

THE UNIVERSITY OF OKLAHOMA STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION



UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT CONGRESS Session C

General Body Meeting
7:00 pm, Tuesday, September 11, 2018
Devon Hall 120

Session C

Roll Call – 7:03pm

Flag Salute - Representative McClintic

Approval of Minutes

Representative Schneider seconded by Representative Blank

Chair's Report- Hey everyone good to see you all back here after orientation this past weekend. Thanks for making it to orientation and sticking out the long day. There's going to be a form sent to all of you called the RSO census after today's meeting. This form is to get a sense of what everyone in Congress is involved in. This is not a requirement, we're just going to use it to reach out to RSOs and connect with them to see if they'd like their members to be liaisons between them and Congress. Tonight we're going to appoint our new committees which we made after orientation. I encourage our new members to reach out to their committee chairs to communicate with them, start looking at ideas, and start brainstorming for Sunday's committee meetings.

Vice Chair's Report- Hi everyone! Thank you all for coming to Orientation this past Sunday, I know it was a very long day! You all did a great job participating and really diving into all that confusing Congress information. We were especially impressed with your willingness to figure out ParliPro – keep working on that, it gets easier! If you missed orientation, please email me to set up a time to meet in the Conoco and go over everything. I'm going to plug liaisons again now. Remember that you can be one for any RSO on campus! If you have an organization in mind that you want to be a liaison for or you are not sure if an organization you're in is an official RSO, please reach out to me by email and I will get back to you! Also, committees this next week will be picking Vice Chairs, so if you're interested in that position, you'll be working with me sometimes! So, if you have any questions about that, talk to me or your committee Chair. I also wanted to give a shoutout to our Communications Chair, Amer Begović, and Associate Josh Miller for coming out to support HCSA last night! They saw my message in the GroupMe and came right out, so thank you all for helping me bring the Congress presence to HCSA. That's all I've got for you guys, remember to reach out about being a liaison!

Secretary's Report- Hey everyone! This upcoming Sunday you'll all be meeting in your committees for the first time and your committee chairs will be selecting their Vice Chairs and Secretaries. If you want to be Secretary of your committee, that means that you'll be my best friend this semester, and I'll be talking to you every week to work with you on all of the various Secretary responsibilities. Additionally, I sent out an email last week after orientation which contained a link to the member biography form. This is for updating my records and the website, and filling this out counts as your constituent service hour for the month. Please fill this out as soon as possible so that Gabi and I can update everything that we need. Also, if you're a representative, please send Gabi a picture of yourself for the Meet Your Reps page, and that will complete

your constituent service. Other than that, please continue to contact me if you can't make it to general meetings and contact your committee chairs about conflicts with your committee meeting attendance. Also, come hang out during my office hours with me and it could even count as your office hour for the month how cool would that be??

OI Blank: Can we reuse the same pictures from last semester?

Chair: Yes

Committee Reports-

- **Communications:** Applications for the Communications Assistants position went out on Sunday. They will close on Friday at 5:00pm. You must join the OrgSync page to fill this out!
- **Congressional Administration:** We saw two pieces of legislation on Sunday. One appoints a new associate, Sophie Sallee, and the other appoints Faith Blank as the External Affairs Chair. Both received recs of no rec. Thursday's 2:00pm-4:00pm are my office hours and Sundays at 5:00pm is my committee meeting time.
- **External Affairs:**
- **Human Diversity:** My office hours are Tuesdays from 9:00am-11:00am. My committee meetings are Sundays at 12:00pm.
- **Problems and Projects:** I'm looking to set up a meeting with Kris Glenn to keep that relationship strong and do another good Turn Up for Transit event this semester. Last week we didn't meet officially, but hopefully we get some good interest this week. My office hours are 1:00pm-2:00pm Mondays and Wednesdays. My committee meetings will be at 4:00pm on Sundays. I addressed some student concerns regarding the intramural lighting and the parking this past week.
- **Sustainability:** My office hours are 3:30pm-4:30pm Mondays and 12:20pm-1:20pm Wednesdays. My committee meetings are Sundays at 3:00pm. I want the first trash walk to be this Saturday, September 15, which I don't think will be too hard to put together, and that could be a constituent service hour. At orientation began to plan that with my committee. The first trash walk is this Friday at 4:00pm!
- **University Policy:** My office hours are 9:30am-10:00am on Mondays, 1:30pm-2:00pm on Fridays, and 5:00pm-6:00pm on Sundays. My committee meetings will be sometime on Sundays.
- **Ways and Means:** We saw Auxiliary Allocation Act 2 on Sunday which received a rec of do pass, and we'll be allocating funds to 16 organizations. GSS saw the bill on Sunday and we'll see it tonight. We don't have a meeting time yet.

