

# THE UNIVERSITY OF OKLAHOMA STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION



## UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT CONGRESS Session XCVII

**General Body Meeting**  
7:00 pm, Tuesday, January 31<sup>st</sup>, 2017  
Devon Hall 120

### Session XCVII

**Roll Call -**  
**Flag Salute**  
Representative Lewis

### Approval of Minutes

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

**Chair's Report-** Welcome to our new members! It is awesome to see the room so full. I'm the Chair and I'm a Senior PolySci major, I have a pug named Emma, and I love Sour Patch Kids. (Jake offers Sour Patch kids). If you all feel overwhelmed tonight, don't worry! You will learn everything Saturday. If you have a question, just say On Information. Don't worry if I don't your name, I'll learn it soon! Go ConAd for spending seven hours doing interviews! One announcement for Representatives: in light of recent exec orders, there are a lot of questions from International Students. If anyone has questions or wants to refer them somewhere, there will be an event tomorrow from 12-2 in Meacham. CIS and Immigration Attorneys will be there to help with any legal questions students may have. Also, don't forget that Orientation is this Saturday from 4-8. Also, at Orientation, we will be putting you into mock committees, so you'll get to feel them out. You'll be getting your permanent assignment next Tuesday.

**Vice Chair's Report-** My name is Austin and I'm a Senior drama major. I'm the Vice-Chair, which means that I'm the fool that signed up to fill this wonderful women's shoes (points at Kaylee). I live in the theater, come around if you want, I'll do a stupid dance. I have been working on Orientation, and after that we will be going to Hideaway. Be sure to stay hungry! I also run the liaisons program, wherein if you want to be a Representative for an RSO, you basically go to that RSO if you can be their liaison, they say yes or no, and then you tell me which RSO you want to be a liaison for. From then, you tell Congress about their events, about things that Congress might be interested in, or what help we can provide. I'm also in charge of associates, and I'm supposed to be watching out for you. Feel free to e-mail me at [CongressVC@ou.edu](mailto:CongressVC@ou.edu)

**Secretary's Report-** Hello everyone! We are so excited to have our new members joining us tonight! My name is Jake Mazeitis and I'm the Secretary of Congress, which means that I oversee attendance, agendas, minutes, Constituent Service, Office Hours, and a number of other things. If you ever have any questions, please be sure to let me know! In addition, please grab one of the resource sheets down here at the front if you haven't already. A lot of Congress stuff is on Google Drive, so I'd encourage you to check it out! You can find old and current agendas, minutes, and a legislative archive there, among other things. Can't wait for an exciting semester!

## Committee Reports-

- **Communications-** My name is Shelby, and I'm a Senior pre-nursing major. I am also always in the Conoco! I am going to start doing t-shirt and pullover designs this week. I recently talked with other Exec members, and decided that Rep Carson will be joining the Communications Committee. Cupcakes and Congress will be on February 17<sup>th</sup>, March 24<sup>th</sup>, and April 14<sup>th</sup> from 11-2 (all Fridays) in the Union. Please also fill out this form that I'm passing around so that I can follow you all. I will also try to start doing Member Mondays so people can put faces to names. Be on the lookout for social media stuff, I have stuff out about HigherEd Day, funding, Cupcakes and Congress, etc. We have a number of events this semester on campus too, so I'll be PR'ing those. We will be trying to get SGA teams set up for some of those events. Cupcakes and Congress is a PR event every month, and when it gets closer, you can sign up for 15-minute slots and you give people cupcakes and talk about Congress.
- **Congressional Administration-** Hi everyone! I'm Danielle Lewis. Thanks for those of you who interviewed this weekend, we loved meeting you! If any of you are Pre-Med, please ask me about the process! ConAd saw all the legislation on the agenda today after interviews, and we are so excited to work with you all!
- **External Affairs-** HigherEd Day is February 14<sup>th</sup>, and if you can go, please do. I also need people to call legislators to set up meetings. It is approved for Constituent Service. It'll also be helpful for me to get that work spread out. I'll be sure to get you phone numbers.
- **Problems and Projects-** My name is Taylor, and I'm a PolySci Senior. I live in the Veterans Center, in the old SAE house. We had a good committee meeting. We will be doing a TurnUp for Transit event soon and will need volunteers. We have closed our veterans mental health case, as we now have a contingent coming from the VA once a month. We will also be working on public safety, especially lighting on the Ovals and in the new garage. We also maybe want to try to put some cameras around the major bike racks. If you all have anything for me, please bring it to us and we'll be happy to take it on!
- **Sustainability-** I'm MJ and I'm a Senior ChemE major with a BioMed focus. We relate to anything to do with sustainability and the environment. This semester, we're looking at composting, reducing sprinkler water usage, more recycling bins/splitting more of the trash cans around campus, and marking more clearly what you can and can't recycle. We might also be doing some educational movies and talks later in the semester.
- **Ways and Means-** Primary funding is now open, and you can find it on the OrgSync page. It'll be open till February 23<sup>rd</sup>, so be sure to get it all in as soon as possible, especially with the two form process. We have about \$120,000 left for the semester, so we have a lot to give. Union Catering is open and on a rolling basis. We want to make sure we use it all since this is the last semester for it. For those on my committee, be sure to stay in touch via the GroupMe.

