

Ripon College Student Senate Agenda for February 13, 2013

- I. Call to Order
- II. Approval of Old Minutes
- III. Committee Reports
 - a. Secretary Allen:
 - b. Treasurer Mikesell:
 - c. Vice President Davidson:
 - d. President Kiessling:
 - e. Dean Ogle:
 - f. What's Up With Your Group
 - g. One Fund Talk Back
 - h. Student Activities Report:
 - i. Miscellaneous Committees
- IV. Old Business
- V. New Business
 - a. EGOR One Fund
 - b. Greek Council One Fund
 - c. Rugby Club One Fund
 - d. Amnesty One Fund
- VI. Announcements
- VII. Open Forum
- VIII. Adjournment

Ripon College Student Senate Minutes for February 6, 2013

Attendance Record:

Brian Fritsch- 0	Andrew Miller- 0	Amy Lindsey- 0
Alexander McNeil- 2	McKenzie Trelka- 0	Nick From- 0
Daniela Santiago- 0	Andrew Carballo- 0	Adam Orth-
Caroline Kordes- 0	Elizabeth Walsh- 0	Austin Oliver- 0
Alexandra Haen- 0	Anders Goodwin- 0	Peter Hayes- 0
Ben Ranes- 0	Kamelle Van Der Leest- 0	Rebecca Ramage- 0
Jennifer Keller- 0	Diakeishaye Murphy-Gunnels-0	Alexander Hagen- 1
McKala Kiessling- 0	Samantha Kay- 0	

- I. Call to Order
 - a. 6:30pm
- II. Approval of Old Minutes
 - a. Senator Van Der Leest: Move to approve.
 - i. Senator Lindsey: Move to second the motion.
- III. Committee Reports
 - a. Secretary Allen: No report, just sign in.
 - b. Treasurer Mikesell: The one fund balance stands at \$21,990.88.
 - c. Vice President Davidson: Yesterday we had a CSO meeting, we had pretty good attendance. I am just going to name off the groups that did not attend: Cinemaniacs, Drumline, Hablamos, SSA, Society of Physics Students and the Table Top Club. And if the constitution passes as how it is written, from this point on, if a group misses a CSO, if they miss two, they will get a 20 dollar deduction from their budget.
 - d. President Kiessling: For my report, we received a letter from Vance Lekvin, the President of SMAC and I will read it for you guys. We will pass the constitution two weeks in a row, so if there are any more amendments made tonight on the constitution, it will be in Old Business next week, because we have to pass it for two consecutive weeks.
 - e. Dean Ogle: For the Trustee Committee it was a really good weekend, they had their usually meetings, the student representation probably wasn't as strong as I have seen it, both at the committee level and students who were invited to the reception. Student representatives were invited Thursday night and also attended a full session on Saturday talking about technology and how students really offer good influence and that's a great reflection of the senate and the people that were chosen for positions this year. It all culminated on Friday night where there was a gathering in Milwaukee from the college to publically announce the launching of the fundraising campaign, which is Imagining Tomorrow. It was announced there that goal for the campaign is 50 million dollars and the institution has already raised at this 35 million dollars in the quiet phase. At one point I thought, wow, that's an aggressive goal for the college and looks like it could be a reality that could result in scholarships, endowed chairs and different things that really help the college. So that is really good news, and it is really exciting to see a lot of the people, trustees and others, that have already contributed. Emily asked me to just say a few remarks since I wasn't able to be here last week, as your looking at the budgets, I know historically there is those automatics that come out of the activity fee that have been built in over the years. They have come in sporadically, like at one point there was intramurals, residence life and other things. Now those are really the backbone of those operations and the college relies on that chunk of the student activity fee. I was sharing with executive members, probably the best example was before the commons was renovated, as it is now, down below where starbucks is in that area, that point, all the student organizations used to be scattered. Some of this building, some of that over in the union and scattered about. It was fairly expensive for organizations because many of them were wanting to have their own computer, they wanted their own phone, which is expensive to have, they were buying their own supplies and I could go on. By consolidating and centralizing like where it was done over in there, it saved a lot of money but student activities office came back and said, can we get a little money to offset buying the construction paper, the pens and things. Just so there isn't any misunderstanding about that stuff, those are just accounts that were taken out of there over the years and I know the college relies on it.
 - i. Senator Orth: What is the goal again?
 - ii. Dean Ogle: 50 million.
 - iii. Senator Orth: Is there a date for that?
 - iv. Dean Ogle: I think it is spring of 2015.
 - f. What's Up With Your Group?
 - g. One Fund Talk Back
 - h. Student Activities Report
 - i. Secretary Allen: Excellence in Leadership Awards due February 25th –nomination forms are on the portal. 2/9- Seneke Inc Drum Ensemble, Demmer Recital Hall, 600pm. 2/11- Chinese New Year celebration meal in the commons 5pm. 2/16- Cadillac Records movie,

