

THE UNIVERSITY OF OKLAHOMA STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION



UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT CONGRESS

Session CXV

General Body Meeting

7:00 pm, Tuesday, April 28, 2026

Dale Hall, Room 103

**Call to Order** 7:02 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.

*On a motion to approve the minutes Pitts seconded Cunningham*

**Approval of Minutes | April 21, 2026**

**Officer Reports -**

- **Chair's Report:** Hi, everyone. This is our last meeting. Congratulations. You made it. So today is one of our bigger meetings. This is our roster elections. We will jump into these specifics when we get closer. Just as a quick reminder, if you have any questions that are planned to go directly towards a candidate outside of the chair elections, because there's only one, all questions have to be directed to both candidates for the position.
- **Vice Chair's Report:** Hi everyone. Super sad that it's my last vice chair's report. It's insane. But what do y'all think I have to say, though? Submit your CSPs! Yes, there isn't much time left in the semester, and it is about to be deadweek. Please submit it because I will send your absence to the new secretary still. So please do them. That's all I have to say. Thank you.
- **Secretary's Report:** Legacy. What is a legacy? It's planting seeds in a garden you never get to see. I wrote some notes at the beginning of a song. Someone will sing for me, Congress, you great unfinished symphony you sent for me. You let me make a difference. A place where even white boys from the dirty T can leave their fingerprints and rise up. I'm running out of time. I'm running, and my time's up. Wise up. Eyes up. I catch a glimpse at either side. Coleman's leading a soldier's chorus on the other side. Caleb is watching from the other side. Dear congress, this year has been a wild ride, and I'm not sure how you'll remember me. But I hope you remember not what I did this year, but what we have done for all future secretaries in the next years. Changing the way bills are submitted, removing the ConAd Minutes requirement, and outlining how the expulsion process works will hopefully free up the secretary to be more than just a secretary. My vision for whomever is next is that they could have the time and freedom to focus on keeping people here. I can't wait to rejoin the body and see what happens next. Thank you.

**Committee Reports-**

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- **Campus Outreach, Safety, and Concerns:** COSCO met officially this week, we say CR-115-08 and gave it a rec of due pass. We talked about a few things for next semester, but thank you guys. It's my only time in congress, but I loved it. So thank you guys. Thank you.
- **Congressional Administration:** We finished up our projects and our discussions on that. We saw a CB-115-28 and CB-115-30 and gave them both recs of do pass. We finished up. We said goodbye.
- **External Affairs:** EA met officially on Sunday. We gave the campus safety resolution a rec of do pass. Shout out first time author Max. But thanks for a great semester. Peace out, yay.
- **Human Diversity:** HD met officially this weekend. We gave CR-115-14, 15, 16, 17, 18, and 19 recommendations of do pass. And we had several first time authors on those pieces of legislation. That's about it.
- **Sustainability:** Sustainability met officially this past weekend and gave CR-115-10 and 11 recs of do pass.
- **University Policy:** UPol met officially this weekend, we saw CB-115-27, CR-115-14 and 20 and gave the mall recs of do pass. And then we also went over project reports and shutting down projects for next semester.
- **Ways and Means:** WAM met officially this weekend and just talked about project updates and we just wanted to thank you all.

## **Liaison Reports**

### **Special Orders**

- Address to the Legislature – Mercer Martin
- Rod Jahromi Award Presentation
  - **Secretary Wintory:** Hi guys we are presenting the Rod Jahromi award. This person is an extremely valuable member of congress. It's been great watching her grow this year, and she's a light that shines on everyone who meets her.
  - **Vice Chair Gilson-Bond:** When we were choosing this individual something really took into consideration was like what this award stands for as well like how it's going to actually be used and done and everything too. I had the awesome privilege last year being able to actually be able to help in the discussion of it going out. So I was very happy to be able to have the opportunity this time. But I don't want to beat around the bush so why don't you go ahead and start talking.
  - **Chair Robinson:** Yes. So this individual has had a significant impact on just about every part of campus. And I think in the coming few years they will even grow to have a much larger impact. Especially here in congress, I think we have seen a lot of the impact specifically on freshmen both integrating them into the congress community and to those in the university community. So if I could get a drum roll everybody please. It is our pleasure to announce Alex Toyos.
- Officer Elections
  - Chair
- **Nominator Toyos:** Good evening everyone, my name is Alexandra Toyos Perez, and I have the pleasure of nominating Coleman Morgan the chair of Undergraduate Student Congress. I met Cole about a year and a half ago at our freshman spring orientation, where I was assigned Human Diversity and his would be University Policy. There, he jumped in straight into his projects and legislation, going on to win March new member of the month, not even two months after starting out as an associate. I believe that's one of his best qualifications for chair, having experience in every single role leading up to a big three position. He has served as an associate, two time representative, and every exec position in a committee, including UPol secretary, ConAd vice chair, and now ConAd chair. That's actually the fourth highest ranking

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officer in our body. I know that I have full confidence in Cole's ability to lead with the same values of integrity, consistency, and passion. As he does in committee, he will continue to prioritize new members, getting them involved in projects while supporting their ideas and questions along the way. He will continue to work together with the rest of our executive committee to make sure that congress moves in a positive direction, striving for both community and productivity. His knowledge of the code and the standing rules of order will make sure that our general body meetings run as smoothly as possible. Overall, I cannot think of a more qualified person to lead our body into the new session in the fall. I would take these considerations into your vote.

- **Candidate Morgan:** Good evening everyone, my name is Coleman Morgan and I am running to be the next Chair of the Undergraduate Student Congress. I have shared with many of you my plan of Learning, Expansion, Actionability, and Direct Impact, all in all, we must L.E.A.D., together. Leading is not just about me, nor is it about any one person. It is about a collective movement, a want for improvement, a need to be better. Leading looks like being committed to a constant upward trajectory, or as I like to put 1% better every day. I live and lead by a philosophy that is quite simple—"always moving forward" this does not apply to just one situation, it is not after a success or a setback, it is a fundamental belief that we cannot dictate what happens to us, just how we choose to respond to it. I see a vision of a Congress whose relentless need to serve and want to improve the lives of our constituents outweighs any failure or victory, a Congress who is always moving forward. My plan to expand Congress to 72 representatives seats will take place in a simple, streamlined process. In order to redistrict in a timely manner at the beginning of next session, we will call a special election, wherein a referendum calling for the removal of the 14 district minimum and instituting a minimum of the number of degree seeking undergraduate academic colleges is put in place. This ensures that our seats are being filled, our constituents represented and gives the student body a say in how we represent them. We currently have six unfilled seats resulting in over 3000 students without representation in our body. With my plan of more seats, fewer districts, and attending classes in districts where we desperately need to fill seats, we can create a Congress that better represents all OU students. One thing that has been made clear to me, and I hope to all of you this past week is that what we do matters. The outpouring of support and criticism alike from the student body regarding the actions of *this* body proves that our decisions have real consequences on those we represent. So often we run representative campaigns, meet with constituents, hear their ideas, and then we get to Congress and we forget. I know that we can get back to a place where it does not take a controversial bill or news article to garner feedback from those we represent. The most direct way to reach large swaths of students is through outreach with RSOs. I believe that representatives should go and talk to RSOs within their district about WAM funding, potential legislation, or projects that may concern them. We owe it to those we represent to put forth the effort and strengthen our relationships with their RSOs. I am excited about the prospect of our Dodge A&S Reps meeting with Dean Michael Markham, but I am not satisfied with just one set of representatives getting this opportunity. During my tenure as Chair I will work to expand meetings with college deans so that all representatives get the opportunity to advocate to their deans about the changes they wish to see, but also to receive feedback about what we could improve upon. When I ask myself why I am running for Congress Chair, it is the very same answer as when I asked myself why I wanted to join Congress as an associate last spring. It is because I want to make a difference for those around me and in my community. It is because I believe that a group of passionate people can come together under one banner, one common cause and do the hard work. The work that no one else wants to do, yet still needs to be done. As President John F. Kennedy once said, "We choose to go to

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the Moon in this decade and do the other things, not because they are easy, but because they are hard” I know a lot of the work we do in this body can be tiring and repetitive, but when you take a step back and realize who and what you are doing it for, it makes it all worthwhile. I am honored to be up here tonight, and I greatly look forward to being your next Congress Chair.

Questions:

- **Representative Fisher:** I know you mentioned you wanted to start organizing some type of meetings, like, perhaps with the deans. Now I know I don't know how, like, other colleges do it, but for engineering we have something called engineering town hall which is organized by engineers club. It's an open meeting where students can ask questions in an open forum. How would you make it different from that, something we've had established for a long time.
  - **Chair Morgan:** I think what I'm referring to more so when we have representatives meeting with our deans, that's going to be more of a closed door thing. That's going to be arts and sciences. However many of them we have right now. Going in meeting with Dean Markham in the same way with Dean Moran of the engineering college. It would be less front facing as the e club does. Obviously, they have this open town hall where you can go back and forth, and you can have them answering your questions and then open q and a. That's more of a public front facing thing. But what I'm referring to is having representatives go in behind the scenes and so we know what we need to legislate on, what the projects we need to take on for individual colleges. And I believe we have these representatives, and we get to congress. We meet with our constituents to run for these representative seats. We get here, and we kind of forget what it is we're doing. So to have these meetings with representatives, we can get back to a place where representatives are truly representing their district and the students in their district.
- **Representative Wolthuis:** How do you plan to resolve conflict, like between committee chairs? Your relationship with the committee chairs, obviously, the dynamics, as you've seen, are a huge factor of congress. How would you say your approach is going towards these issues?
  - **Chair Morgan:** Absolutely. I view myself as a relatively friendly person. I think I can go up and talk to anybody, shake anybody's hand, say, how are you doing? Conflict is natural. It happens. It's the back and forth of these legislative bodies of the four branches we have here in SGA. It's going to happen. It would be ridiculous for it to not. But how I've handled conflict in the past and how I intend to do it going forward is having these one on one conversations with people, having interpersonal connections. Because I believe when you know somebody, they're more than willing to open up to you about what the true problem is. And so if two committee chairs were to be button heads rubbing against each other, I think just sitting down and talking to them, hey. What can I do to help you? Right? And then take the onus off of any one person. Not necessarily, hey. It's your fault. This is happening. More so, how can I help resolve this? As the elected representative of all of the representatives here, it's our job to mitigate these conflicts and move congress forward in a positive light. So going one on one with each person and just trying to figure out conflicts from there.
- **Chief of staff Christiansen:** I know one of the challenges a lot of RSO, being on both sides of that, is getting that connection made. And also RSOs knowing what SGA does. How do you plan to bridge that gap?
  - **Chair Morgan:** Yeah. Absolutely. When I was in UPol last semester, Cody Walker, former chair, he had a big compiled list of literally every single RSO on campus color coded by district or sorry. It was by committee. We would be going by district. All it takes is a

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simple email. You say, hey. I'm with the undergraduate student congress. We are working to represent you. We want to hear your concerns. I would love to meet with you. Obviously, they don't have specialized emails like we have, but going and finding these representatives and these leaders of these RSOs. Because the hardest part is bridging that gap is getting to them in the first place. After we build the relationship, it's something that we can work on a little easier. But, yeah, it's just taking the initiative. It's reaching out first. It's saying, hey. We're here for you. We're representing you. Extending the olive branch and saying, hey. I'd love to meet with you and see any concerns you have and how I can help you.

- **Representative Fisher:** What's the best type of engineering?
  - **Chair Morgan:** Aerospace, and it's not close.
- **Representative Solomon:** You were talking about wanting to expand the amount of representatives. You mentioned getting greater outreach, and filling our vacant seats. Can you tell us any specifics about what you have in mind right now?
  - **Chair Morgan:** Well, a lot of the problems we have with filling our seats right now is they're in niche specific districts. We have an academic affairs district with one specific seat. We have an exploratory district for the university college, which does not exist anymore. We have the two unfilled architecture seats. We have two unfilled pre health science seats. So a big reason why I'm wanting to change this minimum district to align specifically with our academic colleges is to broaden who is in each district so we know what we need to build. So we're not having to go search for the or professional continuing studies is another great example. We're very lucky to have a representative from professional continuing studies, but there's only about 300 of them on campus. So it is extremely difficult to reach out to any specific PACS representative. So expanding these districts and then going to classes, literally any classes in the district, because I think oftentimes we go to American federal government, Calc one, chem one, these gen ed classes that everybody's in, and nobody pays attention. But if you go to smaller classes and you go and you are pitching, hey. We want you specifically for this seat. People are going to come across it a lot more kindly. They're going to feel seen and heard, and I think it's a way we can better fill our seats.
- **Associate Bass:** I've heard you talking a lot about how we can, you know, increase our engagement with the student body and with RSOs as a whole through representatives, but we also do have a very large number of associates. How do you believe that going forward, we can leverage those associates to further that goal as well?
  - **Chair Morgan:** Absolutely. I mean, first of all, we have, I want to say, a 155ish people in student government right now. We have 43 of those seats filled. We go to 72, that's going to be more associates filling those seats. That's going to be less on that. But that's a that's a very fair question. I I don't think there is any reason why associates in any specific district can also reach out to RSOs. Right? It doesn't take a representative. You're an associate. You're appointed an undergraduate in congress. You have a responsibility to your constituents as well. So I think associates being included in on outreach to RSOs. Again, as I talked about earlier, just sending an email to say, hey. I'm here for you guys. Looping associates in on that, that'll help us out, and it'll increase our we have more people. Less emails to send per person, that's more efficient. And then when they form those connections, we have more unique voices and diverse opinions that can give that back to us.
- **Associate Blackwell:** Do you have any plans to get associates more engaged in congress?