Liaison Reports

Special Orders

Motion to move into Committee of the Whole

Representative Begović seconded by Representative Bell

- Committee of the Whole
CB-100-20 An Act Amending Committees for Session 100 (Cassidy/Cordova/Holt)

Representative Fees seconded by Representative Quick

Cassidy: This is our committee establishment bill for Session 100. If you were at orientation this weekend, I was able to give everyone one of their top three committee preferences. If you weren't at orientation, we looked at your application to see a committee that would make sense based on your preferences and ideas. The committees are all different sizes, and this is a result of the committee chairs wanting larger or smaller committees as well as some committees working better with different sizes. I would accept a friendly amendment removing Kaitlin Smith's name from the legislation as she is unable to participate in Congress due to other time commitments and has resigned.

Begović: Would you accept a friendly amendment removing Kaitlyn Smith's name from the bill?

Cassidy: Yes

Manuel: What does the strikethrough mean on the legislation?

Cassidy: This means that the member is being added to a new committee and removed from their original one.

Motion to give this bill a rec of do pass
Representative Quick seconded by Representative Felkner

Motion to rise from Committee of the Whole
Representative Thompson seconded by Representative McClintic

Student Concerns

Lowder: I am here with some students from Cross Neighborhood. I want to recognize that the CAs at Cross and other people employed by OU are doing a great job. Our complaints are about the people who work for the owners of Cross Neighborhood. Fire alarms continue to go off in the middle of the night without fires. No one has offered a solution to this problem and some students are experiencing anxiety attacks when they go off repeatedly. Some students are resorting to getting hotel rooms to avoid this. In addition, there were sparks and smoke created by a hair dryer being plugged into a faulty outlet which did not cause the fire alarm to go off. There are also students whose fire alarms are going off for hours at a time, and when they tried to contact the management, they essentially dodged the calls. Construction workers have also been taking their breaks in the student study lounges who aren't OU employees. This is making many students uncomfortable. There are also construction workers who are heckling and bothering male and female students. This has included catcalling, inappropriate glances, and other bothersome behaviors. This kind of behavior has changed the way that I dress when I know that I am going to be around these construction workers. This is a Title 9 violation, and Cross should be providing a space for these workers to take their breaks that is separate from the student space. Our biggest concern is that we are being charged for amenities that are still not functional. They have continued to push back the timeline on these amenities and have been unable to finish them. When we told them that we were going to this meeting to complain, they finally gave us some real dates that these might be completed. We are also being charged \$65 to get into our apartments if we forget our key cards, even though they don't have to make a new card. We had a student who left early for work and left her card in her room. She could not afford this fee and was left locked out of her suite entirely. Students do not feel that the outlets are safe, and they don't feel safe walking around the complex.

Motion to extend time for speaking indefinitely
Representative Felkner seconded by Representative DeAngeli

There is also a student who ran into the Facilities Manager on an elevator and had an inappropriate interaction. The student brought up that the manager must be very busy with everything going on and with all of the complaints, and the manager responded by making rude comments about student behaviors. This shows us the lack of respect that the management has for the students in Cross. The showers have been having issues as well. The showers squeak and have terrible water pressure. The outlets in one resident's room don't work or are prone to catch fire. There was a leak in the lobby in Building C that has caused severe water damage and has not been addressed. There are many projects still underway that were supposed to have been done a long time ago including painting a stairwell and bricklaying. This experience is also not the first time that the owners of Cross have been found guilty of negligence. There was a case involving the death of a girl suffering from autism who was having issues with her arrangement with the company which resulted in her death. While this case may not be directly related to our situation here, it shows the history of negligence by the company which we find to be concerning. Our concern is that OU is allowing this kind of negligence to happen to its students over an extended period of time.

Chair: This is a very serious situation; thank you for bringing it to our attention. We'll have Problems and Projects look into this further.

Lowder: We've also spoken extensively with Housing and Food about this, and they have said that there is nothing that they can do at this point. They've told us it must go higher up to the University Administration to be dealt with, which is why we've brought it to SGA.

