



The State University of New York  
Student Assembly

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**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING**  
**MINUTES**

**January 9, 2016**

**Location:** SUNY Delhi

454 Delhi Drive, Delhi, NY 13753

Location: Farrell Center 211A/B

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Call to Order was conducted at 9:17 by President Mastro

**President Mastro:**

Roll Call was conducted by Secretary Wood

In Attendance:

President Mastro, Vice President Kathan, Treasurer Accardi, Secretary Wood, Chief of Staff Cohen, Special Assistant to the President Carolyn Sheridan, Representative Altemoos, Representative Mielenz, Representative Ferrera, Representative Klafehn, Representative Spoth, Representative Beaudoin, Representative Hegarty, Representative Cucci, Representative Flynn, Representative Delgado, Representative Armstrong, Representative Barry, Representative Tower, Director Slye, Director of Communications, Director Simons, Director Butler, and Chair Doyle.

Quorum is met with 16 voting members in attendance.

**President Mastro:** We have quite a few of new people joining us today, let's go around the room and quickly introduce ourselves.

\*Each member in attendance states their name, position, and school that they attend\*

**President Mastro:** Very nice, at this time I will be handing the chair position over to Vice President Kathan.

**Vice President Kathan:** Okay, well, any questions that you have today can be directed to Anthony who did a great job organizing this. So thank you Anthony. A couple of notes, this is a big room, that being said if you are speaking you need to project your voice because our recording is down here and we want

to make sure everything is on file. So make sure when you do speak which you inevitably will make sure you are projecting your voice.

**Representative Cucci:** We have microphones, I can hook those up.

**Vice President Kathan:** Let's see if we need them after this morning session. If we think we need them we will set them up after lunch.

**Vice President Kathan:** Okay, you all have the agenda. The overview was adjusted last night to reflect the morning session of our executive committee meeting. For those of you who are new, we do not usually have this meeting until after we meet with all of our committees. But, since we are voting on a few new members and committee memberships we want to make sure that business is set today and everything is official as possible. You will see on the agenda that it is stated that we are starting at 4:45 PM, which is only error on this agenda. That is the only thing that is altered. We can still approve this agenda as we have already called the meeting to order already. So, we do not need to adjust this but if someone would like to make a motion, to get that line changed you are able to do so, but it is not necessary because the meeting has been called to order and we have quorum. So at this time, I am looking for a motion to either amend that line if they want to or to disapprove the agenda.

**Representative Beaudoin:** I move to amend the agenda so that it is open to add any other resolutions.

**Vice President Kathan:** That goes without question, you are welcomed to a specific resolution now. But you need to make a specific edit, so like, "I move to amend the agenda under new business under number 16, blah blah blah" So I need something specific when amendments are made. So do you rescind that motion?

**Representative Beaudoin:** I rescind that motion.

**Representative Ferrera:** But you could just use a motion to add a line on the agenda that says you can bring any motion forward at this time.

**Vice President Kathan:** Okay, true. But make sure that next time you say, "point of whatever" next time that way I can give you the floor for the recording. Josh.

**Representative Altemoos motions to strike the timeline on the agenda, seconded by Representative Beaudoin**

**Motion passes with unanimous consent**

**Representative Beaudoin motions to amend the agenda, adding resolution Representation as line 16, seconded by Representative Altemoos**

**Motion passes with unanimous consent**

**Representative Beaudoin motions to amend the agenda, adding resolution SHARP as line 17, seconded by Representative Tower**

**Motion passes with unanimous consent**

**Representative Altemoos motions to amend the agenda, adding resolution Gender Neutral Language as line 18, seconded by Representative Ferrera**

**Motion passes with unanimous consent**

**Representative Altemoos motions to amend the agenda, adding resolution Presentation Provisions as line 19, seconded by Representative Tower**

**Motion passes with unanimous consent**

**President Mastro:** Send all of those to Morgan and she will upload them to the Google Drive.

**Vice President Kathan:** Alright, with that being said, now that our agenda has been amended...yes, Josh?

**Representative Altemoos motions to approve the agenda with all approved amendments, seconded by Representative Tower**

**Motion passes with unanimous consent**

**Public Comment:**

**Representative Altemoos:** I will keep this brief. So this is my twenty-third EC meeting and I only have two left. And basically my story of coming to the EC is that I'm a high school dropout and I went to ECC, I went to Alfred State and now I am in a master's program at UB. To be a GD student in a highly competitive program and in a highly competitive research university, you know is a feat alone. And what brings me here to SA is to help the students of New York to access education and to help the citizens of New York. We have done so much in the past 3-4 months and we do exactly that. So basically what this is, we have new people here who are a part of the executive team and committee that has done a lot and there is going to be a lot in the next couple of months that we will be able to do with the Legislative Agenda and the ending of the year. And you know, we have a lot on our shoulders but looking back at my twenty-three committee meetings and this was my eighth conference, you know, I just want to say that this has been a reflection of a different administration. I just wanted to make that comment.

**Vice President Kathan:** Thank you, Josh. Any other public comment? Okay seeing none. I want to say to any of the new members that are not familiar with Robert's Rules or have or have not seen it in other capacities, while it is our guide of the organization, I feel a little differently about it. You can see the nice book over there. If you do have questions about Robert's Rules that would be point of information and point of inquiry means that....

**Director Slye:** Would you like to step in?

**Vice President Kathan:** Yes please, go ahead.

**Director Slye:** Okay if you have a question about parliamentary procedure, you would say, point of parliamentary inquiry. If you cannot hear someone or have something that is personal to you, you would say, point of personal privilege. And if you just want to ask a question you would say, point of inquiry. Those are all privileged motions. Meaning whoever has the floor immediately cedes it when given recognition by the Chair of the meeting.

**Vice President Kathan:** And if you feel intimidated or anything, don't. Ask your questions, you don't have to get it absolutely correct, we will help you out. We want you guys to learn something too.

**Director Simons:** Kat, isn't it point of information, if it is a question?

**Director Slye:** If it is a question, did I say inquiry?

**Director Simons:** Yeah

**Vice President:** It is the same thing.

**Director Slye:** Yeah you can do either, but point of information is a little easier.

**Vice President Kathan:** You better get it right now. Okay with that being said we will move into the approval of the minutes. We have the December Executive Committee Minutes. You all have this in the Google Drive. And I hope that you have read them and reviewed them already. If anyone is unable to access the Drive please let us know. Do we have a motion before we can enter discussion regarding the minutes?

**Representative Altemoos:** I have a point of inquiry.

**Vice President Kathan:** Okay.

**Representative Altemoos:** You said the December Executive Committee Minutes?

**Vice President Kathan:** Yes. The phone call meeting. Approving the minutes from that. Do we have them?

**Representative Altemoos:** No.

**Vice President Kathan:** Then I need a motion to table them to the next meeting.

**Representative Altemoos motions to table the December Executive Committee Minutes, seconded by Representative Beaudoin**

**Motion Passes**

**13-0-3**

**Representative Altemoos motions for a roll call vote**

**Vice President Kathan:** You are motioning for a roll call vote? On this? Okay. Do we have a second to a roll call vote?

**Representative Beaudoin:** I second

**Point of Information:** What is a roll call vote? We vote by name?

**Vice President Kathan:** Yeah, that means we will all have to go through all of our names. Do we have a second?

**Representative Tower:** Can you please explain what a roll call vote is to everyone?

**Vice President Kathan:** Yeah. We would go through each person that has a vote and ask them how they are voting. So we would say, President Mastro, how do you vote? And we would have to go through everyone that has a vote. Yeah so you, [referring to Representative Beaudoin] seconded. Do we have any discussion on this motion?

#### **Discussion**

**Representative Klafehn:** Can we not? Can we make it that we can just raise our placards?

**Vice President Kathan:** Yes you can. However this motion is on the floor and it has been documented. Do we have any discussion points? Okay. All those in favor in entering into a roll call vote.

**Motion Fails**

**14-0-2**

#### **Unfinished Business**

**Vice President Kathan:** Okay, in the unfinished business is the September Executive Committee Meeting Minutes.

**Representative Altemoos motions to approve the September Minutes, seconded by Representative Beaudoin**

#### **Discussion the minutes**

**Vice President Kathan:** This is the time that if you have any issues you may have or amendments that need to be made.

**Motion Passes**

**13-0-3**

**Vice President Kathan:** Okay, I am going to explain this before we get into it. If you look that the drive you will see a resolution for committee appointments. You will see that this is one resolution with the whole roster of all the committees. In an effort to not make separate resolutions for each committee we have one with the whole list on it. I would look favorably upon a motion to strike numbers 1-8 and instead just have it be the one resolution. In discussion you will be able to change any committee you like and we will work through each committee individually. In the end there will be one resolution that we pass but we will addressing each committee individually so that your concerns will be heard. So this time, I look favorably upon a motion.

**Point of personal privilege:** Where is this in the google drive?

**Agendas > EC Meeting Agendas > Supporting Documents > Resolutions**

**Vice President Kathan:** It is called committee membership 2016, it is the second one down. It starts on the first page and continues to the second page. Before we discuss this I do need a motion.

**Representative Altemoos:** So moved

**Vice President Kathan:** So you move to change 1-8 on the agenda and have it read appointment of committee members for spring 2016 semester? Do we have a second to Representative Altemoos' motion? Seconded by Representative Beaudoin.