## Liaison Reports

Kelling: SVA is having a free Super Bowl party in the Veterans Lounge, so search us on Facebook!

Kalvacherla: The Religious Studies Student Association is having a No Wall, No Ban march this Thursday 12:30-2:30. There will be speakers, and it'll start in front of Bizzell.

## Special Orders

Swearing In of New Members

**Motion to Suspend the Rules and Return to Items to Be Considered Representative James sec Representative Bishop**

## Student Concerns Old Business

### Items to Be Considered

970101- An Act Establishing the Campus Climate Board of Advisors (Rains et alia) (ConAd- Rec of Do Pass)

#### **Representative Hedgorth sec Representative Pham**

Zafar: Hey everyone, my name is Rehan and I'm in the Exec Cabinet. The bill that we are introducing establishes an SGA Board called the Campus Climate Board of Advisors. Similar models exist at KU and UT. Within SGA, there will be a board comprised of RSO leaders from RSO's related to minority groups. They will choose one representative to sit on the CCBOA and advise Big Exec on policies, initiatives, and policies. That way, the voices of these RSO's are heard. They have certain concerns that conflict with a lot of things we do, so it's important that we address that.

Kennedie: This is a joint effort between CAC, Exec, and the Legislative Branch. These all merged because we were trying to find ways to reach communities. So, Aimee went to the Big 12 trip and we realized that we had the same goals as other institutions. We are going to talk about programming and things on the legislative side. We are wanting to serve everyone at the University, not just people that we see every day. The things that are said in these organizations about not being heard can be heard in an open space. This leaves us vulnerable, which is great. This is not our initiative, it's for everyone to come together. It is very much everyone's.

Rains: We have contacted each of these organizations and they are all very excited. It has all of these organizations and it also has the heads of the 4 branches of SGA as well as different organizations on campus that might not connect with other organizations as they might be able to (like Pan and IFC). This is a really exciting opportunity. Inclusion and community has been something many of us are passionate about, and this helps that.

#### **Motion to Extend Author's Explanation by 3 Minutes Representative Pham sec Representative Kelling**

Aimee: I'm Aimee and this is Kennedie, and we're from CAC the Programming Branch of SGA. This is one of the first SGA-wide initiatives that we've had in a long time, and we're excited to put on a united front. We don't want to keep asking them to keep meeting us one-on-one, but rather give them a time to voice their opinions. We want them to talk about programs from CAC, legislation from Congress, Grants from GSS, etc. A lot of the RSO's are really excited, and so am I!

Echols: *Would you accept a friendly amendment changing any mention of four branches to three?*

Rains: *Yes*

Israel: You've mentioned that the student groups have expressed interests, but they haven't appointed a representative. Will that be in a separate piece of legislation?

Zafar: Some of them have chosen their people, and some haven't.

Kennedie: Some RSOs are also potentially going to create a separate position within the RSO.

Aimee: We wanted them to be able to choose their own people.

Rains: The only person appointed will be the Coordinator, which will be appointed by the Heads of SGA.

Kelling: Specifically for the groups that are included, will these include a forum for them to request CAC support?

Aimee: If they are wanting to talk about an event they're trying to do, we are more than willing to meet with them and talk about it. We can't really fund it unless it is also a CAC event because we can't by our own regulations.

