



**71<sup>st</sup> Student Senate  
Judiciary Committee  
Date**

**Call to Order:** 7:03 p.m.

**Members Present:** Chair Jacobsen, Vice Chair Leckie, Senators Gertds. Latham, Weber

**Members Tardy:**

**Members Absent:** McAuliffe

**Guests:** \*Driscoll

**Announcements:**

- Chair - None
- Vice Chair - None
- Members -
  - Senator Gerds is 19 as of Sunday
- Guests -
  - Driscoll: at market wednesday Union Board hired a Ben Franklin impersonator

**Committee Business:**

Here outline what the committee will be focusing on for the meeting - Bills, what is being talked about, interviews ...

- Bill 70- Alvarez - Repurposing “ Compulsory Referenda” to ensure SGA is held accountable
- Bill 72 - Weber - To Update Election Code Statutes in Chapter 700 in accordance with University Policies. An act to create a Senate Legislation Writing Workshop
- Bill 73- Alvarez -Clarifying the procedures for filling Vacancies for the office of Elections
- Bill 74- Leckie -Removing Chapter 417, the Legislative History Act of 2008, from statutes.
- Bill 75- Leckie - Creating new Inter Residence Hall Council Executive Board positions
- Bill 76- Leckie - Clarifying the Investigative Powers of the Senate
- Bill 77- Latham -The Supreme Court has the power “To issue advisory opinions concerning student rights under the Student Body Constitution upon request of the Student Body President or any Senator.”. The court has no guidance or restrictions on issuing advisory opinions. This bill would add advisory opinions to the time frame for issuing written opinions. Additionally, this would decrease the time allowed for written

opinions to be published on election cases, to expedite the election process as the decision is made by the court during the proceedings.

- Bill 78- Adamyk - The purpose of this bill is to facilitate the Finance committees mandated review (Senate Rules and Procedures - Rule 6.2) of Chapter 800 otherwise known as Student Body Statutes TITLE VIII.

#### **Old Business:**

- Bill 72 - Weber -To Update Election Code Statutes in Chapter 700 in accordance with University Policies. An act to create a Senate Legislation Writing Workshop
  - **Tabled**
- Bill 73 - Alvarez- Clarifying the procedures for filling Vacancies for the office of Elections
  - **Tabled**

#### **New Business:**

- Bill 70 - Alvarez- Repurposing “ Compulsory Referenda” to ensure SGA is held Accountable
  - **Tabled**
- Bill 72 - Weber - To Update Election Code Statutes in Chapter 700 in accordance with University Policies. An act to create a Senate Legislation Writing Workshop
  - Introduction: Weber: Welcome back everyone to bill 72, this bill was filed because many new senators are confused about how to write legislation, in addition to orientation, allowing for the Senate Pro Tempore to teach senators how to write bills and increase efficiency. Yields: 2:01
  - Gerdts: have you spoken to the President Pro-Tempore?
    - Weber: I attempted too, and i could not schedule a meeting
  - Gerdts: this could be for the benefit of the whole senate
  - Weber: when i was appointed for this seat, the President and Pro Temp, i was told I can come to talk about how to write legislation, so why not teach everyone how to do this all at once rather than multiple individual meetings
  - Weber: the pro temp can also call on other senators to do this
  - Latham: I move to table this Bill for the sponsor to have time to talk to whom this bill concerns
  - Gerdts: Seconds
  - **Bill Tabled**
- Bill 74 - Leckie- Removing Chapter 417, the Legislative History Act of 2008, from statutes.
  - Introduction: Leckie: Last semester, we passed a resolution to eliminate this Act if we would not follow it. Because we do not follow this, I believe we should strike it. Yields: 2:25
  - Gerdts moves to go into Round Table Discussion. Weber Seconds.
  - Both Gerdts and Weber spoke in support.
  - Gerdts moves to call the question.
  - Gerts Yes
  - Latham Yes