**Vice President Kathan:** All those who are in favor of amending the agenda accordingly please raise your placards.

**Representative Beaudoin motions to approve the committee membership, seconded by Representative Hegarty**

**Discussion**

**Representative Tower:** I would like to add two members to campus safety.

**Vice President Kathan:** I sent out a form Jake. You have to fill out my forms guys. Who are your two members?

**Representative Tower** Imran Suhail and Matteo Capasso. Imran is the president of Fulton-Montgomery and Matteo is the president of Adirondack Community College. Would you like their emails?

**Vice President Kathan:** Not yet. And everyone hears those names. I am going to butcher them, those will not be added to Campus Safety. Do they need to make separate motions to amend? Or can we just amend?

**Director Slye:** Yeah, you need separate motions.

**Vice President Kathan:** Alright do we have a second for Jake's motion?

**Representative Tower motions to add two members to the Campus Safety Committee, seconded by Representative Beaudoin**

**Point of information:** May I ask the speaker a question? Just because when we add someone to the committees they are expected to attend and not in and out all the time, how involved are they?

**They have been the most attentive members on our committee this semester.**

**Vice President Kathan:** Okay so all those opposed to adding them, all those abstaining from this vote?

**Motion Passes Unanimously**

**Vice President Kathan:** Alright, now when we vote on this resolution the amendments will be reflected. Jake when you have a chance please write their names down on a post-it note or email their names to Morgan that will make amending this document a lot easier.

**President Mastro:** Me as well, please.

**Representative Altemoos:** What are the significance of the stars next to each committee name? Does it signify which committee is an adhoc or?

**Vice President Kathan:** Oh no. Each one with an asterisk, you will see in the wording that the ones that have an ex officio member that will not affect quorum if they do not call in.

**Representative Altemoos:** I motion to denote which committees are standing and which are adhoc within the Executive Committee.

**Vice President Kathan:** Which would be?

**Representative Altemoos:** Rules committee is a standing committee, Sustainability is an adhoc committee...

**Vice President Kathan:** Oh you want me to list that on this sheet?

**Representative Altemoos:** Correct. Because it makes a difference within the executive committee.

**Vice President Kathan:** Okay so that would just mean that we would add the notation on this sheet next to each committee name, do we have a second?

**Point of calcification:** Can you define an adhoc committee?

**It is a committee created under the president's purview. We do not have to have Sustainability Committee each year but we do have to have a Rules Committee**

**Representative Altemoos:** Can we remove the...

**Vice President Kathan:** I'm sorry but you can make a point or motion to table.

**Representative Altemoos:** I have the floor right now.

**Vice President Kathan:** And we have moved on. You can make another point right now if you would like to if you raise your placard.

**Representative Beaudoin:** May I amend my previous motion?

**Vice President Kathan:** Which was?

**Representative Beaudoin:** I was just going to say that I would like to make sure that we would amend this with the expectation that they will be edited before they are published.

**Vice President Kathan:** Yes, this will be edited and this will not be the list that is published. We have a much nicer one that will be shared. In fact, we have a practice that we agreed upon earlier that allows us to edit any grammatical errors that way we can look like we are fully functional.

**Representative Beaudoin:** Okay, great. I was just checking.

**Representative Spoth motions to add herself to the Legislative Affairs Committee, seconded by Representative Beaudoin**

**Motion Passes Unanimously**

**Representative Altemoos:** Does anyone else need clarification of what the standing committees are? As I was not able to finish answering the question that was asked of me? People are not paying attention.

**Vice President Kathan:** People are paying attention. All the representatives are paying attention. I don't see any discussion. Are there any other points here for clarification or discussion?

**Representative Altemoos:** Someone asked a question of me and you diverted to someone else.

**Vice President Kathan:** Joshua.

**Representative Altemoos:** \*comment undistinguishable\*

**Vice President Kathan:** Joshua.

**Point of information:** There are question marks next to my name can those be removed?

Yes, the question mark will be stricken.

**Vice President Kathan:** Do we have motion?

**Representative Klafehn motions to strike all question marks on the amendment, seconded by Representative Hegarty**

**Motion Passes**

**Representative Beaudoin motions to make Damien Cuccio an ex officio member, seconded by Representative Flynn**

**Point of information:** May I ask the speaker a question? What is his history with the committee?

**He has been working with the committee before he was even apart of the committee officially. He has helped with several resolutions and the committee in its entirety.**

**Motion Passes**

**Vice President Kathan:** Alright. With that being said I do not see any other discussion points. We are now voting on the approval of this document with the amendments that we have made to the Committee Membership for the Spring Semester. We wanted to follow the bylaws and make sure that everyone has a say in who is on what. The people selected to be on these committees have voting rights and they need to be in attendance. This will make sure that all the business will run efficiently this semester. So again, you will now be voting on the document with the amendments. All those in favor of the resolution please raise your placard.

**Motion Passes**

**15-1-0**

**Vice President Kathan:** Alright, we can now move on to the next point on our agenda, the approval of Christopher Wallace as the Director of Communications.

**Representative Beaudoin motions to approve Christopher Wallace as the new Director of Communications, seconded by Representative Flynn**

**Discussion**

**Vice President Kathan:** Zach, I am going to divert your floor to President Mastro.

**President Mastro:** So I wanted to wait until we were in a formal meeting to talk about it. Jimmy got accepted to an internship in Disney. So we are very happy for him and that he got that internship. Chris

has been working alongside him for a long time. He [Chris] built Cobalt, built our website, and really has improved our image in a number of ways. He has some strategic plans moving forward into the spring semester that will be talked about in his report later on.

**Vice President Kathan:** Any other discussion points?

**Representative Altemoos:** I have a question for the speaker. I mean the chair. Are we going to hear Christopher speak? Are we going to go into executive session to discuss the matter like we have in the past? What are we going to do?

**Vice President Kathan:** At this point, unless a motion is being made to do so because Chris is not a new member we are going to vote upon this now. If anyone would like to enter executive session, you are able to make a motion to do so.

**President Mastro:** Or hear from Chris.

**Vice President Kathan:** Do we have any motions?

**Representative Altemoos:** I motion to enter executive session.

**Vice President Kathan:** Including everyone?

**Representative Altemoos:** The Executive Committee

**Vice President Kathan:** Which would be everyone in this room.

**Representative Altemoos:** No, it would only be the voting members plus the representatives from the standing committees.

**President Mastro:** So Representatives stay?

**Vice President Kathan:** And Chairs leave? But you want standing Chairs to stay like Legislative Affairs and Academic Affairs?

**Representative Altemoos:** No. Representatives, Chairs, and Directors.

**President Mastro:** So everyone?

**Vice President Kathan:** That is everyone. Just say that everyone can be included in the Executive Session except Chris.

**Representative Altemoos motions to enter executive session including everyone except Christopher Wallace, seconded by Representative Beaudoin**

**Motion Fails**

**2-10-4**

**Vice President Kathan:** Alright we are not in executive session. But you can still discuss if you would like to.

**Acting Director Wallace:** I volunteer to leave. If you would like to discuss something without me.

**Vice President Kathan:** You can't. You literally cannot. Thank you but you are not allowed to do that.

**Acting Director Wallace:** I just want to make sure that this goes as smoothly as possible.

**Vice President Kathan:** If anyone would like to hear Chris speak they can make a motion to do so.

**Director Slye:** Or he can volunteer to do so himself.

**Vice President Kathan:** Or I can recognize you as the chair. Would you like to speak? Raise your hand if you would like to.

**Acting Director Wallace gives a brief speech about why he would like to be the Director of Communications**

**Representative Flynn:** Can I motion to go into a vote?

**Vice President Kathan:** No because we have a speakers list and we will automatically vote after this.

**President Mastro:** I just wanted to touch on why I recommend Chris for this position from what I said earlier. Based on Chris's resume you can see that he is qualified for this job. He was the President at FIT, he has made all the branding changes, the website roll out, and the logo roll out. Throughout the past few months Chris has really touched on how he wants to work on improving communications by working with our Secretary to improve communications regarding rolling out resolutions, campuses and a few other cool ideas that he will talk about in his committee and his report. So I think that is a great choice on behalf of the Executive Board.

**Representative Altemoos:** Is there a reason that the Director position was not opened to the public as it is quasi precedent and requirement for the organization to open the position to the public?

**President Mastro:** Okay, got it.

**Representative Altemoos:** It was a two part question, so I wasn't done yet. Mr. Wallace who is using the title of Acting Director, did he at some point step down from the position of Deputy Director of Communications?

**President Mastro:** So what part would you like me to start on? I'll start on the first. Yeah, so once Jimmy resigned from his position was at his recommendation and Chief of Staff Cohen's that he [Chris] should become the Acting Director of Communications. We didn't advertise it because we have six months left and we have a pretty large agenda to get through in the next six months. We would have to train someone new. But we are confident in Chris's ability to take on this role. What was the second part?

**Representative Altemoos:** It was regarding the title change did he step down from the position of Deputy Director of communications?

