



Student Government Association Senate  
Westminster Choir College of Rider University

October 27, 2009 Meeting Minutes

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I - Call to Order

Meeting was called to order at 8:30pm.

II - Roll Call

Senator Buckley

Senator Callahan

Senator Capner - ABSENT

Senator De Los Reyes

Senator Fildes

Senator Friars

Senator Garrick

Senator Giovetsis - ABSENT

Senator Goff

Senator Halbstein

Senator Koblentz

Senator Kohler

Senator Lakeland - ABSENT

Senator Layton - PROXY Catheran McManus

Senator Matheson - PROXY Lauren Snyder

Senator Neil

Senator Sloan

Senator Stebich

Senator Stell

Senator Zervopoulos - ABSENT

Senator Zubert - PROXY Matt Astone

III - Approval of Agenda

Senator Goff moved to strike VIII from the agenda.

Second.

Motion Carried.

Senator Goff moved to add a Resolution on Negative Public relations pertaining to Westminster Choir College.

Second.

Motion Carries.

Senator Garrick moved to strike the approval of minutes from the agenda.

Second.

Motion Carries.

Senator Friars moved to strike the Speaker of the Senate Report from the agenda.

Second.

Motion Carries.

Senator Sloan moved to add into VII Excessive Printing resolution.

Second.

Motion Carries.



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Senator Goff moved to approve the agenda.  
Second.  
All in Favor.

IV - Reports

President's Report

*Please consult Moodle for Written Report.*

Vice President's Report

*Please consult Moodle for Written Report.*

V - Nomination of potential senator: Meriem Lansueur

Meriem Lansuer spoke on her behalf and was questioned by the body.

Senator Goff moved to accept Meriem Lansuer as a new senator.

Second.

Motion Carries.

VI – Guest Speaker: Dean Onofrio:

Topic: English and Italian Diction not being offered at any other time than Schola.

This is generally because it is a freshman class. More consideration will be taken when that class is cancelled for a semester.

Topic: Historiography I being offered during the Spring, Summer, or in smaller classes.

Generally will be offered only in the Spring. If anyone has suggestions for Summer classes, they should contact the chairs.

Topic: Theory and History Electives – Particularly Level 2 Electives

Trends is always offered in the first session of the summer, but could it also be offered in the 2<sup>nd</sup> session.

ML: A session of the Graduate Theory Review course in the Summer, and also having both sessions offer a graduate literature seminar. MO: Graduate Theory Review would probably be cancelled during the summer, it doesn't help due to low enrollment.

KK: Historiography I and English & Italian Diction

LK: Piano Pedagogy courses form an odd schedule, so if you do not get it in quite the right sequence, you are stuck, is there something we could do about that. MO: We need more piano majors. BM: Is your worry missing that third semester? Perhaps we should more publicly publish the sequence.

LK: There is a restriction on the Elementary & Secondary Praxis course where you have to have taken 2 semesters of secondary to register, even if you are a piano primary. MO: This is a computer dilemma, we need to resolve this through a manual override.

Ryan Laboy: will the same conflict arise with Advance Conducting? MO: It is a concern of affording the workload of the faculty. There are more takers for the course, but it goes to a lower priority in teaching power. In our particular situation, we have to go with requirements first, and rotate electives.



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AF: Are Independent Studeis available in the summer? MO: I scrutinze them differently in the summer, but they can be proposed.

DG: Could you explain the manner in which academic advisors are assigned? MO: A big dilemma, and we are currently looking at changing the advisor system. What has changed is with incoming students we are writing the schedules over the summer. An advisor was assigned for the Friday in time for the last day of Orientation. This no longer happens, and for the last year or two, we did not worry about having the advisor assignments before school starts. We hope to make this known by Mid-August. Complications are changes of majors, when faculty members come and go, and when the imbalance of number of students and faculty, the way we want to deal with individual student populations, (freshmen vs. seniors). This starts with a clean incoming advising system. We've been tinkering with mass-advising, it has benefits and challenges.

Anthony Baron: What is an advisor? MO: The University through the administration has a set of expectations, and faculty and students do for the role of advising. The administrative side, all faculty are expected to serve as advisors. Our expectation on this campus is that Course Selection should be combined with Career/Life Advising. You are all here because you attempt or wish to attempt to go into the profession of Music. You are here because you expect to be "music-ing" in some fashion. We expect that your professional faculty will help you with those pieces. More important, if you do what we think you should get done in your 2 or 4 years respectively, what are you equipped to do, what do you wish to do, how do you do that. From the perspective of the faculty, but there are some faculty who enjoy speaking with you, and they want to hear questions/aspirations/concerns, and there are others for whom you are a roadblock. Our expectation is to maximize #1 and minimize #2. As far as students, you should have several expectations, there may be more reflective of the 500 individuals, but it starts with someone who really knows the curriculum for which you are seeking advice. A lot are asking if you can take graduate level courses, they are expected to be demanding, your advisor should be helping you with that as well, and your advisor should be celebrating your successes and talking about what is and isn't going. Hopefully they are interested in taking the time to get to know you. You should expect the time you have with this person is personal. If you have a particular challenge in your life that will relate to your progression towards graduation, they should be able to steer you in the right direction. They are not there to create an individual path for you, but should be able to steer you in the right direction. They should be readily available, but not at your every beckon call.

