

# THE UNIVERSITY OF OKLAHOMA STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION



## UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT CONGRESS Session C

**General Body Meeting**  
**7:00 pm, Tuesday, October 9, 2018**  
**Devon Hall 120**

### Session C

**Roll Call – 7:06pm**

**Flag Salute – Associate Bouch**

**Approval of Minutes**

**Representative Blank seconded by Representative Duechting**

**Chair's Report** – Election filing is now over, and election season is in full swing. The elections are going to be the 30<sup>th</sup> and 31<sup>st</sup> of October. There are a couple of things I want to go over about this past week. The Election Board appointments bill was vetoed by the President, and he will go over why that happened later tonight. There was a new Election Board appointment bill which we saw in Executive Committee this weekend and failed there. The reason for this was because the appointment process by which these people were appointed was not fair and equal, and there were questions about whether this would be in line with the Code Annotated. If you have questions about this, please ask us. The Joint Committee saw the bill about the polling locations and gave locations which worked for both bodies. That's on our agenda tonight, but since we don't have an Election Board, we will hopefully table that bill and see it at a separate time when we can have a little more clarity on what the Board would look like. That is obviously the choice of all of you in the body.

**Vice Chair's Report** - Hi everyone! First, I wanted to address morale a little bit because we have seen some pretty in-depth bills these past few weeks. I know that sitting through long processes like time for questions and Debate can be frustrating, but these are very important ways that the opinions of our body can be expressed in order for us to pass out the best quality bills. That being said, stick with it! I promise that the students you represent appreciate the hard work y'all put into the legislative process, and I know that we as an Exec do as well. You all are doing great, let's just boost some good energy and get through these bills as a team! Switching gears, the Union has now opened up reservations to student organizations on campus for little to no cost! In the past, we have had to pay for spaces to reserve them, but now they're changing it all to be free with the exception of some supplies, should those items be necessary. This means that if y'all are wanting to plan events, I strongly urge you consider hosting them in the Union and utilize this awesome and high-traffic space! They have assured students that the reservation process will be simple and easy to access, but if you ever have any questions, please let me know and I can help you out with that.

**Secretary's Report** – Hey everyone! You will all be getting updates about your attendance this weekend from your committee Secretaries, so keep an eye out for that. You will need to complete your constituent service hour and office hour for the month of October, so do those sooner rather than later! We have tons of upcoming events from External Affairs, Communications, Sustainability, and Problems and Projects. Work at

those to get easy constituent service. If you do your constituent service in another way, be sure to fill out the October Constituent Service form on OrgSync. If you're an associate, please sign in on my sheet in the front.

### **Committee Reports-**

- **Communications:** From now on, I will be taking photos during every meeting to make sure that we are celebrating the successes that Congress has had with our legislation. If you are uncomfortable with this, please let me know. I hope you all are comfortable with it, because you all are doing amazing work and should be recognized for that. Soon, you will be receiving a DoodlePoll to ask you what type of Congress apparel you want to wear this session!
- **Congressional Administration:** We didn't meet this weekend because there was nothing on our agenda. We were celebrating OU/Texas. If any of you need anything, please reach out with any questions.
- **External Affairs:** The Voter Registration Drive is in the final push. I would encourage you to sign up for this both for your constituent service hour and to get more people registered for this election. This is specifically to register people to vote anywhere in Oklahoma and to give out-of-state voters information regarding how to absentee vote. I put the table locations this week on the Engineering Quad, south side of campus near the Caf, and a few other locations. More projects to come from External Affairs after Voter Registration is over!
- **Human Diversity:** My committee talked more about the menstrual hygiene products project. Katy is doing a survey of other schools which provide these products already. We want to learn from their strategies and what their best practices are. For the sexual harassment prevention project, my members have worked on the bill and are being careful about how they word everything and how they can present the bill. Sephra and I are meeting with several multi-cultural associations to hear from them and learn about what their current experiences with campus life are and what their ideas might be to improve those experiences. I have not heard from Jordan at the GEC about the Ally Training, but he suggested that we would definitely be able to do it next semester, maybe not this semester. My other goals are to promote the IAC mixer and mixers with other groups on campus. I want to expand it to other groups, but this is still in the works.
- **Problems and Projects:** We sent in our suggestions from the light walks and we will do more later in the semester. Turn Up for Transit is getting set up and we will just need people from Congress to work at the event. I will send out a Doodle Poll for this. We want to do Problems, Projects, and Puppies which one of my associates is looking at starting up soon.
- **Sustainability:** Emma couldn't be here tonight, so I'm giving you an update. We had our second Trash Walk on Friday. We picked up trash on the intramural fields and more people showed up than last time which was nice. I hope that more of you show up next week because it is fun and open to everyone. We are meeting next week with Facilities Management and touring their facility and talking to them about sustainability efforts. We are also doing the T-Shirt Drive next week, so bring your old shirts if you have any.
- **University Policy:** We also did not meet this past weekend. The only new thing is that since I make my committee give me research updates, I will be giving unexcused absences to those who do not give their updates for two weeks in a row. I know this seems harsh, but I think this will work, and I think my members will continue to be great.
- **Ways and Means:** We saw 13 Auxiliary Funding applications. We funded 12 organizations. We spent \$6,418.89.