**President Mastro:** Yeah when we offered him the position he stepped down.

**Vice President Kathan:** Alright. Representative Altemoos?

**Representative Altemoos:** So this is a question for Chief of Staff Cohen or President Mastro, who ever seems fit to answer. How in your opinion can you appoint someone or point up someone for recommendation that as Deputy of Director of Communications have not been able to keep the website

up to date with any of the meeting materials. As it was a part of his purview as the Deputy Director of Communications. This is doing a disservice to our constituents and other people trying to see what our organization is trying to work towards.

**Chief of Staff Cohen:** Good question. One of the things that was appealing about Chris is that he had the ability to recognize the faults in the committee are and how he is willing to work with or Chief Communications Officer to ensure communication with our website. He has a common sense approach to this. To those of you who are new, the theme for this year that you have probably heard already today is that we should not allow process impede progress. We have a well-qualified, passionate, and intelligent member of our Executive Committee that has proven to execute his duties flawlessly as Deputy Director. Leaving no room for question regarding his nomination from the Executive Board. We cannot have a better nomination.

**Point of inquiry:** Are we asking if there is any other people for the position? Do we know if anyone else wants this position?

**The way this works is that President Mastro set forth a nominee and we accept them or not. Yes or no. The appointment has to come from President Mastro.**

**Representative Ferrera yields his time to Acting Director Wallace, Acting Director places emphasis on duties as the Deputy Director and now as the Acting Director.**

**President Mastro:** We brought Chris on board as the Deputy Director of New media, and then it changed to Deputy Director of Communications. He has helped to rebrand us and look at our agendas and documents. He has completely changed our look with Websites and Presentations that I do while on the road.

**Representative Beaudoin:** I do not know about any of the other stuff but, I do know that when I emailed Jimmy and he didn't get back to me I was able to communicate with Chris. He helped me put sustainability stuff on the website. The resources he posted, I have gotten feedback from other campuses and students. I couldn't have done that without him.

**Representative Altemoos:** I know that this is the last time that I can talk. On the website there are not any meeting documents on the website dating back all the way to transitional. Under Chris's job description it includes that he assist in expanding communication and exposure in the assembly. Part of communication is communicating with documentation. I have contacted President Mastro several times about it and Jimmy. Jimmy referred me to Chris because it was Chris's area. I do not specifically believe that is someone is not specifically told that is it their area. I do not have that information. But, having the meeting documents on the website is a significant interest for the organization. That is in the bylaws. While as Marc said, we do not want process to impede progress, but there is appoint that we need to ensure that the public has our information without having to email or call somebody. Especially, with our legislative agenda and someone wants to look at what we are doing and put forth. If we are applying for a grant and they want to see if we are a legitimate organization. If we do not have anything from this year on our website how can we prove that we have been a productive organization? If you look we look at the website, we have a list of resolutions, yes, but we do not have any of our minutes, or backing documentation. We do not have anything and this is only hurting the organization.

**Vice President Kathan:** Alright, it is President Mastro and then others.

**President Mastro:** Great points. I think that is the third time that we have stated it and restated it. And In emails before this is something Chris knows going into this role. He understands that is not only important to representatives but he also knows that is important for the organization. We have talked to Secretary Wood as the Chief Communications Officer for the organization. It is one of her goals and on her agenda as well. She was also thrown into the Secretary Position mid-year. This is something she is going to work with Chris on as the Chief Communications officer of the organization. She and Chris will ensure that those jobs are done.

**Point of Inquiry:** Does the bylaws denote that the Secretary as the Chief Communications Officer is in charge of internal or external communications?

**Director Slye:** Bear with me. You can move on and I will let you know when I find it.

**Chief of Staff Cohen:** These are all good points. But if there is anyone to blame it is certainly not Acting Director Wallace. I've emailed Chris at least 10 times a day asking him to do something since he was appointed director. He has never once, told me he can't do it. He has always done it, emails me back he has done it has gone above and beyond of what I asked. None of what you've been talking about falls under the Deputy Director of Combinations. We appreciate that you are pointing out the issues but we are working on fixing it. One of the remedies of changing this is hiring someone that can do this. Any further discussion on this is frivolous and unneeded.

**Representative Ferrera motions to call to question, seconded by**

**Representative Altemoos:** Is there an answer to my point of inquiry before we move on?

**Director Slye:** Can you please restate your point of inquiry?

**Representative Altemoos:** Do the bylaws denote that the Secretary as the Chief Communications Officer is in charge of internal or external communications?

**Director Slye:** Okay the bylaws read, "...shall be the chief communications officer of the Student Assembly. In this capacity the Secretary shall be responsible for internal communication..." So she is Internal Communication within Student Assembly. She does not communicate with outside enstatites, Why is that relevant?

**President Mastro:** So wouldn't communication with all of our campuses and students be internal? Wouldn't it be? Wouldn't that be internal communication?

**Vice President Kathan:** I will not allow side discussions. Joshua you do not have the floor.

**Representative Altemoos:** President Mastro who is the president asked me a question.

**Vice President Kathan:** Actually, I am telling you that you do not have a floor. He was making a statement not asking a question. He didn't need an answer.

**Representative Altemoos:** He asked me a question.

**Vice President Kathan:** I am really happy that you think so but you do not have the floor. We have a call to question from Representative Ferrera. Do we have a second? Seconded by Tower.

**Calling to question**

**15-1-0**

**Point of parliamentary Inquiry:** Don't we normally do this by secret ballot?

**We could but we...**

**Representative Altemoos:** That is a part of our policies and procedures under the appointment procedures.

**President Mastro:** Alright, everyone get out their little pieces of paper.

**Chief of Staff Cohen:** Guys, I am answering Representative's Altemoos' question. "The duties of the Secretary shall include, but not be limited to, the following: (a) shall be the keeper of, and take charge of, all documents of the Student Assembly, at the Student Assembly office." So that includes internal documents.

**Representative Altemoos:** Yes, but that does not include

**Chief of Staff Cohen:** Take Charge of

**Representative Altemoos:** Yes, but that does not include general media outlets like the website.

**Point of Inquiry:** The Secretary does not have access to the website, so she has to send it to the Director of Communications?

**Yes, it was in Jimmy's hands.**

**Vice President Kathan:** We are done talking about it because we have already voted. Kat, Nick Simons and Nick Butler are going to go count the votes. We are maintain quorum and moving on. We now have the appointment of Bridget Doyle for campus safety. The way this will work is she will give a three minute intro, be asked three questions, and given a one minute conclusion. Her resume is in the drive.

#### **Acting Chair of Campus Safety Bridget Doyle gives three minute speech**

#### **Questions**

1. What great things does Fredonia do that you can bring to this position?
2. What are you looking into doing? Are you willing to look into what the committee is already doing?
3. In my official position in the Binghamton SA, I have received concerns about violence and discrimination against students of color. Do you have any plans or ideas about how to approach this topic?

**Representative Beaudoin motions to go into executive session including everyone except Bridget, seconded by Tower**

**Motion approved with unanimous consent**

**Executive session entered at 10:16 AM**

**Executive session exited at 10:20 AM**

**Vice President Kathan:** I will be around to pick up your ballots. I will announce the Christopher Wallace is our new Director of Communications with a vote of 14-1-0.

**\*Secretary Wood did not vote because she was taking minutes at the time of the vote\***

**Vice President Kathan:** We are not yet finished with our morning portion of our meeting. Please quite down.

**Representative Altemoos motions move the Campus Assignments and Policy before the Title Change Resolution, seconded by Representative Beaudoin**

**Motion passes with unanimous consent**

**Point of information:** What is this Resolution? Why do we need to approve it?

**This will be discussed at the committee meetings and we want to ensure that this official when you discuss it, if that makes sense.**

**Representative Altemoos:** This is a document that helps us with the gray area of our bylaws. It sets up a framework and how each representative will be assigned.

**Representative Ferrera:** Yeah, real quick. Did we ever vote on this moving up on the agenda? Because I was trying to oppose that.

**Vice President Kathan:** Yes, I asked. I said, do we have abstentions or opposition. Then we said, motion passes with unanimous consent because you didn't raise your placard.

**Secretary Wood:** It has already been voted upon, it is in the recording and my notes.

**Vice President Kathan:** You can listen to the recording if you would like to, but we are past that [voting]. Do you have specific conversation on this resolution?

**Representative Ferrera:** Yes. I wanted to bring this up because I did not realize that this was being voted upon which is really unfortunate. As far as this goes, with this policy, with the way it is right now and has always been, that this something in which we come to an agreement on. It is something in which our campuses and the people who know best about this that then we decided what was necessary and we worked on it together. At transitional, we used this the current system and it worked. We got together in a room and we said, these are what campuses we want. We traded around campuses, "would you like this one? How about that one?" Then when we found it and when we were finished, then we handed it to our Chair of Campus Relations and the Executive Board. Then we were all happily ever after and that was what worked. What this policy right here is, it is saying that we no longer need to come to a consensus and that we should just hand this off and be told who we are representing. Who can just change it around however it goes. That is crazy. Why would we want to remove something that has been the bedrock of consensus? And how we operate ourselves as an organization? It is just uncalled for and is power grabbing and it is ridiculous that we are even considering this.

This is crazy. Why are we giving something that was approved by everyone, and letting only a select few determine it? As an organization how can this work?

