

THE UNIVERSITY OF OKLAHOMA STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION



UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT CONGRESS
Session XCIX

General Body Meeting
7:00 pm, Tuesday, March 13, 2018
Devon Hall 120

Session XCIX

Roll Call -

Flag Salute – Rep Lee

Approval of Minutes

Representative Behara seconded by Representative Scimeca

Chair's Report- Hope you're all hanging in there this week! I know that midterms can be stressful, but Spring Break is only 3 days away! Remember that if you're considering running for Chair, please come talk to me. I do a lot outside of these meetings that I would love to show you. Also, if you're a senior or graduating in December of 2018, please make sure that you get an SGA cord. It's \$10 due to me by March 31st, and I will take cash or venmo. If you're a part of a student organizations and want an office in the Conoco, office space applications are now open and you can apply on Orgsync. Make sure to tell your organizations that if you're a liaison. Also, remember that we have a lot of guests here tonight, so make sure to use ParliPro, give attention to authors, and be kind to everyone speaking.

Vice Chair's Report- again about the senior dinner, that will be April 13th. I emailed you all about it, but if for some reason you didn't get it and you want to go, please respond to me by Sunday to RSVP. If you have any questions about that, come talk to me. Also, if you want to run for Vice Chair, you do need to come talk to me. Nominations are on April 10th, so once you get back from Spring Break, that will come really quickly. So, be aware of that.

Secretary's Report- Hi all! Just a reminder for associates to snap a picture at today's meeting at fill out the Orgsync form for attendance. Also, there will be a constituent service opportunity after spring break thanks to our Communications Chair, Richard. That event will be on March 26th in the Union courtyard, so sign up for that to complete your service hour requirement. Keep in mind that you have a little less time to complete your office hour and service hour requirements this month because of Spring Break, but you do still have to do them. Just make sure you're staying on top of those so you're not scrambling at the last minute. Also, like Kaylee and Sanah both said, if you're interested in running for Secretary, please come talk to me! We all do a lot behind the scenes that you should see before running for these positions, so make sure to come talk to us. I have office hours all the time, so just let me know if you want to come talk about it!

Committee Reports-

- **Communications:** We have an event on March 26th from 11-3 in the union courtyard. It'll be a service hour and a chance to reach out to your constituents. I'll be sending a doodle poll in the GroupMe soon, and we really want as many of you as possible to show up! Also, Big Event registration closes this Friday, so make sure to register with SGA. SGA is now the Big Event's back-up organization, which means that we will fill in at jobsites that volunteers don't show up to. Another thing, we are in the process of planning an event with the international community. If you want to be

involved with that, come talk to anyone on Comms. Thinking about making that the second week of April, but I'll let you know. Lastly, we are sending out our first newsletter this week. That should be fun and really informative. It'll be sent to all of you because you're all in congress, so if you have any thoughts about it, let us know!

- **Congressional Administration:** We had a really productive meeting this past Sunday. We saw 2 bills, which are on the agenda for tonight. 990113, regarding salaries and stipends increases, got a rec of no rec after some great discussion. Also, 990706, the parking appeal board appointments, got a rec of do pass. A lot of our projects are wrapping up for the semester. Hopefully in the near future you will be seeing the Bylaws rewrite, which will be a combination of the Standing Rules and revised Bylaws, as well as election reform legislation. We're also working with the Exec Branch on SFC reform, so you should be seeing that within the next couple of weeks.
- **External Affairs:** Last Thursday we had the first voter registration drive and we got 7 voters registered. After Spring Break, we will have another one that first Thursday. Congress and Cabinet will be hosting those in the Union and South Oval. If anyone needs a service hour, look to help out with that. In terms of projects, Representative Fees mentioned that the Constitution Street lights and roads were a problem, so a couple of members are looking into that. We met on Sunday for an hour and half, so that was good. Shoutout to Jill Mencke for taking awesome minutes and Isaac Kabrick for helping with ParliPro. Lastly, from now until the end of the year, we want to host Pam Pollard, the Oklahoma GOP Chair. Waiting to hear back from her about that, though. We're also going to help advertise the Department of Exterior's events in the next month or so.
- **Human Diversity:** Our ADA and campus accessibility projects are taking off. Another point, Stick it to Stigma Week has been moved to April 23-27th. Make sure to get out for those events! Also, we have found out that the international gateway courses are helpful, but we're looking more into the comparison of those to other gateway classes. Our world forum has been moved to next semester, so we'll be working on that later. Lastly, the IAC/SGA mixer will be SGA-wide, so let your friends know to come out!
- **Problems and Projects:** We have lots of stuff coming up! March 29th is Turn Up for Transit, and will be a great opportunity for last minute service. We want people out there to talk to students, point people towards the suggestion box, be there to bump up SGA, and promote Safe Ride transportation. Also, April 10th from 11-4 is the Problems, Projects, and Puppies event. We're looking for organizations that can provide puppies, so let me know if you know anyone. We're still working on lighting as well, so in April we will do another light walk. Lastly, we're still looking into the ASL program and expanding that.
- **Sustainability:** Just a quick reminder that the 16-20th of April is Green Week, so make sure to visit the groups on the south oval. Also, on March 28th from 11-1 is CrudFest, an event sponsored by the SEC. That'll be on the South Oval and you'll be given different recyclable materials and have to guess which recycling bucket it belongs in. If you do it well enough and fast enough, you get a succulent, so that's really cool. Next, the movie night is April 12th at 7pm in Meacham. We'll have that ready to go by the end of the week. Also, I'm working on a resolution regarding the EPA, and hoping to see that soon.
- **University Policy:** we had a great meeting and decided that we are doing our recommendation bills in 2 phases: over the semester and yearly projects. However, I want to make sure that we're still staying on top of those. We do have textbook affordability coming up, so be looking for that soon.
- **Ways and Means:** we met for a full 2 hours this past week, so shoutout to my awesome committee! We saw salaries and stipends, which we gave a rec of do pass. The Aux bill also got a rec of do pass. We tabled quite a few applications on that because we had lots of questions and some had several unclear answers. I've reached out to all of them, though. We also discussed allowable and non-allowable items, and we are trying to get marketing items to be allowable within reason. We're still working on the language of that, however, to make sure it's not abused. If you're interested in talking about that, we'll be ironing that out at the next meeting, too. Also, after new Exec is elected, we will need a new WAM Chair. Please come talk to me about it if you're interested!

