

**UNIVERSITY OF OKLAHOMA STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION
GRADUATE STUDENT SENATE
GENERAL ASSEMBLY MINUTES
April 23rd, 2017 7:00 P.M.
Sarkeys Energy Center, A235**

Call to Order: 7:01 p.m.

Approval of the Minutes: Senator 93, seconded by Senator 112

Officer Reports:

- Chair : Nominations for executive positions, Chair, Vice-Chair, and Secretary, are open. Will vote on these positions next meeting. Chair = 10 hours a week, meetings not included in that weekly. Lots of meetings, but it is very fun, interaction with undergraduates, lots of meetings. Any questions, ask Carrie. All positions will be open until May 7th.
- Vice-Chair: Idea of vice chair position. 8 hours of office hours a week as opposed to 10. In charge of gathering legislation from anyone and putting that into an agenda and getting that out on time. We are subject to open meetings act. Miscellaneous, answering emails, standing in for Chair, etc. Thanks for attending.
- Secretary: First, would like to welcome any potential new senators that are in attendance tonight. Thank you for coming to see if you'll be interested in joining GSS next year. Please ask us or your current departmental senators any questions as they arise. For the role of secretary, the first job is to keep the minutes for every meeting, as well as attendance. There are additional roles, but the roles of each executive position are outlined very clearly and thoroughly in the by-laws, so if you're interested, those are on the GSS website so I would recommend looking through those.

Committee Reports:

- Academic Affairs: This evening we received and divided Outstanding grad student awards among committee members. Monitored carefully for conflict of interest. Sub committees within Academic Affairs to review these. Going to pick some great people, have great options.
- Development & Philanthropy: School supply drive, tomorrow is deadline. Will be collecting those supplies and dropping them off at school.
- External Affairs: No report.
- Human Diversity: No report.
- Internal Affairs: No report.
- Public Relations: No report.
- Sustainability: No report.
- Ways and Means: No report.

Special Orders: Motion to move to floor?

Motion to move Auxiliary Funding as block to floor by Senator 59, seconded by Senator 12.

- GS17-21 Auxiliary Funding #13
- GS17-22 Auxiliary Funding #14
- GS17-23 Auxiliary Funding #15
 - Ryan Echols, author, explains:

- American Society of Mechanical Engineers, \$585 for food and beverage for meetings
 - Catalyst for a Better Future, \$200 for food for meetings
 - Constitutional Student Association, \$670 for food and beverage for meetings
 - OU Curling Club, \$1,180 for travel
 - Society of Physics Students, \$69.42 for food and beverage for meetings
 - Association of Adult, Higher Education and Development, \$750 for travel for convention
 - College of Law Outlaw, \$260 for food beverage for meetings
 - Drama Student Senate, \$1,500 for red bulls for banquet
 - Global Brigades, \$750 for supplies for 5k
 - National Pan-Hellenic Council, \$1,500 for food and beverage
 - American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics, \$342 for food and beverages for meetings
 - American Institute of Chemical Engineers, \$750 for rentals for banquet
 - Arab Student Association, \$67.00 for food and beverages for meetings
 - Association Friends of Venezuela, \$1,200 for dinner for Venezuelan night
 - Association of Transfer Students, \$750 for OATS event, 'welcome party'
 - Colombian student Association, \$600 for end of year banquet
 - History of Science Association, \$250 for speaker fees
 - International Advisory Committee, \$3,800 for food
 - Iranian Student Association, \$1,500 for travel and rentals
 - Kappa Kappa Psi, \$300 for membership registration fees
 - Kappa Phi, \$750 for membership registration fees
 - Kappa Sigma, \$750 for membership registration fees
 - Lambda Phi Epsilon, \$750 for membership registration fees for convention
 - Men's Glee Club, \$200 for food bev
 - National Society of Black Engineers, \$200 for food beverages for meetings
 - ONE EMS, \$750 for medical supplies
 - OU Fishing Club, \$750 for travel for tourney
 - OU Men's Rugby Club, \$1,500 for goal posts
 - Pre-Medical Professions Club, \$143.50 for food beverages for awards banquet
 - Sooners Helping Sooners, \$195 for end of year banquet
 - The Red Clay Faction, \$1,099 for wood splitter to feed kiln
 - Undergraduate India Society, \$1,665 for rentals for India night
 - Yield rest of time for questions.
 - Senator 73 motion to pass by unanimous consent.
 - Seconded by Senator 95
 - No objections
 - Motion passes.
- Motion to move GS 17-24 to the floor?
 - George and Kaylee remind us that GS 17-24, 24 Re-Districting Act of 2017- Part 1 is a bylaw amendment for Congress, so we don't have to see it.
 - GS17-25 Re-Districting Act of 2017- Part 2
 - Motion to move to the floor by Senator 19, seconded by Senator 67
 - Kaylee Rains, author. One of Congress jobs is to redistrict and they changed a couple of different districts that undergrad students can run in, and it has to go through bylaws and code annotated so it has to come through us.
 - Questions?
 - Senator 57 why did you redistrict?
 - Kaylee: Got rid of district for continuing education and grouped it with education district and looked at some members we hadn't looked at in awhile and reevaluated

