

UPUA General Assembly Meeting
1 October 2008

- I. Call to Order and Opening Roll Call
 - a. Valerie calls the meeting to order at 8:15 p.m.
 - b. Rachel Fisher has taken roll. 30 voting members are present.
- II. Adoption of the Agenda
 - a. Agenda has been adopted.
- III. Adoption of the past General Meeting Minutes
 - a. Past general minutes have also been adopted.
- IV. Open Student Forum
- V. Report by the President- Gavin Keirans
 - a. Meeting will be longer next week.
 - b. Facilities fee has come to a compromise.
 - c. New executive officers. They are present at this meeting. Good discussion last week, even though it was a heated meeting. Gavin was impressed by the discussion conducted by the members.
 - d. Gavin has met with the ID committee. Gavin feels that they understand each other.
- VI. Special Presentation- Ben Novack, Former Penn State Trustee
 - a. Ben Novack
 - i. Former USG President
 - ii. Graduated from PSU in 1965. Attended from 1961-1965. He was on the board that sold textbooks. The entire operation was student run. He was store manager and purchasing agent. The students were very active and perceived differently at that time. Student government used to receive the upmost respect. It was a different system (three tiered): faculty, which taught the classes, was only supposed to be a part of ½ the students' education. Administration had to raise money, build buildings, higher contracts. Students had to create and maintain spirit of the student body through songs, cheers and conversations. Students were very active in other activities. Milton Eisenhower addressed the student government saying that there were two presidents: the student body and then him. If a president is deeply cared for, respected and works fully with the students, he received the title "Prexie." It was the highest honor a president could receive. The student governments must create the community. This is the reason that the students were of the upmost importance many years ago. Student government was in charge of Homecoming and creating many festivals. There were many great presidents at Penn State, but the most important was George Atherton. The college grew rapidly and the college experienced its first fraternities since they needed housing. By the 1930s, the students built 60 dormitories without any public funding. Rather, they did it on pure spirit.
 - iii. We must learn to create bonds again between Penn State students. We need to work on our trust. When I went to Penn State, we did not lock any doors. There is no reason that we cannot bring spirit back to Penn State.

Universities should create a true learning experience. Universities should create their own communities. By doing this, student government will become much stronger.

- iv. Today, administrators can put fees onto the tuition bill. In the 1960s and before, only students could decide which fees were put in the bills. Students today are still paying for the HUB, even though it is paid off. Today, fees are being folded into the tuition.
- v. Nobody is entitled to respect, it must be earned. It can be done again.
- vi. Questions:
 - 1. Kunkle: Motion to extend it three minutes.
 - a. Motion Granted.
 - 2. Kunkle: What is one of the major things you want to be changed by students at the university?
 - a. Tell everyone the legends.
 - b. Manners: best mannered people in the world. We must become a trusted community once again. We must be leaders.
 - c. Have independent organizations. This way you would no longer be under the budget of the ASA. You could have your own meetings without going through the entire bureaucracy.

VII. Representative Goal Implementation

- a. Peter Khoury- Freshman forum get started. We are working on acquiring sponsors and getting the word out. We have a room.
- b. Sean Leonard- working on cleaning up the downtown area. We have to work on cleaning up snow and ice in a more efficient manner.
- c. Richard Shermanski- We must have more people voting in our elections. Students like gimmicks, and so we must have gimmicks in order to spread the word of elections. We should make a council in Harrisburg.
- d. Kelly Potter- UPUA Rec. Day, wear something that represents us. I will contact the screening company to make a logo for us to wear.
- e. Chris Morell- Peter and I are working on questions for ID
- f. Megan Quinn- Student Alliance had its first meeting. In order to open the budget we want to hold a public meeting.
- g. Kaitlyn Kunkle- I want to do a spring carnival. This would happen a week before finals. Students could celebrate and reflect on the year. 4-8pm on the HUB lawn. Get other student organizations involved.
- h. Sarah Donnenberg- I presented last week. My 60 day plan will be available soon.
- i. Matt Smith- I presented last week. My 60 day plan will be available next week.
- j. Christian Ragland- I want to go to different meetings.
- k. John King- For the carnival- could we get money from SPA or have it go to some organization.
- l. Colleen Smith- We are interested in getting the freshman forum going. We are going to start a Facebook group. We want to hold the forum in the beginning of November.