Kennedie: We have a lot of events on campus, so this is a great time for us to talk about the timing of events and when events can be planned to make sure they don't overlap, especially if they're particularly unique to those RSOs. This is especially true for RSOs that don't have the size to PR to the entire University. We are certainly always open to help with publicity.

Hedgorth: I understand the reason that you include the word climate, but I think that some people might misunderstand this to be relating to the concept of weather and climate change?

Zafar: When I researched stuff about this board, I looked at the models at UT and changed the name around a bit. Campus Climate is a popular title in Higher Education, and it relates to the social climate of the university. Are there certain areas of campus that we need to work on, etc.

### **Motion to Extend Questioning by 5 Minutes Representative Chism sec Representative Nigh**

Kennedie: We also don't want to limit the topics we can discuss, but there are some other topics that we might talk about. We don't want to trivialize the word, so with this we are expanding what we can talk about. What can we do together? If we only limit ourselves to diversity and inclusion, we are really limiting ourselves. We are more concerned with working together.

Zafar: I agree that diversity and inclusion have sort of become buzz words, and I think that campus climate is being used across campuses and is more fitting.

Kelling: Considering that some of these groups have partner groups, or there are more than one group that serve these groups, why did we choose specific groups? Specifically, I'm asking about QSA and the Programming Advisory Board.

Zafar: That's the difference between an RSO and a USSO.

Aimee: We tried to choose student organizations, so we were hoping to hit groups like the QSA rather than University organizations. Those organizations have paid advisors, and we thought that the QSA might have a more student-focused voice.

Zafar: Regarding the International Advisory Committee, they have two members because they cover multiple different student organizations. Those extras seats can also be extended based on the requests of the organizations.

Echols: Given the fact that there is no enforcement for any attendance policy, can you explain what it exists for and would you consider deleting it?

Kennedie: To go back to limitations on legislation, we wanted the group to set their own guidelines on attendance. Especially this semester, some groups might not have devoted people because it's just starting. This is a way for this group to come together and decide on their policy so they can hold each other accountable. It is much more of a group effort, and we'll decide it on their meeting.

Rains: We don't want to penalize groups for not meeting with us, so we don't want the organization to lose a voice because they don't have one person come to a meeting.

### **Motion to Extend Questioning by 10 minutes Representative Kovach sec Representative Pham**

Owings: It says in Section 27 that the Coordinator is putting forward a Campus Climate survey. Is that pushed out by Congress?

Rains: Because it doesn't originate in Congress, it doesn't need to go through Congress.

Williams: Who does this organization answer to?

Kennedie: It is not ours, and it doesn't really belong to anyone. This is a very open, comfortable, casual community that'll get together and talk. We don't want people to have to be there. This is not a legislative body, nor will it make and change things. This is in no way "by the book", and you can see that in the legislation. It is very loose in its writing because of our intention in writing it. If we create this environment of rules and strictness, you have to answer to SGA, which we don't want. We hold them accountable and they hold us accountable.

Zafar: Big Exec of SGA will choose the Coordinator, and will be at all the meetings for the Board. If they aren't there, then the Coordinator is responsible for delivering the agenda. This is a chance for RSOs to talk directly with Aimee, Kaylee, or JD, and a chance for those leaders to talk to these members and solicit advice. I also don't think they have any kind of power they need to be disciplined for abusing.

Chism: In this bill we can add organizations. Will that be difficult or easy?

Rains: It'll be amended simply by an act of legislation in Congress.

Kovach: Would this body be subject to the Open Records Act?

Rains: No

Owings: Why does Congress as a Body not have any input on the new membership?

Rains: I don't think it's necessary to have an entire piece of legislation, and people will come through Congress in terms of the legislation for their organization and they'll have the chance then to speak on these organizations. You'll have a voice when the legislation comes through.

Israel: What will be the Coordinators position in relation to the branches of SGA?

Rains: The Coordinator will be the head of the Committee, so they will be sending out agendas and welcomes, and then facilitating the meetings. We don't want it to be a formal meeting, but they will guide the meeting as it goes on. In terms of the branch, it'll just kind of be under SGA in general.

Aimee: We tried to leave in under all 4 so it was an SGA front.

Zafar: The Coordinator will be appointed by Big Exec.