**Vice President Kathan:** Okay so, I am stepping down as Chair for five seconds and I added myself to the speakers list depending on Tom's approval. Tom's chairing. I will say that Josh wrote this and I worked on it. But actually, with what you're saying, I don't know if you read the policy. Because of what it is saying that Chairs will provide the Vice President Recommendations for consideration and approval. The approval would be done by a voting procedure in this setting. So it would actually be the exact thing that you've been doing. You'd work it out together and talk about it. Everything you said is fully valid. It should be something that is collaborated. That is what this resolution is actually saying. So, everything that you want and are saying is in here. You as a representative speak to your chairs and if they are being poor chairs, that is a problem. Because the chairs should be providing you with recommendations. They should be talking to you, and if they are not, then that means they are being poor chairs and that is a separate issue. Further, it comes to me as Vice President, in my capacity I would you know probably just do what they say and put it in front of the executive committee and all the reps would have the opportunity now to discuss it in an open discussion and then vote on it. So it is actually making sure that you all are able to vote on it. And we even put in a clause that if a campus has an issue or if someone resigns or we have new reps added, for whatever reason, we put in a formal complaint process in which you would write to me and if you think I didn't handle it effectively as vice president you could submit a complaint to the rules committee to review it. And all of those deadlines are in there. So everything that you are saying to make sure it is a collaboration and we are working together, and that it is efficient and transparent as possible. All of this is absolutely in here so I do recommend that you read through those guidelines. Tom do you step down as chair now?

**President Mastro:** Yeah

**Chief of Staff Cohen yields his time to Representative Altemoos:** Alright so, I am not speaking as a representative right now, I am speaking as the Chair of State Ops and Co-Chair of Campus Relations. I think this is being brought up because of an issue that we had this year. I am not going to go into specifics but we had a campus specifically ask for a representative to not be their rep. Two campuses written complaints. In the three years that I have been a part of this organization, if the records of either the vice president or the secretary depending on who has done it, they had full control over the, how the campuses have it set up. If there was there wasn't unanimous consent then it got approved by the EC. Now, the way that this is set up, there is no way shape or form that there wouldn't be a discussion if there was someone who said they didn't like. Why are we aren't we doing what we did at transitional? Because Vice President Kathan had all the campuses assigned and the discussion that we had, you know between, you know the two grad reps are, you know, are there anything that they want to change? It specifically says in the mutual agreement between the representatives to switch campuses. That is exactly what you mentioned and what we did at transitional. We have covered everything. This is to ensure that we have a guideline and a basis to ensure that we have everything and there is no gray area. I even outlined where the authority comes from. As the chair, the authority comes from my appointment letter and article VII section 1 of the bylaws. It is valid. There is no argument that this is not a valid document.

**Representative Ferrera:** Okay. I would like to just point out that my concerns are valid despite what you are talking about. What we have right now is a system that by implicit consent, we work together and

we all come together at the table. What this document is saying that it explicitly delegates this process and it seems to be a whole lot of a top heavy process. In which, there is a lot of authority that can be used to modify this. I think as representatives we should be deciding this ourselves and working together. Now, I am sure that people will defer to and work with the chairs of sate ops, like how we have it now. We can all work together that way, but when you say oh well, on the very first clause it says, they provide recommendations and the vice president approves. That is not mutual consent. That shows that they do it and then the vice president approves it and that is all we have in it.

**Vice President Kathan:** Point of...

**Representative Ferrera:** And so, we can do stuff later, but after that, what we had in the first place isn't it. I think that just doing this, we are creating a whole lot of procedure in a place that is open and has always been a really peaceful thing. I do not think a thing like this needs to have so much procedure.

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**Vice President Kathan:** Morgan, Tom is chairing.

**Representative Altemoos:** May I respond?

**Vice President Kathan:** Actually no. Tom is chairing and I have the floor. And actually you are incorrect because when it says for consideration and approval by the executive committee it is not my approval as the vice president. I make the list, just like I did with committees today. That is how an organization works. We can't just have 15 or however many reps, just sit down and agree all in once. What it is that they give me recommendations and I as the vice president put it down for the consideration and approval by the EC. Boom we vote on it. Just like we did today with committee assignments. Nick you are done speaking. You have had the floor twice.

**Representative Ferrera:** Actually, I just want to ask

**Vice President Kathan:** You have discussion?

**Representative Ferrera:** Can you just amend it to say that...

**Vice President Kathan:** You can make a motion if you would like it to say for the consideration and approval of the Executive Committee. If you would like to make that motion you can and you are welcomed to. I think that personally I would look favorably upon it. Alright, are you done chairing?

**Representative Ferrera motions to amend the document to say, approval of the executive committee, seconded by Representative Beaudoin**

Okay. He made a motion just then, do we have a second? Second from Representative Beaudoin.

**Motion passes with unanimous consent**

**Discussion**

**Representative Spoth:** Is there a current system that is being overturned by this resolution? Or is there not a system in place?

**Vice President Kathan:** I will respond to that. It is a gray area. It changes year to year. And we want to make sure that we are binding ourselves to a policy. I am going to yield to Joshua Altemoos who is the State Operated Campus Chair and the Co-chair of the Campus Relations Committee. I also wrote this with him so he is my co-author as well. Josh.

**Representative Altemoos:** Going on my fourth year of being in this organization, it has been a personal goal of mine to help eliminate any gray areas in the organization. So that we do not have procedure impeding progress. By setting up policies that use best practices and outline them specifically and a frame work. Until recently, we did not have our policies and procedures outlined as an organization. It is perfectly within the power of the EC to decide if they would to change this at any time, they can. This is trying to clean up a gray area because we want to make sure that this is what are guidelines are and we are following them. and this will make it so we don't look like a shit show every time we go to the general assembly. And that is exactly what we are trying to prevent. We represent our campuses and 465,000 students and it is our job to represent them with a process that is clear concise and to the point. We need to make sure that Mike and you [Meghan Spoth] are on board from the start. If there is a vacancy, I can get with Melissa and say what other campuses are in this area and there are campuses in my area. This takes care of a conversation that could include 30 other people to get it done efficiently. I want to make sure we have a discussion and a campus list. This will insure that.

**Representative Spoth:** Okay, yeah, so if could complete my point of inquiry, you mentioned there was a policy that I still have no knowledge of. I am wondering how this works? Is this something that this would replace?

**Representative Altemoos:** Yes. Correct.

**Representative Beaudoin:** When are we supposed to go into committee meetings?

**President Mastro:** After this.

**Vice President Kathan:** As soon as this is done.

**President Mastro:** Committee Meetings start at 10:45

**Representative Beaudoin:** May I move to table this until after? That way we can hash it out later?

**Vice President Kathan:** Unfortunately no. This is something that needs to be approved because it will be discussed in the Campus Relations meeting and it needs to be approved by the EC.

**Resolution Passes**

**10-2-4**

**Vice President Kathan:** Before I entertain a motion to adjourn I am happy to announce that with a vote of 16-0-0, Bridget Doyle you are now our Chair of Campus Safety. Congratulations! All committee business will now be as efficient as possible now that we are meeting with our new committees and for some, new chairs. The overview agenda has been updated with times and meeting places so please be sure that you are checking that when you are going to each meeting.

**President Mastro:** I just updated the agenda to reflect the shortened meeting times. We will be meeting starting in 5 minutes. So we should be good to go. Be sure to get to each room on time.

**Point of Inquiry:** Will Equity and Inclusion be meeting?

**No Chrisel is not here. And her vice chair is not here or probably was not made aware. There will be an update presented by Nick Butler and myself later today on her behalf.**

**Representative Klafehn motions to recess at 10:40, seconded by Representative Beaudoin**

**Meeting Recessed at 10:40**

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The meeting was reconvened at 4:10 by President Mastro, Vice President Kathan is still the chair of the meeting.

Roll Call was conducted by Secretary Wood

In Attendance:

President Mastro, Vice President Kathan, Treasurer Accardi, Secretary Wood, Chief of Staff Cohen, Special Assistant to the President Carolyn Sheridan, Representative Altemoos, Representative Mielenz, Representative Ferrera, Representative Klafehn, Representative Spoth, Representative Beaudoin, Representative Hegarty, Representative Cucci, Representative Flynn, Representative Delgado, Representative Armstrong, Representative Barry, Representative Tower, Director Slye, Director of Communications, Director Simons, Director Butler, and Chair Doyle.

Quorum is met with 16 voting members in attendance.

**Representative Klafehn:** I move to propose a two minute time limit.

**Representative Klafehn motions to impose a two minute speaking limit, seconded by Seconded by Representative Cucci.**

**Vice President Kathan:** Thank you Ruslan. I just want to touch base on this real quick for a newer members. Generally in Robert's Rules you only have two times to speak per topic and per motion. So this will change each time to only two minutes each time you speak. Four minutes each time. Two minutes for each turn.

**Discussion**

**Representative Altemoos:** I don't think that it is inherently good to the process because we have some important things coming up to discuss. And limiting an individual to only two minutes will not allow people to talk about the important things that we have in front of us. We already have a time limit, I mean an amount of times a person can speak so limiting that time down to two minutes will not allow them to define everything.

**Representative Klafehn:** I think that the two minute time limit is enough, if you can't say everything that you need to say in two minutes than it isn't worth saying. You should be able to organize your thoughts. Also, we all get into the habit of continuing to talk and having side conversations. I think that imposing this time limit will really help cut down on that and make this committee move a lot smoother.

