



**USUAA Assembly Meeting Minutes
October 17th, 2008
Lyla Richards Conference Room, SU 103**

I. Call To Order (3:00 p.m.)

A. First Roll Call

[X] President Wing	[A] V.P. Hernandez	[X] Speaker Carrick	[X] Pro Tem Buchholdt
[X] Sen. Barrows	[X] Sen. Elkins	[X] Sen. Gaina	[X] Sen. Givens
[X] Sen. Haerer	[X] Sen. Hice	[X] Sen. Holtshouser	[X] Sen. Liszka
[X] Sen. Louie	[X] Sen. McGrane	[X] Sen. Menard	[X] Sen. Murrell
[A] Sen. Spaulding	[X] Sen. Stefanovich	[X] Sen. Tran	[A] Greek Council Rep.
[X] RHA Rep. Bundick	[A] GSA Rep. Robinson	[X] Club Council Rep. Yan	[X] GRD Peter Finn
[] PRD vacant			

B. Approval of October 10th Minutes- Minutes unanimously approved without amendments

II. Communications

A. Advisors

1. Assistant Director of Student Leadership-Hinkley- [34:22] Haunted Halloween Fun Night

finalizing event for next Sat October 25. Call for Volunteers, nothing mandatory. Set up 10:30 am to 12pm. Spirit will not be available for the vent. Seawolf Community Leader and Seawolf Student Leader Awards due Monday October 27. Travel Grant apps due today by 5 pm. Officially opened search for the Leadership Coordinator position; a committee member will come and give a status report as the process continues; student open forum will be scheduled. Public Relations Director Zachary Liszka has been officially hired. President Wing and Hinkley will form a plan of how committees will utilize the PRD position. Questions: Sen. Stefanovich- What was the budget and how was it advertised? Hinkley- HRS process and can only be advertised through People Admin. Sen. Stefanovich- How many applicants? Hinkley- Seven applicants; Sen. Spaulding was to make the announcement but he is currently away. Thank you to the GRD hiring committee and to Ty for setting going through the non-bias training and setting in to review all applicants all committee members that took part in the process of hiring for these two positions did a fabulous job. Please say thanks.

2. Administrative Assistant- No report

B. Persons to be Heard-

Student At large- Topics grossly obviously. 1. Logistics issue, meet at alternative location. 2. Appointments for USUAA Senators, signature petition packets verses voting appointment to assembly. Arguably standing process undermines Assembly's authority to do business. Any appointments that are filling a senate seat so close to the election, should have to run; it is the just thing to do. **Questions:** Sen. Hice- Do you have any ideas on how we can implement the proven process used in your example of the driving the car as a youth? Student-at-Large- Yes, Requirements for becoming a senator; 1. Hold a 2.5 GPA or higher; 2. Member of Union of Students per Student Government fee; 3. Good Disciplinary standing. I think students need to have at least 4 credits passed from any college, stay at the university for one semester to show willingness to work hard and would potentially do so on the Assembly. You will get more qualified candidates and individuals that you know will work hard for you. Sen. Gaina- Encourage you to be out spoken; hopefully you will have a seat on the Assembly after this fall election. Student At Large- I have applied for elections. Greek Council Rep. - Hopefully we will see your work in the future as you seem so excited and effortful.

C. Reports

1. Standing Committees-

Rules- Sen. Holsthouser- Starting Process for setting Guidelines for office conduct and complaints, violations of the governing documents following the Student Code of Conduct. Will be put on the list serve for all to review.

Legislative Affairs- Sen. Buchholdt- Peter Finn new GRD. Meeting time Tuesday's at 2:30 pm in the Leadership Lab. Questions: Sen.Hice- How will your Pro Temp be able to attend Finance meeting Tuesdays at 3:00 pm or are you expecting Finance to change their time? Sen. Buchholdt- Was discussed in Executive meeting and will be addressed.

Activities- Sen. Murrell- Thanksgiving Feast Bill or Resolutions will be brought to Assembly; Homecoming prizes left over not able to return will be donated to the Food Services Student Investigative Commission as survey incentives.

Student and Academic Affairs- Sen. Gaina- Discussed projects that will be throughout the year. Sen. Stefanovich working on new Fund Scholarship. Sen. Murrell working on preparing luncheon dedicated to Umair Iqbal. Feedback from students regarding professors' ratings; Student discount program; more senators on the board remind the Rules about discussion in Executive.

