

**UNIVERSITY OF OKLAHOMA STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION
GRADUATE STUDENT SENATE
GENERAL MEETING MINUTES
February 26th, 2016 7:00 P.M.
Sarkeys Energy Center, A235**

Call to Order: 7:01 p.m.

Approval of the Minutes: Senator 60, seconded by Senator 98

Officer Reports:

- Chair : Not present (Sick)
- Vice-Chair: Legislations needs to be in by Wednesday evening
- Secretary: There were some reported email delivery issues for this weeks agenda, but know that we have everyone on the email list and will make sure there are no delivery issues on our end next week. Please make sure that you are signing in, legibly, to committee meeting sheets, as that is also counted for attendance. New senators please see me briefly after the meeting so I make sure I have your information.

Committee Reports:

- Academic Affairs : Thank you Mr. Chair. We revised and discussed grad student award deadlines and guidelines. They will fix some things and will be discussing that in 2 weeks. Minor changes to 17-13, and reviewed 17-09 both coming out of committee with recommendation of do pass
- Development & Philanthropy – Spring drive for Norman public Schools = ‘Drive to Supply’
- External Affairs – No report
- Human Diversity – No report
- Internal Affairs – We are going to work on reviewing attendance policy
- Public Relations - No report
- Sustainability – no report
- Ways and Means – Grants are due Friday by 5:00 p.m.

Special Orders: Motion to move the New Business: Motion by Senator 73, seconded by senator 35.

- GS17-05 Legislative Update Act of 2017; motion to move to the floor by Senator 112, seconded by Senator 74
 - Ryan Echols presenting: This bill is to change some numbers from some previous legislation that were miscalculated because of some code errors in Excel. This amends the previous legislation to display the correct amounts of money we gave to clubs.
 - Senator 73: Motion to pass by unanimous consent.
 - Seconded by 17.
 - No objections
 - Motion passes
- GS17-07 Auxiliary Funding #9: motion to move to the floor by Senator 112, seconded by Senator 74
 - Ryan Echols presenting
 - Graphic Design Association, \$100 for pizza

- Green Week, \$100 for printing
 - Student Council for Exceptional Children, \$800 for prom rental
 - ASHRAE, \$150 for printing
 - Hebrew Club, \$150 for food
 - Pre-Law Society, \$100 for food and promotional materials
 - Chi Alpha Campus Ministries, \$900 for rentals
 - Drama Student Senate, \$675 for banquet
 - Collegiate Entrepreneurs organization, \$100 for food
 - Japanese Club, \$400 for banquet and rentals
 - Approximately \$105,000 left in account
 - Yield time for questions
 - Senator 60 motion to pass by unanimous consent
 - Seconded by Senator 85
 - No Objections
 - Motion passes
- GS17-08 A Joint Resolution Thanking Jabar Shumate, motion to move to the floor by Senator 95, seconded by Senator 82
 - No authors present.
 - Motion to table by Senator 89
 - Seconded by Senator 67
- GS17-09 A Resolution Thanking Dean T. H. Lee Williams. Motion to move to the floor by Senator 112, seconded by Senator 97
 - Andrew Kierig, Author: haven't had a new grad college dean in a long time. Randy Hewes as the interim has been the first since 1999. We have never thanked Dean Williams for his accomplishments and leadership of Graduate College. This is a list of his accomplishments: OU is now a Carnegie R1 institution, and this is thanking him, from GSS, for his years of service.
 - Yield rest of time for questions
 - Senator 107, motion to pass by unanimous consent
 - Seconded by Senator 117
 - No objections
 - Motion passes
- GS17-10 GSS By-Laws Standing Committee Amendment Act of 2017; motion to move to floor by Senator 10, seconded by Senator 74
 - Jenny Russell, author, presenting:
 - Amendment to our bylaws, did not have an updated standing committee list – Did not have the sustainability committee as a standing committee even though there currently is a Sustainability committee. Additionally, removing Problems and Projects since we no longer have senators serving on that committee, and reordering according to alphabetical order within standing committee list in bylaws. Internal Affairs chair and Sustainability chair authored/co-authored and checked description of new committee. Yield rest of time for questions.
 - Senator 73, motion to pass by unanimous consent
 - Seconded by Senator 105
 - No objections
 - Motion passes

