

# THE UNIVERSITY OF OKLAHOMA STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION



## UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT CONGRESS Session XCVI

**General Body Meeting**  
**7:00 pm, Tuesday, November 1st, 2016**  
**Devon Hall 120**

### Session XCVI

**Roll Call -**  
**Flag Salute**  
Representative Noble

### Approval of Minutes

**Motion to Approve the Minutes Representative Kovach sec Representative Ryana**

**Chair's Report-** Congrats to us all because we won first place in Homecoming! Make sure you give a shout out to PiPhi, SigEp, and AASA that worked hard on all of our activities. I'm proud of our work! Elections are November 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> which will be from 8pm to 9pm in the places we approved last week. Be sure to campaign properly. We only have 3 general meetings left of the session, so please be sure that you're showing up here and to the committee meetings, working on projects, following through, etc. If you have questions, please talk to your Chairs or Exec. New members, don't be afraid to make motions. I will call on you! Tuesday November 8<sup>th</sup>, we've been invited to a uSing dress rehearsal. If you're interested, talk to me and let President Pae know by Friday. Sooners on the Road applications are out, so be sure to check those out. I'll be out of the office for the rest of the week, so please e-mail me at [congress@ou.edu](mailto:congress@ou.edu) if you need anything. I will try to get back quickly.

**Vice Chair's Report-** If you would like to be a liaison for any organization on campus, please let me know. If you don't know what organization you want to liaison for, let me know because I have a few. Be sure that you're going to your committee meetings. I know that we're all stressed with midterms ending and rolling into the end of the semester, but be sure that you are going so we can accomplish more. If you need anything, another pair of eyes or help on projects, swing by during office hours, e-mail me, text me, etc. New members, please make motions, it's a great way to get involved, it's also fun to see your name on the minutes.

**Secretary's Report-** Please be sure to keep an eye on your Constituent Service and Office Hour requirements! I sent out e-mails today to those of you who did not submit their records by October 31<sup>st</sup> at 11:59pm. If you believe that I have made an error, please e-mail me! My door is always open if you have questions.

## Committee Reports-

- **Academic Affairs-** This week we had a really productive meeting, had a few ideas regarding student concerns, some people were asking about absence policies by department, etc.
- **Communications-** We are good to go on T-Shirts! I emailed our ID Solutions Rep and we are going to try to open the link next Tuesday and will close on the 22<sup>nd</sup> so that, by the time future members get inducted, they can get shirts. As far as Cupcakes and Congress, we might not have one this month as it would be the week before dead week and right when we get back from Thanksgiving, so I don't want to overwhelm you all. If you still feel like you want to do it, it might be Tuesday the 29<sup>th</sup>. It would be from 1-4, and please e-mail me if you're still interested by Sunday. If I don't get an e-mail from you by Sunday, I will cancel it. I will let you know next Tuesday.
- **Congressional Administration-** We had my first ever Joint Committee meeting and went through 960201 and we went back through every single question to eliminate what bias was there. We gave it a rec of no rec.
- **External Affairs-** MJ came in and talked about her SQ 777 resolution. We couldn't give it a rec, but we are seeing it in committee of the whole.
- **Human Diversity-** On Sunday, we had a great meeting where we talked about the details of our mental health campaign which will be November 28<sup>th</sup> to December 2<sup>nd</sup>. We finalized what will happen on each day, and we're also looking into having speakers and other events.
- **Problems and Projects-** We weren't able to meet because we didn't have quorum. Construction notification met with Facilities Management and they will be sure they are using flags to designate unsafe areas and will be communicating via OUMM. They have told us that they will have to stop working during finals week. Brian, George, and I met with CART and it was incredible. They are very open to working with us and they want us specifically to do a Turn Up for Transit initiative and working to increase publicity. They would also like a survey about the CART system from SGA. Jenkins parking garage will open in the new year with a 1,000 parking spots, and then they will start working on the new garage.
- **Sustainability-** We met last week and the main point was to talk about the resolution you'll be seeing today. We re-wrote a few things and we'll see it today.
- **Ways and Means-** We saw funding from OU Men's Rugby, Pre-Medical Women's Society, Our Earth, Alpha Epsilon Delta, Crimson Archery Arrow Club, Dyslexia Educational Support Community, Honors Student Association. We couldn't see Student Mobilization because their application wasn't complete. We are attempting to develop a more efficient way to conduct meetings.

