

UNIVERSITY OF OKLAHOMA STUDENT  
GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION  
GRADUATE STUDENT SENATE  
GENERAL ASSEMBLY MINUTES  
February 28, 2016  
7:00 P.M.  
SARKEY'S ENERGY COMPLEX A-235

Meeting is called to order at 7:03.

Motion to approve last meeting's minutes made by Senator 55, seconded by Senator 48. The motion passes.

The chair mentions that the Big Event registration is this Friday. She also mentions that tonight we will see the resolution about Syria again tonight. Also, on March 11<sup>th</sup>, grants are due.

The Vice Chair, Secretary, Academic Affairs, Development and Philanthropy, and External Affairs have nothing to report.

Human diversity has seen the Syria bill and made revisions – they have made the recipients more local, and to made the language of the bill friendly. They recommend to the body that it passes.

Internal Affairs states that they will soon write up a bill to solidify what it means to be in good or bad standing.

Problems and Projects, Public Relations, Ways and Means, and Sustainability have nothing to report.

GS16-01 (A Resolution Regarding Syrian Refugees Humanitarian Crisis) is moved from Special Orders to new business by Senator 26, seconded by Senator 16. It is then moved to the floor by Senator 69, seconded by Senator 59.

Senator 59 asks is a friendly amendment can be mad to highlight the contributions of refugees historically. The author declines.

Senator 69 asks if Gov. Mary Fallin is against or for refugees within Oklahoma, as this is not what we were led to believe in the last bill. The author responds that the focus of the bill has changed. The senator again asks if the stance of Gov. Mary Fallin has changed. The author responds that regardless of her stance, they decided to approach the issue with this bill differently.

Senator 52 asks if there continues to be a question regarding Constitutionality. The author responds that the bill is now a lot more positive without such mentions.

Senator 62 asks what the goal of this new resolution is. The author responds that various state officials are asking her to no longer accept refugees, and we as a student body would like to encourage her to continue accepting them.

Senator 18 asks if the SGA will do anything other than issuing a statement. The author responds that there are no other plans at this point.

Senator 86 asks who the resolution would be sent to. The author responds that it would be sent to all state level officials, (including Shoemaker and Bennett) and the mayors of the ten most populated cities in Oklahoma, the mayor of Jinx Oklahoma (where there are three Syrian refugees already) as well as the news.

Senator 66 asks why the issue of Constitutionality was removed from this version of the resolution. The author responds that this did not fit in with the new direction of the bill.

Senator 71 adds as a point of information that Bennett wrote a letter against refugees, and Shoemaker gave a speech where he was for refugees entering Oklahoma.

Senator 62 asks if we address why we are sending this in the resolution. The author responds that it is addressed in whereas clauses 3 and 4.

Motion by Senator 69 and Senator 20 to extend time.

Senator 69 asks about why we are including selective statements of Gov Mary Fallin as if she in favor of refugees when she seemed against it in the previous incarnation of the bill. The author responds that we should focus on the positives of her statements to possibly win her over.

Senator 78 asks why the resolution is no longer confrontational. The author responds that it was not seen as conducive to the resolutions goals to be confrontational. A more welcoming and positive tone would hopeful get more results.

Senator 86 asks if citations of facts should be included in the bill. The author responds that citations are generally not included in resolutions.

Senator 66 asks for a friendly amendment talking about how it is unconstitutional for a governor to dictate foreign policy. The author refuses.

As a point of information, Senator 69 points out that Senator 66 is a law student.

Senator 6 asks if the author agrees that not the legality of refugees entering Oklahoma, but the fact that they should feel welcome. The author agrees.

Senator 62 asks why we do not use the sentiments that Senator 6 used. The author points ut that these sentiments are used in Section 1 and 2 (below the whereas clauses).

Senator 59 asks the body if we should move to debate, but others voice that it is time to vote.

Motion to placard vote made by Senator 97, seconded by Senator 20.

Yeas -

5, 72, 83, 77, 38, 90, 22, 21, 76, 71, 97, 57, 6, 85, 47, 91, 17, 82, 16, 55, 34, 86, 94, 39, 40, 18, 96, 88, 3, 19, 61, 62, 63, 73, 48, 56, 68, 44, 89, 52, 98, 66, 95, \

43 total votes.

Nays -

78, 67, 13, 14, 27, 42, 31, 65

8 total votes

Abstentions -

81, 20, 69, 75, 64, 59, 74

7 total votes

The motion passes.

GS16-05 (Emergency Allocation #7), GS16-06 (Emergency Allocation #8), GS16-07 (Emergency Allocation #9) are moved in a block to the floor with a motion from Senator 97, seconded by Senator 59. They allocate \$167 to Sooner Mental Health for snacks during it's meetings, \$285 to Korean Conversation Club for Lunar New Year, \$680 to Kappa Gamma Epsilon for a French movie night, \$776.76 to Curling Club for a competition, \$200.00 to Society of Undergraduate Philosophers for meetings, and \$285.00 to Informed Citizens Discussion Groups for a trivia night. Our Earth is starting a garden for \$510.30, Child's Cup Full will have a big event for \$150.00, and Expressive Movement Initiative will hold a dance recital for kids for \$265.00.

Senator 85 asks how much it costs to rent the Union for the French Movie night. The author responds that it costs \$285.

Motion to pass by unanimous consent made by Senator 59, seconded by Senator 20. The motion passes.

GS16-08 (Polling Location Act) is brought to the floor by Senator 69, seconded by Senator 98. It sets the polling locations for the upcoming elections to be at the Union, Dale hall, and the Bookmark Cafe at Bizzell library.

Senator 85 asks about a location on the research campus. The author responds that there will not be one, but students may vote online.

Motion to pass by unanimous consent made by Senator 69, seconded by Senator 18. The motion passes.

Motion to adjourn made by Senator 34, seconded by Senator 40. The meeting is adjourned at 7:30.