Felkner: I live in Building A, and it sounds like we're doing a little better than you all, but have students there also not received signing bonuses that they were promised?

Lowder: Yes. Cross said that there would be \$170 off of each bedroom, 500 meal points and Air Pods for individuals who signed a lease there. They promised this to all the suites, and many students have not received this.

Felkner: I was told by the Community Manager that the promotion ended on April 6th, and I signed my lease on April 20th. There was no publication of this end date. I looked through their past advertising of this deal. Some posts say there is no deadline, some say a limited time offer, but none give the actual end date.

Quick: Are any of the promotional materials outlined on the lease?

Felkner: No

Begović: Most of the problems students have brought are real concerns, but the lockouts are not the fault of the Cross owners. Those are Housing and Food's policy.

Manuel: Have you met with Cross Management, and if so, what did they say?

Lowder: We've spoken with those members who have been hired by Housing and Food, and they have been as helpful as they can be. Those other management members who are hired by the owners have been unhelpful and uncommunicative.

Werdel: Is the fee for a new key or just to unlock the door?

Lowder: There is no gain other than to open the door. Sooner Cards open the suite, and a physical key opens the door. Forgetting your Sooner Card and being unable to open the suite costs the \$65 just to have them tap a card on the door. Losing your key results in more of a cost because they have to replace the entire locking mechanism and replace the key, which we understand.

Blank: Thank you for bringing your concerns to us and putting so much effort into explaining yourselves. We will do our best to solve this problem.

Blank: I have multiple classes in Headington Residential College. There is a door that allows me to get there quickly from where I place my bike outside, but not all students have access to open it. It does not allow access to anything but the classrooms, so I'm wondering why they keep it locked?

Chair: I'll ask Housing and Food during my meeting with them.

Begović: The stadium lights are on all the time and this wastes a lot of energy. This needs to stop.

Thompson: I never heard back about this when I looked into it last year.

Chair: I'll see if Sustainability can figure this out.

Old Business

Items to Be Considered

CB-100-15 An act Appointing the External Affairs Committee Chair for Session 100

(Cassidy/Cordova/Holt) (ConAd → rec of no rec)

Representative Begović seconded by Representative Bonić

Cordova: I am happy to pass off the position of the External Affairs Chair to Faith Blank. She is a very dedicated member of Congress and she has some great ideas for External Affairs this session. She is really interested in hearing the ideas of people who will be on her committee, and she wants to take on the plans that Tom has for External Affairs. She also wants to work on continuing the things that they've done in the past. I'll let her talk a little bit about herself.

Blank: I'm Faith! This is my second semester in Congress. I was previously on the University Policy Committee. I want to continue the productive things that External Affairs has been doing including Higher Education Day and the Voter Registration Drives. I want to make sure that my members are super engaged this semester. When I was on University Policy, Karla did a great job of this, and I want to allow my members to take on their own projects and really work on what they're interested in the way that she has. Also, the former chair, Alex McClintic, will still be on the committee, so he can give me advice on ways to continue what the committee has been doing in the past.

Williams: What are some of the long term goals that you have for your committee?

Blank: I've heard talk about the liaison position between City Council and External Affairs. Some students forget that we're at OU but also in the city of Norman, and I want to be able to work with the city of Norman to stay up to date on the issues. Last year we had an employee of the city give Congress a speech about the finances of the city, and I want to continue those kinds of outreach projects.

Begović: Can you tell our members about all of the great things you've done in Congress?

Blank: Last year in University Policy I had a project regarding the sexual assault awareness and training to improve the programs that we have at OU. I reached out to several Big XII schools, and West Virginia has a great program that I wanted to implement here. Unfortunately, the GEC was not interested in this, but I am proud of the work I put into that project.

Williams: Are you going to increase Congress's involvement with OSGA?

Blank: I don't know that much about OSGA, but I would talk to Alex about the things that he's done in the past to involve us with them as well as speak with Exec about their thoughts on it. I have good enough communication skills to see if this were possible, but I can't say for sure what that would look like.

Bonić: What would you do to increase voter turnout?

Blank: I spoke to Exec about this a little bit. I would probably move the location of the Voter Drives to get more students involved. I would also work on teaching students about the importance of voting in national and local elections. I also want to increase our ability to do absentee voting for out of state students like myself.

Manuel: How would your committee work to improve the diversity and inclusivity of OU?