## Liaison Reports

Ryana: I am the liaison for OneEMS which is for Emergency Medical Service. They provide licensed EMT's to a number of campus events and athletic events. They provide these services for free and their long-term goal is to have first-response medical service on campus for free. I want SGA to learn more about their mission and provide what support we can.

Reid: The Student Theater Initiative held their very first Miss STI which was for funds to put on shows. It is a completely student-driven group and they raised over 1,000 dollars with this drag show and they're making it an annual event.

## **Special Orders**

### **Committee of the Whole**

#### **960304- A Concurrent Resolution Addressing Hate Speech**

##### **Representative Nigh sec Representative Ryana**

Mee: This bill is regarding the white nationalist posters that have been cited around campus. It is addressing hate speech, vandalism, and I hope you all like it! I want to say that we support free speech and discourage hate speech. We want to say that SGA recognizes that it is harmful and that it doesn't have a place here.

**Motion to Give this Legislation a Rec of No Rec Representative Mazeitis sec Representative Elliott**

#### **960403- A Resolution Addressing Concerns Regarding the Negative Impacts of SQ777**

##### **Representative James sec Representative Davis**

Chance: Hey everyone! This is based on the survey that was passed in Congress and GSS. The majority of OU's population does have concerns with SQ 777 as you see in the second Whereas clause. 64% claim that they prefer the question without compelling state interest or not at all. The 3<sup>rd</sup> Whereas clause claims that 69% will vote no on the question. This is a large majority of people that have an issue with the question. This resolution will disclose this information to the public and raise awareness regarding the question. I am asking for a friendly amendment to increase the number of people who took the survey since this afternoon, but we would like to change the number to 786.

James: The main point is not to say that this is how Congress feels but rather to indicate how the student body feels.

Owings: In the 4<sup>th</sup> Whereas clause, are we allowed to use survey responses legally?

James: I am sure we are.

*Kelling: Would you accept a friendly amendment changing 581 to 786, 69% to 68%, and 17% to 18%?*

*Kelling: Yes*

**Motion to Give this Legislation a Rec of No Rec Representative Kelling sec Representative Owings**

**Motion to Adjourn Committee of the Whole and Move Back to Regular Business Representative Nigh sec Representative James**

## **Student Concerns**

Williams: Hello my dudes. Last week, you saw that I was under student concerns but I thought it would be more appropriate on this agenda. A couple weeks ago I was told that one of my constituents was concerned with SGA. He prompted me to ask my constituents what they thought of Congress. The results are a little troubling. The majority of the people that I represent are Social Science majors who are likely to be aware that we exist. The conclusion that I reached is that people don't know who we are. They know who we are in nebulous sense, but not what we do. People need to know that if they have questions they can come to us. Last year, I know that a certain constituent made some buttons for some people and while I'm sure that helped, we should do more. The onus is on us and possibly also the President to go out and ask the student what needs to be changed. Going to a representative can be daunting, so we should discourage that. A lot of my constituents who were aware of Congress were only aware of us as a body that passes resolutions, and that is not the only thing we do. We also fund student organizations. We need to change that people see us as a body that only passes resolutions. I would like to implement a plan to take Congress from being viewed as a resolution-based body to a body that improves the quality of life on campus. This is not to say that committee don't already improve the quality of life, but we should do more. If you want to join me in this/help me amend the Code Annotated, in fact I heard just the other day that we might have some authority over parking? I would argue that parking is one of the chief concerns that students have. I invite all of you to help me do this, I don't know how long this will take, but things need to change from where they are. We have had great communication chairs and more people know us now than ever but we need to increase the number of people who come to us and have a say in their student government. We need to set the standard of our motto for everyone.

## Old Business

### Items to Be Considered

960201- OU Minor/Certificate Expansion Act of 2016 (ConAd/AA- Rec of No Rec)

#### **Representative Quick sec Representative Davis**

Pham: I am just here to facilitate David's bill. This is going to question student's interest in adding student minors and I certainly support it because I think it's a good idea to have more minors.