**Vice President Kathan:** Anymore discussion points?

**Representative Armstrong:** This is my question, you can always ask for more time right?

**Vice President Kathan:** Yes of course. You could do that through a motion or anyone can motion to allow the speaker more time to talk if they would like them to continue.

**Director Slye:** You can do it without objection as well

**Vice President Kathan:** Okay. So as long as there is no objection I will recognize them as chair to continue.

**Representative Altemoos:** The comment about somebody being able to organize their thoughts and not being able to get it out in two minutes, I find completely rude and disrespectful to anyone in this room because you or someone looking at someone else, you may not know that someone else might have an invisible disability, including myself who has ADHD and has problems forming their thoughts. So I may say something and completely lose my train of thought because someone taps their foot and then I remember what I am saying. So therefore, a two minute time limit completely limits my personal experience in being in this organization that I have been in for four years. I may be able to give an excellent point of view on something but I may not be able to give it because I briefly lose my train of thought because of a mental, inviable disability that I have. I yield.

**Vice President Kathan:** Okay. Tom [Mastro] and then Ruslan [Representative Klafehn]

**President Mastro:** So in that case you could go on if there is no objection to the assembly.

**Vice President Kathan:** Absolutely, we can extend it if need be.

**Representative Klafehn:** I also timed about how long it took you to speak just now and it took you little over thirty seconds and you got all of that out. So I think that with two minutes you could say what you need to say and it could be extended. And in your circumstance, it is completely understandable. For me, I think it would make this committee move fast and smoothly. Having this time limit will make it so people can't just go on and on and hit upon the same point over again.

**Motion Passes**

**13-3-0**

**Vice President Kathan:** Okay we now have a two minute speaking limit. Director Slye will keep the time.

**Representative Klafehn motions to add the housing and transportation policy, seconded by Treasurer Accardi**

**Representative Klafehn motions to add the title change of Carolyn Sheridan to the agenda, seconded by Representative Beaudoin**

**Motions Pass**

**13-0-3**

**Representative Klafehn motions to add Campus Safety Spring 2016 to the agenda, seconded by Representative Beaudoin**

**Motion passes with unanimous consent**

**Representative Altemoos motions to add Constituency Assignments to the agenda, seconded by Representative Beaudoin**

**Motion Passes**

**13-1-2**

**President Mastro and Chief of Staff Cohen present the resolution Change in Title from “Executive Aide to the Assembly” to “Special Assistant to the President”**

**Representative Beaudoin motions to approve the title change of Carolyn Sherdian, seconded by Representative Klafehn**

#### **Discussion/ Questions**

1. Do you have the changes in her job description?
2. Do you have an updated job description on what she will be doing?
3. Is this in any way shape or form taking the place of the duties of the position that was previously titled as such? Is there a reason that this position wasn't approved by to EC?
4. Couldn't you just add the expanded responsibilities to the Executive Aide?

**Point of Inquiry:** Was Josh's time up? Because I do not think he yielded his time.

**I recognized the next person on the speaker's list but I will allow his to continue after this speaker finishes**

**Vice President Kathan:** I will remind everyone that the motion made was simply to change a title and not to create a new position and I am only going to allow discussion point regarding the exact motion that is on the table which is a title change and not creating a new position.

**Representative Altemoos:** Motion to repeal the decision of the chair

**Vice President Kathan:** What decision? That is the motion that was made.

**Representative Altemoos:** The motion that was made was a title change but my question to the President is that he is adding additional responsibilities. Therefore, it expanded, therefore in my question was

**Vice President Kathan:** And I am telling you

**President Mastro:** I've got this

**Representative Altemoos:** Therefore in my question...

**President Mastro:** Stop. Stop. Stop. In the job description that you approved at transitional it stated that the Executive Aide served at the discretion of the President and the Chief of Staff. Now for the additional responsibilities. You questioned what those are and I said these can be provided to you and the EC. Now you are confusing questions that you are asking by saying that we are adding new jobs and we are adding this, and this. This is simply a title change for the additional tasks that we will be giving Carolyn. These are administrative tasks that will help move the organization forward. Like working on Alumni Affairs and shared governance. If you want this outlined we will gladly do it.

**Representative Altemoos:** That I'm...

**President Mastro:** You are mixing questions, Josh.

**Representative Altemoos:** I will gladly explain that I am not mixing questions. You advertised the position was going to merge for the deputy chief of staff. You are giving her the exact same title for what that was. For that position it was not advertised violating the bylaws. You are now renaming that position and now what you are going to give her. You are exactly saying that you are going to be giving her some of the responsibilities for that and this position. You are inherently that you are basically giving her a position before you even searched for anyone else.

**Vice President Kathan:** I will remind everyone that the motion that we are talking about is about a title change. Not a new position being created or even the responsibilities of the position. So anything that anyone has said about duties, it out of order. Anyone. We are talking about a title change. Nothing else.

**Representative Altemoos:** I motion to overrule your decision as chair, which stops all of this.

**Vice President Kathan:** Alright. I can't recognize that because I was speaking. You can make a motion...

**Representative Altemoos:** I did it before you said that.

**Vice President Kathan:** I am still talking and I still have the floor. Who made the original motion? Zach to approve the title change. Can you please read us back the exact wording Morgan?

**Secretary Wood:** Yeah, Beaudoin motions, it's notes, sorry, "Beaudoin motions approve Carolyn Sherdain's title, seconded by Ruslan."

**Vice President Kathan:** So we are only talking about a title change and no responsibilities. If we would like to talk about responsibilities that is a separate motion for a separate discussion. We are only talking about if she can call herself Executive Aide to the Assembly in her email signature or The Special Assistant to the President. With that...

**Point of information:** If the position that she was hired for serves at the discretion of the President, did it outline anything in the original job description?

**There are specific tasks in the Executive Aide position that we originally hired Morgan for and then we hired her [Carolyn] for.**

**Director Slye:** If she serves at the pleasure of the President my interoperation of that would be that you are not only limited to tasking her with what is there.

**President Mastro:** Correct. And my apologies for not being extremely clear in my response when you asked me about the additional responsibilities. The additional responsibilities will be going under the “serving at the discretion of the president section.”

**Chief of Staff Cohen:** I just want to note that the only reason responsibilities were brought up was a curiosity to explain the title change. We brought in this up as a curiosity and when we talk about additional tasks we are referring to provision mentioned earlier, “serving at the discretion of the president”. We would have not brought up the responsibilities otherwise.

**Resolution Passes**

**15-0-1**

**Vice President Kathan:** 15-0-1, Carolyn, change that email signature. That was not meant to sound aggressive.

**Director Simons:** It didn't, it was just a funny comment.

**Representative Altemoos:** I would like the record to reflect the blatant disrespect of the bylaws of individuals in this room by the Executive Board and that they haven't followed the bylaws that they are tasked to uphold.

**Vice President Kathan and Treasurer Accardi present Housing Transportation Policies resolution**

**Representative Beaudoin moves to approve the Housing Transportation Policies resolution, seconded by Representative Ferrara**

#### **Discussion/Question**

1. What does it mean when it says under the discretion of the President?
2. What would you do if they refuse to pay?

**Resolution Passes**

**14-0-1**

**Representative Klafehn was in the restroom**

**Chair Beaudoin and Vice-Chair Flynn present the No Food Waste Resolution**

**Representative Altemoos moves to approve the No Food Waste Resolution, seconded by Representative Tower**

**Discussion/Question**

**Resolution Passes**

**16-0-0**

**Representative Beaudoin and Representative Flynn present the Modification of the Family Medical Leave Policy**

**Representative Anthony moves to adopt the Modification of the Family Medical Leave Policy, seconded by Representative Klafehn**

**Discussion/Questions**

**Representative Ferrera motions to strike the whereas clause that says women are generally affected, seconded by Representative Klafehn**

**All those in favor of striking the whereas clause**

**12-0-4**

**Representative Hegarty motions to amend the third resolved clause to strike any gender specific language to gender neutral language. Specifically changing women to faculty, seconded by Representative Klafehn**

**Amendment passes with unanimous consent**

**1. Why are we representing faculty like this?**

**They support our resolutions such as, Unpaid Internships and it is nice when we can support each other**

**Resolution passes 14-0-1**

**Representative Beaudoin presents the SUNY Hiring Policy Resolution**

**Representative Armstrong moves to approve the SUNY Hiring Policy Resolution, seconded by Representative Delgado**

**Representative Armstrong moves to, change the first resolve to say, “Resolved that we the students of SUNY are calling for the SUNY system to interview a non-white candidate, and also a non cis male candidate along with any other potential candidates; and, be it further”...seconded by Michael Hegertary**

**Motion Passes**

**Representative Hegertary motions to table the resolution, seconded by Representative Klafehn**

**All those in favor of tabling the resolution**

**6-9-1**

**Motion Fails**

**Discussion**

**Resolution Passes**

**10-0-5**

**Point of personal privilege:** Is there any way that we can project the resolutions?

**Yes, Anthony, can you help us with that?**

**Chair Beaudoin presents the Representation resolution**

**Representative Altemoos moves to adopt the Representation resolution, seconded by Representative Flynn**

**Discussion**

**Resolution Passes**

**16-0-0**

**Chair Beaudoin presents the SHARP resolution**

**Representative Cucci moves to adopt the SHARP resolution, seconded by Representative Klafehn**

**Discussion**

- 1. Would this not just fall under SUNY? Not that is a bad thing, but what is the difference?**
- 2. What if a student is a trained officer under title IX?**

**Resolution Passes**

**15-0-1**

**Chair Altemoos presents the Gender Neutral Language resolution**

**Representative Beaudoin moves to adopt the Gender Neutral Language resolution, seconded by Representative Klafehn**

**Discussion**

1. Why is there a deadline involved? I do not think that this is something that can be done by Spring Conference.

**Representative Klafehn motions to extend the deadline to the Fall Conference of 2016 in the Fall Conference of 2016, seconded by Representative Cucci**

**Amendment Passes  
Majority Consent**

**Resolution Passes  
11-1-3**

**Representative Ferrera presents the Presentation Provision resolution**

**Representative Beaudoin moves to approve the Presentation Provision resolution, seconded by Representative Delgado**

**Discussion**

1. When you say present on this, you mean in general? Present it here or whenever it is presented?
2. If it is an in general presentation wouldn't that mean at the discretion of whomever is leading the meeting?

