

# THE UNIVERSITY OF OKLAHOMA STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION



## UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT CONGRESS

Session CIX

General Body Meeting

7:00 pm, Tuesday, April 25th, 2023

Dale 103

**Call to Order - 7:05 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 Rhoads seconded by Representative Duncan*

**Officer Reports -**

- **Chair's Report:** Good evening, everyone, and congratulations on making it to your last meeting of session 109! Tonight, we have a loaded agenda, I hope you will stay with us. I do want to let you know that I have been in contact with the faculty staff senate, and they will be introducing the language be a recommended source on the syllabi for the food pantry. After that we will be going to the provost to continue that project and from there, we will be seeing through with our general counsel stuff with COSCO. If there's anything you need from me during dead and finals week, I am here for you!
- **Vice Chair's Report:** Hello everyone! First off please take a printed booklet, they look amazing and such a vital tool to your time here! Next, this is my last meeting, so I prepared a speech! Here it goes. Hello everyone, if you are not aware I am not rerunning for my role as Vice chair and will be stepping away from congress this upcoming year, therefore this is my last congress meeting in my college career. When preparing this little speech and thinking about tonight, I was feeling incredibly sad and sentimental. I have been a part of this congressional body since my freshman year, and I am not sure what I will do with all my free time on Tuesday and Sunday nights. I want to say thank you to the people in this room who have seen and helped me grow since the beginning of my time here and thank you to those who may have just joined my journey but impacted me still. I also want to say a huge thank you to the exec team, for being my little family this last year during my time here, I will miss you guys and all of our time we spent together this past year. To everyone in this room who has become a close friend to me, you know who you are, thank you for being people I hope to have as forever friends and for always supporting and loving me, I have appreciated and

appreciate you more than you know. Thank you, George, for everything you do, for me and this body. And lastly, just reflecting on my time here in this body I am so thankful for the opportunity to have served basically every role in this body, learn how to finally write legislation, and the chance to have experienced having a safe space to grow and become a stronger leader and just a better human. This is something I hope all of you will get to experience during your time in congress. The last thing I am going to leave you all with today is just a bit of advice, since I am now considered old and experienced in this body. Don't waste your time in this body on silly arguments, frustrating people, or the small details that won't matter. This body is full of strong personalities and strong leaders, and that inevitably leads to arguments, and frustrations but don't waste your time. Standing up here, I am now realizing your time here will go by so quickly you will wish you would have moved on and kept your focus on why you are here. Each of us joined this body for a different reason and each strives to accomplish different things. So do them. During your time in this body make your goals happen and focus on why you are here and what made you first want to join congress. You are here to represent the OU student body and you should actively work to make our campus a better place, and fight for those who need your voice to represent them. I am so blessed to have served as an associate, a representative, the COSCO committee chair, and now the Vice Chair of this body. I hope you all know I love you and you all have a special place in my heart, and even though I will not be in the body this upcoming year I will always be around if you need me and I am only a call or a text away. Thank you.

- **Secretary's Report:** Hello everyone! Welcome to our last meeting of the session. I wanted to start off by thanking you all for your commitment this semester and for making this experience really enjoyable. To our seniors, thank you for laying the foundations for us. Your future is bright! This is also my last ever meeting as Congress Secretary and I will forever be grateful for this opportunity. Regardless of what my future role in SGA is, I will remember this year as one of growth and love. Now for my actual updates – if you are newly elected you should have received an invitation to join our Engage page. Please accept that if you haven't yet! I am also missing committee preferences from 2 of you so if you don't remember filling out a form, check your email! If you are presenting tonight and have a pre-written script, whether its for your senior speech, election, a bill, or even a liaison report, I would highly appreciate it if you emailed me those. It will make minutes taking for our new secretary just that much easier. Also, there are snacks up here at the front, please feel free to take some! Other than that, let's get this show on the road!

#### **Committee Reports-**

- **Campus Outreach, Safety, and Concerns:** COSCO met unofficially this weekend since we didn't have quorum, but I had a really great talk with Syed. The 30<sup>th</sup> of this month (Sunday) we will have a light walk at 8:15pm so if anyone still needs a CSP stop on by. Outside of the meeting, I would be remiss not to say what a fantastic job Bailey has done. Bailey joined Congress a semester after I did. Starting off in COSCO the body was disengaged, and everything was kind of promised to me. I remember when chair applications opened and I saw Bailey interview I thought, "Who is this jerk coming to take chair from me?". I did not get the chair position, nor did I deserve it. Bailey as chair made me realize that this was the person we needed for our committee. She brought joy, care, and comfort to a committee that was sorely lacking it. I am so proud and thankful that she was able to go on and be Vice Chair and set an attitude for the whole body that is always kind and caring. Please never stop doing that. I can think of no one better to be the director of the food pantry or to go into the field of medicine, even if you're taking care of their feet.

- **Congressional Administration:** ConAd did meet officially and we saw two appointment bills. They are great appointees so looking forward to seeing those tonight. I have only been here for two semesters but I have really appreciated working with all three of our exec team so thank you.
- **External Affairs:** EA met officially this weekend and saw two bills, a gun safety resolution and a Cherokee nation delegate support resolution. We gave both a recommendation of Do Pass and will be seeing them tonight. If anyone would like to co-sponsor either of them let me know. Bailey, I barely knew who you were until one fateful night when we had a meeting on zoom that went to nearly midnight debating an appointment bill. We started it out and I wasn't going to debate but I heard Bailey talk and I knew this girl was amazing and I had to get on her side. Since then she's been a strong force and this body while simultaneously being kind. I am going to miss cramming into my tiny apartment and playing games. I really appreciate you.
- **Human Diversity:** HD met on Thursday for our last meeting. Please donate to our drive. If you are interested in being HD chair reach out to me. To Bailey, you have supported me since the beginning and you know I love you. She helps me with everything and is my go-to so I don't know what I am going to do without you. I am so happy for you and I will join the food pantry for you.
- **Sustainability:** Hi I'm sick so I will keep it short. We had our trash walk on Sunday and if you weren't there, why not? It was fun – we got lost in the woods. We also tabled with Green Week on Friday. Thanks to those who said hi. To Bailey, I love you and respect you so much. I want to thank you for the endless support you have given me and the entire body.
- **University Policy:** UPol met officially this past Wednesday. We will see Representative Reynolds bill tonight which I am excited for you all to see. To Bailey, she has set precedent for whoever will come after her. She has taught me about myself and I will miss her and I love you so much. There will be a missing part in this body when you aren't here next year. I really respect you.
- **Ways and Means:** We are going to see primary tonight, and Bailey, you're cool.

### **Liaison Reports**

- **Trautman:** The Food Pantry general team applications are open. They will be open until May 21<sup>st</sup>. If you have ever volunteered with us, heard about us, or even if this is your first time hearing about us but you're interested, please apply. We would love to have you and if you care about caring for other people it's the perfect place for you. That link is in the GroupMe.

### **Special Orders**

- Senior Speeches
  - **South:** I have one thing written down on this paper. Last year I gave my actual senior speech and a whole goodbye address at the state of the SGA when I left my role as Congress Chair. The thing I have here on this sheet of paper is 7 words: SGA is what you make of it. Congress is what you make of it. This entire experience is probably the most localized and close to you version of government of the people, by the people, and for the people. While you're here you will hear SGA called a whole number of things: fake government, the retired speech and debate kid's club, the retired theatre kid's club. SGA can be all of those things and certainly has been from time to time. But what I want to talk about is not so much the things I have seen SGA be in the past but the potential I see for SGA in the future. This is an

organization that, once you start looking at the things it is empowered to do on campus, can really make a lot of difference. By the SGA constitution, Congress can create campus-wide student rules and regulations. That's something the Regents signed off on! That is an immense power. You can make rules and you can establish organizations that affect the daily lives of your peers. You can advocate for things you think are wrong and try to get policies changed. That's not something SGA has direct power over but you can certainly yell about it until people start listening. While I was in Congress that was something I tried to do. A lot of times it happens behind the scenes. Everyone here was elected or appointed with the purpose of serving your peers and talking about the things that they think need to be talked about. There were certainly times in Congress where I saw legislation that really didn't do a whole lot that was reflective of the individual proclivities of any Congress member who wanted to roast someone else in SGA or some department at OU. There is a time and place for roasting people who need to be roasted, however if that is not something that is productive to making people's lives better on campus, all you are doing is waste a few minutes in the Undergraduate Student Congress. That makes people not take us seriously, when we see bills built on the backs of petty grievances. What SGA *can* be is an extremely powerful force for good. When I first started, during my interview to be appointed to an engineering representative seat (back when I was still an engineering major) one thing I said I wanted to fix on campus was parking. Literally everybody in the interview room rolled their eyes and laughed. Parking is one of those things that people had tried and tried, throwing bricks at the problem until they got tired of throwing bricks. A couple sessions into being in Congress, I decided it was the time to try a parking project and so I emailed Chris Glenn and I said there was an issue on campus where people were being tickets for having a commuter pass and parking in a housing spot of winter and summer break. Within 15 minutes of me sending that email it was resolved. The only reason that happened was because I as an SGA representative was put there by my peers, and I had a platform. It got me taken more seriously. It was a minor change, and then, in my last semester as Congress Chair, we got the "Donations for Citations" act passed. That's the kind of thing SGA is empowered to do and makes people want to be a part of this body. My charge to all of you today is to introduce productive legislation. Introduce legislation that takes advantage of the power entrusted to us by the institution and use that power to make your peer's lives better. Don't use this power to come after your peers like you're playing House of Cards in Dale Hall. I've seen it happen and it makes everyone sad. The saying is with great power comes great responsibility. You all have been given great power. Use it responsibly. Thanks.

- **Broadbent:** Hi friends. A lot of you know me but most of you don't. My name is Taylor Broadbent. I am a senior letters major and I served in this body for 3 years. I want to tell you all about my time in SGA and then tell you all a little bit of an inspiring story. I interviewed on Labor Day in fall 2019, pre-pandemic. When Julio, who has long since migrated somewhere, found me wandering outside of the Union looking desperately for where the Conoco was. I was a little freshman, having only been on campus for 2 weeks, and I was so eager to be in the Student Government Association because I was going to be President of the Student Government Association (that didn't happen). I interviewed with some of the people that really inspired me to be a great leader. Savannah Patterson, who eventually became chair, Malachi Bouch who was the ConAd chair for a long time and Vice Chair. Kaitlyn

Schnider, who has since become a really big mentor to me. I immediately got really involved in my committee. There is no greater pride than I take in being from the External Affairs committee, which I helped build. I was so involved that on National Voter Registration Day, I stood out there for 8 hours registering voters, and I did for every semester after that. I got really involved with the SGA election my freshman year. It was a dream team if you guys know Zach, Jayke, Braden Love, or Angelora Castellano. Imagine if we all worked together again! We helped get Justin Norris and Dalton Gau get elected. Dalton was the chair of my committee and after he got elected he walked up to me and said, "Hey, you're going to be the EA chair". I had been in student government for 8 weeks. I got to meet some of the people who became my best friends that semester. Nate Buxton, who is working at the White House right now as we speak. My best friend Jori Cowley who is going to be at Tulsa Service next year also served as a justice. And my very best friend Angelora Castellano, who has been my roommate since freshman year. I had a really hard freshman year. My best friend died that December, and I was a wreck. I had just stepped up to be committee chair and I was struggling. I was really depressed, angry all the time, and I generally remember hating my freshman year. That was also when the pandemic happened. Before that I did have my first higher ed day, which was probably not the best we ever had but I tried really hard. I served as EA chair for 4 semesters before stepping down and letting Jayke take over the role. Jayke whose smile and charisma can light up any room. Jayke who has been a growing leader over the past 4 years. Lacey Lewis who you guys know as a Congress Chair but was my secretary. Lacey leads with a smile and kindness and something I've always looked up to her in is how she can see the good in things even when I cannot. Finally, Weslie, whose humor and passion lights my every day, and who, despite not inviting me to his wedding, I still love. My best memories of Congress before the pandemic include watching Fox news in the lounge as loud as possible because I thought it was funny (Fox news does not align with my politics). That spring semester my friend Foster and I would Zoom for several hours a day throughout the pandemic, and he was one of the few good things in a dark time in my life. As a committee chair, I advocated for Indigenous rights, women's rights, increased voter registration on campus by registering thousands. I advocated for a voting holiday which I hope you all keep in mind. I built our relationship with our city council, and I wrote our first Cherokee delegate support bill in fall 2019 so I am glad Clayton is bringing it back. I want to leave you all with this before I give some specific thank you's I had an awful freshman year. I had a bad sophomore year too; my GPA was not good and I had to step up and turn it around. The only way I could do that was by reaching out to my friends I made in SGA and across campus and going and getting professional help. I did turn it around because I was a Rhodes finalist this year, I am a Udall Scholar, and I just won a Fulbright scholarship. I am getting my masters in public policy with a focus on indigenous knowledge systems at the University of Melbourne in Australia. I am so excited to learn to do good work for communities. There is nothing that has benefitted me more than being EA chair and learning how to plan events and work with people I didn't like. I used all of that when I got to plan the White House Tribal Nations Summit last fall. I got to work with the President of the United States and represent him to 435 tribal nations who visited D.C. That is the work that is possible from people that come out of this body. You all are the next Rhodes scholar, the next Fulbright scholar. You all are the next White House Aide. I mean think about it,

if Nate Buxton can get a job at the White House, you can too. But I really want to leave you all with this. Be kind to each other. I wasn't always the best at it, but I think you should always try to find the good in people. I am working to do that too. I want to give out some shoutouts really quick. To the EA committee that walked in late, hi. Weslie, I am so proud of you. You're one of my last babies I got to raise and I love my EA committee with all of my heart. I am so proud of the work you have done. Lacey and Jayke aren't here but they've also gotten tearful remarks before. Crispin, you were one of my first friends in Congress. I remember the day we were all sworn in, I found a picture with me, Zach Lissau, Jayke Flaggert, Crispin, and Foster in this photo. Thank you for being kind to me even when I didn't deserve it. I really appreciate that you've always been in my corner. Amelia, Abby, Bailey, I love you all. Abby, I remember when you were just a little freshman following Foster around on the toe of his boot (you too Eileah and Coy). You all have grown into such great people, and I am so excited to see the things you do. Amelia, my little OIL baby, I love you so much and I am so proud of everything you've done. I am proud of the leader you are growing up to be and I hope you continue to be that leader. My other little OIL babies – Jacob, Hope, Maddy, Anna, Tabitha – do good work, but be kind to yourselves. Life is stressful. I love you all, and I am rooting for each of you to do great things. If I can ever be of help, reach out.