- Senator 93: Why was biology separated from life sciences?
 - Kaylee: Had a lot of members in those two districts that ran in contested elections. Lots of interest.
 - Senator 60: motion to pass by unanimous consent
 - Seconded by Senator 5
 - No objections
 - Motion passes
- GS17-26 The Labels for Faulty Water Fountain Reporting Act
 - Motion to move to floor by Senator 120, seconded by Senator 115
 - Table that, author is not here.
- GS17-27 Primary Allocations 2017-2018
 - Motion to move to floor. Senator 12, seconded by Senator 14
 - Ryan Echols: Okay so this basically just goes through every organization we funded. Increased in amount we could allocate because reserve fund was liquidized. Because of that we are able to fund more organizations. We had more organizations than normal (193). Too many to run through. However, he will need friendly amendment including college of law outlaw and ONE EMS. Those were overlooked because when we got registration deadlines from student affairs these two came up as not being registered, but they were required to change names and OrgSync did not catch that registration glitch. So these two organizations need to be added.
 - Motion to accept friendly amendment by Senator 95, seconded by Senator 8
 - Senator 73: Is this including exec budget that was the subject of controversy and if not could you explain it?
 - Ryan: It is not included in what we're seeing now.
 - Senator 73 motion to pass by unanimous consent.
 - Seconded by Senator 82.
 - No objections.
 - Motion passes
- GS17-28 Primary Governmental 2017-2018
 - Motion to move to floor by Senator 43, seconded by Senator 9
 - Ryan Echols: We did see a large increase, most of that went to student organizations, but they also fully funded grad student grants which is a personal project of Ryan's. Important to note that CAC has largest allocation, however, he would like to note that they have maintained the same budget as last year. To pre-empt Andrew's question, historically the responsibility of SGA president submits SGA operations budget, but that budget is bound by restrictions and guidelines of code, so budget was received passed deadline. So expenses within budget will be met by overflow, (excess in auxiliary fund) will be used to maintain necessary calendar expenses of SGA.
 - Questions?
 - Senator 112. Motion for friendly amendment. Salary is spelled wrong.
 - Senator 37: question. You said that CAC budget wasn't increased, interested in hearing where that decision came from and why their budget wasn't decreased since they have significant money and reserves and their money could go to organization that were underfunded.
 - Ryan: They're only organization that services every student at the university, only university that can say that. Fiscal history, they spend every cent every year. Important to note that their yearly operation budget is 1 million dollars
 - Senator 60: CAC relies on sponsorship, how is that recorded and is that used in making decisions for their budget?

