

THE UNIVERSITY OF OKLAHOMA STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION



UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT CONGRESS
Session C

General Body Meeting
7:00 pm, Tuesday, September 18, 2018
Devon Hall 120

Session C

Roll Call – 7:02

Flag Salute – Representative Guido

Approval of Minutes

Representative Rojas seconded by Representative Duechting

Chair's Report – Hopefully you saw the applications for the University Vice Presidential Search Committees and the University Shared-Governance Committees. I encourage you all to apply if you're interested. The Vice Presidential Search Committee closes this Friday at 5:00pm, and the others are on a rolling basis. Apply if you are interested, and let others know who may be interested as well. This weekend is the Big XII Conference, and the three of us will be out of town for that. If you need to reach any of us, call or email us.

Vice Chair's Report – Thanks for letting me come to your committee meetings this weekend. I will rotate to those that I wasn't able to go to as soon as possible. I want to go to as many committee meetings as possible to stay up to date with everything going on and all of your projects. I have a lot of potential liaisons who have reached out to me, and I'll be allowing members to liaison for four organizations per person. Let me know this weekend if you want to be a part of that. I will be out of town, so text, call, or email me.

Secretary's Report – Hey everyone! You're all doing great on your attendance so far this month and you're making my job a lot easier for me, so thank you! If you have been selected as the Secretary of your committee, congrats! Please reach out to me as soon as possible so that we can set up a time to meet before your meetings on Sunday. If you have questions about your attendance requirements for the remainder of the month, please let me know as soon as possible. I will be letting your committee Secretaries know each week which members of their committees still have outstanding requirements, so you should hear about that from them each week. Other than that, make sure you all are doing your office hours this month and signing my sheet when you do! Feel free to stop by while I'm in the office (all the time) and hang out with me.

Committee Reports-

- **Communications:** I received four applications for Communications Assistants. I'm going to look through their applications to see what their ideas are and make sure they have a passion for the jobs. We will meet this following week after we create a GroupMe and find a time to meet.
- **Congressional Administration:** We saw two bills this week. CB-100-22 appointed the new Architecture Representative, and CB-100-21 reformed the rules regarding elections at OU. We interviewed Sephra Kolker using the standard questions from the other interviews which we conducted a few weeks ago. We gave this bill a rec of no rec. We saw the election bill from Representative Duechting which got a hostile amendment from Vice Chair Cordova. This bill got a rec of no rec as well. We have been talking about redistricting which we will be doing this semester.

- **External Affairs:** We talked a lot about voter registration during committee. You have to be registered 24 days before the day of the election in Oklahoma, so we want to make sure that we're getting that done these next few weeks before it becomes an issue of time. We have people doing the reservations for the spaces, people talking to classes about registering, and people making guides for the candidates running and their main points. Everyone else is working on absentee voting guides for the major states where out of state students may want to vote. The other thing that we're looking at is Higher Education Day, which we're putting off until after the voter registration drives. We're also excited about OU Loves Norman Day.
- **Human Diversity:** We have a few projects going on at the moment. We want to revise and rewrite the Campus Climate Board's Code. Another project is for menstrual hygiene products on campus. We want to work on making those accessible for those on campus who need them. We will keep working on the functioning automatic door openers and on the LGBTQ Ally Training. We thought that we should include the training during committee meetings, but because the trainings are so long, they won't work for our meetings. Instead, we want to plan another day for this training where we could invite several groups to attend this. We would create a sign-up, and this would be non-compulsory. This would teach others more about the things that are going on on campus.
- **Problems and Projects:** We met on Sunday, and we discussed several projects and ideas. Kiran Hajat is interested in helping with the problems at the Cross Residential Center. We also tabled the resolution regarding alcohol sales in the stadium for one week. This week, I want to meet with Amer to go over a PR push for the Suggestion Box and the time for that. We are looking into getting Turn up For Transit done sometime in the next two months as well.
- **Sustainability:** Gina and I did the first trash walk, which was great. We will work on making this a monthly event and get the graphics done ahead of time to make sure that we PR that better than in the future. We want to work with Sam to question RSOs about what they're using their materials for and how sustainable these practices are. Sarah will be working on that, Alan Lee is going to look into composting on campus. Matt Bray and Josh Miller are going to hound the administration about the stadium lighting, and if they don't answer emails, they'll go to their offices. The only events we have coming up are the other trash walks, and Josh Miller had an idea about Bike Week which sounds really cool. We want to start doing surveys to make sure that we have Sustainability knowledge getting out there, and we think this is a good venue for that.
- **University Policy:** We tabled Dan's Wet Campus Bill so that it could be improved for next week. For projects, Savannah is going to work on a drug policy which outlines the consequences for drug use on campus, which are not currently outlined well by Student Life. She is also going to work on extending the policy of overdosing on drugs and being taken to the hospital and not getting in trouble which would mirror the policy for alcohol. Trey is going to work on a catch-all emergency number for OU which would be a kind of hotline to direct people to the appropriate help that they need more effectively. I want to work on making sure that Big Exec are able to sit on the department committees on fees who decide whether to raise student fees. We want Big Exec to be on these as elected members of the students instead of the departments choosing students themselves, which may be a conflict of interest. Karley and Molly are working on course evaluations. Abbey Wegrzynski who is currently the Secretary of the University Policy Committee and an overall outstanding committee member, Lauren, and Tavana are working on donating the waste food from the dining halls to food shelters and looking into the laws on those things. Tyler and Uzeir are going to work on a committee between housing and Congress for understanding housing issues more clearly and communicating more effectively. We could work with Tim on that and the Problems and Projects Committee. These are projects that we want to have bills written for by October.
- **Ways and Means:** We saw 12 organizations and we allocated \$5,010. I am working on a bill to institutionalize the funding for Student Legal Services.

