

THE UNIVERSITY OF OKLAHOMA STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION



UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT CONGRESS

Session CVIII

General Body Meeting

7:00 pm, Tuesday, September 20th, 2022

Gaylord 2020

Call to Order – 7:04 pm

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

Motion to approve the minutes

Representative Haskins seconded by Representative Reynolds

Officer Reports -

- **Chair's Report:** Good evening, everyone. I first want to thank our nominees and President Lissau for joining us tonight. I also want to say a special thank you to Representative Reynolds for generously providing sandwiches and veggies for everyone! I have a few updates for everyone. The first update is that this past Monday we met with Chris Glenn, the Director of Parking and Transportation Services. For the sake of time, I am not going to go over everything we talked about, but if you are curious, please email me and I will provide you with a document that has all the answers to the questions we asked. Next, we are still in the process of trying to bring a polling site to campus. Next, please, please encourage your peers to file and run for congress! We have a lot of seats open, and we would love to fill them! Additionally, for our new and returning members, I would like to plan a pumpkin carving event outside of Congress meeting times to have time to get to know everyone and each other! Our themed meeting is next week and I cannot wait to see everyone's outfits! Lastly, ask questions to our nominees but please do so in a respectful and kind manner, any questions that are not respectful will not be directed to nominees. Thank you and have a great week!
- **Vice Chair's Report:** Hello. I would like to extend a huge thank you to Representative Reynolds for the food and the hard work you put into it. I also made the PR team – it is Danielle Baca, Rhazann Ghazal, Julianna Donaldson, and Jessica Miller. Instagram sent me an email about who we are reaching and apparently, we are reaching thousands of accounts so thank you for continuing to share our posts. We also have filing going on and we need people to file! So if you are an associate or you know a friend who wants to be in Congress

you should file so that everybody's voices are heard. During the special announcements I will announce Congress Member of the Month. There will also now be snacks at committee meetings so that should be even more of an incentive to show up. Our committee chairs are super excited about snacks. Please fill out the CSP form otherwise you will get an unexcused absence. I know most of y'all have been to an event I just need y'all to fill it out.

- **Secretary's Report:** Last Friday I met with most of the committee secretaries about job duties and minutes taking, and so I just wanted to thank them for coming to that meeting. Tonight, we are seeing an expulsion bill, and the person included in it has officially resigned so I will be looking for a motion to table that bill indefinitely. Otherwise, I have just the regular stuff to say: please let me know if you won't be here with your reasoning why and thanks so much for your commitment!

Committee Reports-

- **Campus Outreach, Safety, and Concerns:** Hey there! COSCO had quorum and met officially this weekend! In meeting we discussed how to improve project assignments and transparency. We also got suggestion box flyers passed out and will continue to hang flyers through the semester, so be on the lookout for those around campus! Finally, we had our first light walk of the semester last night! Thank you so much to everyone that came. I had a great time getting to talk and catch up with each of you, and all the out lights have been submitted to maintenance. Thank you!
- **Congressional Administration:** Hi, friends! This weekend ConAd saw CB-108-10 and CB-108-12 which we gave recommendations of due pass and CB-108-11 which we gave a recommendation of no recommendation. Some exciting news about Municode! The Code Annotated is now up to date in Municode! As well as, the Reapplication form for current members of Congress is reopened. Please let me know if you have any questions about that. Elections filing is also open. If you were an appointed representative in the spring or the fall then you need to file! Code Club will happen during Special Orders. We will be going over the responsibilities of the Superior Court and Election Commissioner.
- **External Affairs:** EA did meet officially, and we welcomed our new members in and fleshed out our subcommittees and leadership positions. We sent some legislation to ConAd. NVRD was a big hit and remember to fill out the CSP form for that
- **Human Diversity:** Sorry I was not able to make it in person today I am sick. HD met officially on Thursday to discuss projects. Goddard has agreed to do a mental health presentation during our general body meeting, so that is in the process of being scheduled. We are trying to reach out to organizations for our trick or treating event.
- **Sustainability:** Susty met officially and we welcomed new members to our committee. We are in the process of planning the October trash walk. We talked about new ideas with members, and we will have a meeting with housing on Friday to talk about the TerraCylce project. We will also be doing something for National Recycling Day in November.
- **University Policy:** UPol didn't meet this week so we didn't get to welcome our new members. The filters in the stadium and Dale are fixed. I will have more for you guys' next week regarding parking and student wages. Thank you.
- **Ways and Means:** WAM did not meet officially. We are looking to change our meeting time to better align with GSS. Remind other orgs to apply for funding so we can give out as much money as possible.

