

43rd Student Senate  
Friday, October 10, 2014  
166 Hastings, Gorham Campus  
By Senator Martin

I. **Call to order at 1:00 pm.**

II. **Attendance**

<b>Roster</b>	<b>Attendance</b>	<b>Office Hours</b>
Sen. Thomas Bahun	P	X
Sen. Elizabeth Bishop	P	X
Sen. Ashley Caterina	A-excused	X
Sen. Jud Cease, Vice Chair	P	X
Sen. Joshua Dodge, Chair	A-excused	X
Sen. Fatoumata Issifi	P	X
Sen. John Jackson	P	X
Sen. Elizabeth Martin, Clerk	P	X
Sen. Scott Reiner	P	X
Sen. Ashley Rose	P	X
Sen. David Sanok	P	X
Sen. Joshua Tharpe, Parliamentarian	P	X
Sen. William Webb, Student Affairs	P	X
Sen. Matt Wilkinson	A-excused	X

III. **Introductions**

IV. **Approval of the Minutes**

- Approval of last week's minutes and the week before.

V. **Executive Committee**

- Met today to discuss what we will be saying in today's senate meeting.

VI. **Constitutional Review Committee**

- Did not meet this week. Proposal for an amendment to the SGA constitution. Received constitution for Media Club. Would like to meet with GEB about PEB and hear the concerns of the GEB

**VII. Finance Committee**

- Met Wednesday. Met with GEB's exec board and members to open lines of communication

**VIII. Student Affairs Committee**

- Met this week to discuss ad hoc committee for PEB. No news on library hours from manager of glickman. Plan on extending hours for finals week. Idea of emergency referendum on cuts regarding classes

**IX. Public Relations Committee**

- Met after last senate meeting to discuss tabling, tshirts, and recruitment.

**X. Clerk**

- Motion to excuse Sen. Wilkinson, so moved by Sen. Rose and seconded by Sen. Bahun. Unanimously approved.
- Motion to excuse Sen. Caterina, so moved by Sen. Reiner and seconded by Sen. Rose. unanimously
- Motion to approve Jordana Avital's resignation. So moved by Sen. Tharpe and seconded by Sen. Jackson, 8 in favor, 2 abstaining.
- CSGD - Sen. Issifi takes over for Sen. Avital. Sen. Jackson is open to helping as well.

**XI. Student Body President**

- Rebecca Tanous, Student Body VP: Writing a resolution to the email the president sent out.

**XII. Representative to the Board of Trustees**

- Sen. Bahun: Need to address recent budget and program cuts and faculty cuts. report our consensus to him and take to relevant parties/the board

**XIII. SGA Grad Assistant**

- 9 bios and pictures. Still looking for a short bio about yourself as a person and senator as well as a picture. Get up ASAP. Send to [noah.dorius@maine.edu](mailto:noah.dorius@maine.edu)
- Picture from Judd, nothing from kyle matt tom and pic from webb
- walked around woodbury with jason to find a location- by foodcourt. A trifold or bulletin board. blue background with yellow heading: Meet your usm student senators.
- Post on SGA website to put in bios and pictures for senators.

**XIV. Student Affairs**

- N/A.

**XV. Other Committee or Entity**

- Joy Pufhal: Res life is working on expanding living learning communities for the fall. fan

experience is going really well. Huskypalooza on Nov 1. 5 games that day, women's soccer and field hockey, senior day. 3 volleyball games. bball game versus usm mens team and umaine team at 7. aramark will do 2 tailgating events that day. turf for lunch and costello for dinner. haunted house on 24th in portland. admissions open house on sunday the 26th and tours on portland. kids on campus event in woodbury. pumpkin carving, candy apple making and costume contest. Senate will have a table to meet students at the event, in costello on sept 26th. dining has extended the meal plans to portland campus. residential meal plan rates have gone up. joy and jason have had 0 meal plan appeals this semester when they usually have about 15. looking at improvement in brooks, such as flipping the grill, Aramark's expense not usm. Provost message: Phase one of a 3 phase plan meant to get us to a place to submit a budget by dec 31st. Gives faculty time to provide an alternate plan. To submit a balanced budget we will have to lay faculty off. Posted on the usm website. 17 other programs impacted by 50 positions being cut. some faculty eligible to take retirement rather than lay off. 50 positions equate to 6 million of the 16 million. Retirement incentive for staff. Defer about 2 million of necessary maintenance. a billion systemwide in deferred maintenance. Idea being we will not address it all because we cannot afford it. Provost has charged us with looking at the first year experience to do a better job attracting and retaining students. Curriculum will need to change with 50 fewer staff. October 20 we will know who is retired and October 30 we will know who is laid off.

