

Student Government Association
Westminster Choir College of Rider
University
Senate
Approved!
10 November 2008

I. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m.

II. Roll Call

- a. Anthony Baron
- b. Alex Benestelli
- c. Mike Fili
- d. Anna Friars
- e. Daniel Garrick
- f. Rachel Gluzband
- g. Derrick Goff
- h. Kristin Hagan - proxy Sierra Oh
- i. Dan Halbstein
- j. Jim Hopkins
- k. Shane Magargal
- l. Samantha Scully
- m. Lauren Snyder
- n. Dena Sweeney
- o. Julianne Zervopoulos
 - i. Absent
 - 1. Shani Foster

- III. Approval of Agenda
 - a. Senator Scully motioned to approve the agenda
 - b. Seconded
 - c. All in favor
 - d. All opposed
 - e. The agenda was approved.

- IV. Approval of Minutes
 - a. Minutes from November 3rd were approved.

- V. Reports
 - i. Vice-President
 - 1. Vice-President Godfrey read Aramark's new policy for reserving the Dining Commons. Courtney will be coming to Senate next week to discuss the new policy more in detail and to clarify any questions. Announced that next Monday from 4:30-5:30 in Sweigert Hall 118, the Leadership Development Program is hosting a workshop "The Art of Public Speaking".
 - ii. President
 - 1. No report was given.
 - iii. Speaker of the Senate
 - 1. Senator Magargal presented a follow-up about the parking meeting tomorrow. He will be attending the meeting tomorrow.

- VI. Unfinished Business
 - i. Campus Advertising

1. Senator Baron presented a Bill for creation of a "Campus Advertising Subcommittee" in Senate.
 - a. Vice-President Godfrey read the Bill to the Senate body.
 - b. The floor was given to Senator Baron for three minutes to discuss the proposed bill.
 - c. The floor was open up to discussion.
 - d. Sen. Benestelli motioned to replace all instances of "subcommittee" to "committee" in the proposed bill.
 - e. Seconded
 - f. All in favor
 - g. All opposed
 - h. All instances of "subcommittee" are to be replaced by "committee".
 - i. Senator Goff motioned to amend the bill in section 2, 1 (a) under line 9, to strike the words "single event" and replace with "each event", furthermore, in section 2, 1 (b), to add the letter "s" to the word "problem", also all instances on page 2 of the bill of the word senate should be capitalized, the comma after associate dean of students should be stricken, and under section 3 Creation, strike (1).
 - j. Seconded.
 - k. All in favor
 - l. All opposed

- m. Senator Magargal motioned to amend the bill with the date November 10th.
- n. Seconded.
- o. All in favor
- p. All opposed
- q. Senator Benestelli motioned to move to amend the end of the sentence reading that all matters and legislation regarding campus advertisement will be subject first to the approval of the campus advertising committee.
- r. Seconded.
- s. Discussion occurred.
- t. Senator Goff motioned to amend the motion in the text striking the word "shall" and replacing it with the word "will" in section 3.
- u. Seconded
- v. All in favor
- w. All opposed
- x. Senator Gluzband motioned to strike the word "amount" to the word "number" in line 9.
- y. Seconded.
- z. All in favor
- aa. All opposed
- bb. Senator Goff motioned to amend the bill striking the word "with" to "concerning" in line 9.
- cc. Seconded.
- dd. All in favor

- ee. All opposed
- ff. Senator Benestelli motioned that the bill say “fifth senate” on the first page as suggested by Vice-President Godfrey.
- gg. Seconded.
- hh. All in favor
- ii. All opposed
- jj. Senator Goff motioned to amend line 16 under section for enactment, to strike the word “shall” and replace with “will” and in the third line, the first word should read, “will”.
- kk. Seconded.
- ll. All in favor
- mm. All opposed
 - i. Senator Benestelli motioned to adopt the bill.
 - ii. Seconded.
 - iii. All in favor
 - iv. All opposed
 - v. The bill was adopted unanimously.
 - vi. Senator Baron nominated himself, Senator Fili and Senator Snyder to the committee.
 - vii. Senator Fili declined, and Senator Snyder accepted.
 - viii. Senator Scully was nominated and she declined.

- ix. Senator Zervopoulos was nominated and she declined
- x. Senator Garrick was nominated and he accepted.
- xi. Senator Benestelli motioned to approve the nominations.
- xii. Seconded
- xiii. All in favor
- xiv. All opposed
- xv. The nominations were approved.