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- **Chair Morgan:** That's a that's a big issue that we have discussed in our executive committee over the past month ish now is how do we get associates to buy in. And I don't think there is any one specific way we can say, hey. You need to pay attention. It doesn't work. If you go to someone and say, you need to care about this, they're not going to care about it. We need to cultivate specific projects, specific legislation that people want to care about. We need to have a community here which brings people in and then keeps them. So often, we'll see representatives and associates alike who come to congress. They go to the first couple meetings. They never show up again. It's a big issue. Creating a community where they feel welcomed, they feel like they can still make an impact even though they don't vote in general body, creating that culture wherein they want to stay is something that's so important. And just catering legislation and projects to include everybody and not putting so much of an onus on representatives and just building a culture in which we can all stay engaged and want to serve those we represent.

*On a motion to enter executive session Cunningham seconded Cox: Passed 28-0-0*

- Executive Session

*On a motion to exit executive session Cunningham seconded Cox: Passed 28-0-0*

*Morgan Wins 29-0-0*

- Vice Chair
- **Nominator Gilson-Bond:** I'm here to nominate Owen Cunningham because I've seen firsthand how he leads, grows, and elevates the people around him. My history with Owen goes back to when he first joined the body. I was able to immediately notice his level of engagement and commitment which is something not only important for every congress member to have but a very important attribute to have as Vice Chair. Among the many attributes he has one that I love about him is his ability to handle adversity. Many people have either an emotional or analytical approach to leadership, but he has both. The way he advocates for issues is a way that makes you feel comfort that you are not crazy and in a way that makes logistical sense. As Vice Chair you are not able to appease to everyone, but you are able to present all the facts that enable others to make the best decision, which is what leaders do. During his time as Chair of Sustainability, he didn't just maintain the committee, he has built it into something stronger than it ever has been, which gives all those apart of the committee a greater sense of purpose, far more than any Sustainability Chair has in the past. That ability to grow and bring others together is what makes a great leader, and it is what makes me believe in him and his HELP platform, and it is why you need him as Vice Chair. Owens Platform reflects the mindset of developing each of you as members, making sure you leave this body as better leaders and better representatives for your constituents. I've seen his work ethic, I've seen his mindset, and I've seen his commitment to make any organization he is a part of it better than he joined it. If you want someone who will invest in this body and to invest in you, I strongly encourage you to support Owen Cunningham for Vice Chair. Thank you.
  - **Candidate Cunningham:** Good evening everyone! I am honored to have this opportunity to speak in front of you all as one of your Vice Chair candidates! They gave me five minutes so I'll do my best not to bore you. First of all, who is the dude in a suit yelling at you? For those who don't know me, my name is Owen Cunningham, and I have been in Congress for two years now. Last year I was also a member of CLA, which has been one of the highlights of my college experience so far. This past year I have had the amazing privilege to serve as the Sustainability Chair, and I have loved it. In my time we have organized 7

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different trash walks with targets including Bishop Creek, Campus Corner, and the dreaded Confetti monster. Something I am particularly proud of is the way Sustainability has collaborated with Environmental student organizations this year. We've worked with Environmental Science Student Association, Green Week, and particularly our amazing counterparts in the Graduate Student Senate. I think these collaborations have sharpened our abilities to make an impact and helped us immensely in our service to the environment around OU. I briefly considered running for Vice Chair last year, but I felt that I needed more experience serving in Congress before doing so. I think this year has given me experience and honed the skills for the role, and so I come before you all today to present my ideas and platform for the Vice Chair of Congress. My platform is HELP. I chose the acronym because I believe that is truly the role of the Vice Chair. From organizing and planning Orientation, welcoming new members and familiarizing them with the way things operate, to handling PR and social media for the SGA account, to being responsible for morale, the Vice Chair's job is to make things run easier for the Chair and Secretary and make things fun for everyone. My first point is based around Holistic leadership. I want to make sure everyone, even the newest members of Congress, are familiar with the way things operate and ready to get started as soon as they join. Everyone is in this room for a reason. Giving them the tools to make a difference helps them create change and serve the student body effectively. Secondly, I want to actively encourage members of Student Government to take opportunities. If Vice Chair I would publish a biweekly newsletter-like thing, inspired by the Midnight Memos of CLA, which recaps what Committees, the Executive, Graduate, and Programming branches are up to. This would also contain leadership opportunities like Committee exec or Cabinet applications when they are open. The third thing I would want to do as Vice Chair is to maintain lively engagement. I think the Constituent Service Point could be reworked, and since the Vice Chair is responsible for CSPs I would work with ConAd to see what can be done in that area. I would also work with Congressional leadership to create ways to encourage Associate involvement and prevent the sort of slumps we see in all members around second semester. Finally I want to make persistent changes. I don't want to make a difference right now that won't help people in the future. Congress has been around for decades and it will hopefully be around for decades more. Because of that, we stand on the shoulders of giants. Whether serving as a committee chair or Vice Chair, my goal is to make changes that help people long after I am gone. We have access to a large amount of resources here, and I believe we should take advantage of that. Persistent documents for committees, just like the way we have sessions of minutes in folders, would help ensure Congress improves continually, always building on those that came before. Overall, I want to bring lasting change for everyone in SGA. I cannot promise to always do perfectly, but I can promise you I will always do my best. Thank you for listening, and I can't wait for questions.

- **Nominator Quinones:** My name is Estrella Quinones, and I am here to nominate Lorelai for the position of Congress Vice Chair for the upcoming year. I am nominating Lorelai because she has proven herself to be a strong and capable leader and because I truly believe in what she stands for: belonging, unity, involvement, leadership, and dialogue. These aren't just words; they are values that Lorelai actively demonstrates in her work every day. She creates a sense of

belonging by making sure people feel welcomed, supported, and confident in their place within Congress. She is an incredibly kind and supportive member of this body; She creates unity by bringing people together and encouraging collaboration across committees and perspectives. Lorelai is deeply committed to helping others find their voice and purpose. She consistently supports first time authors and encourages participation, making sure no one feels overlooked. Her leadership is defined not only by what she accomplishes, but by how she uplifts those around her. With that, it is my pleasure to strongly nominate Lorelai for Vice Chair. Thank you, and I yield my time.

- **Candidate Radzanowski:** Awesome. Hi, everyone. My name is Lorelai Radzanowski, and it's truly an honor to stand for you today as a candidate for the vice chair position of our undergraduate student congress. At the end of last year, was appointed as human diversity committee chair. I stepped into the role with minimal transition documents, but with the support of my peers and my mentors, I was able to transform this committee into something more structured, engaged, and more impactful. Since then, our committee has passed 15 pieces of legislation with seven first time authors this school year, not the session, more than in our entire history. And we also revitalized initiatives like our annual public. We started RSO Spotlights on our SGA social media, and we created the first ever community fair highlighting the diverse student organizations that define I found my people. More so, I found what it means to serve. So with that, I know that belonging doesn't come easily to everyone, and I don't think it should have to. Not everyone is fortunate to have something like CLA in their lives, which is why I'm running on the BUILD platform because we should be intentional about creating a congress where every member feels connected, supported, and impactful. First is belonging. Retention and success start with connection. I will redesign orientation into a connection first experience through small intentional groups that prioritize relationship building. Orientation shouldn't just teach you how congress works. It should help you find your placement. I will also be implementing a peer mentorship program, pairing returning members with new members to give everyone something to go to for guidance, support, and confidence. I want to provide the resources that will actually help our members succeed. Next is Unity, I will build structured want systems for collaboration. I share a congress calendar and cross committee initiatives to help collaboration become the default, not the exception. I will attend committee meetings on a rotating basis to stay connected and encourage cross committee collaboration, therefore expanding the reach to here update of this calendar in a slideshow format like this every week in my vice chair's report. Stronger congress stronger members create a stronger congress. I want to make involvement more accessible by creating a centralized resource hub with involvement opportunities such as our shared congress calendar, CSP opportunities, and student resource information. By making involvement easier to navigate, we invest in not only our legislators, but our entire members. Their lives outside of congress as well. Leadership should never be gatekept. My goal is for every single member to feel

prepared to step into leadership. I want to support committee chairs through consistent attendance in their committee meetings and proper training to transition into their positions while also creating an accessible leadership toolkit that prepares all of our members with resources like legislation templates, meeting guides, restorative practice guides, and frequently asked questions that will be updated regularly. I want to leave congress with more leaders than we started with. And lastly is style. Communication should be clear, accessible, and two way. I will implement consistent updates and create transparent opportunities for feedback while building a congress culture rooted in trust and respect. The vice chair is not just an administrative role. It is the relational core of this body. I want every member to feel comfortable coming to me with questions, concerns, or ideas knowing that their opinions will be heard and respected. Respected. All members deserve to have someone to talk to with the comfort that their privacy will be respected. Want you in congress and it's my job to help you want to stay in congress. A strong congress community not only generates a better culture, but it generates a more productive working environment. At the end of the day, my goal is simple. You should not have to fight to feel like you belong in congress. You should not have to guess how to get involved, and you should never feel like your voice doesn't matter. So let's build the congress we want to see, together.

#### Questions:

- **Representative Fisher:** As part of the voice chair position, part of your job is to go to the other committees, see what they're doing. My question is, outside of your own communities, how have you made time and helped contribute to other committees?
  - **Candidate Radzanowski:** Awesome. Thank you for the question. I have really enjoyed getting involved with my CSP opportunities. Things like our light walks. I really enjoyed the confetti walk recently that way really fun. But beyond that I've been working on spending some time in the Conoco recently and I work a full time job as well as taking 25 hours this semester, so I've been a little stretched thin. I haven't been able to be around quite as much as I would have enjoyed. But I have truly enjoyed meeting as many members as I've gotten to and getting to be involved with so many of the different projects. We've gotten to see several pieces of legislation brought to us by other committees. And that's been a really great way to get to connect with some of our members outside of just our committee.
  - **Candidate Cunningham:** Thank you for the question. Throughout the semester, I mean, even back when I was an associate, I would attend general body meetings even when I wasn't required to, attend other committee meetings because I find their work really interesting. Like, even as sustainability chair, I've done my best to just show up to all the meetings I can on Sundays. I haven't been perfect just because I've had, obviously, other time commitments, but I've done my best to show up to as many as possible. Because, like, the work that ConAd, for example, does is so incredibly different from the work sustainability does. Their stuff is all legislation, ours is almost all projects. And so it's fascinating to attend different committees. I mean, just sitting in WAM the other day, it was like, the vibes were very different, but they weren't bad. I do understand why they

call you all the Wamily now. And so it's just more information. And I think information is the core of being a leader. Learning about not just the people you work for, but also the people you work with. Attending their meetings, finding out the way they do things, and just showing up, showing out, showing that you pay attention and that you listen. And I think as vice chair, that is an incredibly important job is to show up to those other committees because you're a voting member of everyone. And so it's showing up to them and showing, hey. I understand what's going on. I can help contribute. I have ideas, but I also want to hear your ideas.

- **Representative Toyos:** Candidates, what experience do you bring from outside congress that you think will be relevant and helpful to this position?
  - **Candidate Cunningham:** I'm involved in a number of different clubs and organizations. I just completed an internship, which taught me a whole lot about how business works and how to communicate through that. It was pretty fun. I enjoyed a lot, but I'm also a member of, like, the psychology club. It's part of my degree. I'm planning to join the linguistics club as well soon because that's my other degree now. And so going to these RSOs, here is what they had to say. Last year, I went to a German club meeting where they were talking about an issue on campus that I then brought back to congress. And I was like, hey. What's up with that? So it's just like I'm involved in at least two other clubs now. I can't remember all of them off the top of my head, but going to them, understanding their perspectives, I think that's incredibly important for coming back to congress because it's our job to represent those ideas and those values right here.
  - **Candidate Radzanowski:** Thank you for the question. I would say that my largest engagement outside of congress is my now former position in my sorority. I served as director of new member engagement which meant that from the time that new members ran home on their bid day to the day they were initiated, my job was to teach them how sorority life works and how to help them feel like they belonged in our community. So I think that's a very similar role to the position of vice chair and that you are the first point of contact. You are the face. You are the welcoming voice to all of those members and somebody that they should be able to talk to and trust. I was also fortunate enough to get to plan things like retreats and weekly events for those members. And that also kind of prepares me for things that I would hope that I would get to do in the vice chair position, getting to plan final congress events to make us all want to stay and be a part of this body. I think that that type of thing is what kind of uniquely certifies me for this position because I want the role of the vice chair to be very personal, very relational, and very connected. And I think the best way to be grounded and my best experience in that has been my position as director of new member engagement.
- **Associate Savage:** Please rank the committees.
  - **Candidate Radzanowski:** You said you were going to do this, and I still didn't know how I was going to answer when you asked. Well I said that I would answer in terms of how much I like the committee chairs. I'm not actually going to do that. I wouldn't actually do that. They're all great. I do feel a very strong connection with the Human Diversity Committee. It's the committee that I started with and the committee that made me want to stay in Congress. I do see how in its own unique ways every single committee makes an impact on our Congress culture. I don't think that there's any true way to break that. I'm not trying to skirt question here. I'm being genuine here. When I say that some committees are so crucial to the functioning of congress that you couldn't possibly rank them low, but others, the project based committees are the ones that I feel a very

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personal connection to because I come from a project based committee and I've worked with a lot of the other project based committees. So it's one of those where like I couldn't I don't know how it would actually happen. I don't know. That's a great question, and I'm not going to lie to you and try to rank them. I'm not going to skirt the question.

