Student Government Senate
Tuesday, October 14, 2014
Session Agenda

I. Call to Order
   a. The meeting was called to order at 4:30 pm.

II. Roll Call
   a. Presiding officer Reyes conducted roll call. With 20 out of 31 senators present, quorum was met.

III. Approval of the Minutes
   a. The minutes were approved with 0 corrections.

IV. Communications and Announcements
   a. Senators
      i. Hollis: I am working on a bill to have student services have illuminated maps and bulletin boards. It will increase safety to have people know where they’re going, plus extra lighting. I want it in the kiosks near the phones. I am looking for cosponsors. I am still working to get in contact with student services.
      ii. Reese recognized as present. There are now 21 out of 31 senators present.
      iii. Pradio recognized as present. There are now 22 out of 31 senators present.
      iv. Cadine recognized as present. There are now 23 out of 31 senators present.

b. Non-Senators

V. Presiding Officer Communications and Announcements
   a. From what I’ve been told 31 members is the largest senate we’ve ever had. The Leadership Summit is after the SG meeting. Teagle is in hospital again. We are sending our well-wishes his way. The Sec of State and I will deliver his address for him. I also wanted to say well-done for Violet. I met with her earlier and she talked to me about how her committee spoke of the bills tabled to them. I want to continue tabling bills to committees.

VI. President Pro Tempore and Committee Reports
   a. President Pro Tempore
   b. Committee Reports
      i. Lee: We reviewed 3 bills that were handed to Finance, two were for the College of Engineering. Everything checked out, as long as the amendment is put in, it’s good. For the Unity bill, that also was approved and paperwork was valid.
      ii. Johnson: I had the Parking Resolution tabled to me. I did visual surveying, and I drove through and it needs to be redone. Everything looks great with that.

VII. Executive Reports, Judicial Reports, Advisor Reports
   a. President
b. Treasurer
   i. Printed.

c. Secretary of State
   i. Printed. (Get from Fernando)

d. Judicial

e. Advisors
   i. Sipe: The Browns beat the Stealers. In SIL, student orgs have to be registered. Oct. 1st is when we crack down and at the end of the month they won’t be registered. Once I get the list of those who are no longer active, I will let you know. Just because they are on the website doesn’t mean they currently registered, so just ask me.

VIII. Old Business
   • CR.F14I005 Parking Maintenance Resolution
      o Reese: Leroy didn’t say if he found out about the cost or why it hasn’t been maintained so far.
      o Lee: I have put in work orders, they haven’t contacted me. I put my direct contact number and e-mail and still haven’t gotten anything. I can’t find who is responsible.
      o Reese: The info you have is vague from Facility Services.
      o Lee: I don’t know what they have submitted. I just know because I park there. He went out and validated what I deemed. I don’t know the next course of action.
      o Aucoin: Do you have an amendment to fix the fee line?
      o Lee: I don’t know what the fee is, I took it out because haven’t gotten that number yet, once get it, I’ll submit it formally.
      o Reese: Do you still have it as a compound resolution?
      o Reyes: As long as the former line of the maintenance fee was removed he’d sign it and send it off to administration. It’s been okay’d as a compound resolution.
      o Christopher: This is a resolution, not bill. This is just saying that there is a problem that needs to be addressed. The request for budgeting or funding is irrelevant to say this is an issue. If you choose not to, there will be no voice from students saying it needs to be addressed.

      ▪ Lee: I wrote this as a resolution to propel this to get addressed. I didn’t want it to be a bill, because this is an administrative problem. I wanted to have a rally of my fellow senators to support me with this. I want you to see that my intentions are genuine and this needs to be addressed.
      ▪ Hollis: I’ve been to the parking lot and it needs to be addressed.
      ▪ Paine: I don’t park there anymore because I bottomed out and I have a truck. So now I park illegally in the Ben Franklin parking lot.
      ▪ Aucoin: It needs to be done; it’s unfortunate for people to have to park there. It looks bad for prospective students.
      ▪ Motion to have unanimous consent to hear the amendment.
There’s an amendment to take out the fee line.
- With a roll call vote of unanimous 23, amendment is attached.

St. Amant recognized as present.
- With a roll call vote of 22 yes, 2 no, 0 abstentions, resolution is passed.

