

**UNIVERSITY OF OKLAHOMA STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION  
GRADUATE STUDENT SENATE  
GENERAL MEETING AGENDA**

**October 11, 2020 7:00 PM**

**Zoom Conference Call**

<https://oklahoma.zoom.us/j/96062714567?pwd=NE90YVhLRTJrRytMeWFLQTNJckY1Zz09>

**Call to Order: 7:03 pm**

**Approval of the Minutes:** Senator Omoumi (40), seconded by Senator Reynolds (98)

**Officer Reports:**

- Chair:
  - It's national coming out day! I want to express my support for my friends here who are part of the LGBTQ+ community.
- Vice-Chair: Clarifying the last email, for the zoom link you have to look at the agenda. There's also an Engage page for GSS, please join GSS on there so we can include you on the roster.
- Secretary: nothing to report.

**Committee Reports:**

- Academic Affairs: Just began discussion about grad student awards.
- Development & Philanthropy: We talked about possible fundraising options. Please email us if you have any ideas, at [gss\\_development\\_philanthropy@ou.edu](mailto:gss_development_philanthropy@ou.edu)
- External Affairs: nothing to report.
- Human Diversity: Our chair stepped down, now it's Senator Hakizimana (3).
- Internal Affairs: Updated the joint committee.
- Public Relations: We selected someone to oversee our social media, Senator Thomas (94).
- Sustainability: We're working on a checklist on ways to be sustainable, and discussed how the city has 2 different clean up events and we can share that info.
- Ways and Means: We discussed the new updated procedures and instructions for the grant applications, and the Q&A session will be October 18<sup>th</sup> around 6 pm, and we will collaborate with Public Relations to share that info with everyone.

**Old Business:**

**New Business:**

**Special Orders:**

Motion to move special orders to the floor by Senator Reimer (105), seconded by Senator Linsey (7)

- GF20-20 True Democracy NOW Act of 2020
  - Motion to move GF20-20 to floor by Senator Hakizimana (3), seconded by Senator Cone (13)

- Author Foster Hillis (Congressional Administration Chair and University College Representative): The purpose of this act shall be to amend the Code Annotated to (1) improve safeguards to protect candidates, (2) increase accessibility of voters to vote on candidates, (3) remove all fines, and (4) clarify, streamline, and update all language as necessary and reorganize the election sections.
- Yields time for question
- Senator Israel (81): Could you please give a general walk through of the grievance process you mentioned?
- Author: The biggest thing is that we just reworded it. The grievances fit into 3 broad categories. Updated a lot of the verbiage, and changed “all communication platforms” to “communication platforms that the university owns” for unsolicited messages. But that was the only major change.
- Senator Israel (81): Could you also outline the ex officio and in what capacity they’ll serve?
- Author: We did this in 2 parts, we already have an oversight power but that happens after the election has been validated. So congress can’t act proactively. On the flip side, it will also help the elections board to research past elections and policies that election boards have created. This will only take effect after the validation of the election that is currently happening.
- Senator Israel (81): Really quick clarification, with respect to unsolicited messages, as far as owned by university employees or student organization communications, under the language of this bill, does it extend to this?
- Author: I also did update the verbiage on “employee”. It now reads “any time the employee is getting paid by the university” is when they cannot campaign. It did take out some of the coverage of some of the group messages. Goal is to not use OU “maintained resources” especially OUMM and Canvas, but this will not extend to group messages. It’s a slippery slope if it’s a fun group chat or if it’s for conducting official group work. It’s not really SGA’s position to police GroupMes, don’t own the platform.
- Senator Hamilton (82): Could you give me an overview of infractions in the past that required this rewrite?
- Author: In the past grievances were filed and given to campaigns without them knowing, they didn’t know they were breaking the rules. Although it said they should be told, now grievances can’t be given until the campaign is informed. And changed some deadlines so they have time to respond. Holding them accountable but also giving them the tools to have more resources.
- Senator Israel (81): Motion to pass by unanimous consent.
- Seconded by Senator Woodward (11)
- No objections
- Motion passes
- GF20-21 Civic Participation Act of 2020
  - Motion to move GF20-21 to floor by Senator Donahue (12), seconded by Senator Hunter (70)
  - Authors Rober Loayza (Congress Representative) and Joy Nath (Congress Representative): The purpose of this act shall be to honor the 2020 United States Election cycle and encourage civic participation in both the 2020 United States Election cycle and the Fall 2020 Student Government Association Elections by amending the date of the Fall 2020 Student Government Association Elections.
  - Yields time for question
  - Senator Israel (81): Motion to pass by unanimous consent.
  - Seconded by Senator Reimer (105)
  - No objections
  - Motion passes
- GF20-22 National Coming Out Day Resolution of 2020
  - Motion to move GF20-22 to floor by Senator Nabhan (44), seconded by Senator Bonine (107)