- **Candidate Cunningham:** Number one, we've got sustainability. Number two, we've got human diversity because they bring an incredible array of perspectives and they help us serve such a wide array of the student body. Also at number 2 we have WAM. Also at number 2 we have University policy. Number 2 I think I'll also have to go with ConAd. They make sure that congress works efficiently. They make sure that we run everything properly, that we follow all the rules. And while I do call them the evil rules committee, I do appreciate the work that they do because without them, you know, we wouldn't be able to do any of this. Also at number 2, I think I'm going to go with external affairs because they're responsible for such incredible projects as higher education day, which is probably my favorite thing I ever get to do for congress, and I always wish that we could do it longer. So let's see. Yeah. I guess I'll go with COSCO also at number two. I really enjoyed the light walk. It was kind of scary realizing how much of the stuff, like, just isn't lit. And I think that you do do very important work oh, very funny. I think that you do incredibly important work because, like I said earlier, we are here to serve the student body. And without ensuring that they are safe, that we couldn't do that.

*On a motion to extend time for questions by 20 minutes Vedra seconded Cox*

- **Associate Keupen:** Candidates, first off, I admire your love for your strong moral compasses. As someone who also has a strong moral compass, I know firsthand the pros and cons of that. As such, how do you plan to make sure you are not stubborn in your decisions or dismissive of others' opinions?
  - **Candidate Cunningham:** It's an excellent question, and it's definitely a problem whenever you're in a leadership role. I think that serving as the president of an RSO over at the Haines Hall of Investigator has given me a lot of experience doing that because it is sometimes incredibly frustrating. People will not want to work with you. People will just be rude when working with you. But it is incredibly important to approach every single individual with empathy. This person, they have their own way of doing things, that does not mean it's wrong. It's approaching that with a mutual understanding and looking at them and saying, hey. We both want to work towards a common goal. Let's see how we can do that. I think that's very important for congress because we're all from different backgrounds, but we're all here for a reason. We all joined the body because we wanted to do something. We wanted to make a difference. And so I think always keeping in mind and approaching every person that you interact with with that mindset, just maintaining that I'm here to make a difference, so are you. Let's see how we can do that.
  - **Candidate Radzanowski:** Thank you for the question. I just got lost in my head a little bit thinking about how much my perspective has changed in the last couple years. I was always a very stubborn person growing up. I would take my positions and not budge. But I think I've gone significantly more relaxed lately. I would like to hope at least because I've started working with a child who has muscular dystrophy and autism. And it's one of those you really want to pick your battles. I think that's kind of helped me not dig my heels in, it's helped me open my mind a little bit and remember that life's supposed to be fun, that it doesn't always have to be your way. And I think it's helped me come into everything with the perspective of it's you and whoever else is in the

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room against the problem, not you versus other people. So I think that's the perspective that I carried into this and something that I hope to continue to enact and Let's be first.

- **Representative Benitez-Mendoza:** At the end of the day you are both running for the involved person, what is your strongest interpersonal skill and what is your biggest weakness?
  - **Candidate Radzanowski:** I think that one of my strongest skills that I come into this position with is my restorative justice trainings. I received restorative justice training every year in highschool and it's a practice that I've really come to value. My school was a democratic high school where students have an equal say in their education. And so everything we did was kind of decided collaboratively. So that creates a lot of tensions when you have a 160 high schoolers trying to talk about the dress code or trying to talk about the phone policy or anything of the sorts. But it's one of those where conversations. You have to be able to again approach everything from a perspective of it's you guys against this problem. It's not you guys against each other. So I think that restorative justice training is something that I would hope to actually kind of expand that training and get to help other people learn the practice. That's something that I find that I'm very confident in and something that I am comfortable helping others navigate if tensions were to arise in this body. I think my biggest weakness at this point is, gosh, I would I do believe that I'm stubborn. I know it. I feel a very strong sense of justice, and I want to continue to advocate for the people that we serve without digging my nails in too hard.
  - **Candidate Cunningham:** Thank you for your question. I think that the biggest thing is just that I love to talk to people. I've had so many wonderful opportunities both in my internship and in my time as chair to get to talk to people who do something different, to email RSOs, to set up Zoom meetings with people in California, in Florida, in Minnesota. And it's just I really do love talking to people, speaking to them, understanding their perspective on whatever issues they care about. And so I think that working with people and just having any opportunity to approach someone, to have a conversation with them. That is the best part about any people facing job. I'm incredibly excited for the opportunity, but also with my time as a major, I just love it. Working with the RSOs I mentioned earlier, working with the graduates, it's fantastic because everybody has a different story to tell, and I love learning about that. And through that, I believe that makes me even better as a communicator, even better as a better listener.
- **Associate Blackwell:** Candidates do you have any plans to make CSPs less of an obligation and something more fun?
  - **Candidate Cunningham:** That is something that I absolutely have ideas and desires to do because I think that, like, somebody mentioned earlier that sometimes you get into congress and you sort of lose sight of things. And I believe that by changing the CSP into an opportunity, into a chance to take a risk or to talk to somebody. I think that that helps incentivize people because they want to do it. Through that, that encourages sort of just the self efficacy of our congress members. So I think, like, giving people say, hey. If you go and talk to your constituents for, like, ten minutes. I know we did that for tabling, but I think talking to actual constituents would be an even better way to do that, where you go, like you say, hey. What do you care about right now? I've had people approach me in the past. Last year, they were talking about the impeachment and just wanting to ask questions about it, and that was a great opportunity because it gets people interested in congress. And so I think that changing the CSP, like, sort of allowing people to have the opportunity to talk to other people would absolutely make it more engaging and make it something that people want to pursue actively.

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- **Candidate Radzanowski:** I think one of the largest issues with our CSP system right now is that people forget. People forget to log them. So many people do this. I can guarantee every single person in this room has done something this month that has contributed to something larger than that. Every single one of you. You have attended a committee meeting that wasn't yours. You have seen something on the soval. You have participated in a research study. You have volunteered at a food bank. You have done something that benefits the lives of others, others, but it's the the act of going and finding the link and logging it and making sure that it counts as a CSP and what's really a CSP and how do I know if this is going to count? That's what happens to so many of us. So making a centralized opportunity hub is part of my platform, and it's something where I wanted to create this as part of our congress calendar. I want to create a list of all valid opportunities. Obviously, that can be expanded as we think of more unique circumstances, But also making sure that those are available on the calendar so you can see all of the upcoming opportunities so you don't let that slip your mind. And then also reminding everybody at congress every single week of what opportunities we have coming up.
- **Chief of Staff Christiansen:** Candidates, of all of the vice chair responsibilities, perhaps the coolest one is that you're a member of the PRC. What have you enjoyed about our SGA Instagram as a whole and our other outreach opportunities, and what do you think we can improve on as well?
  - **Candidate Radzanowski:** My favorite thing that the SGA instagram has done lately is something I actually partnered with my committee this semester. Some of my committee members had to strive to start feature Fridays, spotlighting diverse student organizations on our campus, highlighting some of their events, some of their purposes, things like that. And so every Friday, we highlight a different organization on this campus. And I think that's one of the best things we've done because as a congress, we have such an elevated voice to our that's question. I think is such a a gift that we have. It's something that I'm so glad that that's my committee's been able to contribute to this semester. think going forward, I would like to see a little bit more personality, I guess, on it. We are a very formal social media right now. And I think bringing the congress joy into it, showing how what we do day to day, what it looks like doing takeovers and things like that would be a really wonderful way to get people engaged and make them feel like they can truly talk to us when they want to talk to somebody about an issue on campus.
  - **Candidate Cunningham:** Thank you for the question. I've liked two big things that I've seen over the past year. The first one is relatively minor. But whenever after general body meeting, we do a little thing that says, hey. Here are the bills. Here's what passed, here's what didn't. Congratulations to the first time authors. It's a relatively simple thing, but I think that does get people at least somewhat aware that, hey. Congress is doing stuff. And then another thing that's been a lot more my favorite is the the meet us Mondays where we bring in, like, a leader in congress and they do an interview with him. And they have a video with him and it's or her. And it's just like showing the position and the person in that position. And I think that that helps bring a lot of personability to the role. It helps humanize this sort of abstract what is student government. It helps humanize that abstract into actual people. I think in the future, going forward and doing that like, we've got the meet your reps section on the SGA website. I think we should have meet your reps meet us Mondays. Just saying, hey. Here's a random representative from Dodge. They agreed to an interview. Here's what

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they're doing. Here's why they're doing it. I think that that just helps, like I said, take this abstract idea of student government and make it into a person and a face. That makes it a lot easier to reach out, and that helps us serve people a whole lot better.

- **Representative Toyos:** Candidates, have you made efforts to connect with the current vice chair to understand all the requirements and day to day work?
  - **Candidate Cunningham:** Yes, I've spoken to Aaron numerous times. I briefly considered running for vice chair last year, but decided that, hey. I want more experience in the body, so I decided to hold off. But throughout that time, I did talk to Aaron about the responsibilities. And then, obviously, again this year, I spoke to him at length about what he does, about why he does it, what he what he likes, what he doesn't like. To just get a very good grasp of the role and to be sure that it was something that I really did want to do.
  - **Candidate Radzanowski:** Aaron was kind enough to provide both of us with the transition documents at the time so we can really familiarize ourselves with what we'd be getting ourselves into with this position because it's a lot more behind the scenes work than a position like chair or secretary. And kind of really getting a chance to understand at all of the inner workings of this position. So I do think that we've both been very well prepared for this. Yeah.
- **Representative Rhoads:** What is one trait you admire about the other person?
  - **Candidate Radzanowski:** I think that Owen is so approachable, and I admire you he is the type of person where he either knows the answer or he's going to get you the answer. And I really appreciate that. Very knowledgeable and very, very approachable. I wouldn't feel uncomfortable going there if I didn't know anything or something and asking.
  - **Candidate Cunningham:** I think Lorelai is an absolutely amazing leader. I've been to her committee meetings, and she runs it like it's the navy. But, like, the organization, the managing because it's a very large committee too, being able to manage all the people and consider all the perspectives. And I also like the idea of the breakout rooms. I've never thought about that when we adjourn, we're done. It's just incredibly impressive the way that she works with people, the way that she leads them, and the way that she takes all of these diverse perspectives and makes them into actionable change.
- **Associate Thompson:** Candidates, would you resign from your representative seat if you win the position of vice chair?
  - **Candidate Cunningham:** Thank you for the question. I've thought about this. I would. I don't know if I do it immediately just because that would cause more hassle for this already very long meeting. But if I got vice chair, I don't feel the need to have a rep seat as well. If I didn't get it, I want to keep it because I do like voting. But, yes, I would plan to resign my seat. If not at this meeting, probably not. Then at as soon as I could. First one of 117 because vice chair, I think, has a distinct role. Representative is also a distinct role. And while these don't exist in conflict, I would not necessarily want to have to do double duty.
  - **Candidate Radzanowski:** I do personally find it a conflict of interest to be both vice chair and representative. I personally find that the positions of big three have a very large influence on our voting members and on the rest of the body. And I would like to focus my efforts into being the best leader and the best vice chair I could be. And I don't think I would be the best I could be if I was also a voting member of this meeting. So I would resign from it, my position as representative. I would not want to create more hassle

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from my secretary, so I would do it immediately following this meeting. But, yes, I would resign from my position.