- Withholding accreditation to our degrees if our curriculum is lowered with the 50 position cuts. Questions for our provost and president. Enrollment is declining which will lead to fiscal challenges. If we do not stop that trend then we will have to close doors. student and res life has lost 17 positions in 18 months. enrollment has declined 29%. Cannot afford payroll we have because of declining enrollment. If budget cuts make enrollment decline we are in a vicious cycle. We need a new vision: Growth model because we cannot sustain what we currently have. Metropolitan University Vision: community based needs/resources available at university. Maine is one of largest veteran population in the US. Army is currently laying off 80,000 vets. How does the university partner with the community to supports vets? This gives me hope to grow and work towards bettering the community. For example UMass Boston embraces their metropolitan university and they are on a growth pattern, they came out of a time similar to our own.
- Courtney: Computer Sciences for example is looking to companies to give input such as Unum who has suggested students take appropriate classes to work in their field. (Need Calculus A, not Calculus B or C) These businesses know which classes are needed to get their job done.
- Joy: Opportunity for proposals between now and October 20 to make sure things have been considered. BOT has froze tuition-systemwide. A student may choose a university that will cost more than usm because their financial aid package will be more. we do not have an endowment to invest in financial aid like we should. Raising tuition is not an option to President Flangan. The Faculty Senate is also exploring other alternate plans. Any faculty cuts have to be provided by Oct 30 and a budget must be provided by Dec 31. Administration to concerns about age discrimination: Joy does not have a specific answer but refers us to Chief of Staff, Martha Freeman.
- Sen Bahun: Drafted resolution about program cuts and faculty cuts. French program is cut outright so it deserves its own resolution, same with the medical applications program. Whereas other programs losing, one, two or three positions which can be grouped together. Read the resolution he wrote for the French program. Statistics are read about French in Maine.

- Sen. Jackson suggest that the Chair appoint an ad hoc committee to help create a viable resolution with Sen. Bahun and look into more information on budget cuts and potential resolutions before the deadline for cuts.
- Ad Hoc Resolution Committee: Chair: Sen. Bahun. Sen. Jackson, Sen. Cease and Senator Martin are members of the committee. Student Affairs will work collaboratively with the committee.
- Joy: Meeting with the President and Student Body President Frazier as well as Chair Dodge, email questions. Wednesday afternoon next week.
- Vote on all of those in favor of passing the resolution: 10 in favor, 0 against, 1 abstain.

#### XVI. **Unfinished Business**

- Proposal 43-14: Constitutional Review Committee – Sponsor: Senator Bahun  
*Motion to amend the SGA constitution to reflect changes in the application process.*
    - Motion to amend constitution to 25 student signatures, seconded by Sen. Reiner.
    - Unanimously passed.
    - Vote to approve motion.
    - Unanimously approved.
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#### XVII. **New Business**

- Proposal 43-15: Constitutional Review Committee – Sponsor: Senator Bahun  
*Motion to establish the Communication and Media Studies club as a Tier 2 BSO group.*

#### XVIII. **Former Concerns Update**

- Chelsea Tibbetts: Talked with advisor, Dan and VP, Sam to combine PEB and GEB under a new name. Organization as a whole is strong enough and functioning well enough to expand. The grad assistant on the Portland campus will help as well as the grad assistant on the Gorham campus and the overseeing advisor. Well seasoned event coordinators can expand to the Portland campus. PEB and GEB budget would like to be combined into one budget and one group.
- An Ad Hoc committee to further discuss this and concerns such as budget.
- Ad Hoc committee for resolving the PEB situation, Committee Coordinator: Chelsea Tibbetts  
Members: Sen. Jackson, Sen. Reiner, Sen. Rose, Sen. Bishop, Sen. Issifi, Sen. Tharpe, Chelsea Tibbetts, Sam Duval, Dan Welter.

#### XIX. **Concerns**

- Sen. Rose has only one person on the Finance Committee. As well as having only one person on the Constitutional Review Committee. Sen. Issifi joins Finance Committee and uses PRC as her secondary. Sen. Reiner uses Finance as his secondary. Sen. Jackson uses CRC as his secondary. Sen. Bahun uses Finance as his secondary. Sen. Bishop puts CRC as her secondary.

#### XX. **Announcements**

- None.

#### XXI. **Adjournment at 3:37 pm.**