Student Association Senate Meeting

Wednesday, November 5, 2014 8:35 Assembly Hall

1. Call to Order and Opening Roll
   1. Pledge of Allegiance
2. Approval of Minutes
   1. Chowdhury
   2. Schwab
3. Public Comment
   1. Zhao and Chowdhury
      1. will be hosting a town hall meeting with many different gift cards available for prizes for those who wish to share their concerns about living on colonial.
   2. De La Cruz-
      1. Annual Fuerzo Night CC 6PM. Raffles and giveaways and a lot of fun.
   3. Longo
      1. UAlbany Stock Exchange November 20th 7:30 PM in LC 6 Carpenter will be giving career tips. Ben Carpenter “The secrets no one tells students and young professionals” Free event and free books to everyone who comes.
4. Opening Remarks
   1. Danny
      1. Thanking senators who came on Friday
      2. Very successful event, for both senate and faculty
      3. Very big thanks to Beth Conrad and OSI for paying for the event
      4. If any senator has any ideas of a speaker they want to come to senate please let me know
      5. Constitutional convention
         1. Webb
         2. Chowdury
         3. Markisello
         4. Henderson
         5. Sippin
         6. Altilio
         7. Eager
      6. Please keep attendance up, and make sure any other senators come
      7. You can be removed from senate if attendance stays a problem
   2. Stanley
      1. A lot of administrators expressed interest in speaking with the senate
      2. Write down some concerns and we can call meetings with faculty to fix any problems
5. University Report
   1. OSI would like to thank senate for coming out and having a successful event
   2. Dinning etiquette tickets are still available for the 13th in the Patroon Room.
6. Judicial Report
   1. No report
7. Board of Finance Report
   1. Meeting after this meeting in Assembly Hall
   2. Finished interviews of Comptroller staff
   3. Reviewing contracts
   4. More information on budget process soon, in regards to budget packets and deadlines
   5. It is never too early for groups to begin filling our budget request forms
8. Executive Report
   1. Francis, Marc, Habeeb
      1. Meeting with Student Success this week (Chris Bouchard). They brought up some concerns to them about buses to Empire. They are trying to figure out where they would put it on empire and it will be in place once they decide on a spot.
      2. Proposal for GPS safety device on phones so that there is no need to dial 911 or blue light. There are a lot of flaws including charging but if you would like to be part of the discussion talk to Francis.
      3. Executive Office Hours have been posted on the front door.
      4. The calendar has been sent to Danny and he will share the info with the rest of the senators.
      5. There will be a new VP of Student Success. They want students to be involved in the search process.
   2. Rob standing in for Mackenzie
      1. Ongoing list of clubs to receive allocations on MyInvolvement
      2. Deposits are being added now and then should be updated on a weekly basis
      3. Working with accountant to get credit card back in use by end of semester
         1. Danny-Auditor might come give a presentation next week.
   3. Dumpson
      1. 3rd annual state of Higher Education Luncheon. Discuss what we can do as a University to improve higher education. Please be sure to RSVP.
      2. Trans Day of Remembrance will be coming up with a week long of activities.
   4. Larry from Multicultural Affairs
      1. Tomorrow is the Interfaith spirituality campaign “Ravel/Unravel” starts tomorrow and will go through the rest of the semester. Passed around instructions on how to become a part of the campaign. Goal to get 500 people to participate to make it the largest campaign presently in the world.
   5. Bianca from Programming
      1. Hunger Games Mockingjay Part 1 movie. SA is getting another theatre with 274 tickets.
      2. French Montana pulled out of the contract for fall fest. BOF will meet after to discuss the contract and potential for another artist
   6. Helmi-Marketing
      1. My Involvement page on facebook set up to submit flyers. Going strong
      2. Cassie- Community Engagement and Outreach
         1. Looking for volunteers for superhero sprint this Saturday 9-12
         2. Putting out food boxes for can donation collection
   7. Jamie-Legislative affairs director
      1. Dave **Maccoy** came to campus on Monday and heard about student motives and why students leave after graduation and how that may help.
   8. Lee from Communications Department
      1. Wants the senate to come in and visit the executive branch more.
      2. Thinks its great Indian Quad is having a town hall meeting.
   9. Dippikill-No report
   10. Academic Affairs- No report
   11. University Council-No report
9. Committee Reports
   1. Rules and Administration
      1. Attendance is very important
      2. Please contact Danny in a timely manner
      3. Meet on Sundays at 5:30 at the SA back table
   2. Appropriations
      1. Bill withdraw from last week is now on the agenda
      2. $70,300 in Supplemental
   3. Government Operations
      1. October 7, BOF informed us that Francis raised a bid by $25,000
      2. This increase was due to the agents suggestion
      3. President had no prior approval by BOF or Comptroller
      4. If the performer agreed SA was bound
      5. According to By-law Francis required both BOF and comptroller approval before placing bid
      6. BOF and Comptroller did not receive notification in till 5 days after
      7. Rushing is no reason for not following rules
      8. By-Laws were violated
      9. We hope after this investigation all By-laws are followed
      10. The Gov-Op committee has chosen to officially censure the office of the President