- **Representative Wintory:** Candidates, a large part of being vice chair is getting people involved. How would you evaluate your committee's engagement in relation to your leadership, and what lessons have you learned because of it?
  - **Candidate Radzanowski:** I came into this position with a four member committee. I was one of the four members. And after our committee drafts in the fall, we're up to 25 members. Now after, you know, a whole semester of all of our associates finding their place in OU, we are at 15 consistent members of our committee. And I think that is so wonderful and such dramatic uptick from last year when we were in this time. Also, our members have been more engaged. Are asking questions. They are making motions. They are truly becoming the leaders that I wanted to be myself my freshman year. Didn't have the tools to do. And I am so proud of them and everything they've accomplished this year. So I would hope that it's partially my leadership, but I also know that I was just very, blessed with such a great group of people who really wanted to get in and do the work and turn this around and make an impact on people that they serve.
  - **Candidate Cunningham:** Throughout the time in my committee role, I've been extremely pleased with my committee's involvement. I think that I did trash walks under Aaron's chairship last year, but this year, I have the honor to say that we've held much larger ones. We've held ones that cover much larger areas and make a much bigger impact. And my committee members have brought in from their shockingly diverse array of majors, they brought in concerns. They brought in questions. They brought in stuff that people have been talking about. They've said, hey. I've seen that these water fountains are out in this area, this area, this area. Those are areas I've never been in on campus. And they're like, hey. I've seen these out. How can we do what can we do about that? How can we start changing that? And so I've been extremely pleased with my committee's involvement. I've been very proud of them, the way that they show up trash walks and make a tangible difference in our environment on and off campus. And it's been absolutely thrilling. Several of them are also members of RSOs that we work with, and so they bring in communication and ideas from those.
- **Representative Vedra:** Candidates, you both discussed having large time commitments this year, how confident are you in being able to fulfill all the roles of vice chair should you be elected?
  - **Candidate Cunningham:** Thanks for the question. I'm a lot more confident right now than I was about three weeks ago. I will have several fewer time commitments next semester. I will not be doing the internship that I mentioned, but nor will I be the president of the RSO responsible for 300 people, which both of those took a decent amount of my time, but I will not be doing that. I will also be dropping my credit hours from 21 because that's not very fun. I like having free time. I like being able to show up for stuff. So reducing that would allow me to have more time on Sundays and better serve all of the gigs.
  - **Candidate Radzanowski:** Yeah. I am also dropping my credit hours down from 20 next semester. Laying out my calendar, I have so much more free time next semester than I did this semester. I'm not going to be working full time. I am no longer now that it's a new calendar year, I'm no longer serving as director of new member engagement which does also afford me a little bit more time. I have made congress a priority on my calendar next regardless of the optimum selection. You will see me in the taco. You will see me, you know, hanging around socializing more. My Sundays are now entirely free

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besides my chapter meetings. So it is I am very committed. I've fixed my involvements and this is this is my favorite involvement. So I'll prioritize it.

- **Representative Benitez-Mendoza:** Some members of congress suggest that we have a culture issue, would you agree with that statement. If yes, what is one aspect of that issue you hope to address during your tenure as vice chair?
  - **Candidate Radzanowski:** I think it depends who you ask if you ask if we have a culture issue in congress. I had a member asking just before the meeting if that was true, that there was a culture issue, which I think means that I've done a decent job of sheltering them from it in our committee and making our committee a place where people actually want to be and where we enjoy each other's presence. And I would hope that that's true of most other committees as well that you feel like you want to be there. But I do understand that there are so many people in this body that there is always going to be tensions, that there's always going to be kind of butting heads because we're all leaders. We are all representing so many students and that comes with representing so many perspectives that you will butt heads. It will happen. So I think it's our job in this position to make sure that you are creating an environment that is welcoming and safe, that you are mitigating any tensions that you're hearing by kind of being able to step in and, you know, talk through it before it escalates and also making sure that we're not unnecessarily involving people that aren't impacted by this. If there is some sort of attention, making sure that it's handled within the group, making sure that we are using these restorative practices, and really making congress something that we want it to be and not just following it up on what it all has been. We can make it whatever we want it to be.
  - **Candidate Cunningham:** I do think there has been somewhat of a culture issue over the past two semesters now. As for how that affects members, I think it severely degrades the quality and amount of work that we're able to do serving the students. I as far as personally affected me, there have been days where it's like I'm burned out from everything I'm doing, and I don't want to come to the Conoco or do congress stuff because it's just too messy. There's too much going on. There's too many just personalities that are just jaunting at each other. As a vice chair, as a voting member of every single committee, in addition to being a member of the public relations committee, you're effectively a liaison. You handle PR. You handle morale. You are the person who goes between all the committees and says, hey. This is what they're working on. This is what they're doing. Here's how we can work together. I think culture issue emerges because people sort of lose sight of the fact that everyone wants to serve people. Everyone's here to make a difference, a positive difference for the student body. So I think as vice chair, consistently reminding people that and working as a liaison to defuse tension, to remind people, hey. This person is not against you. This person is just working towards the same problem in a different way. So serving as that liaison, serving as that intermediary role to just defuse tensions and help everyone, I think, would keep us on track and help solve the court issue.

*On a motion to enter executive session Toyos seconded Vedra: Passed 28-0-0*

▪ Executive Session

*On a motion to exit executive session Rhoads seconded Cox: Passed 26-0-0*

*Cunningham wins: 17-12-0*

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- Secretary
- **Nominator Rhoads:** I met Sam for the first time this year as an incoming associate. At that point, he was already asking me questions about what he could do to better help the OU community, and it was only orientation, and he had no idea who I was. It was then that I began to selfishly hope that he would join EA. And when he joined external affairs, he immediately added so much to my committee. He was always willing to jump on a project, engage in discussion, or make conversation about somebody's weekends. His first month in congress, he had already met with Chris Glynn to discuss the notorious parking issues on OU's campus and promote public transportation. Not only this, but I got the pleasure of sitting with him at every general body meeting even though he's always been an associate and has actually never been required to come except for the first one of the month. When the secretary position opened, Sam was the first person to ask me about it. He let me know about his experience as Rotary Club secretary and the ideas he had to help him improve the committee. Sam has always gone above and beyond. He typically sends out verbatim minutes of meetings just hours after we meet, and hours is a lie. It's typically, like, an hour or thirty minutes after we meet. And he's always the first to congratulate EA members on their accomplishments or support them. Always He goes out of his ways to support members outside of EA as well, which is a huge part of what I love about Sam. He's attended confetti walks, and he's gone on light walks, as well as attend other committees just because he truly loves congress. One of the best things a big three member can do is show up. I remember when I was HD committee chair, it meant the world to me when my chair and secretary showed up to the community potluck. I worked so hard to plan because a big part of the community is showing up for each other. And when I was there I made sure to show up to events for other community chairs planned and encourage the other parts of execs to be the same because I know how meaningful it is to have somebody at those events that you're working so hard for. And showing up is everything, and I know Sam will do that. I truly believe Sam's the best option for secretary because he doesn't just do his job for taking minutes. He shows up for others. If you vote for Sam, you won't regret it.
  - **Candidate Bregnard:** Hey guys, my name is Sam Bregnard and I am a Psychology Pre-Law major here at OU. I have had the pleasure of being in Congress for the entirety of my sophomore year and just this semester started as the Secretary for the External Affairs Committee. It has been so fun being in this position, through Higher Ed Day and the days leading up to it, to just the days where we would play kahoot and talk about our current and future projects. It was here that I learned that I really enjoyed the job and wanted to be the best that I could possibly be, which is why I am on this stage today. As the EA secretary I have had the distinct pleasure of working under so many people that have encouraged me to go above and beyond here in Congress. Hope and Baylor especially have encouraged me in every step of the way and I truly want to thank them for everything that they have done to help get me where I am today. I wanted to channel that same energy into those who could be where Cai, Micheal, or myself are standing in the future. I want to tell them that I am here to HELP, which is my platform. Full disclosure Owen and I did not collaborate on this, it was pure coincidence and I only found out on Thursday. The HELP campaign truly exhibits what I want to put into congress and how I think that I could improve on the Secretary job as a whole. I want to be someone who can bring enthusiasm to the job and at the same time be firm, headstrong, and open to criticism. The Conoco has slowly become one of my favorite places on campus and I want to be able to keep it that way and improve the atmosphere so that others would be encouraged to hang around other members of Congress in that

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space! One of the biggest portions of my platform is leadership! I will ensure to communicate with the committee secretaries to make sure that they are taking minutes correctly and being firm about attendance. At the same time I want to make sure that they are comfortable coming to me for help about anything. Which moves me onto my next point being attendance and how I will communicate with others about that. There have been far too many expulsion bills these past two sessions that I have been a part of, with no fault of the current secretary, but I want to make sure that those at threat of expulsion know that they are at that threat. I will make sure to reach out to those members of the body and explain the future consequences, and if I or we could help them succeed more. However, if they continue with not notifying their committee secretaries or myself, we might have to have hard conversations about their future in the body. Lastly, I want to continue to be punctual, as EA secretary I developed a habit of getting my minutes out within the day or even a couple of hours. I want to continue to be someone who gets them out swiftly and accurately with them being verbatim each time. I will also continue to use and expand on the resources and documents given from the current and past leadership, and ensure that accommodations are kept to standard. I would also like to develop a google drive or something of the sort where all committee meetings and general body meetings recordings would be kept. I want to thank everyone who has given me this opportunity to get my ideas out into the air and I want to thank all of you for listening to them. I can't wait to hear all the questions you have for me and I thank you for your time.

- **Nominator Wintory:** For those of you who do not know Cai, I look forward to introducing you to one of the most hardworking, humble, and kind people I know. She's the type of person who shows up consistently, puts in the effort without needing recognition, and makes the people around her better just by being there. She reminds me most of Chloe Harris, my predecessor, who was unequivocally the greatest Congress secretary we've had, who many of you will undoubtedly remember fondly. After this year, it's become clear to me that the two most important qualities in a secretary are being open to criticism and truly caring about the members who are in your charge. In her time as secretary of UPol over this past year, her work has been exemplary. This is unsurprising, due to her 2 years of experience as a secretary prior joining student congress. It's important to note that while her initial product was satisfactory, she has continually strived to improve the quality and accuracy of her minutes. The importance of a commitment to improvement cannot be understated, as the Congress Secretary position is a marathon, not a sprint. Although her committee has had many issues with attendance this year, her patience was unwavering, and she stayed committed to fulfilling her roles while remaining compassionate to her fellow members. It is this quality that I view to be absolutely necessary in a secretary. As many of you know, congress has suffered from a level of apathy that remains pervasive in this body. I look forward to her perspective on the situation, and I trust that she will let her brightly shining moral compass guide her. While I believe Congress can be led well by either candidate, there is no ceiling on what Cai can do for this body. Due to her personality, experience, and commitment, I believe she is uniquely qualified for this role. This is why I urge you to vote Cai for secretary.

- **Candidate Le:**

#### Questions:

- **Representative Fisher:** What is your typing speed?
  - **Candidate Le:** That is a great question. I don't know that off the top of my head. I do know that in elementary school, I was required to do two to three hours every single

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day typing on my computer. It's required at my elementary school. So I do have a lot of experience typing. And a lot of my friends, if you generally would ask them, I type very fast whether that's on my phone or on my computer.

- **Candidate Bregnard:** So as of this afternoon, it was 62, which isn't amazing. But as the as the general body secretary I plan on improving and maybe even practicing during that time.
- **Representative Toyos:** Candidates, what experience do you bring from outside congress that you think will be relevant and helpful to this position?
  - **Candidate Bregnard:** Josh and I started a club called the Norman Rotary Club. It's a it's a club that we get speakers, and we go out and do service projects and all that, I'm the secretary for it. I have experience doing a different type of minutes. While these minutes are verbatim, I do like business casual minutes about just the typical topics that we've talked about during the meeting. I feel like that's some pretty good experience. I'm also in the questions committee for college bowl. That just helps me get on my feet and just write random, like, questions that I have or anything. So yeah.
  - **Candidate Le:** I've currently been secretary for UPol for the past year. Like I said in my speech, I also was secretary for student government in high school and then for the National Honor Society as well. And then outside of student government, I also am part of my homecoming exec in my sorority. So I do get to work with the executive board in my sorority, which also does include the secretary. I don't write the minutes, but I do get to review the minutes within my sorority. So yeah.
- **Associate Savage:** Candidates, what nonmandatory congress events have you attended this semester, and which one has been your favorite?
  - **Candidate Le:** I will say for me that I have not done the best job of going to other meetings on Sundays, and that is on me. I do want to do a better job of that next year whether I am elected in secretary position or not. It is hard for me because this year, I do have a lot of meetings. I am in meetings from 12PM to 9PM. I have been doing that for the past year. I do a lot CSP events and volunteering events. Not technically related with student government, but like I said, throughout my sorority, I do have to do a lot of volunteering events. So I've worked in I'm a premed major, so I've worked at the Norman Regional Hospital for the whole entire past semester. So I've been doing a lot of volunteering events with that, and then I do I go to the Norman Animal Shelter that I do with a lot of my friends. So that's something that I do on my outside time that isn't necessarily within student government, but that is something that I like to do to give back to my community.
  - **Candidate Bregnard:** I attended the big light walk very recently. I attended one of Vice Chair Cunningham's confetti walks that I hung out with vice chair Cunningham. I hung out with Representative Khalife. I also I went to the light walk and hung out with Representative Fisher, Representative Walker, representative Vedra. Like I said, I'm also part of Rotary, which does a lot of community service events. So I've done all that. I have been to most community meetings. I haven't gotten the chance to go to UPol WAM. Just purely based off the fact that HD and UPol are at the same time and WAM is just too late now.
- **Representative Baker:** What is your favorite font?
  - **Candidate Bregnard:** Okay. So I'm very I'm a fan of Calibri purely based off the fact that it is every agenda that is sent out, it's Calibri every minute. All the minutes that I write are Calibri. I spend a lot of time on it.

