

UNIVERSITY OF OKLAHOMA  
STUDENT GOVERNMENT  
ASSOCIATION  
GRADUATE STUDENT SENATE  
GENERAL ASSEMBLY MINUTES  
April 12, 2015  
7:00 P.M.  
SARKEY'S ENERGY COMPLEX A-235

Meeting is called to order at 7:00. Motion to approve last meeting's minutes is made by Senator 6, seconded by Senator 22. No one objects, and the motion passes.

The chair is sick, and this has no report.

The Vice Chair reports the the coursework only masters program will just be for engineers (and this is consistent with it's implementation elsewhere). Also, there are three volunteers for Graduate Council next year.

The Secretary mentions that the pictures will go up soon. All are forewarned.

Academic Affairs reports that the awards have been decided and will be given out next meeting.

Development and Philanthropy reports that the event with Positive Tomorrows was a success.

External Affairs and Human Diversity have no report.

Internal Affairs reports that we will be having elections at this meeting. The Chair of Internal affairs suggests that we motion to elect by acclimation as no other candidates are running for each position. Motion made by Senator 86, seconded by Senator 6. No one objects, and the motion passes.

Problems and Projects and Public Relations have no report.

Ways and Means reports that grants are completed and we will see the legislation about it. GS15-35 is moved from Special Orders by Senator 58, Seconded by Senator 92. No one objects, and the motion passes.

Elections are opened by Senator 98, seconded by Senator 20.

Carrie Pavlowsky is made Chair by acclimation (motion by Senator 86, seconded by 92)

Janessa Doucette is made Vice Chair by acclimation (motion by Senator 86, seconded by 57)

Elizabeth Pacheco is made Secretary by acclimation (motion by Senator 86, seconded by 27).

GS15-21 (We'll Buy it Ourselves Act of 2015) is struck from the agenda.

GS15-22 (Sustainability Committee act of 2015) is brought to the floor by Senator 29, seconded by Senator 71. The author states that a new committee needs to be created to tackle these big issues of sustainability, which are of interest to the student body.

Motion to pass GS15-22 by unanimous consent made by Senator 6, seconded by Senator 17. No one objects, and the motion passes.

GS15-23 (Secretary Compensation Act) is brought to the floor by Senator 5, seconded by Senator 18. The author is not present. Motion to table made by Senator 95, seconded by Senator 44. No one objects, and the motion passes.

GS15-24 (An Act Amending the Salaries and Stipends revision) is brought to the floor by Senator 38, seconded by Senator 85. This author explains that this act adjusts the salaries of the Student Organization Resource Officers and the SGA Webmaster from 9 to 10 dollars an hour.

Motion to pass GS15-24 by unanimous consent made by Senator 52, seconded by Senator 86. No one objects, and the motion passes.

GS15-25 (An act Amending the 2014-2015 Conoco Center Space Allocation Act) is brought to the floor by Senator 58, seconded by Senator 96. The author is not present. Motion to table made by Senator 42, seconded by Senator 11. No one objects, and the motion passes.

GS15-26 (Freshman Council Act of 2015) is brought to the floor by Senator 95, seconded by Senator 6. The author explains that this act restructures Freshman Council and adding a responsibility that members serve as Housing Center Student Association delegates for a short time

Motion to pass GS15-26 by unanimous consent made by Senator 18, seconded by Senator 88. No one objects, and the motion passes.

GS15-27 (Office Hour and Stipend Codification Act) is brought to the floor by Senator 20, seconded by Senator 85. The author explains that this act aligns stipends received with office hours that must be worked.

Motion to pass GS15-27 by unanimous consent made by Senator 92, seconded by Senator 97. No one objects, and the motion passes.

GS15-28 (Congressional Initiative Fund Codification Act) is brought to the floor by Senator 46, seconded by Senator 66. The author explains that this makes certain that the Congressional initiative funds can only be used by acts of legislation seen by both bodies. Senator 14 asks what happens to the leftover funds. The author responds that leftover funds are transferred to the subsidiary funding account.

Motion to pass GS15-28 by unanimous consent made by Senator 86, seconded by Senator 95. No one objects, and the motion passes.

GS15-29 (Polling Fairness act of 2015) is brought to the floor by Senator 58, seconded by Senator 11. The author explains that this would randomize the order in which names appear on online ballots in order to minimize bias.

Motion to pass GS15-29 by unanimous consent made by Senator 52, seconded by Senator 33. No one objects, and the motion passes.

GS15-30 (Emergency Allocation #12) is brought to the floor by Senator 95, seconded by Senator 6. It gives Sooner Tennis \$280.00 and Student Film Production Club \$300.00.

Motion to pass GS15-30 by unanimous consent made by Senator 52, seconded by Senator 69. No one objects, and the motion passes.