Sustainability- Sen. Louie- Sustainability of National Politics, 10/22 3pm Den; Promotional Sustainability. Interpretive dance; Climate Change action committee reported.

Finance- Sen. Hice- Finance meeting 101 with Hinkley next Tuesday at 3pm.

2. Representatives

Club Council Rep Kyle Yan- Locker Rental finalizing transfer; Halloween Fun Night October 25, 4-8 pm.

[Requested that direct quotes be reflected in Minutes]

Greek Council Rep sit-in Woodruff Laputka- "Well, thank you very much Mr. Speaker and I appreciate the time. What, ah. From what I understand this is the first strong presentence, ah, to a meeting that Greek Council has had this semester. Ah, first I'm glad to uh, say that um, I believe this is an historic semester, ah, first time in many semesters there probably, ah, a great number of Greeks here representing their own Greek organizations, one way or another. Ah, that are getting involved in the ah, assembly. So, to that Greek Council, ah, thanks you guys in your efforts. Though you are current or passed, um, it is fine to see a strong community. Ah, Greeks, of course, are not doing so well at UAA. It is a ah, it is a tough time. Ah, in all our chapters that exist, ah, officially and non-officially, we have gained member and lost members. We have some members, of course, that did, ah, join but then leave, but at the same time, as we all do face such challenges they do. It is perhaps not necessarily difference of opinion, so much as an inability to meet the standards of being Greek. What I come here today, ah, to state is a concern, ah, that I have. Representing the Greek community, and that particular concern I believe was sparked especially, ah, as you all know and as you've probably known for a while. This Assembly is always being monitored one way or another by other student leaders. Particularly, student leaders who believe in an equal clean slate for all walks, here. Whether Greek or non. The Assembly in the past has at sometimes made decisions, and not all Greeks, non-Greeks or club representatives and what have you, agreed with. However, that we can easily understand by term to term Assemblies' make their own decisions and sometimes those decisions are overturned. Or it's not necessarily decision making that I come here to criticize. Rather the news of unfortunate slander and potentially unethical action being taken by your senators against a Greek member. A member of our community. As from what I understand, ah, this is a Union of Students and by your Bylaws and Constitution this union is to be represented by members of this community. This student community, of some few thousand students. Representing an equal slate for everybody to have an equal voice. That means that members of this community have the right, if petitioned and going through all of the manner, given as necessity by your Constitution and Bylaws they have the right to sit here, be voted in and voice their concerns. And if they do all that is required they're voted in, then so be it. And to not be judged by their beliefs, by their personal, ah, life choices, and to be, and be accounted, I'm thinking, and to be accounted for by simply their willingness to present

their want in taking action for their fellow students. It is so my concern then as a Greek and as Vice President of Greek Council that this Assembly as of late has taken a very unethical turn towards Greeks. And in particular that some of your members who are non Greek have made it a fact to make it a very difficult time for particularly one Greek senator here, who came here of his own will to be a part of an active student Assembly was slandered, and barely got it for what we believe to be the reasons of Greek prejudice here in this Assembly. Now let me be very frank, we're all students. We all come here and do the same amount of work one way or another and we're looking for one goal, graduation. Occasionally, out of the few thousand, you'll find one or two people that actually want to spend their time to be active. Perhaps through Club Council, perhaps through Greek Council or perhaps through Assembly. The choice of being a Greek is not necessarily some feeling that one is better or one is more superior to the average student. But only that one wants to, not only, better his community or her community but his or her self. It is a choice of ethics. Therefore, I do believe, that, ah, the activity of this committee being so unethical as to slanderize with a, what I believe to be a prejudice of non fr, against Greeks. To a senator who is in fact trying to be Greek, is simply not "onl", no impeding on his qualify, on his reputation or title, but simply his quality and his choice of living, his choice as a student. And perhaps this type of action might be suitable to be, ah, mention to the Dean of Students to insight an investigation on this Assembly's ethical nature. As I'm sure many would like to see. Greek or not, these are my concerns as Vice President of Greek Council as well as my concerns for a continuing community of student leadership here on campus. And so if this Assembly has rusty cogs and is coming to the point where people are arguing about whether or not a member will be lenient towards his Greek brothers, when obviously he's taken the time to be representing his students here first, before his fellow Greeks. That obviously shows that is a bias against his character and his decision of living. For it is whether or not he is quality and whether or not he is able to fulfill the, ah, the job so given to him, managed by this Assembly. Thank you."