Liaison Reports

Special Orders

- President Shurbaji and Vice President Hardin

Shurbaji: we've actually got a lot of updates. I can't go through everything, but here we go. We have progress reviews at the end of every month, which you are all welcome to come to! Recently, we worked with Chris, who works with the HR department on things like getting faculty discounts around campus and Norman. We've been looking to get student discounts at those places as well. We're wanting to incorporate that with OU Innovate app, where places that students can get those discounts around Norman are posted. Next, gender neutral bathrooms will be happening. Destinee and Jabar have made great progress. It's looking like they're going to change the bathroom by Student Life, which is awesome! There are also talks about creating an LGBTQ Subcommittee, which will come through soon. We have also worked with Housing and Food about reducing the plate sizes on campus, and they have reduced the size of plates to 8 inches. They'll be running a test run in one of the Residential Colleges and analyzing student feedback. If we find that student don't mind them, we'll change all plates. Next is emergency preparedness. We've talked to Deans of many colleges and rallied support for updating their syllabi, in addition to other things. Great progress on that. We also have a video series starting. We had one this month, but there was a problem with the sound. The video looked great, but you just couldn't hear anything. We're working on that, but we're most likely just going to come out with 2 videos next month. We've also spoken to Mick Cornett's campaign to come and have a political forum, and I think that will be awesome. Like Julie mentioned, Stick it to Stigma Week is scheduled for the 23-27th of April, and we're really excited about that.

Hardin: lastly, well not lastly, but we are in the process of doing SFC reform. Also, April 2-8th we will have 2 representatives from a university in Uganda to witness what our SGA does in each branch. Then they can model what we do, and we can show them with life in Oklahoma is like! Can't wait for you all to meet them!

Shurbaji: we're essentially hosting them. If you know anything going on around town, let us know!

Hardin: we're also in the process of planning a second higher education day to do a follow up on our concerns.

OI McClintic: that higher education day will be a great chance to go again to the Capitol and see what's going on.

Shurbaji: we're making a lot of progress on our projects and are actually ahead of schedule. I encourage all of you to come April 2nd for the progress review meeting to see even more.

Hardin: last time we also had chips and queso, so there's food incentive to come!

Student Concerns

Hedgcorth: I wasn't able to confirm this, but if this is the case, it's not good. I have an international student classmate, and he told me that he's trying to enroll in a class, which is very full. But he told me that since it was so full, international students were actually not allowed on the waitlist. If that's the case, we need to talk about it.

Chair: yes, definitely. HD will look into that

Begovic: was this purely because they were an international student?

Hedgcorth: it was something to that effect. He applied for this class as a first choice, but it was full, and he was not allowed to get on a waitlist.

Chair: we don't know specifics, so we will look into it after the meeting.

Waddell: a number of students have come to me about the storms a couple weeks back and the flooding that they caused on the sidewalks around Cate. They flood unlike other sidewalks.

Chair: okay, PnP will look into that.

Swearengin: For those of you who are know, I am The Honorable Representative emeritus, Brandon Swearengin. I served in Congress from Jan 2017-2018. I have four concerns! 1. In regards to advising, specifically the business college. I'm on my fourth advisor this academic year, so I would like for SGA to investigate what the deal is with the turnover. Also, in regards to that, I've noticed that I'm being upsold for a lower amount of credit hours. Maybe it's just me, but nonetheless, it feels like I'm being sold to do a lower number of credit hours. 2. In regards to the Jenkins parking garage. On the 3rd level, the priority level, it