**Vice President Kathan:** Point of, I am just going to clarify for everyone here, if there is a campus president's meeting at the spur of the moment, this now binds the three of you have to be at that meeting.

**Representative Ferrera:** We can change that. This is not meant to be a burden, we can change the wording to clarify that.

**President Mastro:** So, I don't think you understand, hold on. You're just saying for this, for this resolution specifically, if we are asked to present on this, you three are going to be the one who will do it?

**Representative Ferrera:** No, not necessarily just us three. But, I think that we should have the opportunity to present on this when the opportunity presents itself.

**Vice President Kathan:** Can we cut to the chase and ask you why you are presenting this?

**Representative Ferrera:** Well because, I think it is important that we get to present this because we worked on it.

**President Mastro:** I yield my time to Josh [Chair and Representative Altemoos]

**Representative Altemoos:** So other my mind being blown by the complete audacity of this resolution. President Mastro, as it says in the bylaws, is the spokesperson of the organization. So any resolution that we pass he presents on unless he asks someone else to do it. So, this...

**Representative Ferrera:** Would you like...

**Vice President Kathan:** You cannot...

**Representative Ferrera:** [unrecognizable comment]

**Vice President Kathan:** you cannot talk.

**Representative Altemoos:** So, this resolution completely goes against the purpose of having presiding officer. So it is very common that you know, Tom [President Mastro] has pulled people in who are experts in areas. And has asked them to propose and broadcast. You know, the communications team has. I have written resolutions in my past four years of doing this. But I've no way shape or form have any expectation of you know, something would happen. I would want to do that. But, the board of Trustees have asked Tom about this and so has USF [University Faculty Senate] or whatever. But basically, what you're asking him to do is, "Oh you know there is an unpaid internship committee". Basically they're giving the presentation on it that one of you are going to be tasked to be on that committee or talk about it. And that is ludicrous. Ludicrous. I yield my time.

**Vice President Kathan:** Alright, Ruslan. [Representative Klafehn]

**Representative Klafehn:** So the way that the first resolved clause is worded you are saying that you interpreted it as a combination of you, Patrick, and Nick or anyone who chooses to represent the unpaid credit-baring internships. But the way...

**Representative Ferrera:** Yeah but it could...

**Representative Klafehn:** But the way that this can be read is that anytime we have a meeting,

**Representative Ferrera:** No. No. Not anytime we have a meeting...

**Representative Klafehn:** But it says will represent so that is affirmative. And that you should be going to anything that has this. Also, the second resolved clause says that, so are you saying in the second resolved clause that this will always be something that you are going to be presenting about?

**Representative Ferrera:** [unrecognizable comment]

**Representative Klafehn:** Are you going to be presenting this any time we have a meeting? Because it says...

**Representative Ferrera:** Not, not necessarily every time we have a meeting

**Representative Klafehn:** But it says, "that a presentation relating to unpaid internships shall have the same amount of time as presentations", So I just don't understand you can make the presentation once

at the Board of Trustees or to whomever, you do not need to make it every time. I am not sure really what the purpose of this resolution is. It seems like if someone needs to present it for us, it should be Tom and then if he wants to bring you in to give your knowledge about it, then he can. It shouldn't explicitly mandate that he needs to bring you, Patrick or Nick. Because that is what it is doing right now.

**Vice President Kathan:** Okay. Tom has the floor.

**President Mastro:** So what I will say is that you all elected our directors. You elected Pat as the director of Academic Affairs and this falls directly under Pat. I could tell you right now that we will be touching on the unpaid resolution to the Board of Trustee meeting on Tuesday. Just like I will be touching on Sustainability things, Military Affair things, I will be touching on everything. Okay? So specifically to unpaid internships, if there are questions they will go to Pat he is our director of Academic Affairs and he oversees Academic Affairs. Bouncing between me and him, that is what is going to happen. Legislative Affairs those questions it's gonna bounce between me and Nick. That's how those types of things work. You know, there are quite few people that are authors on sustainability resolutions and you know this is like, this resolution is just saying that you three are the ones that are going to present on it. You should have confidence in your director to speak on these things along with myself. I get your point but I'm gonna leave it at that.

**Point of Parliamentary Procedure:** As director or rules [Director Slye], I believe that Representative Altemoos's point that we have elected a president who is the advocate and it is his role to speak on these things that such a resolution would be in conflict within our own bylaws.

**Representative Altemoos:** I motion to strike...

**Director Slye:** Can I rule that this just can't be...

**Representative Altemoos motions to strike this resolution, seconded by Representative Klafehn**

**Vice President Kathan:** All those in favor of striking this resolution because it is in violation of our bylaws. I don't know if we actually have to vote on this because it is in violation.

**Director Slye:** It is in violation.

**Vice President Kathan:** So it's just dead.

**Representative Ferrera motions to appeal the decision of the chair**

**Point of Inquiry:** Who seconded?

**Seconded by Ruslan**

**Point of Inquiry:** I feel that there is an elephant in the room, could we talk about what is really going on? I feel like not talking about this is not helping anything.

**Vice President Kathan:** Well, it should've been Nick [Representative Ferrera] who disclosed why he was presenting this resolution during his presentation. Tom was diplomatic to not mention the specific event. I am going to defer to Tom Flynn.

**Representative Flynn:** So after the December EC meeting we all got an email conversation between Tom and Nick, I am not sure about all the details but I feel that whatever was discussed there is being discussed now indirectly.

**Representative Altemoos motions to go into executive session, seconded by Anthony Cucci**

**Motion Approved**

**Executive session entered at 6:27 PM**

**Executive session exited at 6:45 PM**

**Vice President Kathan:** I don't think anymore can be said, I look favorably into calling to question.

**Director Slye:** Okay, if you vote to appeal the decision of the chair, a yes is in favor of the objection [the appeal]...

**Vice President Kathan:** So if it is okay with our bylaws vote yes.

**Director Slye:** No, no, no.

**Secretary Wood:** No.

**Director Slye:** Let me explain. If you agree with Melissa and you want her decision to stand, vote no. If you want to appeal her decision vote yes because the question is: Do I appeal the decision of the chair? Yes I appeal, No I agree with Melissa.

**Point of clarification:** Can you please read the item that based that decision?

**Director Slye:** Oh, the item that this decision was based off of was in the bylaws. Tom [President Mastro] is our advocate. He is the one that goes and represents us at these meetings and he is the spokesperson of the organization. Therefore, this resolution is saying that these three people as worded, these three people will be the ones to speak on it.

**Vice President Kathan:** All of those who think that I was wrong in saying that this violates our bylaws please raise your placards. Was I wrong in saying that this violates our bylaws? Section V-1-C. Was I correct in saying that this violates our bylaws specifically section V-1-C?

**Point of clarification:** V-1-C? Can you please read us section V-1-C?

**Director Slye:** Article five, section 1, part C. "The duties of the President shall include, but not be limited to the following: (c) Shall be the official spokesperson for the Student Assembly and will be responsible for the execution of the provisions of Article XVII of the State University of New York Policies of the Board of Trustees, these bylaws and policies set forth by the Student Assembly and Executive Committee."

**Vice President Kathan:** Okay, we already if I was rig-wrong, so if you think that I am right in saying that it was against the bylaws please raise your placards now.

**Point of inquiry:** So the resolution isn't saying that Tom can't represent the organization.

**Vice President Kathan:** Again we're...wait what?

**Representative Beaudoin:** So Tom [President Mastro] is the official spokesperson...

**Director Slye:** Correct.

**Representative Beaudoin:** But the resolution is not saying...

**Director Slye:** But it is saying that one of these three people will present. It is the way it is worded.

**Representative Klafehn:** The way it is worded is affirmative

**Director Slye:** And the way it is written violates the bylaws

**Vice President Kathan:** So was I right in saying that it goes against the bylaws? Raise your placards if you think that I was right in saying it violates the bylaws. 6. Against was 4.