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- **Candidate Le:** I would also say Calibri. For titles, though, I would say Garmin, specifically medium or bold because it stands out more, so it's easier to read in my minutes. Yep. Like, if we're doing this past weekend, on Sunday, we passed bills. And so when it said, like, Author's explanations, I put that in Garmin and put that in bold so it's easier to, like, to bold the either if I said, like, representative, last name, or associate or anything like that, it was just easier to read.
- **Associate Frehde:** With these new age of technology, what plans, if any, do you have to digitize the minutes of last session?
  - **Candidate Le:** I don't have a lot a lot of knowledge behind that. I guess I would have to talk to the previous big exec about a plan to have that
  - **Candidate Bregnard:** That was one of the big parts of my platform before I went out script. I looked in the website yesterday, the congress minutes website. They're up to 89. There are two congress minutes that are written for session 89. I plan on going into the books and making them as Lorelai said, it's a title 2 accommodation and making them digitized. I plan on, if not getting them all done, doing a hefty chunk during my part as secretary. I believe it's very important that we know what happened during those past sessions given that the papers go missing or get damaged in some way.
- **Representative Rhoads:** Candidates, what if you had to pick one point of your platform or, like, one of the little letters, which one do you think is most important?
  - **Candidate Bregnard:** Yeah. I would say probably leadership. I want to be somebody that is very communicatively competent when it comes to talking with other talking with the other secretaries, the community secretary is talking with the committee chairs or the committee vice chairs just about their members and how well they're doing. And if I don't get an email about the representatives, maybe the secretary and the community chair did so that I can know what's going on. Maybe we need to have a discussion with those people about their future in the body. I want to make sure that I am somebody that others can come to, and I want to continue to make Conoco something a place that is very fun to be around. As I said in my speech, the Conoco has slowly become one of my favorite parts on campus, and I want to continue to make it that way.
  - **Candidate Le:** I think for me, it would either be reliability or organized. I think a reliability is a really big quality to have. And I think as secretary, you need to be reliable to your peers. And then for being organized, I think also it has been said that secretary is a very difficult job. And I think to keep your minutes organized so not only you yourself as secretary can get the minutes out in a timely manner, but for everyone else, they rely on those minutes to if they aren't able to come to the meeting, for them to go back and look on it and see what is going on within congress and within OU itself. So I think being organized is very important.

*On a motion to extend times for questions by 20 minutes Gilson-Bond seconded Cox*

- **Representative Hawley:** Do you currently, or plan in the future, to use any AI assisted tools to help with your minutes?
  - **Candidate Le:** I wouldn't say I would use AI. I would say I would use Grammarly. I use Grammarly very efficiently quite often in a lot of my academic papers. I think for AI purposes, there are some good things to it. I wouldn't say to write the minutes, but I would say if there are parts of the minute that aren't verbatim and essentially no one really wants to read essentially 45 pages of minutes, it could be simplified, but I wouldn't say that I would go straight to that.

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- **Candidate Bregnard:** I would say no. No part of my except for, like, the built in word. Hey. This word is misspelled or, hey. This can add a comma. I would use AI in no part of my minutes. I have never used AI in no part of my minutes. So yeah.
- **Representative Gilson-Bond:** So sorry, Michael, for this one. But sometimes Michael seems miserable being secretary. So what made you decide to subject yourself to potentially the same portrait?
  - **Candidate Bregnard:** I was I was very hesitant to become EA secretary initially. And then with much encouragement by so many people, I decided to apply and I got the position and I actually really, really enjoyed it. I love being a part I love being a leadership part of the committee, and I really think that some of my ideas can be implemented. I plan on using a drive and having the committee secretaries put in their recordings, and the general body recordings could be in there. I just want to be somebody that is happy because Cole and Owen might have a little frantic face on their face, but I would be happy.
  - **Candidate Le:** I think for me, my prior experience with secretary has just made me continue to love being secretary. Also, I will say one thing is that I can kind of get distracted sometimes. And kind of doze off. So I think being secretary and I don't want to say being forced to do it, but it kind of is essentially making you stay involved within the meeting that you are taking the minutes in and you also after the meeting, you go back and you get I get to see what we talked about, what bills of legislation was passed. So yeah.
- **Representative Pitts:** Candidates, what is one idea you have to enact change in the secretary position?
  - **Candidate Le:** I would say one change that I would have is better communication. I just think that communication for me like, communication is very, very important, and I think I know it's emphasized that twenty-four hours in advance for attendance is to be mandatory for representatives and associates to be told to the secretary. And I do know that there is some leniency with that, but I think that is one of the roles that the secretary does implement and is that is what is said to members of SGA. So I think just communication on attendance and then yeah.
  - **Candidate Bregnard:** I would say I really want to implement, like I said in the last question, the drive of the recordings of each meeting. I think that the minutes, while most being verbatim, some of them can be looked back on and see to how somebody said these things. Some of the minutes can be a little confusing. I really, really want to yeah. Like I said, make a drive of the meeting minutes and have them labeled, and that also gives the secretary the other secretaries something else to do besides just take the minutes and attendance. Putting this into a drive would be very useful for just the future.
- **Representative Fisher:** What type of style, verbatim or summarized, would you use for the minutes?
  - **Candidate Bregnard:** Purely verbatim. I have been taking I have taken both types of minutes being just the topic and the verbatim. I feel like verbatim are very easy to read and they're way better for going back and reading and figuring out something happened. Preparing for this this day, I have gone back into Michael's election quite a lot, and it has been a very big help on preparing and everything. So, yeah, verbatim, 100%.
  - **Candidate Le:** Thank you for the the question. I would also say verbatim. I think the only thing that I would change is I would not use I would take out the words of, like, or like or

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so or words in between that, but I would keep them verbatim. Because I think it is really important for people to know word for word what happens in meetings because I think if little details are left out, those could be key details.

- **Representative Benitez-Mendoza:** A bad part of this job is expulsions, how would you deal with that?
  - **Candidate Le:** I think personally, Michael has done a great job of it. I know that expulsion bills, it just itself is kind of a touchy subject. But to me, you are a student at OU. You should be checking your email. I check my email every day whether that's for student congress or not. So I think, essentially, two emails should be sent. And then if you don't check that email, then having the expulsion bill is needed because I think when you do join student government and congress, you do have a responsibility to go to the meetings that you are required to go to. And if you don't, then that's on you. That's your responsibility. And I think there are consequences to your actions, whether that's good or bad. So I think with the expulsion bill, if you want to be here and go to the meetings, then you do need to go there. And, essentially, you don't go there, and that's what the expulsion bill is for.
  - **Candidate Bregnard:** I touched on this a little bit during my speech. I want to make sure that as soon as the expulsion bills are drafted, that I'm sending out an email to people. Given that the expulsion bills are drafted, pretty how far in advance would you say, Michael? (Secretary Wintory on information: I write it during the week and then see it in exec) And then on Tuesday? And then yeah. So, yeah, that would give about a week or maybe a little over depending on when it's drafted. I want to make sure that the emails are sent immediately when it's drafted, and then I want to do two emails forty eight hours and then twenty four hours in advance to when we are seeing this email. They even if they are in congress, they're going to be getting the agenda anyway. So if they're looking at that, they will see it. Yeah. I just want to communicate with these people. I also want to talk to their committee secretaries and their committee chairs to make sure that this isn't just something that's happening during general body, and it's also happening during the committee meetings. And if it's one or the other, we could talk to this person about how it's how it's going. And then if they're not communicating with us, any of us, it's just it is what it is.

*On a motion to enter executive session Toyos seconded Hicks: Passed 26-0-0*

- Executive Session

*On a motion to exit executive session Rhoads seconded Cox: Passed 26-0-0*

*Le wins: 15-10-1*

- Senior Speeches

**Chair Coleman:** I don't think we have a specified order. If you are wanting to do a senior speech I'll call on you and you can come up here.

**Caleb Robinson:** Hi, folks. For those of you who do not know me, my name is Associate Robinson. Funny enough, that is a sentence that I could also say at my very first Congress meeting four years ago. Four years, mind you, is nearly 20% of my entire life. When I walked into our very first meeting in Gaylord and saw then-Chair Lacey Lewis, I knew immediately that I wanted to one day stand in her same spot and lead this body. Luckily, we have grown so much since then that it would be impossible for me to stand in her same spot and lead a meeting. There have been many faces pass in and out of this body during my time here. While you all have had an impact on the student body in some way, there are a few who have had a significant impact on my time here. First and foremost, though she is not here and has not been for a long time, Congress Chair Emerita Abby Halsey-Kraus is largely the reason I actually made it to this

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position. It was her willingness to take a gamble and make the second-month Freshman the Vice Chair of Congressional Administration that crafted me into the leader I became. To the Congress Chair Emerita Hope Rhoads, I could not have imagined losing the Chairship to anyone else. Your kindness to me at our very first meeting, though I seemed annoyed, has been something that has stuck with me throughout my time here. You set an impossibly high bar for anyone who steps into [OFFICE NUMBER]. To Ellie, your support through everything has been so valuable. Thank you for helping keep my feet on the ground, especially at the beginning of my term. Aaron, though you were a bit of a pain in the ass at times, thank you for your commitment to this organization and for your attention to detail. You did not necessarily step into your role under great conditions, but you truly made great changes to the role. Michael, jumping into your role as soon as you did is not easy in the slightest, but even in the last year, you have grown so quickly as a leader. You, arguably, have the hardest job of anyone in this room, and I appreciate the work you did for us. Hayden, I know UPOL is far from easy, but I appreciate your commitment to the years-old projects, especially at the most difficult times. Lorelai, I know you faced difficult decisions and a harsh environment this year, but I truly admire your perseverance and even willingness to run for Vice Chair after it all. Mecca, shoutout for stepping up at one of the hardest times. You guys did great work this year, and we are forever indebted to you for your help. Owen, I assure you I did not use AI for this speech. Thank you for your passion and obvious dedication to what you care about. You truly care about what you do, and you make that very apparent. That will take you far. Baylor, thank you for stepping in and making the most of COSCO Chair. Though you had never been in Congress, you very quickly increased the committee's impact on RSOs and the OU Community at large. Of course, to Mr. Chair, I hope you can forgive me for rejecting you from UPOL Vice Chair now. I knew when I met you at your first orientation that you would one day be the Chair, so long as Granato didn't say anything and get you in trouble with him. You have been instrumental in so many of our reforms that I cannot easily say where we would be without you. I hope that your term goes much smoother than the last few have, and I cannot think of many suited to lead like you are. I hope you lead in every way I could not and that you take as much out of this position as you give to it. My four years here have been difficult, yet fulfilling. There are very few organizations in which I can find the same joy of watching the Student Body President of Mississippi State laughing on the floor of an elevator in Austin, TX, because I asked him something tangentially related to hogs. In this organization, you have two options. You can sit idly in your seat, routinely come to meetings, cast your vote, go to your committee meeting, and repeat each week. That is a perfectly fine way to be a part of this organization. You could also, however, stick around after your committee meetings, talk to your peers as more than just a colleague, maybe even talk shit about a bill or two. You can laugh at jokes, ask fun questions, ask George about his hot sauce collection, write legislation, and so much more, all while still doing the first option. One is a way to boost a resume, the other is a way to grow as a person and a leader at the same time. I know this body is in good hands. I know this because we have amazing members like Ian Cox, who, though it annoyed me on my best days, always found a way to amaze me with his optimism and commitment on my worst days, maybe even think outside the box sometimes. Because of members like you, I know this organization can continue to do its best work. Make the most of your time here and do the unconventional things, because one day you will be sitting on this stage, chunc, and wishing you had done everything you did not.

