

**UNIVERSITY OF OKLAHOMA STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION
GRADUATE STUDENT SENATE
GENERAL ASSEMBLY MINUTES
10/21/2018, 7:00 P.M.
Sarkeys Energy Center, A235**

Call to Order: 7:05 p.m.

Approval of the Minutes: Senator 103, seconded by Senator 6.

Officer Reports:

- Chair: The Student Body election is coming up on October 31st. We will try to send out an email with links to the candidates' websites, so you can check them out.
- Vice-Chair: No report.
- Secretary: Please make sure you sign in on one of the attendance sheets. If you are a proxy, you will need to sign in with your name and the name of the senator you are here for tonight.

Committee Reports:

- Academic Affairs: No report.
- Development & Philanthropy: We started some inquiries and collecting information to make digital materials available to exchange and visiting students.
- External Affairs: We talked about OU CART route changes and TA funding and fees.
- Human Diversity: Thank you for participating with the international bazaar.
- Internal Affairs: No report.
- Public Relations: Let us know if you have anything to advertise and follow us on Twitter. Our handle is @OU_GradSenate.
- Sustainability: We talked about adding recycling in the graduate student section of the library.
- Ways and Means: We finished evaluating GSS Travel and Research Grant applications. We are presenting legislation tonight.

Special Orders: Motion to move to new business by Senator 81, seconded by Senator 62.

- GF18-12 Auxiliary Allocation 07 Act of 2018-2019
- GF18-13 Auxiliary Allocation 08 Act of 2018-2019
 - Motion to move GS18-12 and GS18-13 as block to floor by Senator 10, seconded by Senator 119.
 - Author, Laura Patton, Vice-Chair, SGA Budget Committee: GF18-12 awards \$6,070 to student organizations. GF18-13 awards \$2,792 to student organizations. Yields time for questions.
 - Senator 5: Motion to pass GS18-12 and GS18-13 by unanimous consent.
 - Seconded by Senator 94.
 - No objections.
 - Motion passes.
- GF18-14 GSA General Counsel Bill
 - Motion to move to floor by Senator 93, seconded by Senator 110.
 - Author, Yaseen Shurbaji, SGA president: Taylor Stovall has been serving as the interim, and she applied for the position. We saw it fit to appoint her. There was a

limited number of applicants, and she was the best candidate. Yields time for questions.

- Senator 9: Motion to pass by unanimous consent.
 - Seconded by Senator 69.
 - No objections.
 - Motion passes.
- GF18-15 The Polling Clarification Act of 2018
 - Motion to move to floor by Senator 40, seconded by Senator 117.
 - Author, Caitlin Schneider, Chair of the Congressional Administration Committee: This legislation clarifies the code about elections. The biggest thing was the second paragraph and how ambiguous it was. We added set times to make it more concrete. Yields time for questions.
 - Senator 10: Motion to pass by unanimous consent.
 - Seconded by Senator 67.
 - No objections.
 - Motion passes.
- GF18-16 Resolution Advocating for the Rights of Student Victims of Sexual Misconduct, Discrimination, and Harassment
 - Motion to move to floor by Senator 5, seconded by Senator 64.
 - Authors, Sephra Kolker and Mahak Merchant: Explained the importance of advocating for the rights of student victims of sexual misconduct, discrimination, and harassment. Yields time for questions.
 - Motion to add friendly amendment to add Graduate Student Senate to the Resolution by Senator 6, seconded by Senator 93.
 - Senator 108: Has there been any instances where they didn't take reporting seriously to your knowledge?
 - Author: Not to our knowledge.
 - Senator 10: Motion to pass by unanimous consent.
 - Seconded by Senator 119.
 - No objections.
 - Motion passes.
- GF18-17 An Act of Procedure Approving Travel/Conference/Research & Creative Exhibition Grant Awards for the 2018 Fall Semester
 - Motion to move to floor by Senator 117, seconded by Senator 18.
 - Author, Alexander Finkelstein, Chair of GSS Ways and Means Committee: We awarded 54% of our year's budget for a total of \$42,270. We award a little more in the fall semester. If people do not use their funding, we can apply it towards grants in the spring semester. There were automatic rejections for things like missing signatures, no proof of attendance, or no recommendation letter. Applications were evaluated by two members. If it differed by more than 5 points, I looked at the application to determine the reason for the discrepancy. Scores between 95-100 received 100% of their request, scores between 90-95 received 85% of their request, score between 85-90 received 70% of their request, and scores between 60-85 received 50% of their request. Yields time for questions.
 - Senator 18: How long does it take to apply?
 - Author: It differs from individual to individual. The application has a 500-word essay, a budget sheet, and a letter of recommendation that will differ for every individual in terms of how long it takes to complete.
 - Senator 68: Does the amount awarded in the previous semester affect the overall score of the application?

- Author: No, it does not affect the award.
 - Senator 103: Is it point based?
 - Author: Yes, we have a rubric to score the importance outlined in the essay and recommendation. Once it is graded by two members, the final score is averaged.
 - Senator 103: Is the award allocation broken up by departments?
 - Author: No, each application is considered equally as long as your department is in good standing. If your department is in bad standing, your application is rejected automatically.
 - Senator 27: For the two people that score each application, how are they selected?
 - Author: We had about 10-12 committee members grade. The general rule is that you cannot grade someone's application if you know them or if they are in your department.
 - Senator 68: How important is the statement of purpose?
 - Author: You need to state your contribution to your field, your development in your professional career, and your project description.
 - Senator 67: Motion to pass by unanimous consent.
 - Seconded by Senator 94.
 - No objections.
 - Motion passes.
- GF18-18 Second Election Board Appointments Act of 2018
 - Motion to move to floor by Senator 18, seconded by Senator 10.
 - Author, Dan Williams, Legislative Assistant: This legislation appoints the election board. The following individuals are serving on the election board: Swapnil Akunuri, Traci Baker, Kamrin Gay, Dylan Shirallie, and Anshule Takvar. Swapnil Akunuri, Traci Baker, and Anshule Takvar were present and introduced themselves to Graduate Student Senate.
 - Yields time for questions.
 - Senator 10: Motion to pass by unanimous consent.
 - Seconded by Senator 40.
 - No objections.
 - Motion passes.

Motion to adjourn by Senator 5, seconded by Senator 97.

Adjournment: 7:27 p.m.