- Ryan: Yes, we get sponsorship and fundraising numbers and that goes into consideration for those budgets
- Senator 37: so, if I am understanding correctly, the money that they are getting includes money they are getting from sponsorship?
- Ryan: that was taken into consideration
- Senator 73, motion to pass by unanimous consent.
- Seconded by Senator 34
- Objections? Yes, Senator 37. I think I may be understanding incorrectly, but CAC seems to get sponsorship on top of money they have existing. Been an ongoing issue for years.
- Senator 60: My experience working CAC, those events are operating on smaller budget and it is expected that the sponsorship will get funding for events. Not dollars back to account, but expected from exec team to say we don't have much money but we do go out and get resources to fund events. It's not necessarily getting money on money.
- Senator 37: Makes sense, but organization is supposed to be scope of university. But we hear that it's not happening with marginalized groups on campus
- Senator 93: if this doesn't pass, what happens with this bill?
- Chair: we would likely hear this in two weeks if we don't pass it.
- Senator 93: would we submit committee to look over bill?
- Chair: Ways and means have already approved it from GSS
- Senator 43: to the best of your knowledge, has there been a precedent for a budget not being funded with the caveat that it will be if there is consideration to address concerns of senate members. i.e. we want to approve this but ensure that marginalized voices on campus are getting money too. Concern that there is a lack of equity, is it possible to have request if we approve.
- George, has that been done? No.
- Chair: The past two years there have been pushes to use it for more diverse committees. Push to be more inclusive. CAC, if this isn't funded, it would hurt more groups than help groups. The other side is that we have made definite push to help these multicultural organizations with workshops and getting them more involved in process.
- Senator 73: Carrie we need to move into debate.
- Senator 37: If we vote, it doesn't have to be unanimous?
- Senator 60: Maybe to alleviate some confusion, is there an itemized budget for what CAC has used allocations for in the past?
- Ryan: in terms of what they've done in prior years, we have a change in system so I can't pull that up right now. With new system we can control what they spend it on.
- Chair. Basically they apply for X amount of money for their events. Supported by spending patterns.
- Ryan: 80,000 for CAC speakers bureau, 16500 to CAC film series. 45500 to concert series. Other events that were funded were high school leadership conference, put some money to homecoming reunion weekend, funded CAC week and OK creativity festival.
- Senator 60: How many events are not funded that CAC puts on?
- Chair: every other event is funded through other money raising. If their total expenditure is a million and they get 160,000 from us that other expenditures are by other money
- Senator 109: There is a group that makes sure that marginalized voices are heard in respect to our bills?
- Chair: Yes, these groups meet once a month and say that this is going through Congress and we like/don't like for a number of reasons. Exec from SGA and other committee members are involved. Going well the few months they've had it. A chance for nontraditional or cultural groups to have a voice overall

- Senator 109: Is there a chance we could send this to their meeting?
- Chair: They would have already heard of it. This is the 'big bill'.
- Senator 109: Does that mean they have given this a stamp of approval or where does their approval of this appear?
- Chair: I haven't heard anything negative.
- George: I don't know if these groups have seen this funding. Kaylee is on the board and may have brought it up.
- Chair: We have heard nothing positive or negative. Some of those groups have some crossover with SGA/congress.
- Senator 109: If there hasn't been an assessment of this, can we send it to them? If they specialize, can we send this to them?
- Chair: It's the presidents of the groups themselves. Usually concerns at end of year are addressed at beginning of next year. Problems with changes in this bill is that congress meet on Tuesday so we have one chance to re-do it. I guess they haven't seen it.
- Senator 109: No chance we can send it to them? And ask them general questions?
- Chair: they can't meet before Tuesday, so no.
- Senator 93: motion to move to placard vote
- Seconded by Senator 95.
- Chair, I will ask if you want to vote, yea to approve, nay means not approve.
- Yea: 90, 27, 1, 104, 13, 50, 107, 22, 98, 63, 85, 74, 19, 73, 67, 115, 60, 79, 54, 9, 39, 53, 95, 68, 18, 91, 92, 59
- Nay: 106, 105, 37, 65, 43, 93, 112, 29, 3
- Abstaining: 117, 34, 120, 33, 12, 14, 25, 82, 108, 38, 69, 96, 20, 5, 6, 110, 35, 57, 94, 111
- 28 yeas to 9 nays. 20 abstentions.
- Motion passes with placard vote.
- GS17-29 Academic Appeals Committee
- Motion to move to floor by Senator 12, seconded by Senator 19.
 - Author, Jenny Russell: This legislation would be to approve the graduate college academic appeals committee for the 2017-2018 year. Typically, GSS is asked to provide a list of nominees from each college, however, this year it was done by taking nominations from graduate liaisons. If your college is not represented, it is because the graduate liaison did not provide nominees. Some years there are alternates, but there are no alternate nominees for next year. In the future, if a committee in GSS wants to take this on, that is technically within our scope, for future reference. Yield the rest of my time for questions.
 - Senator 95 motion to pass by unanimous consent.
 - Seconded by Senator 54.
 - Objections: none
 - Motion passes

Old Business:

New Business:

Announcements: final meeting is may 7th. Meeting is here in this room. Reminder nominations for exec are open.

Adjournment . Motion by Senator 60, seconded by Senator 12