### **Liaison Reports**

Bouch: Every semester, HCSA puts on an event for the Kraettli Apartments. This year's theme is Disney Halloween, and it's going to be on October 20<sup>th</sup>. We would love to have volunteers to work at this event. There is also Little Event on Saturday at 8:30am, which is being set up presently.

Bell: Tomorrow at 5:00pm, Generation Citizen CEO is going to speak at the iHub, and it would be great if you could come.

Rojas: On October 18<sup>th</sup> at 7pm in the Blackbox Theater at Cross Neighborhood, we are showing a movie about Peru during their Civil War time. This is an intense movie about domestic terrorism in Peru. This will be preceded by professor speeches on the subject. There will be free popcorn and drinks!

**Motion to suspend the rules and move to Old Business**  
**Representative Rojas seconded by Representative Wilson**

**Special Orders**

- President Shurbaji

Shurbaji: Before we saw the Election Board Appointment Bill, we had a member of the Election Board who was going to be appointed say that she was going to resign, and she did not. I see Congress as a very legitimate legislative body, and I had a number of you reach out to me about this issue. I want to be able to have an Election Board still, but this bill was passed under false pretenses. For these reasons, I vetoed the bill.

Swearingin: Did you consider allowing the Legislative Branch engage in an impeachment process, which would have left us with at least a partial Election Board.

Shurbaji: No, but we will have a fully-functional Superior Court to handle the responsibilities of the Election Board. I also hope to be able to get another Election Board put together before the election starts. Our last election was very contentious. Hopefully this one goes more smoothly. We want to be able to avoid a huge Election Board workload like we had last year.

Manuel: What makes you think that this election will be different than last year's?

Shurbaji: I think that we've had a constructive conversation with the new candidates about what happened last year. I hope to have a more civil race this time.

Swearingin: Considering that we have no Election Board and that polling places are currently in jeopardy, and considering that the election process has been upended this cycle, why did you not consult me before vetoing this bill?

Shurbaji: I did not consult you because that is my jurisdiction on this matter. How many people vote at the polling locations?

Swearingin: I do not have data on that.

Shurbaji: I think that most people vote online and on their phones. I probably should have consulted you first, but I value the opinions of the people in this body and from Graduate Student Senate. I had guidance from them and heard out the competing interests, and this was ultimately my decision.

Bouch: How do we go about getting this election data?

Shurbaji: You can get data from last year from the Open Records Office.

Swearingin: This is all partially because of the Election Board appointment process being handled incorrectly which has led us here. Why was it handled so poorly?

Shurbaji: We try to get as many people with knowledge about these appointment processes involved as possible. Those who will know better than the president alone help the process significantly, which is why I wanted you involved. That does not negate my responsibility here. I can take some of that blame, and my Chief of Staff can take some of that blame, but all we can do is apologize and move on.

**Motion to extend time for questions by 5 minutes**  
**Representative Rojas seconded by Representative McClintic**

Kuketz: Why did the person on the Election Board not resign?

Shurbaji: I have no idea. I had the impression from members of Congress and Exec that she would resign, but she did not. All I knew was that the intent to resign was there.

Bouch: Are you running for re-election?

Shurbaji: No

Swearingin: What is the path forward from here that you described?

Shurbaji: I would like tonight or tomorrow to open applications for the Election Board again. It would be a tight time frame, but I don't see the harm in doing this. In my experience, this would be completed in time for the heat of the elections and where you would need them the most.

Swearingin: Would you be willing to make an agreement in front of this body that you will do your best to make sure that your administration ensures that we have an Election Board before the Spring Election?

Shurbaji: Absolutely

OI Swearingin: Can we add the Election Board Appointments Bill as New Business as Emergency Business for the sake of doing an override vote?

Chair: We can only use Emergency Business if I didn't foresee the bill, and I did. There was just a miscommunication about what occurred in GSS.

