

STUDENT UNION POLICY COUNCIL
MEETING AGENDA
Wednesday April 15, 2009
7:00 P.M
S.U. 410

I. CALL TO ORDER

A. Meeting called to order at 7:06 p.m.

II. CORRECTIONS AND ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES

A. *Minutes handed out*

B. Elizabeth (Chair): Please look over the minutes. Any corrections or problems?

C. Chuck (Associate Director of Operations): I was present at the last meeting but it says I was absent.

D. *The Minutes are passed with correction of attendance log.*

III. OPEN DISCUSSION

IV. OLD BUSINESS

A. Union Restroom Advertising Policy Reminder

i. Elizabeth: The last "Toilet Paper" went out this week. I suggest you go through the policy with your new policy council members.

B. Dunkin Donuts on Market Street

i. Elizabeth: Dennis Pierce says Dunkin Donuts is not expanding, he would prefer to buy outright and he would like to see Dunkin Donuts in the Student Union.

ii. Chuck: This is all news to me. I heard that Dunkin Donuts wanted to be on campus because of their sponsorship deal with our athletics.

iii. Kaitlyn (Student Union Manager): What would happen to the coffee shop?

iv. Chuck: It would be gone.

v. *Seamus (USG) arrives, 7:12 p.m.*

C. Dairy Bar

i. Elizabeth: Dennis Pierce says he has four consultants for the renovation, and it would hopefully be done for the fall semester.

ii. Chuck: This is also news to me. It will be done, it will go next to the convenience store and it will probably have an outside service window. My guess is that it will be done sometime during the fall semester.

V. NEW BUSINESS

A. Student Union Campaign Policy

i. Seamus: Our understanding of the Student Union's campaign policy is that it is not allowed, but cultural centers are allowed to set their own policies.

ii. Chuck: I was not here when this policy was drafted. The solicitations policy limits how campaigns occur in the Student Union.

iii. Kaitlyn: I enforce it. There is no language in the U-Guide that refers to it as solicitations, but it does say personal gain is not allowed. Flyers aren't allowed

in the Student Union for candidates, and if people are too aggressive at the tables, they are kicked out.

- iv. Seamus: During the election season, we give packets to anyone who wants to run, and we don't start tracking candidates until they get enough signatures. We do not have control over how they get their signatures. We understand the idea, but we don't have much control over potential candidates.
- v. Seamus: My concern is that we are getting squeezed out of Dining Halls and Residence Halls because of similar policies, and that's troubling because candidates won't have access to students anymore.
- vi. Ben (WHUS): As the policy stands, it is unclear what a USG individual does as far as personal gain. A candidate's primary concern should be student views.
- vii. Kaitlyn: Why don't you give us a list of all the candidates that have enough signatures? Why should USG get privilege of access when others can't?
- viii. Kevin (PIRG): No one catches clip-boarders, but USG has more severe consequences.
- ix. Seamus: No one was disqualified; we were unclear with the Student Union policy.
- x. Rich (International Center): Why don't you create a student elections group? Certified candidates could join it and then they could use tables in the Student Union.
- xi. Seamus: My concern with starting a student group is that it would open up the opportunity for more loopholes. We wouldn't want to disallow anyone from running.
- xii. Elizabeth: What is the election period?
- xiii. Seamus: Candidates have two weeks to get enough signatures. A presidential candidate needs 200 signatures, academic candidates need 75 signatures.
- xiv. Elizabeth: And once they get enough signatures, they are recognized as candidates.
- xv. Jonathan (Greek Council): Why don't you take names down now?
- xvi. Seamus: We don't want kids to have to sneak around to get signatures.
- xvii. Elizabeth: How do you go about reserving a table in the Student Union?
- xviii. Chuck: It's based on availability.
- xix. Kaitlyn: USG could reserve a couple tables and let the candidates use them.
- xx. Elizabeth: The policy needs to be changed. Has USG done anything to figure out what to do?
- xxi. Seamus: We have not.
- xxii. *Dramere (Rainbow Center) arrives, 7:44 p.m.*
- xxiii. Seamus: We don't allow people to campaign before they are confirmed candidates. We don't want a candidate to monopolize a table.
- xxiv. *Kevin leaves, 7:46 p.m.*
- xxv. Miguel (SUBOG): Can't USG rent two tables, and within USG have sign-ups for time slots?
- xxvi. Rich: I like that idea. Don't ask us to write you a loophole.
- xxvii. Miguel: USG can do it themselves.
- xxviii. Elizabeth: If you say this is what we want, we can do something about it.
- xxix. Elizabeth: How quickly do you need this to be resolved?

