

THE UNIVERSITY OF OKLAHOMA STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION

UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT CONGRESS Session CIII

General Body Meeting
7:00 pm, Tuesday February 25th, 2020
Devon Hall 120

Roll Call – 7pm

Mission Statement

Moment of Silence

Approval of Minutes

Representative Buxton motion to approve the minutes seconded by Representative Tucker

Chair's Report - Hello everyone! I hope you are having a lovely week so far.

Regarding the empty seat next to me and the sudden change of our secretary, Mahak and Savannah are at Big XII on the Hill in DC to represent OU in conversations with state officials. During next week's meeting, they will be giving a presentation about what they learned and took away from the conference.

As you most likely know by now, filing is this week. If you are a representative and your seat is up for election this cycle, then you should have received a reminder email from me already. Caitlyn will be talking more about it in special orders.

Please join OrgSync if you haven't already. This will be important for submitting legislation when you get to that point.

The Outstanding Faculty and Staff Awards are happening now! If you have anyone you would like to nominate, please fill out this form on OrgSync: <https://orgsync.com/118258/forms/375755>

Finally, I thought I would take this opportunity to let you know about important dates for Congress for the rest of the semester:

Elections of representatives will be March 31st and April 1st (and it's never too early to start pushing those)

The new session will likely start on April 7th. This is also the meeting during which you may nominate people to be Chair, Vice Chair, or Secretary of Congress for next year.

April 14th is when the new officers will be elected.

April 21st will be the last meeting of the semester.

With these dates in mind, please try to write legislation before the end of the session. It's coming up faster than you think!

Vice Chair's Report – At Big XII

Secretary's Report – Hey guys, sorry I am not here today. I just wanted to remind you to keep emailing me about your constituent service hours. There is only about a week and a half of February left and I'm missing most people's hours. If you have any questions about what could possibly qualify as a constituent hour, or think that something you took part in could count, please email me and ask!! Also I know that the semester is starting to really kick into gear but please keep working on your projects. Working on something you are passionate about is a really great way to take a break from your school work.

Committee Reports-

- **Campus Outreach, Safety, and Concerns:** We got more concerns and passed them along to the relevant committees. The ADA compliance report will be ready by Tuesday. It is finished. Goddard unavailable to international students. Turn out for transit, child-care at OU.
- **Congressional Administration:** We talked about several projects, and it was a very productive meeting. We will be coming out with two election reform bills and one over the parking appeals board.

- **External Affairs:** We talked about projects for our new members and now everyone has something on which to work. We have members passionate about the state and federal budgets, voter registration, and social justice.
- **Human Diversity:** We made headway on our projects and reached out to Frank Henry as a follow-up on food labelling. Working w/ COSCO and UPOL for Goddard projects.
- **Sustainability:** The proposal regarding reusable clamshell containers is almost finalized and it will be seen by the Student Activity Fee Reserve Committee on March 6th. We are also working on several more projects. Permeable concrete, working on Social media campaign.
- **University Policy:** We assigned a new project from the concern we received from COSCo regarding low attendance at basketball games.
- **Ways and Means:** Primary is closed and we will see it at the beginning of April. We say AB-103-06 and gave it a recommendation of “Do Pass.”

Liaison Reports

Heuser: ASK's mascaraed is Saturday 7-9 10\$ in advance 15 at door. Buy in union any day this week.

Bouch: Thursday 3:30-5:30 pm bring your friend to lab day from Army ROTC SOVAL

Tucker: second wind is having open mic on Thursday 7:30

Alpert: Hillel Interfaith Seder March 04 6pm to 9pm

Schneider: College Bowl I'll send the link

Special Orders

- Sooner Freshman Council

Spangler-Day: What process to find these Freshmen?

Logan: Application and interview process, scoring system, discussion. Bring in alum, exec members, etc.,

Sertovic: How do you plan to expand recruitment to international students?

Logan: Last year we had three and this year we had one. This is failure on our part for not knowing a lot about the community. We definitely are open to ways to reach out.

Hillis: Have you made any progress on the name change?

Logan: We have been talking to members of the exec and legislative branch but we will ultimately leave it up to the next co-chairs. It will be their name, not ours.

Sertovic: Can you provide me the new co-chairs names when they are selected?

Logan: Yes, when they are selected, they have to be approved by Congress

- Black History Month Presentation

Paul Robeson was an African-American athlete, bass-baritone, stage and film actor, linguist, political activist, and leader of the Harlem Renaissance. Robeson went to Rutgers University on an athletic scholarship where he was a 2x All-American. He is a College-Football Hall of Famer and was listed as the 2nd best Defensive End by ESPN in 2016. Robeson graduated

from Rutgers as his class valedictorian and went on to receive his LL B from Columbia Law while playing in a small league known as the NFL. Afterward, Robeson began his career in the Fine Arts in plays such as

The Emperor Jones

and

All Gods' Chillun Got Wings.

