

THE UNIVERSITY OF OKLAHOMA STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION



UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT CONGRESS Session CI

General Body Meeting
7:00 pm, Tuesday, February 26, 2019
Devon Hall 120

Session CI

Roll Call – 7:00pm

Flag Salute - Representative Kuketz

Approval of Minutes

Representative Rojas seconded by Representative Merchant

Chair's Report - Hey everyone! Sorry to be missing tonight's meeting. I'm currently in DC with leaders from all the Big XII SGAs. We met today with members of the House and Senate Education committees and tomorrow we are meeting with all the members of Oklahoma's congressional delegation. We're up here talking about federal grants to higher education, Title IX, and mental healthcare. We're also sharing ideas with the other SGA leaders and hope to come back with new knowledge about how to address some of the issues we're all facing. Filing is currently open. I encourage you all to file if you're eligible and let your friends, classmates, and RSO members know about this opportunity to serve students and make change on campus. Related to filing, this is the beginning of the wrap-up of this congressional session. I encourage you all to work hard on your projects and try to bring them to the floor before the end of this congressional session. If you need help, have questions, or want contacts within Administration or Cabinet, please reach out to me and I'll be happy to help! SGA is doing a Big Event team with the Exec branch. Richard will send the link out in the minutes. Make sure you sign up if you're interested in doing the Big Event.

Vice Chair's Report – Tom is in Washington D.C., so I am chairing this week. We have to see the Reapportioning Act this week. We need 33 votes for this. Shout-out to our Ways and Means Chair who asked organizations about liaisons and got us a ton of interest for that. This week I am going to release the liaison availability form again to get a sense of everyone's schedules. Please fill that out.

Secretary's Report – Hey everyone! You need to complete your Congressional Service requirement for the month! You can do this simply by filling out the Member Biographies that I send out in the minutes. If you don't do that tonight, I'm going to send you a follow-up email telling you that you haven't completed the requirement! If you are a Representative, please also send a headshot to Gabi at sgawebmaster@ou.edu. We are likely going to have a couple of people with four absences soon, so don't let that be you! If you are an associate who has not been to a general meeting this month, please see me at the front after the meeting.

Committee Reports-

- **Congressional Administration:** We just passed the reapportioning act and we have the election reform bill this week.
- **External Affairs:** We should be seeing the Higher Education Day Resolutions today. This is the first night that we've sent members to the city council meeting. There will be voter registration drives in the upcoming weeks.

- **Human Diversity:** We are doing implicit bias training for SGA in a couple of weeks, so stay tuned to be involved in that.
- **Problems and Projects:** We promoted the Suggestion Box and got great feedback from students on everything from sustainability concerns to the bike lanes.
- **Sustainability:** We are working on a few recycling projects, and those include Greek recycling. We are also working on a bill that would change what Congress can fund so that we don't fund things that are bad for the environment.
- **University Policy:** We had a productive meeting with research updates. We have also set some dates for bills to be seen in Congress.
- **Ways and Means:** The Primary Funding application window closed, and we had 268 applications.

Liaison Reports

Special Orders

Student Concerns

Rojas: The electrical outlets in this row of seats don't work. People in my class are complaining about this.

Vice Chair: The Problems and Projects Committee will look into that.

Old Business

CR-101-09 The Reapportioning Act of 2019 (Schneider/Bouch/Cassidy)

Representative Rojas seconded by Representative Stack

Bouch: This is the same piece of legislation that we saw last time. We sat down with the Business reps and explained the changes to the business districts. After this explanation of why we were moving to the Finance and Accounting and the Business District, they decided that this was acceptable. For those who don't know, we are splitting the business district into the two districts so that we can absorb the biology district into the Life Sciences district. We thought splitting them would improve membership but it did not. We are also mixing the education district with HR and social work and giving it a seat and calling it the Interpersonal Studies district. Please ask about other changes.

Rojas: Would you accept a friendly adding the name of the college of Earth & Energy?

Bouch: Yes

Chism: What is the functional difference between being in the college and having a declared major in the college?

Bouch: Undecided go to University College, but there is no difference between being in the college and declaring a major in it.

Chism: Would you accept a friendly making the language consistent?

Bouch: Yes

Nadolski: Can you talk about the shift with the Business district and why it was given six seats?

Bouch: The seats in Business were already there, but they are being split.

