

# Student Government Association Westminster Choir College of Rider University Senate

3 November 2008

- I. Call to Order
  - a. The meeting was called to order at 6:32 pm
  
- II. Roll Call
  - a. Anthony Baron
  - b. Alex Benestelli
  - c. Mike Fili
  - d. Shani Foster
  - e. Anna Friars
  - f. Daniel Garrick
  - g. Rachel Gluzband
  - h. Derrick Goff
  - i. Kristin Hagan
  - j. Dan Halbstein
  - k. Jim Hopkins
  - l. Shane Magargal
  - m. Samantha Scully
  - n. Lauren Snyder
  - o. Dena Sweeney – proxy Kristine DiMauro
  - p. Julianne Zervopoulos
  
- III. Approval of Agenda
  - a. Senator Benestelli proposed to switch items one and two under New Business.

- b. Proxy DiMauro motioned to approve the agenda
- c. Seconded.
  
- d. All in favor
- e. All opposed
- f. Abstentions -1
- g. The ayes had it; the agenda was approved.

IV. Approval of Minutes

- a. Point of order: Senator Friars stated that Robert's Rules of Order does not require abstentions to be called.
- b. Proxy DiMauro motioned to approve the minutes as amended.
- c. Seconded.
- d. All in favor.
- e. Any opposed.
- f. The ayes had it; the minutes were approved as amended.

V. Proposal of New Senator(s)

- a. Dani Portillo
  - i. Mr. Portillo spoke for one minute as to why he was interested in joining Senate.
  - ii. Questions were asked by Speaker Magargal, Senator Halbstein, Senator Benestelli, Senator Goff, Senator Fili and Senator Friars.
- b. Molly Patrician
  - i. Ms. Patrician spoke for one minute as to why she wanted to join Senate.
  - ii. Questions were asked by Senator Baron, Senator Goff, and Senator Halbstein.

- c. The Candidates stepped outside for discussion within the Senate.
- d. Discussion occurred regarding the candidates.
  - i. Senator Goff motioned to reject Dani Portilo as a senator.
  - ii. Seconded.
  - iii. All in favor.
  - iv. Any opposed.
  - v. Any abstentions.
  - vi. The Ayes had it, the proposed senator Dani Portillo was rejected as a senator.
  - vii. Speaker Magargal motioned to accept Molly Patrician as a senator.
  - viii. Call for division:
    - 1. Anthony Baron - nay
    - 2. Alex Benestelli -nay
    - 3. Mike Fili -nay
    - 4. Shani Foster -aye
    - 5. Anna Friars - nay
    - 6. Daniel Garrick - aye
    - 7. Rachel Gluzband - aye
    - 8. Derrick Goff -nay
    - 9. Kristin Hagan -nay
    - 10. Dan Halbstein -aye
    - 11. Jim Hopkins -nay
    - 12. Shane Magargal -aye
    - 13. Samantha Scully -nay
    - 14. Lauren Snyder - nay
    - 15. Proxy Kristine DiMauro -aye
    - 16. Julianne Zervopoulos -nay
  - ix. Neither Dani Portillo nor Molly Patrician was elected as Senators by the senate body.

## VI. Reports

- i. Vice-President
  - 1. Vice President Godfrey gave her report. She presented the parking diagram provided by Dean Annis, which is to be displayed in the commuter lounge. She mentioned a need for a liaison with the Rider News. Vice-President Godfrey asked if the senate could motion to have OIT figure out which rooms do not have wireless internet or if students should take initiative to relay the information as to which rooms do not have wireless.
- ii. President
  - 1. No report was given.
- iii. Speaker of the Senate
  - 1. Senator Magargal reported that at the General Assembly Dean Annis mentioned that there will be a meeting that will discuss the allocation of the new parking lots. He asked the senate to talk to their constituents so they can formulate a collection of specific concerns at that meeting.

## VII. Unfinished Business

- i. Senate Meeting Time Spring 09
  - 1. Vice President Godfrey received only three schedules for the spring semester.

## VIII. New Business

- i. Campus Advertising Legislation

1. Senator Baron read his initial proposed legislation. Dean Johnson suggested the creation of a special group within the SGA who would approve posters – maybe the executive board or the senate. Sen. Baron asked the Senate’s opinions.
  - a. The floor was open to comments and suggestions.
  - b. One of Senator Friars’ constituents has been badgering her about posters. She suggested that there be boards just for recitals and for other specific events. She thinks they should all be stamped with a date to be taken down and people who put them up should be responsible to take them down. Senator Friars suggested that the 20 posters could be left with the ADOS to hang up the posters.
  - c. Vice-President Godfrey asked the senators to email Senator Baron if they had any specific ideas.

ii. Dream Pub

1. One of Senator Halbstein’s constituents requested that sushi return to the pub.
2. Any suggestions should be emailed to Vice-President Godfrey, Courtney and/or Natalie Barney.

