

UPUA General Assembly Meeting  
29 October 2008

- I. Call to Order and Opening Roll Call
- II. Adoption of the Agenda
  - a. Ralph Crivello- Old and New Business after Special Presentations
  - b. Agenda is adopted
- III. Adoption of Past General Meeting Minutes
  - a. Past General Meeting Minutes are Adopted.
- IV. Open Student Forum
- V. Report by the President- Gavin Keirans
  - a. Meeting was moved up due to the Phillies game. Let's be efficient.
  - b. Recovered from pneumonia
  - c. 3 points of legislation
    - i. Policy 4- Formation of a Rec Board. Presidential Commission to look at the state of recreation sports. This will be in conjunction with the director of rec sports and some other faculty members. This is a proactive movement.
    - ii. Resolution 12- Legal Services. Needs to be brought to the floor by 2/3. I'm okay if you guys want to table this since it's such a big thing. That way we can make sure committee checks it out, probably governmental affairs.
    - iii. Policy 5- Legal Affairs Funding. They are a big portion of UPUA, and are lacking a lot of funding. If we receive the stop gap funding we'll give them \$1,000 of the \$30,000.
  - d. Probably will receive "stop-gap" funding. We will be getting about \$30,000 to begin on projects. Get planning and get moving. We now have the funding to do everything we want to do.
  - e. Questions- none.
- VI. Special Presentations- Dr. Puzycki, Director of Judicial Affairs
  - a. I was just promoted, now I am the Assistant Vice President. I brought a flow chart of student affairs. I have held the interim position since 1996. Gail Hurley brought cookies, I'm sorry I didn't bring anything.
  - b. Goal of our Office- education. Our objective in the office is to interpret and enforce the communities code of affairs. The code book can only be revised by students. Students can sit on the board to hear universities hearings. There is also a good relationship with UPUA Legal Affairs because the better they are the better they help students. We want to help student move along, make better decisions, and eventually be successful. After the weekend events, there may be some questions and comments about that. I look at it as an opportunity to talk to students about what's going on. I would hope that anyone in this room that has concerns or questions come see me or Bill Houston. One of the things I do very well is take feedback to make quality improvement. One of the great accomplishments that can come out of this is for students to help us make good decisions. A lot of the incidents we see are when students are at risk.
  - c. Questions
    - i. Chris Morell- What do you foresee happening to students that were involved in the "celebration"?

1. I'm not going to evade the question, I don't know about individual outcomes. We have not received any individual reports yet. We look at every report in an individual way. Some behaviors and types of conduct may be similar, but not completely the same. On JA's website you can go to our manual. It tells types of sanctions for certain behaviors. Say two students are being cited for underage alcohol, and one spits in the police officer's eye. It becomes a different situation now. Also, we look at past behavioral problems. Our goal is to be consistently fair. If you look at the last 3 incidents, the range of sanctions ranged from a simple reflection paper to permanent expulsion. I know that's a huge gap, but those will be based on the differences in the reports that we receive from the police.
- ii. Ralph Crivello- You talked a little bit about the process, can you explain how the jury is student selected?
  1. 97-98% of cases end up with the student never going to a formal hearing. The first step is a discipline conference. A staff person gives all the evidence or information that the office has. Everything on record is shown or told to them. This helps the student make a decision. Only in the formal hearing are things discussed that we don't know about from secondary sources. The staff person, after the conference, makes a judgment about what the appropriate sanction should be. Usually there's an educational and administrative component. The student then chooses what he will do once he is told the possible punishment. 98% of student accept, so the case is closed. If the student wants to contest the charge, and the sanction was probation or less, it goes to one person. If an expulsion is a risk, there is a full board of 2 students, 1 faculty member and 1 administrator. Afterwards, the student can appeal to the Vice President.
  2. On your question, there is a student judiciary. These students are chosen, screened and trained by students. There are a few different positions on this board. Before the colleges appointed students, but now student appoint students. There is also an outreach program, but that part has struggled in the past few years.
- iii. Valarie Russell- Who are the students that elect the students?
  1. You don't have to be a criminal justice major or anything, anyone can do it. You just have to have a desire to sit on the board. We have all sorts of majors. I think that's good because we should have a diversity of thought around the table.
- iv. Matt Smith- Has anything like an inspector general ever been commissioned to check for discrepancies or biases in the program?
  1. No. I don't know what discrepancies you're talking about, but if you can point any out I'll address them. A lot of outside people look in papers, media, etc and think there is unfairness. We can't stand on the steps of Boucke to scream what students are charged

