksgiving. After lots of discussion, primary concern is the equal number of days. I was hesitant to make whole sale changes that are all new to our culture. We have only had one semester. People figured out the Muse Day thing. It becomes part of the culture after a while, so didn’t seem to be such a horrible issue. Main issue for having a week at Thanksgiving. One reason we moved to semesters was a more consistent schedule with other schools and a long break and then going home for a long break. To do that during Thanksgiving, not consistent with other schools. Lots of concern about exams on Saturday. The challenge with that, It means there are exams on Commencement day. What we talked about, the Registrar, anyone who is a graduating senior, will not have an exam on the day of commencement, if you do have a test, there will be accommodations to changing the test day.
• VP: And getting rid of the reading day.
• Michael: With now exams not on Friday, then you have weekend to study
• Grad: Career Fair Day, is that on that schedule, we have classes on those days. Intersession has 6 weeks. Hard to go home for that long. We can’t take courses
• Michael: There has been lots of discussion. There were few classes offered because it was new, we didn’t gauge who would take it. I would be surprised if those classes didn’t increase.
• Dr. Heath: I had lunch with the President and Provost, had that in the works, in terms of traveling for International Students, when we were on the quarter system, break was too short, so students couldn’t go home, now there for too long, so just funny to hear all of that. Giving more time to travel is probably better.
• Grad: With courses some type of student input, the subjects they want to take.
• Michael: I can take any feedback would be happy to take to other places.
• COLA: I would like to add an additional comment about 6 weeks of break; I think Rushy was talking about affordability; half the students are here on scholarship. So if you were offering courses, would those students be able to take those courses.
• Dr. Heath: I don’t know the specifics, depends the scholarships.
• CIAS: I took a class during intersession, I had to pay out of pocket.
• Kate Blackburn: From International Student Perspective, ISS did a survey of International Students did they stay, go home, stay and study, pushed up to the higher chains. Saw a lot of students that went home, that did not go home, some preferred to work full time.
• COS: One thing I want to comment about, winter break, never been in a quarter systems. The winter break we had was extremely long; looking for coops and internships for summers, the summer is very limiting for that. I don’t see lots of time with lots of freedom for that. Cutting back on that winter break would free up some opportunities.
• Michael: One of the rules would we would have a basic structure for the first three years. The president is going to have a comprehensive review after 3 years.
• Dr. Heath: Intersession is not only designed for course work, to study abroad, trips, things like that, we would like to really see some of those things enhanced. Over intersession, we offered a minimal amount of activities, we are working to build a culture, and how to make that more robust,
• OUTspoken: Two things unrelated to OUTspoken, how are you making Intersession more of an experience for low-income students. And we still are off on Columbus Day, maybe call it something different.
• Dr. Heath: That exact comment came up; it’s fall break, not just Columbus Day. Maybe we can have low-cost opportunities, something under RLI, that students can participate in, enhance their skills.
• Michael: Academic Senate, raised that issue with the Provost recently, and they are working on that.
• Freshman: Addressed with Sarah, how long winter break is, I understand what you said, 2016-2017 calendar. I have heard that Maymesters, put that mini semester in May.
• Pres: I keep bringing up. Athletics schedule, fall break day, if we could start looking Homecoming back in October sometime, Would like to urge to put it then, lets students be more involved, want to hang with families.
• Dr. Heath: This is not a bunch of administrators in a room. Nick is there, he can raise issues. I can raise issues, and I certainly will.
• Michael: Nick did bring that up. We had lots of requests for transfer open houses.
• Clubs and Orgs: Are we voting to approve at any point,
• Michael: Calendar is voted on at Institute Council. Your SG rep will be there.
• VP: To answer your question, we wanted you to all be aware, can all talk to constituents, and this was emailed with senate agenda. Dr. Heath, any last minute things?
• Dr. Heath: Thank you for your feedback, we will be bringing it back.

Elections Calendar Proposal

• SR: So, please take one. This is the proposed calendar for Elections. I will talk of calendar, as I am talking you will know what I am talking about. We are going to look at the calendar, then propose an amendment of the bylaws, to match that. Last year to accommodate for semesters, we didn’t know what it would look like. By passing this, we do a bylaw amendment. That part is
mainly changing dates. So, packets will officially start going out the first Monday in March. Advertising the week before with promotion of it, meet and greet events follow, I added a meet and greet. In the past took place in SG, would like to do one in this building, one in the SDC, and one in Crossroads, more can conveniently interact with others. I kind of like the idea of a Sunday meet and greet. Campaigns start the week we get back from break. Three possible weeks for the debates. We have a long span of time to arrange things. When it comes to those three dates, want to approve as possibilities, but only one will actually be the debate. Then 4/18 will be the announcement of the winner. 5/2 approves cabinet. (whole calendar shown) So in order for us to do that, we also have to do this. The yellow are the revisions. We did go through and make changes, Instead of saying the 8th week, Friday preceding spring break. Hoping to move to change the bylaws, the yellow highlights, proposing, the above elections calendar.

- KGCOE: On the sheet you gave us, the info sessions are listed: 3/3 , 3/4 , 3/5, the 2/27?
- SR: That is a typo. That should be 3/6. Please bring to constituents, and bring back input.
- VP: If you send to me I can send it out to everyone.