Questions: Sen. Hice- "Slander, can you please repeat back to be the slander that was said?" **W. Laputka-** "Well, I can't necessarily say that I was there, but I can tell you that hearing . . .but I can tell you that hearing that a bare, barely a majority vote , the pa . . ." **Sen. Hice interruption:** "15/4 is barely a minimum . . ." **W. Laputka-** "Where do the constant push of questions based on a person's Greek status have any play into whether or not this person has anything to do here." **Sen. Hice-** "Then Maybe instead of addressing this whole board and accusing us of all making an ethical, what ah, I don't even know the words I'm so frazzled by this. Maybe you should be talking to the senator or senators, that were . . ." **Interruption: W. Laputka-** "Hmmm . . ." **Sen. Hice-** "No. please let me finish." **W. Laputka-** "Go ahead." **Sen. Hice-** ". . . that were making these comments instead of accusing this whole board of doing something." **W. Laputka-** "Not at all an accusation but in fact a point of information, that we as Greeks address concern. And I as a Greek address concern that perhaps it should be looked at. If there's nothing to be concerned about, then there is no worry of an investigation that this Assembly might have to go through, just to make sure that there is no sense of, ah, wronging, in the fact the gentleman of regardless of their decisions of what they do during their life here in college have the rights still to come here without being pressed upon for the fact that they're Greek or not." **Sen. Givens-** "Oh, Um, I have to address you [Speaker], um, Scratch." **A. Bradbury-** "Um, Did Greek Council make their nomination for a representative, and are you that representative on this board?" **W. Laputka-** "Greek Council is currently in the process of finishing its, ah, recommendations and finishing its, ah, its decisions on who will ah, who will represent it. We are also preparing for a new Assembly of executive officers, what I am here for is standing in as representation as decided by the president and our other executive officers to fill that position until it is filled officially. So, I'm sort of, ah, a temporary, if you will. I apologize we have not been present; as I said it has been a hassling time for Greeks here on campus." **Sen. Barrows-** "Alright, um; first question is did Greek Council read the minutes and the actual questions that were asked of the, Senator Haerer? And another question is, um, I don't understand the whole, I am Greek form a different organization Kappa Delta Phi, not in this Union, not in this school and, um, I don't understand the whole ideal from you saying there are standards for Greeks and how if people don't meet those standards they are then no longer Greek. From where I come from, once Greek, always Greek and I didn't understand that this place has it like that." **W. Laputka-** "Well, I think we can have an ethical

debate about what makes Greek or not after the Assembly. Um, as far as the, ah, as far as the accountability for this ah, this rumor. All I'm simply doing is making a note that if there is in fact, any unethical action, then we believe that there should be something done about it. Rather than just debate about whether or not any of it happened. And I would bring up an, an example so heard by members that supposedly this occurred to. As well as other member Greek, by the way, of this particular Assembly that there is concern and that we're not going to sit back and allow ourselves to be frazzled just because we happen to have certain life choices." **Sen. Barrows**- "Is there an answer to the first question of whether or not Greek Council read the minutes before coming to the meeting?" **W. Laputka**- "I believe I answered that question well enough." **Sen. Gaina**- "If the speaker will allow me I have a question and then a comment." **Speaker Carrick**- "Question first then comment." **Sen. Gaina**- "Um, I'd like just for clarification all none Greek letters to stand." [10 Assembly members standing] "Those who voted against the Senator Haerer appointment." [4 members, only one of the nine voted against]