Echols: *Would you accept a friendly amendment to, under Section 30, insert section c, include a section about how an attendance policy will be established at the first meeting?*

Zafar: *Yes, but the action will be decided by the Board.*

Kalvacherla: You all mentioned that new organizations can join. What would be the process for an organization to get membership?

Zafar: It would probably be something along the lines of an Advisor saying that they would like to be in the Committee, and they'll talk to the Coordinator and the Chair of Congress. The Chair will then draft the legislation.

Rains: When this goes through Congress, they will get a certain amount of PR, and we will also be sure to PR that this Committee exists.

Niles: On Section 32, part c, regarding the monthly press releases, is that required?

Zafar: One of the jobs of the Board is to release a document talking about the social climate at OU, including progress and assessment.

Aimee: We added monthly because these Advisors would have an opportunity to write something if anything happened during that month. It encourages them to respond to what's happening in the moment.

Zafar: They will also write a report over the course of the semester.

### **Motion to Extend Questions to the End of the List Representative Kelling sec Representative Pham**

Israel: Will the Coordinator adhere to the same restrictions as other student branch leaders in terms of involvement with regard to the Code Annotated?

Rains: No

Hedgcorth: Is there any particular stressing reason why this Board needs to be approved by Congress instead of just existing unofficially?

Rains: Every single time we amend the Code Annotated, it has to go through both Houses and be signed by the President, so it was required.

Owings: *In Section 28, part q says members from the Department of Inclusivity. Are they going to have more than one?*

Zafar: *Scriveners error.*

Reid: So, the report that you all will be putting out monthly and by semester, in terms of the semester report, will this be something like how certain organizations give a letter grade or will it just be a report?

Zafar: It'll be a written report that they will write throughout the semester. We won't give grades. It isn't a report card.

Grunewald: Because meetings are open to all students of OU, how would positions on the Board differ from just the meetings being open?

Rains: The membership are going to the people that are advising and talking to the Chairs and the reports. Of course, any SGA meeting is open to the public. Anyone is welcome to come, but we can to keep it as focused on this group of Advisors as possible. I think this Committee is geared towards something a little different.

Echols: Given the fact that there is no mention of diversity or inclusion in the Board's purpose, can you decide how you chose the groups you did?

Kennedie: Some of the groups we reached out to were marginalized groups of events that might not know that we have a number of branches and might not otherwise be involved. These students might be in bigger organizations, but we might not know of these smaller organizations. For example, I don't always think of MSA, DINA, or VSA. We sought to look for organizations that are often left out.

Aimee: We also got insight from Clarke, Brynn, George, Quy, etc. So we've had a lot of different eyes giving us opinions. We really tried our best to make sure we were seeking out groups.

Echols: I wasn't really asking for the process, but rather about the reason for including them.

Aimee: We stated our purpose, and then sought advice from our peers and other leadership about who would be in this group.

Zafar: I see the confusion in terms of the purpose, but the purpose for the Committee is to discuss the campus climate.

Carpenter: Going back to Section 32, part c when it talks about the monthly press releases, what platform will that be released on?

Rains: It'll be pushed through SGA media and we'd be willing to collaborate with the Daily and the Nightly.

Niles: On Section 31, sub-section b, why did you call for the board to be called by 10 members instead of the majority?

Aimee: Because we wanted to make sure that the groups could call a meeting immediately in reaction recent events. It gives us the freedom to call it to order if something is to arise, especially if there are 10 organizations that want to voice their opinions.

Williams: SAE happens again. What do you all do?

Kennedie: We can't speak for the groups that'll be on there, but as student leaders, we may consult them on how we want to react, so we'd call a meeting, but in terms of the action and statements, we couldn't tell you. We can't really plan out the reaction.

Rains: Also notice that Big Exec is on the board, so if Congress is wanting to write a resolution, we would call the Board and ask for advice, opinions, etc.

Aimee: They'd also be able to tell us what resource they might need.

Zafar: Hopefully something like that never happens, but that Board would meet immediately, but they would discuss and decide what they wanted to do.

Echols: Based off of the last answer, would you accept a friendly amendment in Section 26 to include a statement about diversity and inclusion.

Aimee: Although those are part of our overall goal, that isn't our only mission, so no.

Owings: Will the campus climate report be subject to a vote or is a collaborative effort?

