

THE UNIVERSITY OF OKLAHOMA STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION



UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT CONGRESS Session XCVII

General Body Meeting
7:00 pm, Tuesday, November 29th, 2016
Devon Hall 120

Session XCVII

Roll Call -

Flag Salute- Constiuent Elliott

Approval of Minutes

Motion to Approve the Minutes Representative Kovach sec Representative Rucka

Chair's Report- Hi everyone! Welcome to the last meeting of the semester. This has been a great semester and I can't wait to start working with the new members. We have two open committee chairships (Human Diversity and Academic Affairs) and apps are out on OrgSync. They close on Friday at 5 and we will interview on Sunday morning. Please apply if interested. Please ask if you have questions. You will be assigned to committees today, so please stick around and talk to your chairs after the meeting today. T-Shirts, please buy them. They close tomorrow morning, and we need 23 to meet the minimum. New members, please buy them! We have a sweatshirt and two styles of t-shirts. Next week, we won't have office hours so if you need anything, please talk to us this week. I wish you the best of luck during dead week and finals. If you need anything, please let me know!

Vice Chair's Report- Just a reminder that if you'd like to be a liaison, let me know! We lost some during the turnover. If you know of an organization you'd like to be a liaison for, talk to me. If you'd like to be a liaison but you don't know whom for. Let me know! For the sake of routine, I will be in the office during office hours during dead week. You can swing by and talk to me if you need anything! Be sure to apply for committee chairships even if you're new! I applied for a chairship when I had only been in Congress for a bit. Encourage your friends during this next semester to be associates! Its never too soon to put it on their radar and get them involved in SGA. Welcome to our brand new members! They just did a great job during mock congress and I'm sure they're excited to be here!

Secretary's Report- Hi everyone! Just a reminder to please submit your bios if you haven't already. If you haven't done that by tomorrow, you will receive an unexcused absence. Members who were not just elected will need to also complete their constituent service requirement or will receive an unexcused absence. Please feel free to come study in the Conoco if you need a quiet space to hang out! I'm almost always in my office, and there's lots of comfortable couches for napping and desks for studying.

Liaison Reports

Ryana: I'm the liaison for OneEMS, which provides emergency medical services at University events. I want to ask a question on behalf of their exec team. When they apply for funding, are they allowed to apply for funding for one of their long-term goals, which is having an every-day emergency response unit on campus for everybody? Is that something they can apply for?

Rains: What are they wanting to apply for? Objects for preparedness?

Ryana: Yes

Rains: They can apply under the category of a capital investment.

Davis: We can usually fund part of it, or they can get funding on a rolling basis as they continue to apply.

Ryana: They're thinking about it in terms of providing emergency services for all members of the OU community for free. They just need to build a golfcart of supplies.

Davis: Whatever they need, they need to list it out in their budget and itemize what the costs are, then prioritize those costs, and then we will fund specific things. They can also apply three times over the semester, and they can apply for primary funding.

Ryana: What about if they requested funding for a big goal they were getting grants for? They might have wanted an actual vehicle. Could they get partial funding?

Davis: Yeah, I think we can fund it partially. It depends on their financial history.

Ryana: The primary funding they received was not what they hoped for because their expenses, people, and organization are based on how much funding they get through SGA, so I just wanted to ask.

Davis: We can go more in-depth later, but for now, we followed the guidelines we had so that we knew how our newer organizations are spending. We will generally grant more funding to organizations that spend the money they have.

Buckley: I'm the liaison for Camp Kesem, and it's a camp that funds camps for children whose parents have cancer. They're taking donations, so feel free to donate.

Special Orders

President-elect Baker

Baker: I just wanted to say hi to you all. My name is JD and I'm a Junior PR major. The reason that Cameron and I ran was to bridge the gap. We want to enhance student experiences, especially as they relate to things like mental health and gender neutral bathrooms. I'm really excited to work with Congress, and I see that there are a lot of excited people here. The election does have yet to be validated, so it's still pending, but if I do end up being President, I'd love to work with you all and my door will always be open. Keep up the good work, and thanks for all that you do!

Committee of the Whole

Motion to Move to Committee of the Whole Representative Davis sec Representative Simmons

970501- Auxiliary Funding #7 (Echols)

Representative Davis sec Representative Simmons

Davis: This is Aux Funding #7 to give money to Boomer Rocket Team, PSA, QSA, VSA, etc. The total legislative allocation is \$2,893.46. Remaining balance is \$9,727.