- m. Stephen Lucas- I want to see more transparency in this body. We should publish legislation. I would like to lead this effort.
 - n. Christopher Nock- I would like to work on diversity as well. Sorry that I was late.
 - o. Bryant Poland- We should do a whose your rep. campaign. We should take headshots and then put it on a flyer and post it. We could have an event.
 - p. Hubert Hines- We should sponsor representatives to compete in a tournament. Depending on how well they do determines how much money they give back to their organization
 - q. William Barr- Talk to academic committee and deans.
 - r. Nick Mance- Working on the facilities fee. Trying to make more contacts with students.
 - s. Ben Lombard- Try to create a faculty position for Schreyer's. Create some kind of banquet between UPUA and CCUA in order to bridge ties.
 - t. Phillip Slusser- work on making uniform all the nominations and elections
 - u. Jim Bryne- researching senators' voting records. Working on possibly making a website.
 - v. Mike Wallace- WallyPolooza is going to happen. It is going to be more of a festival rather than a carnival. I am going to go to SPA for funding.
 - w. Sam Loewner- Space in the hub and have it be for student organizations. The only way to accomplish this is to get data together for how the space is allocated and how much is going to each party.
 - x. Andrew Karasik- Looking at policy on closing debate.
- VIII. Report by the Association Directors and Staff
- a. Chief of Staff- Mike Anderson
 - i. Preparing for the first executive board meeting this Sunday at 6pm. Working on presentation on history and function of student government and each persons' role.
 - b. Treasurer- Matt Sheroff
 - i. We can go through an external vendor for the copier. We should be able to get this within the next month. We still have copy central p.o. We are putting in other 100 dollars this month. Let me know if you have any receipts so that I can get you reimbursed. On Friday, I purchased the legal affairs laptop.
 - c. Greek Life- Luke Pierce
 - i. Not present.
 - d. Media- Adam Ferrone
 - i. Gavin was interviewed by channel six on energy and tuition. Discrepancies between what was reported in collegian and what actually happened. Next few weeks should be especially busy.
 - ii. Questions:
 - 1. Miller: how was the issue dealt with?
 - a. I emailed both of the reporters who covered student government and the editor of the section. I am not sure if there were corrections.
 - e. Business- Louis Orazio

- i. Thank you for appointing me. I do not have any tasks at the moment. One of the goals that I have deals with fundraising. I want to work with Representative Wallace. Right now, we do not have enough funds to engage in investments. We should speak to investing companies in order to present an annuity package. I want to reach out to alumni for fundraising.
- f. Women's Affairs- Ruth Canagarajah
 - i. Thank you for appointing me. I plan to implement my goals by establishing connections with women's groups on campus. I want to find out what women's issues are. I want to attract attention other attention as well through educational seminars in the Health Services.
- g. Multicultural Affairs- Cindy Wang
 - i. Wants to connect to international students. I emailed all the multicultural clubs. I want to sponsor a global connection program. There are two I am looking at. I want to start a learning center for those whose do not use English as their first language.

IX. Committee Reports

- a. Steering- Ralph Crivello
 - i. Bullet 4: ARSH does have an application out in order to fill the position of Tolany. The application deadline is the 16th.
 - ii. Matt and I were a part of the meeting on student book exchange. We laid the foundation to the system. We want to roll it out in November. We will be very active in oversight.
- b. Internal Development- Andrew Karasik
 - i. Gavin spoke to us at our meeting yesterday.
 - ii. We are working on the submission of nominees on executive members.
 - iii. We want to merge the business and marketing departments.
 - iv. Any representative that objects to ending debate automatically receives the floor for three minutes.
 - v. Sean Meloy has been appointment as the Vice Chairman
 - vi. Regular committee meetings are every Tuesday from 1-2pm
 - vii. Question:
 - 1. Mike Wallace- How many more people need to be appointed still this semester?
 - a. Gavin: We definitely need one short term. There are four seats open
 - 2. Christopher Knock- How will the ID committee focus on nonInternational students?
 - a. Karasik- We decided to not go for the co chair.
 - 3. Stephen Lucas- Why did you not go for the co-chair
 - a. Karasik- Two people butt heads, one would work better.
 - 4. Christopher Knock- Does your committee gauge the opinion of council?
 - a. Karasik- That would be a part of the ID committee approval's process. The committee has the right to rehear the person.