**B.F14J008 Engineering Fall Fest – Decorations**
- Walsh recognized as present.
- Senator: What is the main purpose of the event?
  - Sam: To bring everyone together, bring people to the College of Engineering, a place they may not go on a regular basis.
  - Reese: Do you have an amendment to add the organizations?
  - Sam: Yes, I have the amendment to add them.
  - DiMaggio: If this is successful will you make this an annual event?
  - Sam: That’s the hopeful goal, but it depends on the next leadership of the organization.
  - Senator: Is this a fundraiser for the 6 student organizations?
  - Payne: No, it’s not a fundraiser; it’s free for all students.
  - Senator: I think this event just gives free food to students and for people to meet other people in the college of engineering. This undermines students. I don’t think events like this will serve the main purpose.
  - Aucoin: I feel this is along the lines of half the bills that SG funds. This is not restricted to engineers. I would love to see other colleges there. Hopefully you can walk across gravel lots and see the condition.
  - DiMaggio: This event will be fun and new. When you have new events, you don’t know how the money will be. They will get a feel for it after this. It’s like CBEC, it’s hosted by the college of business; it’s our thing, but others come.
  - Lee: I don’t go to the engineering building. I will go to support my fellows senators and explore the university. I want to see the work you do there. I think it’s a great event to fund.
- Amendment: Add NSBE to list in first whereas. And to add that there will no cover fee.
  - Unanimous consent to add amendment.
- With a roll call vote of 22 yes, 1 no, 2 abstentions, the bill is passed.

**B.F14J009 Engineering Fall Fest – Food**
- Senator: Why did you separate the bills.
- Aucoin: Do to miscommunications; Sam didn’t know she could come to SG for funding. Anything over $1,000 has to be in a month in advance. We wouldn’t have gotten it in in time.
- Christopher: Do you have any amendments?
- COE: Yes, it’s the same as the last one.
- Senator: I’m not against engineering. I feel the money needs to go to something positive.
o COE: Although the event is organized by engineering, it will bring together all students and other departments. We are supposed to spend money for good cause, it’s a step towards a great cause.

o There was unanimous consent to hear the amendment. Add NSBE to the description and first whereas and add that they will not charge a cover fee.

  ▪ Amendment is attached.
  ▪ With a roll call vote of 22 yes, 1 no, and 2 abstentions, the bill is passed.

- B.F14J010 Unity Talent Show
  o This is the 4th annual one. We know what we’re doing. It was a great event last year; it will be this year, as well. We hope to see you there.

  ▪ With a roll call vote of 25 yes, 0 no, 0 abstentions, the bill is passed.

IX. New Business

- B.F14J011 Sexual Assault Reporting Act
  o This is in tune with the It’s on Us campaign. It’s calling for a student-wide vote for UNOPD to follow up with the law for reported sexual assault cases. We don’t need something bad to happen for something to be fixed. There are times that it doesn’t get brought up. They are crimes and hurt people for life. It should be student-wide vote. We can blaze the trail. When it happens, we want it to be dealt with appropriately.

  ▪ Aucoin: What would happen with UNOPD and NOPD. What’s the current policy?
  ▪ Christopher: It’s for this to happen, but if it’s not reported to a police officer, from like faculty or an RA or whatnot.
  ▪ Reese: You don’t think a victim should go upon upon their own discretion to report it to UNOPD?
  ▪ Christopher: The issue is that they’ve been institutionally dealt with, the person would be expelled and it would be hidden. They would be that the students have the capacity to make the decision on their own, that’s why it needs to be a student body vote. People are afraid to go to the police. Some people look down on those victims. Some may not want to come forward, but a crime still happened and it needs to be punished. It’s intensely bad, and there’s a chance it could happen again.
  ▪ Hollis: That’s not hypothetical, it really does happen. It’ll prevent cover-ups.
  ▪ Lee: There’s no reason why you should protect anyone who does such a despicable crime.
  ▪ DiMaggio: If the bill was passed, let’s say UNOPD does get involved, does that student lose their right to not have UNOPD involved?
  ▪ Christopher: It’ll be voted on by the student body.
  ▪ Time extended.
  ▪ Senator: I know that policy (inaudible)
Christopher: It’s not pertaining to UNOPD. If things happen it would make it that all faculty is responsible to report it. A lot of sexual harassment is up for interpretation. She says she was harassed, but just drunk, I don’t think that should be decided on individual basis, it should go to the full extent. It’s not just on the victim side, sometimes the accused is the victim. They can get expelled before having proper checks and balances.

