**Minutes for Senate Meeting 10.1.14**

**Senate Called into session at 8:32 PM**

* Pledge of Allegiance recited
* Roll Called by Sen. Markisello

Attendance

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Altilio | P | Eager | P | Markisello | P | Yeates | P |
| Baer | P | Efekoro | E | Melse | P | Zhao | P |
| Beaton | P | Evanson | P | Nwankwor | P |  |  |
| Bleck | E | Faver | P | Nwike | P |  |  |
| Cabral | P | Flood | P | Okwuoha | P |  |  |
| Cassidy | P | George | P | Planty | P |  |  |
| Chin | P | Henderson | P | Roberts-Blake | E |  |  |
| Chowdhury | P | Hershenson | P | Sanzone | P |  |  |
| Conroy | P | Jegede | P | Schwab | P |  |  |
| Crepsac | E | Jones | P | Sepulveda | P |  |  |
| Daniels | E | Kamins | P | Sippin | P |  |  |
| De La Cruz | P | Kosinski | P | Stricoff | P |  |  |
| Domberg | P | Lugo | P | Terezakis | P |  |  |
| Dunleavy | P | Maldonado | P | Walsh | P |  |  |
| Dushing | P | Mallon | P | Webb | P |  |  |

**Public Comment:**

* Sen. Henderson Public Comment
  + UA Shuttle should include Empire. Circulating Petition, intends to introduce resolution next week.
  + Sen. Markisello responds, currently working on it.
* President of Big Brothers and Sisters, appreciates support of Senate for organization.
* George Sampson, Albany International Football Club, introduced E-Board. Looking forward to working with Senate. Promoting Club. [mchu@albany.edu](mailto:mchu@albany.edu) for further questions about organization.

**Address by President Jones:**

* Pres. Jones welcomes students to University.
* Thanks Senate for advancing reputation of the University and improving campus life.
* Looking forward to engagement between Pres. Office and Senate.
* Pres. Jones hopes that students see University as responsive to student concerns, reflective of dialogue with students.
* Wireless connection on podium was pitiful last year, invested nearly half million dollars to improve wifi connection. Continuing to work on improving WiFi in the future.
* Should have received email from office detailing budget for coming year. Invested 2.7 million dollars in Undergrad and grad student support. Initial down payment, critical importance.
* Massive rebranding campaign coming for this University. Need to make others aware of excellence of this University.
* Will work to keep University affordable and accessible to all students.
* Capitol Campaign, target for fundraising in next year or two. Feels need more support for undergraduate programs.
* Compact, budget planning process, will align investments with 4 stakes, expanding academic profile of university. Some students don’t enroll here because we don’t have as many engineering and healthcare programs that other universities have. Computer Engineering program to be introduced next fall.
* Ultimate goal, school of engineering in next five to seven years.
* Albany Law School, deep alliance, goal to make constituent college of UAlbany. Will open more joint degree opportunities. We will know by end of the year.
* Downstate medical college, in discussions, well known for diversity in trained physicians. We want to expand degree programs through these existing academic institutions.
* Pres. Jones wanted to give overview of upcoming opportunities. Wants to ensure that graduates will be proud of investment in education here.
* Thanks Senate, looks forward to conversation as part of forum in the Spring.

**Questions for President Jones and Answers:**

* Is there anything being done to try and reattach with nanotechnology school?
  + No, we must accept hand we have been dealt. This university created school of Nano science technology. Belief is can be more effectively done as a free standing institution.
  + Opens up opportunity to open more engineering programs. We will always be involved with them.
* Elaborate on plan with computer engineering program.
  + We have very strong college of computer information. High need area for State of New York. We need to train people for high paying jobs, those in engineering. If gets approved, program will begin next August.
  + Approved hiring of five new faculty members. Will be rolled out as transfer program. No freshmen until 2016. 25-50 transfer students in first year.
  + Expected to be major draw for international students. Predicts in five years will be dominant program at Univeristy. Will grow enrollment at University.
* When you say it will only be open to transfer students, will UAlbany students be allowed to participate?
  + Of Course, you can transfer into program if you have prerequisites.
* Conclusion

Sen. Markisello: We will plan forum in Spring for Undergraduates. New business can be brought up.

**Return to Public Comment:**

* Sen. Choudhury: Sen. Tzkachyk will come
* Sen. Dunleey: Occupational Licensing

**OSI: Beth:**

* Sat. October 11th, Dave Coolier will be doing stand up in ballroom.

**Executive Report:**

* VP Marc Cohen:
  + Members of SA met with Pres. Jones, explained strategic goals and vision.
  + Met with Student Success and OSI, discussed what’s going on.
* Christina
  + Tae Kwon Do/ Wrestling problem with spaces. Being addressed.
* CoS Habeeb
  + Held Town Hall on Monday with student groups.
  + Many upcoming events.
* Question from Sen. Webb
  + Can SA send calendar of events to Senate?
    - Being communicated with Sen. Chair.
  + Sen. Chair and Vice Chair have not heard.
* Question from Sen. Choudhury
  + Are Voter Reg forms being offered in SA?
    - Marc: Forms always available at Front Desk and LA office.
* Comptroller’s Report:
  + October 15th, last date to take treasurer’s exam for club. Must take to have access to funds. Can be taken anytime Monday-Friday.
* Communications Report
  + Sent over to OSI copy of SA newsletter.
  + Reaching out to different businesses in capitol district to give us discounts, more opportunities to use purchase orders.
  + Lee Stanton has a nice new suit.
  + Vinny’s has great student discounts for haircut and shave.
* Student Group Affairs Report
  + 150 people came to town hall meeting.
  + New student handbook for new student groups.
* Community Engagement and Outreach report
  + Pinehills clean up 10/12
  + Will have breakfast for student groups there.
  + Raffling off weekend at Dippikill.
  + Hoping for 500 students.
  + Trying to get more media attention.
  + Getting volunteers for breast cancer walk. Getting shuttle buses and banner.
* Legislative Affairs Report
  + Next Wednesday event for Voter Registration. Will send e-mail to Danny.
  + Has Voter Registration Forms.
* Academic Affairs Report
  + UAlbany You Should Know
  + APD appreciation night on Saturday.
* Intercultural Affairs
  + Last night had first Religious Council meeting. Great turnout.
  + Oct. 9th at 7:30 PM will have first multicultural student advisory committee meeting.

**Legislative Agenda:**

* Motion by Sen. Henderson to move Bill 39 to front of docket.
* Sen. Markisello tried to give everyone first choice for committee. Committees may change.
* Bill 39 approved by Unanimous Consent.
* Motion to combine Bills 33 through 38. Approved without objection.
* Each nominee for Board of Finance introduced.
* Sen. Markisello turned over Chair to Third ranking member.
* Sen. Choudhury automatically on Board of Finance due to position as Chairman of Finance Committee
* Sen. Webb, Sen. De La Cruz appointed by Sen. Markisello
* Shareen and Lynn nominated by SA Executive.
* Bill 34 ameneded. The direction of the 14/15 and 15/16 school years. One of each appointment is 2 years.
* Bills 33 through 38 passed by Unanimous consent.

**New Business:**

Sen. De La Cruz

* Trying to rearrange seating.
* Senate Tabling to get student concerns.

**Closing Roll by Sen. De La Cruz**

**Committee Meetings**

**Senate Adjourned 9:32 PM**