Blank: I think a big job for my committee is to remind people that we are a part of the bigger community of Norman, and I would focus on those things first. If you had specific things you wanted us to work on, I would be open to them.

Del Rio: I think the absentee voting idea would be great, and as an out of state student, I would be very interested in this.

Motion to extend time for questions to the end of list and close the list Representative Fees seconded by Representative Begović

Fees: I've been to Higher Education Day in the past, and I would like to see more training for this in the future, as some students aren't sure how to go about talking to legislators. Do you have ideas about preparing people for this?

Blank: We talked about having a few additional trainings before Higher Education Day instead of just one crash course. This could be more of a life training about how to interact with legislators moving forward. Hopefully my committee members could get involved with this and the teaching as well.

McClintic: Is the candidate aware of how excited I am that she is going to be the new Chair?

Blank: Now I am!

Passed by unanimous consent

CB-100-16 An Act Appointing Associates for Session 100 (Schneider) (ConAd → rec of no rec)

Representative Biškup seconded by Representative Powers

Williams: This is an appointment bill appointing Sophie Sallee as an associate. She was appointed after interviews just like everyone else, but she was left off of the previous legislation.

Begović: Is Sophie here?

Williams: She had a prior commitment and could not make it tonight.

Manuel: How can we be sure that this associate will come to our meetings and work with us on projects?

Williams: I wasn't in on interviews, but everyone who has vouched for her. Her being left off the bill was an oversight, and I trust my colleagues.

Passed by unanimous consent

CB-100-17 An Act Expelling Session 100 Representatives (Holt) (Exec → rec of no rec)

Representative Blank seconded by Representative Patterson

Holt: This bill is to expel one of our Business Representatives. She has fallen in violation of our absence policies. Counting this meeting, she has accumulated eleven absences. We have reached out to her about resigning or petitioning for her continued membership. She was invited to Executive Committee and to our

meeting tonight to see this bill, but she has not responded. Because of this, we are bringing it to a vote in this body as to whether she should be expelled.

OI Williams: Do we clap if this bill passes?

Chair: No, we do not. We do not like to see our members expelled.

Passed by unanimous consent

AB-100-04 Auxiliary Allocation 2 Act of 2018-2019 (Quick) (WAM → rec of do pass)

Representative Williams seconded by Representative Powers

Quick: This is our bill allocating auxiliary funding to 16 organizations. We allocated a total of about \$10,000.

Williams: How much money is remaining in the account?

Quick: About \$102,000 is left from reversions.

Blank: Is auxiliary funding regulated and available for both semesters? Or is it funding as you go?

Quick: There is a process by which we allocate funds appropriately to organizations when they apply.

McClintic: Is the \$102,000 in the account all that's left for the entire year?

Quick: The short answer is yes.

McClintic: What backup is there?

Quick: There is nothing after reversions until next year's primary funding cycle. Auxiliary funding will be done after we run out of money from reversions.

Williams: Latino Fellowship got \$395.72, which means your total should have 72 cents in it, correct?

Quick: Yes, there was a rounding error on my spreadsheet. I would accept a friendly amendment to correct the total.

Williams: Would you accept a friendly amendment changing the total to \$9,145.72?

Quick: Yes

Begović: Is the Ways and Means Committee going to be more conservative with the funding process going forward to ensure that there is always money in the account?

Quick: The short answer is no.

Nadolski: What is the Student Council for Exceptional Children? What do they do at OU?

Quick: They put on events for students here who participate in Student Councils.

Fees: Is Ways and Means going to communicate with RSOs to let them know that they may be unable to receive funding from Auxiliary if the reversion account runs out of funds?

Quick: I will look into potentially doing that.

Begović: Are you aware that this funding running out of money discourages people from creating new RSOs? What are their other options for funding?

Quick: If organizations' funding requests are rejected, we send them a list of alternative funding options that they can look into.

Patton: Do we normally see a change in the number of organizations applying for Auxiliary Funding throughout the year?

Quick: Yes. This time of year is when most organizations are applying typically because they know what things that they didn't get covered in Primary Funding.

Motion to go to a roll call vote

Representatives Powers seconded by Representative Manuel

Passed by a roll call vote of 34-0-0

CB-100-20 An Act Amending Committees for Session 100 (Cassidy/Cordova/Holt)

Representative Fees seconded by Representative Mohamoud

Cordova: This is the bill that appoints our members to committees. We saw it in Committee of the Whole.

