

# WESTMINSTER CHOIR COLLEGE



Student Government Association Senate  
Westminster Choir College of Rider University  
October 13, 2009 Meeting Minutes  
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Senate Meeting:  
October 13, 2009

1. Call to Order

Meeting Called to Order at: 8:33 PM.

2. Roll Call:

Buckley, Thomas - Y  
Capner, Robin - ABSENT  
De Los Reyes, Hannah - Y  
Fildes, Elizabeth - Y  
Friars, Anna - Y  
Garrick, Daniel - Y  
Giovetsis, Joellyn - Y  
Goff, Derrick - Y  
Halbstein, Daniel - Y  
Koblentz, Lili - Y  
Kohler, Kristian - Y  
Lakeland, Jonathan - Y  
Layton, Catherine - Y  
Matheson, Katherine - Late  
Neil, Victoria - Y  
Sloan, Steven - Y  
Steibach, Jordan - Y  
Stell, Josh - Y  
Zervopoulos, Julianne - Y  
Zubert, Michael - Y

3. Approval of Agenda:

Senator Kohler moved to add Election of Graduate SFB Trustee to the Agenda.

Seconded

Motion Carried.

Senator Friars moved to approve the Agenda.

Seconded.

Motion Carried.

4. Approval of Minutes:

Senator Zervopoulos moved to postpone the approval of minutes until next week.

Seconded.

Motion Carried.

5. Reports:

A. President's Report

*Please consult Moodle for Written Report*

B. Vice President's Report



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*Please consult Moodle for Written Report*

C. Speaker of the Senate Report

*Please consult Moodle for Written Report*

6. Jane Ferrick:

15 double singles, 33 triples for women, 15 male triples

Kate Shields: Goal for this year was for the school to get smaller, and in actuality the school is getting smaller. Last year we had 373 undergraduate students in Princeton, this year we started with 358, so about 20 students less. Concurrently in F&PA there were 107 students, this year we have 135 students. As the number decreases here, the number will increase there. This year, the goal for total number of new students was 86 students. 80 new freshmen, 6 new transfers. We ended up with 92 students, which were 6 students over the goal. While it seems like it may be way over anticipation, it's not actually what we thought.

??????? – each year we meet to discuss Housing and we go into the spring semester trying to know how many students we wish to house for the coming year. We take this number and try to accommodate and be aware of who and where to allot these students. With last year's projections, showed that we would have a shortfall of students in housing, so buildings would open with much empty space. We took time to market to graduate students and upperclassmen to make housing enticing. The program was more popular than we had thought and there was overflow.

Kate Shields: With the new move there were empty spaces in our residence halls, in anticipation of that last year we met to discuss this, and it became a year which was harder to predict.

Jane Ferrick: for Next year because first two years have guaranteed housing, for next year we will be almost at capacity so there will be very little space for upper class students, and we are not anticipating offering double-singles again at this time.

Senator Steibach: Will all students be detripled this year?

Jane Ferrick: It depends on the circumstances and what spaces open up.

Senator Zervopoulos: Constituents felt like there were huge changes this year and there was not effective communication between ADOS and the student body.

Senator Halbstein: Most of my constituents are upperclassmen or sophomores, and just to get a number, do you know approximately how many upperclassmen you are anticipating to allow on campus housing?

?????????- We have no idea.

Kate Shields: We are not anticipating increasing the goal of new students on this campus, so we are anticipating something similar to the 86 students again next year. If we get that many new freshmen, plus give or take 92, that will limit the number of spaces.

Jane Ferrick: We have around 175 spaces.



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Senator Garrick: What is the priority process for Upperclassmen?

Jane Ferrick: It has been done based on lottery numbers and start-term. It didn't mean anything until this year, and we will plan to do the same thing this year, more than likely lumping together juniors and seniors.

Senator Neil: For Grads and Upperclassmen who wish to stay in Ithaca why was that building chosen to force relocation? Were they contracted to live in that space before how many freshmen will be living in that space? If students are required to live on campus they should have first pick.

Jane Ferrick: We selected Ithaca due to some singles being there already, and the DIPS area is where upperclassmen choose to live.

Senator Fildes: There is a constituent in a triple, and she was concerned about placement. Her issue is that her other two roommates requested each other, and it has not been easy socially because she feels like the third wheel. In that selection process is there any way when placing triples that people who request each other could not be placed in triples.

Jane Ferrick: It was based on housing deposit dates. I tried to match up people who did want to be roommates. If I'm going to place three people in a room let me at least try to meet some of their needs.

?????- Prior to opening we anticipated every female space being tripled.

Senator Goff: This year there have been some changes with staff, and does the RA repositioning (sharing floors) reveal an effective change? There have been added attentions on who should be in what residence halls at what times, and I am asking what prompted this change, and unclear about the rules and expectations.