Liaison Reports

McClintic: I have a report from the Economics Club. Dr. Byrd is going to be talking about the economics of Harry Potter this week. This event is funded by SGA. A large part of Economics Club's budget is from SGA. That's this Thursday at 6:00pm in Cate.

Hobson: German club meets every Friday at Blackbird at 3:00pm if you're looking to learn or listen to any German!

Rojas: Peruvian Student Association is having their first general meeting this Thursday at 6:00pm. We are showcasing a Latinx movie this week to bring awareness to other countries in Latin America. This will be Cross Neighborhood Building B.

Manuel: InFocus Africa and Africa Women's League are hosting talks this Friday at Headington College from 6:30pm-8:30pm. This will be a good way for people to com hear about women's issues.

DeAngeli: OUr Earth Club is meeting to speak about environmental issues.

Bouch: HCSA got new pool cues for the dorms. Everyone who lives on campus is in HCSA, so come to our Monday meetings.

Guido: American Indian Student Association is serving Indian Tacos. These are \$7 with free delivery. There is also the Dream Warriors event in Dale Hall Tower on Sept 20 at 9:30am.

Special Orders

Student Concerns

Old Business

Items to Be Considered

CB-100-21 Electoral Impediments and Inconveniences Minimization Act of 2018 (Duechting) (ConAd → rec of no rec)

Representative Begović seconded by Representative Blank

Duechting: This bill is about amending sections xxii and xxiii onto the election rules. Section xxii is about those candidates who are interfering with and blocking sidewalks, bike lanes, crosswalks, and roadways. Section xxii states that individuals can't post things on parked vehicles like cars or bikes. I see this as being the same thing as the OUMMs being banned because they are similar unsolicited messages.

Blank: What prompted the need for this change? I didn't feel that my transportation ability was impeded.

Duechting: xxii I there so that this won't be a problem in the future. In case anyone was going to do this, especially in the bike lane, this is a deterrent for these kinds of acts. As for the cars, I am putting in the voices of my constituents who have been complaining about this.

Cordova: Would you accept a friendly amendment changing the point totals in Section xxii to 0.5 – 1 points?

Duechting: Yes

Blank: What does impeding the sidewalk mean?

Duechting: The big one would be if there were something like a table in the sidewalk. Maybe not one or two people, but a whole group would also be a problem. This would be on a case-by-case basis, and it would be based on the group size and the size of the impediment.

Bouch: Is the 0.5 - 1 point penalty for each flier?

Duechting: That would be for if a flier was found.

Bouch: so 0.5 - 1 for each flier?

Duechting: If, one day, some fliers were found, this may result in a point penalty.

OC Cordova: Each grievance?

Duechting: Yes

Begović: Do you think this vagueness in the legislation would be something that we should clarify for the Election Board?

Duechting: No, this would be on a case-by-case basis, so it would be up to their discretion.

McCans: What do you define as being a sidewalk?

Duechting: I can see those kinds of areas being unclear near the dorms, but for the most part just main areas where people walk in bulk. The idea is to keep them out of walking ways, especially near the roads.

Begović: Would waving a large flag be interfering?

Duechting: We had this discussion in committee. Any flags that impede on those in the bike lanes would violate this part of the bill. They should be fine otherwise.

Begović: Flags in your hand?

Duechting: Yes, that would be a slight violation.

Manuel: I am kind of clear about what is a violation, but I'm unclear about what would be the punishment. For example, the points system, what does that mean?

Duechting: We just changed the scale to lower it a bit. The way I see it, if we see a violation once in a while, that would be a lower end violation in terms of points. For repeat offenses, however, that would result in several points.

Manuel: What would cause disqualification?

Duechting: 5 points is the disqualification threshold.