Monlux: This bill is an opinion survey to ask students what they think about adding 13 different minors. 4 would be religious specific, 3 country specific based on study centers, we have a lot of classes on the books and because they are expensive more people will go to them if we have a minor that students can obtain. There will also be 3 political minors- 3<sup>rd</sup> party studies, conservative studies, world justice systems. There would be 2 fun minors that would be good recruitment tools- Conspiracy Theories and Rock n Roll, in addition to Oklahoma Studies. We wouldn't have to create a single new class or hire any new professors. If the survey goes well, it would need to go through the departments, the counselors, the Regents, Faculty Senate, etc. The earliest these would be offered would be Fall 2018.

Mee: Why is there Conservative Studies and not a counter-ideological minor?

Monlux: I was asked by certain students to have this, but if you disagree, take this survey and disagree.

Mee: What about Liberal Studies?

Monlux: We have a whole college of liberal studies that have degree that students can pursue. The students will tell us what they want in this survey. I would love to see all of them offered, but not all of these will make it through the process.

Reid: The college and major of liberal studies have nothing to do with liberal politics. They are a specific grouping of studies.

Monlux: I agree with the Vice-Chair but I have had a number of people that disagree with that.

Elliott: Since you said that the earliest these changes might be seen would be Fall 2018, what year do you plan on graduating?

Monlux: I'm currently an ISS and I'll graduate in Fall 2017. I am also think about tacking on an BA in Political Science due to my time in law school and I'd like to pad my GPA.

Elliott: If you do graduate in the Fall of 2017, who is going to continue this effort?

Monlux: I will personally see this through. The State Regents has a December deadline to get stuff in, which means that the policies wouldn't be implemented to the next year.

Kelling: Considering that there has been some pushback on Conservative Studies, *would you accept a friendly amendment to ask about Liberal Political Studies?* If you put the other side there, it takes away the perception that we aren't catering to one side.

Monlux: I think that the College of Liberal Studies and World Justice Systems account for that and we have amended this multiple times and I want to get this out in the SGA election. I haven't looked at the classes to see if those classes would exist already. Since creating new classes and hiring new professors is tough, I don't know, but I can try to go through it tonight. Yes to the friendly amendment.

#### **Motion to Move to the End of the List Representative Mee sec Representative Zahra**

Mee: This is just gauging student interest, right?

Monlux: Absolutely, this is just to gather student opinion on these 13 specific minors.

Rains: *Would you accept a friendly amendment to change the title of the bill to the OU Minor/Certificate Survey Act?*

Monlux: Yes

Reid: Perception aside, does the College of Liberal Studies have anything to do with Liberal American Politics?

Monlux: No

Quick: What fiscal responsibilities would be put on the university in the event these were approved?

Monlux: These are classes already on the books, so not much in terms of hiring new professors, but there would be costs relating to academic upkeep which can be as little as a few 1,000 a year to as much as 20,000 a year.

Grunewald: You said that you weren't in complete control of deciding the 13 minors. Where did you get them from?

Monlux: I had a number of students come to me but they were not willing to go on record. During the summer, I reviewed all the classes offered at the university and created minor proposals. A couple university officials supported it but didn't want to go on record. I'm aware that not all of these will be pursued.

Owings: What schools would these minors be under?

Monlux: Countries would be CIS, Religious would be CAS under Religious Studies, Conservative Studies might be under Classics/Letters or History as I have talked with the Political Science Department and they need two Political Theorists in order to approve it. Classics and Letters told me that if 800 out of 1500 indicate interest, they will pursue it.

Grunewald: How would the addition of Italian, Mexican, and Brazilian studies change the Latin American Studies minors?

Monlux: Those are country-specific, but if you take people that aren't interested in study abroad, this gives them an incentive and a certification and the classes/study centers are already there.

