

# Student Government Association Westminster Choir College of Rider University Senate

13 October 2008

- I. Call to Order
  - a. The meeting was called to order at 6:31
  
- II. Roll Call
  - a. Anthony Baron
  - b. Alex Benestelli
  - c. Daniel Garrick
  - d. Rachel Gluzband
  - e. Derrick Goff
  - f. Mike Fili
  - g. Shani Foster
  - h. Anna Friars
  - i. Kristin Hagan
  - j. Dan Halbstein
  - k. Jim Hopkins
  - l. Shane Magargal
  - m. Samantha Scully
  - n. Lauren Snyder
  - o. Dena Sweeney
  
- III. Approval of Minutes
  - a. Sept 29<sup>th</sup> Minutes
    - i. DS: I motion to approve the minutes
    - ii. Seconded.

- iii. Discussion:
  - iv. All in favor of approving the September 29<sup>th</sup> minutes
  - v. Call for division:
  - vi. Ayes- , Nays - , Abstentions -
  - vii. The nays have it.
- b. October 6<sup>th</sup> minutes
- i. DGoff: I would like to propose all abbreviations of “ppl” to people.
  - ii. Seconded
  - iii. Any discussion
  - iv. All in favor
  - v. All opposed
  - vi. Any abstentions
  - vii. The ayes have it.
  - viii. Abar: Motion to close discussion on this topic
  - ix. Seconded
  - x. BG: The minutes are not approved nor disapproved.
  - xi. AF: May we amend senator baron’s motion- to postpone the approval or disapproval of these minutes until next week.
  - xii. BG: All in favor
  - xiii. All opposed
  - xiv. Any abstentions
  - xv. The ayes have it; the amendment is taken. We will revisit these minutes for next week.
  - xvi. Is there any further discussion on the motion to postpone the approval or disapproval of the minutes next week?
  - xvii. All in favor
  - xviii. All opposed
  - xix. Any abstentions

- xx. The ayes have it; the approval of minutes from October 6<sup>th</sup> is postponed till next week.
- c. EXECUTIVE Session of October 6
  - i. Is there a motion on the floor in regards to those minutes
  - ii. RG: I motion to approve the minutes from the executive session
  - iii. Seconded
  - iv. All in favor
  - v. Any opposed
  - vi. Any abstentions
  - vii. The ayes have it - the minutes from the executive session have been approved.
- d. EMERGENCY SESSION:
  - i. LS: Motion to approve the minutes as amended
  - ii. Seconded
  - iii. Any discussion
  - iv. All in favor
  - v. All opposed
  - vi. Any abstentions
  - vii. The ayes have it - these minutes are approved as amended.
- e. Abe: I move to amend the agenda adding a point in new business above the presentation on Robert's rules for the consideration of a bill.
- f. Seconded
- g. Any further discussion.
- h. BG: Motion at hand is to amend the agenda adding a point in new business above the presentation on Robert's rules for the consideration of a bill.
- i. All in favor -8

- j. All opposed - 4
- k. Any abstentions
- l. Call for division
- m. The ayes have it.
- n. Aba: I would like to propose a discussion under new business after Sen. Benestelli's bill. I'd like it to be about campus signage.
- o. Seconded
- p. Any discussion.
- q. Abe: I would amend that it would go immediately following Aaron Blankfield's presentation but before the coffee house.
- r. All in favor
- s. All opposed
- t. Any abstentions
- u. The ayes have it.
- v. LS: Motion to approve the agenda.
- w. Seconded
- x. Any discussion
- y. All in favor
- z. All opposed
- aa. Any abstentions
- bb. The ayes have it.

#### IV. Proposed New Senator(s)

- a. Proposed Senator made a statement - Julianne Zervopoulos.
- b. 3 questions were asked of the proposed senator
  - i. SM: I would ask what leadership experience she brings as well as experience specific to the function of the senate.
    - 1. JZ: I know a lot about the campus and have been in a leadership role for Ru

Cast. I also want to pursue going into law school. I have an interest in politics. I took a law class at Princeton University – it was a constitution class. We went over a hundred different cases.

ii. AF: I would like to know how familiar she is with our constitution and bylaws as well as Robert's rules.

