

**UNIVERSITY OF OKLAHOMA STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION
GRADUATE STUDENT SENATE
GENERAL MEETING MINUTES
November 6th, 2016 7:00 P.M.
Sarkeys Energy Center, A235**

Call to Order: 7:01 p.m.

Approval of the Minutes: 11, 33

Officer Reports:

- Chair : Presidential Election and OU Student Body Election on Tuesday, including survey questions we'll see tonight. 5 candidates running, she encourages you to vote. Also, if you're interested in that election, there is a debate (carrie is a moderator) in Meacham.
- Vice-Chair – Just to be more consistent, he will send agenda emails Thursday morning. If he doesn't have bills/resolution by Thursday morning, they won't be added to agenda. Send it by Wednesday evening week of meeting.
- Secretary – No report.

Committee Reports:

- Academic Affairs – Last Sunday they met in joint committee with undergrad committee to revise GS 16-22 (minor expansion) revised with recommendation of no recommendation
- Development & Philanthropy – working on toydrive for Positive Tomorrows. They discussed deadline and location to toybox. Are making flyer with help from PR.
- External Affairs – Bill on fees you will see tonight. Parking services is not in favor
- Human Diversity - No report.
- Internal Affairs – still looking at bylaws
- Public Relations – going to make awesome flyer for toydrive, everyone will want to donate
- Sustainability – no report
- Ways and Means – we finished grants, will have finalized grants ready, grants will be approved in 2 weeks

Special Orders: Motion to move to new business by Senator 65, seconded by Senator 100

- GF16-22 OU Minor/Certificate Expansion Act of 2016 – Motion to move to floor by Senator 98, seconded by Senator 41.
 - Ryan Echols and Dave: Yield floor to Dave: Survey bill to ask opinion of students to add 13 different minors (went to joint committee last weekend), if passed it would go to students on Tuesday/Wednesday. Just to get students opinion on something, it is still a long lengthy process even if students have positive results. Earliest this would be acted on is fall of 2018.
 - Senator 59 – Can I propose a friendly amendment to remove conspiracy studies minor?
 - Author: If the bill is amended, it would have to go back to congress and would not be able to be distributed to students by this Tuesday/Wednesday. Also, Senator 59, you had the option to offer friendly amendment when this was in joint committee and you did not do so at that time. Author does not accept friendly amendment.
 - Senator 48 – what is the interest of students on conspiracy theories minor?

- Author replies: There is a class called secret societies and a class in American history conspiracy theories. A minimum of 800 students need to say yes on survey for any minor or certificate to move forward to next phase. This was meant to increase student interest in survey to get more responses about other minors. You have to be creative in how you get students interested in survey
 - Senator 59 – Motion to placard vote to approve bill
 - Chair explains that senators in favor of bill passing, raise their placards for ‘Yay’. Senators opposed of bill passing raise their placards for ‘Nay’, and those abstaining, raise their placards for ‘Abstain’.
 - **Placard vote:**
 - **Yay:** 93, 94, 77, 82, 32, 31, 1, 65, 22, 58, 26, 6, 35, 14, 19, 5, 91, 66, 33, 87, 41, 52, 97, 20, 44, 43, 63, 21, 64, 48, 10, 89, 37, 17, 98, 18, 57, 76, 73, 3
 - **Nay:** 83, 84, 100, 68, 59, 11, 60, 90
 - **Abstain:** 40, 96, 86, 85, 72, 16, 78, 49, 55, 47
 - **40 Yays, 8 Nays, 10 abstain. Bill Passes.**
- GF16-23 A Concurring Resolution Condemning Vandalism and Hate Speech: motion to move to floor by Senator 77, seconded by Senator 100.
 - Authors Emily Mee and Carrie Pavlowsky presenting: Emily explains the main goals were to address students concerns regarding white nationalist posters going around OU. Makes many students of color and jewish community uncomfortable. Encouraging us internally to expand initiatives.
 - We are sending this to neonazi group headquarters that is responsible for putting up the posters. It also addresses what they’re being fined for damage caused by superglue used to put up signs. Author yields rest of time for questions
 - Senator 59 motion to pass by unanimous consent, seconded by 91. No objections. Motion passes.
- GF16-25 Auxiliary Funding #5 – motion to move to the floor by Senator 10 and seconded by 27.
 - Celeste Davis and Ryan Echols presenting
 - OU men’s rugby team to receive \$1651.50 for dues so they can compete
 - Women’s Pre-Med Society to receive \$477.55 for panel events and meetings
 - OUr Earth to receive \$250 for fall campout.
 - Crimson Arrow Archery Club to receive \$399.09 for range fees and capital investments.
 - Dyslexia Education Support Community to receive \$265 for Dyslexia awareness event
 - Honors Student Association to receive \$1647 for a myriad of events, professor discussions, movie nights.
 - African Student Association to receive \$860 for African queen pageant
 - Students for Education to receive \$290 for meetings, food, drink
 - Foreign Film Club to receive \$200 for food for meetings
 - OUr Mental Health to receive \$395 for Mental health awareness week events, primarily drinks and food
 - This leaves \$15745.57 left in this semester auxiliary reserve.
 - Senator 48 motion to pass by unanimous consent, seconded by Senator 85. No objections, motion passes.
- Senator 73 motions to move GF 16-26 to floor. Seconded by Senator 65.
- GF16-26 A Senatorial Resolution Regarding the negative impact of mandatory fees on graduate assistants at the University of Oklahoma.

- The survey when out last semester to access graduate student fees. Results of 390 responses was broken down by demographics-.5, GTA/GRA.
- George-asked about who is it sending to added Dr. Harper
- Senator 85-asked about student loans, since he remembered there were questions about student loans on the survey.
 - Author: Did collect information about student loans, did not include on the survey. For Senate reference, there were two questions regarding debt from grad school and student loans from grad school to see if answers were consistent. 152 students reported taking out student loans for Grad school at OU, with an average of \$16,152.28 in loans. This was similar to reported ‘debt accrued from OU grad school’, which averaged out at \$16,577.00
- Senator 89-would you accept friendly amendment to add Dr. Kyle Harper to sending list.
 - Author: Yes, will add friendly amendment.
- Senator 11-Thanks writers, asked about breakdown by department.
 - Author: This is a good idea, but for the purpose of this resolution, we just wanted to assess an overall impact of mandatory per credit hour fees on graduate students. Our comparisons against other universities are only by per credit hour fees assessed to every student, not by departmental fees.
- Senator 77-would this include class-specific fees?
 - All fees are credit hour specific, so yes.
- Senator 87-asked have fees gone up? How does this affect impact?
 - Author answered good addition but not in this bill.
- Senator 76-friendly amendment to correctly spell name of Dr. Hewes.
 - Friendly amendment accepted.
- Motion to pass by unanimous consent by Senator 11, seconded by Senator 19. No objections. Motion passes.

Announcements: none

Adjournment : motion to adjourn by Senator 78, seconded by Senator 10.