for. When we share the other side of the story, many times students understand and agree with our point of view. Do we always get it right? No, I can't say that. Every student is given a voluntary customer satisfaction survey. We've been doing it for years, the positive responses are around 96%. Only about 45% of the students send back those responses however. If you want to have a conversation about it, I'd love to have that conversation.

VII. Old Business

- a. None.

VIII. New Business

- a. Policy 6- Agenda

i. Introduction: Sean Meloy. Every member of the assembly has talked about how lengthy the meetings are. The biggest thing is moving old and new business to after special presentations. Special presentations are not in the bylaws, but at Ralph's discretion. Any member can change the agenda before the meeting. We always shortened the time for reports. They will simply submit reports, and then people can ask questions. Not everyone has something to report every week. Ralph will compile these reports before the meeting. Also, the chair will introduce legislation at the beginning of the legislation period.

- ii. Questions:

1. Joann Olsen- GSA meets at 6 on Wednesday, it's not possible to type them.
  - a. Sean Meloy- Maybe if possible?
2. Ralph Crivello- 10 minutes for review and questioning. Does that mean liaison reports are 10 minutes?
  - a. Sean Meloy- Yes.
  - b. Ralph- Okay, so that gives liaisons right?
    - i. Sean Meloy- yes.
3. Sean Meloy- I'm going to amend it so the president can still give a report.

- iii. Discussion

1. Ralph Crivello- I move to strike on line 45 liaisons from 3.2.3 clause 3.
  - a. Motion is seconded. No objections.
2. Sean Meloy- Amend line 40 to add except for the president who shall have 5 minutes. Strike the word president on line 44.
  - a. Ralph- So the president will not be required to write anything?
    - i. Sean Meloy- yes.
  - b. Ralph- Is there a reason why he shouldn't have a written report?
    - i. Sean- Okay no changes on line 44.
      1. Val- Only amendment is on line 40.
  - c. Amendment passes.
3. Ralph Crivello moves to end debate, no objections

- iv. Vote passes by a vote of 25-0-0
- b. Resolution 13- Study Abroad Arbitration Boards
  - i. Matt Smith- We want to implement this next year.
  - ii. Questions-
    - 1. Ralph Crivello- Where did this conflict arise?
      - a. Matt Smith- It came from AQ last year based on reports they have received. I wanted us to weigh in before AQ this year, which is next week.
    - 2. John King- Do you want abroad credits to transfer the same way as if you went to another school and not affect your GPA?
      - a. Matt Smith- That is one way. The other way is to actually have grades crossed over. Right now it doesn't say how the grades would be crossed over, but that is one way to fix the problem.
    - 3. Valarie Russell- I have study abroad credits that are still not on my degree audit so my GPA is correct and all that. I've had a lot of back and forth talking with them. This would alleviate that problem, and streamline the process.
    - 4. Ralph Crivello- Will it be left up to the individual college?
      - a. Matt Smith- We'd like to see it tied to the academic integrity boards. The reason is because we want someone to be able to say if degree requirements were different.
  - iii. Vote: Passes by a vote of 260-0
- c. Motion to Form an Ad Hoc Committee
  - i. Ralph Crivello- Ad Hoc committee to chair Rec Committee. 2 members from internal development, student life and facilities.
    - 1. Seconded by Sean Meloy.
    - 2. Sean Meloy- The issue we had is that the way it's worded. The forming of a commission is not in the constitution or bylaws. We aren't sure who should sit on it or if they should be confirmed by the assembly. Basically, we decided was to refer it to a committee, so we decided on an ad-hoc committee. Those people can bring their own pertinent expertise so we can pass it in the future.
      - a. Ralph Crivello- What would be the end result?
        - i. Sean Meloy- The end result is implementing this program. This way it would fit in the currently defined UPUA. This could possibly add a new bylaw about presidential commissions.
      - b. Ralph Crivello- So the idea is to try and clarify this in a committee?
        - i. Sean Meloy- Yes.
          - 1. Ralph Crivello- So there is a problem with the concept of a commission?
            - a. Sean Meloy- Yes. The root of the commission does not have to do with

the legislation. It's a loophole that needed addressed.