Motion to Give this Legislation a Rec of Do Pass Representative James sec Representative Bray

Motion to Move Out of Committee of the Whole Representative Rucka sec Representative Rubio

Student Concerns

Old Business

Items to Be Considered

970401 A Resolution Addressing the Dakota Access Pipeline (Rubio) (Exec- Rec of No Rec)

Representative Williams sec Representative Rucka

Rubio: There is a pipeline for undiscovered crude oil that is set to finish in late 2016. It's the NDAPL. It is supposed to span across four states. The problem is that it was supposed to end in Bismark, but Bismark rejected it. It is now planned to go through sovereign land of the Standing Rock Tribe. As Reps of Congress and students at OU, I think it's important for us to take a stance on this issue because we're in OK.

Pavlowsky: We are looking at doing a publicity push and we are looking at donations for legal services, etc. We want to push people to know what those options are and how they can help if they can't travel. This is important in OK because it sets a precedent about building on Native lands. We also want to stand with our students that have traveled to North Dakota to protest.

Rubio: We've had students at the University during this last break that went to protest and the capital. We are here for them.

Erwin: It is an issue that a lot of students that I know have come out in support of.

Williams: I noticed that, in the sections of this bill, it says that SGA is going to fundraise and create an open atmosphere. What's the legality of us fundraising for an outside event?

Pavlowsky: We can't spend SGA funds, but we are fundraising private funds. The way that the law works is that we can't give away state property, but we can provide a way for students to donate on their own.

Williams: It is more of a PR push for the students to fundraise rather than SGA?

Pavlowsky: Yes, considering the law. It is like a toy drive where we collect items to donate.

Reid: Will you accept co-sponsors?

Pavlowsky: Yes

Quick

Davis

Kovach

Bishop

Chism

Lalani

Rucka

Bergman

Baker

Carson

Ryana

Williams

Reid

Mazetis

Simmons

Bray: What is this bill going to do in regards to the actual pipeline being built?

Pavlowsky: Not really anything directly, but it does show support to the students that are more directly involved.

Bray: With other universities, they've gone on these tangents and tried to get involved in bigger political issues and it hurts them funding wise. Do you worry that someone will see this and it will hurt donors?

Pavlowsky: This is different than Boren making the statement, and I don't think we should be afraid of what may or may not happen. Our purpose is to serve them, not outside interests. We've done a number of controversial political things and as I understand it, it hasn't affected funding.

Kovach: With the state of the oil industry in OK, haven't most of the regular donors to OU dried up?

Pavlowsky: Yes, the industry is down, so those donors do, in general, have less money to give.

Hedgcorth: I completely agree with the sentiment of the bill, but regarding the language of the bill, I feel like the message that we've seen in the meeting is slightly presumptuous and I don't think that we're able to stand for everyone in the student body especially those that don't agree with this politically, or just people that don't have an opinion. I'm not comfortable with it speaking for the entire student body.

Rubio: As reps of Congress, it's our job to be that voice and that conduit. People voted for us and in this position, we embody representation.

Bray: I actually did a lot of research on this and talked to an engineer. Maps show it going just north of the reserve for this particular region. That being said, there is legitimate issue with soil foundation and possible pollution in the Mississippi. I don't see something talking directly about the water, I see it focused more on the water. Would you be more open to taking out parts of the land debate and putting in the water debate?

Pavlovsky: It goes through land promised to them during the Treaty of Fort Laramie, and the desecration of water would be the desecration of land. We are also trying to get at the slow erosion of Native rights and Native sovereignty.

James: Did you do any surveying or talk to any students?

Erwin: There wasn't any data, but we talked with different students and we talked with the President of AISA and he said that a lot of their members went up to North Dakota and several are collecting supplies. A lot of members of the Native American community have shown support for this.

Pavlovsky: I've been approached by graduate students from several disciplines that support this.

Motion to Move Questions to the End of the List Representative Quick sec Representative Reid

Chism: The Conoco was funded by Conoco, and I was wondering if they still fund the school and SGA?

Pavlovsky: Our funds come from the student activity fees, in terms of the buildings, they do sometimes

come from corporations. Their motives are general changed by what the President says, not what SGA says

Williams: The last part of this legislation's whereas clauses talks about dialogue. Where do you see the dialogue being taken?