VII. New Business

i. Discussion with Dean Annis

1. The time was given to Dean Annis.

a. Dean Annis commented on the last bill. Discussed that for years, discussion occurred about creating a kiosk on campus.

i. Sen. Fili expressed a concern brought up to him through his constituents about frivolous spending for example the amount of energy of buildings being over-heated and the addition of soap-dispensers.

ii. The Dean encouraged the body to make a list of frivolous spending to give to him. The Dean said he was happy to look into the heat issue. He assured the body

- that no one is trying to waste money.
- iii. Senator Snyder suggested some weatherproofing to some of the buildings on campus.
 - iv. Senator Magargal emailed Steve Hitzel about this and he replied that he was going to look into it. The difficulty in maintaining the heat on campus is the differences of temperatures with regards to the current season.
 - v. Senator Garrick mentioned that a lot of the televisions are left on in the building late at night.
 - vi. The Dean will look into that.
 - vii. Senator Baron reported that some of his constituents have been asking about certain expenditures that could have been deferred such as the repaving of cement of Williamson to Erdman on the side, the re-pavement of the sidewalk, and the re-sodding of the quad grass.
 - viii. Dean Annis replied that the sidewalks were liability and safety issues. The quad was a surprise to him. The 6 trees

were impacting one another.
It is his goal that the quad
never has a tent on it again.

- ix. Senator Scully said that in recent weekends, she has gotten complaints that children were running and playing tag on the quad. She asked if he had any suggestions as to how to address the issue.
- x. Dean Annis said that they have resisted putting signs saying, "Please stay off the grass". He asked the senate for their opinions/ suggestions.
- xi. Senator Snyder talked about rumors that the spring musical might be in the playhouse because of budgetary concerns to get into the High School.
- xii. Dean Annis said that we do have an agreement for certain days in the high school. Unfortunately there was a disconnect with scheduling with each entities' calendar. He thinks that the cost of the production may lead to not using the High School, based on what the faculty has

decided. The goal is to do as many productions as we can on the stage on a regular basis. He is trying to raise funds to support the opera and musical theatre programs. He either has to ask the university for money, sell more tickets, or get patrons to help do that.

- xiii. Senator Goff wanted to know what the Dean's vision is for the organ and sacred music departments.
- xiv. Dean Annis replied that the future of any department is primarily contingent upon the acts of faculty of that department. He does not set the vision, and he doesn't determine the curriculum. Those are the domains of the department. He will sit and talk about how to help achieve their mission/goals. With regard to the organs, Ken Cowan gave a request for X dollars to do a minimal amount of re-work on the organs; his goal is to get that money through fundraising. He had hoped to get it done before the end of this year.

The other choices are to take some organs permanently off-line so that we always know we have instruments that work.

- xv. Senator Fili asked about the chance of offering a doctoral program.
- xvi. The Dean's guess is no. There are many things needed from certain support structures that we do not have. They have talked about collaborating with local institutions that do offer doctorates.
- xvii. Senator Halbstein expressed his constituents' concerns regarding the parking slots allocation. One of his constituents' asked if it is possible that the campus could become a non-smoking campus.
- xviii. The Dean relied that he honestly doesn't know.
- xix. Dean Johnson said the Lawrenceville campus looked into it and their response was that they shouldn't become a non-smoking campus.
- xx. Senator Baron said that a lot of students are very uncomfortable with the way

that the Westminster logo is progressing. The words "Rider University" is larger than "Westminster Choir College". Students are disappointed to hear of the practice rooms in Lakehouse; that our practice facilities are adequate but certainly nothing with those types of capabilities in Lakehouse. He asked what could he tell his constituents.