### **Motion to move to Committee of the Whole Representative Blank seconded by Representative Del Rio**

- Committee of the Whole

CR-100-12 A Resolution Recognizing Girls in Aviation Day (Cordova)

**Associate Bouch seconded by Associate McCans**

Cordova: Hey everyone! So, a little background, an RSO reached out to us to support us the first one of these bills. We don't see a lot of Aviation majors on campus, and they want to do an event recognizing women in Aviation. You will see things in the bill that contribute to this event. Even if you don't always see them on campus, this event is a great way for students to show up in support. Basically, they want to raise \$5,000 in the 2018-19 school year, and our support and help to promote is super important. October 13<sup>th</sup> is the date of the event. Let me know if you have any questions about this bill! I would also like to have a friendly to add Donald Duechting as a co-author on this bill.

*Quick: Would you accept the friendly amendment adding Donald Duechting as a co-author on this bill?*

*Cordova: Yes*

Rojas: If another organization were to make a request like this, would Congress be willing to do this for others?

Cordova: We have done this before, but it isn't common. They reached out to us. so we drafted something in support of their event.

Rojas: To be more specific, could international organizations request Congress to recognize an independence day?

Cordova: It's a little tricky with the different politics involved in that example, but they can come and talk to us about it. This organization took the initiative.

Del Rio: Is the event going to be here or on the Aviation Campus?

Cordova: It will be on the Aviation Campus. They want people to go out there and raise awareness for the event and the place.

Blank: What district do they fall under in Congress?

Cordova: Education

Manuel: What are some of the specific contributions they make to the University of Oklahoma?

Cordova: They are a newly recognized organization of women in aviation; they realize that aviation plays a large role in economic success; they want to raise awareness on main campus for the Aviation Program at OU; they want to raise consciousness about the role that women play in aviation; and they want to generate interest in the Aviation Department. They generally want to be creative in the

ways that they approach closing the gap in the future needs of aviation on a state, national, and global scale.

**Motion to give this bill a rec of do pass**  
**Representative Duechting seconded by Associate Bouch**

**Motion to move out of Committee of the Whole**  
**Representative Williams seconded by Associate McCans**

### **Student Concerns**

Rojas: There should be more water fountains on campus and more tables at the Union for handling rush hour at lunch time.

Chair: I'll have Problems and Projects work on that.

Schneider: I have a bunch of friends who go to self-defense classes, and they were told not to use blue buttons because it takes about 30 seconds to hear your voice in them. They were told it's more effective to just call the police. I think someone should check that out.

Chair: I'll also have Problems and Projects work on that.

### **Old Business**

CB-100-19 The Second SGA Superior Court Appointment Act of 2018 (Williams/Shurbaji) (ConAd → rec of no rec)

**Representative Kuketz seconded by Representative Del Rio**

D. Williams: This is the Second Superior Court Appointment Act of 2018. This is Zach Williams and Bailey Betz. They both are law students and have experience on courts.

Z. Williams: I was an undergraduate here. I am a law student at OU. I want to practice Educational Law

Betz: I'm studying Military Law. I went to OSU for my undergraduate degree and studied Economics. I spent the summer working for the American Civil Liberties Union of Oklahoma.

Shurbaji: The application process was to open the applications on OrgSync, and we had a number of people apply. We then scored the applications we received. The highest scores came in for an interview. We try to make it fair by having as many people interview as possible and giving everyone a shot. The most important interview question was about the knowledge of the Code Annotated and the election process.

Blank: What prompted you to apply?

Betz: My favorite class here was Constitutional Law. I've always loved To Kill a Mockingbird. I want to be a Civil Rights litigator. I saw this as a chance to get involved at OU on the main campus.

Z. Williams: It's easy to feel like we're apart from main campus at the law school, and I want to get more plugged in and involved other than my work at Evans.

Blank: What would you say is the most important part of this job?

Betz: Make sure we exercise judicial restraint. We should be objective and strive to follow the Constitution and the Code Annotated as closely as possible.

Z. Williams: Make sure that we effectively handle any election-related issues and any issues with students.

Swearengin: I will be working closely with the Superior Court as the Election Board Chair. What is your familiarity with the Election Code?

Z. Williams: The Superior Court must validate the election results about 96 hours after the election. We are also supposed to work closely with you all on that.

Betz: We are supposed to handle appeals and make sure that they are fairly handled.

Swearengin: You are a court of original jurisdiction for the Election Code. Are you prepared to handle grievances being filed and applying fines?

Betz: I would have to look back over the code to be sure, but yes, I am prepared.

Z. Williams: I believe that I am equipped to do so.

Manuel: OU is pretty diverse in race, gender, and economic background, and we know that everyone has their own bias. How do you intend to manage your personal bias and not let it interfere with your decisions?