**Hope Rhoads:** Hi everyone, if you don't know me, I'm Hope Rhoads. I've been in every committee ever. I've struggled to write this speech for a while now, probably because I'm dust in Congress years. SGA has made up a large part of my college experience, all four years of it, and I've been a part of SGA since my freshman year. I remember interviewing for Congress with Aaron Gilson-Bond and former Secretary Chloe Harris. I remember Congress being so small that I was in Gaylord Room 2020, and I sat right next to Caleb Robinson when he was still pre-med and forced him to talk to me. I left my first meeting and hated it. I hated the jargon. I hated how people didn't introduce themselves to me, and I even talked in

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the elevator with Aaron and Chloe about quitting on day one. It was through my friendship with Amelia Landry, who's long gone, a former Vice Chair and Secretary and one of my biggest college mentors, and with Abby Halsey-Kraus, that I stayed that first year. She's the one who motivated me to try for CLA co-chair, HD chair, and eventually run for Congress Chair in my SGA experience. I did a lot of fun things. I met my boyfriend, my best friend, planned a zoo retreat, had a community potluck, Higher Ed Day, dealt with CLA applications, and triple Congress. Then I did a lot of not-so-fun things in my term, like impeachment, a no-confidence vote of my vice chair, and plenty of tough conversations with committee chairs. The biggest thing I learned through all these things is that it's not always about the path of least resistance. Sometimes you have to make decisions that make you look worse to some, or people may not appreciate you as much anymore. You might make someone mad, but it's better in your life and the lives of others that really matters. I had many opportunities throughout my time where I simply could have done what was easiest for me instead of everyone else. I could have refused to see the impeachment through, and I could have not said hi. I could have not gotten here at 6 p.m. every time and said hi to all the members. I could have avoided hard conversations, and I could have given up on so many projects because, trust me, I did want to a lot, because that's the easiest thing to do, and Congress is hard. If you get out of Congress and you say it's easy, you probably didn't do enough and you didn't try enough. We don't get a lot of recognition, we don't win a lot of awards, and sometimes people don't even know what Congress is, and that can be difficult. That's something I really used to struggle with, but every time I hear someone say, "Yay, that bathroom door was fixed," or "Oh thank God that light was fixed," or "That resolution made me feel more welcome," or "Election rules are more clear," or "The Biz hours changed," I know we are making an impact because, at the end of the day, our job isn't for recognition, it's for impact. Years from now, I won't think about awards or articles that I received because I participated in SGA. I'll think about the people I met, like Baylor, my best friend Ellie, and that I got to share SGA with my baby sister for a year, the different execs I've gotten to work with, who were all great, and the impacts that we made at the end of the day. So thank you to everyone in this room for helping make SGA home these past four years. I'll definitely miss it from a distance.

**Ellie Wolthuis:** For those of you who don't know me, my name is Ellie Wothius. I started my time in Congress as an associate, then a representative, then chair of the External Affairs Committee, and I've also spent the past four years here. After that, I worked as Chief of Staff for two administrations, Caden and Cyrus, and Avery and Joseph. This past year, I rejoined Congress after my term as Chief of Staff was completed, and I know we have a lot on the agenda, so this is going to be short and sweet.

We have leaders who are elected by our peers. We have an obligation to act in the best interest of the student body. Now, that might seem obvious, but it can become challenging at times when the inner politics of SGA and our four branches clash. I want to explain to younger members of the body, new members of the body, and any other guests here today that these tensions and this sense of animosity within our organization are not normal, nor should they ever be normal.

Just two years ago today, Caden and Cyrus were in office, my former bosses. They were not really in SGA prior to their election and had the potential to be ripped apart by the legislature. However, that never happened. Why? They understood what they did not know and sought advice when necessary. They became friends with all the branches, and they led with friendliness. I have been guilty of leading with passion and anger at times, but Caden and Cyrus taught me a balance between SGA and the real world, with the understanding that your time here will come to an end. In just a few years, I am sure no one in this room will remember my name, but I hope the Sooner Works program remembers the weekly walks I started. I hope the Conoco reconstruction project is still remembered and that those spaces are continuously being used. I hope future Chiefs of Staff continue to write bills in ten Congress meetings, which so far seems to be working out. All that to say, the substantial changes you implement for the student body could last. Your glory and name recognition are, however, short-lived. How do you make those changes for the student body? You work with others. You treat others with kindness, and you

remember that your identity should not be found within the walls of Dale Hall. Before I end, I want six very important thank-yous. First, to our SGA advisor, George, you have been an excellent role model, and I am forever grateful for all the kindness and grace you have shown me throughout all four years here. Please never leave your position. I truly believe we would be lost without you. Next, Caleb, you've been an incredible friend of mine since I first began my role last year. Whether it was against the civil bills, nominations, or people and authors as a whole, I want to thank you for having my back in debates and supporting me through the dark parts of our four years together. You and Savannah are both going to do incredible things, and I cannot wait to vote for you again one day. Aaron, last year you did a favor for me that I will never forget. You are the perfect example of loyalty and generosity, and I will never forget what you endured to help those you care about. Baylor, I have looked up to you in numerous ways since we first became friends. You are intelligent, ambitious, and a phenomenal leader. It is because of those traits that I am confident you'll achieve incredible things at Vanderbilt. Finally, my best friend Hope. SGA has brought us both hell, but I would do it again if I knew I'd make a friend like you at the end of it. Hope, you are the funniest person I know, and I cannot thank you enough for keeping me laughing through any trouble or sadness that we faced. You deserve an immense amount of praise and kudos for the work, tireless days and nights, and light you have brought to this organization. You're a kind face to all and have touched more lives than you know, mine included, of course. Your work does not go unnoticed, and your legacy goes far beyond the walls of this classroom. Thank you for your friendship and leadership. You are truly someone I will forever look up to. Finally, thank you to SGA in Congress. It is because of this room that I found a love for state politics and policy, and I am forever grateful. I dedicate my use to this organization.

**Gilson-Bond:** I have been in this body for four years. In that time, I have watched people come and go, including friends like Chloe Harris, Kyle Martin, and many others. There were plenty of moments where I considered stepping away, taking my time back, and putting myself first. What kept me here was the opportunity to be part of something bigger than myself and to contribute to a mission that matters. Leaving is bittersweet. I am sad to step away from the people in this body that I genuinely care about, but I am also excited for what comes next. People often close out their time by saying things like "keep up the great work" or "you are all doing amazing." I cannot say that without being honest. This body has real issues, and many of them come back to one fundamental problem, which is not stepping up and acting like the adults we are. Too often, people do not advocate for themselves. Whether you are in your first year or your last, this is not high school. No one is going to hold your hand through this. Power in this body does not just sit at the top. It exists at every level. One of the best parts of student government is that you do not need a title, whether that is a committee chair or part of the Big Three, to create change. Every single member has the ability to push for improvements that benefit everyone. To be blunt, not everyone is meant to be a leader, and that is okay. The world needs people who are willing to support and execute just as much as it needs people who lead. However, this body is built on leadership and advocacy. If you are not ready to step into that role, to speak up, and to take responsibility, then you should seriously consider whether this is the right place for you. At the end of the day, it comes down to this. If you cannot advocate for yourself, how can you effectively advocate for the students you represent? To end on a more positive note, I want to say thank you. Thank you, Hope, for always bringing a smile. Thank you, Owen, for always showing that you care. Thank you, Cole, for being willing to disagree with me, because that is what keeps a body like this healthy. Thank you, Michael, for being goofy and able to take a joke without crying about it later. And Joey, thank you for listening to my story last week. I told you I would mention you, so here it is. Most importantly, thank you to everyone here for giving me a bigger purpose than myself.

**Ben Keupen:** So if you haven't had the privilege of meeting me, my name is Ben Keupen. I have been in Congress all four years, putting in various roles, pretty much every role there is out there. As I reflect on my time, a few accomplishments stand out. I offered 14 pieces of legislation, 11 of which have passed. I

established a line of communication between COSCO and OU PD, honored the OU police chief upon his retirement, and created one of the first Congress surveys. One moment that I'll always carry with me is the Superior Court hearing, the first non-election-related case in eight years. The court ruled in my favor, and that decision really matters because it enhanced student oversight, strengthened our power as a body, and restored checks and balances within SGA. Then there were the therapy dogs. I reached out to a therapy dog organization with Mercer and brought them to campus at the end of the semester, allowing students the opportunity to de-stress. What could have been friction between branches turned into productive collaboration, and that's what SGA should look like. Now for the thank-yous. First and foremost, I want to thank God because I'm incredibly blessed to have all these opportunities, like being able to go to OU and serve in SGA. Thank you to my family for supporting and encouraging me. Thank you to my Congress chairs, Lacey Lewis, for allowing me to join, and Abby Halsey-Kraus, for guiding me and taking my ideas and turning them into something tangible. Hope, for giving me the opportunity to be COSCO chair even though I wasn't fully prepared, making me realize my weaknesses, and giving me the opportunity to develop my leadership skills, and Caleb, for recognizing my work as a member even when I was an associate. Fun fact, you were the first of my classmates in Congress that I met. I remember it was orientation. You were wearing a gray suit with Oklahoma State seal pins from pictures of you doing a speech on the State Capitol floor, and I thought how pretentious. However, how the tables have turned, I genuinely admire your commitment and dedication to serving the community. Thank you to Hudson Haskins, the OG COSCO chair, for being so caring and supportive. You always did everything with a spirit of kindness, always had a smile, and made people laugh. I am so happy to call you a friend. To all COSCO members, past and present, it has been a pleasure. Baylor, I think you did a phenomenal job this semester, and thank you to the many people here who have made SGA especially enjoyable and have been pillars of our community. To my blood, sweat, and tears that I have put into this organization, there has always been someone there for me. George, over the years, not only were you my advisor and mentor, but you became my friend. Words don't do justice to how immensely grateful I am for my relationship with you. Through thick and thin, you were always a constant presence. You truly deserve Outstanding Faculty Member every single year. Thank you for everything. As I reflect on my four years, two lines from JFK have stuck with me, "So I tell you, ask not what OU can do for you, ask what you can do for OU. And once you decide to serve something bigger than yourself, don't take the easy path, choose a hard one." Choose your own moon. The things worth doing for OU and beyond are rarely the easy ones. This builds character, which I am a firm believer in. The people we meet and our experiences shape us, and I truly believe that OU, SGA, and all of you have had a profound impact on me and have shaped me into the man that I am today and the man I hope to become. Thank you.

**Kayla Hawley:** I didn't write anything because I wasn't sure I was going to do this, so I just have some thank-yous to give out and fun memories to share that involve those people. So first of all, I have been in the body for two years, and last year my fiancé Mario, who I'm sure you all know because I don't shut up about him, was racing every Tuesday. So people who would sit behind me as I sat in the second row, including Hayden, would watch me watching video game racing for the whole meeting and were like, what is wrong with you. That is how Hayden and I became friends, how he got my number, because he had to text me, what's wrong with you. Then, let's see, you probably know my dog is Rigley. I'm so sorry he couldn't be here tonight, he loves you all too. I'm really thankful for everyone I've met in here, but I want to share a funny memory. I got engaged in New York this summer, and I saw Mercer and Henry in D.C. while I was on vacation, and despite not knowing them well at all, they were the first people that I told. If that gives you any idea of the trust you feel like you can have in your fellow Congress members, I think that is nice. Despite Caleb mentioning me, I'm going to mention him. Your girlfriend already knows, she texted me about it. Caleb was my committee chair when I got here, and I've been in UPOL my whole time, and Caleb trusted me to become Vice Chair and let me become Secretary of Congress when I thought I might want to run for Secretary of Congress. You really put a lot of faith in me when I

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don't know if I really earned it, but I appreciate the faith and all of the nights hanging out with you, Savannah, and Mario, it meant a lot to me. Obviously, everyone I've met this year, and Jayden, I know you from College Jones, and I'm really glad you found your way here, and I hope you continue to be here. Ian, I love seeing you in the Conoco, it's my favorite thing ever. Choncy, you too as well, you make me so happy to see you when I'm there, and I just love you guys, and that is all I got.

### **Student Concerns**

### **Old Business**

### **Items to Be Considered**

- CB-115-27 "Unscheduled Fall Holiday Act of 2026" (Jensen/Fellman/Martin/Robinson) (Do Pass)  
*On a motion to see CB-115-27 Representative Toyos seconded by Representative Canady*

#### **Author Explanation:**

- **Jensen:** This bill simply replaces the fall holiday bill that you guys failed a couple weeks ago. In this bill, we submit two days for the fall holiday this year. We submit Friday October 9<sup>th</sup> which would be the customary Red River holiday as well as Tuesday November 3<sup>rd</sup>, Election day to allow our students to participate in the electoral process. Section 4, through the end of the bill sort of layout for the administration for why we are asking for two days and why both of these days are really important for the university community. We feel very strongly that this makes a good case for getting both days and really lays out the importance in particular to Election Day for students to be able to have off so that they can participate in electoral process.
- **President Martin:** I would just like to say thank you so much to GSS who had a very quick turn around, as you know this bill is at the very end of the semester and then with just how our timelines work, Sam has worked very tirelessly and all the branches have really done a great job about working together to create this bill, to be able to move forward and recommend a holiday. Shoutout very much Sam and Ben thank you guys so much for all of your help and Associate Robinson for all your work and getting this bill put together, so we can put our names on it.

### **5:00 time remaining for questions**

- **Representative Pitts:** Do you think the regents are going to approve of both days or do you think that they're just going to approve one?
  - **Jensen:** It is possible they could just pick one. I think the case we make here is strong for both of them, especially since other peer universities in the SEC already give their students Election day off and we further make the peace for Election Day. So I think we have a strong argument. I will say it is possible that they pick one or the other, and we can't control which they pick. However, if they do pick just one, GSS has prepared in the fall to begin passing resolutions and so on to push for the other day whichever one we don't go. So even if they pick one, this is not the end of the road and GSS will be here with you in the fall to push for both days.
  - **Associate Robinson:** To add to that, it would be purely speculative for us to assume that they would pick both. Of course our ultimate goal is that they pick both but as Sam said I think all of us in our discussions about

writing this bill agreed that all of our branches are willing to sit down should they decide to just pick one day whichever day that is, we're willing to fight for other day. Whether that's meetings, resolutions, more meetings, going out talking to students, getting data to let them know like there's support for both of these that is something we are willing to do. The goal with this ultimately is to get them to pick both but it's just something we can't guarantee.