Jane Ferrick: We did not add another staff member, we just adjusted the room placement and we added an RA to an area with more freshmen and more students. Last year there was a floor with 43 students all with one RA. We moved a staff member to where the greatest need was. The second question was about guest policy, and there were some issues with the Seabrook Lounge last year with guests and making sure that everyone in the residence halls which is a non-resident is escorted. What you are seeing this year is just enforcement. As a non-resident student, you always need permission to be in the dorms.

Senator Neil: the issue is if you are supposed to be hosted all 24 hours as a guest, so sometimes an RA will ask for a guest pass if it is after quiet hours because there is an increased likelihood for practice hours.

Senator Friars: Lots of students would like to see the room process revamped. A lot of people would like to see Freshmen not guaranteed housing, but guaranteed doubles. But if Ithaca were not the way that it was, we could guarantee housing for Freshmen.

???????- The issue is we do not guarantee doubles to anyone.

Senator Friars: This is why I would like to see it changed.

???????- This is why it cannot be changed.



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Senator Friars: A lot of people would like to see sophomores moved off campus. A lot of people would also like to say once you are a junior you have to live off campus. The bigger concern also is about the lottery assignments, and lots of people would like to see that placed in more of a hierarchy, not just arbitrarily picking numbers for students but basing it a little more off of other contributing factors.

???????- This is a bigger question, and this is a similar problem at Lawrenceville as well. For this year the policy will not change in terms of how the lottery numbers are generated.

Senator Lakeland: The living arrangements here are a little tighter than in Lawrenceville, would there be a possibility of making changes independent of the two campuses?

???????: Yeah, definitely.

Senator Garrick: Are Westminster students eligible for Lawrenceville Campus Housing?

?????????: At this time, no.

Senator Goff: You came up with a goal for 80 freshmen and 6 transfer students. For a goal of 86 students, how many do you admit, and what is the relationship between that and the faculty.

Kate Shields: That is different for each program. It's hard to give an exact number of if we take y students we will get x amount. We do base admissions based on the history of how programs have done in the past. Music Education this year is very big and booming group of freshmen. We had almost a 70% increase in number of applications, and we more than doubled the number we admitted – the policy has always been we do not put caps on the number we admit. This year was a very strange year because we had no idea what to expect. As far as faculty involvement, I cannot move forward without the faculty signing off on the audition. For some of our programs, we are going to have up and down. This year there were a number of applicants for Organ Performance, and so this fall we only ended up with one organ major because we lost students to other schools for a variety of reasons.

Senator Goff: On the parts that are not faculty audition – when you are looking at an applicant on paper what determines admissibility?

Kate Shields: Academic Records, GPA, Class Rank, SAT/ACT Results are the academic side of things, but the number one factor is the audition. Concurrently, if a student has a very good audition but is lower on the GPA or SAT, we are able to help those students through even if they academically suffer. Based on Academics, the Princeton Campus consistently has the highest ACT, SAT, GPA of any college at Rider. Nothing against Rider, but it usually is an average of 1130 on our campus as opposed to 1080 on their campus.

Senator Neil: Could the three of you introduce yourselves?

Kate Shields, Roberta Butler, Jane Ferrick



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7. New Business:

Senator Sloan moves to approve the agenda til all agenda points have been met.

Call for Division:

**Roll Call**

Buckley, Thomas - Nay  
Capner, Robin  
De Los Reyes, Hannah - Nay  
Fildes, Elizabeth- Nay  
Friars, Anna - Aye  
Garrick, Daniel - Nay  
Giovetsis, Joellyn - Nay  
Goff, Derrick - Aye  
Halbstein, Daniel - Aye  
Koblentz, Lili - Aye  
Kohler, Kristian - Nay  
Lakeland, Jonathan - Aye  
Layton, Catherine - Nay  
Matheson, Katherine - Nay  
Neil, Victoria - Aye  
Sloan, Steven - Aye  
Steibach, Jordan - Aye  
Stell, Josh - Aye  
Zervopoulos, Julianne - Nay  
Zubert, Michael - Aye  
Motion Carried

Senator Lakeland gave a report back from Mike Recca and introduced his bill for a Facilities Committee of the Senate.

Senator Friars moved to postpone discussion about this bill until next week.

Seconded

Motion Carried.

SFB Trustees – David Foley spoke on his behalf and inquired to Treasurer Parsons as to the job description.

Senator Garrick: Do you have any previous experience with Student Leadership?

David: Yes, I worked on an RSO in my undergrad, and I also had many experience with the property committee with my religious organization.

Senator Neil: I know we need to get somebody but I had him as a GA in a course, and our professor had to kick him out and he kept coming back because this gentleman was rude and condescending. The times when I had to play an example was almost impossible and really broke down my morale.



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Senator Goff: On the other hand he was very responsible at the church I work with, but he has no responsibility being on the Finance Board here.

Senator Giovetzis: Dan, myself, and another student who has now graduated worked with him on the Society of Composers, and he is very responsibility and qualified.

Senator Koblentz: In some instances this might be a personality clash. Coming to something so unprepared would be something he should have done beforehand.

Senator Matheson: So far on the other hand he is the only graduate student who is interested in doing this.

Senator Friars moved to extend discussion for four minutes.