Reid: *Would you accept a friendly amendment on Question 8 to "if you are a working student and have declared a minor, did doing so impact your...?"*

Monlux: Yes

**Consent- Representative Owings**

**Objection- Representative Quick**

**Motion to Move to a Roll Call Vote Representative Mee sec Representative Pham Roll**

**This bill passes by a vote of 34-0-0**

960304- A Concurrent Resolution Addressing Hate Speech (COTW- Rec of No Rec)

**Representative Elliott sec Representative Chun**

Mee: This all started when the Department of Inclusivity reached out to me and said what is Congress going to do to address this vandalism that is going around. It has incited a lot of fear in students of color, students from the Jewish community, etc. We really wanted to emphasize that our initiatives are great but we want to expand that to include students of every background to show solidarity who are suffering through this. The Department of Inclusivity helped us through this.

Reid: Besides the hateful message that the organization represents, the way this organization posted their message was vandalism and the University intends to press charges, which is the other part of the bill in that people tried to damage the property of our University.

Pham: This bill is targeted specifically to hate speech and provides for quality efforts to be more inclusive.

Lalani: In the part where you specifically list the different communities, where those specific communities the ones that were called out and is that why you listed them?

Mee: The posters were super vague, but a quick look at their website specifically targeted Latinx communities and targeted Native communities and have said a number of things about the Black Lives Matter movement.

Reid: We also indicate that there a number of other marginalized communities that the group has targeted.

Owings: In Session 6 you put the founder of the group on the list, why would you put him on if you're trying to silence him?

Reid: We would like to send it to him not because we are trying to change his mind but because we want to let him know that his message is not welcome here. Sending it directly is a statement.

Kelling: *Would you accept a friendly amendment in Section 1 to change the word Addressing to Condemning?*

Mee: Yes

Buxton: Why is Identity Europa in who we are sending it to and not within the text of the bill?

Reid: This resolution is not just about Identity Europa, but rather a general statement about hate speech and vandalism. We are against it all. Identity Europa is the inciting incident.

Buxton: In the Whereas clauses, you cite the posters. Why would you then not cite the group to provide context?

Mee: I'm not opposed to adding their name, but I didn't want to give them too much publicity. I didn't want to include the founder originally, but I was persuaded. I just don't want to give the organization any street cred.

Williams: Would you accept a friendly amendment striking the founder of Identity Europa? He would put it on his wall and try to start more chaos. This guy isn't worthy of a resolution from us. We don't need to

legitimize this. I am really behind this and so are my constituents, but I don't think that sending it to him will be good for us.

Reid: I see where the argument is coming from, but I'm not afraid of him. I want him to know that we don't support his message, in fact, we condemn it. Not letting him know out of fear that he would come back

Mazeitis: Co-Sponsors?

Mee: Yes

*Quick*

*James*

*Davis*

*Ahravi*

*Grunewald*

*Kuketz*

*Cox*

*Kelling*

*Hillis*

*Buckley*

*Owings*

*Ryana*

*Chun*

*Elliott*

*Klima*

*Lalani*

*Elwick*

*Williams*

*Rucka*

*Noble*

*Rubio*

*Simmons*

Davis: If we pass this, what is the action item? Can we just ban their organization?

Mee: We don't have the power to do that. We have the power to expand our own initiatives with the Department Inclusivity, increasing multicultural organization involvement in Congress. We can't change what's going on in the world around us. I wish we could, but we don't have that kind of power.

Reid: Although we would like to tell someone that they can't come to campus, they have free speech

**Motion to Extend Questioning by 5 Minutes Representative Chun sec Representative Simmons**

Mee: These posters weren't approved, so they weren't something that feel under our jurisdiction. If a group wants to come and vandalize, we obviously condemn that.

Owings: Considering that the last Whereas clause, would you be willing to add a line affirming that we are protecting free speech?

Mee: This bill does not seek to protect free speech, but they can say what they want to say.

Kovach: If they were to come back and vandalize, is there anything we can do against that?

Reid: Posters have to be approved to be hung on University property by Student Life or another Department.

Mee: We can take them down if they vandalize.

Owings: To follow up, you are stating that this bill isn't about free speech but you bring it up in the last Whereas clause. Why would you include that?

Reid: It is to clarify that we are not addressing free speech. While we support everyone's right to free speech, we don't support the idea of marginalizing or discriminating a community with that right. We are saying that we do not support the abuse of that right.

Mee: In an academic environment, if you incite fear with your words or make them unable to engage with campus, we can't have that kind of speech.

