

THE UNIVERSITY OF OKLAHOMA STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION



UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT CONGRESS
Session XCVIII

General Body Meeting
7:00 pm, Tuesday, October 17, 2017
Devon Hall 120

Session XCVIII

Roll Call

Flag Salute – Representative Carter

Approval of Minutes

Representative Chism seconded by Representative Ryana

Chair's Report- hey guys, hope you had a fun weekend. We're at week 9, so we're half-way through! It's election season, so if you have campaign questions please come ask Sanah, Mackenzie, myself, or Chair Abernathy. Also, a quick reminder that the Presidential Debate is next Monday at 7pm in Meacham. Keep that on your calendars. As members of Congress and representatives of the student body, I think we should all go to that. Also, there is another event coming up called Take Back the Night, which is an event where we stand in support of sexual assault victims. It will start at 6pm this Wednesday in the South Oval Unity Garden. If you are interested, please come. Remember decorum tonight. If you have questions, use "on information."

Vice Chair's Report- I sent out an email to liaisons about updating your organizations. It also has an updated WAM FAQ that you can use to keep them updated about how to apply for funding. If you didn't get this email, please come see me after.

Secretary's Report- Hey guys! As always, if you're an associate, please sign in on the sheets up front. Also, if you're making motions tonight or asking questions, please raise your hand so some members can start putting a face to the name. And just to reiterate what Kaylee said, remember decorum expectations tonight.

Committee Reports-

- **Academic Affairs:** hi! No meeting this weekend. The only things we have going on are scheduling a meeting with the bookstore people about the ability to use the bursar for textbook charges. They said it would be possible. We're going to see what it looked like previously, and what we could do to make it better, so that process comes back. Associate Owings is doing the computer science as a general education requirement task. What he found was that the department needs to apply for gen-ed credit, so he reached out to the department to see what's going on. Hoping to hear back from them soon.
- **Communications:** interviews were today! Decision coming in the next few days.
- **Congressional Administration:** This week we saw the bill that's on the agenda tonight. It got a rec of do pass. We also discussed ways to address the student concerns brought up last week, and we're looking into that. We are entering the final stages of the code rewrite, so legislation will be coming soon for that. That legislation will be for the Code, Bylaws, and Standing Rules of Order.

- **External Affairs:** we didn't meet this past week. Last, we met with Rylie in the Department of Exterior, so we can coordinate efforts to repair the OU/Norman relationship. What we've come up with is OU Loves Norman Day and that will be in November. Yesterday we had the first panel with Guy Patton and the Economics Club members where they talked about the new development plan.
- **Human Diversity:** Ali Klima is working to reserve tables for the Dear Young Person Campaign. It'll be within the next two weeks, so be on the lookout for that date. We are also working on international student party.
- **Problems and Projects:** Lots of meetings on the books with people in the landscaping and parking departments. If you have any questions about parking, send them to me so I can pass those along. Really excited!
- **Sustainability:** No meeting last week. This Sunday, Dan and I will take the SEC bill before GSS. My committee has been doing all of their other work.
- **Ways and Means:** we didn't meet this past week either. That means we have lots of organizations to see this Sunday and it will be like a 2-hour meeting. If anyone is free, come hang out with us!

Liaison Reports

Al-Michael: the place I am a publicist for is holding a talk with Henderson and we encourage all students to come in the wake of DeBarr Resolution.

Mazeitis: Informed Citizens Discussion Group has an event next Wednesday at 4:30 called the "Idea of the Immigrant." FREE PIZZA. If you are a Global Engagement Fellow, this counts as an international event.

Holt: Rotaract Club is helping friends of Norman libraries volunteer. You can get a bag of free books if you help the whole time.

Thompson: OU Botany Club is having a plant sale on October 20th. Pumpkins, succulents, flowers, and more!

Special Orders

Student Concerns

Rains-Saucedo: parking lighting at LNC is unsafe. I would like PnP to look into that.

Fees: we emailed that person today. Not sure if they're turning them off, or if they're burning out. If they're turning them off, hopefully they will stop.

Old Business

Items to Be Considered

980131 – High Office Clarification Act of 2017 (Rains-Saucedo/Cassidy) (ConAd – Rec of do pass)

Al-Michael seconded by Representative Hedgorth

Rains-Saucedo: This bill addresses the concerns and decisions from the Superior Court and General Council. They ruled that no high office can serve in any other branch. That means that two of us, Carrie and myself, have asterisks by our name on the Presidential Search Committee Nominee list. The opinions given made it so that no high office can serve in any other capacity within SGA. This bill addresses that problem of limited involvement. I will ask for a friendly amendment after reading the new General Council opinion and the Constitution because they alleviate the need for the exceptions section of this bill. Article 3 Section 6 of the Constitution is where the purpose of this friendly amendment came from. This bill is changing it to be that high offices cannot serve in another branch in another high office position. All other positions not outlined, are not considered high offices.

Cassidy: we've had lots of concerns about this. The amendment would strike Section 7 and E and replace it with "no person serving in a high office may simultaneously serve in another high office". This we think would make it clear that you cannot hold 2 high offices at once, but would not limit high office holders in other involvement ways. This is a clearer way to get our point across with the same effect.

Rains-Saucedo: if you look at the legislation, it's section 7 where we struck and then underlined. It changes make to the original. Ask questions if you need.

Bishop: accept the friendly?

Authors: yes

Carter: I need some clarification on the part that says unless they are a high officer. It seems to say that they could serve as two high offices within their branch?

RS: we're striking that section, so that it won't say that. No 2 high offices no matter what.

OI: can language of the friendly be read?

Owings: what are the time commitments of high compared to lower offices?