Liaison Reports

- **Houston:** The first SEC meeting will be next Monday from 11am to 12pm in Cate 1 student center so if you know anyone or you yourself would like to come let me know.

- **Lewis:** Oklahoma Votes exec team is out until Friday so if you want to be apart of a nonpartisan nonprofit civic engagement organization this is for you.
- **Kathuria:** Tomorrow OU College Dems is hosting a town hall with Kendra Horn from 6-7:30pm at the OU Student Union Meacham Auditorium. It's a great chance to meet a political candidate.

Special Orders

- Code Club
- Service Point Link
- Congress Member of the Month: Shrey Kathuria

Student Concern Link

Items to Be Considered

- CB-108-09 “Fall 2022 Expulsion Bill” (Landry) (Exec, Rec of No Rec)
Motion to table CB-108-09 indefinitely
Representative Houston seconded by Representative Reese
- CB-108-10 “EA Knows the Bylaws Exist Bill” (Griffin/Chiariello) (ConAd, Rec of Do Pass)
Motion to see CB-108-10
Representative Dodd seconded by Representative Griffin
Author’s Explanation (Chiariello): This updates EA’s definition in the bylaws to include tribal governments within our responsibilities.
2:50 yielded to questions
22-0-0 unanimous pass
- CB-108-11 “Act Appointing the 2022 - 2023 SGA Election Commissioner” (Lissau) (ConAd, Rec of No Rec)
Motion to see CB-108-11
Representative Haskins seconded by Representative Tesfaselassie
Author’s Explanation (Lissau): To those I haven’t been able to meet, thank you all for taking a very important commitment on campus and representing our students. I look forward to working with you in the next few months. Tonight, I present to you the nominee for the SGA Election Commissioner. Our interviews were conducted on September 7th from 7:30pm to 10pm in the Conoco and we looked for certain characteristics. We looked for knowledge of the Code Annotated with an emphasis on election rules, experience, a willingness to learn about the rules, an eagerness to serve the election commission and a desire to the institution. As we are currently in a filing period now more than ever, we are needing you all to do your duty to advise and consent to ensure this process is streamlined and on time. We scored the applicant on a scale of 1 to 5 and via a variety of different ways: the application, résumé, and the interview. We came out with Layni Thompson, who scored exceptionally well on every category. She served as the parliamentarian at her alma mater, OSU, and she is eager to familiarize herself with OU’s code annotated. We also looked at her availability as she is a 1L law student.
0:06 yielded to questions
 - **Halsey-Kraus:** Nominee could you introduce yourself further?
 - **Thompson:** I am a first year law student. Right now, I’m just going to class and figuring things out but I am eager to get involved. I saw the notice that the position was open because I think I could use some of the skills I’m learning at law school to apply to this position and make the process run more smoothly than in the past.

- **Kathuria:** How will you make this year's election run more smoothly than last year's election?
 - **Thompson:** I would offer a lot of time for the candidates to come to me with any concerns they had. I would really offer more of my time and offer it up front.
- **Dodd:** What did you do at OSU in your role?
 - **Thompson:** I kept order in meetings and made sure the bylaws were met at all times.
- **Trautman:** Do you feel like you have high levels communications skills needed to get back to candidates quickly?
 - **Thompson:** Yes.
- **Griffin:** Have you thought about how you will pick your election commission staff?
 - **Thompson:** Yes, because I would need to do it soon. I don't know how to go about that doing that but I know some people have already applied and I would take anyone's advice on that.
- **Kathuria:** Have you had the chance to study some of the election laws in the SGA code annotated?
 - **Thompson:** Yes.
- **Kathuria:** How do you plan on enforcing the rules?
 - **Thompson:** I would hold candidates meetings and always make myself available before people to anything wrong.

