

# MEETING NOTES



## University of Iowa Student Government

### GENERAL SENATE MEETING

September 20, 2011

A.) Call Meeting to Order

B.) Quorum Call – Roll Call

C.) Public Access (7:02)

- ✓ Ponseti Races – Scot McKeag  
Ponseti Races a charity race that raises money for research of clubfeet. This is the third year and they are trying to get a huge student outreach. The event is Sunday October 1<sup>st</sup> starting at 9AM. It is a 5/10K walk or run. It is a \$25 registration fee which this includes a shirt (not guaranteed). Their funding was cut short this year so there will no be team victory dinner. This years race is in honor of the Caroline Found family. [Uiortho.com/races](http://Uiortho.com/races) is the home page where anyone interested can register. There is also a Facebook page.
- ✓ Mock Trial – Katy Kinney  
Mock Trial didn't submit a budget to SABAC due to communication problems. Mock trial is a competitive organization in which they try a fictional trial in front of a jury. They collaborate with Iowa Law students and some coaching staff. This gives a lot of good press for The University. They are ranked as a top two public university. There are three tournaments for this supplemental funding period that they would like to go to. A lot of students attend each tournament. Kinney asked Senate to please consider funding mock trial's requests.

D.) Presentations (7:11)

- ✓ Student Legal Services – Greg Bal  
SLS is located in the IMU. They represent all enrolled students from the University. They are not able to work on felony cases but they still assist them, and/or send them to the right resources. They handle criminal law, especially PAULAs, landlord/tenet issues and other cases. Each year outreach is increased. They do not represent students in cases against the University or students against students.
- ✓ Office of the Ombudsman Annual Report Presentation -- Cynthia Joyce and Susan Johnson  
Office of the Ombudsman helps with any problem on campus either through direct intervention or through coaching. They abide by four principals: informality, confidentiality, neutrality and independence. Their office is located in Seashore Hall room C108.

Results from Annual Report: They served 501 visitors. 159 were students and 76 were graduates. The primary visitor concerns for undergraduates were problems with faculty members, problems with services and administration, safety/health/environment. They see more minorities and women than are represented on campus. About ten percent of complaints deal with discrimination or harassment. Every year they select one or more issues to bring to campus. This year they looked over their reports and have decided to bring up problems that have persisted over the years. Sexual harassment is a serious issue that they have made great strides in over the past 25 years. They are available to give workshops on conflict management to any group on campus. They send out a survey of every visitor to their office and about 80% of the visitors are satisfied with their experience.

- ✓ Project MAUI (Made At the University of Iowa) Presentation  
MAUI, ISIS and ICON are three separate programs. MAUI is the administration face to student records. ISIS is the student portal. The existing system is about 30 years old, which they are making more contemporary. They have been improving functionality incrementally. On the first day of classes they changed the ISIS interface and the mobile ISIS format. They are going to finish phase one of MAUI this fall, then they will be able to retire the existing inter-phase MAUI runs on currently. Once the sites are finished students will be able to do some really cool things. They are making a lot of upgrades to the class registration site. They are redesigning the transcript to make it much more readable. They are changing the site to make prerequisites more readable. A student planning initiative will be put into place soon. They will be implementing an electronic drop/add. They would like student feedback in terms of what students would like to see and what is valuable to them.

MAUI demonstration.

E.) Old Business (7:46)

F.) New Business (7:46)

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✓ S.S.B. 8 - Dissolution of SEB and the Creation of the SEB Commissioner

President Higgins spoke. He said it was difficult to get the group to meet. The primary function was to oversee elections but it was difficult to get the board to meet for only a couple months out of the year. The board was also insufficient because all complaints had to be discussed as a whole, when a lot of the decisions are simple decisions. In the past the SEB Commissioner was a paid position but the board was not. This is not an active intervention on behalf of UISG exec. A senator contacted UISG with the complaint were spurred the change.

Discussion: None

Motion to Previous Question: Senator Kothari

Second: Senator Moffit

Vote on S.S.B.8 –Dissolution of SEB and the Creation of the SEB Commissioner: passed unanimously

✓ S.S.B. 9 - UISG Constitution Revisions

Speaker Pottebaum spoke about the revisions. This is an annual review. The changes were all minor. All senators received the constitution 30 days prior to meeting.

Discussion: None

Motioned to Previous Question: Senator Mafoua-Namy

Second: Senator VanZant

Vote on S.S.B. 9 – UISG Constitution Revisions: Passed Unanimously

✓ S.S.B. 10 - UISG By-Laws Revisions

Speaker Pottebaum spoke about the revisions. The By-Laws reference a lot of the things Senate does. They made revisions to Senate with the creation of the sustainability committee. The Exec board is different from the previous years with the addition of the Sustainability and Diversity advocate. Previously there was a Rules and Administration Committee but it wasn't very clear so now all complaints and problems will be taken through SJC. All other changes were minor or terminology changes.