In his career, Robeson wrote 276 songs spanning over many genres including Americana, popular standards, classical music, European folk songs, political songs, poetry, spoken excerpts from plays, and most famously, his recording of negro spirituals. Robeson

moved his career to Europe and settled in the U.K. for a majority of the 1930s. Robeson was summoned by the King to perform at Buckingham Palace. There he befriended many MPs from the House of Commons. After a continuing successful and ideological awakening,

Robeson refused to perform in European operas because the music had no connection to his own culture. In 1934, Robeson began studying Phonetics, Swahili and multiple other African languages.

Robeson went on to tour Europe where he stopped in Berlin and Moscow.

In Berlin, Robeson became enlightened to the racism in Hitler's Germany. However, in Moscow, he became enlightened to the opposite, explaining how the Soviet Union didn't hold the same racial bias as the US. Robeson took a series of roles that gained him international fame but elucidated to him the stereotypical nature of his performances. Afterward, he became more politically conscious and sacrificed his own career to combat racial stereotypes in American Cinema. In 1936, Robeson sent his son to school in the Soviet Union to shield him from racial attitudes in the west. Beginning in 1937 Robeson started to support the fight against fascism in the Spanish Civil War. Singing to troops and performing shows Robeson did what he could in the fight against Franco's army and right-wing extremism taking hold of Europe. He used songs from his past discography and changed the lyrics from those relating to the African American struggle to the struggle against Franco's oppression. "But I keep laffin'/ Instead of cryin'/ I must keep fightin'/ Until I'm dyin'"

Paul Robeson continued to be politically active even after his agent strongly discouraged him from it. His reasoning, "The artist must take sides. He must elect to fight for freedom or slavery. I have made my choice. I had no alternative."

At the outbreak of World War II, Robeson returned home where he became "America's no. 1 entertainer."

However, that title still did not afford him to stay in all but one of Los Angeles' hotels while on tour, only at an extremely high rate and under an assumed name. Therefore, he dedicated two hours a day during his stay to sit in the lobby where he was widely recognized "to ensure that the next time Black[s] come through, they'll have a place to stay." LA soon lifted its restrictions on people of color staying in their hotels. Finally, after starring in films that were either labeled by the government as communist propaganda or ones that he hated for stereotyping African-Americans, Robeson retired from the film industry.

After the War Robeson met with President Truman to protest the lynching epidemic in the south with Robeson stating that if he did not enact anti-lynching legislation then ". Robeson warned there would be a civil uprising if action were not take. Truman refused his pleas, believing it not the right time to address that issue. This spurred Robeson

to start the American Crusade Against Lynching. After receiving support from W.E.B. Du Bois, the organization launched on the 83 anniversary of the Emancipation Proclamation. His political actions came under the question by the Judiciary Committee. When they

questioned if he was a communist Robeson said, "Some of the most brilliant and distinguished Americans are about to go to jail for the failure to answer that question, and I am going to join them, if necessary." In 1948, Robeson risked his life by going to

the Deep South to campaign for Henry Wallace. Afterward, Robeson had to begin working overseas after the FBI canceled many of his concerts. While there, Robeson gave a speech that condemned American militarism and called for African Americans not to fight

for "those who have oppressed us for generations. This caused him to be blacklisted in America with publications refusing to acknowledge his All-American honors at Rutgers, canceling television appearances and denying him a passport. The FBI orchestrated a

defamation campaign against Robeson in Africa. In '56, after refusing to sign an affidavit denying that he was a communist, Robeson was called to testify to the HUAC. When asked why he had not remained in the Soviet Union because of his affinity with its political

ideology, he replied, "because my father was a slave and my people died to build [the United States and], I am going to stay here, and have a part of it just like you and no fascist-minded people will drive me from it!" later stating, "Whether I am or not

a Communist is irrelevant. The question is whether American citizens, regardless of their political beliefs or sympathies, may enjoy their constitutional rights." While his passport was locked, Robeson would perform to concert halls over the telephone with

over 5,000 gathering at one point in London.

Finally, in 1958 Robeson had his passport cleared and resumed his world touring until his retirement in 1963. Robeson enjoyed a long 13-year retirement that ended with his passing on January 23, 1976. Paul Robeson died with a controversial legacy, it was one that did not deserve to be erased from American memory. Although Robeson was a defender of the Soviet Union's authoritarian practices, his contributions to American and global culture shall not be forgotten. His incredible talent, smarts and athletic ability is the gold standard for Americans.

I encourage you all to think about the man you learned of today and implore you to find Robeson's courage within yourself and to think of a quote I have had on my desk in my room, "As an artist I come to sing, but as a citizen, I will always speak for peace, and no one can silence me in this."