Cassidy: Would you accept a friendly amendment removing Kanjan Manobar's name from her committee because we have expelled her?

Cordova: Yes

Cassidy: Would you accept a friendly amendment moving Representative Blank to the Chairship of External Affairs?

Cordova: Yes

Bouch: Has the associate we appointed been appointed to a committee?

Cassidy: Yes, she has been appointed to External Affairs.

McCans: My name is misspelled.

Cordova: The Secretary will fix that.

Passed by unanimous consent

Follow-Up Reports

Kuketz: A while ago someone brought up a concern about the OU in Rio and OU in Puebla study abroad trips. After looking into this, there are security issues which has caused OU to re-evaluate those programs including the elections in Brazil and the increasing violence in Mexico.

Manuel: Where is this information from?

Kuketz: The Study Abroad Office.

Hobson: Will this affect the ability of students to do exchange programs?

Kuketz: That would be the student's decision.

Items for Future Agenda

CR-100-09 A Resolution to Serve Alcohol in the Football Stadium (Williams) → Upol and P&P

AB-100-05 Auxiliary Allocation 3 Act of 2018-2019 (Quick) → WAM

OI Begović: Does there need to be legislation for Communications Assistants?

Chair: No

Announcements and Comments

Blank: Come see me after to make a GroupMe for the External Affairs Committee.

Rondthaler: There is a bike sale on campus on Thursday from 9:00am-10:00am that is open to students and then the general public. This is on the south side of the facilities management compound. The bikes are all less than \$25 and they will take cash or check.

Williams: Meet with me after the meeting if you are on Congressional Administration.

Thompson: Email sgawebmaster@ou.edu with a picture of yourself for the Meet Your Reps page on the website!

Lowder: It has come to our attention that there have been a few instances of gross sewage water coming out of people's showers. We are not sure when this will be fixed.

OI Del Rio: Can we have the representative biographies link in the email?

Holt: Yes!

Cordova: If you're an associate, you can fill out your member biographies and send your picture to Gabi as well for constituent service and potentially be put on the website.

Cassidy: With the minutes there will be the link to the RSO census form. It's not required, but please fill this out.

Final Roll Call

Motion to skip final roll call and adjourn

Representative Kuketz seconded by Representative Quick

Chair: Thomas Cassidy

Vice-Chair: Mackenzie Cordova

Secretary: Richard Holt

Session 100	General
Begović, Amer	x
Bell, Aspen	x
Biškup, Emma	x
Blank, Faith	x
Bonić, Karla	x
Bray, Matthew	x
Bridwell, Trey	x
Cordova, Mackenzie	x
DeAngeli, Emma	x
Del Rio, Paulina	x
Douglas, Zoe	x
Duechting, Donald	ex
Fees, Elaina	x
Felkner, Katy	x
Guido, Trinity	x
Hart, Harrison	x
Haugland, Sara	x
Hodžić, Uzeir	x
Hobson, Sarah	x
Holt, Richard	x
Khan, Adam	abs
Kuketz, Tim	x
Lee, Alan	x
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	abs
Schneider, Caitlin	x
Thompson, Gabi	x
Vanderford, Elliott	x
Wegrzynski, Abbey	x
Werdel, Gina	x
Williams, Dan	x
Wilson, Taylor	ex
Present	35
Absent	2
Excused	2

Session 100	CB-100-15	CB-100-16	CB-100-17	CB-100-20	AB-100-04
Begović, Amer					y
Bell, Aspen					y
Biškup, Emma					y
Blank, Faith					y
Bonić, Karla					y
Bray, Matthew					y
Bridwell, Trey					y
Cordova, Mackenzie					y
DeAngeli, Emma					y
Del Rio, Paulina					y
Douglas, Zoe					y
Duechting, Donald					
Fees, Elaina					y
Felkner, Katy					y
Guido, Trinity					y
Hart, Harrison					y
Haugland, Sara					y
Hodžić, Uzeir					y
Hobson, Sarah					y
Holt, Richard					y
Khan, Adam					
Kuketz, Tim					y
Lee, Alan					y
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					
Schneider, Caitlin					
Thompson, Gabi					y
Vanderford, Elliott					y
Wegrzynski, Abbey					y
Werdel, Gina					y
Williams, Dan					y
Wilson, Taylor					
Yes	0	0	0	0	34
No	0	0	0	0	0
Abstain	0	0	0	0	0