

THE UNIVERSITY OF OKLAHOMA STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION



UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT CONGRESS

Session CVIII

General Body Meeting

7:00 pm, Tuesday, August 30th, 2022

Dale Hall 211

Call to Order 7:04

Opening Roll Call

Mission Statement: The mission of the University of Oklahoma Student Government Association Undergraduate Student Congress is to represent the interests of undergraduate students in their pursuit of academic and individual achievement. The Undergraduate Student Congress is committed to building a strong campus community, promoting civic engagement, and enhancing the quality of the undergraduate experience at the University of Oklahoma.

Moment of Silence: 20 Second Moment of Silence to allow an opportunity for reflection.

Approval of Minutes

Chair Haskins seconded by Representative Kathuria

Officer Reports -

- **Chair's Report:** Hi everyone, it's so good to see all your faces again! 2 Pieces of legislation today. Expectations for this year: I expect communication, respect, hard work, and fun. Do not be afraid to ask questions and discuss quietly with a neighbor when we do not have a speaker talking or presenting. I want this to not only be a space where we do amazing things for students and the university, but also a place to make friends, collaborate, and honestly make lasting memories during your time here at OU. That being said, we will be introducing some fun new ideas/events, for example the one themed meeting a month, sometimes snacks during meetings, and fun events that we will plan outside of congress, maybe like a dinner or just a space for everyone to spend time with each other outside of congress meetings. Additionally, I want to encourage everyone to go to other committees' events, we want to support each other and everyone's projects. Additionally, we want to hear from you as well! I am going to send out a google form that I would love for you all to fill out just asking a few questions about what you want to see this year! Prepare to change locations to a more welcoming space for congress meetings. I am looking at Gallogly, Gaylord, and other locations on campus that are less "lecturey and classroom-esque". Additionally, I want to be very transparent about everything I am doing! At the moment I am working on some legislation that will benefit the food pantry and I have a meeting with the director tomorrow. Next, President Lissau and I are also in the works of trying to talk to admin about possible voting exemptions or at least a message urging faculty to excuse students who provide proof that they are voting on Tuesday, November 8th. I am currently in the early stages of looking at the feasibility of getting a polling site on the university's campus. I will be collaborating with Chair Griffin on this project. Lastly, I am looking at putting together legislation to promote international student resources. Big Red Rally- all of the volunteers should be in the GROUPME and should attend the zoom. Thank you again for signing up. If you would like to attend, and I encourage everyone to attend because it's going to be a very cool event, it starts at 8:30 PM at the stadium. No for the less fun stuff. Deadlines: please have your legislation into engage by Wednesday for review, I will write back by Thursday with revisions and so I can send

them to committees for their agendas in a timely manner. If you would like to turn it in sooner you can and I can work with you, this is just a hard deadline. Oklahoma votes team app.

