

**UNIVERSITY OF OKLAHOMA STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION  
GRADUATE STUDENT SENATE  
GENERAL MEETING MINUTES  
October 23rd, 2016 7:00 P.M.  
Sarkeys Energy Center, A235**

**Call to Order: 7:04 p.m.**

**Approval of the Minutes:** Senator 91, seconded by Senator 14

**Officer Reports:**

- Chair – Carrie is not here
- Vice-Chair – Jonathan is chairing for Carrie
- Secretary – Please remember to pick up your placards at the beginning of meetings and sign your committee report sign-in sheet.

**Committee Reports:**

- Academic Affairs – Concerning minors bill, passed out of committee with recommendation of ‘Do Not Pass’
- Development & Philanthropy – Trying to make plans for committee events for semester.
- External Affairs – No report
- Human Diversity – No report
- Internal Affairs – Looking over by laws
- Public Relations - No report
- Sustainability – No report
- Ways and Means – no report

**Special Orders:**

- GF16-16 Auxiliary Funding #4
  - Ryan Echols, SGA Budget Committee Chair discusses:
    - Undergraduate Mock Trial Team would receive \$556.00 for office expenses, hotel expenses.
    - Phi Gamma Pi would receive \$400.00 for a membership dinner.
    - Students for Liberty would receive \$460.00 for travel for speakers for an event they’re hosting.
    - The Big Event would receive \$8,000.00 for supplies, rental, charges for that event.
    - The Student Bar Association would receive \$6,400.00 for rentals and food for meetings.
    - The Society of American Archivists would receive \$100.00 for food for general meetings.
    - Health Law Student Association would receive \$525.00 for food for meetings and a speaker event.
    - SORO would receive \$3,500 for office supplies and capital investments.
    - General Council would receive \$300.00 for programs.
    - This leaves \$25,600.71 remaining.
      - This is a larger than normal amount, but it is accounted for in the budget. It is larger because they are seeing two admin groups and the big event

- Questions?
  - Motion to pass by unanimous consent by Senator 48, seconded by Senator 85
    - No objections, motion passes.
- GF16-17 Polling Locations of Fall 2016
  - Motion to bring to floor by Senator 10, seconded by Senator 65
  - Jake Mazeitis: standing in for Abbey Taylor, explains this is establishing WHERE they are having electronic polls set up for SGA elections this year.
    - Senator 91, why was law school taken off?
      - Jake responds, probably the ability of people to manage law school location, or number of people actually voting there. Again, voting is online, so people can vote from anywhere on their personal computers.
    - Senator 11 motion to pass by unanimous consent, seconded by Senator 60.
      - No objections, motion passes.
- GF16-18 A Resolution Honoring Individuals
  - Motion to bring to floor by Senator 97, seconded by Senator 33
  - Author Andrew Kierig explains this legislation is to honor distinguished individuals, SGA President, VP, executive cabinet). They have done number of things (food pantry, C.O.R.E., bike share, free legal services) that we should acknowledge. They did an extraordinary job with tough budget and social circumstances. Yields rest of time for questions.
  - Motion to pass by unanimous consent by Senator 76, seconded by Senator 90
    - No objections, motion passes.
- GF16-19 Survey Amendment Act of 2016
  - Motion to move to floor by Senator 65, seconded by Senator 66
    - Jake Mazeitis, Undergraduate Student Congress Secretary explains that this allows congress to amend pieces of legislation on the floor. Striking amendment code that prevented them from doing that before. Yields rest of time for questions.
    - Senator 11: does anyone see the amended piece after this is amended on the floor?
    - Jake, Yes, final bill would need to be passed by both houses (undergraduate congress and graduate student senate)
    - Motion to pass by Senator 11, seconded by Senator 18.
      - No objections, motion passes.
- GF16-20 Multicultural Student Organization Survey
  - **Motion to table by Senator 59, seconded by Senator 91**
- GF16-21 An Act Establishing a Survey for SQ 777
  - Motion to move to the floor by Senator 48, seconded by Senator 68.
  - Kaleigh Chance, Author: associate in undergrad student congress and member of sustainability committee and Madison James, Chair of Sustainability committee explain:
    - They have heard student concerns about negative impact of State question 777, including a rally for no on 777 campaign, personal interactions with students, and overall it seems that students have a concern about SQ 777. Does majority of OU population feel the same way? This is a survey to see how majority of OU population feels about 777. If students are concerned, it