seems like green tag housing cards are not getting tickets as much as they are on the commuter level. I know parking is difficult, but I would appreciate PnP looking into that. 3. In regards to WAM, I have an investment proposal. This is something I was concerned about when I was on WAM, and my recommendation is that we take \$30,000 and send that money every year to the University Foundation. Then, they can invest that money. Over the course of 5 or so years, we can pull that out and make scholarships for SGA. Going over the course of the years, I've found that SGA would be able to fully fund itself. It's long term, but that way in the future, Sooners can fully fund their SGA. 4. In regards to a piece of legislation this evening about the wage hike, I have another concern. For the WAM Chair, I feel that the \$10 an hour is still below the equilibrium for that position. I would say with that position you could justify \$11.50. My recommendation is for an amendment to make that a \$12/hour stipend. By doing that, you'll be able to attract more applicants. One of the reasons why I declined Chair, was because I could be much better compensated in the private sector with more flexible hours. I would strongly suggest that you make it that equilibrium value. I will come up with more concerns, but for this evening, I would like the respective committees to look into those concerns. Chair: Advising will go to UPol, PnP for parking, Investment to WAM and UPol, and then the last student concern will be addressed to the students here tonight since they're voting on the bill tonight.

Old Business

Items to Be Considered

990113 – SGA Stipends and Salaries Increase and Accountability Act of 2018 (Lalani/Chism) (ConAd –rec of no rec) (WAM – rec of do pass)

Representative Mazeitis seconded by Representative Williams

Chism: the point of changing salaries and stipends is because we are trying to set an example for the university to make a \$10 minimum wage. That way if we go to administration, we are kind of standing on higher ground by already having that. We think \$10 is a great number because it is actually feasible and can sustain students. If you will go to the first page, all of these getting a raise work really, really hard. I know that you see that, but what you also don't see is that they are almost always on call and making sure that they're getting things done even outside of office hours. Whether that's a pop-in for extra meetings, or to skip class to get things done, or even in the middle of the night. They work hard not only just for SGA, but for the entire student body. If you will go to the second page, in Section 34, you'll see that there is something about keeping this positions accountable. This is so that they are held accountable for the hours that they work since they're getting paid. We submit those hours now with our timesheets, but we want someone to actually keep a running log of those hours that we're in the office. What you can see here is that this short list of groups here can launch an investigation if there is a question about someone not doing their office hours. The other thing that we did was we struck all positions that do 9 office hours. That was only one position, so we just moved the number of office hours to be consistent and not have only one position listed with those 9 office hours.

Motion to Suspend the Rules and Extend Time for Authors Explanation by 3 Minutes

Representative Hedgorth seconded by Representative Scimeca

Motion passed by a hand-vote 2/3 majority

Chism: the last thing is to address is what Mr. Swearengin said. I am not going to amend this to have anyone paid more than they are in this bill.

Cassidy: would you accept a friendly amendment to strike the part of section 33 saying "Student Life Advisor" and make it "SGA Staff Assistant II"?

Chism: yes

Fees: by raising the minimum wage, do you agree that you will be helping students who would not be able to otherwise take this position due pay?

Chism: I don't think that even raising it is enough to sustain, but it helps. Right now, all of us that receive these stipends are pretty privileged people without a full paycheck coming in every day. But, we're wanting to increase SGA diversity, and we may not always have people who can hold they positions and function at this pay. I think it's important to have those perspectives, and this raise is just a drop in the bucket towards making that happen. There are people out there who cannot hold these because of the pay.

Lalani: a lot of students are also grad students who have house payments, kids, and other real-life responsibilities. It's a lot more of a difference than you would think, and this could really help them as well.

Behara: In Section 34 about suspension of stipend, it mentions that some people can only request to see the hour's logs if they're part of that list. Could any random student ask to see these members about that log?

Lalani: it's ConAd committee, which is made up of Representatives, as well on that list. We're trying to make students aware about congress, and they can go to their representative who can direct them to the ConAd committee.

Chism: these are the groups launching the investigation. It's also about correct communication. For example, say you notice that I wasn't in my office hours for a week. If you go straight to the SAF committee, you might not know that I told Kaylee, Kenzie, and Sanah about being gone all week, which is an excusable thing to do. If you go to, say, ConAd first, they can tell you what's going on and help you gather all the information before taking it further.

Scimeca: can you elaborate on your reasoning behind why you included Internal Affairs and ConAd?

Chism: there is language in the Code that says ConAd is an oversight committee, and that's gearing towards that aspect. It's a responsibility of ConAd to make sure that things are in line within SGA.

Lalani: it's also assuming that it gives access for students to go straight to other students

Williams: for the accountability section, what is the burden of proof if someone is not in their office hours?

Chism: it would be the log. If the log were wrong, then I think testimony would be sufficient proof. In the Code it says only some evidence is needed, so it's ultimately up to the SAF committee to analyze that.

Williams: what is the adjudication process there?

OC Chair: do you mean what is the process for determining salaries?

Chair: SAF Committee meets and we discuss in-depth about why someone was not in their hours. We then determine what to do from there. They are also public meetings

Williams: you said that this was to mandate all SGA positions be at \$10 as a minimum wage. I don't see why the traffic justices weren't raised then?

Lalani: we are reimbursed by parking services for paying those justices. In order to address that, we have to first sit down and have the budget for that. It's different than the process we go through for other positions.