- GS17-11 An Act Clarifying the Student Parking Appeals Court Self-Governance. Motion to move to the floor by Senator 93, seconded by Senator 111.
 - Jake Mazeitis, author, presenting: wants to be able to terminate people's terms in court if they don't show up. They have ability to change bylaws based on code annotated. This now gives them the power to terminate people if they don't show up.
 - Senator 57, can't read bill, can you enlarge?
 - Senator 93, motion to pass by unanimous consent
 - Seconded by Senator 95.
 - No Objections
 - Motion passes

- GS17-12 OU SGA Elections Rules Update Act of 2017. 98, seconded by 67
 - Jake Mazetis: changes how SGA runs elections. SGA president and activity council chairs. Had a problem last semester with unprecedented situations. This clears up some issues they had last semester, and eliminates what election chair calls 'frivolous grievances'. Now candidates can be punished for filing frivolous grievances up to 3 times. In addition, it allows for form to be opened up for people to submit anonymous complaints. This allows outlet for informal complaints. Incrementally increases salaries for election board since they are doing a lot more work. Friendly amendment to update it from internal affairs was accepted.
 - Senator 73: Friendly amendment to conform with this massive document that you handed him before the meeting?
 - Author: Will accept
 - Senator 43: would you be willing to accept friendly amendment to change numeration on page 6 striking?
 - Author: Accepted
 - Senator 73: motion to pass by unanimous consent
 - Seconded by Senator 44
 - No Objections
 - Motion passes

- Senator 37: Question about GS17-12: salary increase?
 - Author: Yes, election board members get paid \$30 now they would get \$50, election location people would get \$100.

- Senator 97: These are people that work with election only, not campaign?
 - Author: Correct

- GS17-13 A Concurrent Resolution Condemning Further Cuts in State Support to Higher Education
- Motion to move to floor by Senator 35, seconded by Senator 87
 - Author Andrew Kierig: Some of you all might remember last year we passed resolution urging support of President Boren's state question 779 initiative. 779 was defeated last November, and 30% of revenue raised by SQ 779 would have been distributed to state universities and colleges (~30 million dollars a year). We are not getting that now, since that didn't pass. Now, the state stands on the edge of a fiscal crisis, because Tuesday the state declared a revenue failure, we will lose additional 5% on top of 16% cut we lost last June for rest of fiscal year. This will go to state rep, senator, President Boren, Board of Regents, that expresses our ongoing dismay at the state of Oklahoma finances. What does this mean for OU? In 2001, we received (on an inflation adjusted basis), ~\$166 million, 2016 = ~\$132 million . Highlights painful cuts we've had to make

- Senator 60: what would you hope to gain from this resolution? Is there a response you're looking for or an acknowledgement?
 - Author: No, I spoke to Emily who suggested that expressing dismay would not directly affect anything that would increase revenue, but expressing our dismay would help pile on to outrage felt in state legislature. Her estimation is that next year we'll take another 10-15 % cuts.
- Senator 92: So nothing in terms of what's going on at OU, is there anything we've lost since not being able to get that money from state?
 - Author: Hypothetical answer, but lots of renovations. Library renovations. Fixing things on North Oval. These all affect departments
- Senator 92: Are those things mentioned?
 - No, but they have been campus master plan for capital improvement projects that have been moved off because we don't have funding (haven't won the lottery).
- Senator 37: You talked about impact this has on first generation college students. Is that mentioned in resolution?
 - Author: No, in fourth whereas is mentions these downfalls have been made up for in increases in tuition and fees. 5th whereas has shown that actual cost of education has remained low because of private donors and scholarship drives. Idea was to keep it short and simple.
- Senator 93. Motion to pass by unanimous consent.
- Seconded by Senator 18.
- No objections
- Motion passes

Old Business:

- GS17-05 Legislative Update Act of 2017

New Business:

Announcements:

Adjournment

Motion to adjourn by Senator 82, seconded by Senator 17

7:24 p.m. adjournment