1st ASOSU House of Representatives
Fifth Meeting
Wednesday, November 4th, 2009
MU 213

Members in attendance: Paul Aljets (Speaker of the House), Lu Yang (Speaker Pro-Tempore), Donald Lite (Congressional Parliamentarian), Kate Faulkner (Congressional Secretary), Brian Harvey, Rachel Nunez, Tat Hatase, Douglas Van Bossuyt, Carl Pitzer, Rachel Hersh (by proxy, Kevin Dunn), McKenzie Schmidt (by proxy, Alex Hang), Brice Plouse, Michael Campbell, Rachel Crews, Bill Hand, Michael Robb, James Winther, Drew Hatlen (by proxy, Kyle Fosdick), Jereme Smith, and Warren Lawless.

Gallery in attendance: Jimmy Russell (Environmental Affairs Task Force Director), Michael Miller (Student Athletics Advisory Committee)

I. Call to Order/Roll-Call/Quorum
The meeting commenced at 7:00pm. Quorum was met with 16 representatives.

II. Swearing in of Representatives
Newly appointed Representatives Lawless and Smith, along with proxies for Hersh, Schmidt, and Hatlen, were sworn in.

III. Approval of Minutes from Wednesday, October 28th, 2009
Speaker Aljets: Has everyone had a chance to look over the minutes? Is there any discussion?

Representative Crews arrived at 7:03pm.


Speaker Aljets: Is there any further discussion?

There was no further discussion and a voice vote was taken.
Vote: 17-0; pass.
IV. **Standing Committee Reports**

**Ways and Means – Van Bossuyt**

*Rep. Van Bossuyt:* Last week we approved some pay increases for ASOSU employees. It comes out of money that was cut from another part of the budget, so it really doesn’t impact anything.

**Educational Activities – Harvey**

*Rep. Harvey:* There’s no real news as of yet. I was able to contact Red Kakesako the chairman of the Oregon State Ed-Act committee.

**Appropriations and Budgets – Plouse**

*Rep. Plouse:* If you’re on my committee, please meet me afterwards to try to pass the bylaws.

V. **Joint Committee Reports**

**Chairmanship Announcement**

*Speaker Aljets:* I’ve appointed Representative Hatlen to serve as our co-chair on the Joint Committee.

VI. **Conference Committee Reports**

**ASOSU Code of Conduct – Aljets**

*Speaker Aljets:* The Code of Conduct passed this morning. It passed with all the amendments, so the process now is that it’s sent back to the Senate, then sent back to us for final approval. Would anyone who sat in on that committee like to make a comment on that?

There were no comments.

VII. **Delegate Reports**

*Michael Miller:* Hi, I’m Michael Miller from SAAC. We recently had our Fall Carnival, which is an annual event done in the fall. It was on game day and was a huge success. There were lots of kids and costumes and fans. Each athletic team had a booth and it was a chance to see that not all athletes have an ego too big to get a mask on. That’s our one big event in the fall, but we’re looking to do something between now and next fall, something in winter or spring term, for a social event in the community. If there are groups or organizations looking to partner on an event, see me afterwards if you’d like to work on a couple with athletics.
VIII. Messages

Senate Seats Filled – Jenna Albert and Kyle Bailey

Speaker Aljets: The vacant Senate seats have been filled by Jenna Albert and Kyle Bailey, so if you know them and see them around, tell them congratulations.

Report Executive Director of Services – Chon Madrigal

Speaker Aljets: We have a report from the Executive Director of Services, who could not be here tonight. His report will be read by Congressional Parliamentarian Lite.

Congressional Parliamentarian Lite: “House of Representatives, I am sorry I could not be here in person as I am currently in another meeting. So, here goes. These past weeks have gone by very quick and much work has yet to be done. 3 weeks ago, ASOSU Services hired our new part-time attorney, Joan Demarest. She attended law school at the University of Oregon, along with Patricia Lacy who is another of our legal advocates. We are excited to have hired Joan, as her knowledge, legal abilities and dedication will serve the students well.

