

**UNIVERSITY OF OKLAHOMA STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION
GRADUATE STUDENT SENATE
GENERAL ASSEMBLY MINUTES
September 25th, 2016 7:00 P.M.
Sarkeys Energy Center, A235**

Call to Order: 7:00 p.m.

Reading and Approval of the Minutes: Motion by Senator 89, Seconded by Senator 91

Officer Reports:

- Chair :
 - Thanks for coming to the 2nd meeting (and the 1st committee meeting). Welcome. Chairs, please meet with executive committee briefly after the meeting. That's when you will turn in the committee forms.
- Vice-Chair:
 - No report
- Secretary:
 - Debate watch party hosted by SGA tomorrow 7:30 – 9:30 in community room of Bizzell, lower level 1. Need up to 4 volunteers for graduate student council. Contact Carrie for details.

Committee Reports:

- Academic Affairs :
 - We got to know wonderful committee members and are very proud of what they'll accomplish this semester. Full steam ahead for excellence town.
- Development & Philanthropy:
 - No report.
- External Affairs:
 - Working on fees this semester and maybe parking.
- Human Diversity :
 - Eating pizza and getting to know each other.
- Internal Affairs:
 - We were getting to know each other. Will work on by laws this year.
- Public Relations :
 - Follow us on Twitter OU_GradSenate . Follow this for updates on meeting cancellations as well as inclement weather gets closer.
- Sustainability:
 - introductions and assignments and start brainstorming projects for semester
- Ways and Means :
 - Kind of spread out but they kind of got to know each other and talked about mission for semester (evaluate grants). Briefly discussed making forms electronic.

Special Orders:

Chair called for a motion to move the legislation into a block: Motion by Senator 40, seconded by Senator 11.

- GF16-07 SGA Superior Court Appointment Act of 2016: motion to floor by Senator 85, seconded by Senator 44.

- Author Daniel Pae, SGA President, talked about purpose of SGA superior court. Have selected 6 individuals to Superior court from 16 applicants, 10 interviews, 6 chosen. All are outstanding and capable.
 - Douglas Brooking, Jacob Laughlin, Brody Gustafson, Jason Bollinger and Sean Wallis were present. Lucy Kimani was not in attendance.
 - Each selection discussed who they were and why they applied and their qualifications for superior court.
- Motion to pass by unanimous consent by Senator 59, seconded by Senator 19. No objections. Motion passes.
- GF16-08 Election Board Appointment Act of 2016
 - Motion to move to floor by Senator 77 and seconded by Senator 33.
 - Author Abbey Taylor (SGA election chair) presented election board (minus 1). Author stated that election board had 27 applicants, 12 interviews, and selected 5 board members.
 - Each selection discussed who they were and why they applied and their qualifications for election board.
 - Visha Patel
 - Katie Kramer
 - Bailey Jarrett
 - Lauren Leslie
 - Maggie Marcum
 - Yielded rest of time for questions:
 - Motion to pass by unanimous consent by Senator 48, seconded by Senator 19. No objections. Motion passes.
- GF16-09 Auxiliary Allocation Act #2
 - Motion to move to floor by Senator 40, seconded by Senator 20.
 - Ryan Echols (Chair of SGA Budget Committee) went through each allocation:
 - United World \$1585.00 for rentals, food, promotion for UW programs
 - Turkish \$550.00 for handouts for Turkish class and food for events
 - Lambda Delta Psi Sorority \$425.00 for rentals for events
 - Society of Petrophysicists and Well Log Analysts, \$250.00 for banner and flyers for general usage
 - Crimson Skies Design Build Fly, \$300.00 for propeller for competition plane
 - Japanese Club, \$321.00 for food and drink for movie night
 - Angolan Student Association, \$445.00 for Angola night, dance workshop
 - The Arabic Club, \$250.00 for food and supplies
 - Iranian Cultural Association, \$200.00 for food for poetry night
 - Association of Geography Graduate Students, \$426.00 for food and drink for general meetings
 - Autism Speaks U, \$500.00 for rentals for event
 - Leaves \$48,330.71 in auxiliary budget for semester.
 - Yield rest of time for questions
 - Senator 85: You mentioned a couple cases of funding for appropriated for food for general meetings. Is that food fundable for SGA?
 - Chair: Yes, that's how we got the pizza tonight.
 - Senator 85. Okay, I won't complain.
 - Senator 59 motion to pass by unanimous consent. Seconded by Senator 100. No objections, motion passes
- GF16-10 SFC Guidelines Update Act of 2016
 - Motion to move to the floor by Senator 11, seconded by Senator 98.