Chism: we cannot tell parking services to pay those positions more. It would be like Texas telling Oklahoma to pay teachers more, but they don't have a say over that.

Motion to extend time for questions by 10 minutes Representative Fees seconded by Representative Rojas

Williams: in that section, it's saying that they will receive a minimum wage. Isn't that us telling them what to pay?

Chism: they get more than minimum wage, and we are not changing the language because it's all parking services.

McClintic: with the intent of setting an example, I did do a quick value calculation, and it's around \$50,000. Is now the best time to do this increase?

Chism: for one year, this adds about \$7500 to the budget, which is not that much.

Lalani: we do understand that against every argument is the percent of inflation and budget. But, student expenses have raised as well, so we need to acknowledge that we need to raise pay. If not now, then when?

Ball: the majority of jobs on campus get minimum wages. Why should we get paid \$10 an hour when students on campus get minimum wage for an actual job?

Lalani: for us to move up our payments, we set an example for those other campus jobs to move up to the \$10 minimum wage, too.

OI Coen: is the chair aware that many campus jobs have a wage of \$10 an hour?

Chair: now aware

Lalani: we also do currently pay the SGA Webmaster \$10 an hour

Scimeca: where does the money come from?

Chism: Student Activity Fee

Scimeca: is this feasible over a long period of time?

Chism; for one year it adds up to \$7500, and comparatively to what is given to RSOs, this is not a huge increase.

Owings: you said that this comes from SAF, but where specifically in each section of the budget are these stipends accounted for? Operations or the pool that students use for auxiliary/primary funding?

Chism: that is all the same fund. From that SAF, comes operations, auxiliary funding, and salaries

OC Owings: is it budgeted for in the operations bill or the funding bills? Where does it go in the tables that we pass that has all the money?

George: The money comes from SAF, then to SGA, then to SGA Operations, then funds salaries and stipends

Fees: how many hours do each of these positions have?

OC Lalani: actual hours?

Chism: 32 hours a month, 8 office hours a week. In October I did 56, and in Feb I did 41. All per month, but I'm supposed to only do 32. I know that it is the same for all these other positions.

Lalani: it's either 8,10,12 a week for normal hours.

Williams: would you accept a friendly amendment stating that the parking justices should be paid \$10 an hour?

Chism: no, we cannot tell parking services what to pay them. We want to talk to them about it, but we cannot legislate that.

Lalani: we would love for parking appeals to get \$10 an hour, but if we do that, we need to go through the right communication avenues. Hopefully passing this would aide in making that argument.

McClintic: I calculated \$5,460 once a year for 10 years. Why do we have to do this now and not when we're in a budget crisis?

Chism: SAF is not in a budget crisis, despite if the state is. Additionally, this is less about the big picture, and more about individual students being able to take these positions. It's important to do this as soon as we can, and we want to get the most number of students able to take these positions.

McClintic: to what extent has there been trouble with students taking these positions?

Chism: There's a lot of us on campus, but we're trying to get those students that wouldn't be able to take these only because of the money.

Lalani: it's to give them that option if they want to run.

Motion to suspend the rules and extend time for questions to end of the list and close the list Representative Fees seconded by Representative Bishop

Carrie: we actually struggle to find people to fill our seats because grad students are so active. For us, the pay is a necessary incentive to fill these seats. I've been in this position for 4 years and my academic department is not happy I always take the time to do this. It's a little different from a graduate student standpoint.

McClintic: what year was the list last updated?

Chair: back in 2015 when I was just a lowly associate, and the Secretary of Congress got leveled to the Vice Chair's pay.

OI Chism: are associates lowly?

Chair: now, no. Back then, perceived as such.

Bishop: aren't positions like this financially prohibited because you cannot always get another job and stay so involved within SGA?

Lalani: we try to do our office hours during business hours, which makes it hard to get another job and be a full-time student. It's difficult to find time to also do other non-paid extracurricular activities. It's not just the time you give during office hours as well; we go to events outside of congress, on the weekends, or at times that may not allow you to have another job.

OI Chair: realistically, I put in about 25 hours a week for a busy week. On weekends I'm also always on call for requests. My husband can attest to the after-hours work that I have to put in.

Lyness: do any of the people currently in these positions have jobs outside of SGA?

Chism: some, but jobs that we can usually balance with these jobs. Shift jobs make it hard to create office hours and put in the same work.

Lalani: I don't know anyone on set shifts, but we have other jobs. Like, I know Kenzie is always running off to babysit and then running back to the offices to finish the minutes.

Ball: is Upol working on a bill to increase student min wage? Would it be best to wait to introduce this bill until they address that?

Chism: by doing this, we are setting a standard, which could help when Upol takes their bill to administration.

OI Behara: I'm doing that research, and it's not impending in the next 2-3 weeks. I would encourage people to do this bill and get the head start

Chism: when we go to the university, we want to say that we have logic and reasoning behind the request. Basically, we are standing up and saying that we are going to do it first and set the example.

Schmenk: currently the Code says that the parking court justices are appointed at minimum wage, but that's \$7.25 an hour. What protection do we have to make sure it is kept at \$8 an hour?