Nadolski: So it was for the constitutional requirement?

Bouch: Yes

Spangler-Day: There is a line regarding the appointment to districts and giving that power to the Chair. Who did this before?

Ahmadi: I'm not sure that there was an explicit way to do this.

Bouch: It has to wait to be done through legislation. We only do reapportioning every two years. This would get rid of the wait.

Chism: In section 1, do you know about the interdisciplinary program of the international relations program?

Bouch: No

Chism: Does it exist?

Bouch: I am not aware if it does.

OI Chism: Does this program exist within College of Arts and Sciences?

Vice Chair: Anyone know?

Chism: Would you accept a friendly amendment to strike if it doesn't exist

Bouch: If it doesn't exist, I would be open to changing it then.

OI Felkner: Are you aware that there does not appear to be this program besides the MA in International Studies?

Vice Chair: Now

OI Nadolski: Is the Vice Chair aware that typically majors in interdisciplinary studies have to focus in areas?

Vice Chair: This is specifically for the program in College of Arts and Sciences.

Chism: In section q, it says all students in the multidisciplinary studies would fall under this district, which would include the mentioned program. Would you be in favor of a friendly striking it from the other section?

OI Felkner: Are you aware is no minor for this program since 2014, and no major of any kind, but there is multidisciplinary studies?

Vice Chair: Now, yes

Bouch: In College of Arts and Sciences there are several interdisciplinary studies that exist within the College of Arts and Sciences, and this encompasses international majors who have focuses within the College of Arts and Sciences.

Chism: Would you accept a friendly amendment adding Public Health after Biology?

Bouch: Yes

Chism: What minors are in section l and would you list them in a friendly amendment?

Motion to extend time for questions by 10 minutes

Representative Bell seconded by Representative Quick

Chism: Did you say that there were minors in the College of Arts and Sciences?

Bouch: No, they are majors. Interdisciplinary were recently struck from the degree sheet. We must have made a mistake in writing the legislation. I would accept a friendly striking

Chism: Would you accept a friendly amendment removing the interdisciplinary studies program in international studies?

Bouch: Yes

Motion to go to a roll call

Representative Chism seconded by Representative Patterson

Passed by a roll call vote of 39-0-0

Items to Be Considered

CR-101-03 A Resolution in Support of Concurrent Enrollment (McCans) (External Affairs → rec of do pass)

Representative Patterson seconded by Representative Spangler-Day

McCans: This is one of our two Higher Education bills. It has been a little while, but this one focuses on concurrent enrollment for high school students. This is something the Board of Regents encouraged us to focus on. The legislature is focused on secondary education, so this is a way for us to squeeze higher education in. The information is from Regent Prep. I have added people to send this to including the house committee on Education.

Felkner: Would you accept a friendly adding the House Minority Leader and the chairs of those committees?

McCans: Yes

Chism: Why the specific superintendents?

McCans: These were taken from the last bills. These are a few of the largest school districts in Oklahoma.

Passed by unanimous consent

CR-101-04 Higher Education Day Resolution of 2019 (Gau) (External Affairs → rec of do pass)

Representative Chism seconded by Representative Merchant

Gau: This is the second higher education bill. This was more focused on economic policies and industries that will support individuals in higher education. I would accept co-sponsors and other people to the distribution list. This is so that industries in the state will support individuals in higher education who would then go into those industries.

Passed by unanimous consent

CB-101-22 Elections Rules and Procedures Reform Act of 2019 (Holt/Pavlovsky) (ConAd → rec of do pass)