- **Reese:** I stand here in front of a lot of familiar and unfamiliar faces and it brings me back to when I came into congress for my first term. Even though I saw a lot of unfamiliar faces, I saw a lot of familiarity between the bright eyes of people who want to serve their peers. Throughout my time I found best friends and the pure of heart. Bailey Trautman, Crispin South, Caitlyn Harman, Carolyn Berggren, and Hudson Haskins to name a few. They made Congress my home and allowed me to flourish throughout my last few years here. I little word of wisdom to the new folks. Find your Bailey, find your Crispin, find your Caitlyn, Carolyn, and Hudson. Make SGA your passion.
- **Papahronis:** I've been in SGA for 3 years. Make SGA what you want it to be. You can definitely do a lot and be as engaged as you want. If that's something you can take to heart, it's that everyone's different. Don't see someone who is putting in a lot of effort and work and be overwhelmed and think, "How am I ever going to match up with that?" Just do it your own way and you'll be fine.

- Committee of the Whole

*Motion to enter committee of the whole*

*Representative Kathuria seconded by Representative Glasscock*

- CR-109-07 "Thanking First Responders Resolution." (Rhoads)

*Motion to see CR-109-07*

*Representative Reynolds seconded by Representative Dunn*

Author's Explanation (Rhoads): I cannot take the full credit for this bill. Weslie helped me out a lot with the language. Basically, this thanks the first responders from the swatting incident that occurred. It was very scary to us, and it makes me feel better knowing that while we can't stop these things from happening there are people in our corner.

2:28 yielded to questions

- **Kathuria:** How do you think this bill would further improve our relationship with OUPD?

- Making sure we recognize the good things they've done is helping ensure they continue to work for and with us in the future.
- **Kathuria:** How do you think having a good relationship with OUPD will help us with projects regarding campus safety?
  - If OUPD is respectful of us and we are respectful of them, given that is their duty to protect students, it would help them be in our corner. When things like the guy with the sign came they might be more responsive.
- **Cantrell:** Is there a reason you chose not to include the Chief of the Moore Police Department?
  - There is not, if you'd like to make I friendly amendment I'd agree.
- **Griffin:** Author would you accept a friendly amendment to add me as a co-author?
- **Kathuria:** Author would you accept a friendly amendment sending a copy of this resolution to the Norman and Moore police departments?
  - We already have the chief of the Norman police department and we only included chiefs because it is easier for Mary to send out. If you want to add the chief of the Moore police department please feel free.
- **Cantrell:** Would you accept a friendly amendment to section four adding Todd Gibson, Chief of Police of The Moore Police Department?
  - Yes.
- **Haskins:** Would you accept a friendly amendment adding me as a co-sponsor?
  - Yes I would.
- **Keupen:** Would you accept a friendly amendment sending a copy to Colonel Patrick Mays, Chief of the Oklahoma Highway Patrol?
  - Yes.

*Motion to give CR-109-07 a Rec of Do Pass*

*Associate Griffin seconded by Representative Duncan*

*Motion to exit committee of the whole*

*Representative Dunn seconded by Representative Wilson*

- Elections

- Chair

- Shrey Kathuria

**Reynolds:** I am here on behalf of Shrey Kathuria. Everyone knows him. He is running on the W.I.N. platform. The W is for welcoming community, by having town halls and things like that. I is for igniting change, and not just in Congress but in the whole student body. N is for notifying you. He wants to notify you by all means and be more engaged with all students. I nominated him because I feel he is very known and well versed in everything that happens in Congress. He has brought and passed several bills.

**Kathuria:** Hello everybody. I am so glad everyone was able to make it out tonight. I wanted to start off first by thanking my constituents for helping me get to where I am today. Because of you I have become a better representative. I thank Representative Reynolds for the speech he gave and I want to thirdly give everyone in this room a thank you, especially our new members. All of you are

coming in here with heart and passion. I am impressed with each one of you and love you so much. Before I talk about my platform I want to send my condolences to the victims affected by the shooting at Rose State College. I had conversation with representative Glasscock yesterday about trying to improve the safety of everyone on campus. Whether that means improving our laws about gun safety and or making a security system for our buildings. Your life matters. For the first point, welcoming community, I want to begin a big-little program. I want to bring this from Greek life because it is fundamentally important that these new members have a mentor they can look up to. Those big-little pairs build lifelong relationships. I also want to implement a shadowing program that allows people to observe what we are doing. I want to do retreats and I want to make sure we are bonding together, and continue doing member of the month, snacks, and all that fun stuff. For igniting change, there are a lot of issues that come personal to me whether that be the shortage of academic advisors, lack of affordability of textbooks, lack of accessibility on ClassNav, and issues regarding student with drug addictions. I want to be a Public Health guy who goes out there and works to fix the problems facing OU students. I want to collaborate with you. I want to help Women's Health Advocacy. I want to make sure our LGBTQIA+ students are being protected. I have relationships with Representatives Jacob Rosencrantz and Jared Deck. To improve our member retention, I want to expand the time students have for election filing because I think 5 days is far too short. People need to have more time to question if they want to commit themselves to serving their constituents. For notifying you, transparency will be the utmost priority. I will commit to not serving in any executive positions in other organizations to prevent conflicts of interest. I also want to be accessible to everyone for to come, including outside students. I will use the congress Instagram to notify people of my office hours and I will notify associates when a representative seat opens up so we can have more people. I will be honest and develop relationships with the OU Daily and Nightly so everyone can hear us. I also want to see the ConAd chair have office hours. Lastly, this is what matters the most, vote what your heart tells you to. Vote for who you think can make this body the place you want to see. Vote for the person who will help you W.I.N. Vote for the person who will be inclusive and kind. We are at the goal line and you want to punch it in. Vote your heart baby.

- Abby Halsey-Kraus

**Strickland:** Good evening members of Congress. I am here today, after my submitted nomination, to recommend that the Undergraduate Congress re-elect Abby Halsey-Kraus to serve a full term as the Chairwoman of this Undergraduate Student Congress. Since abruptly taking the helm in February, she has provided this body steadfast leadership and knowledge that we need. This is not the only position where she has shown these traits. As a former Crimson Leadership Association co-chair, she helped mentor goal-orientated first year students who have gone on to achieve great things – such as leaders in CAC, multicultural organizations, academic departments, and of course SGA itself. As ConAd Chair, she organized the governing documents into a more accessible form and gained fluent understanding about the parliamentary procedures that allows this very body to operate. However, I personally believe Abby is the best



choice for the job not necessarily because of her past but because of the present, the now. As I am completing my first year at college and seven hours away from home, I have begun to start contemplating about what my future looks like – at this University and in this government. Yesterday, she gave me one piece of advice. It was to trust my gut. That is the ultimate decider on whether something is wrong or right. Whether you want to do something or not. I trusted my gut to get to where I am. However, she has trusted her gut more. She knew that Congress was what she wanted to do, and that is why she is here today. She believes in this Congress to speak for what the students at this University want. She believes in collaboration with other branches. She believes in this Congress. She believes in this Government. That is why I nominated Abby Halsey-Kraus for re-election and that is why I encourage you all to join me in voting for her to be the next chairwoman of the Undergraduate Student Congress.

**Halsey-Kraus:** Two and a half months ago today, I stood in this very spot. We found ourselves at a stepping-stone. I asked you a simple question: will you move forward together with me? The body said yes. I now stand before you asking to continue that move forward. First, I would like to thank Representative Strickland for his kind words and vote of confidence. I feel honored to stand before you all once again asking you to continue this journey with me. As many of you know, my term as Chair has been unconventional. Taking over in the middle of the semester brought many challenges with it. The newfound responsibilities combined with the promises I made you all in February, have not been an easy feat to accomplish. In the past 10 weeks, I've delivered on a few promises, but we still have work to do. We tackled membership by increasing membership numbers by filling some empty seats. We hosted our first workshop night. We will continue to build on the progress made with membership. We've also made progress in other areas of the platform. We encouraged other members of the body by making my office a place to draft and write meaningful legislation. We supported Committee Chair initiatives, as seen by our jam-packed agenda. We started to take on systemic voting issues within the student body. Signs have been printed, and policies have been developed. The next steps are to implement these strategies to increase voter turnout in upcoming elections. Next semester, I will continue to move these issues forward. I will also cultivate opportunities within the body. Plans are in place to bring back the Congress newsletter and host town hall meetings for students to voice concerns and connect with their representatives. As you can see, we moved forward, but there is more to be done. My vision for Congress is in progress, but I need your help to continue to move forward together. I stand here asking for your vote to follow through on the progress we made. We will move forward on our journey together, as a body that fights for the OU community and cheers on the success of others.

Questions:

- **Haskins:** What do you see as the hardest part of being chair?
  - **Halsey-Kraus:** There was a lot that I didn't expect when taking on this role. For example, I did not expect to be reached out to by the OU Daily so much and to sit in on so many meetings. The hardest

part was getting accustomed to that and accepting those new roles I had.

- **Kathuria:** Some of the challenges I see is keeping everyone together and united, and making sure this body is a healthy place for people to express their views and opinions. Something I want to do as Congress chair is for people to vote their conscience. I want to create an environment where you can think for yourself. I think also right now we are having problems with membership. For example, the physical sciences district does not have a representative and that to me is tragic. Part of the role of the chair is to expand congress and to be inclusive. To make sure folks feel at home and are a part of my family.
- **Mullins:** We do have vacant seats in our body right now. How do you guys plan to get people into our seats?
  - **Kathuria:** Something I included in my platform was making sure that the ConAd chair is required to have office hours during the Gen App and election filing period. It's important for someone who has such a big role in the application process to be accessible to the general public. Also making all of our members more accessible will make it easier for people to find out how we work. We need to be contacting department deans and chairs because its important that people from all academic interests are being represented. As someone who is a community health major it is important to have more students like me and its important to serve not just poli-sci students.
  - **Halsey-Kraus:** I do want to reach out to the deans of academic colleges, and I actually did that this past filing semester. I wish I had done it sooner in hindsight. I did receive a few responses and some sent out information. That helped a bit specifically in the finance and accounting district. As well as tabling during filing days. Tabling, tabling, tabling! I can't see it enough. We have to take the work of reaching out to people to get them to file.
- **Griffin:** What makes you unique as a candidate?
  - **Halsey-Kraus:** The experience I have makes me unique. I haven't just held one position within the body, I've had multiple.
  - **Kathuria:** The reason why politics and medicine both bring me a lot of passion is because of the opportunity to serve others. One of the greatest joys of my life is when I get to help somebody out. For example, when I help my friends out with chemistry homework, it brings a smile to my face knowing I can make their day better. I really believe that when I hopefully go to medical school, I will create smiles on other people's faces. Being able to serve is my passion which is why I am involved in other organizations like being Vice President of OU College Dems and working with AMWHO and multicultural events.
- **Aslam:** Freshman that get elected to the University College district in the Spring semester end up representing a district that they aren't a part of for a whole year. Do you plan on fixing this and if so, how?

