

Student Senate Minutes 9/28/09

- I. Called to order at 8:02
- II. Roll Call
- III. Opening Devotion – Senator Wilder
- IV. Forum Of Concerns
 - a. **Megan Kania** – Neils Science Picnic, I am here to answer questions.
- V. Approval Of Agenda
- VI. Senators’ Reports
 - a. **Senator Kochevar** – Leadership retreat went well. Thanks to the Presidents who came. (Not forgiven for not dressed properly)
 - b. **Senator C. Kus** – There is an organic store right off campus that has glutton free food. We are no longer able to do that. We should look into getting that fixed.
 - i. **Senator Leitz** – it was done on a case by case basis for those who wanted to pursue that diet and wanted to have that option.
 - ii. **Senator Lyza** – there is a substantial area of glutton free food at the Union
- VII. Advisors’ Reports
 - a. **Dean Jenkins** – Heard from a staff member that was raving about how well the leadership kick off went. Kudos to the Executive Committee for a great job.
- VIII. Officer Reports
 - a. **President** – thank you for your help Saturday. We now have post it notes so pass those rather than talking. Go through as many as you want. Keep an eye out for task force emails. Task force on Compelling Education will be holding an open forum on Tuesday October 6. Appointed to members of the BROC committee. Treasurer Casey Davis, VP Lewallen, Assistant Treasurer Godawa, Senators Johnson, Washington, Peninga, Litherland, Leitz. Senator Lubeck is the chair.
 - b. **Vice President** – Office Hour sheets are coming around. Sign up. You are required to be there at least 2 hours a week. We want it to be visible. Attendance is important. You need to have excuse in before 5 o’clock. Keep that in mind. Attendance in committee meetings is very important. If you will not be there please notify the committee chair, the secretary of the committee, Secretary Hecke, and VP Lewallen. Previous years Senate has taken a big part of writing letters to big whigs on campus. Having something written helps get us through and receive our response. Comes to the floor as a motion with the letter attached. When things really need to get done it holds much more weight when this is done.
 - c. **Treasurer** – At the leadership kick off that they can come to any senator to get their budget. They are on the G-Drive. GO to finance, Treasurer, Allocated, Budget, or media. Copy just their budget and paste it on a new excel spreadsheet. Do not send them the whole budget.
- IX. Committee Reports
 - a. **Executive Committee** – No Report

- b. **Finance Committee** – Powerpoint that we used during leadership kick off is on the senate website.
 - i. **Funding Request From Society of Physics Students \$234.10**
 - 1. **Senator Johnson** – request for all Neils Science picnic. Annual event, same sort of stuff every year. Standard picnic supplies.
 - 2. **VOTE 16-0-1 PASSES**
 - ii. **GLOBAL LEADERS COMMUNITY \$68.26 for Brandt Breakfast**
 - 1. **Senator Johnson** – we have receipt for exact cost. They did not pay tax so we can pay entire amount of their receipt. Expose to different cuisines throughout the world.
 - 2. **VOTE 17-0-0 PASSES**
- c. **Administration Committee** –
 - i. **Approval of Fellowship of Christian Athletes**
 - 1. **Senator Kochevar** – it is the same organization that came back. Athletes coming together to discuss Christianity.
 - 2. **Senator Lubeck** – why did they stop being an organization?
 - a. **Senator Kochevar** – they just didn't previously go through re rec.
 - 3. **VOTE 17-0-0 PASSES**
 - ii. **VUDU Comedy**
 - 1. **Senator Kochevar** – VUDU Comedy... they put on Comedy shows... for students.
 - 2. **VOTE 17-0-0 PASSES**
 - iii. **Remove from Recognized VU Students of Life**
 - 1. **Senator Leitz** – according to bylaws, administration can do this.
 - 2. **Senator Kus** – why?
 - a. **Senator Lyza** – it doesn't function anymore as an organization
 - iv. **SR 80 Administration Amendment**
- d. **Screening Committee** – Screened a candidate tonight for At Large seat. We are keeping it open. We have 2 freshmen seats and an International seat. Keep getting the word out.
- e. **ITSAC** - Still looking for members. If you know anyone interested in that. Short meeting coming up discussing goals later this week.
- f. **BROC** – committee is here to take care of that CD. We were set up to decide how we are going to take care of the funds
 - i. **Senator Leitz** – will there be other stuff out of this committee?
 - 1. **Senator Lubeck** – no there will be other things. First comes first with this.

X. Old Business

- a. S.R. 80 Bylaw Amendment for Student Senate Election Procedure

- i. **Senator Kus** – I understand the reasoning behind it. I am curious is it really needed? In past if someone didn't fit we just didn't seat them
- ii. **Senator Fischer** – is the clarification really harming anything?
- iii. **Senator Leitz** – long standing tradition to put into words practice. This is just another one of those. It is putting into words something we already practice.
- iv. **Senator Johnson** – concerned with how it does not suggest an alternative. Leads it open to one person to decide who fits the bill?
 - 1. **Senator Leitz** – as elections chair of the fall. We would not have any people qualify to run for minority seat. They would still have to qualify under clause 2 rule. It is impossible to say whether or not has gotten 10 percent of the required to run. Therefore by modifying it they have to get the same amount of signatures from people in their district. It just kind of makes the seating chart we have in place now work for elections. If later on we decide we want to revisit the minority seat issue then we can tweak election by laws with it.
- v. **Senator Kus** – do we for see future Senates having to change the by laws everytime we change seating structure.
 - 1. **Senator Kochevar** – we can only speculate and guess
 - 2. **Senator Leitz** – this could have been all lumped into one motion at the end of the last year and with the busy end of the year there was just no time. We reworked it but we did not add anything new into it. In the future with the given excess of time we could include in the seating structure change the change of the election process to match up with that.
- vi. **Senator Egge**- who will be deciding. Where does the authority lye?
 - 1. **Senator Leitz** – the elections committee, technically.
- vii. **Senator Mahmood** – if they do not get the signatures do they not qualify? Because some will not be able to get 30 signatures from their minority
 - 1. **Senator Leitz** – the change would be to make that they can get 30 signatures from any minority as long as they themselves are in a minority
- viii. **Senator Johnson** – move to refer SR 80 to Administration Committee
 - 1. **Senator Johnson** – the argument speaks for itself. There isn't enough here to go on.
 - 2. **Senator Kus** – as it has been heard in this chamber. Rather then kill the bill send it back to committee and let them hammer out a better bill

3. **Senator Leitz** – ask if they refer to committee that Senate come up with a specific task for the committee to work on with respect to the motion.
4. **Senator Johnson** – giving them a specific charge within that referral tends to box them in.
5. **Senator Kochevar** – not opposed to this as the chair. We will work on this diligently.
6. **Senator Egge** – agree with that fact that this is not super urgent. Take our time make this a one time thing so we don't have to go back and fix it later. We have time to make it right.
7. **VOTE 15-2-0 PASSES**

XI. New Business

a. S.R. 81 BROCC Motion

i. **Senator egge – can we vote on this tonight**

1. **Senator Johnson – Yes**

ii. **VOTE 16-0-1 PASSES**

XII. Forum of Concerns

XIII. Postmortem

- a. **Vice President Lewallen-** good job. Very productive tonight. Good idea sending it back to admin to get it hashed out. Another thing I did not mention during my report. I would like to thank Senator Lubeck for updating the website. Having the information helps us all.

XIV. Adjournment 8:57

Absent
Litherland
Godawa