- **Filing Information**

Filing is officially open! It officially opened Monday and you have until Thursday at 5pm to do so! Speaking of filing, we are holding a tabling on Thursday February 27 from 10 AM to 1 PM, so please sign up for shifts. Shifts are a quick 15 minutes, but you can sign up for as many as your schedule allows. There will be two computers there for anyone who wishes to file at that moment otherwise we have small flyers to hand out. Tabling will be in the courtyard right outside the Conoco. **THIS IS YOUR LAST OPPORTUNITY TO COMPLETE A CONSTITUENT SERVICE HOUR FOR THE MONTH OF FEBRUARY**, if you haven't yet. So please sign up on the google doc. The link will be posted in the GroupMe.

Now there's a few announcements regarding some PR stuff:

1. Merchandise is officially out! Yay! The google form shows what merch is available and the designs, so just fill out that accordingly if interested.
2. RSO Surveys have gone out and the link to the orgsync page is live. If you are a part of exec for an RSO please fill that out, it would be greatly appreciated! Also, if you know anyone who is exec or any sort of leadership position, please send that their way!
3. Let's give a shout out to our first spotlight on the Instagram! There will be more of those to come! Another feature that will soon be coming to the Instagram page are featured resources. So, resources around on campus that are well known, used frequently, or that should gain some attention. They will be featured on our Instagram Stories. With that, I want your input so there is another google form (just like the rest that are quick and easy) that asks simply what your favorite resource is and why, your position in congress, and your social media handle if you would like to be tagged, no pressure you don't have to be. So, I would love to have your input, I have 4 so far.
4. Finally, if you are interested in being a PR Director the form closes on orgsync tonight! So, fill that out if interested!

I know that was all a lot to take in, but I appreciate all of you listening and filling those forms out. If you have any questions just let me know!

Student Concerns

Alpert: When will orgsync officially be leaving the university and how will that affect RSOs?

DeAngeli: The request for proposal has been sent out. 2 options, should be done over summer

Ahmadi: Lights out June 30 lights on noon July 1. Process will be similar to what we have now.

Bouch: will we be able to export forms on new platforms to excel?

Ahmadi: Yes

Old Business

Items to Be Considered

Representative Harman motion to see seconded by Representative Grebe

AB-103-06 Auxiliary Allocation 16 Act of 2019-2020

Patton: Aux 16, saw some orgs, gave some money, if questions please ask. 8k ish dollars.

29-0-0 Passes

Follow-Up Reports

Items for Future Agenda

Patton: Aux 7

Announcements and Comments

Spangler-Day: Really Great Local band having leap year show at a house around here, follow @monteok on Instagram for info

Tucker: There's a game night at third space right after this. They are empowering place on campus corner with study space.

Representative Harman motion to skip final roll call and adjourn seconded by Representative Marvin

Final Roll Call

Adjourn 7:38pm

Chair: Emma DeAngeli

Vice Chair: Mahak Merchant

Secretary: Savanah Patterson

THE UNIVERSITY OF OKLAHOMA STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION

UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT CONGRESS
CONGRESSIONAL SESSION CIII
February 25th, 2020

GRADUATE STUDENT SENATE
SENATE SESSION GF20
March 1st, 2020

CONGRESSIONAL BILL AB-103-06
SENATE BILL NO. GF19-XX

AS INTRODUCED

An act relating to appropriations; providing for short title; stating purpose; appropriating Auxiliary Funding for the 2019-2020 process; stating appropriation guidelines; establishing expiration deadline; directing transfer of unused funds by deadline; and providing an effective date.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE UNIVERSITY OF OKLAHOMA STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION:

Section 1: This act shall be known and may be cited as the “Auxiliary Allocation 16 Act of 2019-2020”

Section 2: PURPOSE. The purpose of this act is to appropriate the funds of the University of Oklahoma Student Government Association to the organizations mentioned within.

Section 3: APPROPRIATION. The following amounts are hereby allocated to

Organization	Programs, Events & Activities	Capital Investments	Office and General Expenses	Total
Black Student Association	1,874.20			1,874.20
Clay Target Team	700			700
Disability Inclusion and Awareness	90			90
India Student Association	3,365			3,365

Student Association of Bangladesh	1,800			1,800
Student Healthcare Outreach	103.41			103.41
Students for Israel	500			500
TOTAL:				8,432.61

Section 4: All guidelines and provisions in Title 10 of the Code Annotated shall apply to all funds appropriated in this act.

Section 5: This fiscal year for the account listed in these sections shall end May 8, 2020

Section 6: All unspent money remaining in the accounts listed in Section 3 shall revert to the SGA General Account after May 8, 2020, and the remaining appropriations shall be canceled.

Section 7: This act shall become effective when passed in accordance with the SGA Constitution.

Author(s): Lauren Patton, Chair, SGA Budget Committee

Co-Author(s): SGA Budgetary Committee

Submitted on a motion by:

Action taken by Student Congress:

Verified by Chair of Student Congress: _____ Date: _____

Submitted on a motion by:

Action taken by Senate:

Verified by Chair of Senate: _____ Date: _____

Approved by SGA President: _____ Date: _____