22-0-0 unanimous pass

- CB-108-12 "SGA Superior Court Appointment Act of Fall 2022" (Lissau) (ConAd, Rec of Do Pass)

Motion to see CB-108-12

Representative Griffin seconded by Representative Stoyak

Author's Explanation (Lissau): Tonight we are looking at another very important appointment bill which is that for Superior Court Justices. There was a very rigorous process completed that involved myself, Nick Hazelrigg of the SGA General Counsel, and Chair Lewis. GSS Chair Burch could not be there but she was gracious to let us move forward. We also had Chief Justice Kelley Talbot as a non-voting member there out of the code. I will let each nominee introduce themselves.

Powers: Hello my name is Angela Powers, my pronouns are she/her, and I am a third year law student here. My interests are constitutional law and I applied for this position because I would like to expand my network outside of the law school since we were very isolated during covid.

South: Hey y'all I'm Crispin South, he/him, and most of you guys know me as I used to be chair over here. I am a senior international security studies major and I applied here because I felt like there was still more I could do to serve SGA and this would be a good use of my time and skills.

Howell: Hello I'm Renner Howell, he/him, and I am a senior political science major. I applied for this position because in addition to the networking, I like what the SGA does at the service it provides for the student body as a whole. I would like the opportunity to ensure that everything is working fairly and justly.

Sartillo: My name is Erick, and I'm a second year law student. I signed up for this position because I feel indebted to OU ever since I was a kid rooting for the Sooners. It's important

to me to lead a life of service and what better way to emulate that by serving the student body here at the university.

0:26 yielded to questions

- **Griffin:** What experiences do you have that will serve you in this role?
 - **Powers:** I was a judge for moot court at the College of Law where we had first year students present their arguments and we had to analyze both sides and compare that to holdings of actual supreme court cases.
 - **South:** I was chair of Congress, and also this summer I served as a legal intern for the Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma. Being able to serve my tribe was fun and I got to do a lot of research and help them figure out a lot of weird legal questions.
 - **Howell:** I don't have SGA specific experience but I have been a part of a different statewide mock government association and I was on the supreme court of that organization. In addition to judging a mock trial competition we had the opportunity to hear some cases including an election violation case.
 - **Sartillo:** At my undergraduate institution I was a part of the judicial board for the Inter Fraternity Council, so we heard academic and social misconduct cases. As governing president, I was responsible for adjudicating those violations of our bylaws.
- **Kathuria:** Have you had a chance to review previous OU Superior Court rulings?
 - **Powers:** I had a chance to look over them but seeing as this is more of a judiciary position as opposed to a litigation position, I believe that when the time comes legal research is an integral part of any judiciary process so we will comb through those decisions and apply them to the specific facts of the cases at that time.
 - **South:** I echo everything that was just said with the caveat that SGA law tends to change quite a bit from election to election so some of the older holdings of the Superior Court may not be valid anymore.
 - **Howell:** I agree with both of them. I have had the opportunity to read cases from last year and skim over some of the older ones and if they become relevant, we will do our due diligence to make sure we understand them.
 - **Sartillo:** I agree with them, but I do concede the point of the strength that oral advocacy has in decisions. So while case law may be relevant, a compelling argument will still hold some weight.
- **Trautman:** Did you coordinate your outfits or were you forced to?
 - This was entirely by coincidence.
- **Halsey-Kraus:** Nominee South could you please rank the governing documents?
 - **South:** In order of precedence, the constitution along with University policy and the real law, then the SGA Code annotated, and then finally the bylaws of Congress or the Senate if applicable.
- **Kathuria:** When you make future rulings how important is previous precedent?
 - **South:** SGA law tends to change quite a bit between case to case and really the most precedent we have seems to be with elections as that's what gets adjudicated the most. So to the extent that there is available law we will certainly give that due weight.