Betz: I think my strategy would be to stick as closely to the Code Annotated and the Constitution as possible. There has been extensive debate about this in law schools and how we solve this issue. My strategy would be to stay away from my personal opinions and follow the text of the laws.

Z. Williams: I would recognize my biases and try to avoid letting them influence me. I won't say that I'm not biased.

**Motion to extend time for questions by 5 minutes**  
**Representative Blank seconded by Representative Felkner**

*Cordova: Would you accept the friendly amendment removing Dylan Shirallie's name?*

*Williams: Yes*

Swearingin: What is the plan for Dylan Shirallie?

Shurbaji: There was a miscommunication on our part for how many justices were needed on the Superior Court. We chose to amend him off because these two individuals are in Law School and he is an undergraduate. We tried to move Dylan to the Election Board, which I will speak about later, but that was stopped in the Executive Committee, which was fair. Hopefully he will be able to apply for the Election Board during this next cycle.

OI Swearingin: Is it in your opinion that Superior Court Justices serve until they graduate?

Chair: Yes

**Motion to suspend the rules and go back in time to see Special Orders**  
**Representative Felkner seconded by Representative Schneider**

CB-100-23 Polling Locations Act of Fall 2018 (Swearingin) (Joint Committee → rec of do pass)

**Representative Fees seconded by Representative Blank**

Swearingin: What a mess this has been. I do not have an Election Board. All judicial matters except for Election Board Chair rulings are being sent directly to the Superior Court. The only thing that I can do is issue Election Board Chair rulings and run the candidate orientation meetings. The big concern is with these polling locations and their feasibility. This is a large concern with the lack of an Election Board and how these locations will be run. This passed GSS, but the Election Board must ensure voter rights and the integrity of student elections. Without an Election Board, I cannot ensure these things, because the role of the Election Board is to oversee judicial proceedings and act as a law enforcement body. The only thing I can do, instead, is to have designees to serve in their place, and at this point I don't have any. I would request that this bill be tabled definitely, but not indefinitely. I can't promise polling locations for this election, and I doubt if they will happen. I want them, but I will not run these locations if I can't ensure their integrity.

**Motion to table CB-100-23 for one week**  
**Representative Williams seconded by Representative Begović**

**Items to Be Considered**

AB-100-09 Auxiliary Allocation 06 Act of 2018-2019 (Quick) (WAM → rec of do pass)

**Representative Williams seconded by Representative Duechting**

Quick: This is Auxiliary Funding 6. We saw 13 applications and funded 12 organizations. This cost us about \$6,000 and left us with \$70,505.99.

Felkner: Who did you not fund, and why?

Quick: College Republicans requested \$40,000 for Ben Shapiro to come speak. We sent them to Speaker's Bureau to request this funding because this is the type of thing that Speaker's Bureau could fund.

Manuel: InFocus requested \$1,300 dollars and were not given this much. Why?

Quick: There is a new organization threshold, and we gave them the max of that.

Swearingin: When I was on the committee, that threshold was higher. Why is it lower now?

Quick: We saw many new organizations last year, and we felt that this was a more appropriate number given how many new organizations would be making these requests and their lack of fiscal history. This has been our practice all year.

Swearingin: Where are we with respect to last year's remaining budget at this time?

Quick: I don't know. I couldn't find this information when I checked. I would have to ask Curt.

McCans: What was the money allocated to Veg Club for?

Quick: Food for meetings and promotional materials like pamphlets. They also hold social events and advocate for animal justice.

McClintic: Is this graphic on the agenda different than the one we typically see?

Quick: We have always used this structure.

Manuel: What does the Veg club do?

OI Hobson: Is the chair aware that the Veg club is for vegans, eaters, and vegetarians. There are over 100 members.

Chair: Now I am

**Passed by a roll call vote of 32-0-0**

CR-100-12 A Resolution Recognizing Girls in Aviation Day (Cordova)

**Representative Fees seconded by Representative Blank**

Cordova: You heard about this earlier in Committee of the Whole. Please pass this.

**Passed by unanimous consent**

### **Follow-Up Reports**

McCans: Headington College received a request to move their printer to a public area. This has been moved to an alcove in a public space. I am still working on the door to the public classrooms which remains locked.

Felkner: Things are less bad at Cross Neighborhood. My roommates and I finally got our meal points, and others are getting some of their signing incentives. The higher-ups in Housing and Food were not aware of how misleading everything was, and they are working on fixing it. Balfour Beatty has been relieved of their contract, so the management is changing. The food locations are also opening up!