[Sen. Gaina- Read from the 10/10/08 Meeting Minutes.] "The person who was considered to be slandered . . . my point is, my question started with what is your affiliation with UAA and all the things he was doing. The student then addressed his concerns; then followed questions about concerns [by senators]. . . Can I speak please, till the end." **W. Laputka**- "Sure." **Sen. Gaina**- "Okay, thank you. The point here is the person wasn't asked if he's a Greek and then attached. When he was answering questions his lack of knowledge and experience, all this showed that he is being influenced by something that's out of his control. That's what made other people not really like the person or what was standing behind him. Not the fact that he was a Greek." **W. Laputka**- "Is this a questions?" **Sen. Gaina**- "No, it's a comment after asking a question. I am done." **W. Laputka**- "I didn't understand the question?" **Sen. Elkins**- "Scratch." [one minute left of questions] **Student-at-large**- "I spoke about, I asked this candidate also a question and it was mainly based on what I just spoke on earlier. Based on what the process is for one that does get appointed. And I didn't really care if he was a Greek or not. I think that's a different sort of debate all together. And whether or not he wanted to serve on the board, I think that's a very admirable thing. But I asked him whether he felt that, some sort of experience that I said, being at the meetings for couple weeks was relevant. And maybe its just from my opinion, but I did not feel that he had really demonstrated enough to me that he deserved to be on the board, based on that." [Speaker- "Is this a question?"] **Student-at-large**- "Yes, I am going to get to it. And I think there were a few senators here who voted against the nomination for that reason and not because he is Greek. But my question to you is, sir" [Speaker: "Please address me."] "Mr. Speaker, do you feel that that sort of experience is vital before being permitted to serve on Student Government." **W. Laputka**- "I believe that the Student Government is the place to build experience as well as to build the, the means of how to be a leader here. You don't just start from nothing. And particularly if he has no experience it is the Assembly's duty, in a sense, to perhaps take on the responsibility to make him experienced. Do you think Karl here started off as a leader before he got here. Do you think any of you started off here as senators before you got here? You were made and you learned from your mistakes. And particularly, at the same time, regardless, I think we're missing the point. I think what I am getting at is that this Assembly needs to consider whether or not it's Constitutionally ethical when subjecting people to a "simp" of questions, 'so you're a Greek do you believe that your questions, your means will be Greek bias? That's fine, but the debate that ensues seems pointless. Other than to question not himself but his involvement with Greeks, and regardless or not there is a majority. Regardless or not you all have your personal means to defend your decisions . . ." **Speaker interjects**- "I'm going to have to cut you off, is there a motion to extend?" **Sen. Gaina**- "Motion to extend." Second. Vote: 10/5/4 Questions extends 5 minutes.

W. Laputka- "Anyway, my point is that USUAA should be looked at for potentially unethical action toward Greeks and if there is no problem then so be it, but you, you shouldn't have anything to hide as to be so defensive to worry about. And even if there is no investigation, we should so bring up the fact this is what your guys are all about, right. Leadership, standing up for what you believe in. If I believe, and my fellow Greeks believe, that our fellow Greeks are being subjected to problems. Regardless of whether or not you believe so, we have the right to stand up and state it. And that is what this is about. And if you don't believe that, then by all means, say so or do what ever you feel. But I feel that we have the right as much as you have the right to be in here." **Sen.**

Stefanovich- "Mr. Speaker, what type of governing body doesn't ask questions?" **Sen. Hice**- "What is Greek Council doing? The reports are usually technically suppose to be what Greek Council and committees have been doing, so my question is what has Greek Council been doing or has there whole meeting this Friday been solely talking about the actions of this Assembly or is something else going on within the Greek Community? Cause I would like to know." **W. Laputka**- "Obviously there, Mr. Speaker, obviously there is a lot going on in the Greek community, particularly concern. Excuse me I will look to you, I find that defamatory, ah, what I think is, ah, being misunderstood here is that we've been planning events and it has been a difficult time to ensure our existence here. Our own members, all chapters, have been focusing on their own internal issues to make sure that we are ready to be here. We would like to be very much involved in such community activities. And discuss all often at our Greek Council meetings with current Kappa Sigs, with old Sigma Phi Epsilons with other organizations. We have even been planning events, in fact there was an event that was planned tonight, that unfortunately due to logistics, and lack of, um, and lack of other manner, that we are not able to go through with it. But this isn't the last thing we will plan. However, it is the concern of a few Greeks in our community that we state our voice here. And so yes, as Vice President and current standing representative for Greek Council I do speak for on behalf of the active Greek community here. And that's what I'll say we've been doing is discussing, basically, how we can fix ourselves, make ourselves better, be more active, we have planned events. At the same time, to discuss concerns about what our presents will be in the future here at UAA; including our relationship with USUAA." **Sen. Murrell**- "Thank you Mr. Speaker, ah, I'd like to thank Greek Council for coming to the table and addressing their concerns; and then I would like to also say, if you really have issues with the ethical nature or actions of this body to take it up with Hinkley and the Dean of Students office. And then I'd like to motion to move on with the agenda." Second. [Opposition from Sen. Louie.] Vote to continue with the agenda: 12/6/2 Motion passes. [Direct Quotes End]