- Leckie Yes
- Weber Yes
- **Bill passes unanimously**
- Bill 75 - Leckie - Creating new Inter Residence Hall Council Executive Board positions
  - Introduction: Leckie: IRHC came to us saying that the Assistant Director of Relations should be split into two positions. They spoke with their advisors and voted on this. Yields: 2:12
  - Weber moves to go into Round Table. Gerds Seconds.
  - Weber: have you spoken to Senator Cohen about this?
  - Leckie: No, but I have spoken with IRHC representatives.
  - Weber moves to call the question, Gerds seconds
  - Gerts Yes
  - Latham Yes
  - Leckie Yes
  - Weber Yes
  - **Bill passes unanimously**
- Bill 76 - Leckie- Clarifying the Investigative Powers of the Senate
  - Introduction: Investigations in senate are very broad as written in statutes. I have detailed how an investigation would work and what that would look like for senators. All investigative boards are the judiciary committee unless otherwise stated by Student Body President. I also clarified how a subpoena is submitted.
  - Gerds moves to enter into roundtable. Weber seconds.
  - Weber: are we encouraging investigations?
  - Leckie: no, but I wanted it to be specified.
  - Gerds: when was the last investigation?
  - Leckie: I do not know.
  - Weber: this would be good for organizations that are acting suspiciously in their usage of SGA funds.
  - Leckie: we are allowing for the entire senate to have the power to investigate rather than having that power lie solely in the hands of the Senate President.
  - Gerds: this does not impose any undue restraint. Did you write this in conjunction with anyone or speak with anyone about this?
  - Leckie: no.
  - Gerds: in the event that unfortunate activities occur during budget season this will help protect us.
  - Senator Latham moves to call the question. Gerds seconds.
  - Leckie: a subpoena is defined in the constitution and there are consequences if one ignores a subpoena they are subject to those consequences
  - Gerts Yes
  - Latham Yes
  - Leckie Yes
  - Weber Yes
  - **Bill passes unanimously**

- Bill 77 - Latham -The Supreme Court has the power “To issue advisory opinions concerning student rights under the Student Body Constitution upon request of the Student Body President or any Senator.”. The court has no guidance or restrictions on issuing advisory opinions. This bill would add advisory opinions to the time frame for issuing written opinions. Additionally, this would decrease the time allowed for written opinions to be published on election cases, to expedite the election process as the decision is made by the court during the proceedings.
  - Introduction: Latham: Its been an issue in the past getting our amendments reviewed by the supreme court, its prevalent. It’s been six months since we’ve had amendment 3 sitting on the agenda, this bill reduces that issue. Yields 2:00
  - Weber: did you reach out to the election commission or supreme court?
    - Driscoll: they’ve already written the opinion, there have been scheduling issues
    - Latham: this was Driscoll’s idea
  - Gerdts: so this is decreasing the time they have to issue opinions?
    - Latham: yes
  - Leckie: what if they cant meet?
    - Latham: there are statutes that prevent us from meeting in an exam week
    - Driscoll: this is only for elections commissions, within three weeks and two days a case must be heard
  - Weber: The elections commissions statutes state that they have to post the results within 24 hours
  - Gerdts: advisory opinions counting as written opinions, this creates a 21 day timer on advisory opinions?
    - Latham: yes
    - Driscoll: Only exec and the senate can request advisory opinions, limits response time to 21 days after request submitted
  - Gerdts: have you spoken to anyone on the election commission, the supervisor of elections, or supreme court justices?
    - Driscoll: yes, i spoke to two members of the elections commission
  - Vote:
  - Closing: Latham: This is a simple bill, for the fairness of all parties involved, While upcoming justices are efficient, this is a good precedent for the future. Yields 1:13
  - Vote:
  - Gerts: Yes
  - Latham: Yes
  - Leckie: Abs
  - Weber: Yes
  - **Bill passes 3-0-1**
  
- Bill 78 - Adamyk- The purpose of this bill is to facilitate the Finance committees mandated review (Senate Rules and Procedures - Rule 6.2) of Chapter 800 otherwise known as Student Body Statutes TITLE VIII.
  - **Bill Tabled**

**Unfinished Business:**

None

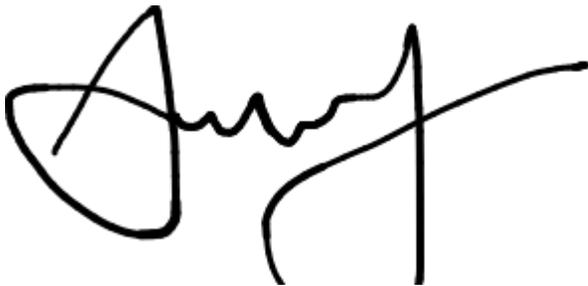
**Final Announcements:**

Latham: Tuesday at 5:30 at her house for grilled cheese dinner

**Date and Time of Next Meeting:**

September 24, 2019 at 7:00 p.m. in Innovation Hub room 113

**Adjourned:** 7:50 P.M.

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a large, stylized initial 'A' followed by a series of loops and a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

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Signature of Chair