East Hall Little Theater, 730pm. 2/17- Multicultural Trip to Chicago 12 noon. Meet at commons circle lot.

i. Miscellaneous Committees

- i. Faculty Committee: I can't get into all the specific s because some of them are yet to be released. Skip Wittler talked about on his report that admission is the key thing among the trustee board, there was a large uptake of applications so far. Based off of previous years it looks like the first year class could be as high as 290 right now, which would definitely help with the revenue issues the college is having. They also looked at trends and it could be a lot lower than that as well. Applications are definitely on an uptick though. Just going off of the capitol campaign, Storzer right now it the number one priority, with the science buildings and new materials are all in the close second. The board is talking about not wanted to have online classrooms, the board of trustees is kind of disappointed in the lack of technology in classrooms themselves. If you are a sophomore or first-year you are probably going to see a lot more technology. Also there has been a lot more looking at ways to increase marketing for the college, especially in larger markets, and in larger publications. The faculty discussed some of the issues, usually the endowment is used to support programs and they are kind of being kind of cautious about wanting to pull too much out of the endowment in the next couple years because the returns on our investments for the college have actually been doing very well. There is supposed to be, according to what I heard in the meeting, a 5% tuition increase in the next year and a 2% increase in room and board. Just some background on those numbers, for ACM schools, our tuition is actually one of the lowest, and then, inversely, room and board is actually one of the highest out of the ACM schools and so there was some discussion on moving that money from room and board onto tuition but obviously it would be the same amount of money that you would be spending. President Messite wasn't there and neither was Dean Seaman, but within the next ten years, President Messite assigned a few goals that he was willing to share with the committee at large. Essentially the main things he hit on was he really wants to see the faculty have a few pay increase and then hopefully he wants to see our student body be consistently around 1200.
- ii. Senator Orth: Has there been any talk on drawing more out on the endowment for tuition?
- iii. What they are projecting is 5 and half percent in the last year, instead they think it probably would be more accurately be in a couple years 3 and a half percent. If you dip to much in thinking that you are going to get 5 and half percent and it's actually 3 and a half percent.
- iv. Dean Ogle: The draw on the endowment from the institution has been 5% of the endowment and it is going to continue to be 5%, so they didn't change it at all. The conversation as Mike is pointing out, as we look down the road, is that healthy to continue to be at 5%, can it sustain itself. It did change because they want to draw out as much as they can right now to make it affordable to you.
- v. Senator Walsh: You mentioned something about online classes and summer classes. Was there any discussion on there being summer classes this coming summer?
- vi. Like I said, the board of trustees do not want online classrooms, they view it as kind of going against the way we do things. From previous faculty meetings and personal conversations with President Messitte, he does seem optimistic, that there will be summer classes but I don't know how. Like I said, he wasn't there and didn't give an update.
- vii. Senator Walsh: Has there been any discussion on putting any money towards scholarship and other things to decrease the cost of tuition?
- viii. If you have been following the news of the capital campaign, a lot of that money has been going for scholarships and new grants. The college revenue is tied directly to the students, so obviously with the first year class being a lot lower than what was expected, if the difference between having 60 students and not having them, is a large loss for the college financially. It is really tied to student population increase.
- ix. Senator Orth: You talked about new technologies in classrooms, did they talk specifically about we are doing?
- x. They basically said the board was kind of upset that some of them have been gone for 20 years and it's the same classroom essentially and some ways it's exact same classroom. They specifically talked about how a lot of people going into certain careers, need that technology. They didn't go into much depth.
- xi. Secretary Allen: Did you mention anything about hiring new professors?
- xii. As much as I can say, but both for the math and chemistry, they have reach verbal agreement with new professors for those. For professors that have resigned. We just talked about the two openings, but obviously they are going to have to hash that out.
- xiii. Senator Walsh: A lot of the professors have problems with using the portal, did they go into any detail at all about any faculty workshops or training where they would be taught how to use such things.
- xiv. No. I think it will be a priority, they did talk about how in some classrooms you are using the portal all the time and in some classrooms if you see the portal, you would be shocked. It is something where there are very vast differences. I also wanted to add that the McAlister football team is also joining the Midwest conference.
- xv. Senator Van Der Leest: Was there any talk about the positions about the football coaches?
- xvi. No, all I know that the positions talked about were chemistry and computer science.

