

MINUTES¹
USG Senate Meeting
Thursday, October 20th, 2011

Meeting called to order at 7:08 pm. Meeting held in Wang Center Room 201.

Agenda item 1.0: Attendance

The roll was called:

Senator David Adams	Absent
Senator Oluwasegun Adedapo	Present
Senator Emily Alcott	Present
Senator Shon Augustine	Present
Senator Lance Bertrand	Present
Senator Tiffany Bibby	Present
Senator Nicholas Ela	Present
Senator Ray Fan	Present
Senator Frank Fanizza	Excused Absence
Senator Max Gunther	Present
Senator Eric Lau	Present
Senator Anna Lubitz	Present
Senator Adam Meier	Excused Absence
Senator Sean Moore	Present
Senator Corey Platt	Present
Senator Masood Rustemi	Present
Senator Alexandra Santiago	Present
Senator Najee Simmons (PPT)	Present
Senator Priya Sohi	Present
Senator David Szeszler	Present
Senator Andrew Tausz	Present
Senator Ryann Williams	Late (7:14 pm)

President Mark Maloof	Present
Executive Vice President Deborah Machalow	Present
Treasurer Thomas Kirnbauer	Excused Absence
Vice President of Clubs and Organizations Allen Abraham	Present
Vice President of Communications Farjad Fazli	Absent
Vice President of Student Life Deron Hill	Excused Absence
Senior Class Representative Emilisa Trotman	Excused Absence
Junior Class Representative Dennis Nmecha	Absent
Sophomore Class Representative Christopher Priore	Absent

Quorum established.

¹ Typically, minutes should only contain the essentials of a meeting. This includes the meeting time and location, a list of those who attended, as well as a record of all motions made and their outcome. Debate (or a summary of debate) is usually not included. I include it here at the request of the Chair. Mistakes and omissions are likely, so Senators are encouraged to e-mail the Secretary with corrections prior to the next Senate meeting, so that the record reflects what was actually said at the meeting and so corrections can be made efficiently.

Agenda item 2.0: Announcements

The Chair announced that there is to be no food nor drink in the Senate meeting room, other than water. The building manager may fine USG if this rule is broken.

The Chair further announced that USG Senate and Executive Council reports are due.

The Chair announced that USG Senators must do a better job attending committee meetings and checking their e-mail.

The Chair also requested that Senators should pick up their agenda from the USG office or otherwise inform the EVP to bring their agendas with her as she leaves the office, as this will prevent excessive printing of the agenda.

Agenda item 3.0: Approval of the Minutes (10/13/2011 Meeting)

- Senator Lau moved that the minutes from the 10/13/2011 meeting be approved.
 - Motion approved by unanimous consent.

Agenda item 4.0: Special Services Council Recommendations

- Senator Moore moved to suspend the rules to allow club representatives to speak if necessary.
 - Motion approved by a vote of 18-0-0. (Roll Call #1).

-Eligibility (Badminton Club)

- Vice President Abraham presented the recommendation.
- Last week, SSC approved the club's request for SSC eligibility.
- Senator Moore: How long has your club existed and how many members does it have?
 - Amy Cheung (Badminton Representative): We have started this September and we have 80 members on the roster.
- Senator Platt moved to approve Badminton Club for SSC eligibility.
 - Motion approved by a vote of 19-0-0. (Roll Call #2).

-Funding Requests:

-South Asian Student Alliance:

- VP Abraham presented the South Asian Student Alliance (SASA) funding request.
- All of the money is going towards events. No funds will be spent on general body meetings.
- Detailed costs for every event and all the materials required have been submitted.
- Senator Moore: What is the \$200 ticket booth cost?
 - VP Abraham: USG owns the ticket office, but clubs must still spend money to utilize it.
- Senator Moore moved to approve SASA's budget request for \$1750.
 - Motion passed by a vote of 18-0-1. (Roll Call #3).

-Spoke the Thunder:

- VP Abraham presented the funding request.
- Spoke the Thunder is a literary magazine.