**SCB Mid-Year Report**

- VP: Next is Tristan having a presentation, First we are going to have Kevin present.
- SCB: Doing my mid-year report!
  - Goals for year:
    - Saunders Terminal- sending to Vinny next week, I only know Java.
    - Increased Communication Between Organizations: Lowenthal Service Group restricted to do collaboration events
    - Better Mass-Communication Channels: Want a more visible message board, the idea is still on hold.

    More events in Spring-Term, esp Social Events: Working to plan more events with Dana Pierce for Spring!

**Events:**

1. Saunders Picnic- getting to know everyone
2. Saunders Holiday Party:
3. Shark Tank: signs stolen, viral campaign attempted, couldn’t attend the actual event

**To be done:**

1. Please refer to earlier things
2. Imagine RIT- Ideation Phase, giant monopoly board,
- VP: Can you tell us about the Terminal?
- SCB: Really expensive to do, looking at a homegrown version. Basically gives same product, just a 90% reduction in cost.
• Cross-Reg: Making anything, technology, for those who are deaf and hard of hearing, TV with news, with captions, talk about terminals, with numbers coming across.
• SCB: With news, scrolls across screens, if you see tickers in Times Square, accessible in big letters on SCB.

Freshman Mid-Year Report

• Freshman: So this is Jill talks about stuff. When I got elected, I feel like a Roomba, I think I am accomplishing things, but I feel like I am running into things. I need some goals: find out what people want, and do those things. I know what I wanted, but that doesn’t apply to everyone else. I did a survey, used Clipboard feature, gave out 2 gift cards, and sent two emails to the entire freshman class. I had over 500 student responses out of 2,000 students. What did people want changed? Gracie’s, Housing (kitchens and old things), and Year One. What did I do to change things? I have met with Housing and Dining. Had a frank conversation with Gracie’s, in terms of food tasting bad, things are mass produced, discussed how to keep open later. In terms of issues of healthier options, and we have now seen some changes. In terms of Housing, went to RHA, Worked to discuss options for kitchen access. Surveys worked really well for me, I need to follow up with the people I met with. A door swipe key needed to be changed, for students to have access to a kitchen. Need to follow up again. Getting in contact with YearOne. I am a little scared, the amount of hatred towards YearOne, I don’t think they did a survey.
• Student: As a YearOne Peer Mentor, We know people didn’t like it. It’s the first time, so channel those comments, into how we can improve.
• Academic Senate: Everyone hates YearOne in their first year, but it would be interesting to ask seniors about their experience.

CHST Mid-Year Report

• CHST: When I came into the position, major goals to have more social events in the college, and inform students about the expansion of 2015. Fall Events: CHST Fall Picnic, Free Cider and Baked Goods, Christmas Decorating, Coffee and Donuts during finals. For this semester, continuing the spring picnic, doing a college dinner (want to do this for the more social events), information session with vice dean on the 2015 expansion. Questions?
• VP: What was your means of obtaining the feedback you were speaking about?
• CHST: We collected and compiled through survey.
• SR: Is this expansion an increase of who is represented? Or a bigger space?
• CHST: It’s a space expansion.
• NTID: Since you are an academic senator, what are your plans to increase the academic side of things?
• CHST: I have spoken to people about classes offered; recently we haven’t had negative feedback. If I do hear negative feedback, I know who to talk to.

Women’s Mid-Year Report
Women’s: So I am Maura, last year I joined SG, and dodged the mid-year report bullet. I am a senior CIAS student, SG/NSC Exchange participant, SAC Committee Member, Coffee Enthusiast, and International Jet-Setter. What have I accomplished? Compiled a list of goals of input, more social events to meet women outside of Greek life, more blue lights on campus, and professional opportunities for women, weekly meetings, research with pride floor, and learned how to not burn popcorn. Working on now: On the Student Affairs Committee Member. Looking into the PRIDE Floor Exploration. NSC/SG Exchange Program. What Do I Want to Do: Working with Center for Women and Gender, Assist CWAG in any way I can, set up a networking opportunity, get together for young female professionals, host a movie screening. Those are my goals. Thanks!

SR: Can you talk a little more on getting blue lights on campus?

Women’s: Now it’s do we really need the blue lights, with the new app of Tiger Safety. Now that the app is out, working to create and better that. I can’t see a smart phone from another smart phone. That is in the early stages currently.

VP: This is in regard to the Pride Floor?

Women’s: Still looking into.

SR: Often asked, right now, asked last week, at the point, should it be an apt or a floor.

Press: Where do you want more blue lights on campus?

Women’s: I don’t notice them right away right now, have to look. But I also have more research, because I am not on campus at night.

Freshman: The people who talk about the blue lights, what were they saying?

Women’s: Too far apart, in a situation, you wouldn’t reach it in time.

Freshman: Maybe present people with numbers, this is how long it would take, something like that, maybe help the case, or might prove that it is unnecessary.

D of S: What have you done to get feedback on the Pride Floor, if someone wants to give feedback, how do they do that.