ii. Discussion

1. Ralph Crivello- I'd like to hear some other members of the steering committee. I know there are problems with where people could sit. This is the only concept in governing philosophy that can be used. This delays things several weeks.
  - a. Nick Mance- It's a loophole in the constitution. There was a little bit of a controversy about the wording of the legislation. It was like the president telling the assembly what to do.
2. Richard Shermanski- Does the majority of steering not like this idea?
  - a. Sean Meloy- Not everyone was there. This did pass coming out of steering though.
    - i. Val- The vote was 4-0-0. Gavin and I do not vote. Sean didn't either.
3. Gavin Keirans- I just want to get this going, whatever way is appropriate. I just want it to be as efficient as possible. I first did this October 1.
4. Valarie Russell- Ralph is going to clarify.
  - a. Ralph Crivello- The motion is to form a committee to look over the legislation so we don't have to debate it tonight. If we debate it tonight it can be passed.
5. Ralph Crivello- I motion to end debate.
  - a. Sean Meloy- I object. I think it's best for us to solve the problem before it starts. I motion to end debate.

iii. Hand Vote: Passes by a vote of 20-3-2.

d. Policy 4- Recreation Board

- i. Omitted from the agenda based on the vote to form an ad hoc committee to review policy 4.

e. Resolution #12- Legal Services

- i. Gavin- Governmental Affairs can work on this. When we ran, this was one of our major initiatives. This is pretty precise in terms of costs and what not. If it comes to the floor there will be a lot of questions and discussions. It could be committed to governmental affairs though if it's not voted in.

ii. Questions

1. Joann Olson- The way my assistantship is structured is that my department pays the university for the credits that I get. Would UPUA pay for the credits?
  - a. Gavin- We wouldn't be paying for the interns as I see it. There wouldn't be anything monetary from a UPUA stand point.
  - b. Joann- It either comes out of Dickenson or somewhere else.



2. Sean Meloy- We will have the money through stop-gap funding. They carry on an essential service for the university.
  3. Steven Lucas- point of order. Are we allowed to propose amendments to this document?
    - a. Val- yes.
  4. Steven Lucas- I'd like to propose an amendment. After the last sentence of materials and cost, add as a department of and funded by UPUA, UPUA Legal Affairs will be required to regularly report to the general assembly through a liaison at all general assembly meetings.
    - a. Sean Meloy- Will it be a liaison?
      - i. Ralph Crivello- Yes, the director.
    - b. Benjamin Lombard- What is the punishment if they don't attend?
      - i. Val- I think it's something ID can look into.
      - ii. Ralph- If they don't comply with the legislation, the treasurer should enforce funding requirements.
      - iii. Benjamin- I'm just saying it's a onetime thing so what if they don't show up afterwards?
      - iv. Gavin- If you want to get technical, I don't think they'll spend it all at once. So we could bring it back if we foresaw a problem.
    - c. Greg Plumb- I trust them. They're a different part of UPUA, with different requirements. It's distrustful to hold thing over their heads.
      - i. Steve- I understand that they're different. But as a department of UPUA they have a responsibility to be at every meeting. If they can't be there, they can find a representative to attend.
      - ii. Matt Lachman- In the constitution we're exempt from these students. We advocate for students on a very individual basis, but UPUA is a broad basis. If UPUA is against JA, we still need to work with them. We need to focus on our day to day things.
    - d. Sean Meloy- I don't know if this is necessary through a piece of legislation. They are different than us.
      - i. Val- I think I understand the nature of both arguments. It's not a stipulation, but it's about spending money. The treasurer is in control of the money. It's more accountability and transparency between the executive and legislative. I'd like to see full attendance always.
    - e. Hand Vote on amendment: Passes by a vote of 14-8-0
  5. Richard Shermanski motions to end debate.
    - v. Vote: Policy Passes by a vote of 25-0-0
- IX. Report by the Association Directors and Staff

