

MEETING NOTES



University of Iowa Student Government GENERAL SENATE MEETING

October 4, 2011

- A.) Call Meeting to Order (7:04)
- B.) Quorum Call – Roll Call (7:04)
- C.) Swearing in Senators (7:05)

Tanvi Inani the Chief Justice swore in 9 senators including Freshman, At-Large, AISA

D.) Public Access

E.) Presentation (7:06)

- ✓ UI Anti-Harassment Policy presented by Tom Baker

Tom Baker presented. He is the Associate Dean of Students and Director of Student Conduct. The University Anti-Harassment policy applies to everyone at The University. There are also violence and sexual harassment policies. All three of these policies set for a scheme where people are mandatory reporters. People in authority are not allowed to ignore any type of harassment or anything heard in terms of a report. For instance last week he heard of anti-gay graffiti on a white board and he was required to report it. People can come to six different places on campus to have a confidential discussion; those people are not mandatory reporters. The old policy is twelve years old. Before the anti-harassment policy there was a central policy. Harassment has always been prohibited. One of the problems with having a single definition is trying to find a definition that is accepted in all contexts. Harassment may be considered free speech and visa versa. The challenge was to find a single definition that applied across the campus. The old policy is so narrowly confined that it is almost inapplicable. In most cases it has proven better to use other rules rather than the anti-harassment policy. The new policy reflects current practices. In some situations the Equal Opportunity and Diversity office is notified, in those circumstances the office can make a decision on what policy can be applied. The new policy will help the EOD office because often times they aren't sure what to do with cases, this policy will simplify the process for people who have concerns about harassment on campus.

- ✓ Student Judicial Court Introductions

Tanvi Inani is the acting Chief Justice. Brigid O'Keefe, Amy Dalkoff, Andrew Birshbach, Hyder Chowdhry, Jasmine Dian, Andrew Koons are the other officers. They have been working on moving the parking committee work over to their jurisdiction. On Monday they started appealing parking tickets.

✓ Student Assembly Budgeting and Allocating Committee

Chief Financial Officer Cornally and Senator Westercamp gave a presentation on SABAC. The Student Activity Fee is charged to every student (\$67), it all goes together to a \$1.7 million dollar fund. Students who are involved get way more than \$67 out of the student activity fees. The fund gets split between UISG and GRAD students; the amount is figured by the approximate amount each puts in respectively. Patrick gave an expenditure breakdown. The Student Finance committee has control of about \$1.2 million dollars. The Student Finance committee allocates money to the Collaborative Funding Organizations. The UISG budget is approximately \$495,000.

Senator Westercamp went over the maximum funding standards used by SABAC. This helps the funding process to remain fair and objective. There are categories that are zero funded; usually it is because the category doesn't effect the University population as a whole. One time, individual use items are not funded. Honoraria is a standard that goes up depending on the target audience size. Trip funding is also set by a standard that goes up incrementally with the group size. The contingency fund is from unspent money that was allocated in the previous fiscal year. The current balance is approximately \$107,000. Executive board can make donations or purchases for under \$5,000; anything over \$5,000 requires senate approval.

F.) Old Business (7:30)

✓ S.S.R. 17 - Raj Patel for City Council Endorsement

Senator VanZant and Senator Riffel reintroduced the legislation. The origins of this bill started when Raj Patel decided to run for City Council a couple months ago. Students are excited about the prospect of having a student on Iowa City City Council. It is very vital to have a student on City Council because students are currently not represented.

Senator VanZant yielded to Raj Patel. Raj thanked UISG for opportunity to speak with UISG. Civic engagement is not something that should be taken lightly. He hopes to fill the legacy of others before him. He is running for City Council because he believes in Iowa City and that it represents the best of Iowa. He is committed to bringing about a better future for Iowa City. He is confident that he will be a good representative for the student body. He has plans to improve the lives of students. He wants to start conversations about entertainment options in downtown, improve lighting in areas around downtown and increase opportunities for students in Iowa City after they graduate. Currently, there aren't enough good jobs in Iowa City to keep students. Raj said he can't win the election without student support. There hasn't been a student elected in 32 years. Please support Raj to make Iowa City the best place it can be.