Reporter: Where do you get the student feedback from your constituents?

Women’s: That’s from Roast of SG.

Reporter: There is a Feminist Coalition. Have you talked to them?

Women’s: I haven’t yet.

Grad: What is your plan to get response from anonymous reports from women?

Grad: Maybe not comfortable telling them.

Message Center Brainstorming

VP: Paul and I met with the guys from Message Center, this has been a very hot topic, influx of emails, spam, slow message delivery, spend 10-15 minutes discussing Message Center, what we brought up, and talked with them about.

Pres: Please try and clarify what you view as a problem of Message Center, in terms of technology and how they could improve how they are using it.

VP: The people from Message Center will be coming to talk to us in a couple weeks.
• SR: I do try to read the emails, sometimes they don’t open, if I am at my home in Riverknoll, works slowly, or what device I am on. Maybe a lowest technology for Message Center, then readable by most people who are going to get it. Most are the huge PDF flyers.
• Clubs and Orgs: Back in the day, you couldn’t attach things with Message Center. It would mess things up if we sent attachments.
• COLA: One thing, really don’t like, just letting you know, Message Center is important, one of only ways for everyone on campus to get same information, I need some changes. Maybe set up a tag system, or what have you, maybe something related to SG, then all those emails go through. That would limit the number of emails in the inbox. Last year some students deleted all of them.
• Grad: I think that definitely, I personally read every email from there, I like to get the information, we can do, instead, we can go digitally, SAU, Gleason, have a screen, continuous messages, then if they want to take time can stop and read. We are already going towards the digital world. If the student can read, then can read, if they want to not read it, can ignore it.
• CIAS: We were working trying to get interactive boards in the SAU, the problem, there are lots of things to go behind of that, with traffic flow, and it’s not possible.
• Women’s: I love the idea with the hashtag situation. You can go in and check what you want to receive mail about. The one thing is the food. Once in my 4 years, I have been like oh I have to get that.
• SR: Tags and Hashtags, as do the people who have come up with opting in and out, I didn’t figure out how to do that until my fourth year here. Need to educate people on how to opt in or out. If you pull up the email, then can take you to other places. It gives you what mailing list, but it’s not clear. It would be nice to get to the opt in or out aspect easier, and then blurb for who are the people who send out the emails.
• Women’s: My point was mostly, maybe set up a way to prompt people to have to fill it out. I just sat down with my professor,
• SR: What if you have to opt in.
• VP: Working to talk with Orientation, sit down with freshman, and select the categories they’d be interested in.
• COLA: I would like to respond, if we can have some kind of tag, then can give option receive from here, or not receive from here. So trying to figure out how to opt in or out.
• Freshman: We get these RIT Message Center Emails, News and Events Daily, maybe there is a purpose behind that I don’t know about. Maybe it’s about understanding, maybe include all emails. Or even have a cap each day.
• Pres: They try to have a cap and get funneled.

**Did you know? RIT: the Cycling Club**

• None.

**Senate Reports:**
• VP: Senate reports?
• KGCOE: This is late, first engineering week, patent consulting, photo booths, fun shirts for each day.
• VP: Two requests, please be here promptly at 1. Second request, give us a hand with putting tables close.

Old Business:

Speak to the Senate:

• None

Committee Reports:

• VP: Committee reports?
• Pres: Lee Twyman was just talking about what they got feedback on. There was discussion of leading up to that point. In Institute Council, talked about Calendar and RIT Learning Center (online and mostly graduate level). Staff Council, committee reports, weather last week, should have closed school after 2 pm on Weds. They talked about the smoking policy; split 100 people said yes smoke-free 70 said no. The Student Affairs Committee, they were looking into making it more accessible with students looking up more information.
• PR: On United Way Committee, if you signed up, should have gotten a link. Wear your polo, great way to sign up.
• Reporter: Question for Paul, does that mean that the Smoking ban is passed?
• Pres: No it’s not brought up to Institute Council that was in Staff Council. When we meet at Institute Council, it will be voted on in a month.
• Clubs and Orgs: The search for the SVP for Student Affairs will be starting July 1st. She is currently the VP of Student Affairs at Hofstra. She has lots of great experience, and likes working with students.
• COLA: New SVP, have we seen at SG?
• Clubs and Orgs: The search was completed a few weeks ago. They were not at senate. There were sessions for SG to meet the candidates.
• COLA: I wish they had come here to meet us.
• Clubs and Orgs: Each candidate came over 4 different days. There was a separate session for SG leaders, where we met them.
• NSC: I wanted to put forth that this was our first week of NSC exchange. Maura was in our office, we had some great feedback. Next week Friday is Pulse Happy Hour. Wanted to let you all know. Come and Support!
• SR: For those of you, committee reports, most of you should have gotten a green piece of paper with your lists, if you form is blank, please tell me what committees you are on.
• Clubs and Orgs: MSO reps should also be repping committee positions.
Advisor Reports:

- VP: Advisor reports?
- Bill St. Jean: Athenaeum is a paper that goes out, SG and MSO mentions, profile of Keith Delk and WITR. Check it out!

Adjourned at 2:55 pm

Motioned by CIAS, 2nd by COLA