**Representative Ferrera:** I am calling for a roll call vote.

**Representative Beaudoin:** Division

**Representative Beaudoin motions for recess, seconded by Representative Klafehn**

Meeting reconvened at: 8:42

**Vice President Kathan:** Okay, this is where we are at right now, and I will let Kat [Director Slye] explain it in a second, but we are voting on the appeal to my decision of me agreeing with Kat that this is out of order according to our bylaws. When you vote yes, that means that you think that this resolution is pro-bylaws, if you vote no that means that means that you agree with me in thinking that it is out of order with our bylaws. Kat, go ahead and explain where we are at.

**Director Slye:** That is exactly correct. Just as a reminder that I made the decision that given off of article 5, section one, subsection c, basically explaining that the president is our spokesperson basically and they are the one that is charged with speaking on behalf of SUNY SA. And that this resolution is in conflict with that because it says that, it names certain three people that they will be the ones to present on this. And given such affirmative language, it is in violation with our bylaws and that is what Melissa [Vice President Kathan] agreed with.

**Vice President Kathan:** Okay, all of those voting yes in favor of the appeal that it is okay and does not contradict our bylaws please raise your placards. Five. All of those against, agreeing with our bylaws and my decision, please raise your placards. Six. All of those abstaining please raise your placards. Five. So the total is 5-6-5, so it [the appeal] fails. The appeal fails. It was against the bylaws and it is thrown out.

**Appeal Fails**

**5-6-5**

**Representative Altemoos motions to impeach Representative Ferrera on the grounds of  
Malfeasance, seconded by Representative Klafehn**

**Vice President Kathan:** Okay we are automatically in discussion. However, I am going to consult with Kat about the impeachment process. If you want to grab a t-shirt you can.

**Representative Beaudoin motions to go into Executive Session, seconded by Secretary Wood**

**Executive session entered at 8:45 PM**

**Executive session exited at 9:05 PM**

**Vice President Kathan:** Okay right now on the agenda we have two more resolutions after we deal with the current process and then we have Tom and Marc's report and my report. So, we need to table those reports starting with the Treasurer's report. I think it is in our best interest to make it efficient as possible. So saying something along the lines of, "I move to jump to the treasurer's report right now and resume business after the current process."

**Representative Beaudoin I move to jump to the treasurer's report right now and resume business after the current process is finished, seconded by Representative Klafehn**

**Motion Passes with unanimous consent**

**President Mastro appoints Treasurer Accardi as the temporary meeting chair**

**Secretary Wood presents monthly report**

**Treasurer Accardi presents monthly report**

**Director of Communications presents monthly report**

**Representative Beaudoin:** May I make a request?

**Treasurer Accardi:** Of course!

**Representative Beaudoin:** Can we make sure that all meeting documents and reports are made available on the website? I want to make sure that all documents will be made available for our campuses.

**Chair of Sustainability presents monthly report**

**Chair of State Operated Campuses and Co-chair of Campus relations presents monthly report**

**Chair of Community Colleges presents monthly report**

**Vice President Kathan:** Okay continuing with our business the Rules committee is back and I am going to turn it over to Director Slye to give the report, unless there is a motion beforehand.

**Director Slye:** Okay so we reviewed the charges and we found that two are valid. Just as a reminder, Article Eleven, Section Two of Impeachment of our bylaws says that, "Representatives may be impeached for malfeasance or failure to fulfill the duties prescribed by these bylaws." And "If the Rules Committee finds the charges valid, the Representative in question shall immediately cease operating at

the capacity of their position.” The first charge we found valid, improper representation of campuses including using personal views in lieu of those in campuses in voting, not communicating to campuses for their views, and two of his [Representative Ferrera] of three of his campuses requesting a new representative. This was based upon off of our policy and procedures Article Five, Section B under rules of conduct.

“The Student Assembly of the State University of New York has formed rules of conduct to ensure a pleasant working environment. Violation of any of these rules could result in disciplinary action, ranging from verbal and/or written warnings to reprimand and possible removal. ii.Unacceptable or unsatisfactory performance. And x. Failure to perform normal and reasonable duties as assigned.”

The second charge is the improper communication, referring to the email forwarded to the entire SA EC which also included the Chancellor’s staff. This was based off of past precedent. There has been a vice president removed from this organization for forwarding emails externally. And that was the reason that past vice president was removed. That is the report of the rules committee.

**Vice President Kathan:** Alright now that the official report is in we are now in discussion on the motion made by Representative Altemoos about impeaching Representative Ferrera since the Rules committee found two charges valid. Representative Ferrera, for the interim does not have a vote, but he can speak while in discussion. When we vote on such an impeachment, you need 2/3 votes. So that would be 10 of the 15 votes. There is no way that this is dictated on how we have to vote so we will cross that bridge when we get to it. Representative Altemoos made the original motion and he was able to voice his opinion so I am going to open the floor and I will add him to the speakers list if he wants to say anything else. I am opening the speaker’s list. Two times each, two minute limit. Kat will be timing.

**Point of parliamentary procedure:** I am going to enforce that before each person speaks they have to say if they are for or against the impeachment and we will alternate. If you are in favor of impeachment I will enforce that we speak to someone who is against impeachment and then alternate. That is the way debates are done and in this case we need to definitely enforce that.

**Point of inquiry:** What if there is no one?

**Then we can have two of the same views following each other.**

**Representative Altemoos motions to go into executive session, seconded by Representative Beaudoin**

**3-8-5**

**Motion Fails**

**Representative Klafehn:** I am for the impeachment of Representative Ferrera. So going to the charges that were brought up against him. The second charge was enough to impeach a previous past vice president of this organization. Which should show you how serious that violation is. That no matter who it is, it is, it could be Tom or an Eboard member, if they forward an email externally that is confidential to only members in this organization, he could have been impeached and it has happened before. And I don’t see why there should be an exception to Representative Ferrera who repeatedly violated the rules. As far as misrepresenting the campuses that he did. Myself, being on the Binghamton Eboard, Representative Ferrera represents Binghamton, or he did until we asked him to stop and we got a new

representative. And the reason we asked him to stop is because he did not ask us for our opinions and was not representing our opinions as a result. When the eboard was looking to go to conference he did not inform us of the proper procedures to select voting delegates along with a whole host of other things. In regards with communication with our eboard members it was aggressive and unprofessional and it was so many other things that a representative should not be as a Representative at the level we are at should not be doing and he violates just so many things. As a Binghamton Student, there is a certain pride in our university and it is a shame that there is someone that comes from our university and misrepresents us and acts in the way that he does because that reflects on the rest of the university and the student body there. So, I don't even know if I can associate myself as a Binghamton student there because it has gotten to that point. Because I was thinking about not seconding the motion for his impeachment but with very careful thought I decided that I would be in direct violation of my duties as a Representative to Binghamton University if I did not second the motion to continue this process. I yield the rest of my time.

**Chair Gareau:** Yeah, Nick shouldn't be impeached. I appointed him today as Vice Chair of Academic Affairs because he has consistently been the most productive member of that committee. And despite of what happened tonight, I disagreed with his tactics. He is a very valuable voice in this group and having someone who is willing to challenge things even and I don't agree with everything he has done, obviously. But he needs to stay.

**Director Wallace:** I am neither for nor against the impeachment. My question is we have this entire proceeding and I have not seen Nick be able to defend himself in any form. I don't know how exactly fair that is.

**Vice President Kathan:** He can speak at any time. I said that in the beginning. He can talk at any time just like the chairs and directors do he just can't vote at the time being. Anyone else for the impeachment? Against? Nick.

**Representative Ferrera:** I don't know where to start with all the things that I have heard that have either been blown out of proportion, our right not true, or just shouldn't be relevant. As far as just on a personal note, I know that I have given my all to this organization and I tried to do everything that I could because I thought that was right. And I've tried to do that. I don't know who recently went and who is against, that is how you feel that's how you feel. But, I hope that you can respect as a person who does a lot of work for these organizations you can respect that I care about it a lot. And I have always tried to be here for everyone and it doesn't matter for or against on these things. I mean I am always voting, if I vote against something or someone at a meeting I will come up to you after a meeting and talk to them about the resolution. And talk to them afterwards and say I had a great time that night and it's not something that I held personal against anyone. How I voted this is something that we did because that is how I thought I could best represent my campuses. I can't possibly, go over everything, even if I had everything all night that has been said here. It just overwhelms me. I mean Ruslan [Representative Klafehn] you brought up your points about Binghamton and you may be the Vice President of Multicultural Affairs but the President of Binghamton, I just talked to him a few weeks ago and he said that because I actually told him all the information about conference, I stopped by his office pretty regularly and in fact I think there was one time that he mentioned that there was a complaint that I stopped by too much to talk about SUNY SA. He said that there was an issue at the bus company at Binghamton and he was very busy with that issue and he had some serious problems.