- **Kathuria:** I personally was elected in the spring in the University College district so I would not support changing that because it's important all representatives have the chance to serve out their full terms. This body has had trouble meeting quorum at times and we would be doing ourselves a disservice if those spring elected UCol representatives are unable to represent their constituents.
- **Kalsey-Kraus:** I wouldn't be against moving it partially because I do agree with those concerns. Part of that issue is how we could fix that. Maybe we introduce half seats so that they would only serve until the fall election, but it would be about convincing people to do that. We run into the issue of being able to fill seats and I like that having it in the spring gives more first-year students the opportunity to run in those districts. It is something we have to look more into.

***Motion to extend time for questions for 10 minutes***

***Representative Mullins seconded by Representative Reynolds***

- **Cantrell:** One of the key roles of the chair is being unbiased in selecting what legislation gets put on the agenda. How will you keep personal thoughts about bills from impacting that decision?
  - **Halsey-Kraus:** It's something I've been practicing which is keeping my opinions out of it. Luckily we haven't seen too many pieces of legislation that were controversial, which has been helpful. I also think keeping in mind the different opinions we have in Congress and in the student body helps as well.
  - **Kathuria:** I believe it's fundamentally important that the chair allows representatives to have their own opinions and someone in such a high role should not deter anyone from voting their conscience. It is important for me to keep my full opinions out of it since you are representatives and need to be addressing the concerns that were brought to you. You matter and they matter. You are the most important people in this room and my job is to make you feel safe to call debate, submit hostile amendments, etc. That kind of civic engagement is so fundamentally important. We can't think monolithically.
- **Gilson-Bond:** You both are very active. What qualities do you see in the other nominee that is most important to you?
  - **Kathuria:** I just want to say this about Abby Halsey-Kraus: she has been a cheerleader for me and is a good friend. She has always been a supporter like when I gave my presentation to AMWHO on the dangers of vaping and nicotine, and even coming to one of my intramural basketball playoff games. Being able to experience those qualities of hers makes my heart very warm. She is someone I have deep admiration and respect for even though we don't necessarily agree on everything. She is a sweetheart and regardless of what you choose, she is a qualified candidate.
  - **Halsey-Kraus:** My favorite quality about Shrey is his persistence. You will never see him stand down from something he believes in, and that is his most admirable quality.

- **McCoy:** How will you increase the voter turnout amongst undergraduate students?
  - **Halsey-Kraus:** Tabling. I've said it once and I'll say it again. I think a great example of this would be OU Food Pantry. They are constantly tabling outside of the Union to spread awareness and that is something we need to be doing too. Letting them know elections are happening. Another big part of increasing voter turnout is getting people to run and increasing filing numbers which gets people to campaign more.
  - **Kathuria:** In order to improve our voter turnout I think it is a good idea to have professors on SGA election day telling their students to vote. What I ended up doing was emailing my professors and they allowed me to come and speak in front of the class and share a QR code for students to vote. If we could get other professors to do that it could really help. Also, for increasing the number of candidates, I think you have to increase the filing time to 2 weeks because it allows more time for students to decide if they are prepared to run for office and to get signatures for the presidential and CAC election. Collecting 500 in the span of 5 days is challenging considering the amount of coursework we deal with. We are students as well and that's something we must respect.
- **Strickland:** AS someone who is well known to spend a good chunk of the week in the Conoco, it is important for members and other students to access our student leaders. Do you believe with your upcoming schedules as full time students and other extra-curriculars that you will be able to fulfill your duties to hold office hours?
  - **Kathuria:** As a community health student on the pre-med track, yes my coursework can be challenging. However, getting to serve student is just as important because what you have to have is good time management skills. I am more than willing to wake up early and spend the amount of time needed in the Conoco and if I am being honest I would spend as much time as possible in the Conoco because it is basically equivalent to the White House. I call it the people's house for a reason because it's a place where you get to talk to your leaders. If it's the people's house then I have to be there. I know how to balance my coursework and SGA work.
  - **Halsey-Kraus:** Shrey hit it on the head. I am only taking 12 hours next semester and I already kind of live in the Conoco. As I am sure the rest of exec can attest, I do spend a lot of time there and I don't plan on that changing.
- **Chiariello:** Are either of you intending to seek another high office in SGA if you were elected for this position?
  - **Halsey-Kraus:** This is as far as I am going.
  - **Kathuria:** If I were to be elected the chair, I would forego and potential candidacies for other high offices however if I don't get elected that is another story. If I were elected, Congress will be my number one priority.

- **Keupen:** I serve as secretary of COSCO. What would you like to see from COSCO in the next session?
  - **Kathuria:** Campus safety is of the utmost priority at the moment and collaborating with the “Its On Us” task force and involving many of you in that task force is a goal. I want to educate on the dangers of using cannabis and I also want COSCO to collaborate on gun violence issues because gun violence is a public health issue. I see COSCO doing a lot of cross-sectional work with the chair of Congress and I want to help them work with UPol and Susty too. If we can all work as one, we are going to win for OU students.
  - **Halsey-Kraus:** Chair Haskins and I have had quite a few conversations about this. I want to bring out the outreach in COSCO. Part of my platform is hosting town halls for SGA and using COSCO to do that. I think it is important COSCO continues doing the work it does especially the student concerns box. Something they did in the fall with promoting that box would bring back and promote similar to how we promote elections and filing. Congress should always be communicating with the students and admin and using COSCO to do that is an important part of the mission.

*Motion to enter executive session*

*Representative Dunn seconded by Representative Reynolds*

*Motion to exit executive session*

*Representative Reynolds seconded by Representative McCoy*

Abby Halsey-Kraus is elected as the Chair, 5-22-0.

○ Vice Chair

- Annie Mullins

**Glasscock:** I nominated Annie Mullins because she is an exceptional leader in Congress. The Vice- Chair's position is so multi-faceted. You're tasked with assisting the Chair and connecting the body, among many other things. From Orientation to engagement events, this role must bring forth someone with great organizing strategies, versatile leadership styles, and a drive to uplift our body. Annie exemplifies all of these necessities while also having a contagious energy that I firmly believe Congress would undoubtedly benefit from. Firstly, her work effort transcends the requirement. Just in Congress, for example, Annie-- the Chair of my previous Committee (University Policy)--has done so many incredible things—three semesters with three leadership positions. To say Annie is passionate is to say the least, as if you get to know her, you'll find this out in seconds. She's a service- oriented leader, meaning she will work with you. Her work addresses accessibility efforts on campus, helping to strive for increased wages for our student workers continuously. She's built the groundwork for this project, now teaming up with the Executive Branch to fortify her vision.

As Chair, I know she has not only created her own projects but also helped engage members and let them flourish in their roles, a necessary skill for VC.

And that's just in Congress alone. Outside, she's already done Social Media work as Public Relations Chair for Oklahoma Votes. The list goes on. All in all, Annie is a true friend and someone I'm so glad to be a part of Congress with. Her vision is to increase multi-committee work, fortify the CSP program, uplift and engage new members, and boost the work of all. Congress is made up of different committees that are made up of diverse student leaders, but our purpose can best be defined as representing the needs of students as one force. Annie gets that, and her working as one platform will empower the great work of our body. I know she would do excellent in this role, and she has my total support.

**Mullins:** Hey guys! My name is Annie Mullins and I am running for Vice Chair of the Undergraduate Student Congress. I have been in SGA for the past 3 semesters, where I have served as UPOL Secretary, UPOL Chair, and a Social Science Representative. These leadership positions have given me the crucial experience needed to fulfill the Vice Chair role. I am also skilled in PR, graphic design, and assistant experience. I also believe that my personality is super fitting for the VC role as the VC leads the morale of the body. I am very fun and loving as well as approachable. My platform works towards bridging gaps within SGA as well as outside of it by implementing these effective platform points. Outreach, I want to work with freshman based organizations such as Camp Crimson. Freshman are really malleable when they go into camp and being apart of that could help our freshman numbers. I promise that I will be an involved vice chair in my committees. I will go to one committee meeting per week so that I can be better connected with my committees as well as be a liaison for my Chair. I want to implement one program for CSP's. I also want to make a physical as well as an online calendar with all events pertaining to SGA. I also want to make an administration directory for student concerns and legislation. I want to have our RSO's be more involved as well. Whether that be hosting them on a campus event or in Tuesday meetings. I also want to work on our retention and dedication by leading by example. I want dedicated members that will be immediately welcoming to all new members. I also want to work on filling our seats by not only sending out mass emails to deans of colleges but also presenting in those classes. For orientation, I want to continue mini orientation and introduce SGA nights. I want big orientation to be a kickoff to the session where we can invite our executive and judicial branches to come and talk to our new members. I will also take free, professional photos of everyone. I want to continue PR assistants, SGA Member of the Month and snacks. Overall, though my time in SGA has been short, I have taken the initiative to throw myself into this work. I know this is where I am supposed to be and thanks so much for this opportunity.

- Amelia Landry

**Cantrell:** Hi everyone. I have the honor of nominating Amelia Landry for Vice Chair of Congress. As you may know there are many requirements of the Vice Chair and I wholeheartedly believe that Amelia's experience will leave the best place for our body to be in. For constituent service points, we just recently passed that bill to move CSPs to the Vice Chair. If you didn't know, Amelia served as Vice President of Philanthropy for Alpha Gamma Delta in which she

did exactly this, but on a scale of over 200 members for tracking service hours. During her time, she increased the visibility of our philanthropy to the point that we were given a recognition by our nationals for most improvement. Her ability to increase outreach has inspired me in my duties serving as that position today. I can tell you it isn't easy, and she did an incredible job. The second thing she would be well versed in is organizing orientation. Again, in her time as VP of Philanthropy for Alpha Gam she planned, budgeted, and executed multiple events such as Cheese and Mac and Java Jam and those require massive food orders which is a requirement of orientation. Additionally, she organized educational materials and presentations for potential new members, our current members, and our diverse group of stakeholders and alumni base. This experience educating about our philanthropy definitely sets her up well. She has served in leadership in several other organizations and is comfortable with SGA budgeting and funding. I just would like to say that I would not be in this body without Amelia. She's who brought me here and I encourage you all to vote for her today.

**Landry:** Hello everyone! My name is Amelia. I am a junior pursuing dual bachelor's degrees in international studies and environmental studies with a minor in French. It's been an honor to serve as your secretary for the past year and I am thrilled to announce my candidacy for vice chair. I want to start by thanking Maddy for that introduction. I think she showed well how I have the experience to meet the bare minimum requirements for the role so I hope to show you how I intend to go above and beyond. Around the room I have scattered some QR codes that link to a more in-depth presentation than this on what I intend to do with my platform so if you'd like to scan that feel free, however I will briefly touch on it. The first point is constituent service points. I think this has been a point of confusion the past year and I want to centralize and clarify it. I will do that by creating a calendar for us all. This would not only have all of our congress events but also all of the CSP opportunities. It would likely be a Google Calendar so you all can go in and add opportunities that you think of yourself. It would be centralized alongside the form you would turn in CSPs with. I have done this in previous roles, and it is easier – it lets you catch repeat offenders and nip any issues in the bud. For morale, I have a lot of things I'd like to do, one of which is bringing snacks to our meeting like I did today. I would also like to bring back the nametags we used to have. I want to get merch from somewhere that doesn't have a minimum purchase order like Bonfire. I also think it would be really important for us to have some hangouts outside of Congress. I want us to be friends first and foremost not just colleagues. For my point on committees, I can promise you I will do my best to attend one alternating committee meeting per week as an ex-officio member and I also want to better define the committee vice chair roles. This was something that was a goal of mine as the secretary, communicating more with the committee secretaries as I did not receive any communication when I was a committee secretary. This is something that would translate well to the vice chair role, whether that's making a GroupMe, email chain, etc., and making them a liaison to the PR team in addition to other members on the committee so that we always have a constant inflow of PR material. Lastly, for recruitment, something we've all been talking about tonight is how we want to increase tabling. But

logistically how do we do that? We have to make sure that for the people in charge of tabling, that is their sole focus. The chair has a lot on their plate and I think the vice chair could really step up and help. I'd also like to target the tabling around freshman orientations like Camp Crimson and Howdy Week. Lastly, I think we could stand to generally refresh the Instagram aesthetic and make it brighter and more in line with the exec branch. Ok, that was a lot. I want to talk about why I feel I am a good fit for vice chair. First is my experience within SGA. This will be going on my third year in the body, and I have served in several positions including as a representative, on committee exec, and now on big 3 exec. I feel I have a strong working understanding of how this organization functions and I've been able to have a bird's-eye-view of what issues have been persistent throughout multiple sessions, so I know what issues need to be targeted. Secondly, I have experience as Maddy mentioned in other organizations. I founded a club here and I know how to use SGA's Engage website and budgetary process which would allow me to order food for the orientations or order snacks for our meetings. Little details that would lessen the learning curve. I've also spent a long time learning from Vice Chair Trautman, spending office hours with her and seeing her beautiful face every day. I have learned what makes the vice chair work and what is important about the role. Why the vice chair needs to be doing what it is doing. Lastly, I want to emphasize my biggest and most important reason for running which is my love of SGA. This is the body that has given me honestly more than any other student experience and SGA is the reason I have picked the career path that I have. It has influenced my want to go into policy after graduation and that is something I will forever be grateful for. But more importantly, it has brought me some of my closest friends. I really hope that everybody else gets to experience what I did because I am forever changed. Regardless of what happens tonight I just want to say thank you for what I already have and for the growth and love you all have given me. I hope I can give that back to you.