GS15-31 (2015-2016 Primary Allocations) is brought to the floor by Senator 18, seconded by Senator 33. It allocates \$132,447 of funding to a myriad of organizations.

Senator 69 asks why certain organizations receive much more funding than other organizations. The author responds that funding is decided based on the amount of people involved, the size of the events they put on, and the previous funds that they have received. Senator 11 asks how the amount of people involved is decided. The author states that it is based on a membership roster for the organization. Senator 69 asks if organizations receive all of the funding that they request. The author responds that (in general) no. For instance, Big Event requested \$45,000 and received \$10,000. Senator 46 asks how much Pick and Hammers requested. The author responds that they requested \$2,139 and received \$500.

Motion to pass GS15-31 by unanimous consent made by Senator 69, seconded by Senator 87. No one objects, and the motion passes.

GS15-32 (2015-2016 Primary Allocations) is brought to the floor by Senator 5, seconded by Senator 57. It allocates \$524,282.82 to administrative organizations.

Senator 96 asks if this money is for t-shirts and events as the previous bill was. The author clarifies that this is not the case – for instance, some of the money is for GSS Grants. Some of it is used for advertising, food, and the Congress Initiatives Fund. Senator 58 asks who received the salaries and stipends part of the funding. It is clarified that the Webmaster, SORO, SGA officers, General Council, and the SBA president receive stipends. Senator 58 asks if this funding is used for anything else. The author clarifies that it is not. Senator 95 asks what stipend the SBA President receives. The author says he receives \$290 dollars a month. Senator 15 asks what the GSS funds are used for. Author mentions that some of it is used for the Hill Conference, and the Vice Chair and Secretary clarify that some is also used for pizza and to help pay for the Positive Tomorrows event.

Motion to pass GS15-32 by unanimous consent made by Senator 95, seconded by Senator 87. No one objects, and the motion passes.

GS15-33 (Blue Book Accessibility Act) is brought to the floor by Senator 58, seconded by

Senator 11. This act would use Congressional Initiative Funds to buy bluebooks and place them in the Student Government Association Office in the Conoco Leadership Wing, the RA offices of Couch Center, Walker Tower, Adams Center, and Cate Center, and through the clubhouses of the Traditions East apartment complex. The books would be free and available for finals week.

Senator 86 asks why the books are not available in more places. The author responds that the Libraries already give out bluebooks, which is why this will mainly be distributed to residence halls. Senator 58 asks why this initiative was created. The author responds it would benefit last minute planners and those on their way to class, as it can be inconvenient to buy a bluebook. Senator 41 asks if this is necessary, as people should be able to buy their own bluebooks beforehand without too much trouble. Perhaps the bluebooks could be sold instead. The author responds that having the RAs handle money would make the distribution of bluebooks much more complicated.

Call to placard vote made by Senator 66, seconded by Senator 33. The votes are as follows -

Yea - 71, 97, 83, 65, 5, 98, 85, 88, 20, 52, 69, 11, 19, 47, 14, 48, 54, 53, 56, 66, 91, 37, 38

Total - 23 votes

Nay - 49, 93, 90, 57, 6, 27, 87, 25, 77, 89, 21, 95, 33, 22, 44, 58, 46, 41, 42, 39, 9, 92, 15

Total - 23 Votes

Abstentions - 72, 96, 23, 73, 78, 16, 60, 43, 18, 17, 86, 29,

Total - 12 Votes

The Vice Chair (who is acting as Vice Chair, as the Chair is sick) casts the tie breaking vote in favor of the Yeas. The motion passes.

GS15-34 (State of the SGA and Inauguration Update Act) is brought to the floor by Senator 95, seconded by Senator 69. The act moves the SGA inauguration event to the Final meeting of the semester.

Motion to pass GS15-34 by unanimous consent made by Senator 95, seconded by Senator 6. No one objects, and the motion passes.

GS15-35 (Spring 2015 Grant Allocation Act) is brought to the floor by Senator 38, seconded by Senator 46. The author explains that this is the grant allocations that have been decided, and that this year more money was used from contingency, as next year, the budget will be bigger. Senator 96 asks if information about which departments were funded and by how much is available. The author says that he can compile that information, but the funding requests received in the Spring is generally a lot more evenly distributed than in the fall. Senator 95 asks how grants are denied. The author states that there are two rounds in which grants are reviewed. Round one examines procedural things (formatting, all parts present, etc) whereas round two qualitatively looks at the grant (reading what professors have written, etc.) Most grants that are disqualified are those that do not make it past the first round.

Motion to pass GS15-35 by unanimous consent made by Senator 6, seconded by Senator 42. No one objects, and the motion passes.

The motion to adjourn is made by Senator 41, seconded by Senator 87. No one objects, and the meeting is adjourned at 8:00.