- xxi. Dean Annis replied that there are only 5 practice rooms at Lakehouse. Practice rooms are on the list here. There are over 100 pianos on campus. We buy pianos every year. Structurally the rooms are not easy to have attenuation. In Lawrenceville, they had no facilities, when you build new, you have a choice. It's a constant evolution. What we have here, it's 55 to 60 practice rooms, and we would like to gut them all, redo them and end up with about 50.
- xxii. Senator Snyder motioned to extend the meeting until the end of the agenda.
- xxiii. All in favor

- xxiv. All opposed -2
- xxv. The ayes had it.
- xxvi. Dean Annis replied in regards to the logo that it's an ongoing state of evolution. They are trying to figure this out. When the graphic design manual comes out, there will be an identity with Rider University and with Westminster Choir College, multiple different logos. There is a second shield, relating to Westminster, Westminster Choir College, which will show the original seal that will be able to be used in special circumstances. He suggested bringing Anne Sears, Jamie O'Hara and the Dean to come to Senate or General Assembly to give another presentation.
- xxvii. Senator Zervopoulos said that the NJ air acts passed state that in public places smoking may be prohibited by the person in control or municipal ordinances.
- xxviii. Dean Annis replied that it would not be solely his decision.

- xxix. Senator Magargal suggested that the smoking policy might be a social code; which is something senate can look into.
- xxx. Senator Zervopoulos asked how much of an influence the dean has in the RD and RA positions and Residence Life
- xxxi. Residence Life is left to ADOS.
- xxxii. Senator Friars asked about the other sculpture talked about previously. Where would it go and what would it be.
- xxxiii. Dean Annis replied that we have been offered one by the same gentlemen who designed the one outside the library. If anything like this were to happen, it would be put into the thinking of the new building, the new quad. He'll come back to us if he decides to accept the structure.
- xxxiv. Senator Goff suggested using the SAF for permanent improvements. He hoped that the Dean wouldn't feel like we were stepping on his toes.
- xxxv. Dean Annis thought the idea was fine. It should be done in

- partnership. It is possible. He would like to receive emails about which pianos are bad.
- xxxvi. Senator Benestelli asked how would the Dean feel in the context of the new building if the SGA were to sponsor a courtyard or a lobby?
- xxxvii. Dean Annis said we would have to work in conjunction. It is do-able.
- xxxviii. Senator Benestelli asked about any possibility of putting a new organ in the new building?
- xxxix. Dean Annis said that it was not for the moment.
- xl. Senator Benestelli thanked the Dean for coming tonight. He asked what things he was working on.
- xli. Dean Annis replied that he is fundraising, and dealing with politico-socio-cultural evolution. He spends a lot of time with the merger between Rider and our campus. He spends a lot of time with plans for the future, i.e. enrollment planning, curriculum, strategic plan for the Conservatory. The Dean puts out a lot of fires, spends

a lot of time with the President and committees.

- xlii. Senator Snyder reported that there was a shopping cart on Taurus; there was a school rehearsal in Schola in room 4/5 and the relocatables with too many students; one of the students in Lakehouse has neighbors that have kittens in their dorm rooms, their RAs knew about it; Senator Snyder tried to use the shuttle the other night but it did not come. She asked what should a student do if the shuttle did not come and he/she had to get over to the other campus.
- xliii. Dean Johnson addressed the question. If there are issues like these, he would like to know about them as soon as possible.
- xliv. Dean Annis said that they have to keep working on it.
- xlv. Vice-President Godfrey reminded the body to email Dave Keenan with issues on the shuttle.
- xlvi. Senator Gluzband asked about losing the contract with City Opera.

- xlvi. Dean Annis said that they read in the paper about City Opera scrapping their entire season. They reached out on Friday before the news broke. They have not gotten any confirmation from them. There is already another possibility if City Opera falls through.
- xlviii. Senator Baron asked what the next phases are?
- xlix. Dean Annis replied that the building of a new facility and the renovation of the playhouse are well on the way. Practice rooms are high on the list. Beyond that, the redoing of Bristol Chapel, the Cottage, the Residence Halls in terms of electrical upgrades, and air-conditioning. His hope is to change Williamson back into the space of a “living room” feel with more recitals and less classes. Practice rooms are an ongoing discussion. We would need a special fundraising project for the organ department.

ii. SGA Website

1. Vice-President Godfrey reported that the new website is up.
2. Point of information: Senator Magargal said that the only stipulations in the constitution with the website fall under the secretary's prerogative.
3. Discussion occurred.
4. Antoni emailed Jennifer Caffiero-Thieren about keeping the original SGA website up until the new website is finalized.

VIII. For the Good of the Order

IX. Adjournment

- a. Senator Benestelli motioned to adjourn the meeting.
- b. Seconded.
- c. All in favor
- d. All opposed
- e. The meeting adjourned at 8:15 p.m.