Questions:

- **Kathuria:** How do you think the current morale of this body is at this given moment?
  - **Landry:** I think it's very mixed. I've noticed that there are some members whose morale is super high and they're engaged. Some committees are very close-knit and others that feel like people are slipping through the cracks. I think to combat that it starts at the committee level first and making sure that the chairs are doing their best.
  - **Mullins:** I think the morale of the body is really directed by the Vice Chair, and also the Chair and Secretary. Just leading my example and showing that by doing good work you can get to a good place. Also working with our committee chairs too – I want to make sure our committee chairs are staying engaged with our committees no matter what. Meeting with my vice chairs, I can get that consensus of how committees are going to improve.
- **Trautman:** First of all you both did fantastic so congratulations. It's not easy. My question is can you please inform the body of a few examples of



tangible things you accomplished this past year? You both have held roles on exec and I think it would be useful for them to hear what you have accomplished on your own regard and not off anything else that came before you. What does that innovation look like to you in this body?

- **Mullins:** University Policy is a hard thing because you have to talk with multiple people on multiple things and obviously not everyone is going to have the same consensus on an issue. Student wages is something I've been working on a ton this semester with the WAGE Act and trying to get it passed. Passing the Thank You OU Food Services Act encouraging other departments to raise wages is something that I am really passionate about. I am passionate about accessibility and talking to them about desks and sidewalks. The barriers on sidewalks sometimes aren't big enough for someone in a wheelchair to get through. I've worked on making that good with OUPD and overall, just talking to faculty about Academic policies too. University Policy is very discussion based and I think as the chair of that committee I have carried that out fully.
- **Landry:** Individually, personal passion project wise we did see in the fall my Confetti Makes Me Upsetti bill and that was rewarding for me, getting to continue working on sustainability related issues even though I no longer get to be on susty which makes me so sad. Obviously, the secretary role is very well defined. There are specific tasks that I have to do because the bylaws say I have to do them. Creating room for creativity within is something I've strived to do. One thing I am proud of doing is creating a presentation document for all of the committee secretaries because that is something I did not receive as a committee secretary. I was thrown into the role and had no clue what I was doing. Creating a streamlined presentation to give to anyone coming into that position is something I am proud of. I have also strived to be timely with everything and I am proud of the precision and transparency that has brought. Making sure people are on the roster, on the Engage page, on the emailing list as soon as they come into the body has hopefully somewhat increased our retention.
- **Strickland:** How many pieces of legislation have you written and passed individually?
  - **Landry:** In my time I want to saw 3. I was on a project based committee before I was on ConAd since the secretary has to be on ConAd. There was one establishing a food pantry holiday/awareness day which is actually April 27<sup>th</sup> so coming up shortly, another about the food pantry I co-authored with Crispin, and then the confetti one.
  - **Mullins:** I have officially only passed one piece of legislation. As I mentioned with university policy it is difficult to get things through the faculty and staff senate. There are a lot of things in the works and if I were to get the vice chair position, particularly with the WAGE Act, I would continue to be passionate. If I am vice chair, UPol chair, or something else entirely it is something that would make our entire

community better overall. I would still be passionate about writing legislation next year.

- **Kathuria:** As you may be aware we've had some issues with members not getting in CSPs. How do you ensure we make sure our members our being active and attending other events?
  - **Mullins:** I think that first starts by getting representatives in this body that we know are dedicated. CSP might seem like a small thing to outsiders but its hugely important to stay engaged with our constituents. I want to make sure that we have people applying for filing that have a track record showing they've done this in the past.
  - **Landry:** Two things. Having applied absences from CSPs this year I can tell you there were two types of people that missed the CSP. There were the people that were super involved in several other clubs in addition to SGA and then there were the people who we didn't hear from much at all. For that first group I think they have the CSP but they forget to fill it out and in that case I would hope that by having a single form in a central place like our website or on Engage where it is not buried in an email might help them to remember it. For the second group I think that starts with retention more generally because if they aren't showing up to our meetings in the first place they aren't going to realize that the CSP is a requirement of receiving reminders.
- **Schonfield:** As vice chair there are occasions where you'd have to step up and run the body as the chair. What experience do you have with parli pro?
  - **Landry:** I am a member of the Oklahoma Intercollegiate Legislature as well as being a member of ConAd which is very parli pro centered. I feel very comfortable with parliamentary procedure including very niche motions. I have chaired an actual congress meeting in the chair and vice chair's absences while they were in D.C. and I am comfortable doing it again.
  - **Mullins:** While I have never had the opportunity to chair a general body meeting, as the chair of UPol I chair all of our meetings and know exactly how a meeting should go. I have no issues with directing a bigger meeting and I think it's something that's fun. Chair Halsey-Kraus is a great example of someone who has showed us how to operate a meeting smoothly.

*Motion to extend time for questions for 10 minutes*

*Representative Kathuria seconded by Representative Gilson-Bond*

- **Kathuria:** How do you plan on making sure you are transparent with your office hours?
  - **Mullins:** Next semester I have a really great schedule. I only have classes on Tuesdays and Thursdays so I would be able to do office hours on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays. I love being in the Conoco and it's great to engage with others there. I will be fully transparent with my office hours and I will commit to going to them always. I want to make sure congress members and our constituents can come visit me whenever I tell them I will be there.

- **Landry:** I have held office hours for 8 hours per week for this entire past academic year and I feel I've been pretty transparent during that time. That looks like if I know I am going to miss part of my office hours, moving them, notifying the body they are being moved, providing a zoom link and doing all of that well in advance. I likewise want to emphasize that I have a schedule tailored around the potential for office hours. I made my schedule under the guise that I might be doing the same hours I've been doing all year.
- **Strickland:** Vice Chair Trautman was a part of the OU delegation to D.C. this spring. How do you plan to be open and honest with each of the legal assistants and elected representatives you come into contact with even if they don't agree with you politically or personally?
  - **Landry:** The word that comes to my mind is civility. It's important we reflect the concerns of Congress to these legislators. After all, we are a nonpartisan body and we are not here to talk about the hot button issues. We are here to ameliorate our university structurally. I think starting with those issues is a good way to build common ground and open the door to some of those issues that may be more controversial.
  - **Mullins:** As vice chair when contacting legal assistants that might have more of a political agenda than we do since we are nonpartisan, I plan on being very forward and respectful. Letting them know that it's for the betterment of the OU community and has nothing to do with politics.
- **Kathuria:** What is something you have learned from Vice Chair Trautman?
  - **Mullins:** She has been a role model for me from the minute I entered this body. She has taught me so much about not only how the vice chair should operate, but also about myself. I wouldn't want to run for this position if I didn't know I had her support and advice. I talked to her before running and she was very receptive, and kind and it will be hard to follow in her footsteps. She is maybe the best vice chair since I've been in this body. She has set great precedent and I would be more than privileged to follow her.
  - **Landry:** The biggest piece of advice Bailey has given me is that things don't always go the way you planned them. Whether that comes to ordering merch and it not going through or having to push orientation back by a long time. Even in personal life things not going the way you had envisioned them going. I believe that this advice will be beneficial to be in the vice chair role. As Abby has said, every role is a learning role and you have to come into it understanding that you will make mistakes. Like Annie mentioned, Bailey you are an extremely talented vice chair and you leave big shoes to fill.
- **Gilson-Bond:** With both of you having very high positions in Congress, especially in comparison to myself, how does the position of vice chair help you make a change any different than in the current position you have?

- **Landry:** I really appreciate this question because it's the main reason why I am running for vice chair in the first place. I love being secretary, it is simply a very large time commitment and that doesn't leave me time to work on the issues that I see prevalent in our organization that I want to fix. When I have to sit and type minutes for several hours every week, that doesn't mean I get to address our recruitment issues, our issues with CSP, morale, everything like that. I think the vice chair role would free up that time to still work within the executive team and communicate with all the people I've been communicating with but actually have the availability to work on projects.
  - **Mullins:** It's been a privilege to serve as the University Policy chair. In any position I am in I want to help the most and I am very people oriented. As chair of UPol I don't have the same privileges people on big exec do. Working on CSPs and morale is something I've always been passionate about and having mentors in Chair Halsey-Kraus and Crispin South, for example, they taught me a lot about leadership. I think I've marinated well and I am well prepared to take the time and effort since I know it won't be easy.
- **Kathuria:** What do you believe are the most pressing issues facing the body at this moment in time?
  - **Mullins:** There's a lot of issues OU could be better at. As I've said, student wages, accessibility, diversity and inclusion. As vice chair I want to help with efforts to make those happen and support the chair in whatever she does. There are some specific issues relating to diversity that I would like to prioritize and talk with faculty staff senate with issues pertaining to academic policy. There are tweak that need to be done and we need to change with the time and make sure our university is adapting with our students.
  - **Landry:** There's a lot of things tied into this, but mental health. Personally, I see a lot of what is going on outside of the university on a larger scale like the state legislature and the federal government and find it distressing. Seeing our state government attack trans youth affects our student's mental health greatly. The recent swatting attack we had. Even though fortunately it was fake, gun violence is an issue still prescient in people's minds. While there is not as much room for university policy to change in this realm because we are state funded, I would like to see more support from people in the administration in terms of voicing their opinions and speaking out against things that are damaging our students and being advocates for us on a larger scale in a way that we ourselves cannot.

*Motion to enter executive session*

*Representative Kathuria seconded by Representative Ferguson*

*Motion to exit executive session*

*Representative Reynolds seconded by Representative Strickland*

Amelia Landry is elected as the Vice Chair, 12-14-0.

- Secretary

- Carolyn Berggren

**Dunn:** Carolyn is our one, only, and best candidate for secretary. She has been a fantastic committee chair. She is always on top of her stuff and on time. She is detail oriented, and she always explains everything she is doing super well. She is passionate about her job as HD chair. One thing about the secretary is that they are also the ConAd secretary, so I have a lot of interest in this. I think Carolyn will do a great job for both. She is passionate about Congress. Of all the chairs you can tell she deeply cares about everything she does. I am really excited for her to be the next congress secretary.

**Berggren:** Hi everyone. For those of you who don't know me my name is Carolyn Berggren my pronouns are she/her I'm sophomore double majoring in biochemistry and psychology on the pre-med track. I started in congress my freshman year when I joined as an associate, moved up to vice chair of HD, and this year I moved up to the chair of HD. I have been able to see congress in many different perspectives over the years and I want to be able to step into a higher position that allows me to interact with all the committees weekly and be more involved in congress in a different way. I am very committed to detail as well as deadlines, and I think that will be a great asset to bring into my work as secretary. To talk about some things, I've done recently to prepare for this role, I have had meetings with Secretary Landry to discuss the role and responsibilities. I also have gone over the secretary's role in the bylaws. Relating to absences in congress, I believe that it's important to recognize that everyone has a life outside of congress, and absences should be taken on a case by case basis. I am so excited to have the opportunity to work more with all of you. Thank you.

Questions:

- **Kathuria:** How do you plan on making sure the minutes are released in a timely manner?
  - **Berggren:** That definitely falls on the secretary. I would make sure to submit the minutes on time and communicate with Mary to get them on the website. I am committed to Congress.
- **Barnett:** How fast do you type?
  - **Berggren:** I was told I would get this question. I did take a wpm test and it was about 65 which I will say, I will be typing a lot. I am also a scribe, so I type for physicians. I type at a physician's speed.
- **Griffin:** How would you work to facilitate relationships with committee secretary and make sure they get their work on time and in the right format.
  - **Berggren:** Secretary Landry has done a great job and I'd like to continue that. I'd like to set up a meetings with the committee secretaries as well as give them documents that show the correct format. I'd also meet with them if I see any issues.
- **Kathuria:** How has your experience being a scribe prepared you for the role of secretary?
  - **Berggren:** I have to type fast. This is something I have talked to Secretary Landry about that its not all about the fast speed since we do get to record and repeat it later. But it is about understanding what people are saying and doing it with timeliness and perfection. If

I say something wrong a physician would get mad at me so its about precision and attention to detail.

- **Reese:** Who is your favorite member of HD?
  - **Berggren:** I don't believe in favorites.
- **Kathuria:** How are you going to encourage individuals who have 2 or 3 absences to avoid getting a fourth absence and a sad expulsion bill?
  - Being approachable and letting them know that someone is noticing they aren't there. Some people think they shouldn't come because no one will notice. Reaching out if I see a pattern and checking to see if they are okay and talking about their options to see what the next steps should be.

*Motion to enter executive session*

*Representative Dunn seconded by Representative Kathuria*

*Motion to exit executive session*

*Representative Chiariello seconded by Representative Wilson*

Carolyn Berggren is elected as the Secretary, 21-0-0.