- **President Martin:** But this done guarantee that they'll get to see both and that the student body wants both.
- **Jensen:** They can see our reasoning for both as well.
- **Associate Freto:** Do you know what the timeline would be on the response from the regents for bills like this?
  - **Jensen:** I don't have a specific timeline normally how this works, is that we pass this bill in spring and then over the summer the president or the provost will sent out an email to faculty and instructors letting them know which day is off so they can plan their course syllabi so I would anticipate knowing sometime in the summer. It may only be faculty and instructors that know that initially. However, I am an instructor for a course, so I will know and can communicate if I hear anything but I don't have a specific timeline but it will likely be the summer.

Passed unanimously 22-0-1

- CR-115-14 "Red River Rivalry Resolution of 2026" (Jensen)

*On a motion to see CR-115-14 Representative Toyos seconded by Representative Cox*

**Author Explanation:**

- **Jensen:** This is sort of just a concurrent resolution to pass alongside the bill you all just passed. Given the backlash from the previous failure vote we felt that it was important to pass this resolution simply recognizing the history and cultural importance of the Red River holiday to the OU campus community. So all this does is recognize that long history and recognize it's cultural importance and reassure students that we aren't trying to get rid of this holiday or diminish it in any way. Rather, the reason we push for Election Day was to give them a greater ability to participate in the electoral process but that we do still value this important cultural tradition here at OU?

**7:15 time remaining for questions**

- **Chief of Staff Christiansen:** Do you believe that Texas sucks?
  - **Jensen:** Yes of course! I have several cousins that went to Texas so they won't be happy with me about that.

Passed unanimously 21-0-1

- CR-115-11 "Confetti Still Makes Me Upset!" (Fellman/Esteva-Ingram/Cunningham/Olsen) (Do Pass)

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*On a motion to see CR-115-11 Representative Cox seconded by Representative Radzanowski*

**Author Explanation:**

- **Fellman:** My name is Benjamin Bowman. I am now the GSS Secretary for this incoming year, and I'm super excited to be working with you all. One thing that does really make me upset on campus, though, is confetti. I'm sure that you all, especially on main campus, have seen that it has become a real problem. So what we wanted to do with this resolution is basically address the negative impacts that come from its use, specifically types that are not biodegradable or water-soluble and can be really environmentally harmful.
- **Esteva-Ingram:** We are not the only university that's upset about confetti. Plenty of others have talked to their communities about the negative impacts of confetti on the local ecosystem, like waterways and wildlife mistaking it for food. Plus, many universities provide their students with more eco-friendly options instead of confetti. This includes dried flower petals, biodegradable confetti, and other environmentally friendly alternatives.
- **Fellman:** This isn't doing anything about it right now; this is just strictly saying we really strongly discourage use of it, and if it is to be used, to really consider using more environmentally friendly options.

**6:36 time remaining for questions**

- **Representative Solomon:** What are some alternatives that are eco friendly?
  - **Fellman:** So, as we kind of list out in the bill here, there are biodegradable options and water-soluble options. Plastic confetti can often take hundreds, if not thousands, of years to disintegrate in the environment. These options take far less time and would be less environmentally impactful. We also noticed that people use flower petals, sometimes seeds as well, bubbles, and other environmentally friendly options instead of plastic confetti.

Passed unanimously 21-0-1

- CB-115-30 "Conoco Student Leadership Revision Act of 2026" (Christiansen/Martin/Nicholson)  
*On a motion to see CB-115-30 Representative Toyos seconded by Representative Pitts*

**Author Explanation:**

- **Chief of Staff Christiansen:** Hi everyone, as you all know, the Conoco Student Leadership Center is a space where many of us spend time and hold meetings. About two years ago, the building was completed, and since then it has been operating under a pilot program to determine the best way to structure its use. RSOs have been able to reserve rooms during this time, and this bill is mainly focused on updating and clarifying outdated language so it reflects how the building is currently being used. The first part of the bill addresses card access. Starting at the beginning of the year, it outlines who should have access to the

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building. At the same time, it still allows flexibility for George and Mary, our advisor and administrative support specialist, to grant access when appropriate. The second part of the bill removes old language related to assigning office spaces to RSOs. In the past, there was an application process where RSOs would apply and be evaluated by the president and others, but this process hasn't been used for several years. Currently, first-floor offices are assigned by the SGA advisor, while rooms on the second and third floors are available for RSOs to reserve within a set booking window. Based on the pilot program, this system has been working well, and the bill reflects that approach moving forward.

- **President Martin:** One of the biggest reasons for the pilot program is that the usage numbers were really low for specific RSOs. Specifically, thinking about room 293, which had a 1% usage rate, now it's up to 90%. It's been a really good program for the space, and trying it in the code and making sure that a lot of RSOs, I know a lot of you guys are involved and have access to book rooms there yourselves, has been important. I have done that for a lot of meetings, and some committee meetings happen up there. Trying it in the code and cementing that it's a successful pilot program, we'd like to see it continue.
- **Vice President Nicholson:** RSO's need spaces and the Conoco gives them spaces, it's a great program. We're excited for it to continue.

#### **5:40 time remaining for questions**

- **Representative Fisher:** Just want to make clear that these spaces are specifically for RSO events rather than study room.
  - **President Martin:** That's the official designation in the code, and a lot of people use it to study and book rooms. It's like the library rooms, where real reservations take priority. As an individual, you cannot go and book rooms, but as an organization, like if you are doing it for an engineering club, you can go in and book it for engineering.
  - \_\_\_\_\_
  - **Chief of Staff Christiansen:** You have to book it through OU Reserve, and you have to be registered under an RSO to be able to reserve and book it under the slots.
- **President Martin:** We fully encourage people to study and support that, and we recognize that, as SGA, we have a duty to RSOs to provide them with space to meet. This is not limiting people or saying they can't go study in there; it's just that the first priority is the RSOs that book the room. Any RSO is welcome, and I've also seen study nights being held in the same way that someone would use the space like that.
- **Associate Sneller:** As someone who books the rooms, you have to list a reason for booking, and one of the reasons listed is a study space. Are you guys going to remove that option and no longer allow it to be used as a study space?

- **Chief of Staff Christiansen:** That is more intended for RSO's to use as a study night like the Oklahoma group.
- **President Martin:** That is under the RSO's prerogative and what they want to utilize the space for and giving them the opportunity to have that space for them.
- **Vice President Nicholson:** As for individual students, there's a general area in the middle that we would encourage studying in, but it really is a space for RSOs, and when it's not being utilized by RSOs, we want it to be full, and hopefully students will take advantage of the opportunity when they can.
- **Representative Solomon:** I understand that this space is primarily for RSOs, but I just want clarification on Section 4, point i, where you use the language that it "shall be reserved for RSOs and students involved." I understand that the following language does not explicitly say that students shouldn't be using it and keeps it RSO-specific, but I'm wondering if there might be any issue with that.
- **President Martin:** The purpose of the whole Conoco is to serve RSOs and students within the organization. It's just saying that you don't have to contact your advisor to book a room for you. It gives students the prerogative to go in and book these communal spaces for their groups.
- **Representative Fisher:** In regards to study spaces, let's say its just one person constnatly using it have their own study space instead of using it for the RSO.
  - **President Martin:** Are they booking it under an RSO name?
  - **Representative Solomon:** Hypothetically.
  - **President Martin:** We don't really deal with speculation, and this bill is based on usage numbers, like RSOs, with 44 individual RSOs already booking it. We also see Mary going up to get the usage numbers.
  - **Chief of Staff Christiansen:** I've noticed that while using OU Reserve, they have started instituting more limitations on the number of bookings and the number of rooms. If this does become an issue, you can write legislation.

Passed unanimously 21-0-1

- CB-115-29 "Session 115 Expulsion Bill No. 3" (Wintory/Le/Bregnard) (No Rec)  
*On a motion to postpone CB-115-29 Representative Wintory seconded by Representative Toyos*
- CR-115-08 "Engineering Competition Teams Resolution" (Fisher/Vedra/Morgan) (Do Pass)  
*On a motion to see CB-115-08 Representative Canady seconded by Representative Cox*

**Author Explanation:**

- **Representative Vedra:** Hello everyone! I know it's late and you all don't want to be here, so I will try to get through this as fast as possible. Basically, the University of Oklahoma has specific RSOs within the College of Engineering that are engineering competition teams. Their main purpose is to build something and travel to a competition to show it off. There are a lot of different aspects to it, and it takes a lot of money. The issue is that there have been struggles with

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funding, specifically from the Gallogly College of Engineering over the past couple of years, and generally a lack of recognition from the college for the accomplishments of these teams, despite them being used in promotional material. So, as you know, they're benefiting a lot from the image of these teams without giving much in return. So basically, this calls for the college to provide encouragement for the engineering process, recognize teams more for their accomplishments, and then sit down with teams to have a better understanding regarding funding.

- **Representative Fisher:** When coming to the resolution, we came here presently because of a lot of talking to members to help with perspectives on this, as well as just trying to make sure this resolution is accurate to the issues that they want to address and do what they want.
- **Representative Vedra:** There are eight competition teams currently, and we have consulted with members of every single one of them, and they have read this resolution. We also saw this bill in Exec last Monday, in GSS General last Thursday, and in COSCO this past Sunday. It passed in GSS and received a recommendation of due rec in COSCO.

#### **6:08 time remaining for questions**

Passed unanimously 21-0-1

- CR-115-10 "Encouraging Sustainable Practices and Environmental Responsibility Resolution" (Keupen) (Do Pass)

*On a motion to see CB-115-10 Representative Baker seconded by Representative Pitts*

#### **Author Explanation:**

- **Associate Keupen:** This resolution is basically the same matter, and encouraging people to make small, realistic changes. All the suggestions are simple stuff like recycling, using less plastic, or getting involved in campus events. Overall, it's just about raising awareness and encouraging people to be a little bit more environmentally conscious.

#### **5:00 time remaining for questions**

Passed unanimously 21-0-1

- CR-115-12 "Campus Safety Resolution of 2026" (Frehde) (Do Pass)

*On a motion to see CB-115-12 Representative Canady seconded by Representative Cox*

#### **Author Explanation:**

- **Associate Frehde:** Hi guys, my name is Max Fredhe. I'm with EA, and this is just a campus safety resolution. We do it every year, as we are asked by the Board of Regents to do it. It is just a basic bill that asks the legislature for support and doesn't change any current safety regulations. So currently, there are two bills that were going through session, OK HB1358 and OK HB3036. They have actually

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recently died in committee, so they are not as pressing, but they are still two bills that we obviously wouldn't want going through our state legislature. They would change the way we feel on campus, as both affect how concealed carry laws apply to us. We don't want anything to change with that. We just want there to be no regulatory changes so that we can keep our campus safe and maintain a safe academic environment.

### 7:10 time remaining for questions

- **Associate Blackwell:** With this being your first bill, how was the bill writing process for you? Did you enjoy it?
  - **Associate Fredhe:** It was pretty fun.

Passed unanimously 20-0-1

- CR-115-13 "AAPI Month Resolution of 2026" (Nguyen/A) (Do Pass)  
*On a motion to see CB-115-13 Representative Hicks seconded by Representative Pitts*

#### Author Explanation:

- **Associate Sneller:** This was originally Teresa's bill, but she felt ill, so I agreed to present it to you guys. As she said in our meeting, Asian American history is American history, and much of what we do in our country has been built on the backs of Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders. I have some of my best friendships with Asian Americans, and they have truly done so much for where we are today and for innovation.

### 7:29 time remaining for questions

Passed unanimously 20-0-1

- CR-115-15 "Arab American Heritage Month Resolution of 2026" (Benitez Mendoza/Burris/Mahmoud-Elhaj/Digua) (Do Pass)  
*On a motion to see CB-115-15 Representative Baker seconded by Representative Cox*

#### Author Explanation:

- **Representative Benitez-Mendoza:** So first of all, I am not North American, but I think this is a really important bill, and this is the first time we are seeing this recognition bill in the body, and it goes into the history of representation in the U.S. This was a discretionary bill because I go to work and have a friend, a former Vice Chair in GSS, so this was an issue when it started, and I worked on it with her, and it was an interesting process. Another important thing I want to highlight is that there is a lot of recognition for RSOs that are listed at the end, and there are others to highlight, other students were also involved in this bill.

### 6:50 time remaining for questions

- **Representative Solomon:** Would you accept a friendly amendment to add me as a co-sponsor to this bill?
  - **Representative Benitez-Mendoza:** Yes.

Passed unanimously 20-0-1

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- CR-115-16 “Mental Health Month Resolution of 2026” (Callahan/Sneller) (Do Pass)  
*On a motion to see CR-115-16 Representative Baker seconded by Representative Cox*

**Author Explanation:**

- **Representative Callahan:** Hey guys, so we wrote this bill because we do not have Congress in the month of May, and as you know, finals are coming up, so everyone is getting stressed. So we just wanted to write this bill so Mental Health Awareness Month gets the recognition it deserves. People struggle both in public and in private, so we just wanted to let everybody know that they are recognized.
- **Associate Sneller:** It was really fun to write this bill. Kyla is a first time author and did such a good job so just wanted to get the resources out as quickly as possible for finals.