Pavlovsky: We'd like to see more discussion on the indigenous history of Oklahoma, being more inclusive of Native students, etc. One of the things that people talk about is how Native programs are being expanded in an academic sense and we are just wanting this to be a larger part of our discussion.

Lewis: What goal are you wishing to achieve in passing this?

Pavlovsky: To show support for protesting students, to show support for the student body, and to start a PR push for fundraising.

Carson: Are there any specific ideas for improving awareness for the PR push?

Pavlovsky: We'll be using social media, e-mails, and different organized events.

Motion to Move to a Roll Call Vote Representative Reid sec Representative Lewis

By a roll call vote of 21-4-1, the bill does pass

970501- Auxiliary Funding #7 (Echols) (COTW- Rec of Do Pass)

Representative James sec Representative Simmons

Davis: We just went over this, and if you have any questions, please ask.

Williams: What is the total amount left in the Aux account?

Davis: \$9,727, which will roll over into Spring, which is nice because we have a lot more funding requests in the Spring.

Motion to Move to a Roll Call Vote Representative Bray sec Representative Simmons

By a roll call vote of 26-0-0, this bill does pass

970602- An Act Reauthorizing the Congressional Administration Chair (Rains) (Exec- Rec of Do Pass)

Representative Williams sec Representative Rucka

Rains: We did reauthorization meetings with our Chairs from last session. Danielle is one of the longest serving members of Congress and we started together. She's been on Con Ad the whole time, has been VC and was the Chair and has done a great job.

Lewis: I started as an associate and was all the officer positions in ConAd. We never failed to make quorum. I hope to make changes regarding re-districting in the upcoming election and we will be doing appointments of unfilled slots in Session 97. I would also like to do a mandatory sensitivity training for all of us, and considering how events are unfolding nationally, it's important for us all to be aware of what's going on.

Consent

970603 An Act Reauthorizing the Communications Chair (Rains) (Exec- Rec of Do Pass)

Representative Bray sec Representative Quick

Rains: This is Shelby. She did a great job as Communications Chair and did a great job with Cupcakes and Congress. We interviewed her and we thought she was the best.

Elliott: I'm a senior this year and I have worked in the SGA Office since I was a freshman and I've been in SGA since I was a sophomore. I was an associate, was a rep, and just lost. I have enjoyed my time as Communications Chair. Keeping Communication as a one person committee has enabled us to do a lot and to use our resources more effectively. If I am reappointed, I do want to hold an interview to establish at least one assistant or committee member because I want to split up some of the social media sites because we're not reaching our full potential. That person's job would be to post things weekly. We are going to start a Congress-wide GroupMe so that whenever I tweet or post something it can be posted to all of Congress. As far as Cupcakes and Congress goes, my schedule next semester is a little more forgiving, so I know that there are a lot of people that won't be able to get involved due to scheduling. My schedule for next semester is only Tuesday and Thursday classes, so the timeframe will be a lot better for more people to get involved and we'll move it to the Union.

Bray: With that position you were talking about, would that be an application process?

Elliott: I have to split after this because I have an anatomy practical. Just e-mail me or text me and I can get with whomever is interested to have an interview.

Carson: What's your e-mail?

Elliott: Shelby.R.Elliott-1@ou.edu , 405-595-8850

Consent

970604 An Act Reauthorizing the External Affairs Chair (Rains) (Exec- Rec of Do Pass)

Representative Hedgorth sec Representative Buxton

Rains: This is confirming our awesome EA Chair Chase. He did the voter drive, he had an active committee, they passed legislation, etc.

Kovach: I'll be graduating in May. We've got a lot of cool stuff, mainly some projects where we're working with some other student governments on legislation that we want to bring to higher ed day. We are considering election reform as well, but higher ed day is the primary thing.

Consent

970606 An Act Reauthorizing the Problems and Projects Chair (Rains) (Exec- Rec of Do Pass)

Representative James sec Representative Quick

Rains: Our Problems and Projects Chair isn't here right now, but he's awesome. He has done Problems and Projects for the past two session, he always has a very thorough outline of his projects and his members have done a great job. We as an Exec met with him, thought he had great ideas, and decided that we wanted to reconfirm him.