Chism: that's under parking services since the money is out of their budget.

Waddell: could you clarify how many positions that are not extremely high up positions are not receiving increases?

OC Waddell: the people within section 31, that is.

Chism: everyone else already receives that 10 an hour that is not getting the raise.

Hedgcorth: there was a bill at some point for which congress had power over parking and transit office. If that bill had been passed, could we have included some language in this bill allowing for a salary bill?

Chism: that is not a power we actually have, although it is in the Code. We struck that in the Code rewrite because it is something that we cannot do. It's not our money at the end of the day.

Waddell: it is admirable to set an example, but how important is that right now to do campus wide?

Chism: with the new President coming in, they want to listen to what the students are saying. It won't be a long time until we can unite and talk to the administration about this, and we need to set a standard.

Bonic: I will not allow this research to continue farther than next semester, so there is a bill coming.

Lyness: is the whole purpose of this is to have a leveraged position going into further negotiations with administration to get students' pay raised to \$10 an hour?

Lalani: yes

Monlux: are you aware of Section 5.8 of the regent's policy manual, that says you have the right to dictate pay for parking board? Would you accept a friendly amendment to increase that to \$10 an hour?

Chism: I cannot and will not adjust this pay without talking to parking services. I am willing to sit down with them, but as of right now, but it is not appropriate to tell another member of the university what to do with their money.

OI Shurbaji: we have a meeting with Kris Glenn coming up after break on the first Thursday

Owings: what is the job application process for these positions, and how would they compare to the process of a non-SGA position?

Chism: most of these people are running for election. Those positions are: CAC Chair, Chair of Congress, Chair of Senate, Secretary of Congress, Secretary of Senate, SBA President, SGA President, SGA Vice President, Vice Chair of Congress, and Vice Chair of Senate. The budget chair is appointed and that process looks like whatever congress exec creates it to be. For example, they may ask about ideas you have, changes you'd like to make, relevant experiences, and other standard things. Also, the Chief of Staff is appointed, as well as associates of General Counsel, General Counsel, and Election Board members. But, they all have an application process.

Shurbaji: the process to select Chief of Staff was an application process. For others, it's about things like relative experience, learning about you, experience, knowledge, and some other things. I would say they standard questions.

Chism: all of these positions are either elected, or go through an applications process

OI Ball: I was interviewed by the president, and to justify it, it was one of the most standard interviews I've ever had.

Lalani: to add on, all applications made by us or other branches are looked at by more than one person. They also almost always have an interview process afterwards as well.

OC Owings: the main point was how are they comparable to a standard student job application process in terms of interviews and qualifications?

Chism: I've applied to several campus jobs, never got any of them, but they've always asked many of the same questions about experience, changes I'd like to make, and other things. Then, in the interviews they ask why we chose OU and other standard questions.

Lalani: some of these positions are more difficult to achieve than even an application process. For example, the positions that have to campaign and win.

McClintic: given that the SGA is well-insulated with the SAF fund, to what extent is it worth it to set an example right now?

OC Lalani: the numbers have changed around a bit from what you said earlier. What are they?

OC McClintic: I calculated \$5460 for one year. I first put that in as a payment, then made it over 10 years, and added in inflation of 1.5%. I also did the same for the \$7500 a year, and it was around a \$70,000 increase. Is it worth that much to increase the standard?

Chism: yes, because we have students that need to take these positions right now. It's more important that we have students in these leadership positions than it is to have the same people coming into these positions. It's vital to do this now.

Lalani: when you consider even inflation and things, you also have to acknowledge the other factors changing. Then you can put that into the perspective of a student. We're not just citizens, but also students. It's never the perfect time to change something

Chism: SAF fees will also probably go up with inflation, so that will help with any budget issues. But we don't control that.

Owings: are there any plans about more paid SGA positions in the future?

Lalani: we haven't thought about anything yet. We hope to increase the pay over not just us, but over parking and other campus positions.

Chism: we are actually looking at paying superior court justices. If we're going to do that, we wanted to make that separate legislation since it is creating a whole new paid position and not just giving a raise.

Bridwell: are worried about how the student body will perceive a bill about using our money that we can get for clubs to fund specific salaries?

Chism: as much as I wish they looked at our agendas and minutes, they don't usually. They will most likely hear about it through the Daily, which I usually sit down to talk with to answer all questions and erase confusion.

Williams: since you haven't been in favor of the parking justice amendment, will you fight for that raise after this passes?

Chism: there is a meeting after spring break to talk about it. I can't do anything about this right now, but we will talk to parking services very soon. If it passes, we will talk to them about it, but we cannot make them do anything

Swearengin: because \$435 a month for the WAM chair would better reflect the work put in for that position, if a friendly amendment were to be introduced about that, would you accept it?

Chism: thank you, that's kind. But we will not accept that. However, if you convinced a representative to present a hostile and enter debate, I can't stop that. That's how congress works, but if the body is in favor of that, that's one thing.