- xxx. Seamus: Elections are in the fall.
- xxxii. Elizabeth: We need to know what you need and what you want.
- xxxii. Ben: The policy says what it says. No one's sure what to do with it. You can recommend looking at the policy and giving suggestions how to change it, but the Policy Council usually does not allow one group to do something exclusively. So even though USG represents all students, if we allow canvassing for USG, we won't allow only USG to do it.
- xxxiii. Seamus: We can organize something ourselves, we have the ability, but we're not addressing the bigger issue.
- xxxiv. Ben: the policy says no campaigning in the Student Union. I'm not sure it says that people can't canvas.
- xxxv. Jonathan: Why don't you reserve the ballroom?
- xxxvi. Seamus: That is not an effective way of doing it.
- xxxvii. Elizabeth: The issue won't be resolved tonight. I suggest creating a sub-committee to review the policy.
- xxxviii. Seamus: I would ask that you include other elections such as the Co-op because it's not just USG that campaigns.
- xxxix. Elizabeth: I agree, but we address issues brought to us. We do not go look for other groups. USG should reach out to those groups.
- xl. Miguel: A sub-committee might be overkill. USG should come up with a proposal since they're the one's with the answers.
- xli. Elizabeth: USG might need guidance to provide feedback.
- xlii. Elizabeth: We will have another meeting to resolve this issue. USG will get a proposal made, and I will send it to you to read if it is long.

VI. REPORTS

A. Chair

- i. Elizabeth: Bring the new people with you to the next meeting on Tuesday, April 28th at time TBD. I will send you an e-mail when I know what time and place.

B. Vice Chair

C. Organizations

- i. Tom: Watch UCTV.
- ii. Ben: Listen to WHUS.
- iii. Seamus: Vote in the elections.
- iv. Jonathan: Philanthropy week is this week.
- v. Krissy: Take Back the Night is coming up.
- vi. Miguel: Spring Weekend rally with free t-shirts.

D. Guests

VII. ADJOURNMENT

- A. Meeting adjourned, 8:10 p.m.

ATTENDANCE

ORGANIZATION	ATTENDEE	PRESENT/ABSENT
Chair	Elizabeth Hopkinson	Present
Vice Chair	Jen Warmath	Present
Associate Director of Operations	Chuck Morrell	Present
Secretary	Andrew Lagassé	Present
SUBOG	Miguel Almodovar	Present
USG	Seamus Keating	Present
Undergraduate Commuter Student		Absent
Graduate Student Senate		Absent
African American Cultural Center		Absent
Asian American Cultural Center		Absent
Puerto Rican and Latin American Cultural Center	José Cerra	Present
Women's Center	Krissy Dolce	Present
Rainbow Center	Dramere Graham	Present
International Center	Rich Janczewski	Present
Native American Cultural Society		Absent
University Senate		Absent
Alumni		Absent
All Greek Council	Jonathan Piazza-Harper	Present
UCTV	Tom Murawski	Present
WHUS	Ben Shaiken	Present
Student Union Manager	Kaitlyn Newman	Present
UConn PIRG	Kevin Wilhelm	Present
Nutmeg Yearbook		Absent
Club Sports Council		Absent

GUESTS

NAME	AFFILIATION
Parini Shah	Guest
Marta Musial	UConn PIRG
Liz Verhagen	WHUS