Senator Moffit said that last time the legislation was tabled because senate wanted Mr. Patel to come speak. She respected that he came in to speak to senate. Senator VanZant said another reason it was tabled is because we wanted to research the candidates a little more; he said hopefully everyone has had time to research the candidates.

Senator Brown said when he was watching the controversy with the news he thought it was a joke. He's become more informed on the situation, and agrees there should be a student on City Council but doesn't agree that it is the best thing to elect Mr. Patel this year. There is one other student running this year. Next year or the year after that there may be more students running. Mr. Patel may not be the best student.

Senator Kothari asked Mr. Patel to give his comments on the past. Mr. Patel said he wasn't here to speak about the past.

Senator Woodson said 2 years ago the two candidates came in and there was no debate from UISG; UISG simply endorsed them. Senator Riffel said, going off Senator Woodson's comment, the main reason it was tabled was because they wanted to give everyone the opportunity to come speak. The offer was extended to every candidate to come speak. Mr. Patel was the only candidate who came to speak. It speaks volumes that he was willing to come in to speak. Speaker Pottebaum clarified that he didn't not invite anyone; the candidates were invited by Senator Riffel and Senator VanZant.

Senator Phillips said she had concerns about us only supporting one candidate but it is very difficult to find information on the other student candidate. Mr. Patel is the candidate who shows the most concern for students.

Senator Rolston said that Raj is a great candidate but we can't forget the past. There were issues as far as how Raj withdrew from UISG. It didn't make UISG look good. He does not agree with supporting Raj.

Senator Moffitt said as an entity, to not support him makes us look worse. I feel like we should move forward. We are a student government who should support a student candidate.

Senator Horsfield said in general politics is about reflecting on what has been said and what will be said in the future. As a politician it is important to talk and resolve a conflict within the general senate because it is important to resolve the tension among the senators. I felt affected by the situation when I really didn't have a say in what was going on.

Senator Riffle motioned to suspend rule. Senator Horsfield Seconded. Vote to suspend rule: Passed.

Senator Mafoua-Namy said he respects Mr. Patel for coming in and presenting his platform but he was weary that he didn't answer Senator Kothari's question. He feels that it would be wrong for UISG to not support a student. In the future, if any student wants UISG support they should be careful of the words that they use.

Senator Woodson spoke on the controversy. Mr. Patel was hurt because he felt pressured to leave and UISG said that is not true. As Senators, we were not there, so to say we don't support him because of what came out in the Daily Iowan is a bad choice. Mr. Patel is here to present his platform, not to speak on the past.

Senator VanZant said for this election this is the best thing for the students. There may be more students running in the future, but this is the election right now. The students support Mr. Patel. UISG is supposed to act on what they believe is the best for the student population. Senator Riffel said in April everyone involved in UISG unanimously voted him in as City Council Liaison. The decision was made by the executive board and the senate backed the decision.

Motion to previous question: Senator Moffitt

Second: Senator VanZant

Vote on S.S.R.—17 Raj Patel For City Council Endorsement: Passed

G.) New Business (7:50)

✓ S.S.B. 18 - Committee Assignments

Speaker Pottebaum said all of the new senators were placed on committees.

Motion to previous question: Senator Kothari

Second: Senator VanZant

Vote on S.S.B. 18—Committee Assignments: Passed

✓ S.S.B. 19 - Sustainability Summit

Senator Moffitt and Kothari presented. The goal is to create a summit in November in which all sustainable organizations are invited to. All of the sustainability groups will be introduced. All of UISG will be invited to the Summit. It will be a completely sustainable event. A major part of President Higgin's platform is sustainability.

Discussion:

Senator VanZant said he applauded Senator Moffitt and Kothari for putting this together. He asked for some examples for student organizations that will be in attendance and how the event will be promoted. Senator Moffitt said EcoHawks, the CRCoalition, and The Garden are a few of the organizations that will attend. They want to reach out to

the key players that are already interested in sustainability. Hopefully throughout the year they will be sending e-mails to the entire student body. All of the promotion will be electronic or word of mouth.