Motion to move to a roll call vote

Representative Mazeitis seconded by Representative Behara

Passed by 24-2-5

990201 – A Resolution Requesting and Encouraging the Re-Evaluation of International Baccalaureate Credit (Crossley) (PnP – rec of do pass)

Representative Behara seconded by Representative Mazeitis

Crossley: I've been working on this bill since last semester when I was in AA. It's why I came into congress, and I know so many are as passionate about it as I am. What this does is it encourages our departments at OU to re-evaluate IB credit, which is the international version of AP credit. This is important because it IB credits are treated differently than AP credits at OU, and OU has not re-evaluated it even though IB has made curriculum changes. Also, I know that people have met with department chairs about this, but they don't listen to us. However, they will listen to SGA! IB coursework has grown by 32% in the US in the past 4 years. We represent all OU students, and many of them take IB courses, so we cannot disregard this. OSU

offers 22 courses for IB credit, Texas offers 90 and SL credit, and we offer like nothing even close to that. The second page acknowledges the unfair differences between major IB and AP credit courses. I just want to make a point to all departments. I also will be sending a cover letter with this with possibly even more information. I ask you to pass this bill!

Bishop: are you aware that you kicked butt just now?

Crossley: thanks!

Mazeitis: would you accept a friendly amendment adjusting the spacing on whereas clauses?

Crossley: yes

Mazeitis: would you also accept a friendly amendment to add "the" in section 1?

Crossley: yes

Mazeitis: would you also accept a friendly amendment moving the list of people under "Copies of the resolution will be sent to:" ?

Crossley: yes

The Secretary accepted Representative Mazeitis's 3 amendments as scrivener's errors

Fees: could you fix the scrivener's error and spell out all numbers under 10?

Crossley: yes

Bhaktaram: IB Spanish classes have different levels (HL/SL), but your 3rd to last clause does not reflect that. Would you accept a friendly amendment changing that?

Crossley: yes

Thompson: you explained this to others, but would you explain who you spoke to that made you want to do this resolution?

Crossley: Kim Bishop and I went to the OU Regents and the Oklahoma regents. We came to the conclusion that it was a department level problem.

Waddell: I know of students that have already taken OU coursework, but also took IB courses of the same credit. Would this help people get credit for those classes, or only help people in the future?

Crossley: I don't think it is grandfathered in. This will help us get a lot more students at OU though because they will get credit for those classes coming in.

OI Thompson: I took ASL at my previous university, but when I transferred here, my credits didn't transfer. After talking to the department, they have made my credits applicable.

Chism: would you accept a friendly amendment expanding all abbreviations of HL and SL?

Crossley: yes

Coen: would you accept a friendly deleting every whereas clause after clause 5? Within each department there is a process of comparison between IB and AP courses. This would be better in the form of a cover letter.

Crossley: I see what you're saying, but no. This resolution is what we're passing as a body, and my cover letter is from me, Taylor

Crossley. It's a lot more impactful to include some of these examples from all of us.

Khan: is there a reason some people in section 2 are underlined and others are not?

Secretary: those are scrivener's errors.

Fees: is whereas clause 8 and 12, would you accept a friendly amendment to strike "long" and "extremely similar", respectively? They're not really necessary and they interrupt the flow.

Motion to extend time for questions to end of the list

Representative Holt seconded by Representative Thompson

Crossley: yes

Ball: under section 2 it says this will be sent to the Office of Admission and Recruitment. Considering they have no say over what credit is accepted, would you accept a friendly amendment striking them from the list?

Crossley: No. They are in charge of recruiting high-end students, and some of those are these people taking upper-level classes. It's important for them to know.

Mazeitis: considering that IB courses cover more than the departments listed in this bill, would you accept a friendly amendment including Glen Krutz, the Vice-Provost for Academic Initiatives?

OC Mazeitis: the departments listed are an incomplete list of all departments that accept IB credits. He would be able to push it in the provost office.

Crossley: yes

Bhaktaram: in terms of petitioning, I received credit for IB biology and I think you need the distinctions between the different levels you're talking about for all the courses. What do you think?

Crossley: this is supposed to be just a few general problems. Just general things that we see, and in my cover letter, which anyone can help me with, I can un-blur those lines. That would be something for the cover letter, not the bill.

Bhaktaram: why is petitioning not currently enough?

Crossley: you shouldn't have to petition to get credit in the first place. You should get to come in like any AP student. You shouldn't have to petition.

Consent

Objection – Representative Cordova

Motion to move to a roll call vote

Representative Mazeitis seconded by Representative Scimeca

Passed by 27-0-1

990510 – Auxiliary Funding 19 Act of 2017-2018 (Chism) (WAM – rec of do pass)

Representative Holt seconded by Representative Scimeca

Chism: Crimson Wishes was funded \$250 to rent Jim Thorpe for Wish Granting Night. Collegiate Entrepreneurs Organization was funded \$300 for food for monthly meetings. African Christian Fellowship was funded \$150 for rentals for ACF Praise Night. Cycling Club was funded \$350 for a cycling event at the University of Arkansas. Business Law Society was funded \$100 for food for an event. Miracle Mindset Male Leadership and Empowerment Conference was funded \$1000 for rentals and food. And, Women in Business Association was funded \$650 for lunch and breakfast for OU Women's Day.