1. JZ: I spent all weekend going over it.

iii. Abe: Why on earth did she spend all weekend with our const and bylaws?

1. JZ: I wanted to be well prepared and know what I was getting myself into.

c. Candidate stepped outside for discussion.

d. BG: Are there any motions?

e. LS: I motion to approve Julianne Zervopoulos as a new senator.

f. Seconded

g. Any discussion

h. BG: Point of order: Instant messaging is not to happen in this room.

i. Abe: There is nothing that says we can't do that.

j. BG: It counts as side conversation.

k. All in favor

l. All opposed

m. Any abstentions

n. The ayes have it; Julianne Zervopoulos is a new senator.

## V. Reports

### i. Vice-President

1. Vice-President Godfrey gave the Vice – President's report.

- ii. President
  1. President LaBoy gave the President's report.
- iii. Speaker of the Senate
  1. Speaker of the Senate Magargal gave the Speaker of the Senate report.

## VI. Unfinished Business

### i. YMCA

1. Abe: Move to discontinue funding to the YMCA
2. Seconded
3. Any discussion.
4. Abe: I propose an amendment to my motion. I propose that the motion be amended to read that the student government ceases funding to the YMCA at the end of the semester.
5. BG: We don't know if that's possible.
6. Is there a second?
7. BG: The motion at hand is Sen. Benestelli's, which is to cease funding for the YMCA. The amendment was not seconded.
8. All in favor
9. All opposed
10. Any abstentions
11. Call for division
12. 6 abstentions, 3 ayes, and 6 nays
13. The nays have it. That will ultimately be up to the SFB but they will now officially have the opinion of the Senate.

ii. SFB Breakdown Presentation

1. Treasurer Parsons gave a breakdown of funds of the SAF. She marked what monies were approved by the SFB yesterday and from last spring semester.

VII. New Business

i. Consideration of a Bill: Sen. Benestelli

1. Abe: This bill proposes that the senate create a committee that can report to our body about the constitution and bylaws. The constitution/bylaws committee can advise the senate and only the legislative branch. It is proposed on the bill that on the committee you need to be a member of Senate
2. Vice-President Godfrey read the bill.
3. Floor was open to discussion for up to 10 minutes.
4. LS: I motion to amend the phrase "at the same time" to replace it with "simultaneously".
5. Seconded.
6. BG: Do I hear any motions on the floor:
7. Abe: I move to amend and approve legislation.
8. Seconded.
9. All in favor
10. All opposed
11. Any abstentions

12. The ayes have it – the bill is approved with the amendments. Antoni will send them to you.
- a. DG: I would like to nominate the following 5 people for membership for the constitution/bylaws committee:
    - i. Alex Benestelli
    - ii. Anna Friars
    - iii. Derrick Goff
    - iv. Shane Magargal
    - v. Samantha Scully
  - b. BG: Call for any objections.
  - c. SM: In personal consideration I'm afraid I will have to decline.
  - d. DG: We would like to nominate Dan Halbstein.
  - e. DH: I too will have to decline respectfully.
  - f. AF: May I ask them to take into consideration Dena Sweeney?
  - g. Abe: So nominated.
  - h. DS: I accept the nomination.
  - i. Each perspective nominee spoke as to how they would add diversity to the committee as proposed by Shani Foster.
  - j. Abar: I motion to approve the slate
  - k. Seconded
  - l. All in favor
  - m. All opposed
  - n. Any abstentions
  - o. The ayes have it. We now have our ad-hoc committee



\* Ad Hoc Committee:

1. Alex Benestell
2. Anna Friars
3. Derrick Goff
4. Samantha Scully
5. Dena Sweeney

ii. Robert's Rules of Order Presentation

1. Mr. Blankfield gave a presentation on the Robert's Rules of Order to the senate body.
2. Aba: I move that we extend the meeting till we finish the agenda
3. Seconded
4. All in favor
5. Any opposed
6. Any abstentions.
7. The ayes have it

iii. Campus Signage

1. Senator Baron reported that when he returns in three weeks, he plans to bring some legislation to the floor about signage. He is going to propose that the Assistant Dean of Students stamp not be granted for more than four stamps on flyers for the same event. Once an event is occurred, if that sign is not taken down, that entity or organization will not be authorized to post signs for the duration of the semester for when that event occurred.
2. Abe: Move to close discussion

