I. Call to Order and Welcome

II. Attendance
   Guests: Katie Barnett (Miscellany News), Juliana Kiyan (Miscellany News),
   Amory Meltzer (Board of Elections Vice Chair), Matt Morse (Board of Elections Chair),
   Walter Padilla (Student Assistant to the President), John Palmer (Miscellany News),
   Katie Paul (Miscellany News), Anita Varma (Miscellany News)

III. Minutes
   The Organization Executive proposed the approval of the minutes from the
   September 3, 2006 council meeting. He explained that these minutes are the first to be
   presented in the new, summary-based format. No objections were made and the minutes
   were approved as presented.

IV. Announcements
   A. Elections Update
      Matt Morse gave a short preview of the new elections software and website.
      Everything looked promising, and the President announced that students should continue
      filing, as many positions were still open.
   B. Conference Report
      The President, Vice President and OrgEx described their experiences at the
      American Student Government Conference:
      - Meeting sessions were offered in which each student could participate in
        one of five informative workshops
      - A series of networking sessions were also given to connect students from
        different schools
      - The OrgEx felt the conference provided valuable perspective on the
        strength of the VSA’s funding, connections, and foundation
      - The experience was summarized as “productive” and “informative”
   C. Poughkeepsie Journal
      - Recently renewed through the Committee on Community Relations fund
      - Read-and-return program
      - 92 papers are now delivered every day
      - 6 placed in each dorm
      - 15 each to ACDC and the Retreat
      - 2 each to THs, TAs and SoCo
   D. VRAC
      The AcEx provided an update on the Vassar ResLife AdHoc Committee (VRAC):
      - Their first meeting was Friday, September 15th
      - The committee internally elected Chris Smith as its chair
      - A set of topics and goals were established for the year
V. Goals for the VSA for 2006-2007
The President proposed to adopt the revised VSA Goals for 2006-2007, explaining that a bit of the language was cleaned up, though few suggestions were received from council. No objections were made, and the goals were adopted as presented. Council will revisit these goals at the end of the semester.

VI. Organization Partnerships
The Organization Executive proposed to formally amend the VSA Bylaws to include Section 20: Organization Partnerships in Article IV: VSA Organizations.

- SoCo was concerned that the policy seemed “mandatory”, but the OrgEx explained that section C states that the organizations can select which partnership(s) they want to be involved with.
- Upon Noyes’ recommendation, the language was amended to, “C. Organizations shall choose which Organizations Partnership(s) they wish to be a part of, if any.”, to better convey the level of flexibility available to orgs.
- Joss questioned whether including this section in the Constitution was truly necessary, but 09 and the President both supported the partnerships as a key infrastructure that will provide continuity, encourage organizations to work positively together, and increase accountability.
- TAs asked about implementation, and the OrgEx clarified that the Co-op already exists, but simply needs to be formalized. There will be a list of every Org Partnership that includes all of its members and its chair, and emails will be sent to all VSA orgs when a new partnership is formed.
- SoCo suggested that the Org Partnership concept be applied to senior apartment housing, and the President recommended that this be a future amendment. It will also be possible for dorms to join partnerships.

No objections were made to the OrgEx’s amendment proposal, and the VSA Bylaws were amended to include this section.

VI. Major’s Committees Ad-Hoc Committee (McAc)
The AcEx proposed the adoption of the Major’s Committees Ad-Hoc Committee (McAc) Resolution. McAc will meet once every week to improve communication between the chairs of Majors Committees and strengthen their relationship with the VSA. Based on suggestions from FinEx, Jewett, and SoCo, the following grammatical adjustments were made to the resolution:

- “Whereas, Majors Committees are active...”
- “II. ‘...the VSA should be, including how to ensure greater accountability and how Majors Committees members and chairs are selected.”
- “III. ‘...shall consist of the Academic Executive; two (2) VSA representatives on the Committee on Curricular Policy; members of the Office of the Dean of the Faculty, at the discretion of the Dean; and no more...”

No objections were made to the AcEx’s proposal, and the McAc Resolution was passed.
VII. Ad-Hoc Committee on Student Input on Teaching and Tenure (ACSITT)

The AcEx proposed the creation of ACSITT, the Ad-Hoc Committee on Student Input on Teaching and Tenure, to replace SACET and provide a means of gathering meaningful student feedback and ideas. Town Students recommended that ACSITT evaluate “Ask Students”, and the AcEx agreed that the issue should be discussed over the course of the year. The Committee will be open to interested members of the VSA and will determine how SACET could have been more effective. A few grammatical changes were made, per Jewett’s recommendation: “2. ‘...Academic Executive; three (3) members of the Committee on Curricular Policy (CCP); at least one (1) member of VSA Council, at the discretion of the Academic Executive; and members of the Dean of the Faculty division, at the discretion of the Dean.’” No objections were made to the AcEx’s proposal, and ACSITT was formed.

VIII. Open Discussion

- 07 announced that there were 252 days remaining until graduation
- Davison recommended that all house presidents address their freshmen about Vassar’s Good Samaritan Policy as it relates to alcohol-related illness
- Strong recommended a more bullet-point oriented system for minutes

IX. Adjourn