## **Student Concern Link**

### **Items to Be Considered**

- CB-109-38 "General Counsel Appointment Act" (Firch) (ConAd, Do Pass)

*Motion to see CB-109-38*

*Representative Strickland seconded by Representative Chiariello*

Author's Explanation (Firch):

Hi everyone, it is Christopher Firch. I am excited to announce a general council appointment act to appoint our new appointee, Madison Taylor. Madison Taylor is a first-year law student at the University of Oklahoma. She went to undergrad at Colorado State University and taught in Tulsa for two years. It was me, Abby, Claire, George, and Nick who helped with the interview process. We only had one applicant; however, Madison is extremely qualified, and I yield my time for questions.

2:29 yielded to questions

- **Halsey-Krauss:** Would you please introduce yourself?
  - **Taylor:** My name is Madison Taylor. I use pronouns she/her/hers. Thank you for the introduction. I went to Colorado State University. While I was there, I participated in many student organizations such as Chi Omega, Delta Sigma Phi, something else we called associated students of Colorado State University which was our student government, as well as a tour guide, and apart of Student Media, so I was very integrated in the student body, and I loved it. After I graduated, I did a program called Teach for America in Tulsa. I taught 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade reading and social studies there. Then I came here to law school, and I am finishing my first year. I am going into my second year. As far as hobbies, I am a drummer, I like to lift weights, I have a cat named Parker named after Peter Parker, an orange tabby who is very cute. Back in the day I liked to play video games, and I hope to do more of that in the summer. I'd love to hear your questions.
- **Keupen:** Me and my committee COSCO worked on a project with the outgoing General Council Nick, are you prepared to pick up where he left off?
  - **Taylor:** Absolutely, I would love to be involved as much as possible.

- **Cantrell:** What experience in your time at Colorado State university really prepared you for this role?
  - **Taylor:** When I was in student council as Colorado State, I was the chief justice of our judicial branch, here at OU the judicial branch is structured a little differently, we didn't have a General Counsel position because we did not have a law school. Because of that, a lot of the roles of General Counsel I actually did as Chief Justice, when someone had a question for the General Counsel, I did that as Chief Justice. Being involved in many other student organizations also prepared me for this role because I was able to understand the interest students have when they are dealing with the student conduct process and the academic integrity process.
- **Kathuria:** General Counsel does oversee academic integrity, how to plan on making sure students are being able to present their cases in a fair way to the Integrity Council and making sure that process is running smoothly, and that General Counsel oversees?
  - **Taylor:** So its super important that students know what they are getting into if they have a case like this, so giving them all the options. As an advocate, I will advise and not command, and give all current information to a student going through this process, and make sure they know their options and that the decision is fair. I will walk them step by step through their options making sure they know what not to do and what the best options are.
- **Kathuria:** How are you going to ensure that General Counsel avoids conflicts of interests for example any organizations you are partaking in or any other members within that body.
  - **Taylor:** It's important to be proactive to avoid conflicts of interest. I will make sure to stay on top of that in that regard. Based on the job description, I do not anticipate any conflicts of interest, but if they do arise, I will let the associate General Counsel handle that.
- **Kathuria:** How do you plan on handling issues relating to SGA matters, and how do you plan on being transparent to the OU student body of those matters?
  - **Taylor:** My personal philosophy is rooted in access, equity, and transparency, so I will make sure that once an opinion is written, to make sure the public has that ASAP. When I am creating an opinion, it's important to look at the Governing documents and precedents, not just making your own rules and laws. I will not cut corners or skip steps and do my due diligence for the student body.

21-0-0 unanimous pass

- CB-109-40 “Rhoads-Savage Appointment Act” (Schultz) (ConAd, Do Pass)

***Motion to see CB-109-40***

***Representative Strickland seconded by Representative Ferguson***

**Author's Explanation (Schultz):**

My name is Susannah Lee, and this is my co-chair Manuvel Sibichan, we are the current 2022-2023 CLA co-chairs for SGA. This bill is about our chosen successors to take over our positions. After an application and interview process, we found them to be the most suitable successors to replace us.

2:32 yielded to questions

- **Kathuria:** What was it like to be in CLA and get to learn from Manuvel and Susannah?
  - **Rhoads:** I love CLA, it would be awkward if I was up here and did not. I have had a wonderful experience in CLA. It is meant to introduce freshman

- to SGA, which for me it has done. I am a representative of this body and I love it. I learned a lot from Susannah and Manuvel.
- **Savage:** Something I learned that I was not expecting was being in a community with like-minded people, we have some supporters here tonight, those people made me love it.
  - **Strickland:** Is this appointment of these two kind, amazing people qualify as a CL-SLAY?
    - I would classify this appointment as a big CL-SLAY
  - **Kathuria:** Why would you recommend the incoming freshman class to join CLA?
    - **Rhoads:** It's a great place to find a community of people like you, but also people who are very different. I don't think I would have met any of these people in the wild, and we have different opinions. But I love them all and it's great to meet such a diverse group of people.
    - **Savage:** You are going to meet leaders from many different parts of campus. We have met people from CAC, GEC, Student Life, and we have had both candidates for president come and speak with us. We do get involved very soon and get connected.
  - **Griffin:** Does this count as a higher office and would either of these members possibly still be able to hold a congressional position while co-chair?
    - **Dunn:** CLA is not a higher office according to the constitution or the bylaws, but on that topic members who are on the bill will probably need to abstain.
  - **Kathuria:** How do you plan on trying to expand the growth of CLA during critical times like Camp Crimson where RSO's are usually tabling?
    - **Rhoads:** We have a plan to table for Howdy week.
    - **Savage:** I have extensive recruiting background due to involvement in high school leadership conference. We have packets we want to discuss such as packets for University College classes and Gen-Eds. We also have CLA members who have signed up to be small-group leaders for Camp Crimson who will tell their students about the opportunity.
  - **Chiariello:** What are you going to do to make sure the alumni base stays strong?
    - **Rhoads:** I want previous members who have started RSO's to come speak at our events, or people who are not alumni's come speak as well to maintain strong connections to our program. We have already talked to former CLA members to ask them to be mentors.

20-0-1 pass

- AB-109-06 "Primary Funding Act of 2023 for Registered Student Organizations" (Papahronis) (WAM, Do Pass)
- AB-109-07 "Primary Funding Act of 2023 for Governmental Organizations" (Papahronis) (WAM, Do Pass)

*Motion to see AB-109-06 and AB-109-07 as a block*

*Representative Strickland seconded by Representative Gilson-Bond*

Author's Explanation (Papahronis):

These are the primary bills for this year. Let me know if you have questions.

2:55 yielded to questions

- **Kathuria:** Could you explain to our new members what primary funding is?



- It is a bigger chunk of SGA funding allocations we do once a year. If organizations apply for primary, they requested 1.8 million, we only had about 800 thousand, so we try to figure out how much to give each organization, and then they get the money next Fall.
- **Kathuria:** On AB-109-07 why are there separate funds for SGA Undergrad congress, Graduate congress, executive branch, SGA operation, and SGA graduate student senate grant?
  - That is them applying as separate organizations.
- **Strickland:** On AB-109-07 when we have stipends, does that go strictly to student employees?
  - **George:** If you mean student employees, no. They are funded by student affairs. This goes to staff members such as general counsel, parking appeals, not students who work at the desks.
- **Kathuria:** Can you specify what SGA Operations are?
  - **George:** That includes all office systems, all Conoco maintenance and Union storage, and also included traveling expenses for SGA, and general office supplies.
- **Houston:** Can you please say what the \$700 for the Equestrian Club is for?
  - It's for payment for horse show, EMT, OU horse show facility.

20-0-0 unanimous pass

- CB-109-39 “Conoco Student Leadership Center Space Allocation Act of 2023-2024” (Halsey-Kraus/Burch/Firch/Schultz/Losh) (Exec, Do Pass)

***Motion to see CB-109-39***

***Representative Craig seconded by Representative Aslam***

**Author’s Explanation (Halsey-Kraus):**

We appreciate you for staying during this long meeting. This is the Conoco Student Leadership Center Space Allocation Act for the following year. For the past two semesters, we have had student employees doing room checks monitoring the offices and seeing how they are being used. Based off that, we were able to conclude which organizations were able to keep their offices and which were not. We only took away one office from Fraternity and Sorority Programs because they held two rooms and they did not use both rooms as much as we would have liked to seem, so we made it one and gave it to the Korean Student Association. The room would have been on the third floor, but we moved LGBTQ+ Programs Advisory board and LGBTQ+ Student Alliance up the the third floor to be in alliance with the GEC. We let Korean Student Association take over that room where LGBTQ+ Programs Advisory board and LGBTQ+ Student Alliance once were.

1:27 yielded to questions

- **Strickland:** SGA General Counsel will be taking over room 290, is Counsel spelled correctly?
  - That is how they spelled it on the last bill.
- **Keupen:** What is Alpha Phi Omega
  - Community Service Co-Ed fraternity.
- **Keupen:** What makes it different from the Fraternity and Sorority programs and services?
  - They provide a different service.

- **Kathuria:** Why are there organizations such as the Indian Student Association who were not allocated Conoco office spaces?
  - When compiling applications, the group of us deciding, were all looking through applications and felt that the Korean Student Association was following the code annotated for exactly what an office would be used for. They also provided the most detail on how they would use the office.
- **Cantrell:** Is the Fraternity and Sorority Services tied in any way to Panhellenic and IFC?
  - Yes

20-0-0 unanimous pass

- CR-109-06 “Drake Brooks, Nic Nair, and Gavin Short Memorial Day” (Reynolds) (Exec, Do Pass)

*Motion to see CR-109-06*

*Representative Mullins seconded by Representative Strickland*

Author’s Explanation (Reynolds):

This is a resolution for my constituents who passed away almost a year ago on the 29<sup>th</sup> of this month. Drake Brooks and Nic Nair used to be members of congress, and I would like to put that in the resolution as an amendment, and Gavin Short. These guys were students and forever Sooners. They passed away on the 29<sup>th</sup> of April while looking for storms for the University of Oklahoma. I met all of these guys, and I thought this would be good to memorialize them in this way. We have to go through the Federal Government to get a physical memorial at HG&S because it’s a federal building.

1:31 yielded to questions

- **Griffin:** Would you accept a friendly amendment to the third whereas clause adding the phrase “a formal member of the Undergraduate Student Congress” after the word community.
  - Yes
- **Griffin:** Would you accept a friendly amendment adding me as a co-author or co-sponsor?
  - Co-sponsor yes.
- **Koenig:** Would you accept a friendly amendment to the third whereas clause adding the phrase “was an SGL and camp guide for Camp Crimson?”
  - Yes

20-0-0 unanimous pass

- CR-109-08 “2023 Gun Safety Resolution” (Griffin/Barnett/Wilson) (EA, Do Pass)

*Motion to see CR-109-08*

*Representative Mullins seconded by Representative Reynolds*

Author’s Explanation (Griffin): This is a very important bill, so I would like to say I will be trying to send out an author’s explanation with the bill when it is sent out to the people listed in it. The explanation will read, “This resolution has been written in response to the April 7<sup>th</sup> swatting incident that occurred on our campus. It was an event that was extremely traumatizing for our student body, and we all have similar experiences about what we went through that night. We received calls from loved ones asking if we were safe and many of us tried to contact our friends, and many of us on or around campus were forced to shelter in place with the fear that the shooter could appear at any moment. The matter of fact is that we were lucky, but while we were lucky, the matter of fact is that this year there have been

173 mass shootings in the US resulting in 234 deaths and 699 injuries. There have been over 44 incidents of shootings on school grounds this year, including one at Del City high school which resulted in one injury, and one just yesterday at rose state Community College which resulted in the death of one student. Gun violence has become the leading cause of death for children and teens within the United States and then accounts for nearly 20% of the deaths for all of those 18 and under. This not only has effects on our students, but the youth throughout the country. Studies from the American Psychological Association have shown that fears related to gun violence have led to increased anxiety and stress within our youth and that the majority of students state that they worry about shooting happening on their campus. The constant fear caused by the epidemic has led our students to feel unsafe on campus, and the incident on April 7 has clearly shown this. The swatting incident was able to terrorize our students so effectively, because for many of us there's not a question of if incident like this would happen, but when this would happen. We have been so deeply traumatized by the gun violence, that many of us treat it like it's a part of our lives. This resolution calls on our elected officials to take legislative action against the growing epidemic of gun violence within the US. We're calling for more robust gun safety laws that help protect our youth both inside and outside of the classroom. Specifically, we encourage the passage of legislation on safer gun storage laws, commend the creation of SP8 100, which creates school safety assessments, and we support any efforts to appeal Oklahoma's anti red firearm laws, for which we are the only state in the country to have 117 motions." I will open a cosponsors list.