5. Megan Quinn- Wouldn't adding a second person help create hierarchy and bureaucracy?
 - a. Karasik- I understand where you are coming from.
- c. Programming- Hillary Gupta
 - i. We are getting the Homecoming banner.
 - ii. UPUA social at Chile's at 7pm this Tuesday. I will be sending out email
 - iii. I will not be Thon chair anymore. There will be a subcommittee on Thursdays.
 - iv. Questions:
 1. Sean Leonard- I am sending around a list to come and help out for events. We need dancers. You cannot dance unless you help out.
 2. Valerie- Are you having a point system to decide dancers.
 - a. Sean Leonard- Yes. Come see me after this meeting. I am holding an emergency meeting tomorrow.
 3. Valerie- Have you contacted La Vie?
 - a. Hillary Gupta- Not yet
- d. Facilities- Nick Mance
 - i. Legislation in the works about the destruction of the 1900s bridges.
 - ii. Working on the facilities fee board rules. Next week we can work on the policies. I am looking for help on these rules.
 - iii. Met with Diane Andrews from residence life. There is a fee for students who want to reserve space in the student commons areas.
 - iv. Committee meeting tomorrow 7:30 pm. 111 HUB
 - v. Questions:
 1. Karasik- I spoke with ARSH on Monday. The charge is not going to be for cables in the commons. It will be actually for reserving room space.
 - a. Mance- That is different than what she told me. We will work to get something concrete in writing.
- e. Academic Affairs- Matt Smith
 - i. The university is working to get students to fill out surveys on privacy.
 - ii. We went to the book exchange. I will send out an email on where the book exchange is located. It met all of academic affairs requirements.
 - iii. Tomorrow AQ- working on religious observance practices. Students should be given the right to make their religious services without punishment from professors.
 - iv. Questions:
 1. Ralph Cravello- We are scheduling to have Ian from student book exchange to come and explain the software for the program.
- f. Governmental Affairs- Samantha Miller
 - i. Number 4: each person has a task that should be completed by this Friday. Each person should try to register two voters. This is the last week to get people to vote. It would be in poor form for us to join a voting coalition and not help to get people to vote.
- g. Diversity/Campus Life- Steve Lucas

- i. We welcome to members to our committee, Cindy and Ruth. They will act as liaisons to our executive board.
- ii. We had a lengthy discussion about FIRE. We would like to remain neutral at this time.
- iii. Question:
 - 1. Gavin: I appreciate you looking into FIRE. What is the timeline for the student history? What is the status of the student alliance?
 - a. Stephen Lucas- We need to reassemble the committee. Megan is in charge of this. It will hopefully be reassembled by next week.
 - b. Megan Quinn- We have the constitution, we are getting everything together as a group. I can talk to you about that later.

X. Liason Reports

- a. GSA- not much to report this week
- b. ARSH
 - i. Not present.

XI. Old Business

- a. Expulsion of Hubert Sedrick Hines
 - i. Ralph will take questions. Hubert Hines will have ten minutes to address the committee.
 - 1. I missed UPUA last year due to classes. I missed the first two meetings of the year due to family illness. After that was taken care of, I have come to other meetings. I can bring a lot to the UPUA. I am a member of five other organizations (Black Caucus). As an on campus representative, I can bring diversity to the UPUA since I know so many people.
 - ii. Question:
 - 1. Lombard- What is your goal for the semester?
 - 2. Karasik- Did you attempt to establish that these were excused absenses?
 - a. No, I did not know you could do that.
 - 3. Poland- How could you bring diversity to the UPUA?
 - a. I am involved in a lot of groups that are diverse on campus. I know many minorities and I know many of their issues.
 - 4. Karasik- We follow procedure here, and you were not excused. What would you say to those people?
 - a. Shouldn't we have started at 8pm. There are other procedures we do not follow.
 - 5. Lucas: What reason do we have to believe you want miss another meeting?
 - a. I won't
 - 6. Do you still sit on the committee?
 - a. Yes
 - iii. Ralph: All the major meetings last year were marked as excused. They were excused after the fact due to circumstances. This year, he has missed

to main meetings and other committee meetings. I emailed Annie, who responded I couldn't sign up for office hours yet.