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

Holt: Is the author aware that the answers he is giving about vague points in the legislation are not final and are totally at the discretion of the Election Board?

Duechting: Yes

Bouch: Student organizations have put up flags in bike lanes in the past, and not individual candidates, correct?

Duechting: Yes

Rojas: In Section xxi, it says that candidates are prohibited from campaigning in the sidewalks. What if someone who supports a candidate did this, but not someone affiliated with the campaign?

Duechting: That is up to the Election Board.

OI Begovic: Is the Chair aware that the volunteers of the candidates incur points for their campaign?

Chair: Yes

Kuketz: Are you concerned that the vagueness of the language would result in unnecessary grievances being filed against candidates?

Duechting: No, I don't see this as being a problem.

McClintic: Do you think the Election Board could release a list of the sidewalks which are prohibited from campaigning in?

Duechting: That would go to the Election Board's discretion. If there were people putting out a desk at 6:00am, for example, that might be different. In my opinion, it would be a violation, but otherwise it would be the choice of the Election Board.

OI Rojas: If Representatives have questions which the author can't answer, but the election board can, can they direct the questions to the Election Board Chair who is here tonight?

Chair: No, because the entire board passes decisions on these grievances.

Debate called by Vice Chair Cordova

Motion to recess for 2 minutes to write a hostile amendment
Secretary Holt seconded by Representative Powers

Motion to submit a hostile amendment
Secretary Holt seconded by Representative McClintic

Hostile Amendment

Holt: My hostile amendment is going to strike section xxii which regards the placement of flier on vehicles. My impression is that members of this body and my constituents are not in favor of this section. I haven't heard much argument about the section regarding bike lanes and sidewalks, and I think it's a strong bill with only that section added. My primary concern is that elections are already suffering from massive under-participation. We should not be trying to make the way people campaign more difficult, and we should not make it more difficult to reach potential voters. As far as I can tell, people have not been complaining about advertising in the car windows, and we have not seen any official statistics about this from the election board. I would like to hear your thoughts on this section of the bill individually.

Manuel: Can you please explain your amendment?

Holt: This amendment strikes the entirety of Section xxii and leaves Section xxi.

Duechting: Are you aware that when people throw away these fliers on their cars that they become trash and are not sustainable?

Holt: Yes, but voter turn-out is a problem and handing out fliers is a major way to reach voters. Paper fliers are handed out in bulk regardless, so this doesn't solve that issue. This is also an election bill, not a sustainability issue.

Blank: If you want more voters, what is your justification if they are likely to throw the fliers away and not vote?

Holt: Elections aren't well voted in, and even if fliers only cause 1% of people to go out and vote, its better than nothing. I understand that this isn't very sustainable, but I don't know if it should be the candidate's job to solve that issue. I understand that it is a sustainability issue if that's the lens that you look at it through, but we should not be punishing candidates for their unsustainable practices.

Duechting: How come members cannot send out mass emails but can put out mass fliers on cars?

Holt: Not everyone has a car, and not everyone parks on campus. OUMMs are mass mailing lists which everyone is subscribed to. The fliers are just annoying, not unsolicited. Most of these fliers will be on the cars of upperclassmen, and they are one of the smallest voting blocs.

Blank: Do you have any info on voting turn-out that would suggest that fliers help?

Holt: No I do not. I have talked to many people who find this legislation problematic because it limits the ways you can campaign and it makes it harder to get to people who may vote.

Blank: Are there any rules about where fliers can be put on cars?

Holt: There are not, but you could certainly write legislation which says that you can't put them in cars or something like that.

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

Begović: Don't you think that preventing this practice would make candidates find better ways to campaign?

Holt: Potentially, but it is making it more restrictive. Maybe these better practices are easier in the future, but for now it's making it harder to campaign. I leave it up to you as Representatives to decide if this is feasible, but as it stands, we don't have many candidates at all.

Debate called by Representative Duechting

Motion to rise from debate

Representative Schneider seconded by Representative Kuketz

Objection Representative Begović

Motion passed by a hand vote 26-8-0

Duechting: I have some final thoughts. The Opponency have said that this would be a detriment to the student body. It is not. The reason it is vague is so that the Election Board can be lenient and not impede candidates who may cause minor violations. Section xxii will allow people to find new ways to campaign that are more sustainable. There are plenty of people who have access to technology which could be a great avenue for campaigning.

Passed by a roll call vote 19-13-1

CB-100-22 An Act Appointing Representatives for Session 100 (Schneider) (ConAd → rec of no rec)

Representative Rojas seconded by Representative Wilson

Williams: I was the presiding Chair for this meeting. We had a vacancy in the Architecture District. Sephra came to our meeting on Sunday, and Vice Chair Cordova asked her the standard interview questions which we asked during all interviews. Please feel free to ask more right now.