- Co-author Jake Mazeitis: Speaking on behalf of Sooner Freshman council co-chairs. This bill adds an attendance policy for the Sooner Freshman Council members so they are accountable, it strikes the open meetings act, striking requirement that they attend HCSA meetings because they overlap and reps didn't get what was intended for them to get out of meetings.
 - Encourage to vote yes so they can keep up with current practices
 - Senator 59 asks about the open meeting act changes.
 - Author answers they are striking it because this committee doesn't make actual decisions that impact student body, and are not obligated to follow the open meeting act.
 - Senator 72 could you remind what freshman council does?
 - Author responds that the Sooner Freshman Council connects freshman with various things on campus, like the Vice President of Development, talks about diversity, similar to presidents leadership class, just with smaller group.
 - Senator 90: so if it's an organization that's going to expose students to leadership opportunities wouldn't it be beneficial to let other students attend?
 - Author responds: The point is to let 'best' freshman attend, expanding beyond 30 students would dilute process. 30 chosen students went through an application process. There are more opportunities for freshman that want to get involved such as CAC spark, civic event, and others.
 - Senator 22: Do you have a lot of 'crashers'?
 - Author: No, but co-chairs were worried.
 - Senator 85: other than co-chairs who review applications? Is there additional oversight from faculty for selecting applicants?
 - Author: Yes, current VP for SGA is student supervisor and they brought in other student leaders
 - Senator 11: what are the selection criteria for this council?
 - Author: Success and involvement in high school, future leaders at university level (community service projects, leadership roles), people are not ranked but there is a 'holistic' evaluation of their applications.
 - Senator 59 motion to pass by unanimous consent, seconded by Senator 48. No objections. Motion passes.
- GF16-11 Mental Health Promotion Resolution
 - Motion to move to the floor by Senator 83, seconded by Senator 72.
 - Author Andrew Kiehlig described that this original bill was aimed at raising awareness about mental health surfaces, but bill didn't pass GSS last year so it 'died'. GSS decided to take the lead and come up with new bill. Point of this renewed bill is to help commit SGA help remove stigma about using counseling and mental health services on campus. Suicide is 2nd leading cause of death in 18-35 years, 60% of college students report feelings of severe depression/anxiety during undergrad.
 - Took meetings with OUr mental health and director of counseling center, this bill is good compromise from last year that will allow moving forward making students aware of mental health services on campus (and thanks people including president for increasing mental health services)
 - Senator 11 asks: so how exactly is this supposed to promote awareness?
 - Author responds, Excellent question: 'committing' ourselves, SGA exec, OUr mental health, etc will work together to promote a dialog on campus about mental health. Will work with Scott Miller in the future and SGA will be involved in significant way.