iv. Questions:

1. Karasik- Is Hubert allowed to vote?
 - a. The vote needs $\frac{3}{4}$. He will be a little awkward. He has the option of leaving the room or staying.

v. Debate:

1. Karasik- It is important that we allow those to come to the meetings to defend themselves. Yes, procedure would dictate those meetings. Hubert is showing a willing and drive to be a part of this organization.
2. King- If he misses another meeting or office hours, is he up for expulsion again?
 - a. Ralph- After 2 unexcused absences you are brought back.
3. Nock- We should honor what the student body thinks. None of us are more qualified than the next person. Expelling someone and bringing in someone knew would trample the system.
4. Wallace- I agree with Nock. This is a little bit ridiculous. He had reasons for missing meetings. They were in the beginning of the year. We should give him a second chance.
5. Shermanski- motion to end debate
 - a. Smith- We must hold ourselves to a higher standards. How hard is it to come to a meeting every Wednesday.
 - b. Motion does not pass to end debate.
6. Karasik- Documents and bylines are the most important. There is a reason that the representative stands before the body. The body has the right to examine the merits and the drive that they have shown.
7. Miller- Secretary Fiscus did contact Hines for excuses as to why he was not at the meetings. He did not respond. It was a waste of our time to deal with this each Sunday. He not only missed two meetings, he missed other meetings as well.
8. Nock- The bylines do not state why the member should be expelled by avenues to correct the problem.
9. Leonard- I agree with Smith. If we can't hold you accountable to your responsibilities, how can we hold ourselves to these standards?
10. Khoury- Representative Hines was not at the committee meeting.
 - a. Before this, I had been to every meeting. The Collegian reported that I had been expelled. I did not know I wasn't.
11. Lucas- I never knew who Hubert Hines was. We need enthusiasm but we also need dedication. If you can't make the time commitment, do not be here. No excuses unless they are legitimate.
12. Mance- As chairman of facilities, I want to clear something up from last Thursday. I read that Hubert Hines was expelled as well.

I still was going to have this meeting as planned. I did not say anything with the false reporting.

13. Valerie- A lot of emails were sent out to you. Did you receive them? You know these meetings are taking place?
 - a. Yes
14. Karasik- Did you receive an email from Sam Loewner?
 - a. I did not check my email until the next night.
15. Leonard- I immediately emailed our director. He said that he had already started to start an email.
 - a. Hines: The Daily Collegian called my cell phone. I did not get many emails from the UPUA
16. Ralph- Only passionate speaker is Representative Lucas. We face an interesting decision tonight. He seems passionate and wanting to be engaged. On the other hand we have his records. Both situations are lose-lose. We have to hold people accountable. We can't make up for missed time. There was no Representative at ARSH this week. There are a lot of obligations. This is a tough call. This will send a statement on how we view absences.
 - a. Hines- I tried to attend, but could not find where the meeting was.
17. Smith- You have to be able to commit to the time. I don't call his character into question. Why does he want to be here? He has said why he wants to stay? He has not said why he wants to be here? Someone had to ask him what his goal was.
18. Hines: Earlier I gave my plan. Last week I had an exam. Why are you addressing me?
19. Valerie: When you were defending yourself, you did not state why you ever wanted to be here or why you wanted to stay.
20. Bryne: What is the procedure if we do expel him?
 - a. ARSH has autonomy to replace vacancies. They appoint individuals if there is a replacement.
21. Poland: Are we waiting for another representative from ARSH?
 - a. Valerie: Yes
22. Bryne: Of course he will be a little defensive. Give him that liberty. He was on the spot.
23. Karasik- We are not an elite group. We have a civic duty. Our meetings are open. Too often, we think that we are better than everybody else because we hold some position. Consider that this is a truly daunting task.
24. Kunkle: Motion to end debate.
 - a. Leonard: Oppose. Not just about you being here, but about you being active. We should have asked your better goals for the future.
25. Valerie: Other objections?
 - a. Shermanski- Yes. We are not better, but we are representing. I knew when these meetings were. I was the

only member that never missed a meeting other than the VP or the President. We do have to be held responsible for missing the meetings. Why didn't he check to see if he was expelled? If I were expelled, I would be calling and checking my emails right away. It shows a lack of wanting to be in this organization.

