



MINUTES¹
USG Senate Meeting
Thursday, October 27th, 2011

Meeting called to order at 7:12 pm. Meeting held in Wang Center Room 201.

Agenda item 1.0: Attendance

The roll was called:

Senator David Adams	Present
Senator Oluwasegun Adedapo	Present
Senator Emily Alcott	Present
Senator Shon Augustine	Present
Senator Lance Bertrand	Present
Senator Tiffany Bibby	Present
Senator Nicholas Ela	Left Early (~8:30 pm)
Senator Ray Fan	Excused Absence
Senator Frank Fanizza	Present
Senator Max Gunther	Present
Senator Eric Lau	Excused Absence
Senator Anna Lubitz	Present
Senator Adam Meier	Present
Senator Sean Moore	Present
Senator Corey Platt	Present
Senator Masood Rustemi	Present
Senator Alexandra Santiago	Present
Senator Najee Simmons (PPT)	Present
Senator Priya Sohi	Present
Senator David Szeszler	Present
Senator Andrew Tausz	Present
Senator Ryann Williams	Present

President Mark Maloof	Present
Executive Vice President Deborah Machalow	Present

¹ Typically, minutes should only contain the essentials of a meeting. This includes the meeting time and location, a list of those who attended, as well as a record of all motions made and their outcome. Debate (or a summary of debate) is usually not included. I include it here at the request of the Chair. Mistakes and omissions are likely, so Senators are encouraged to e-mail the Secretary with corrections prior to the next Senate meeting, so that the record reflects what was actually said at the meeting and so corrections can be made efficiently.

* Pending approval of the Budget Committee

Treasurer Thomas Kirnbauer (7:54 pm)	Excused Lateness
Vice President of Clubs and Organizations Allen Abraham	Excused Absence
Vice President of Communications Farjad Fazli	Absent
Vice President of Student Life Deron Hill	Excused Absence
Senior Class Representative Emilisa Trotman	Excused Absence
Junior Class Representative Dennis Nmecha	Absent
Sophomore Class Representative Christopher Priore	Absent

Quorum established.

Agenda item 2.0: Announcements

The Chair announced that Senate reports for the month of October are due tomorrow. The Chair will post the reports on the webpage. Overdue reports from September should also be submitted as well.

Agenda item 3.0: Approval of the Minutes (10/20/2011 Meeting)

- Senator Simmons moved that the minutes from the 10/13/2011 meeting be approved.
 - Motion approved by unanimous consent.

Agenda item 4.0: Event Grant Applications

- Senator Sohi presented the event grant applications.

-Stony Brook Crew Team:

- The Crew Team is asking for funding for lodging, transportation, and entry fees.
- Senator Platt moved to approve the funding grant to the Stony Brook Crew Team for \$2996.
 - Motion passes by a vote of 20-0-0. (Roll Call #1).

-Stony Brook Dance Team:

- Dance Team wishes to go to the Quidditch World Cup event, in order to cheer them on. They are asking for \$702 for transportation and related expenses.
- Senator Fanizza moved to approve the funding request to Stony Brook Dance Team for \$702.
 - Motion approved by a vote of 20-0-0. (Roll Call #2).

-Stony Brook Men's Rugby:

- Rugby 7's tournament.
- Funding needed for referees, doctors, and other tournament expenses.
- Senator Adams: What is the sound system funding request for?
 - Senator Moore: From what I understand, these are required so that the referees' decisions can be heard and broadcast.
- Senator Adams: Do we need 10 doctors for this event?
 - Senator Moore: From my understanding, these are chiropractors, not doctors, who will be needed as there are four simultaneous games taking place at any one time.
- Senator Meier moved to approve the Men's Rugby grant request for \$2800.

- Senator Adams: I have a problem with Treasurer Kirnbauer's participation during the request granting process. I think we should return this funding request to the Budget Committee so that their minutes more clearly reflect that there was no conflict of interest during the deliberations on this funding request.
- Senator Adams moved to recommit the funding request to the Budget Committee.
 - Motion passes by a vote of 12-6-2. (Roll Call #3.) (Funding request recommitted to the Budget Committee.)

Agenda item 5.0: **Executive Council Reports**

-President

- The USG Senate has passed the petition regarding providing more recreational space on campus. I passed this petition along to the University Senate, where the petition is making good progress and has been referred to the Executive Committee. I will update the Senate on the petition's progress.
- My current idea is to conduct a survey for students in the Arts and Theatre departments, regarding the recent changes in the administration of these departments. Shared service centers consist of the merging of these administrative services amongst closely related departments by the administration, in order to save on costs. I think we should monitor this situation closely, see what the students think, and go from there.

-Vice President of Clubs and Organizations

- The Vice President was unable to attend. His written report is included in the Senators' agenda.

-Vice President of Communications and Public Relations

- Absent. No written report.

-Vice President of Student Life

- Absent. No written report.