0:35 yielded to questions

- **Kathuria:** Would you accept a friendly amendment adding an 11<sup>th</sup> whereas clause which states "the OU Undergraduate Congress condemns the gun violence incident which occurred at Rose State college on Monday April 24<sup>th</sup>?"
  - I would not accept that because that is not a fact which cannot go in the whereas clause. I will be mentioning it in the statement I am going to send out.
- **Cantrell:** What was your reasoning for including these legislative members?
  - Each member that has been included is either a representative/senator for the Norman area, and the rest are members of the State Powers for Public Safety, those are the two committees in the house and the senate that see all related bills.
- **Barnett:** Would you accept a friendly amendment to the 4<sup>th</sup> whereas clause changing 155 to 173, and to the 5<sup>th</sup> whereas clause changing 234 and 548 to 649, and to open a list for co-sponsors?
- Yes
- **Strickland:** In the 6<sup>th</sup> whereas clause you say American Schools, is this K-12, or colleges?
  - That is all K-12 and Universities.
- **Strickland:** I am all for this, however I am worried that is this turned out to not be a case of gun violence on the school, but still gave students similar worries regarding gun violence and the capabilities it could have on our campus, do you think that since the incident did not actually involve a gun that it would have any effect on the minds of state legislature that are looking at gun bills?
  - When reaching out to our legislators, we are not always reaching out to open ears. Its an important decision to justify, and in our discussion we felt that it was very easy to justify because the reason this incident was so impactful is

because we have lived through so many experiences of gun violence, and we have trauma from this. This attack was to terrorize our community, and they knew they could do this because we were so traumatized. So, we felt we could use this because we would not have been so affected if we had not already lived through this.

- **Aslam:** This bill is similar to CR-109-01, so have you received a response to any of the people you sent that bill to?
  - I don't remember if we had a response over email. I have spoken to all the Norman Reps about that bill, and have spoken to the chair of the Higher Education Appropriation Committee, and he specifically admitted he was strongly in favor of not adding more guns on campus, so we have had important conversations because of it.

16-4-0 pass

- CR-109-07 “Thanking First Responders Resolution.” (Rhoads) (Committee of the Whole, Do Pass)

*Motion to see CR-109-07*

*Representative Dunn seconded by Representative Ferguson*

Author's Explanation (Rhoads):

We already saw this bill earlier.

2:56 yielded to question

18-0-1 pass

- CR-109-09 “Cherokee Nation Delegate Support Resolution of 2023” (Chiariello) (EA, Do Pass)

*Motion to see CR-109-09*

*Representative Ferguson seconded by Representative Aslam*

Author's Explanation (Chiariello):

Let's go home, read the bill.

2:58 yielded to questions

- **Kathuria:** How do you believe this bill will benefit the Cherokee Community on this campus?
  - It's important we let them know they are seen and heard. It does not do anything but says the student body supports them.
- **Cantrell:** Can I be added as a co-sponsor?
  - Yes, email the secretary
- **Dunn:** This bill advocates for a delegate, would that delegate be a voting member or just a delegate?
  - Just a delegate.
- **Kathuria:** Have you had a chance to study who Kinberly Teehee is, and can you explain what she does in the Cherokee nation?
  - Yes, she has worked for numerous campaigns, and worked on numerous political action committees, she is very well qualified and has been involved with the Cherokee nation for a long time.

19-0-0 unanimous pass

## Follow-Up Reports

## Items for Future Agenda

- **Kathuria:** In regard to honoring the OU 2023 Women's Gymnastics team, I have determined it would be best we see this bill in the next congressional session because I want both us and GSS to see and celebrate.

#### **Announcements and Comments**

- **Kathuria:** This is a reflection on what happened in the chair and vice chair elections. I want to commend chair Mullins for going up there and being a candidate, and I think the lesson is do not be afraid to run. It is ok to lose. I did not have the best performance today, but that does not matter because it only matters to push out ideas. It also forces Chair Halsey-Kraus to be better because she will pick up on some of my ideas which I think are good. I want to say Halsey-Kraus is a great chair of congress and I respect the decision the members made. I love you, care about you, and will party with you. Tonight, reflects that our Undergraduate Congress supports democracy and we must stay committed to supporting Democracy. We must be a body for the people, by the people, that represents the people. Thank you.
- **Landry:** Thank you for being here. I appreciate you. Thanks for placing your trust in me. Thanks to Annie, I hope you stay in the body. If you had something pre-written down, please send it to the secretary.
- **George:** Can I see all the officers and committee chairs after the meeting?
- **Kathuria:** This Thursday I have my flag football semi-final match at 9:30pm on the intermural field 3. I want to see my friends and colleagues show up to cheer me and my teammates on. We have a shot at winning the whole thing.

#### **Final Roll Call**

*Motion to adjourn sine die*

*Representative Strickland seconded by Representative Ferguson*

#### **Adjourn Sine Die**

Chair: Abby Halsey-Kraus

Vice-Chair: Bailey Trautman

Secretary: Amelia Landry

	25-Apr-23	
	Initial	Final
<b>Aslam</b>	x	x
<b>Baggett</b>	x	a
<b>Barnett</b>	ex	x
<b>Brown</b>	x	a
<b>Cantrell</b>	x	x
<b>Carter</b>	a	a
<b>Chiariello</b>	ex	x
<b>Craig</b>	ex	x
<b>de Mahy</b>	x	a
<b>Duncan</b>	x	ex
<b>Dunn</b>	x	x
<b>Eakle</b>	a	a
<b>Fisher</b>	x	a
<b>Ferguson</b>	x	x
<b>Foley</b>	a	a
<b>Gilson Bond</b>	x	x
<b>Glasscock</b>	a	a
<b>Harris</b>	x	x
<b>Hyslop</b>	x	a
<b>Islas</b>	ex	ex
<b>Kathuria</b>	x	x
<b>Koenig</b>	ex	x
<b>McCoy</b>	x	x
<b>Mullins</b>	x	x
<b>Nowland</b>	a	a
<b>Nguyen</b>	x	x
<b>Papahronis</b>	x	x
<b>Ramirez</b>	a	a
<b>Reynolds</b>	x	x
<b>Rhoads</b>	x	x
<b>Strickland</b>	x	x
<b>Wear</b>	a	a
<b>Welchel</b>	a	a
<b>Wilson</b>	x	x
<b>York</b>	a	a
<b>PRESENT</b>	21	19
<b>ABSENT</b>	9	14
<b>EXCUSED</b>	5	2
1 Absence		
2 Absences		
3 Absences		
4 Absences		

Date of Session: 25-Apr-23					Candidate #	Code:
Last Name:	First Name:	Chair	Vice Chair	Secretary		
Aslam	Syed	ahk	al	cb	1	Shrey Kathuria sk
Baggett	Tabitha	ahk	al		2	Abby Halsey-Kraus ahk
Barnett	Ryan	ahk	al		1	Annie Mullins am
Brown	Khiala	ahk	am	cb	2	Amelia Landry al
Cantrell	Madeline	ahk	al	cb	1	Carolyn Berggren cb
Carter	Harrison					
Chiariello	Clayton	ahk	am	cb		
Craig	Carter	ahk	al	cb		
de Mahy	Kate	ahk	am	cb		
Duncan	Elizabeth					
Dunn	Tucker	ahk	al	cb		
Eakle	Arianna	ahk	am	cb		
Fisher	Mecca					
Ferguson	Daniel	ahk	al	cb		
Foley	Ethan					
Gilson-Bond	Aaron	sk	al	cb		
Glasscock	Caden	ahk	am			
Harris	Chloe	ahk	al	cb		
Hyslop	Anna	ahk				
Islas	Lizabeth					
Kathuria	Shrey	sk	am	cb		
Koenig	Ezra	ahk	al	cb		
McCoy	Lane	sk	am	cb		
Mullins	Annie	ahk	am	cb		
Nowland	Clayton					
Nguyen	Nhi	ahk	am	cb		
Papahronis	Demitri	ahk	am	cb		
Ramirez	Ivan	sk	al			
Reynolds	Michael	sk	am	cb		
Rhoads	Hope	ahk	al	cb		
Strickland	Carter	ahk	al	cb		
Wear	Hope	ahk	am			
Welchel	Olivia					
Wilson	Luke	ahk	al	cb		
York	Isabel					
	<b>Candidate 1</b>	5	12	21		
	<b>Candidate 2</b>	22	14	0		
	<b>Abstain</b>	0	0	0		

Date of Session:	25-Apr-23								
Last Name:	First Name:	AB-109-06, AB-109-07	CB-109-38	CB-109-39	CB-109-40	CR-109-06	CR-109-07	CR-109-08	CR-109-09
Aslam	Syed	y	y	y	y	y	y	n	y
Baggett	Tabitha								
Barnett	Ryan	y	y	y	y	y	y	y	y
Brown	Khiala		y		y				
Cantrell	Madeline	y	y	y	y	y	y	y	y
Carter	Harrison								
Chiariello	Clayton	y	y	y	y	y	y	y	y
Craig	Carter	y	y	y	y	y	y	y	y
de Mahy	Kate								
Duncan	Elizabeth								
Dunn	Tucker	y	y	y	y	y	y	n	y
Eakle	Arianna	y	y	y	y	y		y	
Fisher	Mecca								
Ferguson	Daniel	y	y	y	y	y	y	y	y
Foley	Ethan								
Gilson-Bond	Aaron	y	y	y	y	y	y	n	y
Glasscock	Caden								
Harris	Chloe	y	y	y	y	y	y	y	y
Hyslop	Anna								
Islas	Lizabeth								
Kathuria	Shrey	y	y	y	y	y	y	y	y
Koenig	Ezra	y	y	y	y	y	y	y	y
McCoy	Lane	y	y	y	y	y	y	y	y
Mullins	Annie	y	y	y	y	y	y	y	y
Nowland	Clayton								
Nguyen	Nhi	y	y	y	y	y	y	y	y
Papahronis	Demitri	y	y	y	y	y	y	y	y
Ramirez	Ivan								
Reynolds	Michael	y	y	y	y	y	y	y	y
Rhoads	Hope	y	y	y	a	y	a	y	y
Strickland	Carter	y	y	y	y	y	y	y	y
Wear	Hope								
Welchel	Olivia								
Wilson	Luke	y	y	y	y	y	y	n	y
York	Isabel								
	<b>Yes</b>	20	21	20	20	20	18	16	19
	<b>No</b>	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	0
	<b>Abstain</b>	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0



THE UNIVERSITY OF OKLAHOMA STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION

UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT CONGRESS  
CONGRESSIONAL SESSION CIX

April 25, 2023

CONGRESSIONAL RESOLUTION CR-109-07

AS INTRODUCED

A Congressional Resolution to thank first responders for their services on April 7th, 2023; and providing for distribution.

- Whereas: On April 7th, 2023, The University of Oklahoma received an active shooter alert that turned out to be the result of a swatting attack; and
- Whereas: Swatting is the practice of reporting a fake crime in order to illicit a response from the police in a specific area. It is often done with the intent of creating fear within a specific population; and
- Whereas: After receiving the calls reporting a shooter on campus, over 100 First Responders from several different agencies responded to the situation; and
- Whereas: OU Police were on scene less than 2 minutes after the original call was made; and
- Whereas: Many of these First Responders arrived on scene believing that there was an active shooter on campus, and rushed to the scene unaware of the dangers they could have been facing; and
- Whereas: First Responders continued searching the OU campus for 89 minutes after the first call, in order to ensure the safety of OU students.

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE UNIVERSITY OF OKLAHOMA UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT CONGRESS:

**Section 1:** Title: This resolution shall be known and may be cited as the “Thanking First Responders Resolution.”

**Section 2:** Upon the authorization of this resolution, the University of Oklahoma Undergraduate Student Congress officially thanks first responders for their services on April 7th, 2023.

**Section 3:** The Undergraduate Student Congress recognizes the swiftness at which OU Police and other agencies arrived on campus and expresses their upmost gratitude to those officers who arrived on scene believing they were about to face an armed individual.