- Senator 11: so the purpose is to get started, not to do anything?
 - Author: Correct- we are not allocating money, we are just saying we are obliging ourselves to take this seriously
 - Senator 48: will there be other follow up bills once there is a plan of action?
 - Author: We expect that to happen, most likely led by undergrad problems and projects
 - Senator 85: what are some of the major changes compared to last year?
 - Author: Last year's bill wanted us to send a petition to POTUS saying affordable care act should be amended. Last year's bill called for survey? Which we can't authorize cause of privacy laws. Did a number of things that just no one really seemed to know what the purpose of the bill was.
 - Senator 11 : looking at list of people this is sent to, what is the procedure to add chairs of departments on campus: Friendly amendment?
 - Chair: Friendly amendment would need to be accepted by author.
 - Senator 11: Could we add all of the chairs of departments?
 - Chair: could we do deans of departments instead?
 - Senator 40: friendly amendment, add someone with lots of interactions with freshman on smaller basis, friendly amendment add Dr. Roxanne Mountford, Director of First-Year Composition.
 - Author: I'll accept friendly amendments to add deans and director of first year composition. Yes.
 - Senator 11: motion to pass by unanimous consent, seconded by Senator 57. No objections. Bill passes.
- GF16-12 An Act Revising the Budgetary Process
 - Motion to move to floor by Senator 60, seconded by Senator 3
 - Jonathan (GSS Vice-Chair) will preside over this bill as Carrie (GSS Chair), is co-presenter.
 - Co-Author Carrie Pavlowsky explains- this bill is doing away with interview process because of bias complaints. Will rely solely on written applications, and written applications are same as interview questions. Doing away with face to face (perception) bias by making it all paper related. Committee nominated by congress.
 - Author Kaylee Rains explains- research and other calls said only one other school in Big 12 does it like us, and anyone else that does face to face interviews has supervisors and faculty. Anything asked during interview process is on paper application so same questions would be answer. Ways and Means would have more time to meet with groups and have workshops and forums so people actually know what funding process is. Very beneficial to entire student organization.
 - Co-author Daniel Pae explains – 3 reasons why we should vote yes. 1. Increases simplicity. No scheduling, just one simple form in conjunction with budgetary requests in orgsync. 2. Increases level of consistency. 3. Increases level of transparency so student organizations know what they're getting into.
 - Senator 40 : is there a policy in this for response time for emails?
 - Kaylee – like an email after they've submitted the form?
 - Senator 40, email that their response has been received.
 - Kaylee, yes the submission is in orgsync so they know they submitted it
 - Senator 40: so would people submitting it get a response?
 - Kaylee – yes there is a confirmation receipt.

- Senator 40: second question: is everyone who would be present in face to face interview have access to email?
 - Carrie: orgsync has a group member access. All of ways and means would have access the applications.
- Senator 11: Have any formal complaints about face to face interviews been brought up?
 - Carrie, yes, that's why we're trying to do these changes.
- Senator 11 motion to pass by unanimous consent, seconded by Senator 77. No objections. Motion passes.

Old Business:

- GF16-01 General Counsel Appointment Act of 2016
 - Motion to move GF16-01 to floor by Senator 55, seconded by Senator 60
 - Author Daniel Pae presenting: Explains general counsel is SGA's attorney general about complaints. 2 applications were received and they chose this general counsel appointment, Cassandra Nguyen, as she was previously associate general counsel.
 - Cassandra explains she is a 3rd year law student at law school. States purpose of general counsel is to help advise student that get in trouble with integrity or student misconduct, any grade appeals, etc.
 - Daniel: Fun fact?
 - Cassandra: I went to the state fair today
 - Yield rest of the time for questions.
 - Senator 85: how many students are on general counsel?
 - Carrie (GSS Chair): General counsel is a title, so one person.
 - Senator 85, so she is general counsel. Any faculty support?
 - Daniel: you have option to choose associate general counsel
 - Senator 59 how many students use your services each semester?
 - Cassandra- last semester we had about 10-15 students, depends on how many students that call AND follow up (many don't follow up)
 - Senator 59: motion to pass by unanimous consent. Seconded by Senator 76. No objections. Motion passes.

Announcements: Chairs please stop by and talk to executive committee and turn in committee forms before you leave. Help yourself to pizza on the way out.

Senator 91 motions to adjourn, seconded by Senator 89. Meeting adjourned at 7:29 p.m.