Cormier: Will you make sure that everything is properly handled?

Christopher: This isn’t for the policy, but just for the vote of the student body to have a policy.

Sipe: Sometimes victims don’t press charges, because their name is put out there. Would you consider amending it, so that it’s not anyone, just to protect their identity?

Christopher: Privacy and security is in UNOPD policy now. This is just yes or no, do you want it reported to police, and then the policy will be shaken out later.

Sipe: You said to host the election in 30 days. I can’t guarantee to have that in 30 days, I’ll put in a request today, but I can’t guarantee it will be ready in 30 days.

Reese: Isn’t it a vague question to ask for you said they will sort it out later?

Christopher: This is how you implement procedure. Its black and white, do you want UNOPD involved or not? To expand it, we’d go into policy.

- Tabled to Student Affairs committee.

- B.F14J012 Voting Transparency Act
  - Regular students don’t know how their college is voting. They don’t have a job performance of how they are voting. In any other government you can look back and see how they vote. It builds confidence when you see transparency. We are always asking for more transparency from administration, we need to have it in the senate ourselves. No one should be ashamed of their vote, so peers should know why you’re voting for something and not. It will make people interested in why you are voting certain ways. Overall my hope is to build confidence in our colleges.
    - DiMaggio: Do you want it to be overall yes or no, by colleges, or specific names.
    - Christopher: It would be yes, no, or abstention by name for everything.
    - Sipe: The voting records are already available. Anyone can ask to see them?
    - Lee: It has individual names?
    - Sipe: Yes.
    - Christopher: They are not online, just because it’s not in law. This prevents things from being lost later. It has it to be Updated within
72 hours. The website is not updated in timely fashion. The officers are incorrect. Those things make us unaccountable. It shouldn’t take me to go to the office. If it’s not in timely fashion, it’s not feasible. We need to have info clearly.

- Aucoin: Who will be in charge of doing this?
- Christopher: The Senate Clerk and Pro Tempore and Historian will keep more record of vote.
- Aucoin: Have you talked to her to see if that’s enough time?
- Christopher: It’s already out, and should be easy.
- Lee: It’s in the job description.
- Clerk: It’s not in my job description, I’ll be happy to do it, but it’s not in my description.
- Christopher: It will be if this passes.
- DiMaggio: Should it be unanimous consent for it to pass?
- Christopher: If you have a problem with how you’re voting? If clerk has problem with it, they can quit.
- Aucoin: Don’t think the record would need to be out by Monday, do you think you could make it to 144 hours, to make it.
  - Motion to table to SA committee.

- B.F14J013 Fee Transparency Act
  - This bill has two parts. One is for a student wide vote. The other is for the budget to be published digitally. We all have a problem with having lab fees, maintenance fees and don’t know where they are spending it. This is to call for a vote for students to ask if administration should be asked this. The second part is that SG is to require implementation. The treasurer will have a report about these fees. The budget and it’s expenditures will be on the SG website. Any changed in the budget will be updated within 14 days of the change. Governance will codify this law.
    - Aucoin: Why is it just fees and not tuition?
    - Christopher: Tuition is a different situation. It’s harder to track those numbers because it’s with this institution and the UL system and above. Fees are different because the money stays within the university. Dealing with tuition, it would be too much for this bill
    - Lee: I pay over $1000 in fees alone. I talked to Dr. Tar and he said he just got lab fees in the last 2 years, but they’ve been collecting that fee for much longer. I want the university to take responsibility of where the money is going.
    - Payne: I pay $150 in lab money and we just got lab money this year. So where is it going? It shouldn’t be used for anything else. I pay my fee for my lab; it should go to my lab. If we lose accrediting because of our labs, my degree means nothing.
    - Lee: My department started with 23 professors and now we’re down to 6 because people don’t want to work here. We are a research
university, if other research universities saw what are resources are like… I have other mandatory fees for $420, that’s not a detailed.