IX. For the Good of the Order

- a. Senator Baron brought up the issue of wanting to restart the Westminster Journal. He discussed the interest with Dean Johnson and Mare Somaine last Friday. Senator Baron reported that both Dean Johnson and Mare Somaine seemed to say no to the request. They would like to see a bigger presence of Westminster in the Rider News. Senator Baron will be drafting a letter to Rider News explaining some of our problems with the Rider News. He asked the body to ask their constituents. He will have a meeting with them to see what they can do. Sen. Baron had wanted to have the Westminster Journal for our campus and then lift some articles to the Rider News that may be interesting to LAW students. He encouraged anyone interested in collaborating with him in that process to contact him.
  - i. Discussion occurred regarding the Westminster Journal.
  - ii. Senator Baron stated that the Westminster Journal is a recognized student organization, however, the reality is that he has been strongly encouraged by the Dean of Students and the Associate Dean of students to work within the Rider News infrastructure.
  - iii. Senator Snyder pointed out that Dean Annis has continually said we are preserving the name Westminster Choir College, and that the identity of this campus is not going away. She suggested an online article.
  - iv. Senator Zervopoulos suggested using RU: Cast resources for the Westminster Journal.

- v. Speaker Magargal mentioned that when the journal went defunct, the Rider News editorial staff came to senate asking to find articles written about life on this campus. There was very little response from students here. He knows that the editorial staff of Rider News is very much eager for articles being written from students on this campus.
  - vi. Senator Goff mentioned the lack of mention of Westminster Events in the Rider News. He does not feel represented by the Rider News.
  - vii. Senator Fili said that Westminster students want to read the Westminster journal not the Rider News. He stated that Westminster students are not going to read it because it says "Rider".
- b. Senator Goff motioned to extend the meeting for ten minutes.
  - c. All in favor.
  - d. All opposed - 2
  - e. Any abstentions.
  - f. The ayes had it; the meeting was extended for ten minutes.
    - i. Senator Baron suggested if anyone feels this strongly about this issue that someone brings some legislation next week to Senate.
    - ii. Senator Benestelli said that if the Westminster Journal had enough interest, the authority lies in the SGA.
  - g. Speaker Magargal asked how things progressed on the event Relay for Life and the Hand sanitizers
  - h. Proxy DiMauro replied that Senator Sweeney did get in touch with the members in charge i.e. Steve

Hitzel. After reviewing the demands asked, they have decided that all costs to install and refill the sanitizers will be met and the final locations to install will be: the commuter lounge, the student center, Dayton, Ithaca, Seabrook, the Piano lab in Erdman, Cottage 7 and 2, and in the MCC and MPC labs in the Talbott library. Proxy DiMauro attended the meeting in lieu of Senator Sweeney. The Relay for Life will take place on the 28<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup> of March; the Luminary will be on the 28<sup>th</sup>. Westminster is in charge of the Luminary ceremony. There are only two teams represented from Westminster. They would like more teams to be represented. There are 40 teams - only two are from Westminster.

- i. Senator Hopkins commented that this past week, there were tables extended in Thayer so they blocked the mailboxes. He believed that blocking the mailboxes is a violation of federal law.
- j. Senator Benestelli requested that the record reflect that a federal offense is punishable by law.
- k. Senator Snyder motioned to adjourn the meeting.
- l. Call for division
  - i. Anthony Baron - nay
  - ii. Alex Benestelli -nay
  - iii. Mike Fili -nay
  - iv. Shani Foster -aye
  - v. Anna Friars - nay
  - vi. Daniel Garrick - nay
  - vii. Rachel Gluzband - aye
  - viii. Derrick Goff -nay
  - ix. Kristin Hagan -nay
  - x. Dan Halbstein -nay



- xi. Jim Hopkins -aye
- xii. Shane Magargal -nay
- xiii. Samantha Scully -nay
- xiv. Lauren Snyder - abstain
- xv. Dena Sweeney - proxy Kristine DiMauro -  
aye
- xvi. Julianne Zervopoulos -aye
- m. The nays had it; the meeting was not  
adjourned.
- n. Senator Friars motioned to extend the meeting for  
5 minutes.
- o. Seconded.
- p. Senator Friars, in reference to the point of order at  
the beginning of the meeting, cited on page 43  
from the Robert's Rules of Order where the chair  
does not have to call for any abstentions.
- q. Secretary Antoni reported on the website through  
her meeting with Jim Moore from the Performance  
Management Office.
- r. One of Senator Halbstein's constituents voiced a  
concern about the schedule of the dining  
commons on weekends specifically the time of  
brunch on Saturdays. His constituent requested  
that it should be moved to end between 1:00-1:30.
- s. Speaker Magargal relayed the message that Dean  
Annis requested from him specific issues from  
that the Senate will want to talk about ahead of  
time before he comes to the following meeting.
- t. Vice-President Godfrey reminded the body that  
the meeting in two weeks will be in Cottage 1.

x. Adjournment

- a. Senator Garrick motioned to adjourn the meeting.

b. Seconded.

c. All in favor

d. The meeting was adjourned at 7:45 pm.

Minutes approved.