Motion to suspend the rules and give ten minutes for Author's Explanation

Representative Quick seconded by Representative Stack

Holt: Hey everyone. The Congressional Administration Committee look at elections every semester so that we can solve problems that come up. This is a long bill so I will try to simplify everything as much as possible. Section 3 adds in a definition for what "Campaigning" which was a request of the Election Board. Campaigning was something that the Election Board needed guidance on in their decisions, so we added in a very vague definition and they agreed it was good for their purposes. Section 4 removes Panhellenic and Greek Council elections which is the practice already. Section 5 changes the word "shall" to "may" because there was a debacle with the polling locations in the last elections. We wanted to have five locations, but turnout was not good, so this makes it where we aren't required to make the physical locations. We can decide to do it if we want to in the future. Section 6 changes campaign finances to give more specific definitions for expense reports. There is also a change to the regulations to become a Presidential and Vice Presidential ticket. You can do so by having 500 students sign a petition to get in or pay \$150. Both candidates did this in this past election. Removing this is important because not everyone has this money and that shouldn't be a reason that one person gets to be in an election and others don't. Candidates should be legitimate and committed. Actually, GSS thought 500 may even be a high bar, and the number is arbitrary but if we amend this bill tonight, these rules won't apply to this election. There is an exception here for candidates who attempt to get the signatures but make a genuine mistake in counting which allows them a 24-hour leeway. The expense report section outlines what the reports are and how they must be reported at fair market value donations. Section 7 reduces the point intervals that were large and arbitrary, and there was not any framework for why there would be so many or so few. We made them smaller, and they are less than half of the points towards disqualification, so you can't break one rule and get disqualified. There was also a catch-all clause that was struck. It is something the Board was unhappy with us doing, but they were unclear definitions, and there is no reason within our section about rules to have a rule to follow the rules. There are parts about IFC getting added. This is also housekeeping. Section 9 is a section that reduces more points intervals. Section 10 removes all monetary fines. The Election Board imposes fines in addition to points. The fines go to the Congressional Operational Fund which is also arbitrary. It is unfair to impose fines on people who are simply trying get involved in a student organization. If they break the rules, they are disqualified and the Election Board imposes fines, which is unfair. There is also no way to really require that the fines be paid. I hope that was all clear!

Bouch: How will grievances in the elections section without points be punished?

Holt: We asked them to provide the sections that we could add points to and they did not. They were not concerned about attributing points to other sections, only to use the language to write opinions as far as I can tell.

Chism: If a friend is campaigning in a GroupMe without the candidate's knowledge, is that campaigning under this language?

Holt: That is for the Elections Board to decide, but in my opinion it is not organized if that is the case, and if it is not under their knowledge it is hard to say they are acting for the candidate. All decisions are appealable.

Chism: On OrgSync it says 501 signatures. Why?

Holt: I heard that too, but I am not clear on why it does. The Code Annotated rules on that issue.

Chism: Section c, part 4 is very confusing language. Is it incorrect?

Holt: I don't think it's incorrect, but it is overly wordy.

Stack: Can we consider changes to things like that after this election?

Holt: We will look at the spring election too in the same way. We talked to the election board about this too, and we will consider any problems that come up in the future, like those that they are concerned about with the catch-all clause.

Kuketz: Section 6, part b, that says you need signatures from 500 members of SGA. Is that correct?

Holt: Yes, all students are members are of SGA.

Motion to extend time for questions by 5 minutes
Representative Quick seconded by Representative Liu

Spangler-Day: So none of the presidential candidates would have been eligible last election?

Holt: Correct, but this is the first time in a long time that candidates have paid, which is why the issue came up. The candidates knew that they would have the fine to fall back on. The one candidate tried to get the signatures, and if they had not had that fallback, they could have gotten it done sooner and made the decision sooner. We, as the legislature, can also extend time for filing. If we think no one will run for President, then that is a deeper issue with SGA, and that's another conversation to be had.

Chism: Does this bill affect the current election?

Holt: Yes, the Election Board Chair felt that the Election Board will be obliged to to enforce these rules.

Varghese: Will the number of signatures needed be reduced?

Holt: We can bring down the 500 people requirement in the future if we feel it necessary, but for this election they would need to get the 500.

Quick: Is the election before the next GSS meeting?

Holt: No

Motion to go to a roll call vote
Representative Chism seconded by Representative Merchant

Passed by a roll call vote of 39-0-0

Motion to recess for 10 minutes
Representative Quick seconded by Representative Papanicolaou

Gavel in – 7:59pm

OI Holt: For everyone's information, these districts will not go into effect until the next election because there is no language in the bill that would retroactively apply them to the filing that is already open. We are also unsure of how the new districts would apply to the Business District that is being split, since not all of the seats are up for election.

Follow-Up Reports
Items for Future Agenda

AB-101-18 (holt)

Announcements and Comments

Spangler-Day: There was a female journalism professor who resigned after disputes over equal pay with a male colleague. She felt her being asked to leave was a reaction to her bringing the issue to light.

Vice Chair: I hope that the Human Diversity Committee looks into that.

Bouch: Housing Center Student Association is looking for an election board chair if you want to apply.