- may lead to the writing of a resolution about this topic. Bringing awareness to this topic, to encourage looking into this further.
- They have worked on not writing leading questions. This SQ 777 is called the ‘right to farm’. Implications about clean air and clean water. Also to encourage voting. Yield the rest of their time for questions.
    - Senator 59, would you consider any other ways of raising awareness?
    - Yes, but timing issues (Election day on Nov. 8<sup>th</sup> is coming up quickly), and resolution is drafted if survey results come out that way. They have thought about getting in touch with OU daily if they don’t have enough time for resolution.
    - Senator 85. So, considering it is the 23<sup>rd</sup>, what is the modified timeline for survey?
    - Authors: The bill should be this coming Monday, (10/24), through next Tuesday, November 1st. That would allow them enough time to get data and run data and present to congress and amend on the floor as necessary.
    - Senator 85, propose friendly amendment to change dates on the bill. It is described that the dates already have been changed, the GSS is not viewing the most updated legislation.
    - Motion to pass by Senator 11. Seconded by Senator 41.
      - No objections, motion passes.
  - GF16-22 OU Minor/Certificate Expansion Act of 2016
    - Motion to move to floor by Senator 55, seconded by Senator 35.
    - Ryan Echols, Chair SGA Budgetary Committee introduces author, David
      - Author explains that basically this is a survey piece of legislation to ask if we should add 16 minors to course offerings. David has reviewed all course offerings at OU and found that the following may qualify as minors.
        - 6 country specific, 4 religious specific, 3 political specific, 2 useful recruitment tools, Oklahoma studies,
        - These are classes already on the books, no other new classes would have to be created, and no new professors would be hired. If we have minor offerings this ‘protects’ these classes from future budget cuts
      - Senator 59: Did you speak to anyone on Academic programs council that approves new minors or anyone in College of Arts and Sciences or International Studies?
        - Answers: Associate dean of international studies says certificates are in the works for Italian, Mexican and Brazilian studies.
        - Arts and Sciences, he has had off the record conversations.
        - Faculty Senate, off the record conversations
        - No meeting with academic council
      - Senator 59 follow up. Have you spoken with any faculty whose courses you have chosen for this minor? i.e. rock and roll minor
        - He is aware that guitar is important for rock and roll, and some ‘off the record’ conversations say that if 1000 students say yes on the survey, that would be considered ‘favorable’ results.
      - Senator 11 asks, what is the standard method used for producing a new minor? Which of those steps have been taken?
        - 1) students came to him
        - 2) did some research
        - 3) standards put together looking at existing minor sheets

- Senator 73: is there any harm to doing the survey?
  - To his knowledge, no. But he has heard rumors... but this legislations doesn't endorse the minors, it is just asking students if they'd want to do it
  - Faculty want to see there is a huge interest in these minors. So before moving forward this would allow him to have better numbers to present to faculty senate
- 59: Can you explain your justification for conservative studies minor?
  - He had a lot of students in spring specifically form 'traditional conservative groups' talk to him about it. He thinks there should be a study for that regardless of if people agree or disagree. Feel free to make a friendly amendment to strike if that is the difference between passing and not passing.
- Senator 40: would you accept a friendly amendment to remove bias language? I.e. 'would you favor'. Strike 'considering that the University of Oklahoma already currently offers the classes'.
  - Cannot be amended on the floor
- Senator 46: Can I suggest a friendly amendment to scratch conservative studies?
  - Amendments cannot come to the floor
- Senator 46 follow up, can she refer back to committee?
  - Was not referred back to committee.
- Senator 47: So passing this legislation would just be for survey distribution, we would see it again as resolution if it even gets there?
  - Author, yes. Point of information, passing this does not endorse any of the minors, it is just a way to gather responses from students about potential interest in minor and certificate programs to move forward if the responses are in favor of doing so.
- Senator 91 says if there more questions then time needs to be extended.
- Chair, Motion to extend time limit?
- Senator 59, motion to move to debate, seconded by Senator 40
- Chair explains, debate is decided by simple majority.
  - In favor to move to debate:
    - Senators 83, 46, 68, 65, 86, 60, 97, 85, 13, 59, 40, 11, 89, 98, 57, 76
      - 16 total
  - Opposed to moving to debate
    - Senators 47, 5, 41, 95, 6, 93, 14, 22, 19, 91, 87, 33, 66, 45, 52, 75, 74, 44, 43, 48, 63, 90, 37, 17, 18, 7, 3
      - 27 total
  - Senator 11 motions to move to placard vote, seconded by senator 41.
- Chair explains this moves to placard vote, agree or disagree with bill (pass or fail), simple majority.
  - In Favor to pass
    - Senators 47, 18, 3, 17, 76, 57, 37, 7, 98, 89, 90, 63, 48, 75, 52, 43, 44, 74, 45, 66, 33, 87, 91, 50, 93, 6, 5, 41, 95, 97, 13, 14
      - 32 total.
  - Opposed to passing
    - Senators 11, 40, 59, 85, 60, 86, 65, 68, 1, 77, 83
      - 11 total
  - Abstaining
    - Senators 73, 22, 78, 46, 34
      - 5 total
- Motion passes.

**Announcements:**

- Jonathan says: This Wednesday, dos and donts of publishing:
  - Jen Waller, the Open Educational Resources and Scholarly Communication Coordinator for the OU Libraries, will be hosting ‘Publish, Not Perish: Considerations Before Hitting “Submit”’ on Wednesday, October 26<sup>th</sup> at 11am in Bizzell Memorial Library HCLC Community Room (LL1, Room 118).

**Adjournment : motion to adjourn by Senator 48, seconded by Senator 65**