-Senior Class Representative

- Absent, but written report included in the agenda.

-Junior Class Representative

- Absent. No written report.

-Sophomore Class Representative

- Absent. No written report.

Agenda item 6.0: **Undergraduate Student Government NYPIRG Contract**

- Senator Sohi presented the NYPIRG contract.
- Senator Sohi: This is the same exact contract as was presented last meeting, except we corrected the dates for which the contract should be in force.

- Senator Moore moved to approve the Undergraduate Student Government NYPIRG Contract for 2011-2012.
 - Motion approved by a vote of 19-1-0. (Roll Call #4).
- Senator Santiago moved that the USG Senate enter into Executive Session in order to discuss a human resources issue.
 - Motion approved by a vote of 20-0-0. (Roll Call #5).

The Senate has entered Executive Session at 7:33 pm. (Business during Executive Session appears in italics.)

- *Senator Santiago moved to suspend the rules, in order to allow Mark Moulton (USG Audio/Visual Advisor) to be present during the Executive Session, until dismissed by the Chair.*
 - *Motion approved by a vote of 20-0-0. (Roll Call #6).*
 - *Mr. Moulton entered the USG Senate chamber at 7:36 pm.*
- *Senator Sohi moved to suspend the rules, in order to grant Mark Moulton speaking privileges during his presence in Executive Session.*
 - *Motion approved by a vote of 20-0-0. (Roll Call #7).*
 - *Mr. Moulton left the USG Senate chamber at 7:49 pm.*
- *Senator Sohi moved to end the Executive Session.*
 - *The Chair, acting under Section 122.2. of the USG Financial Bylaws, directed that the USG Senate vote on whether or not Treasurer Kirnbauer has a “direct or indirect personal or financial interest” and should therefore be precluded from participating in the debate.*
 - *The Senate ruled, by a vote of 18-0-1 (Roll Call #8), that Treasurer Kirnbauer be allowed to participate in the debate.*
 - *Motion to end the Executive Session passed by a vote of 19-0-0. (Roll Call #9).*

The Senate ended its Executive Session at 8:35 pm.

Agenda item 7.0: Temporary Assistance Pay Act 2011-2012

- Senator Adams moved to commit the “Temporary Assistance Pay Act 2011-2012” legislation to the Legislative Review Committee.
 - Senator Adams: I think the Legislative Review committee would be able to handle rewriting this bill to address any issues we have. I am also concerned that the Chair of the Budget committee may have a personal stake in the legislation, and would therefore prefer referring the legislation to the Legislative Review committee.
 - President Maloof: I agree with referring to Legislative Review, but not with the reasoning. It looks like the Budget Committee has already approved the funding of the bill, but there is a problem with the structure of the legislation. I therefore agree with the decision, but only for the reason I stated.

- Senator Sohi: I don't think it makes sense to send legislation to a committee when the author does not have the ability to address it and address any changes to it.
 - Motion approved by a vote of 14-5-0. (Roll Call #10).

Agenda item 8.0: Open Agenda

- EVP Machalow: Is there any business from the Senate?
 - Treasurer Kirnbauer: I just want to let the Senate know that when a committee forgets to include something in its draft minutes, that they can revise them when the committee next meets, before approving them.
- Miranda Guerriero: We are in favor of proposing a resolution for a tobacco-free policy on campus. I only have ten copies (submitted to the Chair.) We want to get support from the Senate in favor of the West campus to follow the East Campus lead of having a completely 100% tobacco free policy. I have attached some of the facts stated and I will read the resolution.
 - Ms. Guerriero read the text of the "Tobacco Free Policy Resolution, October 27, 2011," a copy of which has been submitted to the Chair.
 - Senator Williams: What is third hand smoke?
 - Ms. Guerriero: I have an article attached. It is the contamination that tobacco leaves after a cigarette has been extinguished.
 - Senator Williams: What happens if we get a tobacco free campus?
 - Ms. Guerriero: The way it has been done in other universities is that it would be a simple statement that this campus is tobacco free. No smoking, chewing tobacco, etc. Different schools have different ways of implementing this.
 - Ms. Guerriero: What I would like to see is support, so that I can take that to the administration, and show that the student government and students are interested in a tobacco free campus.
 - Senator Santiago: Would this not be a political issue? Is it appropriate under the USG Constitution for us to discuss this?
 - Chair: Read Article II, Section 1, C. of the USG Constitution.
 - Senator Tausz moved to approve the "Tobacco Free Policy Resolution."
 - Senator Gunther: I don't think Senators have had a chance to really read over the resolution. Perhaps we should table this issue and revisit it next week.
 - Senator Gunther moved to postpone further consideration of the resolution until next meeting.
 - Motion passed by a vote of 18-1-0. (Roll Call #11).
- Nadia Jafari addressed the Senate, for the purpose of giving a demonstration regarding the "tobacco free" policy.

Meeting adjourned at 8:58 pm.