**Section 4:** Copies of this resolution will be sent to:

- Nathaniel Tarver, Chief of Police of The OU Police Department
- Kevin Foster, Chief of Police of The Norman Police Department
- Todd Gibson, Chief of Police of The Moore Police Department
- Travis King, Chief of The Norman Fire Department
- David Grizzle, City of Norman Emergency Management Officer

- Eddie Sims, Chief of EMS Stat Norman Regional Health System
- Colonel Patrick Mays, Chief of the Oklahoma Highway Patrol

Author(s): Hope Rhoads, University College Representative  
Weslie Griffin, External Affairs Committee Chair

Co-Sponsor(s): Ben Keupen, Associate Undergraduate Student Congress  
Hudson Haskins, Campus Outreach, Safety, and Concerns Committee Chair

Submitted on a motion by: Representative Dunn seconded by Representative Ferguson

Action taken by Congress: 18-0-1 pass

Verified by Chair of Congress: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

THE UNIVERSITY OF OKLAHOMA STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION

UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT CONGRESS  
CONGRESSIONAL SESSION CIV

April 25th, 2023

GRADUATE STUDENT SENATE  
SENATE SESSION GS23

April 20th, 2023

CONGRESSIONAL BILL AB-109-06  
SENATE BILL NO. GS22-23

AS INTRODUCED

An act relating to appropriations; providing for short title; stating purpose; appropriating Primary Funding for the 2023-2024 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 “Primary Funding Act of 2023 for Registered Student Organizations”

**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
Academic Team	600			600
Acts of Kindness Association	800			800
African Student Association	700			700
African Women's League	1200			1200
Afrobeat Dance Club at the University of Oklahoma	400			400
Agricultural Law Association	600			600
Alpha Eta Rho - Beta Chi Chapter	600			600
Alpha Kappa Delta Phi	800			800
Alpha Lambda Delta	600			600

Alpha Sigma Kappa - Women in Technical Studies	600			600
AME Graduate Student Community	2100			2100
American Constitution Society	500			500
American Indian Law Review	1000			1000
American Indian Student Association	15,000			15,000
American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics	400			400
American Institute of Chemical Engineers	500			500
American Marketing Association	410			410
American Mock World Health Organization	1,700			1,700
American Society of Mechanical Engineers	250			250
Arab Student Association	1,000			1,000
Arabic Club	400			400
Armenian Student Organization	400			400
Artificial Intelligence Organization at the University of Oklahoma	700			700
ASHRAE Student Chapter	350			350
Asian American Student Association	11,600			11,600
Asian Pacific American Law Student Association	800			800
Association Friends of Venezuela	1,000			1,000
Association of Geography Graduate Students	700			700
Association of Southeast Asian Nations	2400			2400
Beekeepers' Association	520			520
Big Event	8,000			8,000
Biology Graduate Student Organization	1,000			1,000
Biomedical Engineering Student Affairs	250			250
Black Girl White Coat	240			240
Black Law Students Association	900			900
Black Student Association	30,000			30,000
Black Undergraduate Law Student Association	400			400
Business Law Society	150			150

C3 Cybersecurity Club	200			200
Catholic Student Association	200			200
Chinese Language and Culture Club	300			300
Christian Legal Society	1240			1240
Christians on Campus	500			500
Circle K International	2,500			2,500
College of Law Outlaw	250			250
Colombian Student Association	11,000			11,000
Computer Science Student Board	700			700
Constitutional Studies Student Association	500			500
Criminal Law Association	1,500			1,500
Crimson Robotics	1,100			1,100
David F. Schrage Chapter of the National Residence Hall Honorary	100			100
Delta Sigma Pi- Beta Epsilon Chapter	1,500			1,500
Dialogues of Contemporary Sociology (DOCS) Workshop	250			250
Divine Atmosphere	100			100
East African Alliance	600			600
Engineers' Club	4500			4500
Environmental Law Student Association	500			500
Environmental Science Student Association	550			550
Federal Bar Association	1,400			1,400
Federalist Society	500			500
First Generation Law Student Association	250			250
French Club	420			420
Freshman Action Team	650			650
Friday Accounting Meeting	600			600
Futsal Club	200			200
Game Developer's Association	500			500
Gamma Beta Fraternity	600			600
Gamma Delta Pi	250			250
Geothermal Rising at the University of Oklahoma	240			240

Getting To The Root	400			400
Graduate Business Association	500			500
Graduate Physics Student Interdependence	430			430
Graduate Women In Business	900			900
Grant Writers Association of Oklahoma	600			600
Green Week	200			200
Hacklahoma	750			750
Headington Hall Student Leadership Association	140			140
Health and Exercise Science Student Association	607.5			607.5
Health Law Student Association	390			390
Hispanic American Student Association	13,000			13,000
Honors Student Association	2,035			2,035
Housing Center Student Association	14,500			14,500
India Student Association	8500			8500
Informed Citizen Discussion Groups	800			800
Intellectual Property Society	600			600
International Advisory Committee	30,000			30,000
InterVarsity Christian Fellowship: Black Campus Ministries	500			500
Iranian Student Association	14,000			14,000
Japanese Club	545			545
Kappa Kappa Psi National Honorary Band Fraternity - Delta Chapter	200			200
Kesem at the University of Oklahoma	300			300
Korean Conversation Club	330			330
Korean Student Association	600			600
Latin Dance Club	1,600			1,600
LatinArte	460			460
Latinos Without Borders	600			600
Latinx Association for Science and Health	250			250
Latinx Law Student Association	250			250
Lawyers Against Human Trafficking	650			650

LGBTQ Program Advisory Board	2,000			2,000
LGBTQ Student Alliance	1,000			1,000
Linguistics Club	400			400
Mathematics Graduate Students Association	400			400
Medical Ethics and Issues Discussion Panel	650			650
Military Law Society	250			250
Minority Health Sciences Conference	500			500
Miracle Mindset College Access Program	1,500			1,500
Model United Nations	1500			1500
Multicultural Greek Council	8,000			8,000
National Pan-Hellenic Council	18,000			18,000
Native American Law Student Association	350			350
OBI OUreach	1,000			1,000
Oil and Gas, Natural Resources, and Energy Journal	600			600
Oil and Gas, Natural Resources, and Energy Law Society	650			650
Oklahoma College of Law Board of Advocates	800			800
Oklahoma International Law Society	1,800			1,800
Oklahoma Law Review	1,400			1,400
Oklahoma Library and Information Studies Students Association	500			500
Omega Delta Phi Fraternity, Inc.	800			800
Organization for the Advancement of Women in Law	2,600			2,600
OU Badminton Club	1,500			1,500
OU Clay Target Club	2000			2000
OU Climbing Club	200			200
OU Equestrian Club	700			700
OU Fencing Club	800			800
OU Men's Rugby Club	2,800			2,800
OU Men's Soccer Club	100			100
OU Men's Ultimate Frisbee Club	1,500			1,500
OU Women's Ultimate Frisbee Club	1,600			1,600

Our Mental Health	200			200
Phi Alpha Delta Law Fraternity, International	800			800
Phi Beta Delta	550			550
Phi Delta Alpha	1,300			1,300
Phi Delta Phi	350			350
Phi Iota Alpha Fraternity, Inc.	320			320
Pre-Law Society	675			675
Pre-Optometry Professional Society	200			200
Pre-Veterinary Club	400			400
Psychology Club	400			400
Psychology Graduate Student Association	1,200			1,200
Public Interest Law Student Association	250			250
Red Clay Faction	3,500			3,500
School of Meteorology Student Affairs Committee	400			400
Scientific Undergraduate Research Association	300			300
Second Wind Ministries	500			500
Sigma Gamma Rho	300			300
Sigma Lambda Beta	2,700			2,700
Sigma Lambda Gamma National Sorority, Inc.	350			350
Society of Hispanic Professional Engineers	700			700
Society of Petroleum Engineers	600			600
Society of Petrophysicists and Well Log Analysts	200			200
Sociology/Criminology Club	400			400
Sooner Air Traffic Control Association	2,000			2,000
Sooner Chapter of the American Association of Airport Executives	1,000			1,000
Sooner Racing Team	1,000			1,000
Spanish Language Club	465			465
Sports and Entertainment Law Society	500			500
Student Association of Bangladesh	1,800			1,800



Student Council for Exceptional Children	1,200			1,200
Student Society of Human Relations	200			200
Super League	600			600
Sustainable Energy Society	400			400
Tau Beta Pi	500			500
Tau Kappa Omega Fraternity	200			200
The Oklahoma Group	1,600			1,600
The United World	2,000			2,000
Theta Nu Xi Multicultural Sorority, Inc.	400			400
Undergraduate Communication Association	500			500
Undergraduate Mathematics Club	400			400
Undergraduate Mock Trial Team	3,700			3,700
Victim Advocacy Program	494			494
Vietnamese Student Association	2,980.61			2,980.61
Wesley Foundation	400			400
Women in Aviation	1,000			1,000
Women in Business Association	600			600
Women In Physics	650			650
World Literature Today Student Advisory Board	500			500
Young Americans for Freedom at the University of Oklahoma	450			450
<b>TOTAL</b>				<b>315,942.11</b>

**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 13, 2024

**Section 6:** All unspent money remaining in the accounts listed in Section 3 shall revert to the SGA General Account after May 13, 2024, and the remaining appropriations shall be canceled.

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

Author(s): Demetri Papahronis, Chair, SGA Budget Committee

Co-Author(s): SGA Budgetary Committee

Submitted on a motion by: Representative Strickland seconded by Representative Gilson-Bond

Action taken by Student Congress: 20-0-0 unanimous pass

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: \_\_\_\_\_

THE UNIVERSITY OF OKLAHOMA STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION

UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT CONGRESS  
CONGRESSIONAL SESSION CIV

April 18th, 2023

GRADUATE STUDENT SENATE  
SENATE SESSION GS21

April 20th, 2021

CONGRESSIONAL BILL AB-109-07  
SENATE BILL NO. GS22-23

AS INTRODUCED

An act relating to appropriations; providing for short title; stating purpose; appropriating Primary Funding for the 2023-2024 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 “Primary Funding Act of 2023 for Governmental Organizations”

**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
Student Bar Association	15,000			15,000
Campus Activities Council	157,552.78			157,552.78
SGA Undergraduate Student Congress	2,300			2,300
SGA Graduate Student Senate	1,040			1,040
SGA Executive Branch	1,500			1,500
SGA Operations	10,560	5,000	27,620	44,180
Salaries and Stipends			193,553.55	193,553.55
SGA Graduate Student Senate Grants	75,000			75,000
SafeRide	23,982			23,982
<b>TOTAL:</b>				<b>514,108.33</b>

**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 13, 2024

**Section 6:** All unspent money remaining in the accounts listed in Section 3 shall revert to the SGA General Account after May 13, 2024, and the remaining appropriations shall be canceled.

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

Author(s): Demetri Papahronis, Chair, SGA Budget Committee

Co-Author(s): SGA Budgetary Committee

Submitted on a motion by: Representative Strickland seconded by Representative Gilson-Bond

Action taken by Student Congress: 20-0-0 unanimous pass

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: \_\_\_\_\_

THE UNIVERSITY OF OKLAHOMA STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION

UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT CONGRESS  
CONGRESSIONAL SESSION CIX

April 25, 2023

GRADUATE STUDENT SENATE  
SENATE SESSION GS23

April 20, 2023

CONGRESSIONAL BILL CB-109-38  
SENATE BILL GSXX-XX

AS INTRODUCED

An Act of Legislation appointing the SGA General Counsel; 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 “General Counsel Appointment Act.”

**Section 2:** Purpose: The purpose of this act shall be name and appoint a new SGA General Counsel.

**Section 3:** In accordance with Title 3, Chapter 2, section 7, subsection a, subsection i which delineates the appointment process for the SGA General Counsel, the following student shall thus be appointed:

- Madison Taylor

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

Author(s): President Christopher Firch

Co-Author(s): Chairwoman Claire Burch, Graduate Student Senate  
Chairwoman Abby Halsey-Kraus, Undergraduate Student Congress  
Nick Hazelrigg, SGA General Counsel

Submitted on a Motion by: Representative Strickland seconded by Representative Chiariello

Action taken by Congress: 21-0-0 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: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

THE UNIVERSITY OF OKLAHOMA STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION

UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT CONGRESS  
CONGRESSIONAL SESSION CIX

April 25, 2023

GRADUATE STUDENT SENATE  
SENATE SESSION GS23

April 20, 2023

CONGRESSIONAL BILL CB-109-39  
SENATE BILL GSXX-XX

AS INTRODUCED

An Act allocating office space in the Conoco Student Leadership Center for 2023-2024; 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 “Conoco Student Leadership Center Space Allocation Act of 2023-2024.”

**Section 2:** Purpose: The purpose of this act shall be inherent in its title.

**Section 3:** The Registered Student Organizations provided in Section 4 shall receive the designated allocations from May 2023 until May 2024.

**Section 4:** **Conoco Center Offices:**  
284 Class Council  
286 American Indian Student Association  
287 Korean Student Association  
288 Green Week  
289 Black Student Association  
290 SGA General Council  
291 The Oklahoma Group  
292 Our Mental Health  
293 Disability Inclusion and Awareness  
382 Union Programming Board  
384 The Big Event  
386 International Advisory Committee  
287 Asian American Student Association  
388 Muslim Student Association  
389 Hispanic American Student Association  
390 Alpha Phi Omega  
391 LGBTQ+ Program Advisory Board and LGBTQ+ Student Alliance  
392 Grant Writers Association  
393 Fraternity and Sorority Programs and Services

**Section 5:** This act shall become effective when passed in accordance with the SGA Constitution.

Author(s): Chair Abby Halsey-Kraus, Undergraduate Student Congress  
Chair Claire Burch, Graduate Student Senate  
President Christopher Firch, Student Government Association  
Vice President Emilie Schultz, Student Government Association  
Chair Francesca Losh, Campus Activities Council

Submitted on a Motion by: Representative Craig seconded by Representative Aslam

Action taken by Congress: 20-0-0 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: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

THE UNIVERSITY OF OKLAHOMA STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION

UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT CONGRESS  
CONGRESSIONAL SESSION CIX

April 25, 2023

GRADUATE STUDENT SENATE  
SENATE SESSION GS23

April 20, 2023

CONGRESSIONAL BILL CB-109-40  
SENATE BILL GSXX-XX

AS INTRODUCED

An Act of Legislation appointing Co-Chairs for the  
Crimson Leadership Association; 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 “Rhoads-Savage Appointment Act.”