Motion to extend time for questions by 5 minutes

Representative Ghazal seconded by Representative Reynolds

- **Howell:** Judicial precedent is second only to the constitution itself so if the precedent exists and does not violate the governing documents than yes we would take it into account
- **Powers:** I agree. Precedential value is imperative in the judiciary process. We synthesize precedent and the constitution when we render an opinion.
- **Sartillo:** I agree.
- **Dodd:** Nominee Erick, did you want to be on the Superior Court before SB elections last spring?
 - **Sartillo:** I did run but really, I wanted to get my feet wet. I was curious about the election case from last year. I didn't have a very active campaign since it was my second semester of law school, and I was in the weeds of all of that. Two of the candidates that were running had way more experience in the college of law. When I saw the Superior Court, it gave me a better chance to understand how to use my strengths.
- **Kathuria:** How important is it that the OU Superior Court has law students?
 - **Lissau:** It's imperative because we need students how are both experience and have a desire for experience in the legal field.

22-0-0 unanimous pass

Follow-Up Reports

- **Kathuria:** The "Honoring the 2022 OU Women's Gymnastics Team" bill passed in the GSS last Thursday unanimously and will be signed by president Lissau later this week.

Items for Future Agenda

Announcements and Comments

- **Griffin:** This Saturday morning is the OU aviation festival from 9am to 2pm. There will be lots of cool planes and you don't need to be a pilot. There will be planes flying such as T6 Texans. One guy has an old Czechoslovakian fighter jet. It's free and at Norman's Westheimer airport.
- **Haskins:** The Visitor Center this month will be starting ghosts' tours. They are all volunteer and any tips are a donation to the Boys and Girls Club of Norman. The first one I think is the Tuesday before OU/TX.
- **Baca:** Alpha Gam is having its Java Jam philanthropy event next Wednesday on October 5th so if you like coffee or pastries please come to myself of Amelia to buy a ticket. Also Global Brigades applications for normal brigaders is open and the link is on the link tree in @gboklahoma's Instagram bio.
- **Lewis:** Thank you to all of you for being here and I'm proud of how the body interacted with nominees and I hope you have a great week.
- **Kathuria:** It's so humbling to be your Congress Member of the Month. Thank you to the exec team for pushing me and all my colleagues for making me who I am. Without y'all I'm not Shrey and it's important to me to give credit to all of you. I love y'all.
- **Lewis:** The sweatshirt and t-shirt won the poll.
- **George:** Election filing is open!

Final Roll Call

Motion to adjourn

Representative Dodd seconded by Representative Reynolds

Adjourn - 8:09 pm

THE UNIVERSITY OF OKLAHOMA STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION

UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT CONGRESS
CONGRESSIONAL SESSION CVIII
September 27th, 2022

CONGRESSIONAL BILL CB-108-09

AS INTRODUCED

A Congressional Act of Procedure Expelling
Representatives from the body; providing short title;
and providing an effective date.

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

Section 1: Title: This act shall be known and may be cited as the “Fall 2022 Expulsion Bill.”

Section 2: Purpose: The purpose of this act shall be to expel members for excessive unexcused absences. Because Michael Williams has accrued excessive unexcused absences, the membership of the aforementioned is pending expulsion.

Section 3: In accordance with the Section 3.4, subsection 2, subsection e of the SGA Undergraduate Student Congress Bylaws, “*Upon accruing a fourth absence, the Student Congress Secretary shall prepare an act of procedure to expel any member or committee officer who has accrued excessive unexcused absences.*”

Expulsion: Representative Michael Williams

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

Author(s): Amelia Landry, Secretary of the Undergraduate Student Congress

Submitted on a Motion by:

Action taken by Congress

Verified by Chair: _____ Date: _____

THE UNIVERSITY OF OKLAHOMA STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION

UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT CONGRESS

CONGRESSIONAL SESSION 108

September 27th, 2022

CONGRESSIONAL BILL CB-108-10

AS INTRODUCED

An Act of Procedure adding to the External Affairs Committee's responsibilities; providing for short title, providing for codification, and providing for 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 "EA Knows the Bylaws Exist Bill."