Quick: I have a poll for my capstone for you to take.

Emini: There was a girl who was followed into her house by a male stalker. Walk in groups and be safe. There are guys following girls to sorority houses.

Felkner: Buy a ticket for my sorority's philanthropy. All of the money goes to lab equipment in low income schools. This is a masquerade ball on March 8th, and you should buy tickets.

Vanderford: March 7th and 8th are going to be the Voter Registration drives. You can do hour-long shifts for your Congressional Service. If there is enough demand then we will do the Dale Hall location, but for now it is only in the Union. There will be a Sign-Up Genius.

Chism: The Oklahoma Group is having an Open House that you should go to!

Papanicolaou: Big Event registration is March 8th. Register with the SGA team!

Cordova: Antonio Manuel with IAC wants to let you know that the Committee is hosting Diversity One Love event. This is a chance for you all to get involved in a loving community. It is from 10:00am-3:00pm.

Many people also want to be liaisons for specific organizations. I need the organization's information, so tell them to fill out the liaison form on the OrgSync page so that I can pair them with you. Richard will send the link in the minutes.

Motion to skip Final Roll Call and Adjourn

Representative Powers seconded by Representative Hobson

Final Roll Call

Adjourn

Chair: Thomas Cassidy

Vice Chair: Mackenzie Cordova

Secretary: Richard Holt

Session 101	General
Alpert, Lucy	x
Bell, Aspen	x
Biškup, Emma	ex
Bonić, Karla	x
Bouch, Malachi	x
Bridwell, Trey	x
Chism, Hennessey	x
Cordova, Mackenzie	x
DeAngeli, Emma	x
Del Rio, Paulina	x
Douglas, Zoe	x
Felkner, Katy	x
Gau, Dalton	x
Guido, Trinity	ex
Hardt, Peter	x
Hart, Harrison	x
Haugland, Sara	x
Hobson, Sarah	ex
Holt, Richard	x
Kim, Jiyeon	x
Kolker, Sephra	x
Kuketz, Tim	x
Liu, Shihui	x
Matthews, Will	x
Mayes, Mark	x
McCans, Hunter	x
Merchant, Mahak	x
Mosley, Jordan	x
Nadolski, Karley	x
Papanicolaou, Peter	x

Patterson, Savannah	x	
Powers, Shayla	x	
Quick, Samuel	x	
Rojas, Julio	x	
Sallee, Sophie	x	
Schneider, Caitlin	ex	
Spangler-Day, Santana	x	
Stack, Hunter	x	
Thompson, Gabriela	x	
Vanderford, Elliot	x	
Wegrzynski, Abbey	x	
Williams, Dan	ex	
Wilson, Taylor	x	
		38
		0
5		

Session 101	CB-101-09	CR-101-03	CR-101-04	CB-101-22
Alpert, Lucy	y			y
Bell, Aspen	y			y
Biškup, Emma				
Bonić, Karla	y			y
Bouch, Malachi	y			y
Bridwell, Trey	y			y
Chism, Hennessey	y			y
Cordova, Mackenzie	y			y
DeAngeli, Emma	y			y
Del Rio, Paulina	y			y
Douglas, Zoe	y			y
Felkner, Katy	y			y
Gau, Dalton	y			y
Guido, Trinity				
Hardt, Peter	y			y
Hart, Harrison	y			y
Haugland, Sara	y			y
Hobson, Sarah				
Holt, Richard	y			y
Kim, Jiyeon	y			y
Kolker, Sephra	y			y
Kuketz, Tim	y			y
Liu, Shihui	y			y
Matthews, Will	y			y
Mayes, Mark	y			y
McCans, Hunter	y			y
Merchant, Mahak	y			y
Mosley, Jordan	y			y
Nadolski, Karley	y			y
Papanicolaou, Peter	y			y

Patterson, Savannah	y			y
Powers, Shayla	y			y
Quick, Samuel	y			y
Rojas, Julio	y			y
Sallee, Sophie	y			y
Schneider, Caitlin	y			y
Spangler-Day, Santana	y			y
Stack, Hunter	y			y
Thompson, Gabriela	y			y
Vanderford, Elliot	y			y
Wegrzynski, Abbey	y			y
Williams, Dan				
Wilson, Taylor	y			y
Yes	39	0	0	39
No	0	0	0	0
Abstain	0	0	0	0