- Authors Emily Tucker (Congress Secretary), Caitlyn Harman (Human Diversity Committee Chair), and Melissa Maxey (GSS Chair): The purpose is to recognize National Coming Out Day 2020. Friendly amendments to add sponsors and amend whereas clauses.
- Yields time for question
- Senator Israel (81): Friendly amendment to include the amendments as offered by you. And one to include cosponsors from GSS.
- Author: I accept that.
- Melissa: George suggests to email Rafia if you want to be added as a cosponsor. And authors, can you also email the changes proposed to the bill? Gssvicechair@ou.edu
- Senator Israel (81): I know you want to include a follow up resolution describing the acts of violence. Can you talk more about that?
- Author: I'm specifically talking about the bill banning transgirls from participating in girls' sports and the fact that the recent brief issued by some Supreme Court Justices and I want to call attention to that. I will be looking for more about acts of violence against the LGBTQ community.
- Author: If there are any circumstances here at the University of Oklahoma that should be included in the additional legislation, please feel free to email harman@ou.edu and congresssec@ou.edu, thank you!
- Senator Israel (81): Motion to pass by unanimous consent.
- Seconded by Senator Donahue (12)
- No objections
- Motion passes
- GF20-18 Auxiliary Allocation 4 Act of 2020-2021
- GF20-23 Auxiliary Allocation 5 Act of 2020-2021
  - Motion to move GF20-18 & GF20-23 together to floor by Senator Schwartz (117), seconded by Senator Hunter (70).
  - Author Lauren Patton (SGA Budget Committee Chair): The purpose of this act is to appropriate the funds of the University of Oklahoma Student Government Association to the organizations mentioned within.
  - Yields time for question
  - Senator Israel (81): Could you provide a general overview on where we are with the finances? I know there was some residual from primary that couldn't be spent in the Spring and I know a lot of organizations still aren't having events.
  - Author: We have about \$300K, which is a large increase from last year's \$120K. Right now, all money left over goes into aux funds. So I'm starting a project with our team to reach out to every organization that got primary funding and explaining how they can do a line item transfer, because in many cases the money was allocated for something that can no longer happen. Then also talk about like travel teams that might not have something else to transfer it to. And how to still have fiscal histories for this year for organizations.
  - Senator Israel (81): Have there been any changes in the process of line item transfer?
  - Author It's still the same but I'm talking to my team about it because there will probably be a lot more of those coming up.
  - Senator Israel (81): Motion to pass by unanimous consent.
  - Seconded by Senator Machette (21)
  - No objections
  - Motion passes

## **Announcements:**

Melissa: Lexi I would like to have an update on how many people have picked up their shirts.

Senator Walton (85): No one has picked them up. If you can't come get it, please email me so I can bring it or send it to you. I can send an email about where to pick them up.

### **Adjournment**

Motion to adjourn by Senator Bonine (107), seconded by Senator Williams (63).

### **Adjournment:**

Time: 7:42 pm