Mimi Lanseur: Could you explain how students are matched up with certain advisors. Many graduates are matched up with their voice teachers, and that does not necessarily create a relationship that is good. If students were matched up with another person, it would help separate the studio and academics. MO: You may want to put in some kind of fashion to Ms. Cusack. Typically they are the people in the vocation of the student's degree.

Jordan Stebich: Could students entering with more credits have a unique advising experience? MO: I'm writing this down.

Derrick Goff: Keyboard Harmony - I would have loved to register, but because of BHP registration I was not able to take that spot. Is there a way to restrict the registration for



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courses such as this? MO: We cannot restrict to a major without rewriting the course.  
Derrick Goff: I am currently sitting in a 700 level class, and I understand it is not happening this semester, but is there any way or petition process for 700 level courses. I will be the roadblock for this, the NASM requires us to only allow a certain percentage of undergraduates in graduate courses. It is a matter of accreditation standards. Masters only courses should enroll approximately 1-2 students per year from the undergraduate population TOTAL.

Senator Halbstein moved to extend the meeting until all agenda points are finished.

Seconded.

Motion Carried.

Lauren Snyder: If a student has a problem with their advisor, who should they speak to?

MO: The Chair should be the person, if not Janet Guthrie, Annette Ransom, or myself.

Matthew Astone: Over 50 freshmen do not have any advisors. MO: With some degree of luck, the next two weeks.

Lili Koblentz: Students have advisors who cannot greenlight them, or don't think they can. A student came to me and said there is a crazy race between Diana Crane, and his primary teacher, and finds a random theory teacher who greenlights him. MO: The situation is fairly common in certain majors.

MO: We are working on assigning all students to the appropriate advisors, and then we are going to try to train the advisors. Some of this is literally us trying to educate the faculty on both campuses on how to train advisors.

Question in regards to over 18 credits:

MO: This is a university policy – full time students are 12-18 credits, with the exceptions of non-billable credits (Opera Theatre, Musical, and Audition Ensembles)

Question in regards to Latin Diction:

MO: Wonderful question, this would be something to pose to Margaret Cusack to add to a rotation. You need to know, the curriculum is under direct authority of the faculty.

Dan Garrick: Are we accepting AP credits but not requirements? MO: We started talking about getting on board with this in May. We need to be trying to help recognize these, but I am not sure what the answer is.

Theory Labs during Extracurricular Choirs:

MO: Labs must be 90-minute durations. We are using all of them, and we have to put them in ideal locations. We try to bias those towards freshmen labs, due to adjuncts, and you cannot be expected to teach at both ends of the day. We cannot have them do an 8 AM lecture and 4:30 PM lab. We try to bias this towards freshmen and sophomore labs, but it is not foolproof.

Chairperson Mattison closed discussion.

New Business:

A. Negative Public Relations Resolution

Chairperson Mattison read the Resolution aloud.

Senator Goff spoke on the Resolution's behalf.

10 minutes of General Comments and Questions began.

Senator Garrick moved to accept the resolution.



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Seconded.

Call for Division:

Senator Buckley - Aye  
Senator Callahan - Aye  
Senator De Los Reyes - Nay  
Senator Fildes - Aye  
Senator Friars - Nay  
Senator Garrick - Aye  
Senator Giovetsis - ABSENT  
Senator Goff - Aye  
Senator Halbstein - Aye  
Senator Koblentz - Aye  
Senator Kohler - Nay  
Senator Lakeland - ABSENT  
Senator Lanseur - Aye  
Senator Layton - Aye  
Senator Matheson - Aye  
Senator Neil - Nay  
Senator Sloan - Nay  
Senator Stebich - Nay  
Senator Stell - Present  
Senator Zervopoulos - ABSENT  
Senator Zubert - Aye

Motion Carried.

B. Excessive Printing Resolution:

Chairperson Mattison read the Resolution aloud.

Senator Sloan Spoke on the Resolution's behalf.

Senator Friars moved to approve the Resolution.

Seconded

*Secondary Motion 1:* Senator Sloan moved to amend the resolution to substitute Page 1, line 19 to state "Environmental Sustainability" instead of "Environmental Stability".

Seconded

Motion Carried Unanimously.

*Secondary Motion 2:* Senator Goff moved to strike a comma and the word just in line 14 page 2, and replace it with a semicolon.

Seconded.

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Motion Failed. (to approve the Resolution)

For the Good of the Order:

Senator Sloan spoke to his Environmental Sustainability Committee and asked students to seek him out if they have an interest.



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Senator Lanseur spoke for Senator Layton who wished to find out why Health Services is not searching out for Swine Flu. Secretary Baron spoke to the CDC ceasing the practice.

Senator Goff spoke to many handicapped students traversing the campus in a very large number, and a lack of ADA Compliance. Senator Mattison spoke to the ADA compliance being considered in the future, and will follow up with Dean Annis.

Senator Garrick spoke to perspective students searching for ADA access.

Senator Friars spoke to President Rozanski is looking into the matter, but Air Conditioning would be in the dorms before handicap accessibility.

Senator Goff spoke to the Blood Drives and the concerns of potentially discriminatory practices for homosexual students.

Senator Garrick moved to Adjourn.

Seconded.

Motion Carried.