Senator Riffel suggested that other student organizations that aren't necessarily sustainability oriented to be invited as well. Senator Ramesh said his concern is how to reach people who don't care about the environment as much. Senator Moffitt said the goal of the summit is to talk to the organizations that are already advancing the goals so we can show how UISG is a resource. We can work together to further everyone's goals. The purpose of this event is not to reach out to all people.

Senator Horsfield asked if this was a trial summit and if another expanded summit that will be held at a later date. Senator Kothari said yes.

Senator Tarnoff questioned the "Green Fee" and where the money is coming from. Speaker Pottebaum said that is a question that can be brought up at a funding meeting.

Motion to Previous Question: Senator Phillips
Second: Senator Mafoua-Namy
Vote on S.S.B. 19—Sustainability Summit: Passed

✓ S.S.R. 20 - UISG Senator Blogging

Senator Horsfield Presented. Senators will each write a blog. The blog will be changed every day. This will help to get the UISG name out there. All of the senators need to be utilized rather than just executive members.

Discussion:

Senator VanZant said the bigger concern is about the lower viewership in the website. Senator Ramesh asked why everyone is being forced to blog. The quality of blog comes down when people are forced to blog. Senator Mafoua-Namy said the biggest annoyance is that students don't know about UISG. Even the smallest blog is a promotion of UISG and is a step forward. It will be a good initiative to get our name out there. Senator Claussen said that the reason for this blog is because all senators have something they want to achieve. Senator Rolston said he agrees it is a good idea. A lot of time is wasted during office hours, senators could spend their office hours doing this.

Chief of Staff Bajwa said we don't know the viewership of the website, but it hasn't changed much lately. A blog wouldn't take much time but would have a big impact on the website.

Senator Mitchell said this is a small commitment. It is one more way for students to see UISG. Senator Brannon said this is a good way for other students to get involved. Senator Horsfield said not wanting to do something does not look good on UISG's part. The more updated our website is the more people will start viewing it.

Senator VanZant asked who will proofread it and asked what the criteria will be for a post. Speaker Pottebaum said it will have to go through one of two executives to go on the website. Senator Horsfield said the posts would be about what senators are doing on UISG. The hope is that students will realize UISG is doing stuff outside of meetings.

Senator Baroski said not many people know about UISG. He would venture out to say that we should advertise this to new students.

Executive Assistant Paulsen said he doesn't think anyone will write anything inappropriate and he will be reading anyone's blog. Senator Horsfield said his hope is that it will go through the Public Relations position.

Motion to previous question: Senator Phillips
Second: Senator Horsfield
Vote on S.S.R. 20—UISG Senator Blogging: Passed

H.) Reports (8:12)

- ✓ Advisor
- ✓ Executives

Student Organization Director Popham said the Leadership Development series is next Wednesday. Leadershape applications are due October 17th. The Penn State away tailgate is this Saturday.

Executive Assistant Paulsen has been going through the professor review forms and trying to make those public. The Earn While You Learn Scholarship applications are now up.

Chief of Staff Bajwa said he is working on student worker representation.

Diversity Advocate Kotheid said he is working on a Diversity Training workshop for UISG on November 15th.

- ✓ Committee Chairs

I.) Announcements

- ✓ UISG Dodgeball! Next Tuesday in the Field House in the North Gym at 7:00 PM.
- ✓ Next Committee Meetings is Tuesday, October 25 in 2520D (times vary).
- ✓ Legislation is due Wednesday, October 26 at 11:59 PM.
- ✓ Supplemental II Funding Deadline is Friday, October 28 at 5:00 PM.
- ✓ Next General Senate Meeting is Tuesday, November 1 at 7:00 PM in 2520D

J.) Adjournment (8:26)

Motion to adjourn: Senator Horsfield

Second: Senator Riffel



UNIVERSITY OF IOWA STUDENT GOVERNMENT
Student Senate

Raj Patel for City Council Endorsement Act
Student Senate Resolution 17

Submitted by: Senator Van Zant and Senator Riffel

Student Senate Action: Passed/Failed/Tabled
Date: September 13, 2011

AN ACT, relating to the University of Iowa Student Government's endorsement of Raj Patel in the 2011 Iowa City City Council election; and