26. Valerie- Vote to end debate
a. Motion carries – more than 19 hands

27. Vote
a. Yes= is removed
b. No = not removed
c. $\frac{3}{4}$ votes
d. Hubert Hines does not receive $\frac{3}{4}$ of the vote. The vote receives 13-12-1 vote. Hubert Hines is allowed to stay.

XII. New Business

- a. Resolution #8- Service Nation (Presentation Introduction)

i. Powerpoint

1. Both McCain and Obama were present in New York City
2. Day of Action last weekend.
3. Vision is to unite leaders under every sector under national service.
4. Private companies have been more effective in solving problems than the government.
5. Goal: to increase number of Americans serving across the world.
6. Released both breakthrough and inspirational vision for planning national service.
7. Our goal is to get UPUA to pass the Declaration of Service. We want the students to pass it as well as the administrators. Many prestigious schools have programs that service in exchange for loans options.
8. Point of Information:
 - a. Karasik- The heat is not working in only this room.
9. Questions:
 - a. Loewner: Does the endorsement cover community service or government programs?
 - i. Miller: Supporting the principles of the program. We want to take the quantum leap. It is not a specific leap.
 - b. Lucas: why did you bring this to the UPUA?
 - i. Miller: I was working this summer and I decided it was an opportunity that we as a student government could embrace.
10. Discussion:
 - a. Barr- Motion to end debate.
 - b. No objections

11. Vote: Motion passes 26-0-0

- b. Resolution #9- Facilities Fee Organization

- i. Motion does not need 2/3.
- ii. Motion to move to the floor.
- iii. We are being offered to have a board where students are the minority. We had offered a plan to make many student organizations present. We knew that we would not get this.
- iv. Compromise: Parameters are the same as what we discussed. 8 student members. President, 2 graduate, five other members.
- v. President shall not appoint the five other members. It should go to the assembly.
- vi. 8 students, five nonstudents. We did not feel as though this were necessary. They can put on whoever they want.
- vii. Facilities Fee will not be raised more than in-state tuition raises each year.
- viii. Steering Committee will provide information to the community without going into specifics.
- ix. Questions?
 - 1. Mance- What are the objections when I go to make these rules?
 - a. Gavin- Five students need to fill it. They need to meet the parameters.
 - 2. Lombard- Why can't the limit go higher tuition?
 - a. Gavin- Inflation. That was the idea brought out. Inflation could be beyond the rate of inflation. In-state tuition would be a good model.
 - 3. Leonard- What about out of state tuition? It raises 1 % lower.
 - a. Gavin- If that is something that needs to be addressed, it is a worthy cause to discuss. It must be in specific language.
 - 4. Karasik- is the board going to be consulted? Are they going to have control over the fee?
 - a. The ultimate authority is vested in the President and trustees.
 - 5. Bryne- what role did Damien have?
 - a. Initially they wanted us to accept the commonwealth campus model. He initiated a conversation to get a compromise.
- x. Discussion:
 - 1. Ralph- This resolution does a good job of bringing together UPUA's stance. It really does address each point of legislation. In terms of composition, we wanted all students with supervision. Now it is shared governance. Overall, it addresses our major concerns. This vote is to agree to this legislation. Next round, is how to determine these five undergraduate students.
 - 2. Lucas- I think this piece is a great accomplishment for our student body.
 - 3. Leonard- if this percentage will hinder the resolution and take a lot more time, I don't see that worthy as voting today. I think it is good the way it is right now.
 - 4. Mance- Someone could suggest an amendment.