3. Seconded.
4. All in favor
5. All opposed
6. Any abstentions
7. Discussion is closed

iv. Coffee House

- a. Senator Magargal is looking for 5-12 acts as well as an emcee for the Coffee House next Friday night. He was hoping that the Senate would reprise the role of handling the arrangement of the coffee house. Anyone interested can email him.
- c. ABa: May I move that it is the opinion of the senate that Dean Robert Annis serve as the emcee.
- d. Seconded
- e. Any discussion.
- f. BG: The motion at hand is that it is the official opinion of the senate that Dean Annis is the official emcee for the coffee house.
- g. BG: All in favor,
- h. All opposed
- i. Any abstentions
- j. Call for division
- k. Ayes - 7, Nays -7, Abstentions -0
- l. BG: We have a tie. I will choose in saying "aye".
- m. The ayes have it.

VIII. For the Good of the Order

- a. Senator Benestelli asked to convene a very brief meeting of the committee immediately following the meeting.

- b. One of Senator Scully's constituents brought up the fact if the pub could open at 6 o'clock since her constituent has a class at 6:30. She also inquired as to what times the pub was opened.
- c. Senator Sweeney informed the body that the pub hours are open from 11-1 pm during the day and are open 6:30 pm to 11:30 pm.
- d. Some of Senator Baron's constituents have found the pub staff at times to be rude and to show an unwillingness to cook. One specific student said there was one day where she had missed dinner and she went to the pub at 10 and despite the fact that there were three employees, no one had felt like cooking so she was not allowed to purchase food.
- e. Vice-President Godfrey will bring that issue up with the Executive Board's meeting with Courtney on Wednesday.
- f. Senator Goff talked about the gong show and asked for input as to how the gong show may be improved. He mentioned that in 1989, there was a faculty non-talent talent show that may be fun. He asked the senators to maybe come up with some ideas about what they want to do.
- g. Senator Friars asked if it would be possible to have a deal with the NJ Transit similar to that of the YMCA. She additionally asked about the policy of cookware in the kitchens of the Residence Halls, that if students had the desire to cook, would they have to provide their own cookware. If so, a constituent of hers suggested possibly writing some legislation.

- h. Vice-President Godfrey suggested bringing up the issue with the Resident Directors.
- i. Senator Magargal, in response to Sen. Friar's statement suggested that the senate could create a request of funding to the SFB, providing cooking ware.
- j. Senator Goff added that any student could propose permanent improvement to the SFB as well.
- k. Senator Snyder made the suggestion to record the senate meetings. Additionally, one of her constituents made the suggestion of taking a trip to Medieval Times.
- l. Secretary Mendezona, in response to Sen. Snyder's suggestion, agreed that that would be a good idea. She also mentioned that in the Robert's Rules of Order, discussion or opinions are not to be taken down in the minutes. Robert's Rules of Order states that only formal motions, votes, resolutions and/or actions are to be taken down.
- m. Senator Halbstein reported that one of his constituents voiced an opinion regarding the going green policy with regards to the cafeteria, that they have indeed stopped using the trays for the transport of food and suggested stopping the use of plastic spoons and Styrofoam containers.
- n. Senator Baron inquired from the Chair if senate is allowed to sponsor any events, which was replied with a "yes" from the Chair. Another concern of his was addressed to Senator Magargal regarding the locks in the restrooms in Thayer Lounge; which have not been installed yet.

- o. Senator Magargal has been in touch with Steve Hitzel and has been told multiple times that they have the locks. Sen. Magargal will send him another email. The response he's gotten is that the parts have been acquired and will be installed.
- p. Abe: Move to adjourn this meeting
- q. Seconded
- r. All in favor
- s. Any opposed
- t. Any abstentions

IX. Adjournment

- a. The meeting adjourned at 8:27 p.m.