Begović: Can you tell us about yourself?

Kolker: I'm an Architecture Major and my focus is in Environmental Design. I have taken classes in all seven parts of the Architecture School.

Blank: You are being appointed, but then you'll have to run for this seat again very soon. What will be your points of policy in your campaign?

Kolker: Diversity and inclusion are big issues in the School of Architecture, and we need to find ways to improve and promote it.

Begovic: What committee are you interested in joining, and what types of projects are you wanting to work on?

Kolker: I want to work on Sustainability as it is my focus in the School of Architecture.

Passed by unanimous consent

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

Representative Duechting seconded by Representative Rojas

Patton: We saw 12 organizations this week and funded \$5,010.

Motion to go to a roll call vote

Representative Williams seconded by Representative Duechting

Passed by a roll call vote 34-0-0

Follow-Up Reports

Williams: I wanted to give a preface to my alcohol bill. This is a bill so that alcohol can be served in the stadium. I will be finishing this bill this week, and Problems and Projects and University Policy will be seeing this bill on Sunday. If you want to help me with this bill, please let me know. You must be 21 years old at least, because of the age of legal drinking.

Items for Future Agenda

AB-100-06 Auxiliary Allocation 4 Act of 2018-2019 (Quick) → Ways and Means

Announcements and Comments

George: There is a job fair tomorrow in the Conoco for students looking for nearby jobs. The Thunder, Pickleman's, the Fanatic will be there. If you're looking for outside employment, please attend. The job fair is at 12:00pm on the third floor of the Conoco.

Williams: I am the Legislative Assistant for the President. We will be seeing Superior Court nominations next week, and then General Counsel and Election Board the following week.

Schneider: My sorority is having Gabby Douglas speak on Thursday. She's an Olympian, and it's free to attend.

Move to skip final roll call and adjourn

Vice Chair Cordova seconded by Representative Duechting

Final Roll Call

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	ex
Cordova, Mackenzie	x
DeAngeli, Emma	x
Del Rio, Paulina	x
Douglas, Zoe	x
Duechting, Donald	x
Fees, Elaina	abs
Felkner, Katy	x
Guido, Trinity	x
Hart, Harrison	x
Haugland, Sara	x
Hodžić, Uzeir	ex
Hobson, Sarah	x
Holt, Richard	x
Khan, Adam	x
Kolker, Sephra	x
Kuketz, Tim	x
Lee, Alan	x
Manuel, Pedro	x
McClintic, Alex	x
Merchant, Mahak	x
Mohamoud, Abdifatah	ex
Nadolski, Karley	x
Patterson, Savannah	x

Powers, Shayla	x
Quick, Samuel	ex
Rojas, Julio	x
Schneider, Caitlin	x
Thompson, Gabi	ex
Vanderford, Elliott	x
Wegrzynski, Abbey	x
Werdel, Gina	x
Williams, Dan	x
Wilson, Taylor	x
Present	34
Absent	1
Excused	5

Session 100	AB-100-05	Hostile Amendment	CB-100-21	CB-100-22
Begović, Amer	y	n	y	
Bell, Aspen	y	n	y	
Biškup, Emma	y	n	y	
Blank, Faith	y	n	y	
Bonić, Karla	y	n	n	
Bray, Matthew	y	n	y	
Bridwell, Trey				
Cordova, Mackenzie	y	y	n	
DeAngeli, Emma	y	n	y	
Del Rio, Paulina	y	n	a	
Douglas, Zoe	y	n	y	
Duechting, Donald	y	n	y	
Fees, Elaina				
Felkner, Katy	y	n	n	
Guido, Trinity	y	y	n	
Hart, Harrison	y	n	y	
Haugland, Sara	y	n	y	
Hodžić, Uzeir				
Hobson, Sarah	y	n	y	
Holt, Richard	y	y	n	
Khan, Adam	y	n	y	
Kolker, Sephra	y			
Kuketz, Tim	y	n	n	
Lee, Alan	y	n	y	
Manuel, Pedro	y	n	y	
McClintic, Alex	y	n	n	
Merchant, Mahak	y	n	y	
Mohamoud, Abdifatah				
Nadolski, Karley	y	n	n	
Patterson, Savannah	y	y	n	

Powers, Shayla	y	n	n	
Quick, Samuel				
Rojas, Julio	y	y	n	
Schneider, Caitlin	y	n	n	
Thompson, Gabi				
Vanderford, Elliott	y	n	y	
Wegrzynski, Abbey	y	n	y	
Werdel, Gina	y	n	y	
Williams, Dan	y	n	y	
Wilson, Taylor	y	n	n	
Yes	34	5	19	0
No	0	28	13	0
Abstain	0	0	1	0