      11. We also suggest and hope the senate follows suit and Censures the President as well
      12. We ask that all senators and executives review and follow all by-law requirements and the SA constitution
      13. We hope the executive can continue to work well and efficiently with the senate
   4. Community Engagement and Outreach
      1. Efekora meet 10th at 5PM. Meet with directors and chairs of all student groups on campus to talk about the plans in what they are trying to do for the rest of the semester.
      2. Wants to work with the executive branch
      3. Wants to track all office hours and put the opportunities on the student association website. I am the captain now.
      4. LC 23 8:45 PM but on the 10th.
         1. Dunleavy-President of a student group and did not get a notification.
      5. Sent out an email through student group affairs to send out a mass email to the groups
      6. Emails to student group will now go through Danny
   5. Constituent Relations
      1. Met last week after senate
      2. Tonight we created a student group form that senators would fill out when they go observe a student groups meeting
      3. Senators went to the badminton and Spanish club
10. Legislative Agenda
    1. Motion to move senate bill 49 to the bottom of the agenda
       1. Dunleavy
       2. Schwab
    2. 1415-050 (Appropriations Bill- Taekwondo Club)
       1. Met with them last week
       2. Told them to come back with new quotes
       3. Safety equipment is run down and not safe to use any more
       4. Storage shed can be opened while locked and needs replacing
       5. Strike shields are ripped and not safe
       6. You can feel the blows while practicing and could hurt someone
       7. Would use funds to replace all old equipment to uphold safety
          1. Henderson- Did you get a budget this year
             1. Yes $650, used a $100 for registration
             2. $50 for ice packs because campus rec ran out of ice packs
          2. Henderson- any fundraising this year
             1. Still looking into it, may do a bake sale, and go around asking for donations
       8. Bill passes UC
    3. Chowdhury- motion to untable bill 47
       1. Second from Dunlevey
    4. In debate for bill 47
       1. Korean Student Association is new and unfunded
       2. Currently do not have budget and would like to hold events
       3. Bill pass UC
    5. 1415-051 (Director of Marketing- Helmi Teklu) (must be motioned)
       1. Chowdhury motions to add bill to agenda
       2. Schwab 2nd
       3. In Debate
          1. He’s been interim for three weeks now
          2. No other applications were submitted
          3. He will do great
          4. Dunleavy- when did you advertise the position
             1. Francis- past two week
          5. Henderson- You walked I with no budget what is the plan
             1. Spent most money we had for fixing issues, prompting coming out day, and FallFest
             2. With more money we will be more productive
          6. Sanzone- As interim Helmi was great and has done wonderful in comparison to James Scott
          7. Schwab- With new director I fell confident giving them more funds
          8. De La Cruz- Great with office hours and great in the department, everything we need in a marketing director
          9. Bill Pass via Voice vote
    6. 1415-049 (Presidential Censure)
       1. Starting with Debate Points
          1. Sanzone-I have confidence he is doing a good job as president but something needs to happen because bylaws have been broken.
          2. Cohen-Serving for 3 positions under Agyemang who is very active in his administration. Recognizes a mistake has been made and apologized to the senate body. This is a slap in the face if you vote yes on this bill. I ask you as a colleague to vote no on this.
          3. Dunleavy- we elect a person to work on the student’s behalf. We should say you do something wrong and we disapprove of it. It is just saying that you did something wrong and don’t do it again.
          4. Chowdhury-Agrees with Cohen. Agyemang already knows that he did something wrong. The censure is going way too far as the bid did not go through.
          5. Schwab-Also encouraging voting no. This is counterproductive and it is just tearing us down. Want the student body to understand what is going on. This is a little rude seeing as it has already been addressed. We will watch him
          6. De La Cruz- As BOF we can say how the bid would effect us, but it didn’t go through
             1. Censures mean nothing and are a waste of time
             2. Vote No
          7. Webb- Yield time to Past Vice President Butler
             1. There are so many By-laws, everyone is constantly breaking them
          8. Efokorow- This is a witch hunt, he already admitted it, and this is going to far
          9. Eager- Point of inquiry
             1. Was the extra money budgeted for?
             2. Danny- The line had $150,000
          10. George- Feel it needs to be brought up, but a censure doesn’t do anything, we all know this happened already, and he is doing his job better now
          11. Nwike-Why ATV here today
              1. We asked them last semester, but followed through this semester and got them down here
              2. Danny- it has nothing to do with the censure it was a coincidence.
          12. Dunleavy- it sets a president for all future presidents to ensure this never happens again, a censure is not nothing, it is us, the senate, saying we disagree with what happened. It is not a witch hunt we are serving the students
          13. Eager- When he came In two weeks ago, he said he made a mistake, and understands he did wrong
              1. Duneleavy- point of inquiry- was it announced to the entire student body?