Rains-Saucedo: the outlined ones are 10 hours and on top of that, congress every week, executive committee meeting, any other meetings outside of formal hours, and one meeting with big exec. We also meet with additional students outside. All in all, about 20 hours a week

OI Chism: Do office hours vary depending on the position?

Lalani: yes, depending on your positions

Mazeitis: you said that this changes based on General Council opinion. Why?

RS: yes. We are aligning with the Constitution.

Mazeitis: are you not worried that there will be an appeal to Superior Court that will render this bill invalid?

RS: anyone can appeal, but this language in line with the Constitution and covers the bases.

Hedgorth: seeing as the entire revisions to make it so that it that now you can't serve in two high offices simultaneously, doesn't that mean section 2 is incorrect? Which would mean that the purpose of the act will not say anything about high offices?

OC: the idea is that based on these changes, it seems like the purpose of the bill now does not do anything but remove that exceptions?

Rains-Saucedo: section 2 could use a friendly amend to further clarify. This is still revising the high offices and their definitions.

Cassidy: this is still more restrictive on office holders than the Constitution We are saying you can't serve in 2 high offices at the same time at all.

Williams: Has Chief Justice Bourland been in the conversation with the creation of this?

Motion to extend time for question by 5 minutes

Representative Quick seconded by Representative Ata

Rain-Saucedo: He did not help write it. He did voice opinion to me, so in that capacity, yes

Williams: what was the opinion?

Rain-Saucedo: basically, he did not agree with the process and timeline

Rojas: basically this says that you can't serve in 2 high offices at the same time. Can you still serve in 2 minor ones?

Rain-Saucedo: minor offices are not a thing. You can serve in 2 branches, but not 2 high offices.

Cassidy: as our current laws allow, you can serve in 2 capacities. We're not changing that.

Owings: considering the General Council opinion, would this operationally remove the asterisks on the appointment bill?

Rains-Saucedo: this legislation strikes the section under 7 and says that you cannot serve in another high office at the same time. Since that appointment is not a high office, it would alleviate those asterisks. We can serve in another branch.

Williams: do you foresee any changes for high offices?

Cassidy: some discussion on that has come up. No concrete proposals yet, so I can't speak to what will change.

Rains-Saucedo: it was not changed in our branch, but discussion has started in another one to make it more inclusive and aligned with the way they practice. It will come before us if they do make any changes.

Hedgorth: friendly replacing section 2 and changing it to "prohibit SGA high offices from holding any other simultaneous high offices within SGA."

Rains-Saucedo: yes

Consent – Representative Mazeitis

Bill passed by unanimous consent

New Business

Follow-Up Reports

Williams: weekly update of DeBarr. The next week is a big week. Devon Osborn is hosting numerous events. A press conference on the street name will be on the 25th from 10-11 am and there will be people speaking on the minorities that have been affected by the street name. I'd like to show that Congress is still behind this issue. I want to show student support. In our conversations with the city council, and I want to show that we will not stop fighting for this issue.

Rains-Saucedo: last week we passed Hooked on Our Safety. It really helped somebody in need this need weekend. What we do has an impact!

Items for Future Agenda

980308 Resolution Recognizing OU Loves Norman Day (Bhaktaram) → EA

980132 Codifying OU Loves Norman Day (Bhaktaram) → ConAd

980133 Regents Student Selection Qualifications Act (Swearengin) → ConAd

Announcements and Comments

Yawn: university theater is opening Noise is Off and showings are throughout the next week. It's won a lot of awards

Manohar: scandals has a benefit night tomorrow. Roll out 5-9 pm

Mazeitis: this month is national LGBTQ history month. I speak 4:30-5:30 on the identity. Come out. There are great speakers throughout the week speaking about different parts of the LGBTQ name

Gappa: Pi Kappa Phi has a philanthropy this Thursday from 5-8 pm called Fall Fest. I have wristbands that are \$5 and benefit those with disabilities

Fees: OIL is back. Gaylord 2020 at 7:30 on Thursday. We are actually amending our Constitution possibly, so come on out

Carson: Filmed the DACA special and it airs on OETA on November 5th at 1 pm. Follow me and I'll post links to the film. It is aired on the OU radio at 5pm on Monday.

George: We are offering shuttles to and from the airport for Thanksgiving break. The students requested this, so please sign up if you need to. All information can be found at this link:

<https://orgsync.com/134693/events/2112459/occurrences/5060765>

Final Roll Call

Chair: Kaylee Rains-Saucedo

Vice-Chair: Sanah Lalani

Secretary: Mackenzie Cordova

Session 98	General 10/17
Al-Michael, Tasneem	x
Ata, Muneeb	x
Baker, Colin	ex
Ball, Carson	ex
Bergman, Victoria	abs
Bhaktaram, Ananya	x
Bishop, Kimberley	x
Bonic, Karla	x
Bray, Matthew	x
Buckley, Anna-Gray	ex
Carson, Haley	x
Carter, Christopher	x
Chen, Julianna	x
Chism, Hennessey	x
Coen, Noah	x
Cordova, Mackenzie	x
Curley, Nicholas	abs
DeAngeli, Emma	ex
Do, Khanh	abs
Hedgorth, Joseph	x
Hoefke, Madeleine	x
Huff, Greyson	x
Keefer, Braden	x
Khan, Adam	x
Kuketz, Timothy	x
Lalani, Sanah	x
Layne, Alexander	abs
Mazeitis, Jake	x
McClintic, Alexander	ex
Pham, Daniel	x
Quick, Samuel	x
Rivera, Tyler	x
Rojas, Julio	x
Ryana, Naomee	x
Smith, Brian	x
Swearengin, Brandon	x
Thomas, Hailey	x
Thompson, Gabriela	x

Tiger, Sophie Marie	x
Williams, Dan	x
Yawn, Jon	x
Present	30
Absent	4
Excused	5