



UNIVERSITY SENATE
Student Affairs Committee

September 30, 2009

Review of Concept Plan Submitted by Targum Publishing Company

- I. The following charge was issued to the University Senate's Student Affairs Committee: Charge: S-0907, **Targum Concept Plan** - Review the 2009 Targum Concept Plan and the programs it describes for educational value, in accordance with the "Concept Plan Review" section of the referendum guidelines.

Links pertaining to this charge:

- 1) **Targum Publishing Company Concept Plan:**
 - a. <http://senate.rutgers.edu/TargumConceptPlan2009.pdf>
 - 2) **Guidelines Regarding Special Student Organizations**
 - a. <http://senate.rutgers.edu/referend.html>
- II. The Student Affairs Committee of the Rutgers University Senate was charged with reviewing the concept plan, submitted by the Targum Publishing Company, as a preliminary step in its planned Spring 2009 referendum. In accordance with the Guidelines Regarding Special Student Organizations [hereinafter referred to as "Guidelines: or "the Guidelines"], this committee limited its review of the concept plan to evaluating only the educational value of the programs described in the plan.

The Student Affairs Committee (SAC), as well as the Senate Executive Committee, applied the existing Guidelines, because we have not yet been made aware of which elements of the Senate's November 2008 recommended revisions to the Guidelines will be accepted, or whether or when those revised Guidelines will become policy. ***The SAC identifies this situation as disadvantageous to both the Senate and Targum, and urges Rutgers' administration to promptly implement a permanent policy for special student organizations seeking funding through referenda, and to inform the Senate of that policy.***

- III. The Student Affairs Committee met and reviewed the concept plan on September 25, 2009 at its regularly scheduled meeting. Non-committee members present at that meeting consisted of Mr. Kenneth Swalagin, Executive Secretary of the University Senate as well as Ms. Katie Gattuso, Business Manager from The Daily Targum. Mr. John Clyde, Editor-in-Chief was invited to the meeting, however, due to academic commitments, he deferred to Ms. Gattuso.
- IV. The SAC was briefed on the purpose of the review, and was reminded numerous times that the scope of the committee's review was solely for educational merit, and not content, accuracy, or personal issues associated with the Daily Targum.

- V. Ms. Gattuso summarized the submitted concept plan, and responded to questions. She said that the concept plan, while substantially the same plan submitted for review three years ago, had been updated to account for the growth and development of technology over the years.
- VI. Mr. Swalagin, Executive Secretary of the University Senate, and a non-Senator, was granted privilege of the floor. He asked to be placed on the record as informing The Targum Publishing Company, through Ms. Gattuso as its representative and employee, that it is Targum's responsibility to include with each concept plan submission the evidence of annual, independent audits for the previous three years. He noted that Targum, as well as any other student organization submitting concept plans under this process, should anticipate the need for the audits to be done by the every-third-year deadline, and submit evidence of those audits along with the concept plan, without follow-up or multiple requests from the Senate for the documentation. He said that, in fairness to other student organizations seeking funding referenda, if a concept plan and the proof of audits are not submitted in one packet during the first week of the semester prior to a proposed referendum, the concept plan submission will be considered incomplete, and Targum may be considered to have missed the deadline.
- VII. Following all discussion, Ms. Gattuso was asked to leave the room, where a brief deliberation occurred, following which a vote was taken, and the Student Affairs Committee approved the concept plan, as submitted, from the Targum Publishing Company, based on its educational value.

Student Affairs Committee Members:

Rabinowitz, Samuel, Co-Chair

Wild, Kevin, Co-Chair

Blimling, Gregory

Bodnar, Raymond

Bumby, Richard

Davidson, Harriet

Diamond, Elin

Farag, Mena

Ghetia, Ravi

Guo, Li

He, Yuanqing

James, Sybil

Kerkhof, Lee

Kim, Joseph

Markowitz, Norman

Matsuda, Matt

Messer, Stanley

Natarajan, Upasana

Pavlik, John

Piotrowicz, Jaimie

Rudrapatna, Tara

Schurman, Susan

Shah, Pooja

Soomro, Mariam

Tansey, Elle

Toney-Boss

Violette, Nancy

Waller, Austin

Yeagle, Philip