Rains: It'll depend on the set up of the Board, so we'll need the Advisors before we make that choice. I assume that every group will have an equal voice.

## **Motion to Move to a Roll Call Vote Representative Mazeitis sec Representative Nigh**

**This bill passes by a roll call vote of 25-1-0**

970103- An Act Expelling Session 97 Representatives (Mazeitis) (ConAd- Rec of Do Pass)

### **Representative Kelling sec Representative Nigh**

Mazeitis: I have contacted Representative Alrawi multiple times via e-mail in order to notify him of his potential expulsion and to inform him that it would be decided at this meeting. Due to his lack of a response, I encourage you to vote for this legislation. Thank you.

**Consent**

970611- An Act Appointing Congress Members to Session 97 (Lewis) (ConAd- Rec of Do Pass)

**Representative Kelling sec Representative Pham**

Lewis: This past Sunday, we appointed new Associates and Representatives. 46 people signed up for interviews, but 46 did not show up. We looked at resumes, charisma, interview skills, and considered who would best serve in the positions we had.

Williams: Dayten isn't on the list?

Williams: *Would you consider a friendly amendment adding Dayten Israel to the Associate section?*

Lewis: *Yes*

**Consent**

**Motion to Suspend the Rules and Move to Special Orders Representative Kelling sec Representative Owings**

970612- An Act Appointing the Session 97 Human Diversity Chair (Rains) (ConAd-Rec of Do Pass)

**Representative Williams sec Representative Warner**

Rains: This is very similar to what we saw earlier. Our HD Chair resigned last November, and based on our applicants, we chose Ali! She's served as Secretary for two years, and we're excited to hear about her ideas!

Klima: I've served in Congress for two years, and I've been an Associate and a Representative. I've been Secretary in HD since I started here. I hope I'll get to serve as Chair! I'm a PolySci Letters double major.

Williams: What do you see as your short and long term goals?

Klima: That'll be contingent on who is on my committee. We hope to work with President Baker in terms of his efforts for diversity. We also hope to write a resolution regarding the Executive Orders passed down this week, but it'll depend on the committee.

**Consent**

970613- An Act Appointing the Session 97 Academic Affairs Chair (Rains) (ConAd- Rec of Do Pass)

**Representative Lalani sec Representative Nigh**

Rains: Our previous AA Chair got an awesome internship in DC, so we had an empty slot to fill. We had an application process, and based on that, we put her forward!

Bishop: Senior PolySci and Letters student. I'm a newly elected member of Congress, but I have experience in OIL. I sit on the Student Advisory Board for the OK State Regents for Higher Ed, where we talk about the academic environment in OK. I'm excited to get it onto an institutional level to see what we can do.

Williams: What direction do you intend to take the AA Committee, and what're your short and long term goals?

Bishop: Something that I am really frustrated with are the cuts from the state government towards higher education. We've seen a tuition increase every year that I've been at OU. I want to see how we can lift the burden on students, whether that be textbook affordability, retention rates as it relates to finances, etc.

**Consent**

**New Business**

**Follow-Up Reports**

**Items for Future Agenda**

Echols- 970502- Auxiliary 8 (WAM)

Echols- 970503- A Bill Amending the Budget (WAM)

Hedgcorth- 970201- A Resolution Recommending A Reduction in the Level of Security For Student E-mails (AA)

Reid- 970902- A Joint Resolution Regarding National Immigration Policy and University Reaction (HD)

## **Announcements and Comments**

Rains: Don't forget about the program tomorrow for International Students and other students who have concerns. Also, LnL is happening after Congress! Be sure to go if you can.

Bishop: I'm the Vice-Chair of Oklahoma Intercollegiate Legislature and it's a good time, and you should come out to our first meeting this Thursday from 5-6 in Gould Hall 155. We meet once a semester at the Capitol and we run through bills, legislation, etc. It is a great opportunity to get involved at the state level. Also, free pizza!

Elliot: The GroupMe going around on the form is not an "official" Congress account. Follow us on social media! @OU\_Congress on Insta and Twitter, SGA Student Congress on Facebook.

Williams: I delivered the signed letter to Mr. Steadley's father, so thanks for signing that letter. He really appreciated it.

Hedgcorth: We have Orientation this Saturday at 4-8pm, and its mandatory.