Bishop: is Miracle Mindset Male Leadership and Empowerment Conference a new organization?

Chism: yes

Bishop: why were they funded \$1000 for the first time?

Chism: because they are hosting a conference that will benefit a large amount of people and a lot of potential OU students.

OI Ball: are you aware that I'm one of the founders of that organization?

Chair: yes

Khan: how much money is left after this?

Chism: \$13,562.06 not including auxiliary funding 18 or 19 because those have not been signed yet.

Scimeca: can you give more reasoning for the \$1000 funding on Miracle Mindset Male Leadership and Empowerment Conference first funding application?

Chism: it's definitely something that we talked a lot about. We usually fund between \$500-700 for new organizations, but those are maybe organizations starting a small group. This is a conference that will reach a lot more people. They asked for way more, but we only funded \$1000.

Hedgorth: what exactly are they?

Chism: Miracle Mindset is a Young Male Leadership and Empowerment Conference that was created at the University of Oklahoma with the purpose of eliminating the achievement gap and persistent disparity of educational resources and opportunities among at-risk youth in low-income school districts by providing students with the proper guidance, direction, leadership, and structure that they need in order to break free from the "soft bigotry of low expectations" and unlock their full potential. Socioeconomic status is a significant predictor of success: students who come from affluent backgrounds are significantly more likely to graduate, even when matched with other characteristics like household income, standardized test scores, and academic performance. Our goal is to provide these students with the essential tools needed to escape the banes of racial inequality, underachievement, and a fundamental lack of opportunities and information.

Bishop: that was so confusing and doesn't explain why it's just males?

Chism: I've explained it the best that I can

Hedgorth: what will happen at this conference?

Chism: it will help a bunch of poor kids do good things and develop.

Motion to move to a roll call vote
Representative Mazeitis seconded by Representative Bishop

Passed by 28-0-0

990706 – Student Parking Appeals Court Appointment Act of 2018 (Ball/Shurbaji) (ConAd – rec of do pass)

Representative Cassidy seconded by Representative Rojas

Ball: This bill is an act appointing the student parking appeal court judges. We are appointing 8 judges and those are: Camille Schlemme, Brian Owings, Ani Ter-Mktchyan, Karley Knight, Jordan Holt, Kevin Duong, Natalie Cook, and Salman Hamid.

Nathan: I'm the chief justice and have been in the position over 3 years. We have an allowable 16 seats, but we lost 8 people due to graduation and other reasons, so tonight we are hoping to fill those 8 seats.

Mazeitis: can you introduce yourself and tell us a little bit about you?

Holt: my first big thing is that I'm an avid dog mom. I'm also really energetic and bubbly, and I have a great work ethic. I'm either a manager or server at Chili's, so if you ever see me there say hi.

Owings: I'm a junior double majoring in history and Russian. I play a lot of video games, and I have former appeals board experience, as well as experience in Congress as a representative.

Camille: I currently serve as a justice on the OIL Supreme Court. I also manage a pool in the summer with a 22 people staff, so I'm very familiar with conflict.

Duong: I'm a sophomore double majoring in marketing and MIS. I love nonprofits, and I'm trying to get more into it and create my own nonprofit.

Hamid: I'm a biochemistry major. I was in congress, the exec branch, and now I'm on CAC.

Cook: I'm a sophomore economics and Spanish double major. I'm really excited for this!

OI Waddell: who selected these people?

Chair: the president, with advice of Nathan

Bishop: what was the criteria used? What made these candidates stand out?

Shurbaji: it's a tiered system out of 50 including professionals, knowledge of SGA, and pertinent experience. A lot of them have served on appeals boards before. Some had experience in youth court, the dorms appeal process, and other SGA experience. Knowledge of SGA was regarding how to appeal things and the branch structure. We also looked at other things like basic interview formalities such time and professionalism. We ranked all of them from 50, and chose the top few.

Fees: what makes you really excited about this board?

Holt: I haven't been able to get involved with OU as much, so this is a way to do that

Owings: I spent 3 semester working on PnP and dealing with transportation. Considering the number of parking concerns we have, it's nice to actually confront those things. I also like being a voice for students to check on parking services.

Camille: I also have an interest in sustainability and using the space in the parking garages we have already. I want us to use our resources properly instead of just expanding.

Duong: I'm excited for being a voice for the community and having a lot of interactions with others who have gotten tickets that they didn't deserve. Basically being a voice of reason for those concerns.

Hamid: I like the idea of due process and such.

Cook: I think that I was interested because I know that parking is contentious. I wanted to be part of that solution and be the balance between honoring the rules and being a voice for students.

Consent

Passed by unanimous consent

New Business

Follow-Up Reports

Rains-Saucedo: we passed the Resolution with OSU about the mental health PSA. If you want to be in those films, please come talk to me about it. Also, you just want to hang out with OSU, you can come!