Discussion: Senator Van Zant asked if the By-Laws were online; Speaker Pottebaum said they were not.

Motion to Previous Question: Senator VanZant

Second: Senator Kothari

Vote on S.S.B. 10—UISGH By-Laws Revisions: Passed Unanimously

✓ S.S.B. 11 - Student Judicial Court Reform

Speaker Pottebaum spoke on behalf of Chief Justice Inani, who came forth asking for more authority. The idea they came up with was the parking committee; the new changes moves traffic court to SJC to give them more authority. There will be monthly meetings to appeal parking tickets. With the revisions SJC will have more authority and if there is a case SJC will have more of a formal role.

Discussion: None

Motion to Previous Question: Senator Kothari

Second: Troidahl

Vote on S.S.B. 11-Student Judicial Court Reform

✓ S.S.B. 12 - Creation of the Lecture Committee Selection Committee

David Zhang, chair of lecture committee spoke. Lecture committee is a presidential charter committee that brings in 6-10 speakers throughout the year. The selection process has been a little bit problematic in the past. Sometimes there are members who are not a good fit for the committee. There is no feedback mechanism. The constitution for the committee as a whole is not up to par. They not only vote on the speakers but they run the event. They want student who have experience with event planning and management and also students from every grade. Many charter committees have open slots but there is not a process to fill those spots throughout the year. This legislation addresses all of the issues. They would like to have election committee member who are not up for reelection on the selection committee. These members only have one vote. This enables the committee to have a voice but still allow UISG to keep its power.

Chief Financial Officer Cornally asked if there is going to be a standard set of questions. Lecture Committee Chair Zhang said they are sticking with the same questions but adding a couple new ones.

Discussion: None

Motioned to Previous Question: Senator Jiang

Second: Senator Troidahl

Vote on S.S.B. 12 –Creation of the Lecture Committee Selection Committee: Passes Unanimously

✓ S.S.B. 13 - Senator Committee Assignments

Speaker Pottebaum spoke. He said additional senators joined this year and at the end of last year. This is just placing senators on committees.

Discussion: None

Motion to Previous Question: Senator Troidahl

Second: Senator Riffel

Vote on S.S.B. 13 –Senator Committee Assignments

✓ S.S.B. 14 - SABAC Supplemental I Budget

Senator Westercamp said SABAC considered each budget request. SABAC uses a set of standards to ensure a fair allocation of funds. Standards are used for every request. Her personal recommendation is to fund Mock Trial at max funding standards. For Mock trial SABAC can give \$2,370 for the first trip, \$1,750 for the second trip, and \$1570.90 for the third trip per funding standards. The standard for trips is \$100 per fifteen people and after that it is \$50 for

each person. The total budget is \$163,449. Chief Financial Officer Cornally reviewed how to motion for the appeal. The appeal will be included in the total funded.

Discussion: Senator Vanzant motioned to fund mock trial at funding standards. (2,370.13 for first trip, 1,750 for second trip, 1057.90 for the third trip. New Total is: 168,627.08) Second: Senator Sturtz.

Discussion on Amendment Made by Senator VanZant: None  
Motioned to Previous Question: Senator Troidahl  
Second: Senator VanZant  
Vote on Amendment Made by Senator VanZant: Passes unanimously

Discussion On Legislation: Senator Sproul asked what Nathe Roho is. CFO Cornally said it is a singing and dancing event that is extremely well attended.

Motioned to Previous Question: Senator Kothari

Second: Senator Troidahl

Vote on S.S.B 14 SABAC Supplemental I Budget: Passes Unanimously

✓ S.S.B. 15 - Charter Committee Appointments

Senator Sproul said there was a review of all committees. They interviewed people all day to fill specific spots.

Discussion: Pottebaum motioned to make a friendly amendment to move Jasmine under Student Judicial Board. Senator Sproul accepted the friendly amendment.

Motioned to Previous Question: Senator Horsfield

Second: Senator VanZant

Vote on S.S.B. 15—Charter Committee Appointments: Passes Unanimously

✓ S.S.R. 16 - Big Ten Sportsmanship & Spirit Agreement

Speaker Pottebaum said this Agreement was presented last week. A conference this summer came up with this agreement. Many other BIG 10 schools have passed this Agreement and posted it around their campus.

Discussion: Senator Horsfield asked if the spelling error would be fixed. Speaker Pottebaum said it will be fixed, it was actually an image error. Dr. Nelson added that the significance of this is that it was done exclusively by students, which is unique to the big ten.