WHEREAS, the official name of this legislation shall be Raj Patel for City Council Endorsement Act; and

WHEREAS, the University of Iowa student body comprises a large, vibrant, active part of the Iowa City community; and

WHEREAS, University of Iowa Student Government exists to empower students and ensure a student-centered environment; and

WHEREAS, a University of Iowa student has not served on Iowa City City Council for over 30 years; and

WHEREAS, Iowa City City Council policy decisions have a large and lasting impact on the lives of the University of Iowa student body; and

WHEREAS, Raj Patel provides a student perspective on both student and community issues to the Iowa City City Council and his platform includes areas important to students; and

WHEREAS, the University of Iowa Student Government, representing the views and interests of an undergraduate student body of over 21,000 students, has previously endorsed city council candidates with student-friendly views; and

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the University of Iowa Student Government opposes the historical under-representation of students on Iowa City City Council; and

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the University of Iowa Student Government recognizes that Iowa City City Council candidate Raj Patel has the most to offer to the University of Iowa student body; and

THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, University of Iowa Student Government fully endorses Raj Patel in the Iowa City City Council primary election, October 11, 2011, and in the Iowa City City Council general election, November 8, 2011; and

SO BE IT ENACTED, by the University of Iowa Student Government.

SPEAKER OF THE SENATE

Nicholas D. Pottebaum

I hereby attest and certify that this bill originated in the University of Iowa Student Government (UISG) during the 2011-2012 Student Senate Session and is known as SS-Resolution – 17

SECRETARY OF THE SENATE

Jessica H. Tobin

APPROVED _____, 2011

UISG PRESIDENT

Elliot W. Higgins



UNIVERSITY OF IOWA STUDENT GOVERNMENT
Student Senate

Student Senate Committee Assignments
Student Senate Bill 18
Submitted by: Speaker Pottebaum

Student Senate Action: Passed/Failed/Tabled
October 4, 2011

AN ACT, relating to membership of Student Senate committees; and

WHEREAS, the official name of this legislation shall be Student Senate Committee Assignments; and

WHEREAS, the Speaker meet with all Senator's being placed on a UISG Senate Committee to gather interests for the coming year in Senate, goals, and committees each Senator would like to be on; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to the University of Iowa Student Government (UISG) Governing By-Laws 2.2.9 the Speaker shall appoint all committee members with advice and consent of the Senate requiring an affirmative majority vote of seated senators, unless otherwise noted; and

WHEREAS, the Speaker would encourage the approval of the recommended membership; and

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Student Senate shall consider the following person(s) for membership; and

ACADEMIC AFFAIRS

- ✓ Millie Heuer
 - ✓ Kyle Oskvig
-

COMMUNITY AND OUTREACH

- ✓ Jay Brown
- ✓ Emily Brannon

GOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS

- ✓ Cameron Clifford
- ✓ Hannah Walsh

SUSTAINABILITY

- ✓ Patrick Bartoski

SABAC

- ✓ Patrick Bartoski
 - ✓ Kelsey Miller
-

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the UISG shall entrust to these representative(s) to be objective and un-bias in representing the students of the University of Iowa;

THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, and we endorse these person(s) who are qualified in merit to represent the UISG to the best of their abilities;

SO BE IT ENACTED, by the University of Iowa Student Government.