5. Loehner- One thing that bothers me is line 7 page 2. I think a more appropriate co-chair would be the appropriations chair. I move to amend this to say the committee will be co-chaired by the chair of the facilities committee.
- xi. Move to Discussion about amendment
1. Karasik- I do not agree with this amendment. Gavin is the leader of this organization. All the duties associated fall under him.
 2. Mance- I agree with most of what Karasik said. I respect the views of my facilities committee, but I have concerns because I do not feel that I am familiar enough with the issues. The UPUA President has a good relationship with Damon Sims, and I personally do not know him at all.
 3. Loehner- just to defend my amendment. The reason I feel the facilities chairmen is more adequate is because the UPUA president already sits on numerous committees. This would be a large time commitment. Also, the GSA campaigns very differently.
 4. Nock- If a president is not qualified; he should defer it to someone else.
 5. Barr- I disagree- the spirit is to say that president should be on it. You never know if a student will be good at it. We could ask them specifically why they would be good at this.
 6. Lucas- I would agree that this would bring a lot more responsibility to the office of presidency. Maybe it would take a lot more urgency to the UPUA. It should be at the discretion of the president. I believe the government should be in this position
 7. Gavin- I do understand all the different concerns. Students have never chaired the boards in the past. Down the line, it may be appropriate to give it to the facilities committees.
 8. Barr- What president is going to come out and say I am not qualified, I will do a terrible job? I couldn't see anybody doing that.
 9. Lombard- A president within their best decision making skills would say something. I would expect that of this president.
 10. Gavin- there are different personalities. They will hear if they are not qualified. The president has to listen to the people. If he or she is not getting positive feedback, they should step aside.
 11. Karasik- to minimize the importance of the undergraduates would be bad. Elect the president to fill a variety of public duties. If they make a mistake, that is a shame, but the election occurred. This is a duty that is so vitally important that it should fall only to the presidents of both the UPUA and the GSA. The president has signed up for this.
 12. Shermanski- motion to end debate.
 - a. Can vote on the amendment. Motion passes.
- xii. Voting on the amendment.
1. Majority

2. The new line: Line 7 page 2
 - a. The committee shall be co chaired by the chair of the facilities committee and the president of the graduate student association.
 3. Motion does not pass.
 - xiii. Discussion on the resolution itself.
 1. Lombard- can the president clarify again on the inflation rate.
 - a. Gavin- I am sure something as small as that could be negotiated.
 2. Lombard- I move to make a motion on line 44 – the facilities fee should not be raised more than the rate of in state tuition for a given year nor over the current rate of inflation
 - xiv. Discussion about the new resolution
 1. Barr: is there anything else they can't raise above inflation
 - a. Gavin -It is up to the discretion of the board.
 - b. Ralph- It probably will change by inflation.
 2. Mance- it has changed greater than the rate of inflation
 - a. Gavin- all they have to do is convince the students.
 3. Karasik- strong resolution, strong initiative. I applaud those all involved. Motion to end debate
 4. Wallace- for the sentence starting on line 46, are we not amending language.
 - a. Valerie- if you have an objection stand. If it's grammatical, Ralph can change it.
 5. Motion Passes
 - xv. Roll Call
 1. Resolution passes 26-0-0.
- XIII. Comment for the Good of the Order
- a. Valerie- I am working on the sportsmanship issue. I meet with a couple different organizations each Tuesday. This will need to be formed specifically through UPUA but not specific oversight through UPUA. I will be presenting in the next two weeks. In regards to Hubert Hines, I have no opinion. Since we did, embrace him and get him back up to speed. It is your duty to yourself but the constituents as well.
 - b. Karasik- Spirit is alive and well. We accomplished a lot. If any of you want to become involved in UPAC, fill out applications in 229 HUB.
 - c. Barr- Are we meeting here again next week?
 - i. Yes. Room 129.
 - d. Leonard- Anyone interested in THON meet me for two minutes after this meeting.
 - e. Poland- Get exciting for homecoming!
 - f. Nock- congratulate the assembly. I like the avenue to do community service. I have been able to connect with a lot of people in the assembly. We need to create awareness. Campus director for Big 10 students, looking for a report on how other schools in the Big 10 are doing.

- g. Shermansky- anyone interested in watching next presidential debate should meet and get free pizza and ice cream. Come see me at the end
 - h. Okkelberg- I want to introduce myself. I look forward to meeting all of you.
 - i. Wallace- Big Ben should come here more often.
 - j. Gavin- Can we take a look at how the agenda can be set up. New business is at the end, and tomorrow's story will be completely about the expulsion trial.
- XIV. Closing Roll Call and Adjournment
- a. Rachel Fisher used the recent role. No one has left.
 - b. Meeting ended at 11:17