- **Vice Chair's Report:** Hello everyone! I hope you are all doing well and having a great start to your semester already! It's very nice to see all of your faces again and see you in all in OU spirit gear! As part of my role, I am supposed to boost the morale of the body, and tonight I chose to do that with baked goods! So please everyone take a brownie they are homemade, as well as I have your nametags made please let me know if they are incorrect in any way and I will fix that immediately. We also have notebooks, cups, pens, and stickers as SGA merch please take some! Keep in mind the date September 18th this is the planned day for orientation, if you have any questions about my process or planning, please let me know! I have been posting on Instagram our main social media platform so please go follow, like, and share if you want to so we can boost our social media presence. I will be sending out a google form, for PR committee if you are interested, please fill that out! This year each committee will have their own PR member who will act as a liaison for making graphics and relaying information to myself! This year exec decided we want to do merch, but we did want to let you know that this would be self-pay as we cannot purchase personal items for members through the RSO purchasing allowable items. As well as for boosting morale we will start doing congress member of the month to really recognize members and love on each other as a team! If you have concerns about anything or want to talk, feel free to come to my office hours, which are 12-4 on Mondays and Wednesdays! Lastly, Parliamentarian Halsey-Kraus let us know we cannot write legislation to change the governing documents at this time, so this does put a hold on my changing of the tracking and planning of CSP opportunities and points, however I have decided to take over the role anyways! Please let me know if you have questions or concerns about this and I will be writing that legislation as soon as possible! Thank you that's all I have!
- **Secretary's Report:** Hi y'all! Welcome back! My goals this year is to just generally increase timeliness. In our governing documents it says that all general body meeting minutes must be sent by noon on Wednesday, and while that's not always feasible, you can expect to see a quicker turnaround time from me this year. I will also be posting all minutes as well as agendas, both general body and committee, on the bulletin board in the Conoco in case you can't see them through email. If you are having any issues receiving emails or with attendance etc. please reach out to congresssec@ou.edu.
- **Campus Outreach, Safety, and Concerns:** Hi everyone my name is Hudson Haskins. COSCO hasn't met this summer, but we are already some exciting stuff on the way. The suggestion box has had no access for the last 2 years so we have that open again and we are working on going through all those student concerns.
- **Congressional Administration:** Hi, Friends! Welcome back! ConAd met this past Friday during our new meeting time. We discussed upcoming projects including interviews. Interviews will be Sunday September 11th with orientation the following Sunday. If you have any questions about that process please let me know. The SGA General Application closes Saturday at 11:59 p.m. Tell your friends to apply! Over the summer, ConAd did some work on guides for the body. I will be sharing those with the body closer to interview time. As well as, we are starting to work on Municode to house the governing documents and new legislation online so for the time being we will not be amending the governing documents. If you have any questions, let me know or email me at ConAd@ou.edu!
- **External Affairs:** EA did not meet over the summer but we will be meeting unofficially this Sunday at 5pm in the Conoco. We are trying to get legislators in to do forums.
- **Human Diversity:** Hello everyone we have not met yet but we will be meeting next Thursday at 6. We are working on a suicide awareness event.
- **Sustainability:** We won't be meeting this weekend but usually we meet at 2:30 on Sundays and we won't be doing a monthly trash walk for August. We are working on our recycling programs with Sarah Ballew.
- **University Policy:** We address student concerns, programs initiatives and lack thereof. We look at policy to make sure it's benefitting the entire community as a whole. I would recommend for you guys to join. We are working on accessibility and student wages. You'll learn how to write legislation and team work skills.

- **Ways and Means:** WAM will likely meet on Wednesdays or Thursdays and right now we are working on AUX 1. We have about 20 orgs that we are hoping to sort out funding for.

Liaison Reports

Broadbent: The constitutional studies association and delta sigma pi honors society will be having their first events on September 12th at 5pm in the Carnegie building 3rd floor. There will be free pizza.

Houston: If you are interested in joining the student environmental coalition we have a group me please just let me know.

Special Orders

Student Concerns

South: Veo Scooters are unsafe, expensive, and in the way. I recommend bringing back Crimson Cruisers (Bikes w/ 1 free hour per day). Don't let the University cite recent student debt cancellation as evidence that students can pay more, justifying a tuition and fees increase. Encourage OU to prioritize transparency w/ student body, predictability in pricing, and tangible improvements to student quality of life in their consideration of any tuition and fees increases. Students on campus are paid extremely poorly. Most on campus jobs don't pay any more than like \$12 an hour and that is absolutely not enough to even cover rent in most places in Norman. Finally, election Day should be given consideration for the bill being seen tonight. This election, like all elections, is extremely important and has the Governor, Congress, State Legislature, and many others that need to be booted out of office on the ballot. Having that day off (officially) would be fantastic and allow us to adequately hold leaders to account. If this bill does not submit election day, I urge SGA to place additional pressure on the University Administration to designate Gubernatorial and Presidential Election Days as University holidays as a matter of policy.

Kathuria: There is a new vape shop on campus corner. Many of our constituents have easy access to these kinds of shops. We need to be protecting everyone from second hand vape aerosols.

Items to Be Considered

- CB-108-07 "Red River Holiday Act of 2022" (Akuffo/Burch/Lewis/Lissau/Losh)(Exec, Rec of No Rec)

Motion to see CB-108-07

Representative Chiariello seconded by Representative Reynolds

Author's explanation (Lissau): I am presenting a historic bill and it's very much popular in the student body. We have polled the students for a holiday that they want off for and they picked the Red River Holiday. We are here on behalf of SGA exec. OUTX falls on October 8th this year and to ensure our students safety while travelling we feel it is necessary to, per section 5.15, to submit Friday October 7th as the fall 2022 student holiday. I want to make clear that election day was at the forefront of all our minds when writing this bill. We are in constant communication with OU administration and through our conversations we are working to make this holiday permanent, that way later on we can submit for election day.