Danny- I can not answer the question

* + - 1. Sanzone- We called this investigation before Francis came to the senate to tell you what happened. Checks and balances.
      2. De La Cruz- We’re the board of directors and Francis came to talk to us. We are one organization. If we disapprove publically we are making it a poor image for SA that our president is financially incompetent. We should accept this and move on so it is not released to the public.
      3. Kosinki- It would look bad on us if we don’t do something about this. It is nothing personal against him and people will have problems if we do nothing.
      4. Terezakis- The issue was under the rug before this was made into a bill. This bill doesn’t offend me but I think for the future in case there was another issue we want this issue to be known jjust in case.
      5. Schwab- The fundamental laws are already in place in the bylaws. This is a serious law and it is already public knowledge because they did an investigation and the investigation has been concluded and so should this case.
      6. Chowdhury- This is a weighing test, should we publically state this? However, do we know of past bills from the last three years? In the coming years BOF has 2-year appointments so people will still remember this case and know not to do this in the future. It looks bad to disapprove of our leader.
      7. Henderson- Censoring is just a disapproval that this should not have happened but said that he made a mistake. I will abstain on this issue. $25,000 is a lot of money that a censure should be used for but it was still less than was in the budget.
      8. Webb-Agyemang please don’t let this happen again and I have full faith in you and I am happy you came forward in front of us. Future presidents don’t do it either.
      9. Sippin yields time to Rob-Agyemang has been working well with Rob and the Comptroller’s office does not believe that it will happen again.
      10. Eager- I feel like just doing this is a slap on the wrist. There was money in the budget so I think this is a little drastic
    1. Chowdhury has a motion for role call vote.
       1. Seconded
    2. Vote ended in a no to the censure 7-20-4
    3. The bill failed

1. Old Business
   1. None
2. New Business
   1. Two tickets left, field passes to Yankee stadium
   2. Dunleavy- getting a bus to run from UAlbany to Dippikill
3. Closing Remarks
4. Closing Roll and Adjournment