Consent

970607 An Act Reauthorizing the Sustainability Chair (Rains) (Exec- Rec of Do Pass)

Representative Quick sec Representative Kovach

Rains: This is MJ, she was our Sustainability chair. It was a brand-new committee and she did an awesome job. They did a bunch for being a new committee, had a candidate come in and speak with them, passed a survey and resolution on SQ 777, etc.

James; I'll be graduating in the Spring with a Bachelors in Chemical Engineering. I started in Problems and Projects and when they started this committee up I wanted to chair it. We have a lot of returning members and we will be continuing and starting projects. We are working on game day recycling where we want to incentive people to recycle and then split some of the trash cans into half trash cans and half recycling bins.

Consent

970608 An Act Reauthorizing the Ways and Means Committee Chair (Rains) (Exec- Rec of Do Pass)

Representative Quick sec Representative Williams

Rains: Ryan couldn't be here but he's our Ways and Means chair. He's been on Ways and Means for awhile and has been there forever. We had a really long meeting and talked a lot about the position.

Echols: I am in rehearsals for a new show so I couldn't be there. Regarding Ways and Means, we had a major change with the change from interviews to a new paper system. The reception has been positive. This semester, we allocated about \$40,000 and have over double that allocated amount reserved for the Spring. There were several applications that had to be discarded because they were not complete. We hope to help PR the new system and continue to perfect the new system. If you have any question for me specifically or about the process, my committee members or your exec members will be happy to answer. Please e-mail or text and I'll be happy to answer them.

Consent

970609 An Act Establishing Committee Membership (Rains) (Exec- Rec of Do Pass)

Representative Davis sec Representative Quick

Rains: One of your duties as a Representative is you serving on a committee. These are your committees. If you don't see your name on here, let me know. Committees are an important part of our process, its where legislation goes and where ideas start.

Ryana: Are we allowed to change committees?

Rains: I based these off the bios and then I assigned based on how you filled out your bios. If you have a major concern or you feel like you'll work best in another committee, I'll accept it, but I do want to keep most of you in the committee I put you in.

Williams: I know that we passed legislation making Communication a committee of one. Why did we do that?

Rains: We had a committee that did very little and had a chair that did a lot. We tried out a one committee chair system and Shelby was very successful. However, Shelby may request more people under Communication if she would like.

Lalani: *Would you accept a friendly amendment switching me from Problems and Projects to AA?*

Rains: *Yes*

Motion to Table Until All Other Legislation is Seen Representative Buxton sec Representative Hedgcorth

Motion to Reopen Discussion on This Legislation Representative Erwin sec Representative Quick

Bray: *Would you accept a friendly amendment moving me to Ways and Means?*

Rains: Why?

Bray: Problems and Projects has an excess of people and I think that I would enjoy both.

Rains: What's your time availability like?

Bray: Next semester I'll be a lot more open.

Rains: *Yes, but I want you to come talk to me about time commitments.*

Carson: Where can we learn about the committees?

Rains: Our by-laws, website, or any veteran Representative or member of Exec.

Consent

New Business

Follow-Up Reports

Items for Future Agenda

Announcements and Comments

Bishop: As Rep Buckley said, Camp Kesem is taking donations. I have a fundraising page that I'll be sharing on my facebook and I can give the link to Jake. Every counselor has a fundraising goal and this camp is completely free to students and families. They get everything paid for and they get a chance to be kids and not worry about their parents. Please ask me if you have questions. It is an awesome organization so if you're feeling giving

Thompson: I just took on a campus job with an organization called Free Textbooks. This company will give you money back, I can scan it from you and then give you a Venmo cashout on the spot. I will do some office hours in accessible locations so you can just stop by and drop off your book. Just e-mail me or text me a picture.

Reid: If you're looking for a break from studying, hands on a hard body is opening up this weekend and is going into next weekend and it's a rock country musical about people that are keeping their hands on a truck to win it. I also wanted to wish you all a Happy Holidays because we won't see you till after the break.

Rains: Thank you to everyone for coming out, but you all are awesome and I appreciate you going through the committee chair process. These are going to be the leaders so we need to make sure that they are excellent. I'll miss you all!

Final Roll Call

Motion to Skip Final Roll Call and Adjourn Representative Quick sec Representative Kovach

Chair: Kaylee Rains

Vice-Chair: Austin Reid

Secretary: Jake Mazeitis