Motion to Previous Question: Senator Moffit

Second: Horsfield

Vote on S.S.R. 16—Big Ten Sportsmanship & Spirit Agreement: Passes Unanimously

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

Senator Riffel and VanZant presented. They said many students are very excited to have student voice on the Iowa City City Council. Raj Patel is the right student for City Council; he has done great things in his previous position as City Council Liaison. Senator Riffel said the student body makes up about half of the community but it has been 30 years since a student has been on City Council. It is UISG's duty to represent the student body and this would be a big step towards doing so.

Discussion: Senator Moffit asked how long is each term; Senator VanZant responded 4 Years. Senator Phillips asked if another student is running. Senator VanZant answered that there is another student running; she is enrolled in one class. Senator Horsfield said he thinks that the other student candidate should be represented as well.

Senator Rolston stated that Raj has made negative remarks about the exec board and would have concern over supporting him.

Senator Moffit asked how many seats are open. Senator VanZant said 2 seats open

Senator Moffitt asked if UISG could we support both students. Senator VanZant said UISG could support both students, but the other candidate has not reached out to students the way Raj Has.

Senator Mafoua-Namy asked if UISG support Raj, could it be hurting UISG's image? Senator Riffel said this could help both UISG and Raj because it would show UISG that we have moved past the setbacks. It would show that UISG have chosen to be the bigger man and get past these conflicts. Senator Horsfield said that Raj has reached out to students but he has not come forth to speak at UISG. Ms. Pain might not be aware that she could reach out to UISG. Senator Sproul said, in a hypothetical situation, if you were running a campaign and spoke negative things about a business the business wouldn't be inclined to support the candidate.

Senator Woodson asked if UISG said negative things back. President Higgins responded, he said the exec board suggested that Raj take a leave of absence. In the event that he doesn't win, he could return but he decided to resign. UISG exec board believes it is critical to have a student on City Council, and thinks it is important to have someone on City Council that is an advocate for students. Vice President Caplin spoke on the issue. She said it was a "He said/she said" situation. Raj chose to go through the press to explain his said and in doing to made negative remarks. Navi and Kevin defended UISG in a later article.

Senator Rizor asked for more specifics about the comments each party made. Senator Vanzant said he was not expert on that controversy but this legislation is about the interests of the students. Senator Kothari asked about Raj's platform. Senator VanZant said his platform is available on the website. He is working on student safety issues including lighting the streets, downtown safety, bringing in more businesses downtown. Senator Mafoua-Namy said would be more inclined to pass motioned if Raj comes in to speak to UISG and show his gratitude and present his platform.

Senator VanZant motioned to suspend rules to speak more that twice. Second: Kothari. Vote to Suspend Rule: Passes Unanimously

Senator Horsfield said he would like to send an invitation to Patel to speak about his platform. Would also like to take a look into the other student candidate.

Motioned to Previous Question: Horsfield  
Second: Kothari

Discussion on Tabling the Legislation: Senator VanZant noted that primaries are coming up and it would be more beneficial to pass now.

Motioned to Previous Question: Senator Horsfield  
Second: Senator Mafoua-Namy

Vote to table S.S.R 17—Raj Ratel for City Council Endorsement: Passes

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#### G.) Reports (8:36)

##### ✓ Advisor

Dr. Nelson invited all to annual leadership conference this Sunday.

##### ✓ Executives

President Higgins said Cody Graham will now be the City Council Liaison. On Sunday UISG will be hosting the Meet the Neighbors Cookout. A student representative is still needed for the Excellence and Achievement of Women committee.

Vice President Caplin said the WingMan campaign is the college version of the buddy system that will be launched later this month.

Chief of Staff Navi Bajwa said if anyone is interested in working on Hawkeye Caucus contact him.

Student Organization Director Popham said the next UISG away tailgate is October 8<sup>th</sup> at 10:30

Chief Financial Officer Cornally said if anyone has questions in regards to funding contact him.

Government Relations Liaison Valde said she is putting together a presentation to give in DC about student needs as tuition continues to arise and she is working to develop platform with other regent schools.

Sustainability Advocate Zlevor said she is working on putting in water bottle water fountains to reduce plastic waste and a recycling program on east side for ink cartridges and cell phones.

✓ Committee Chairs

No announcements.

H.) Announcements (8:49)

Committee meetings will be at regular scheduled times next week.

Legislation is due next Wednesday.

Senator VanZant said he has Patel shirts.

I.) Adjournment (8:50)

Motion to adjourn: Senator Horsfield

Second: Senator Sturtz