**Vice President Kathan:** Alright your time has been exhausted.

**Representative Ferrera:** May I move to extend it?

**Vice President Kathan:** You cannot. Someone else could or you have a second speaking opportunity that you could use.

**Representative Beaudoin motions to extend the time by three minutes, seconded by Representative Spoth**

**Representative Ferrera:** There was a very serious problem which neither of us are able to discuss with the bus company and it took a very large amount of time for that semester. So he did not have time to discuss every last thing about SUNY SA, in fact, however he told me that and we worked together on that and I was still there. So even though he told me that I could give him the information it doesn't say that the person has to do anything but work with them and that is what I did. I was doing what he wanted me to. And I still got approved for representation there, you [Representative Klafehn] may not agree with that but we disagree with virtually everything that comes before Binghamton SA. As far as communication, that is not true at all. I think that also, relating on how everything goes I hear a lot of talk about how people recognize things and they take something about a disagreement on a resolution or something that I said, or on an email or someplace, I think we might disagree there. I think this whole thing all started actually. As I remember because someone complained that I cited Robert's Rules at a meeting and they didn't think that it was appropriate. But yet, here we are just a couple of weeks later here we are using Robert's Rules and the Bylaws to take me down. I feel like that is a definition of a double standard and that is the double standard that has been going on here. You all will see what you want to see. So if you all want me to go you will see something, you can find it for anything if you try hard enough. It's impossible to look and not find something with someone on it. However, how you see that for everyone wherever you are in life how you see that with them, you can choose to see that as part of everyone has fact and work together with people or you can do the exact same thing that you accused me of doing in the first place. I yield.

**Director Slye:** I just want to remind you all that this is not anything personal. This is about our rules as an organization, not about Nick as a person. It is about if he did his job that the rules committee and campuses believe he did not do. This is about information, not about personal anything. I just want to remind everyone that, there was not a personal attack.

**Point of inquiry:** What campuses do he [Representative Ferrera] represent now?

Upstate and ESF because they switched.

**President Mastro:** Okay, the complaints are found valid, we talked about this. Do I think that impeachment is far? Yes. We need to come to a conclusion of what we are going to do as an organization with the found valid complaints. I think we are at the mid-year point and the January meeting is where it happens. I've done this for two years now, last year something happened, Jake can attest to it [Representative Tower] and the year before that it happened again. I don't want what we have done so far to completely stall. This type of stuff is what will plummet an organization. Our decision will follow us for the rest of the year. This conversation that we are having. I think something

should be done because Josh's and Ruslan's complaints are valid. These complaints are valid. Do I support impeachment? No but we need to figure out a way to move forward because I want us to keep going in the direction that we are and if this goes forward, I don't see that happening. I think we can work based on the valid complaints there was no apology or yes, you are right. That is a concern, do I think it is impeachable? No. So you know we need to think as an organization what this decision will do to us in the next six months. Will this resolve or will it affect us? Outside of these complaints Pat has given him responsibilities as the Academic Affairs director and I have had conversations about this with Nick. He does great work [timer goes off] I am going to keep going. He does great work with researching issues and things that we ask him to do. The complaints are valid and that is why we are here but we need to figure out a way for us to move forward from here. I don't support impeachment.

**Representative Klafehn:** So my complaint against Representative Ferrera, is not at all personal. He is a good guy. He helped me during my election at Binghamton when there was there was grievance filed against me saying I shouldn't win my election. He fought for me and I wound up winning my election, he represented me as he should. However, what has happened at the SUNY SA level has been misrepresentation and failure to do the job. Now I am extremely grateful that you fought for me and helped me win and allowed me to serve the people who voted me in. But, now we have here there are what? 26,000 students who think you shouldn't be representing them. There are people who feel that your actions at SUNY SA have impeded progress and continue too. President Mastro talked about how these cases tend to stall the EC but I think that continuing to have you here and the way you have acted in the past and even today, will continue to stall the EC far more than any impeachment will. I yield.

**Representative Tower:** Something like this happened last year and it destroyed our progress for the year and I do not want to see that happen again. I talked to my schools tonight and four of the five have responded to me by now. After I explained what happened, as best as I could without breaking the executive stuff, three of them feel that what he did was bad but not impeachable and only one is on the side of impeachment. Because that is what my schools say, I don't think it is necessary to impeach him either. I don't want this to affect us.

**Representative Flynn:** So I've known Nick since the beginning of the semester and I watched him in action last year at spring conference. He's an A-class person, sure he fudged up. But the quality of work exceeds what happened. I feel like after this he is going to understand how serious this organization is and the steps he has to be willing to take. But, just as much as it would hinder the progress, because Nick is a large cog in this machine. That's my two cents.

**Representative Flynn motions to call to question, seconded by Representative Beaudoin**

**Motion Passes**

**Representative Beaudoin motions to make the vote by secret ballot, seconded by Representative Cucci**

**Motion Passes**

**Vice President Kathan:** If you are voting for impeachment you can say yes. If you are against impeachment you can say no. Or you can write impeach or do not impeach. Also abstention is a possibility.

**Point of clarification:** My motion of impeachment was amendable for it to not be an impeachment and for it to be you know, a censure or probation or something of that nature. There was a number of people who saw it as one thing and I saw it as another in my opinion it was one thing and for others it was another. So after this if someone who votes in the consent and believes that there should still be some level action that should be taken that is not impeachment someone can make motion to do so. I am just saying that that modification could've happened.

**President Mastro and Chief of Staff Cohen present a semester report**

**Vice President Kathan:** With a vote of 3-10-2, the representative is not impeached and resumes voting powers for the rest of the meeting and beyond.

**Representative Beaudoin motions to approve the Campus Safety updates, seconded by Representative Tower**

**Motion passes with unanimous consent**

**Campus Assignment Resolution presentation by Vice President Kathan**

**Representative Beaudoin motions to approve the Campus Assignments Resolution, seconded by Representative Tower**

**Resolution Passes**

**11-0-1**

**Vice President Kathan presents monthly report**

**Vice President Kathan:** So we did an internal survey and we will be reviewing those as needed with you all. Overall, very positive. The Eboard met, me and Tom are the only ones who have access to it, we went over it very generically, what was good and what was bad. I will say overall, things are on a good track and it seems that everyone is satisfied. We expect these results to be very negative because being behind the computer you can say whatever you would like and its normally that whenever these surveys go out they are very negative. We were very impressed that there was more positive feedback than negative. We are hoping to continue and be meeting about each specific person to kinda go over those results because there are some areas that need improvement. People want to see the same amount or higher amount of resolutions coming out of committees. Reps the most important thing people want to see is better communication. We don't know who said what, but when that was said it was said along

with, I am a rap and I think, or I am a chair and I want to see. We will be addressing ways in how to address that along with Pat and Josh.

**Representative Altemoos:** Is there a reason that in the progress of the original agenda and now that we have decided not to go over the evaluations as we have in the past?

**Vice President Kathan:** It is a new year and we have decided not to go on past precedent for the survey.

**Representative Altemoos:** Right. But it was on the agenda within this meeting.

**Vice President Kathan:** We were never going to go over it at all. I think that we were using a generic document. If you want a more specific review you can certainly talk to me afterwards. I am not going to waste everyone's time with ever little knit-picky thing everyone said. If you want more information you can speak to me afterwards. We are not looking to publish this document. It is not going to cause any good. It's confidential.

**Treasurer Accardi:** So what you said was you are going to go up to them individually and share the results

**Vice President Kathan:** No, I am going to sit down with them and say generically, this is what was said.

**Treasurer Accardi:** What I think the whole point of the evaluations is, is that we want to create a better communication between us and them.

**Vice President Kathan:** Yeah we will be going through it by department.

**Treasurer Accardi:** Yeah we read the results so we will be able to just tell you what needs to be approved upon. We don't need everyone to read it all

**Representative Beaudoin:** I don't think this will be a problem but I want to make sure that this is confidential. So if you are talking to the reps just the reps...

**Vice President Kathan:** Yeah and like I just said it will be just the generic stuff. It will be held confidential because Tom and I are the only ones who have access to the document. You are more than welcomed to poll people if you want but we are not continuing sharing the document.

**Chief of Staff Cohen:** So now that everyone thinks that I'm an asshole and that I'm mean I want to say one thing and I've said it before. I said this last time with our new people and I am saying it again, we have had meetings, Melissa, Tom, Me. Jessica was in a few, Morgan was at a few. We have had meetings with the Chancellor and her cabinet and we, as much as this has happened here people think that this organization is the most effective most progressive EC in years. The resolutions that are pumping out: Sustainability, Campus Safety, Equity and Inclusion, Academic Affairs and Legislative Affairs. The advocacy and meeting with legislators. Administration just doesn't know what to do, they don't know what to do. They don't understand what to do with all the students that care so much. It is a testament to all of you guys in all the hard work you put into your committees. The Chancellor of SUNY knows who we are and that is something to be proud of. Thank you for all of your hard work.

**Representative Flynn:** I have a question about the surveys are they exclusive to the executive board or can other assembly members view them and...

**Vice President Kathan:** We are not going to let any other members view them. But if you are a rep we will go over your rep results.

**Representative Flynn:** Okay but who else can read them?

**Vice President Kathan:** Just me and Tom.

**Representative Flynn:** Okay.

### **Closing comments**

**Vice President Kathan:** Wait wait, everyone sit down we need to discuss something. Our next meeting we approved at transitional in June for February 5<sup>th</sup>-7<sup>th</sup> but we would like to move it to February 12<sup>th</sup>-14<sup>th</sup> to accommodate campuses and gives us an equally amount of time between not and March's meeting. With that, I will assume that there is not strong opposition that this will okay with everyone.

**Date was mutually agreed upon**

**Treasurer Accardi motions to adjourn, seconded by Representative Klafehn**

**Meeting adjourned at 10:40**