0:27 yielded to questions

- **Kathuria:** Have you considered doing a poll amongst all students comparing the two holidays?
 - We have and overwhelmingly students want OUTX.
- **Broadbent:** Did you consider writing a bill that demands a second holiday?
 - We can and would be willing to work with you on that.
- **Tesfaselassie:** Does making this a holiday mean that election day would be excluded from being a holiday?
 - We would have to revisit election day in the future, as this only pertains to OUTX.
- **Broadbent:** You mentioned that it is a recommendation, can you explain to the body what a recommendation does and what the Board of Regents can and cannot do?
 - After it goes through SGA's approval process it is sent to the Board of Regents to deliberate and they send that to the president to call that day off.
- **Kathuria:** From your experience what makes OUTX special in your own perspective?
 - It allows for rivalry but more importantly we don't want student rushing down and having their safety jeopardized on that highway if they have a late class.
- **Dodd:** Does section 5.15 allow for more than one holiday or more?

- Just one.
- **Haskins:** Has there been any consideration for how OU student congress deemphasizing an election day, a very important one at that, reflects on our ability as a body?
 - The SGA must prioritize election day whether its absentee, early, or in person on the day of. I believe that we need to work on that too.

Motion to enter debate

Representative Broadbent seconded by Representative Tesfaselassie

Motion to recess for 5 minutes

Chair Griffin seconded by Representative Dodd

DEBATE

Proponency (Kathuria): People have classes on Friday, and we don't want people to be racing to Texas. We also need a fall break and a day to just let loose.

Opponency (Broadbent): This is my last go round of voting no on this bill because although I love OU football I prefer election day to OUTX. Elections matter. They have the most influence in our lives and communities. This election doesn't matter any less than the presidential election in fact they actually count more. In this election we have multiple senators and representatives. I think in Norman a seat came down to 10 votes. Those could be OU students. I know student s that have to drive to Texas to vote because of absentee laws and increasing restrictions on voting. Many students have chosen to keep their home registration and they deserve to continue voting there. Absentee registration is one of the most difficult barriers to casual voters because they have to get them notarized. I also know students who would use an election day holiday to work at polls.

Proponency (May): If any of you have driven between Texas and Oklahoma in the past few months it's atrocious. If this is what our constituents want we need to honor that.

Opponency (Haskins): I have the leeway to vote now because I know this will pass. I want OUTX to be a holiday every year and it shouldn't be us who gets to decide. I must vote no on this bill because as a civic body it is our job to promote civic engagement. Students do more than vote on election day, such as work the polls. It's not the best precedent to set to only encourage voting on the presidential election years.

Proponency (Kathuria): What would coach Venables want? I bet he would be proud of our body for doing this. If we pass this bill we can encourage ties with OU athletics, which could help us in other areas.

Proponency (Griffin): No matter which way this vote goes, we need to emphasize that both of these days should be holidays. It's ridiculous to force us to choose. Vote your goat.

Motion to previous question and close debate

Chair Griffin seconded by Representative Broadbent

23-0-0

Author's summation (Lissau): I agree that the university needs to provide protections for election day however we are not voting today on whether or not there is an election day holiday. We are voting on whether or not there should be an OUTX holiday. We must keep the students that want this passed in mind but their safety as well. I want us all to be cognizant of what this bill is doing. Election day is important, but so is the Red River Holiday.

21-2-0 Pass

- CR-108-12 "Honoring the 2022 OU Softball Team Resolution" (Kathuria)(Exec, Do Pass)

Motion to see CB-108-07

Chair Haskins seconded by Representative Ghazal

Author's explanation (Kathuria): This is to honor the 2022 OU Softball team. You got to see their domination and all the records they broke. Players like Jocelyn Alo, Tiara Jennings, Jada Coleman, are an

inspiration to us all. It is the duty of SGA to celebrate our fellow students and cultivate community. This bill does that. We will send a copy to each of these women.

1:28 yielded to questions

- **Brown:** Who is your favorite player?
 - Jocelyn Alo, the homerun queen.
- **Landry:** Is there a similar bill for the OU Women's Gymnastics team?
 - Yes I'm working on it for next week.

23-0-0 Pass

Follow-Up Reports

Announcements and Comments

Landry: Please fill out this google form for committee preferences if you either aren't on a committee or are interested in switching committees. It gives a brief description of what each one does and lets you preference your top 3. We will do our best to give you your first preference but naturally we can't have everyone on one committee and nobody on the other. Also, I forgot to mention it but my office hours are Monday 9am-2:30pm and Wednesday 9am-11:30am, although I'm also usually there for ConAd on Friday mornings.