- a. Chief of Staff- Mike Anderson
  - i. Very pleased with exec.
  - ii. Working on board of arbitration
  - iii. Community Service through ID, Ricardo Torres
  - iv. Questions
    - 1. Ralph Crivello- Try to set some time this coming week for SOCC individuals. Probably in the evening.
    - 2. Sean Meloy- Will you give a report on SOCC and Board of Arbitration?
- b. Treasurer- Matt Sheroff
  - i. Everyone should have my report in front of them. It's pretty self explanatory.
  - ii. Questions
    - 1. Steve Lucas- Can you make the budget more specific so it shows how much money for each committee?
      - a. Matt- there hasn't been a specific breakdown yet.
      - b. Gavin- Once we get stop-gap we can decide how the money will be broken up.
- c. Greek Life- Luke Pierce
  - i. Continuing to address council membership with UPUA. Seeking to have a discussion with Greek Leaders to have people run for open seats. We're changing the direction a little bit.
  - ii. Questions
    - 1. Nick Mance- Date time and location of Greek Sing
      - a. Eisenhower Auditorium this Sunday at 2.
- d. Media- Adam Ferrone
  - i. Phillies just took a lead.
  - ii. I hope everyone read Gavin's editorial in the CDT.
  - iii. Last two weeks have been pretty busy, but I've rededicated myself. I'll be asking what they're up to so I can stay on top of things.
  - iv. Questions
    - 1. Gavin- We've talked about a better relationship between UPUA and Media in the form of press releases. We want to have 2/week. There are tons of initiatives, so there's a lot going on. On Sundays Adam will attend our meetings as well.
    - 2. Ralph Crivello- Has anybody contacted you from marketing about the book exchange?
      - a. Not to this date.
    - 3. Valarie Russell- What's the value in having press releases? The collegian is here?
      - a. So the media will know what we're doing. It's us writing our own account of what happened, so we can release it in a tidy package.
- e. Business- Louis Orazio
  - i. Pursuing two fundraising efforts the last week of classes

1. Flower Sale- Partnering with Wutering's Florist. Instead of selling bouquets, we're selling orders so there won't be any delivery costs. There's giving us 25% of the profit.
  2. T-Shirt Sale- A tribute to Joepa. It will be a long sleeve tshirt. "If I had to do it over, I'd play the game the same way."
  - ii. Tabled Rockstar promotion due to legal restrictions that UPUA has to look into.
  - iii. Questions
    1. Ralph Crivello- You might want to talk to Ian to write legislation about entry of contract.
  - f. Women's Affairs- Ruth Canagaraj
    - i. Forming an interest in the removal of real life choices from FTCAP. I've already talked to The Commission for Women and Center for Women. If anyone has any perspective, can you let me know?
      1. Hubert Hines- What are you trying to remove?
        - a. Ruth- We're trying to add it.
    - ii. Questions
      1. Joann Olson- I worked for FTCAP this summer. They got rid of it because it's all that people remembered. They wanted to introduce a broader curricula.
      2. Megan Quinn- The most rapes occur within the first 6 weeks of freshman year. That is the most adequate time to address.
  - g. Multicultural Affairs- Cindy Wang
    - i. We want to have our own networking event.
    - ii. Food Festival
  - h. Legislation- Ian Vickery
    - i. I'm working on some legislation, and will continue to work on more.
- X. Committee Reports
- a. Steering- Ralph Crivello
    - i. Refer to agenda.
    - ii. I'm very impressed with executive board because they're done a lot with very little resources.
    - iii. The meeting with SOCC has been postponed to Monday.
  - b. Internal Development- Sean Meloy
    - i. Continue to look over bylaws
    - ii. Hearing Ricardo Torres
  - c. Programming- Hillary Gupta
    - i. Refer to my report.
    - ii. Questions
      1. Steve Lucas- What is the Elections Palooza?
        - a. Hillary- It's an event to promote elections. We don't have a name yet.
      2. Amy Sanders- Is get excited, you're trying to surprise us.
        - a. Hillary- yes.
      3. Benjamin Lombard- Total for first canning was over \$1,000. We want to do even better for the next canning trip. We planned a flag

football tournament Dec 6. \$5 entry fee. UPUA reps and execs need to be refs so we don't have to pay. Looking to get football players to come out.

