I. Call to Order—8:35 pm

II. Roll Call
   b. Absent Without Proxy (17): Allison Torline, Andrew Conley, Andrew Johnsen, Anuraag Tripathi, Bryan Sewell, Chi Hoong Ng, Christopher Lenz, Erik Kiser, Evan Sweeney, Hannah Bennett, Jenny Kim, Katie Lambert, Leonardo Martinez, Neil Bansal, Sheila Ellis, William French, Zac Ventress

III. Approve Minutes
   a. Minutes from 2/10/09 Approved Unanimously

IV. Guest Speaker

V. Executive Reports
   a. Luke Fields—IUSA President
   b. Dan Sloat—IUSA Vice President
      i. Mike Powell speaking on behalf of Dan Sloat:
         1. Looking into getting a clicker set for Congress meetings
   c. Andrew Hahn—IUSA Vice President for Congress
      i. Fall Break issue, talking to Congress tonight to address it. We want to hear your input. I met with the chair of the IU Calendar and Scheduling Committee for 2 hours earlier this month. We talked in length about the issues with changing the calendar. The proposal you have before you is the one that appeared to have any chance of passing, but it’s still going to require a lot of work. The goal is to hear whether students will support this or not, because if they won’t, there’s no point in us doing it.
   d. Robin Featherston—IUSA Treasurer

VI. Director Reports

VII. Committee Reports
   a. Rules, Membership, Internal IUSA Affairs Committee
i. 5 new Congress members, including Continuing Studies, which has been vacant for the past year
b. Health and Safety Committee
   i. Met with Chris Bailey, new Director for IUSA Health and Safety
c. Student Rights and Concerns Committee
d. Finance Committee
e. Educational Affairs Committee

VIII. New Business
a. Resolution 09-2-8—Approve New Members of Congress
   i. Approved Unanimously
   i. Mike Coleman: What would this do to programming, such as Culture Fest, during Welcome Week?
      1. Andrew Hahn: We don’t know exactly what it would do. Our goal tonight is to gauge general student support for a proposal like this. I would imagine that RPS would look at starting Welcome Week over the weekend, perhaps on a Saturday or a Sunday. That’s what I think we would suggest, at least. It would cut one day out of Welcome Week, however. On the flip side, it would allow parents to move their students in on a Saturday.
   ii. Jim Snaza: We are giving up too much with this proposal, we essentially have a weeklong Thanksgiving Break since most professors already cancel their classes. Why would we want to go back 3 days earlier to get what we already have? Alternatively, can we just cut 1 class out of the schedule, maybe on a Friday, and have that Friday off during October?
      1. That’s certainly an argument that IU students will make. And it’s a valid one, at least from a student perspective. If that’s the general sentiment, then we won’t want to pursue this proposal. Regarding having just a Friday off in October, or any two days off in October, like a Monday/Tuesday or Thursday/Friday, there has been a lot of resistance to anything that would add a “broken week” to the calendar. This is due to the perception among the faculty that “broken weeks” are not as effective academically, and because the Science Departments like an academic unit of a week for their lab classes. Since they bring in so much money to the university, they are typically a powerful constituency.
   iii. Eric Weigel: A lot of students skip class on Monday/Tuesday any way.
iv. Jordan Abrams: As an out of state student, it would be nice to have certainty in my schedule. It’s hard to try to book an airplane ticket around a schedule that may or may not be the actual schedule. There have been
times when I’ve booked Wednesday morning flights, only to learn later that my Monday and Tuesday classes are cancelled.

v. Julie Singer: I don’t think we should look into cutting just a Friday class. Some classes meet MWF because repetition is important. For example, language classes.

vi. Mike Coleman: Do we want to have such a compacted Welcome Week? That would be tough for the Residence Halls.
   1. Andrew Hahn: I don’t know exactly how they would do it, or if they could even do it. That would be another area where things could be derailed. This proposal is far from certain, but from my conversation with the Chair of the IU Calendar and Scheduling Committee, it is about the only potentially viable option at this time. If it’s not viable from a student perspective, though, it’s not worth investing student resources to try and implement it.

vii. Jim Snaza: Starting on a Wednesday is confusing, we should just go for a week and take a week off in October.

viii. William Yu: There’s been a lot of resistance to taking a week off, and it’s already been tried.

ix. Meghan Busam: I thought the point that having a fall break was to break up the long time period between the start of the semester in August and the Thanksgiving break. This is really just extending that time period. Isn’t the point of a fall break that it occurs in the middle of the fall semester?

x. Jim Snaza: I think we should vote against this.

xi. Resolution Adopted 24-11

IX. Adjourn—9:15 pm

***The next scheduled IUSA Congress meeting will be Tuesday, March 10, at 8:30 pm in BU-100***