Section 2: The purpose of this act shall be to add interactions with tribal governments to the responsibilities of the External Affairs Committee.

Section 3: AMENDATORY: The University of Oklahoma Undergraduate Student Congress' Bylaws Section 6.1, subsection 2 is amended as follows. For the purposes of this bill, all items added shall be denoted with an underline and all items removed will be denoted with a ~~striketrough~~:

a. COMMITTEE PURPOSE The External Affairs Committee shall address issues concerning local, state, tribal, and federal ~~levels of~~ governments. The Committee shall strive to improve the relationship of SGA and of the University with ~~the city and state~~ all governments it interacts with.

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

Author(s): Weslie Griffin, Chair of the External Affairs Committee
Clayton Chiariello, University College Representative

Co-Author(s):

Co-Sponsor(s):

Submitted on a Motion by: Representative Dodd seconded by Representative Griffin

Action taken by Congress: 22-0-0 Unanimous Pass

Verified by Chair of Congress: _____ Date: _____

THE UNIVERSITY OF OKLAHOMA STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION

UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT CONGRESS
CONGRESSIONAL SESSION CVIII
September 27th, 2022

GRADUATE STUDENT SENATE
SENATE SESSION GF22
September XX, 2022

CONGRESSIONAL BILL CB-108-11
SENATE BILL GFXX-XX

AS INTRODUCED

An Act of Legislation appointing the 2022- 2023 SGA
Election Commissioner; providing short title; and
providing an effective date.

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

Section 1: Title: This act shall be known and may be cited as the “Act Appointing the 2022 - 2023 SGA Election Commissioner.”

Section 2: Purpose: The purpose of this act shall be to appoint the 2022 - 2023 Election Commissioner.

Section 3: In accordance with Title IV, Chapter 6, Section 25, which delineates the appointment process for the chair position, the following student shall thus be appointed:

- Layni Thompson

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

Author(s): Zack Lissau, SGA President
Denzel Akuffo, SGA Vice President
Lauren Roberts, SGA Chief of Staff

Co-Author(s):

Co-Sponsor(s):

Submitted on a Motion by: Representative Haskins seconded by Representative Tesfaselassie
Action taken by Congress: 22-0-0 Unanimous Pass

Verified by Chair: _____ 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
September 27th, 2022

GRADUATE STUDENT SENATE
SENATE SESSION GF22
Month DD, YYYY

CONGRESSIONAL BILL CB-108-12
SENATE BILL GF22-XX

AS INTRODUCED

An Act of legislation appointing SGA Superior Court members; providing for short title, providing for codification, 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 “SGA Superior Court Appointment Act of Fall 2022.”
- Section 2:** Purpose: The purpose of this act shall be to fill vacancy and appoint student body members to the SGA Superior Court.
- Section 3:** In accordance with Title IV, Chapter 2, Section 7b, which outlines the appointment process for students on the court, the following student shall thus be appointed:
- Angela Powers
 - Renner Howell
 - Crispin South
 - Erick Morales Sartillo
- Section 4:** This act shall become effective when passed in accordance with the SGA Constitution.

Author(s): Zack Lissau, SGA President
Lacey Lewis, Chair of the Undergraduate Student Congress
Nick Hazelrigg, SGA General Counsel

Co-Author(s): Kelley Talbot, Superior Court Chief Justice

Co-Sponsor(s): Denzel Akuffo, SGA Vice President
Lauren Roberts, SGA Chief of Staff

Submitted on a Motion by: Representative Griffin seconded by Representative Stoyak

Action taken by Congress: 22-0-0 Unanimous Pass

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: _____