Next, the MealBux Subsidy and Health Care Subsidy have all been processed and completed. This term, I am glad to report an increase in students receiving MealBux. No, it’s not because we have more money—as we are on the same budget as previous years—but because of the updates with the MealBux formula. Since its creation 3+ years ago, we decided this summer that it needed to be updated. Working with Drew Desilet, who originally created the formula worked diligently this summer to access the formula so that it fits the model of the current need today, rather than 3+ years ago. With these changes, we were successful in effectively meeting more student needs with MealBux. Last fall, we had 376 applications, of which only 108 received funding. That was a 28% approval rating. This term, although we received an increase of applicants, we received 517 applications, in which 276 applicants were approved. This term, the approval rating was 53%. So, we were pleased at the progress we have made thus far.

As for the Graduate Conference Subsidy, this is an ongoing process throughout the year. We only accept 10 per term, and currently sitting in front of me are 10 applications. So, if there are any graduate students here in the room, who have yet to turn one in, you can winter term.

Saferide last week, hired the rest of their staff. If my memory serves me right, I believe they hired a team of 16 individuals. Go Saferide! The two individuals who are in charge of running the program this year, Karie Hoffman, and Drew Carlson have succeeded in
hiring a great staff and promoting Saferide in various areas such as Greek Life and RHA. I am glad to have these two on my team, and I know they’ll do great things with the program.

Lastly, HSRC, also known as the Human Services Resources Center. This new service has been a tremendous help especially with the need based programs here at ASOSU. With our collaboration, or partnership ASOSU services and HSRC/DeeDee Overholser, we were able to collaborate on all of our services in helping to tackle hunger and poverty here at OSU. Also, with MealBux, OSU food pantry, DHS and emergency housing, we were able to increase our services and directly meet student needs in a form we were not able to in the past. Currently, I am working closely with DeeDee along with Larry Roper, VD and Schock to determine what the future of the HSRC will look like. So, if you would like to be part of that, feel free to let me know.

So, now that I have taken up some of your time, I would like to open the floor to questions. I may not be able to answer them, as I am not here, but if you would like to get a hold of me, feel free to contact me at asosu.services@oregonstate.edu.

So, with this, I say goodnight fellow Beavers! Chon Madrigal."

Speaker Aljets: Are there any questions for Mr. Madrigal?

There were no questions.

IX. Special Orders

Speaker Aljets: Just to give a little background on Special Orders – it is a particular point in which new business can be presented in an urgent manner. Standing Rules don’t apply in this particular case. In this particular case, HR-01.01 doesn’t require two readings, it can be decided on this evening. It was put into Special Orders because of timeliness. Mr. Robb, if you could say a few words.

Rep. Robb: Good evening Mr. Speaker, Representatives, guests. OSU has continued a trend of secrecy for far too long. Major changes and proposals have been shown before students, yet these proposals do not answer the simple question, “Why?” As representatives of the student body, you must stand up and show the students and have our questions answered and show we, the students, care. HR-01.01 increases transparency by advocating for a program for proposed and actual changes to college,
departments, minors, and majors. Along with that, HR-01.01 calls for a report to be sent to both Houses of Congress with an administrative officer to answer questions. I believe this is the first step in a long line to a better future.

Speaker Aljets: I ask Congressional Parliamentarian Lite to read HR-01.01.

Congressional Parliamentarian Lite: “HR-01.01 - Resolution to Establish The Organization of OSU Transparency:

WHEREAS The ASOSU constitution enables the student body to assert its interests as members of the academic community through democratic representation.
WHEREAS It is in the opinion of ASOSU that the students are concerned about the current restructuring of OSU.
WHEREAS A resolution be formed to foster greater transparency and understanding of the OSU Administrative body and OSU programs.