Seconded

Motion Carried.

Senator Halbstein: We are approaching the midterm period and SFB has not yet met yet. He does know what he is doing, he is organized, and working in a leadership position in a class, or working in a body of 6 people are two very different situations.

Senator Lakeland: Let's say you had an individual who was not pulling their weight, does everyone have equal say?

TREASURER PARSONS: Yes, everyone has equal say and pulls the same weight with their votes, and majority rules.

Senator Sloan: I know that the finance board has to meet and that is of utmost concern, at the same time I am not comfortable admitting someone with such serious question marks to the position.

Senator Fildes: Because we need a graduate representative, do they have more or less power than nyone on the board?

Treasurer Parsons: No

Senator Goff: Student Government should never be desperate, and if you make it desperate you make a joke out of it. I think that communications efforts have been sincerely made, but I think it is important to have this be someone the graduate class would be happy with this.

Senator Halbstein: How much time was given to Mr. Foley to prepare?

Treasurer Parsons: He responded Monday afternoon.

Senator Koblentz: Would it be possible to remove a trustee if a better trustee were found?

Chair Mattison: No

Senator Friars: I move to ask him to come in for another two minutes for more questions.

Seconded

Call for Division

Senator Buckley-ABSENT

Senator Capner,- ABSENT



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Senator De Los Reyes-Aye  
Senator Fildes,-Aye  
Senator Friars-Aye  
Senator Garrick-Nay  
Senator Giovetsis-Aye  
Senator Goff -Nay  
Senator Halbstein -Aye  
Senator Koblentz -Aye  
Senator Kohler -Aye  
Senator Lakeland -Aye  
Senator Layton -ABSENT  
Senator Matheson -Nay  
Senator Neil -Nay  
Senator Sloan -Aye  
Senator Steibach -Aye  
Senator Stell -Aye  
Senator Zervopoulos -Aye  
Senator Zubert -Nay  
Motion Carried

Senator Friars: How in touch with the Graduate Population are you? Do you go to a lot of events on campus?

David Foley: I was not last year, and I am a little more this year. I will make every effort to see how they want funds allotted. Talk to folks if they are interested.

Senator Sloan: What skills do you have that you think will be well-suited to the position?

David Foley: I've paid my way through college more than once, I've worked on budgets, property committee, Purchasing in a Music Store.

Senator Friars: How Willing or Able are you to communicate other people's views?

David Foley: Certainly

Senator Fildes: If this were a job interview I would not hire him.

Senator Lakeland: I'm quite torn because I was a friend to many people who were in Victoria's class, but at the same time, I recognize that he seems to have some skill in this field, not only that but he seems to have participated in the same kind of thing, but I am very torn.

Senator Goff: I think he stepped up his game on round two, but you know first impressions ring true, and he actually asked to be part of this, and it was up to him to come in here knowing what he was talking about.



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Senator Sloan: The one thing I got from his answers was a marked sense of nonchalance about the position. I don't really know what I'm supposed to do, but that's cool if y'all want me to do this.

Senator Matheson: I think we all have our eccentricities, but also we should keep in mind that everybody else on the SFB is a great body of people who will work well together and they can get a lot done. Adding him will add a new perspective, add a grand perspective.

Senator Stell: Is it at all possible to get a proxy?

Treasurer Parsons: There is nothing which speaks to this either way.

Senator Goff: How much money can still be allotted by the Executive Board?

Treasurer Parsons: \$7,500.

Senator De Los Reyes: If we do not have this candidate approved could we find someone else easily?

Treasurer Parsons: That has not been the case.

Senator Zervopoulos: Did you speak to him before this?

Treasurer Parsons: I emailed him the job description.

Senator Friars: No one is interested in the graduate student position, and we are always looking for disinterested graduate students, and so few want to take on the position. That being said, I do not advocate for having unqualified people on a board with so much power. Seven people allocate \$135,000. There are two very big problems here, and we need to ensure the right people are in the position.

Senator Garrick moved to reject David Foley from the Student Finance Board.

Call for Division

Senator Buckley – ABSENT

Senator Capner – ABSENT

Senator De Los Reyes – Nay

Senator Fildes – Aye

Senator Friars – Nay

Senator Garrick – Aye

Senator Giovetsis – Nay

Senator Goff – Aye

Senator Halbstein – Nay

Senator Koblentz – Aye

Senator Kohler – Aye

Senator Lakeland – Aye

Senator Layton – ABSENT

Senator Matheson – Nay

Senator Neil – Nay

Senator Sloan – Aye

Senator Steibach – Aye





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Senator Stell – Aye  
Senator Zervopoulos – Nay  
Senator Zubert - Aye

Motion Carried.

8. For the Good of the Order:

Senator Zervopoulos: Students were offended by the Fire Alarm policy.

Senator Sloan: It seems like having the SFB move forward is a major concern,  
how difficult would it be to start moving with a provisional member?

Secretary Baron: Very difficult.

Senator Friars moved to adjourn.

Seconded

Motion Carried.

Meeting adjourned at 9:55.