- The club requested \$1750, but SSC recommended \$437.50, to be consistent with another magazine's request.
- Senator Platt moved to approve "Spoke the Thunder's" budget request for \$437.50.
 - Motion passed by a vote of 19-0-0. (Roll Call #4).

Agenda item 5.0: Undergraduate Student Government Stony Brook Child Care Contract 2011-2012

- Senator Simmons presented the contract on behalf of the Budget Committee.
- Child Care organization was cut considerably as compared to last year.
- This particular contract only reflects the current lower budget allocation that was given to Child Care.
- Senator Williams moved to approve the Undergraduate Student Government Stony Brook Child Care Contract 2011-2012.
 - Senator Moore: Does the USG Senate believe that we should be in the business of providing child care?
 - Senator Santiago: The budget committee extensively debated this matter. We did come to the consensus that the organization would be able to cater to over 10 undergraduate families.
 - Senator Platt: Without the money from USG, the families that do need this service would have to pay a great deal more for their child care costs.
 - Senator Williams: By subsidizing this organization, we are allowing these undergraduate students the ability to go to school.
 - On the motion: The motion passed by a vote of 17-0-2. (Roll Call #5).

Agenda item 6.0: Undergraduate Student Government NYPIRG Contract

- Senator Sohi presented the NYPIRG contract.
- NYPIRG is an advocacy organization.
- Without objection, EVP Machalow recused herself. PPT Simmons assumed the Chair.
- EVP Machalow: In line 3 of the contract, the date of the contract termination listed is in May 2011.
- Senator Williams: It does not sound to me like there would be any trouble if we moved forward as is.
- EVP Machalow: This would be a legally binding contract. I feel that we might be in trouble if we approved something like this. Additionally, the Contract Reform Act prevents us from amending the contract on the Senate floor.
- EVP Machalow returned to the Chair.
- Senator Platt moved to refer the Undergraduate Student Government NYPIRG Contract to the Budget Committee.
 - Motion passed by a vote of 19-0-0. (Roll Call #6).

Agenda item 7.0: Confirmation of SUNY Assembly Voting Delegates

-Executive Council – Executive Vice President Machalow

- President Maloof nominated EVP Machalow.
- Senator Williams moved to confirm EVP Machalow as the Executive Council's voting delegate for SUNY Assembly.
 - Senator Moore: Do you care to comment on the character of EVP Machalow, also known as Prime Minister Machalow?
 - President Maloof: Would you care for me to answer honestly?
 - Senator Moore: I believe the Senate would prefer that.
 - President Maloof: In the seven months that I have known EVP Machalow, or Prime Minister Machalow, I believe that she will do a very good job representing the students in the SUNY Assembly. Prime Minister Machalow has proven herself and that is why I would recommend PM Machalow.
 - On the motion to approve: the motion was approved by a vote of 19-0-0. (Roll Call #7).

-Judiciary – Chief Justice Malik

- President Maloof nominated Chief Justice Malik.
- Senator Williams: Do you care to comment on the character of Chief Justice Malik?
 - President Maloof: Chief Justice Malik has been a participant in SUNY Assembly before and has had experience of what to expect there. I believe we would benefit by his experience and understanding of the event.
- Senator Simmons moved to confirm Chief Justice Malik as the Judiciary's representative to the SUNY Assembly.
 - Motion passed by a vote of 19-0-0. (Roll Call #8).

-Senate – Senator Adams

- President Maloof nominated Senator Adams.
- Senator Adedapo moved to confirm Senator Adams as the Senate's representative to the SUNY Assembly.
 - Motion passed by a vote of 19-0-0. (Roll Call #9).

Agenda item 8.0: Handball National Tournament Grant

- Senator Santiago presented the grant request.
- The tournament is in Missouri. USG will pay for registration fees, ground transport at 50 cents a mile, and hotel costs. We are being viewpoint neutral and adopting the same cost subsidies for all tournaments.
- Senator Simmons moved to approve the Handball National Tournament Grant for \$6,580.
 - Motion passed by a vote of 19-0-0.

Agenda item 9.0: Open Agenda

- EVP Machalow: Is there any business from the Senate?
 - No.
- Interim Director of Student Activities Anthony Leviscott announced an event.