- Aucoin: When you say we have it available in paper, does that mean we have to have copying that they can take and leave or just have one for them to look at in the office.
- Christopher: If they ask for it, we will print it for them free of charge.
- Aucoin: We have printing in the library, is there really a need?
- Christopher: Even if the majority of students have computers and stuff, we still need free transparency.

- Motion to table to the Governance Committee, passes.

X. Nominations and Appointments
- Gilliance M. Edwards, Election Commission
  - She didn’t make it into COE as senator. She wants to be a part of SG and see how it all works and eventually be a senator. She felt this is good step towards that.
  - Payne: Are you going to the see Dean Whitley meeting tomorrow?
  - Edwards: No, but I can.
    - With a roll call vote of 25 yes, 0 no, 0 abstentions she is appointed.
- Johnson, Gaeta Beautification
  - Approved.
- Christopher, Beautification
  - Approved.
- Lee, Beautification
  - Approved.
- Talbert, Technology
  - Approved.
- Christopher, Technology
  - Approved.

XI. Open Forum
a. Reyes: I just want to say we got through that quickly. job well done.

b. Walsh: I just want to say, I was not here last week. I want to say that I voted against my principles. I did not like the way that Teagle approached the senate. It’s not constitutional, we have power, and we shouldn’t have allowed it. Our constitution isn’t even worth the paper it’s printed on. We wanted a debate on senators. We didn’t have a debate. We should be allowed to debate. Constitution reform needs to happen, I’m not waiting on Teagle anymore.

c. Hollis: Do we have any idea of when committee will be established? Can we just make it?

d. Reyes: We’ve had people try to reform it before. In terms of creating a committee, the senate can make it. The senate votes to start it and the president can by saying there’s a new committee. To just help on it, I think yes, if we have active senators, do that.

e. Lee: How would that hold up when he’s back and isn’t that part of governance?

f. Reyes: Yes, but anyone can sit and talk of doing it.
g. Talbert: I agree with the bill with administration to talk about listing the fees, but what power do we have to hold them to it, do we have that power?

h. Christopher: There’s a policy in the UL system there’s supposed to committee to go through and review it all, we haven’t done that here. Having student support will have lots of pressure and take other options like moving it to UL system or media. We need a large student support.

i. Di Maggio: To have motion to extend time, and declined is inappropriate. These are important bills I had a question.

j. Christopher: You can override the presiding officer and you just appeal the chair. There are checks and balances. You can have tools to fight battles. If don’t have tools, you get frustrated.

k. Payne: Thank you for passing the parking lot bill. I challenge you all to go drive on the parking lot. I think it would be ridiculous to vote against something to bring notice to it. We’re paying to go to college here and don’t have a parking lot.

l. Aucoin: Understand we are on a time crunch, but praising how quickly the meeting went shouldn’t have been done. It’s like going to mass and the priest says yay we’re out in 30 minutes.

m. Aucoin: There’s an entire week to ask questions. It’s up to you as a representative to look at the bills, read over them and speak with the authors and sponsors. What I did today, I hope never have to do, but it needed to happen. We will have debate and questioning next week. I want it to be clear that I’m not trying to trample on the senate.

n. Sipe: I want to say that because of university policy, I’m the only person to get it on the website, I do it then it goes to marketing and they take time. This is not my sole job.

o. Hollis: I assume you have my email. I hope to get together with people to talk.

p. Walsh: I am going to resign from the public safety committee, I don’t think it’s the president’s job to push a committee.

q. Lee: I am looking to become a senator, but with printing, you can have a hard copy in the library for people to look at and make copies of.

r. Aucoin: How you try to become more transparent, have you ever thought about contacting Driftwood for notifications with students.

s. Christopher: I have and they felt their prior affliction with SG will be conflict of issues. I said it’s important and the things that we are doing will affect everyone. They said they don’t have the man power or writers or money to get more writers. They need someone to write about it, and no one is willing. I urge you to go ask them.

t. Sipe: I would like to offer a solution, we have marketing person. We’d have to wait until things are approved so everything will be a week off.

XII. Adjournment

a. The meeting was adjourned at 6:00pm.