**Motion to Move to a Roll Call Vote Representative Nigh sec Representative Zahra**

**This bill passes by a roll call vote of 31-0-2**

960403- A Resolution Addressing Concerns Regarding the Negative Impacts of SQ777 (CO'W- Rec of No Rec)

**Representative Kuketz sec Representative Chun**

Chance: You all just saw this, so just to repeat, we want to disclose this survey information and let the population know the student body has concerns.

Mazeitis: Co-Sponsors?

Mee: Yes

*Quick*

*Davis*

*Pham*

*Grunewald*

*Ryana*

*Buckley*

*Abrawi*

*Kelling*

*Kovach*

*Hillis*

*Chun*

*Lalani*

*Klima*

*Rucka*

*Williams*

*Erwin*

*Rubio*

*Reid*

*Mazeitis*

*Rains*

Kelling: *Would you accept a friendly amendment to change OK House to OK House of Reps?*

James: Yes

Noble: What was the new percentage for the 3<sup>rd</sup> Whereas clause as students who claim they will vote no?

Chance: 68% said they'd vote against.

Noble: Shouldn't we add quotes from individuals that said they were against?

James: No, because this is a resolution expressing that the student body disagrees with SQ 777.

**Consent- Quick**

**Objection- Owings**

**Motion to Move to a Roll Call Vote Representative Elliot sec Representative Pham**

**This bill passes by a roll call vote of 33-1-0**

**New Business**

**Follow-Up Reports**

**Items for Future Agenda**

An Act Initiating a Transportation Survey (ConAd)

**Announcements and Comments**

Elliott: I know that you all get tired of hearing this, but please follow us on social media! It will increase the number of people who know who we are. Cupcakes and Congress, if you're still interested, please e-mail me by Sunday.

Mazeitis: Please come sign these Homcoming cards!

Rains: I'll be out of the office, so please be sure to e-mail me!

Reid: OK Festival of Ballet opens this week! We have the third best ballet school in the country. It opens on November 4<sup>th</sup> and runs the next two weekends.

Kovach: One week from today is election day. You have one week to remind your constituents that there are important things on the ballots, namely state questions. Students are the biggest voting bloc in the city and have the lowest turnout.

Kelling: PnP is not meeting on Sunday because most of my committee will be at OIL

Williams: It is 8:13 and Texas Still Sucks

**Final Roll Call**

**Motion to Skip Final Roll Call and Adjourn Representative Elliot sec Representative Quick**

Chair: Kaylee Rains

Vice-Chair: Austin Reid

Secretary: Jake Mazeitis

<b>Session 96</b>	960201	960304	960403
Alrawi, Salam	y	y	y
Bray, Bryan			
Buxton, Jillian	y	y	y
Capehart, Tanner			
Chun, Bum Ki	y		y
Cox, Reece	y	y	y
Curley, Nicholas	y	y	y
D'Silva, Jordan	y	y	y
Davis, Syleste	y	y	y
Echols, Ryan			
Elliott, Shelby	y	y	y
Elwick, Kara	y	y	y
Erwin, Hunter	y	a	y
Grunewald, John	y	y	y
Hillis, Tevis	y	y	y
Huffling, Madison			
James, Madison	y	y	y
Kelling, Taylor	y	y	y
Klima, Ali	y	y	y
Kovach, Chase	y	y	y
Kuketz, Timothy	y	y	y



Lalani, Sanah	y	y	y
Lewis, Danielle			
Mazeitis, Jake	y	y	y
McClintic, Alexander	y	y	y
Mee, Emily	y	y	y
Nigh, Ryan	y	y	y
Noble, Sam	y	y	y
Owings, Brian	y	a	n
Pham, Daniel	y	y	y
Quick, Sam	y	y	y
Reid, Austin	y	y	y
Rubio Regalado, Carlos	y	y	y
Rucka, Magdalena	y	y	y
Ryana, Naomee	y	y	y
Simmons, Jonathan	y	y	y
Steward, Sarah	y	y	y
Thompson, Maddy			
Vann, Peyton			
Williams, Dan	y	y	y
Zahra, Andi	y	y	y
<b>Yes</b>	34	31	33
<b>No</b>	0	0	1
<b>Abstain</b>	0	2	0