Club Council Rep- Motion to move back to Assistant Director of Student Leadership. Second. [STOP 34:20]

Residence Hall Association Rep Braxton Bundick- Haunted Halloween Fun Night volunteers please. Halloween Dance October 31, 9 pm to 12 am in the Commons. Prizes \$100 target \$50 REI and games. Questions: Sen. Holtshouser- Is RHA getting involved with the Sports Complex and the U-Med district and effects of the Housing area?

3. Boards

Media Board Sen. Menard- Met today at 9:15 am. USUAA Constitution states the President has to appoint a non USUAA member to serve on this board. Media Board rep Sen. Menard was waived by the board today and will serve the remaining term; if all works out the Media Board could potential waive the next appointee if it be a USUAA member or change bylaws to allow a USUAA seat. KRUA is doing great in the Student Union. KRUA has eleven additional hours augmented. Eleven new shows in training. Behind in training people, new people every day. Northern Light, low in editing and graphical staff. Ads are out, spread the word. November 14 next meeting, JPC room. Setting the budget. Hiring new manager for KRUA and Northern Light. Questions: Sen. Holtshouser- Asking if Sen. Menard would remind Media Board their budget falls under our purview and should tread lightly in wavering whether or not to allow a seated member to represent. Sen. Murrell- Why is KRUA manager leaving? Sen. Menard- The reason was not stated.

Travel Board Sen. Givens- Travel grant apps due November 17 at 5 pm. Announcements will be posted by the November 31.

Concert Board- Builders and Butchers tonight at 7:30 pm. Roots will be brought up November 7, Spoken Word poet opening act.

Election Board Braxton Bundick- Meets Tuesday at 4 pm in SU 218. Delegate tasks for upcoming election.

4. Vice President

President Karl Wing in VP Hernandez's absence- Read VP report informing Assembly Retreat scheduled Friday 24 1-9 pm at BP Energy Center. Set up transportation amongst yourselves. Highly recommended for attendance. Absences are requested 24 hours in advance. Cost around \$600. Travel Board three new appointees

to be made. Thanks to Travel Board for their participation in the grant review process.

Student-At-Large- What will be happening at this retreat? President Wing- states the agenda for Retreat. Hinkley- Will you please clarify who will be at the retreat? President Wing- Preferably all seated members. Hinkley- Will be an Ethical interactive workshop.

5. President

President Wing- Coalition met last Friday in preparation for the Spring advocacy trip to Juneau, scheduled February 13, USUAA needs to have the elected reps for that trip send your name to Legislative Affairs. Talked about theme "A Key" unlocking the door to the future . . . Pushing a motion in the coalition regarding the support for Alaska Achievers Incentive Program (AAIP) for continued funding. Executive Board met to discuss goals, expectations, communication amongst all of us regarding student fees, and budget accountability across the board. Sen. Holtshouser- Clarification on submission for those interested in Juneau trip, please give that information to the GRD [Peter Finn], not members of Legislative Affairs. Sen. Buchholdt- There is also a box for Legislative Affairs. Juneau trip is February 21-24. Hinkley- Application process not just a mention of your interest to attend. Sen. Stefanovich- What is the process? Sen. Holtshouser- We are working on developing one. Sen. Louie- Would International students be considered to go? Sen. Holtshouser- We're working on developing one.

6. Appointees to UAA Committees

Campus Safety Committee Walk Sen. Buchholdt- Thanks to Senators Murrell, Menard, Holtshouser and President Wing. Great walk locating quite a few precautions. President Wing- One of the concerns we addressed was large cracks in the side walk; upon entering the building this morning, Facilities crew were filling them up. Just to prove the quick response Administration shows when students voice concern. Sen. Gaina- Has the Residential parking concerns been addressed? Sen. Buchholdt- Not brought to my attention, no idea.

