

THE UNIVERSITY OF OKLAHOMA STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION

**GRADUATE STUDENT SENATE
SENATE SESSION GF20**

Joint Committee

3:30 pm, Sunday, October 4, 2020

<https://oklahoma.zoom.us/j/97414137245?pwd=RjhvZnRwVWFiMkMyWmlwUVhYkxaZz09>

Call to Order

Roll Call

- Chair of Graduate Student Senate – Melissa Maxey
 - Chair of Undergraduate Student Congress -Savannah Patterson
 - Vice Chair of Graduate Student Senate – Rafia Mallick
 - Vice Chair of Undergraduate Student Congress – Malachi Bouch
 - Chair of Graduate Student Senate Internal Affairs – Dayten Israel
 - Chair of Undergraduate Student University Policy – Crispin South
 - Vice Chair of Graduate Student Senate Internal Affairs – Cooper Delafield
 - Vice Chair of Undergraduate Student University Policy – Max Murdock
- All were present

Reports:

- Chair of Senate-
The bill has passed senate, and there were only two questions about published plan and allocation.
- Chair of Congress-
In the Congress Executive committee, office holder organizations were invited, including multicultural organizations. The executive committee was 100% against the bill.

Items to Be Considered

CB-104-16/GF20-07 2020-2021 Conoco Student Leadership Center Office Allocations

Motion to initiate discussion by: Representative Bouch, seconded by Senator Mallick

General Discussion

GSS Chair: SGA leaders met with leaders of RSOs. Marginalized group organizations feel like they are being pushed off campus. Those who have office space, have been there since freshman, and is home to them. The access to the storage was described as hard.

Congress Chair: There are multicultural spaces around campus, which include spaces available for limited time for meetings, pray, etc.

Main Discussion Points:

- The idea and direction of the bill was appreciated but the way it is being presented was not considered appropriate
- The problem identified was pick and choose who gets the office. The better way would be that everyone gets it or no one.
- The office space and the storage space are different and serve different purposes. Many organizations do not realize that the storage is available and the way to access it.

- There are 20 offices. Each office can be allotted to three organizations, but the last year's allocation had only 2 shared offices. These are available on the second and third floor of Conoco Leadership building.
- There are almost 20 union cages/ lockers that are available in the basement of union building. Only one of those lockers are completely empty.
- The motivation of this bill was described as the preparation for the multicultural center and during this social distancing time, it is achievable.
- RSOs have not yet been allotted offices and have never been promised to them that they will get one.
- The umbrella organizations do not count for all relative RSOs. Each needs to register separately and apply for resources separately.
- Often communications between RSOs spread misinformation, thus SGA needs to be more proactive in spreading information.
- The multicultural organizations need to be considered and served well, in accordance to university policies attending to marginalized groups on campus.
- An idea to conduct a survey from RSOs was suggested to assess the demand for RSO office and storage spaces.
- The idea for lockers available to RSO's outside the offices on second and third floor to be available and letting the RSOs to reserve office spaces for meetings.
- Installation fo ID card readers and key card access to the office spaces was also proposed.
- Implicit biased training for the RSOs sharing offices was also suggested.
- The idea was proposed to re-write the legislation:
 - One floor remains offices and applications are taken to allot them to specifically multicultural organizations.
 - Second floor be converted into multicultural center where RSOs can reserve office spaces to have meetings.
 - Better marketing strategy to circulate information about office spaces and storage lockers via email to RSOs.
 - A taskforce to be set up comprising of Congress and Senate members to decide who gets offices and storage space with a specific and clear rubric to make the process neutral.
 - Senator Israel, Senator Mallick and Representative South agreed to re-write the legislation.

Adjourn

Motion to adjourn by Representative Bouch, seconded by Representative South.