**Section 2:** Purpose: The purpose of this act shall be to name and appoint Co-Chairs for the Crimson Leadership Association who will serve the entirety of the 2023-2024 academic year.

**Section 3:** In accordance to the SGACA Title 3, Chapter 6, Section 3, subsections b, the Co-Chairs shall be appointed by the Vice President and the previous year’s Co-Chairs, with approval of the President, and advice and consent from the Legislature.

The following nominees shall be named and appointed to be the CLA Co-Chairs:

- Hope Rhoads
- Baylor Savage

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

Author: Vice President Emelie Schultz

Co-Authors: Susannah Lee, Crimson Leadership Association Co-Chair  
Manuvel Sibichan, Crimson Leadership Association Co-Chair

Submitted on a Motion by: Representative Strickland seconded by Representative Ferguson

Action taken by Congress: 20-0-1

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 CIX

April 25, 2023

CONGRESSIONAL RESOLUTION CR-109-06

AS INTRODUCED

A Congressional Resolution to memorialize Drake Brooks,  
Nic Nair, and Gavin Short.

- Whereas: Drake Brooks, Nic Nair, and Gavin Short were beloved members of the University of Oklahoma School of Meteorology;
- Whereas: Drake Brooks was interested in radar, the forecasting of weather, and aviation; was a passionate member of multiple meteorological organizations on campus; and was a dear friend remembered for his comedic timing and infectious humor;
- Whereas: Nic Nair was an outgoing member of the School of Meteorology community, a former member of the Undergraduate Student Congress, a singer who participated in OU's Scandals and Men's Glee Club, and a beloved member of Camp Crimson severing as an SGL and Camp Guide who had a bright personality and a propensity for kindness, and was described as "the sunshine of his friend group";
- Whereas: Gavin Short, an Eagle Scout, was always there with a helping hand when it was needed, and was a loyal friend who dedicated time to photographing memories with his friends; Gavin's enthusiasm for weather could fill a room, in knowledge and in volume;
- Whereas: These three friends were lost tragically and prematurely in the Spring of 2022;
- Whereas: These three students brought light and laughter with them to the many organizations they participated in on campus, to their friend groups, and to the classroom;
- Whereas: The mark they made at the University and in the School of Meteorology remains present, and their community is still affected by and grieving these losses. Memorializing Drake Brooks, Nic Nair, and Gavin Short will provide a day of remembrance in honor of their lives at the University they called home and will offer a reminder to all those who loved and knew them of the joy they brought to OU in their time here.

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE UNIVERSITY OF OKLAHOMA UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT  
CONGRESS THAT:

- Section 1:** Title: This resolution shall be known and may be cited as the "Drake Brooks, Nic Nair, and Gavin Short Memorial Day."
- Section 2:** The Undergraduate Student Congress will acknowledge April 29<sup>th</sup> as Drake Brooks, Nic Nair, and Gavin Short Memorial Day.
- Section 3:** The Undergraduate Student Congress fully supports the efforts being made to create a physical memorial for Drake Brooks, Nic Nair, and Gavin Short.

**Section 4:** Copies of this resolution will be sent to:

- President Joseph Harroz
- Dean Berrien Moore III, College of Atmospheric and Geographic Sciences
- Jens Redemann, Director of the School of Meteorology
- Aisha Owusu, Assistant Dean of Student Services
- The family of Drake Brooks
- The family of Nic Nair
- The family of Gavin Short
- OU Daily
- OU Nightly

Author(s): Michael T. Reynolds, Atmospheric and Geographic Sciences Representative

Co-Sponsor(s): Weslie Griffin, Chair of the External Affair Committee  
Ezra Koenig, Humanities Representative

Submitted on a motion by: Representative Mullins seconded by Representative Strickland

Action taken by Congress: 20-0-0 unanimous pass

Verified by Chair of Congress: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

THE UNIVERSITY OF OKLAHOMA STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION

UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT CONGRESS  
CONGRESSIONAL SESSION CIX

April 25, 2023

CONGRESSIONAL RESOLUTION CR-109-08

AS INTRODUCED

A Congressional Resolution addressing an incident on campus involving a false report of an active shooter, calling for legislative action; and providing for distribution.

- Whereas: On April 7<sup>th</sup>, 2023, at 9:24pm, students at the University of Oklahoma received an alert that there was an active shooter on campus; and
- Whereas: This incident was the result of a swatting attack, which, according to initial reports from the OU Administration, was likely carried out by a group outside of the United States; and
- Whereas: Swatting is the act of reporting a fake crime to the police with the intention of soliciting a large reaction from law enforcement in a specific area. It is often done to incite fear within a specific population; and
- Whereas: Since the beginning of 2023, there have been more than 155 mass shootings within the United States; and
- Whereas: According to the National Gun Violence Archive, these shootings have caused over 200 deaths and 548 injuries; and
- Whereas: According to NPR, over 74 people have been injured or killed by guns while at American schools this year; and
- Whereas: Since 2021, gun violence has been the leading cause of death for children and teens in the United States, accounting for nearly 20% of all deaths for people under 18 years old; and
- Whereas: According to the American Psychological Association, the constant shootings within The United States have caused a collective trauma within the American youth, which has led to increased rates of anxiety and stress; and
- Whereas: During the April 7<sup>th</sup> incident, students did not receive an all-clear notice until 10:53pm. This left over an hour and a half where students were unsure of what the situation was on campus. Many students feared the worst, as they received calls from loved ones asking about their safety and were given conflicting reports about whether or not a shooter was on campus; and
- Whereas: Events like the April 7<sup>th</sup> swatting incident and other gun violence incidents throughout the United States have led students to feel unsafe on campus, hindering their access to education, their professional development, and their ability to practice free speech on campus.

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE UNIVERSITY OF OKLAHOMA UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT CONGRESS THAT:

- Section 1:** This resolution shall be known and may be cited as the “2023 Gun Safety Resolution.”
- Section 2:** The University of Oklahoma Undergraduate Student Congress recognizes the profound effect that events like the April 7<sup>th</sup> swatting incident can have on students and their families. It also recognizes that the effects of these events are heightened by the widespread fear and trauma created by the gun violence epidemic within the United States.
- Section 3:** The University of Oklahoma Undergraduate Student Congress reaffirms its stance made in CR-109-01, the “Campus Safety Resolution”, and discourages all state legislators from filing any future legislation that would loosen gun restrictions on college campuses.
- Section 4:** The University of Oklahoma Undergraduate Student Congress emphasizes that the threat of gun violence in the United States is hindering the ability of its students to learn and is causing students around the country feel unsafe on campus.
- Section 5:** The University of Oklahoma Undergraduate Student Congress calls on our elected officials within all levels of government to act against the growing gun violence epidemic within the United States by enacting policies that protect our youth both inside and outside of schools. The Undergraduate Student Congress specifically encourages our officials to support legislation that creates more robust gun safety laws within Oklahoma.
- Section 6:** Copies of this resolution will be sent to:
- The OU Daily
  - The OU Nightly
  - Oklahoma State Representative Jared Deck
  - Oklahoma State Representative Annie Menz
  - Oklahoma State Representative Jacob Rosecrants
  - Oklahoma State Representative Jay Steagall
  - Oklahoma State Representative Cody Maynard
  - Oklahoma State Representative Ty Burns
  - Oklahoma State Representative Sherrie Conley
  - Oklahoma State Representative Denise Crosswhite Hader
  - Oklahoma State Representative Tom Gann
  - Oklahoma State Representative Jim Olsen
  - Oklahoma State Representative Amanda Swope
  - Oklahoma State Representative John Waldron
  - Oklahoma State Representative Kevin West
  - Oklahoma State Senator Mary Boren
  - Oklahoma State Senator Darcy Jech
  - Oklahoma State Senator Bill Coleman
  - Oklahoma State Senator Michael Brooks
  - Oklahoma State Senator Nathan Dahm
  - Oklahoma State Senator Tom Dugger
  - Oklahoma State Senator Carri Hicks

- Oklahoma State Senator Kevin Matthews
- Oklahoma State Senator Ronald Pederson
- Oklahoma State Senator Blake Stephens
- Oklahoma State Senator George Burns
- Oklahoma State Senator Todd Gollihare
- Oklahoma State Senator Kristen Thompson
- United States Senator Markwayne Mullin
- United States Senator James Lankford
- United States Representative Stephanie Bice
- United States Representative Tom Cole
- United States Representative Kevin Hern
- United States Representative Frank Lucas
- United States Representative Josh Brecheen
- Oklahoma Governor Kevin Stitt

Author(s): Weslie Griffin, Chair of the External Affairs Committee  
 Ryan Barnett, International Studies Representative  
 Jeriah Wilson, Associate

Co-Author(s): Annie Mullins, Chair of the University Policy Committee, Social Sciences Representative  
 Abby Halsey-Kraus, Chair of the Undergraduate Student Congress

Co-Sponsor(s): Christopher Firsch, Student Government Association President  
 Bailey Trautman, Vice Chair of the Undergraduate Student Congress  
 Amelia Landry, Secretary of the Undergraduate Student Congress  
 Tucker Dunn, Parliamentarian, Finance and Accounting Representative  
 Demetri Papahronis, Chair of the Ways and Means Committee  
 Rylee Houston, Chair of the Sustainability Committee  
 Hudson Haskins, Chair of the Campus Outreach Safety and Concerns Committee  
 Carolyn Berggren, Chair of the Human Diversity Committee  
 Jordan Brown, Director of the Exterior  
 Michael Stoyak, Director of the Interior  
 Clayton Chiariello, Communication Representative  
 Ivan Ramirez, Social Sciences Representative  
 Michael Reynolds, Atmospheric and Geographic Sciences Representative  
 Benjamin Keupen, Associate  
 Ellie Wolthuis, Associate

Submitted on a motion by: Representative Mullins seconded by Representative Reynolds

Action taken by Congress: 16-4-0 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: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

THE UNIVERSITY OF OKLAHOMA STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION  
UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT CONGRESS  
CONGRESSIONAL SESSION CIX

April 25, 2023

CONGRESSIONAL RESOLUTION CR-109-09

AS INTRODUCED

A Congressional Resolution supporting the Cherokee Nation's effort to add a delegate to the United States Congress; and providing for distribution.

- Whereas: As the flagship university of the State of Oklahoma, the University of Oklahoma has a unique duty and opportunity to serve and honor indigenous communities; and
- Whereas: Thousands of Indigenous students attend the University of Oklahoma, including many Cherokee Nation citizens; and
- Whereas: The U.S. Supreme Court ruling in the *McGirt V. Oklahoma* case upheld the rights granted by treaties made with Native governments; and
- Whereas: The Cherokee Nation was promised a delegate in the Treaty of New Echota in 1835 by the federal government; and
- Whereas: Despite the Treaty of New Echota being ratified, the United States government has not honored their agreement to the nation by seating a delegate to the House of Representatives.

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 "Cherokee Nation Delegate Support Resolution of 2023."
- Section 2: The Undergraduate Student Congress supports the efforts being made by Cherokee Nation Principal Chief Chuck Hoskin, Jr., Kimberly Teehee, and the rest of the nation's government to seat Teehee as a delegate to the United States House of Representatives.
- Section 3: The Undergraduate Student Congress emphasizes the importance of respecting treaties signed by all tribes including the Cherokee Nation.
- Section 4: Copies of this resolution will be sent to:
- Representative Tom Cole, US House of Representatives
  - Representative Stephanie Bice, US House of Representatives
  - Representative Kevin Hern, US House of Representatives

- Representative Frank Lucas, US House of Representatives
- President Joseph Harroz, Jr, University of Oklahoma
- Principal Chief Chuck Hoskin, Jr., Cherokee Nation
- Belinda Higgs Hyppolite, Vice President of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion
- OU Daily
- OU Nightly

Author(s): Clayton Chiariello, Communication District Representative

Co-Author(s): Weslie Griffin, Chair of External Affairs Committee  
Ryan Barnett, International Studies District Representative,

Co-Sponsor(s): Rylee Houston, Chair of the Sustainability Committee  
Madeline Cantrell, Communication Representative  
Carter Strickland, University College Representative

Submitted on a motion by: Representative Ferguson seconded by Representative Aslam

Action taken by Congress: 19-0-0 unanimous pass

Verified by Chair of Congress: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_