Manuel: The Study Abroad Office was said to be reconsidering the availability of some of their Latin American programs. I asked them about this, and they said that this was not true. Please pursue these programs if you want to go.

Fees: We met about the resolution addressing sexual harassment on campus last week. We are doing that again this week. You do not have to be on the Human Diversity Committee for this! We want the input of everyone.

### **Items for Future Agenda**

AB-100-10 - Auxiliary Allocation Funding 07 Act of 2018-2019 (Quick) → WAM

AB-100-11 - Congressional Initiative Funding for Testing Materials (Thompson) → WAM

### **Announcements and Comments**

Cassidy: If you filed for elections, make sure to go to one of the mandatory candidates' meetings.

Powers: OSU has a designated liaison to this Congress who wants to do member spotlights of our members in their body. She needs two or three people each week and their personal info for these spotlights. Please come see me or message me if you're interested, because this is a cool opportunity.

Begović: If you aren't in the GroupMe, tell me as soon as possible.

Nadolski: I am the Vice President of Campus Engagement for the Oklahoma Group! We are a group of students who do nonprofit consulting for nonprofits in Oklahoma. If you know people who want to get involved or you want to get involved yourself, please let me know as soon as possible!

McClintic: The Economics Club is showing The Big Short this Thursday with free pasta!

Swearingin: We have created all of our election signs which will be posted all over the South Oval.

Manuel: I am the Vice President of International Advisory Committee. Thanks to everyone who came to the International Bazaar. Next, we have a big event on November 2<sup>nd</sup>. This is the International Prom. We will send a flier out for this. It will be in the Molly Shi Boren Ballroom.

Begović: There will be amazing international music and elections for the international king and queen.

**Motion to skip final roll call and adjourn**

**Representative Powers seconded by Representative Duechting**

**Final Roll Call**

Chair: Thomas Cassidy

Vice Chair: Mackenzie Cordova

Secretary: Richard Holt



<b>Session 100</b>	<b>General</b>
Begović, Amer	x
Bell, Aspen	x
Biškup, Emma	x
Blank, Faith	x
Bonić, Karla	x
Bray, Matthew	ex
Bridwell, Trey	x
Cordova, Mackenzie	x
DeAngeli, Emma	ex
Del Rio, Paulina	x
Douglas, Zoe	ex
Duechting, Donald	x
Fees, Elaina	x
Felkner, Katy	x
Guido, Trinity	x
Hart, Harrison	x
Haugland, Sara	ex
Hodžić, Uzeir	abs
Hobson, Sarah	x
Holt, Richard	x
Khan, Adam	abs
Kolker, Sephra	x
Kuketz, Tim	x
Lee, Alan	ex
Manuel, Pedro	x
McClintic, Alex	x
Merchant, Mahak	x
Mohamoud, Abdifatah	x
Nadolski, Karley	x
Patterson, Savannah	x

Powers, Shayla	x
Quick, Samuel	x
Rojas, Julio	x
Schneider, Caitlin	x
Thompson, Gabi	x
Vanderford, Elliott	x
Wegrzynski, Abbey	ex
Werdel, Gina	x
Williams, Dan	x
Wilson, Taylor	x
<b>Present</b>	32
<b>Absent</b>	2
<b>Excused</b>	6

<b>Session 100</b>	<b>CR-100-12</b>	<b>CB-100-19</b>	<b>CB-100-23</b>	<b>AB-100-09</b>
Begović, Amer				y
Bell, Aspen				y
Biškup, Emma				y
Blank, Faith				y
Bonić, Karla				y
Bray, Matthew				
Bridwell, Trey				y
Cordova, Mackenzie				y
DeAngeli, Emma				
Del Rio, Paulina				y
Douglas, Zoe				
Duechting, Donald				y
Fees, Elaina				y
Felkner, Katy				y
Guido, Trinity				y
Hart, Harrison				y
Haugland, Sara				
Hodžić, Uzeir				
Hobson, Sarah				y
Holt, Richard				y
Khan, Adam				
Kolker, Sephra				y
Kuketz, Tim				y
Lee, Alan				
Manuel, Pedro				y
McClintic, Alex				y
Merchant, Mahak				y
Mohamoud, Abdifatah				y
Nadolski, Karley				y
Patterson, Savannah				y

Powers, Shayla				y
Quick, Samuel				y
Rojas, Julio				y
Schneider, Caitlin				y
Thompson, Gabi				y
Vanderford, Elliott				y
Wegrzynski, Abbey				
Werdel, Gina				y
Williams, Dan				y
Wilson, Taylor				y
<b>Yes</b>				
	0	0	0	32
<b>No</b>				
	0	0	0	0
<b>Abstain</b>				
	0	0	0	0