

**UNIVERSITY OF OKLAHOMA STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION
GRADUATE STUDENT SENATE
GENERAL MEETING AGENDA
January 19, 2020 6:30 P.M.
Sarkeys Energy Center, A235**

Call to Order: 7:00 pm

Approval of the Minutes: Senator Stelter (53), seconded by Senator Jenkin (71)

Officer Reports:

- Chair: had first executive committee meeting this week, where committee chairs and GSS leadership meet to review upcoming legislation, and correct typos when necessary.
- Vice-Chair: we have George on the phone so speak up.
- Secretary: don't forget to sign in on the committee meeting forms, as this is how we will take attendance throughout the semester

Committee Reports:

- Academic Affairs: nothing to report
- Development & Philanthropy: office of diversity and inclusion collecting for food pantry. HSC office has canned food drive. Looking at service opportunities, still working on them. Toy drive went great.
- External Affairs: survey from last semester with overall sentiments of being a grad student, still compiling data based on colleges. Plan to act upon feedback received. Earth DNA about improving climate change literacy and would like to get more people involved in that.
- Human Diversity: nothing to report
- Internal Affairs: nothing to report
- Public Relations: follow us on social media OU_GradSenate. Let us know about your cool activities and how you're helping grad students at OU
- Sustainability: getting ready for green week, so if you want to coordinate with that
- Ways and Means: nothing to report

Special Orders: moved to the floor by Senator Woodward (11), and seconded by Senator Omoumi (40)

- GS20-01 Appointment of Parking Court Justices, Spring 2020
Announcement before presenting bill: Nathan handing over responsibilities to Tessa. Official appointment to Chief Justice happens on Friday, with a transition period of a semester.
 - Motion to move GS20-01 to floor by Senator Chamon (73), seconded by Senator Forney (110)
 - Author Justin Norris, President of the Student Government Association: The purpose of this act shall be to appoint student members to the Student Parking Appeals Court
 - The newly appointed members don't currently know parking protocol so don't ask them specifics of the rules, but we're going to train them soon. Explained procedures of how they applied, were interviewed, and were selected.Yields time for question
Senator Vijay (116): Can you explain the training process?

Author: It's done internally through parking services and SGA, they will be confirmed by congress, and then for 3-4 weeks they learn about parking regulations and how to represent the student body and parking services

Senator Vijay (116): how do we make sure they don't leave the board like last time?

Author: they're all here now, even though there's no school tomorrow. And we've taken their class schedules into account, so we have the best of the best.

Senator Omoumi (40): Is there going to be reevaluation after training?

Author: It happens about once every month, based on attendance, how they decide cases, and more. Held to internal by laws that are posted. If they did not, they would be removed.

Senator Linsey (7): are these students graduate and undergrad?

Author: there is a mix, majority of current members are graduate or law. Try to make a blend of colleges as well.

Senator Vijay (116): how do you plan to respond when they are not performing well?

Author: we have specific bylaws for that. Still passing specific procedures but the bylaws define what is a good job.

- Senator Satalkar (18): Motion to pass by unanimous consent.
- Seconded by Senator Luthman (6)
- No objections
- Motion passes

- GS20-02 Spring 2020 Departmental Status Act

- Motion to move GS20-02 to floor by Senator Walton(94), seconded by Senator Noble (109)
- Authors Melissa Maxey Chair of Graduate Student Senate and Rafia Mallick Vice Chair of Graduate Student Senate: To update Graduate Student Senate department status at the beginning of the Spring 2020 session.
- Currently the first 2 meetings are not counted for in attendance, and if they accrue absences past that, then the senator is considered to have bad attendance. Currently have allowed one absence beyond the first 2 meetings. Want internal affairs to look at this and work on the wording of the attendance policy to be clearer. If there are 2 senators from a department, one with bad standing attendance and the other good, the department is in good standing. Good standing means that the department is eligible for WAM funding, bad standing means they are not. If there's an attendance problem, you go into probation, and then the following semester, move to good or bad depending on attendance.
- All but 1 department that have representation in GSS currently are in good standing. And that department can move to good standing if they have good attendance this semester. All departments are listed in this legislation so you can see where your department is listed.

Yields time for question

Senator Israel (82): What is the process for defining probation?

Author: attendance is taken from committee meeting forms. Bylaws say we have to attend both committee meeting and general meeting. Each semester we start fresh. First 2 don't count. And then currently you'll get an additional absence before you're considered in bad standing.

Senator Woodworth (108): what happens if we don't pass this?

Author: I'm not sure, George?

George: the intention of the bill is just to notify the senators and the public what's going on.

Author: Serves as a wake-up call.

Senator Grover (51): I'm from a small department, it's just me. What about the other small depts that are also in bad standing?

Author: bylaws say you have to have at least one senator with good attendance. So the grad student that is the only one in the department should come here. And we can change the bylaws

Senator Israel (82): is the definition for bad standing, probation, etc. defined elsewhere?

Author: It's in the bylaws. And I email the liaisons at the beginning of each academic year to let them know who the senators are, and why they should be involved in GSS. So they know they need good attendance to be eligible

Senator Forney (110): How is public admin in bad standing if its within political science?

Author: they're listed separately in the university, so they have different senators. If they need to be merged, email me.

- Senator Finkelstein (61): Motion to pass by unanimous consent.
- Seconded by Senator Linsey (7)
- Objections? Senator Israel (82): can I introduce a motion to table this until these department standings are more clear?
- Seconded by Senator Jenkin (71)
- Motion tabled

Old Business:

New Business:

Announcements:

Adjournment

Motion to adjourn by Senator Rusmore (17), seconded by Senator Soto Zambrana (97)

Adjournment:

Time: 7:30 pm