BE IT HEREBY ENACTED BY THE 1st ASOSU HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES THAT:
The OSU administration create an program whose sole purpose is to inform the student body is to inform and explain purposed and actual changes to the OSU structure that is not limited to colleges, departments, majors, and minors.
BE IT FURTHER ENACTED: That a report be sent to the ASOSU Congress outlining the current definite changes in the aforementioned areas.
BE IT FURTHER ENACTED: That an OSU administrative officers to be sent to answer questions on the aforementioned subject matter before the ASOSU Houses of Congress.
ENACTED THIS DAY BY THE ASOSU HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Sponsored By: Michael Robb, Undergraduate Representative.”

Speaker Aljets: Thank you. Are there any questions on HR-01.01?

Rep. Campbell: I think my question is a little generic in that I don’t know if it will make a difference. Does ASOSU participate in the process or are we maybe just getting information after the fact? Is it more of an FYI for us so we can better advise students?

Speaker Aljets: I can answer that. It really depends on the particular issue at hand. I know when Ryan Mann was on a committee on the restructuring of OSU, there was no particular universal report, if that answers your question.

Rep. Campbell: Do we have a representative that sits with these particular meetings, someone that is sitting in and part of the dialogue?

Speaker Aljets: It depends on the sub-issue. The best answer is no; sometimes yes, sometimes no, but generally speaking, no. It’s a rather translucent issue.

Rep. Campbell: The intent, then, is to inform us so we can better inform students?

Rep. Robb: Could you restate that?
Rep. Campbell: The intent is to inform ASOSU so we’re in a better position to inform students as questions are formed.

Rep. Robb: It’s both. The first part is to inform the student body as a whole. The main thing we’re looking for is an addition to a website for posting these changes and proposals. As we are representing the student body, we would need to have a full understanding of these changes, so really, it’s both.

Speaker Aljets: Are there any further questions?

Rep. Van Bossuyt: In bold type, where it says, “BE IT HEREBY ENACTED,” shouldn’t it be “RESOLVED?” Is that the correct wording?

Speaker Aljets: It should say, “RESOLVED,” there and in the other bolded statements. That would require a friendly amendment when there’s a movement.

Rep. Campbell: This isn’t a question, but just in the name of perfection, in the first section it should say, “creates a program,” not “creates an program.”

Speaker Aljets: That can be a friendly amendment.

Rep. Harvey: Do we have the ability to bind the OSU administration to this or is this just a suggestion?

Speaker Aljets: The answer is no, resolutions are non-binding. What they do do is express the opinion of the student body, to whatever entity on campus or otherwise, what the opinion of ASOSU is. As representatives of the student body, we are that particular outlet to send opinions to the administration.

Rep. Harvey: Sure. This may have been answered, but is there a current mechanism for which students are informed to changes or is there an official outlet at this point?

Speaker Aljets: I don’t know. Mr. Robb, could you answer that?

Rep. Robb: I’ve searched through this and have not found any listings of changes anywhere.

Speaker Aljets: If I could editorialize – students are looking for it and simply can’t find it. Are there any further questions?

Rep. Robb: I can make amendments, correct?

Speaker Aljets: You have to move first.

Rep. Robb: I move that we amend HR-01.01 on the second, “WHEREAS,” at the end of the sentence, to say “and its financial impact on the students at large,” so the House can enact this resolution so then it will be financially based.


Rep. Harvey: Are we changing the period to a comma then?

A voice vote was taken.
Vote: 17-0; pass.

Speaker Aljets: This is a friendly amendment, do you accept it, Mr. Robb?
Speaker Aljets: Are there any further questions?

There were no further questions and a roll-call vote was taken.
Vote: 17-0; pass.

X. New Business
Veteran’s Affairs Taskforce Director – Ben Price
Speaker Aljets: Mr. Price could not be here. He will be sending in a report next week.