- a. Christopher Nock- Will this be outside?
  - i. Yes. They'll be hot chocolate and stuff. The spirit will warm you up.
- b. Daniel Lersch- I can help get some band members to play during the event.

d. Facilities- Nick Mance

- i. Peter attended the Campus Lighting Survey.
- ii. We should have 2 pieces of legislation for next week.
  - 1. Facilities Fee Board and Campus Rec Rooms
- iii. Policy 4 Ad Hoc Committee, 2 members will be assigned.
- iv. HUB Robeson Advisory meeting coming up

e. Academic Affairs- Matt Smith

- i. Refer to the report.
- ii. Questions
  - 1. Nick Mance- Did the chair circulate a report?
    - a. Matt- I didn't have enough time to get to the meeting. I thought I should spend more time getting ready for the game.

f. Governmental Affairs- Daniel Lersch

- i. UHS
- ii. Please volunteer for election day next Tuesday to pass out survey literature.
- iii. Questions
  - 1. Peter Khoury- Who compiled the literature?
    - a. Governmental Affairs. Sam has the results.
  - 2. Nick Mance- What will the literature look like?
    - a. What and how they answered the specific asked questions.

g. Diversity/ Campus Life- Steve Lucas

- i. This week was a work session.
  - 1. Students History of Penn State, Networking event, etc.
- ii. Ralph- Was any progress made on conduct code?
  - 1. Steve- No. We will write a policy by the end of the semester though.

## XI. Liaison Reports

a. GSA- Joann Olson

- i. Getting ready for next SAFB meeting
- ii. Blood Drive a week from Friday in Rec Hall.

b. ARHS- Andrew Koontz

- i. Had some guest speakers- Lisa Wandell, Diane Andrews
- ii. Rec Space Fee- \$25 for smaller rooms, \$50 for larger rooms. The reasoning for this is that these spaces are funded by people that live on campus. If they wish to use this space they are paying for the maintenance of the space.

1. Peter Khoury- Are there time restrictions?
  - a. Andrew Koontz- That's for the first 3 hours.
2. Christopher Nock- Where is this money going? It costs less than \$25 to clean the room.
  - a. Parker- President of ARHS. The money will go back to the housing budget.
3. Bryant Poland- What is considered an organization that doesn't pay? What about associations that live on campus?
  - a. Parker- Yes. You can get a sponsorship through residents life or a resident's life affiliated group, and the fee is waved
4. Greg Plumb- When is this fee coming?
  - a. Andrew- We voted in January.
5. Valarie Russell- Was there any contention? What's the attitude about this issue?
  - a. Parker- Both we're passed pretty strongly. We represent the on-campus community, and this is focusing exclusively on them. The fees are not used for revenue. It is meant to cover cleanup costs. These rooms are not primarily a programming room. If someone reserves it, we cut it off for all the residents during that time.
6. Sean Meloy motions to extend debate by 5 minutes.
  - a. Matt Smith- objects because people only want to extend to discuss the issue.
  - b. Motion fails.

XII. Comments for the Good of the Order

- a. Richard Shermanski- VOTE!
- b. Gavin Keirans- Thanks for coming out tonight Parker. I think this issue will continue on in the future.
- c. Sean Meloy- I think Rec Room space will be a contentious issue. Vote on election day, for all races! Competition at Dunkin Donuts for the election, Eat Your Vote.
- d. Ralph Crivello- If you have comments regarding the fee, direct it to facilities. Thanks for accommodating Phillies fans.
- e. Christopher Nock- Student Leadership Scholarship applications. Due Friday in 209 HUB.
- f. Steve Lucas- I think the agenda policy was a great idea. By having new business first, it keeps everyone engaged.
- g. Gavin Keirans- I think it's good we tabled the Legal Services legislation.

XIII. Closing Roll Call and Adjournment

- a. Meeting Adjourned at 9:25 PM.