SPEAKER OF THE SENATE

Nicholas D. Pottebaum

I hereby attest and certify that this bill originated in the University of Iowa Student Government (UISG) during the 2011-2012 Student Senate Session and is known as SS-Resolution - 18

SECRETARY OF THE SENATE

Jessica H. Tobin

APPROVED _____, 2011

UISG PRESIDENT

Elliot W. Higgins



UNIVERSITY OF IOWA STUDENT GOVERNMENT
Student Senate

UISG Sustainability Summit

Student Senate Bill 19

Submitted by: Senator Moffitt and Senator Kothari

Student Senate Action: Passed/Failed/Tabled

Date: October 4, 2011

AN ACT, relating to organize a summit to further collaboration of environmental goals across campus; and

WHEREAS, the official name of this legislation shall be University of Iowa Student Government Sustainability Summit; and

WHEREAS, there are many environmental and sustainable organizations on campus; and

WHEREAS, a platform goal of the University of Iowa Student Government is sustainability; and

WHEREAS, as a result the University of Iowa Student Government would like to promote the individual goals and the shared goals each organization has on campus; and

WHEREAS, the University of Iowa Student Government Sustainability Committee met to discuss sustainability goals and seeks to gather input from environmental and sustainable organizations; and

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the University of Iowa Student Government Sustainability Committee will invite all university environmental and sustainable organizations; and

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Sustainability Summit will be on Sunday, November 6th beginning at 11:00 AM and lasting until 2:30 PM; and

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Student Senate Sustainability Committee will send out electronic invitations to all organizations, Iowa Student Government Senators and Executives, and necessary stakeholders; and

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Sustainability Summit will be paperless, use environmentally friendly food wear, as well as promoting sustainable practices; and

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Sustainability Summit will be funded by the University of Iowa Student Government using the Contingency Fund of approximately \$1,000; and

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Sustainability Summit will seek to promote discussion regarding collaboration of sustainability and environmental organizations, student organization education, a university Green Fee, etc.; and

THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the University of Iowa Student Government will host a Sustainability Summit; and

SO BE IT ENACTED, by the University of Iowa Student Government.

SPEAKER OF THE SENATE

Nicholas D. Pottebaum

I hereby attest and certify that this bill originated in the University of Iowa Student Government (UISG) during the 2011-2012 Student Senate Session and is known as SS-Bill –19

SECRETARY OF THE SENATE

Jessica H. Tobin

APPROVED _____, 2011

UISG PRESIDENT

Elliot W. Higgins



UNIVERSITY OF IOWA STUDENT GOVERNMENT
Student Senate

Senator Transparency by Blogging
Student Senate Bill – 20

Submitted by: Senator Horsfield on behalf of Community and Outreach Committee

Student Senate Action: Passed/Failed/Tabled
Date: October 4, 2011

AN ACT, relating to requiring all Senators to submit a blog post to the University of Iowa Student Government to increase student governments transparency; and

WHEREAS, the official name of this legislation shall be Student Government Senator Transparency by Blogging Act; and

WHEREAS, University of Iowa Student Government is committed to transparency as well as informing our constituents, students, about what we are doing as a government to advocate on behalf of students; and

WHEREAS, the newly created and designed University of Iowa Student Government website allows for blogging; and

WHEREAS, blogging is a convenient and transparent action to inform the study body of what each Senator is working on in the University of Iowa Student Government; and

WHEREAS, the Student Senate Community and Outreach Committee deliberated and discussed about how best to be transparent and ways in which the University of Iowa Student Government website could be used; and

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Student Senate Community and Outreach Committee members (Chairman Horsfield, Senator Claussen, Senator Mitchell, Senator Morris, Senator Vining)

seek to require all University of Iowa Student Government Senators to make one write up one blog post; and

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Community and Outreach will work with fellow Senators to have every Senator write up a blog post for the Fall Semester which will go on the University of Iowa Student Government website; and

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, there is enough time between now and the end of the Fall Semester to have each Senator write a blog post; and

THEREFORE BE IT FUTHER RESOLVED, Student Senate is committed to transparency thereby requiring all Senator to write one blog post to be posed on the University of Iowa Student Government website between now and the end of the Fall Semester; and

SO BE IT ENACTED, by the University of Iowa Student Government.

SPEAKER OF THE SENATE

Nicholas D. Pottebaum

I hereby attest and certify that this bill originated in the University of Iowa Student Government (UISG) during the 2011-2012 Student Senate Session and is known as SS-Bill –20

SECRETARY OF THE SENATE

Jessica H. Tobin

APPROVED _____, 2011

UISG PRESIDENT

Elliot W. Higgins