Environmental Affairs Taskforce Director – Justin Russell
Jimmy Russell: Good evening, my name is Jimmy Russell and I’m the Environmental Affairs Taskforce Director. I guess what I see my job as being is kind of a resource and facilitator for students on campus, for the students who want to see environmental issues addressed. I help them identify issues they might wish to take action on. The things I’m planning on working on, mostly things students have brought to me are, the Corvallis Community Energy Project, using a quarter of a million dollars to renovate homes with renewable energy sources, like solar panels and... solar panels. I’m actively involving students and getting into the community and working door-to-door. Also, a lot of students want to get a local and organic healthy food restaurant or store on campus. All the rest are required to have a vegan or vegetarian option, but that’s not sustainable. We want to localize, we live in the valley and can produce most of the food we need. So I’m trying to do that and a lot of the administration has been receptive to that. I’m working with MUPC and local farmers and students are actively involved in that. Students also wanted to work on reducing bottled water on campus and I’ve been working with a private contractor to put filtration machines around campus. I’m not sure if you’ve seen the ones around Snell and campus already, but it’s the same quality of water you’ll get in a $1.25 water bottle without the waste. It’s good for students and the environment; hopefully that goes good. The Revolving Loan Fund was started last year and took $100,000 from the student Green Fee. That’s 8.75% that students pay each
term and we took $100,000 of that to be made available to facilities for projects on buildings on campus. We will finance them up front and give them money to do that and they will pay it back through loans they receive through the year. There’s two students I’m working with now to bring proposals to departments to act on the Revolving Loan Fund. It’s free money for the departments and gets the students involved in campus life and dealing with campus bureaucracy, so it’s a cool project for students to work on.

Rep. Van Bossuyt: I have a couple of different things I want to clarify. Do you wait for people to come to you or do you go out and actively find things that need to be done?

Mr. Russell: Both of those, actually. A lot of students aren’t aware, they just see problems and go by or they don’t really know the environmental impact. Part of my job is to pay attention and look in research from the reports on OSU environmental impacts. Also, definitely if students have ideas they are interested in and are feasible, I consider that a priority.

Rep. Van Bossuyt: You already answered my next question about outreach. You’re already reaching out on how to do things and fix things. I have more questions if no one else does. Are you working with the Industrial Assessment Center, the Organic Growers Club and the SSI?

Mr. Russell: Yes, I’m working all of them. We have weekly Taskforce meetings and SSI together. There’s going to be a huge project also with the Revolving Loan Fund and we’re in good contact with them. And with the Organic Growers Club, we sent students that way with an internship program and are considering using them for a source of food for the local and organic dining option.

Rep. Van Bossuyt: I have a question on the Revolving Loan Fund. It’s available for departments to use, is it also open to residence halls and Greek houses?

Mr. Russell: It’s not open for Greek houses as they are private, but anything else under the umbrella of OSU.

Rep. Crews: The co-ops are also under the university, but they buy their own food. Are you in a conversation with them about how they get food?

Mr. Russell: I have not talked to them. James Cassidy of the Organic Growers Club has tried that and it might be something to pursue.

Rep. Van Bossuyt: I was wondering who is paying for the filtered water installations and how do you put in a request?

Mr. Russell: I don’t know about the ones already set up by MUPC, I don’t know how they are setting them up. I would like to figure that out before going forward.

Speaker Aljets: Are there any more questions? Thank you.
XI. Old Business
There was no old business.

XII. Speaker's Announcements
Vacancies
Speaker Aljets: Two of the vacancies in the House have been filled by Warren Lawless and Jereme Smith, please raise your hands. Congratulations, gentlemen. We still have two seats that need to be filled and there is one that will be filled when the red tape is finished. If you know anyone who would like to sit, either a graduate or undergraduate, please contact me ASAP. They just have to be a student, that is the only requirement.

XIII. House Comments
There were no comments from the House.

XIV. Gallery Comments
Mr. Russell: If anyone here is interested in working on environmental sustainability legislations, I would really like to work with someone here. It would be a powerful tool in getting a message across.
Speaker Aljets: What is your contact information?
Mr. Russell: My email is enviro.affairs@oregonstate.edu.

XV. Adjournment
Speaker Aljets: Is there a motion to adjourn?
The meeting adjourned at 7:32pm.