Items for Future Agenda

990404 – A Resolution Criticizing EPA rollbacks (Kuketz) → Sustainability

990405 – A Resolution Addressing Representative Strom’s Legislation (Lyness) → HD

990202 – A Resolutions Calling on The University of Oklahoma to Eliminate Criminal Background

Questions on Admissions Apps (Scimeca) → Upol

990114 - Public Office Hours Bill (Ball) → ConAd

990115 - LGBTQ+ Advisory Board Bill (Ball) → ConAd

990511- Auxiliary Funding 20 (Chism) → WAM

990512 - An Act Amending Allowable and Non-allowable Items (Chism) → WAM and ConAd

OI Mazeitis: can we email announcements to the Secretary?

Chair: it’s a possibility

Announcements and Comments

Scimeca: I have a discussion with the director of admissions regarding my resolution, so please come to me if you have anything you want me to say.

Cordova: Regarding what I said earlier in the meeting about leaving, I have said this since the beginning of the semester, but you should not be leaving meetings whenever you feel like it. This is not as pertinent for associates, but for representatives, you signed up for this. It is your job to come to general body meetings, and stay to vote on legislation. If you have to leave early, you need to let me know by 1 hour before this meeting, as I have said. If there is an emergency situation, I of course will work with you, but if you’re just leaving and I see you didn’t vote on legislation, that’s an unexcused absence. This is really important, so please keep it in mind.

Bishop: happy anniversary Chair Rains-Saucedo and Associate Saucedo!!!!

Motion to skip final roll call and adjourn

Secretary Cordova seconded by Representative Bishop

Final Roll Call

Chair: Kaylee Rains-Saucedo

Vice-Chair: Sanah Lalani

Secretary: Mackenzie Cordova

| Session 99 | General 3/13 |
|----------------------|---------------------|
| Ball, Carson | x |
| Behera, Pranoy | x |
| Bhaktaram, Ananya | x |
| Bishop, Kimberley | x |
| Blank, Faith | abs |
| Bonic, Karla | abs |
| Bray, Matthew | abs |
| Bridwell, Trey | x |
| Cassidy, Thomas | x |
| Chen, Julianna | x |
| Chism, Hennessey | x |
| Coen, Noah | x |
| Cordova, Mackenzie | x |
| DeAngeli, Emma | x |
| Duechting, Donald | ex |
| Fees, Elaina | x |
| Hammond, Rabina | x |
| Hedgorth, Joseph | x |
| Hoefke, Madeleine | x |
| Holt, Richard | x |
| Kalvacherla, Vinay | ex |
| Keefer, Braden | x |
| Khan, Adam | x |
| Lee, Alan | x |
| Liu, Shihui | ex |
| Lobaugh, Rachel | abs |
| Mazeitis, Jake | x |
| McClintic, Alexander | x |
| Manohar, Kanjan | x |
| Rojas, Julio | abs |

| | |
|------------------|----|
| Sanroman, Rosa | x |
| Scimeca, Joey | x |
| Thomas, Hailey | x |
| Thompson, Gabi | x |
| Waddell, Turner | x |
| Walton, Jonathan | x |
| Williams, Dan | x |
| Wilson, Taylor | x |
| | |
| Present | 30 |
| Absent | 5 |
| Excused | 3 |
| | |

| Session 99 | 990113 | 990201 | 990510 | 990706 |
|----------------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| Ball, Carson | y | y | y | |
| Behara, Pranoy | a | y | y | |
| Bhaktaram, Ananya | y | a | y | |
| Bishop, Kimberley | y | y | y | |
| Blank, Faith | | | | |
| Bonic, Karla | y | | | |
| Bray, Matthew | | | | |
| Bridwell, Trey | y | y | y | |
| Cassidy, Thomas | y | y | y | |
| Chen, Julianna | y | y | y | |
| Chism, Hennessey | y | y | y | |
| Coen, Noah | y | y | y | |
| Cordova, Mackenzie | y | y | y | |
| DeAngeli, Emma | y | y | y | |
| Duechting, Donald | | | | |
| Fees, Elaina | y | y | y | |
| Hammond, Rabina | a | y | y | |
| Hedgorth, Joseph | y | y | y | |
| Hoefke, Madeleine | y | y | y | |
| Holt, Richard | y | y | y | |
| Kalvacherla, Vinay | | | | |
| Keefer, Braden | y | y | y | |
| Khan, Adam | y | y | y | |
| Lee, Alan | y | y | y | |
| Liu, Shihui | | | | |
| Lobaugh, Rachel | | | | |
| Mazeitis, Jake | a | y | y | |
| McClintic, Alexander | n | | | |
| Monohar, Kanjan | | | | |
| Rojas, Julio | a | | | |

| | | | | |
|------------------|----|----|----|---|
| Sanroman, Rosa | y | y | y | |
| Scimeca, Joey | y | y | y | |
| Thomas, Hailey | a | y | y | |
| Thompson, Gabi | y | y | y | |
| Waddell, Turner | n | y | y | |
| Walton, Jonathan | y | y | y | |
| Williams, Dan | y | y | y | |
| Wilson, Taylor | y | y | y | |
| | | | | |
| | | | | |
| Yes | 24 | 27 | 28 | 0 |
| No | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Abstain | 5 | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| | | | | |
| | | | | |