IV. Old Business

- a. Student Senate Constitutional Revisions.
 - i. There were two changes, one dealt with the operating rules and it dealt with student organizations renewing their constitution every 4 years instead of two. And the second change is in the constitution where we reworded a section to where it says a third unexcused absence occurs, the student senator will forfeit their title as a student senator.
 - ii. Senator Van Der Leest: Move to approve.
 1. Senator Walsh: Move to second the motion.
 - iii. Passes 19:1:0

V. New Business

VI. Announcements

- a. Senator Van Der Leest: On Saturday SMAC is sponsoring the Red Out for heart disease. T-shirts will be for sale at lunch and dinner, tomorrow and Friday for 10 dollars. They will also be for sale before and after the games.
- b. Treasurer Mikesell: Tomorrow night at 9:30pm the MLK lounge, Young Americans for Liberty is meeting, if you are really annoyed with partisan politics and political spins, come because we have really great dialogues that don't really piss anyone off and everyone always seems to enjoy the meetings.
- c. Senator Kay: If you don't want to do that, Amnesty meets at 9:15 tomorrow night in Johnson main lounge and we talk about human rights.

VII. Open Forum

- a. Senator Walsh: After the dialogue last week I requested information in regards to what the money that is allocated to resident life is spent on. Jessica Joanis was very helpful and sent me some really interesting information that I would like to share. Basically the money that goes to them from our budget goes to things like Ripon After Dark programs, the Super Six Programs, RA programs, and Hall Council programs. All totaled, approximately 410 programs open to the entire campus are funded with the money talked about in the constitution.
- b. Senator Orth: I had a question for Dean Ogle on what he said for tuition, in my four years here it has risen somewhat, every year. I am just wondering if there is the potential for it to go back down? Or once it goes up it stays up?
- c. Dean Ogle: The budget is reviewed on an annual basis and it is proposed to the Trustees and voted on by them, so they are going to look at those numbers every year and the college budget, about 75% of the money that comes in, comes from tuition fees. So if there is that many fewer students paying in, that creates a problem. If that number goes up, they are in better shape and the higher likelihood that the number be adjusted downward. I don't know if it would ever go down, seldom it does in colleges. There hasn't been discussion on next year's other part of the budget and out years, but there always will be. So I can't say.
- d. Senator Orth: Do you know who would know more about that?
- e. Dean Ogle: Ultimately in the spring, there will talk about the expense side of the budget. The reason the tuition had to be discussed now because for admissions, working with prospective students, they have to have some numbers to figure out financial aid packaging for them, and they will need those for you too for next semester.
- f. Senator Orth: I ask because President Messitte has presented a number of 1200, which is about a 100 more than what we usually expect, and that could change the numbers significantly.
- g. Dean Ogle: Just to be clear. President Messitte presented as what he described as a white paper, which is sort of things he has picked up from students and faculty, alumni and others, and has tried to put in that document. He was talking about the future of the college ten years out, that he thought 1200 would be a reasonable target, so he wasn't necessarily saying that wasn't going to happen next year, or two years from now. That is something to build towards, along with a lot of other goals of programs and other innovative things over a 10 year period.

VIII. Adjournment

- a. Senator Van Der Leest: Move to adjourn.
 - i. Senator Lindsey: Move to second the motion.

IX. 7:01pm