III. Old Business

Technology Board Appointee [University Technology Council] - President Wing appoints Stephen Long. Stephen Long introduces himself and answers questions, still awaiting information for position. Sen. Hice- Motion to approve appointment. Second. Immediate Vote: 18/0/0 appointee approved.

IV. New Business

A. Food Services Investigative Commission Appointment – Sean McGrane- President Wing appoints Sen. McGrane. Question: Sen. Hice- Why do you want to serve on this commission? 25 years ago attended Community College and seems they're still serving the same food, have issues with that. Other students complaining about illness and service. Sen. Liszka- thank you for taking this on, the position can be real stressful, are you willing to do this effectively as it is an important issue for this Assembly, so you have the time. Sen. McGrane- Of course, I do have the time. Vote to approve appointee: 17/0/1 appointment approved.

B. Election Board Appointments

President Wing appoints Scott Karnitz and Casey Valya- Question: Sen. Gaina- Considered the suggestions with the appointees being present? Speaker- Caution against that in this case because Election Board is time sensitive. Sen. Barrows- Can they come and be in the office to meet us should they be appointed today? President Wing- Yes. Sen. Buchholdt- How many would that make on Election Board officially. Hinkley- that leaves four because the other person needs to be removed. Immediate Vote: 17/0/1 appointees approved.

V. For the Good

Sen. Barrows- First, I am upset to see Greek Council leave after what was said. I don't believe this Assembly tried to slander anyone. Sen. Haerer it is good to see you here this week. We need to working forward and not dwelling in the past. Sen. Gaina- thanks to ITS for upgrades to the computers and I see more students using them which is great, please take care of them, working on legislation that will ensure annual upgrades. Sen. Hice- Where did Greek Council go and where is GSA? Sen. Haerer- Pronunciation of last name. PRD Liszka- Real excited to promote ideas and give me feedback.

[Requested that direct quotes be reflected in Minutes]

Sen. Louie- “Right, I’d just like to address the issue before it’s brought up again, I’m going to bring up a one man investigative committee, sorry, me. I looked up, I know the definition of “slander”. It includes three things, you have to have a degrading of your reputation, some offense, and the intention of slander and degrade somebody. I can’t really prove intent but I can ask, the person of said slander, “Where you offended?” [turns to Sen. Haerer seated beside Sen. Louie]

Sen. Haerer- “Not really, um, I just feel that being, um, its ah, okay just make it short, not really no.”

Sen. Louie- “And was your reputation, I guess, degraded or . . .”

Sen. Haerer- “Um, Not really, I just really think that, um, being a Greek shouldn’t change anything on the council, I mean, a Greek is still a student, whether or not, and um, they should all be, be equals, I mean if someone that was being, ah, sworn in that wasn’t a Greek, um, I know questions wouldn’t be put up there, but I mean, everyone just should be equal.”

Sen. Louie- “Hopefully the Greek Council would read those notes in the Minutes.” [End quotes]

Sen. Menard- Information for Sen. Murrell as to why we need to “hire” people for Media Board. Stage Manager and the Station Manager and the Executive Editor all terms will be up at June [2009].

Hinkley- Need to stress that you must give Karl or Michaela a compelling reason why you can not attend Retreat no later than 24 hours in advance. Retreat is critical! If you are not there you will be putting yourself at a disadvantage. Anita will send out information on parking: MTV Real World 22 additions Saturday at, Nov. 18 10 am. Sen. Hice Motion to adjourn. Second. No opposition.

VI. Closing Roll Call

[X] President Wing
[X] Sen. Barrows
[X] Sen. Haerer
[X] Sen. McGrane
[X] Sen. Stefanovich
[A] GSA Rep. Robinson

[A] V.P. Hernandez
[X] Sen. Elkins
[X] Sen. Hice
[X] Sen. Menard
[X] Sen. Tran
[X] Club Council Rep. Yan

[X] Speaker Carrick
[X] Sen. Gaina
[X] Sen. Holtshouser
[X] Sen. Murrell
[A] Greek Council Rep.
[X] GRD Peter Finn

[X] Pro Tem Buchholdt
[X] Sen. Givens
[X] Sen. Louie
[A] Sen. Spaulding
[X] RHA Rep. Bundick
[X] PRD Zach Liszka