Trautman: If you are uncomfortable being in any photos on the Instagram please let me know.

Lewis: My office hours are MWF 10-1:30 MW and 10-1 on Fridays.

Halsey-Kraus: The SGA General Application closes Saturday at 11:59pm.

Kathuria: Make sure to show up to all sports games not just football. They are our constituents too.

Dodd: The OU Food Pantry has a lot of volunteer opportunities this month.

Griffin: EA will be meeting 5pm on Sunday!

Barnett: Everyone should go to the Big Red Rally at 8:30pm on Thursday. This is our chance to bring back a tradition that hasn't happened since 2009.

Cappleman: Please join ConAd!

Broadbent: My old job is hiring. It's the secretary of the interior and it's native-preferenced.

George: If you got your photo taken at the last orientation Mary is putting those on the website. You can check and see if it's there and if you don't want it to be there please email me.

Landry: I will try to get those committee assignments out soon. Again if you have any issues, please let us know. Don't just switch committees without telling us.

Final Roll Call

Motion to adjourn

Chair Griffin seconded by Representative Reese

Adjourn 8:27

THE UNIVERSITY OF OKLAHOMA STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION

UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT CONGRESS
CONGRESSIONAL SESSION CVIII

August 30th, 2022

GRADUATE STUDENT SENATE
SENATE SESSION GSXX/GFXX
Month DD, YYYY

CONGRESSIONAL BILL CB-108-07
SENATE BILL GSXX-XX/GFXX-XX

AS INTRODUCED

An Act submitting the Fall 2022 Unscheduled Holiday;
providing for short title, providing for legislative intent,
and providing for an effective date.

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

Section 1: Title: This act shall be known and may be cited as the “Red River Holiday Act of 2022.”

Section 2: Purpose: The purpose of this act shall be to officially submit an unscheduled holiday to the University President for approval pursuant to Section 5.15 of the Regents policy manual.

Section 3: The University of Oklahoma Student Government Association officially submits Friday, October 7th as the Fall 2022 Student Holiday.

Section 4: This act shall become effective when passed in accordance with the SGA Constitution.

Author(s): Lacey Lewis, Chair of the Undergraduate Student Congress
Claire Burch, Chair of the Graduate Student Senate
Zack Lissau, President of the Student Government Association
Denzel Akuffo, Vice President of the Student Government Association
Francesca Losh, Chair of Campus Activities Council

Submitted on a Motion by:

Action taken by Congress:

Verified by Chair of Congress: _____ Date: _____

Submitted on a Motion by:

Action taken by Senate

Verified by Chair of Senate: _____ Date: _____

Approved by SGA President: _____ Date: _____

THE UNIVERSITY OF OKLAHOMA STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION

UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT CONGRESS
CONGRESSIONAL SESSION CVIII

August 30, 2022

GRADUATE STUDENT SENATE
SENATE SESSION GFXX/GSXX
Month DD, YYYY

CONGRESSIONAL RESOLUTION CR-108-12
SENATE RESOLUTION NO. GFXX-XX/GSXX-XX

AS INTRODUCED

A Concurrent Resolution honoring the OU Softball team
for winning the 2022 national championship; and
providing for distribution.

- Whereas: The OU Softball team has demonstrated excellence on and off the field; and
- Whereas: The OU Softball team finished the season winning fifty-nine games; and
- Whereas: The OU Softball team defeated Texas twice in the championship series for the Women's College World Series by scores of 16-1 and 10-5; and
- Whereas: The OU Softball team now has a total of six Women's College World Series championships; and
- Whereas: Students across campus gained pride and passion from watching OU Softball; therefore

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE UNIVERSITY OF OKLAHOMA UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT CONGRESS AND THE GRADUATE STUDENT SENATE, CONCURRING THEREIN THAT:

- Section 1:** Title: This resolution shall be known and may be cited as the "Honoring the 2022 OU Softball Team Resolution"
- Section 2:** The University of Oklahoma Student Government Association congratulates the 2022 OU Softball team for winning the national championship and demonstrating excellence.
- Section 3:** Copies of this resolution will be sent to:
- All members of the OU Softball team
 - Patty Gasso
 - Joe Castiglione

Author(s): Shrey Kathuria, University College Representative

Submitted on a motion by:

Action taken by Congress:

Verified by Chair of Congress: _____ Date: _____

Submitted on a motion by:

Action taken by Senate:

Verified by Chair of Senate: _____ Date: _____

Approved by SGA President: _____ Date: _____