Baker: Please take the opportunity to apply for HigherEd day! It's under the Exec Branch OrgSync. We would love to have some Congress members! We take a delegation from OU to the Capitol and talk to legislators and encourage them to focus on higher education. Please apply, we'd love to see you there. Also, come by my office anytime.

Elliot: The graphic for HigherEd is up on social media, so please go like/retweet/subscribe/etc.

Kovach: I do need help with calling legislators, so please come by and I can give you five numbers. If you can't go to HigherEd day, that's an awesome way to facilitate you helping. Also, Feb 14<sup>th</sup> is the City Council election in Norman, so be sure to vote.

Reid: Opening this weekend on Friday and Saturday (its free) at 7:30 is Galileo's Torch, which was developed here at OU regarding Galileo's struggles. That's why our other Fine Arts rep isn't here right now. On Valentine's Day, Loves Labors Lost opens with both Chair Echols and me. It's in the Lab theater at 8pm, and we close on Sunday. Come and check us out!

## **Final Roll Call**

Chair: Kaylee Rains

Vice-Chair: Austin Reid

Secretary: Jake Mazeitis



<b>Session 97</b>	<b>General 1-31</b>
Baker, Colin	x
Bergman, Victoria	ex
Bishop, Kimberley	x
Bormann, Andrew	
Brown, Kandro	x
Buckley, Anna-Gray	x
Buxton, Jillian	ex
Carpenter, Daniel	x
Carson, Haley	
Chism, Hennessey	x
Cordova, Mackenzie	ex
Cox, Reece	x
Curley, Nicholas	x
D'Silva, Jordan	x
Davis, Syleste	
Do, Khanh	x
Grunewald, John	x
Guidot, Ashley	x
Hedgorth, Joseph	x
Hoefke, Madeleine	x
James, Madison	x
Kalvacherla, Vinay	x
Kelling, Taylor	x
Klima, Alexandra	x
Kovach, Chase	x
Kuketz, Timothy	x
Layne, Alexander	x
Lalani, Sanah	x
Layne, Alexander	x
Lewis, Danielle	x
Mazeitis, Jake	x
McClintic, Alexander	x
Nigh, Ryan	x
Owings, Brian	x
Pham, Daniel	x
Quick, Sam	ex
Regalado Rubio, Carlos	ex
Reid, Austin	x

Ryana, Naomee	ex
Simmons, Jonathan	ex
Thompson, Gabi	x
Thompson, Maddy	ex
Warner, Mason	x
Williams, Dan	x
Yawn, Jon	ex
<b>Present</b>	33
<b>Absent</b>	0
<b>Excused</b>	9

<b>Session 97</b>	<b>970101</b>	<b>970103</b>	<b>970611</b>	<b>970612</b>	<b>970613</b>
Baker, Colin	y				
Bergman, Victoria					
Bishop, Kimberley	y				
Bormann, Andrew					
Brown, Kandro	y				
Buckley, Anna-Gray	y				
Buxton, Jillian					
Carpenter, Daniel	y				
Carson, Haley					
Chism, Hennessey	y				
Cordova, Mackenzie					
Cox, Reece	y				
Curley, Nicholas	y				
D'Silva, Jordan	y				
Davis, Syleste					
Do, Khanh					
Grunewald, John	y				
Guidot, Ashley	y				
Hedgcorth, Joseph	y				
Hoefke, Madeleine	y				
James, Madison	y				
Kalvacherla, Vinay	y				
Kelling, Taylor	y				
Klima, Alexandra	y				
Kovach, Chase	y				
Kuketz, Timothy	y				

Lalani, Sanah	y				
Layne, Alexander	y				
Lewis, Danielle	y				
Mazeitis, Jake	y				
McClintick, Alexander	y				
Nigh, Ryan	y				
Owings, Brian	n				
Pham, Daniel	y				
Quick, Sam					
Regalado Rubio, Carlos					
Reid, Austin					
Ryana, Naomee					
Simmons, Jonathan					
Thompson, Gabi	y				
Thompson, Maddy					
Warner, Mason	y				
Williams, Dan	y				
Yawn, Jon					
<b>Yes</b>	25	0	0	0	0
<b>No</b>	1	0	0	0	0
<b>Abstain</b>	0	0	0	0	0