**7:22 time remaining for questions**

- **Representative Toyos:** Would you accept a friendly amendment to add me as a co-sponsor?
  - **Representative Callahan:** Yes.

Passed unanimously 20-0-1

- CR-115-17 “Pride Month Resolution of 2026” (Radzanowski/Sneller) (Do Pass)  
*On a motion to see CB-115-17 Representative Baker seconded by Representative Cox*

**Author Explanation:**

- **Representative Radzanowski:** Hi everyone, this is another piece of legislation that is the first time it’s being seen in our body. We have not passed a Pride Month piece of legislation because we have never met in the month of June, so nobody has thought to write it. This is a very important piece of legislation to the queer community, and it highlights the history of the queer rights movement, from Stonewall to the passing of gay marriage in 2015. It also highlights a lot of resources and organizations on campus that celebrate queer pride. That is the gist of the legislation, and I feel very proud to be an author on this.
- **Associate Sneller:** As someone who grew up queer in Oklahoma, the only space I had to express who I was was in speech and debate, and even then the community felt like it only catered to a certain niche. But with this piece of legislation, I don’t feel like I have to hide myself because I loved someone who wasn’t the stereotypical norm that we see in Oklahoma, and no one else should have to either. We also collaborated with the City of Norman to discover what they have for Pride here on campus, and I will further explain that during announcements and comments.

**6:37 time remaining for questions**

- **Representative Fisher:** Do you accept a friendly ammendment to send a copy of resolution to Out in STEM?
  - **Representative Radzanowski:** Yes, definitely.
- **Representative Solomon:** Would you accept a friendly amendment to add me as a co-sponsor?

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- **Associate Sneller:** Yes.

Passed unanimously 20-0-1

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- CR-115-18 “Jewish Heritage Month Resolution of 2026” (Sneller) (Do Pass)

*On a motion to see CB-115-18 Representative Toyos seconded by Representative Hicks*

**Author Explanation:**

- **Associate Sneller:** This is another first of its kind in SGA because it is in May, and we typically don’t celebrate or acknowledge things in May because we end beforehand. So I think this is important. As someone who learned a lot about their culture this year, I was never really a part of my culture here in Oklahoma. I was scared to express myself, but I expressed myself in Colorado, where I spent my summer at a Jewish summer camp, where I felt safe. I never really felt safe in Oklahoma being Jewish until I came here. I really found community here, and I think other students who are Jewish or part of smaller faiths should also realize there are spaces on campus for them; they just have to look a little bit harder than the majority. Jewish history is American history, as you can tell with all these amazing people who were Jewish and very notable.

**6:55 time remaining for questions**

Passed unanimously 20-0-1

- CR-115-19 “Teacher Appreciation Week Resolution of 2026” (Keupen) (Do Pass)

*On a motion to see CB-115-19 Representative Canady seconded by Representative Hicks*

**Author Explanation:**

- **Keupen:** This resolution is about recognizing Teacher Appreciation Week, May 4th–8th, and saying thank you to teachers. It highlights how much of an impact teachers have on students, both at OU and everywhere else. It encourages students to do something small, like thanking a teacher or sharing a story about one who made a difference. At the end of the day, it’s just a simple way for SGA to show appreciation and remind people to recognize teachers who have helped them get where they are.

**7:34 time remaining for questions**

- **Representative Radzanowski:** How are you feeling about this being your last piece of legislation?
  - **Associate Keupen:** It still hasn’t completely processed. Bittersweet moment I would say.
- **Representative Canady:** Is there one particular teacher that has allowed you to get to this position?
  - **Associate Keupen:** Not quite a teacher, but I expressed earlier about George. If you want a teacher specifically, I would say Dr. Kyle Harper in the Classics department. He is just one of the best professors I’ve ever had and gives some of the best lectures. He is one of those people where it feels like you are glued to every word he is saying and just makes the

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class super fun and engaging. I really value the relationship that I built with him because of that.

- **Representative Solomon:** In Oklahoma, there are plenty of issues with the work environment for teachers. I understand the language doesn't really matter and is not the purpose of the bill but I was wondering if you would be open and helpful to adding a section recognizing teachers' experiences and advocating for teacher working conditions?
  - **Associate Keupen:** 100% because my own mom is a teacher, on top of that she is a special education teacher in Oklahoma and I understand what you are talking about.

Passed unanimously 21-0-1

- CR-115-20 "Disability Parking Enforcement and Accessibility Act" (Hawley) (Do Pass)  
*On a motion to see CB-115-20 Representative Toyos seconded by Representative Vedra*

**Author Explanation:**

- **Representative Hawley:** Hi again! I wrote this about a student concern while I was away regarding the monitoring of disability parking on OU's campus. Basically, the main concern is that there is low monitoring during the day and no monitoring after hours, which can cause a problem for people who come to Congress meetings at 7 p.m., as well as others, when disability spots are being taken, which has happened multiple times. This is just to urge Parking Services and OU PD to take violations of this more seriously.

**2:00 time remaining for questions**

- **Representative Vedra:** This is your last congress meeting what is your favorite part about your final piece of legislation?
  - **Representative Hawley:** I think that I got to do it for someone else. A lot of my drive for my past one's, I don't know if everyone knows my past one, but it was minimum wage which I made minimum wage. Also, endometriosis which often I have so all of those were all driven by personal things. This was brought by someone else, and even though it does affect me, because disability parking, I was really happy that someone could bring this one to me and I got to actually feel like I was doing something.

Passed unanimously 23-0-1

- CB-115-28 "Expulsion Bylaw Update" (Wintory) (Do Pass)  
*On a motion to see CB-115-28 Representative Toyos seconded by Representative Cox*

**Author Explanation:**

- **Representative Wintory:** Hey guys, as you may know, I was Congress Secretary this year, and in the last session we saw a very big expulsion bill, and people did not want to be expelled. So we had to come up on the fly with what we would do when this happens, and we figured it out. This is what we did, just written into the code. So the only other change is right here, and it's really clarifying that

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before changing it, it sounded like you could expel someone in the same session if they accrue two additional absences after they are up for expulsion, but that's not how this works. I'm also open to a friendly amendment to add in here that if you're expelled, you can't run for a representative seat. I think if people have a track record of not showing up, then the body shouldn't be at risk of not being represented, like if they don't show up again or they are expelled again. We were supposed to expel three representatives, and now we just have three open spaces with three people who couldn't vote. But I understand that probably should have been a separate bill, so if we don't address it now, we can worry about that next session.

### 6:32 time remaining for questions

- **Representative Fisher:** I know that you said someone who is expelled should not run for rep seat. With the idea of giving second chances, do you think that is a bit too far so maybe moving for second expulsion or third.
- **Representative Wintory:** I appreciate the intention, and I think second chances are important, but when you think about the needs of Congress, we really should not be thinking about the individual as much as we should be thinking about how we are representing our constituents. I think the risk of constituents continually being kind of manipulated into voting for people who are not showing up is not worth it. People can rejoin as associates. We have twenty-three people voting now, and I hate that so few people vote when there are so many associates here who would love to be representatives. So I think it's not hard to stay in the body, frankly, it's really just about wanting to be here. I don't really see that changing if you get to the point of being expelled. I'll leave it up to you guys if we want to do the amendment, and we can do it hostile if we want to actually vote on it. I am open to whatever.
  - **Representative Toyos:** Along the same line what would your thoughts on maybe adding limitations to the following election instead of limiting ever running for representative, just the election following their expulsion?
  - **Representative Wintory:** They can run again in the next spring election if expelled during this session. It would be the best of both worlds.
- **Representative Toyos:** Do you accept a friendly amendment to potentially add a section there with a limitation for them to run for a representative seat for the following year's election?
  - **Representative Wintory:** I accept.

Passed unanimously 21-0-1

### Follow-Up Reports

#### Announcements and Comments

- **Associate Sneller:** On Norman pride, Norman pride has this really cool thing for students where there have a pride festival May 1st-May 3<sup>rd</sup> for students to come and will have their pride festival May 2<sup>nd</sup> at Andrews Park and it's going to have its big pride parade in

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downtown Norman at 7 pm. If you have any questions reach out to me or type in Norman Pride into anything.

- **Associate Fedhra:** If you like running go to the supply and demand dash 5K, it'll be fun and on Sunday starts at 9 am in front of the bizell and will be \$15.
- **Representative Fisher:** Tomorrow 6 pm choosing best engineer and will have 18 contestants. Come out and show your support.

**Final Roll Call**

*On a motion to adjourn Cunningham seconded by Cox*

**Adjourn Sine Die 11:21 PM**

Baker	Dillon	x
Ball	Reese	a
Benitez Me	Delia	x
Callahan	Kyla	x
Canady	Choncy	x
Carter	Leo	a
Cox	Ian	x
Cunningha	Owen	x
Dailey	Keeley	ex
DeMink	Nolan	ex
Fisher	Mecca	x
Gilson Bor	Aaron	a
Glaza	Ava	a
hawley	kayla	a
Hicks	Reagan	x
Khalife	Maya	x
Kurtz	Dorinda	ex
Medina	Suzanna	ex
Meldrem	Madelyn	ex
Morgan	Coleman	x
Nicholson	Brian	x
Pasupathy	Hari	x
Pfeffer	Evan	ex
Pitts	Avery	x
Quinones	Estrella	x
Radzanows	Lorelai	x
Raju	Krishen	ex
Rhoads	Hope	x
Schmitz	Isaac	ex
Solomon	Matthew	x
Toyos	Alexandra	x
Vaithianat		
han	Nadesh	x
Vedra	Hayden	x
Walker	Cade	a
Wick	Isaiah	a
Williams	kase	a
Williams	Savannah	x
Wintory	Michael	x
Wolthuis	Ellie	a

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	enter	exec	exit	exec	Chair	enter	exec	exit	exec	VC, yes for owen, no for lorelai	exec	exit	le bregnard, yes for le no for bregnard	115-20	115-27	115-14	115-11	115-30	115-28	115-08	115-10	115-19	115-12	115-13	115-16	115-15	115-17	115-18	
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Callahan	Kyla	y	y	y	y	y	n	y	y	y				y	y	y	y	y	y	y	y	y	y	y	y	y	y	y	y
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Dailey	Keeley																												
DeMink	Nolan	y	y	y	y	y	y	y	y	y				y	y	y	y	y	y	y	y	y	y	y	y	y	y	y	y
Fisher	Mecca	y	y	y	y	y	y	y	y	y				y	y	y	y	y	y	y	y	y	y	y	y	y	y	y	y
Gilson	Boi Aaron	y	y	y	y	y	y	y	y	y				y	y	y	y	y	y	y	y	y	y	y	y	y	y	y	y
Glaza	Ava	y	y	y	y	y	y	y	y	y																			
Hawley	Kayla	y	y	y	y	y	n	y	y	n				y															
Hicks	Reagan	y	y	y	y	y	n	y	y	y				y	y	y	y	y	y	y	y	y	y	y	y	y	y	y	y
Khalife	Maya	y	y	y	y	y	y	y	y	n				y	y	y	y	y	y	y	y	y	y	y	y	y	y	y	y
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Meldrem	Madelyn																												
	Coleman		y																										
Nicholson	Brian	y	y	y	y	y	y	y	y	y				y	y	y	y	y	y	y	y	y	y	y	y	y	y	y	y
Pasupathi	Hani	y	y	y	y	y	y	y	y	n				y	y	y	y	y	y	y	y	y	y	y	y	y	y	y	y
Pfeffer	Evan	y	y	y	y	y	n	y	y	n																			
Pitts	Avery	y	y	y	y	y	y	y	y	n				y	y	y	y	y	y	y	y	y	y	y	y	y	y	y	y
Quinones	Estrella	y	y	y	y	y	n	y	y	n				y	y	y	y	y	y	y	y	y	y	y	y	y	y	y	y
Radzanow	Lorelai	y	y	y				y	y	n				y	y	y	y	y	y	y	y	y	y	y	y	y	y	y	y
Raju	Krishen													y															
Rhoads	Hope	y	y	y	y	y	n	y	y	n				y	y	y	y	y	y	y	y	y	y	y	y	y	y	y	y
Schmitz	Isaac																												
Solomon	Matthew	y	y	y	y	y	n	y	y	n				y	y	y	y	y	y	y	y	y	y	y	y	y	y	y	y
Tozoy	Alexandra	y	y	y	y	y	y	y	y	y				y	y	y	y	y	y	y	y	y	y	y	y	y	y	y	y
Vaithianan	Nadesh	y	y	y	y	y	y	y	y	y				y	y	y	y	y	y	y	y	y	y	y	y	y	y	y	y
Vedra	Hayden	y	y	y	y	y	n	y	y	y				y	y	y	y	y	y	y	y	y	y	y	y	y	y	y	y
Walker	Cade	y	y	y	y	y	n	y	y	y				y	y	y	y	y	y	y	y	y	y	y	y	y	y	y	y
Wick	Isiah	y	y	y	y	y	y	y	y	n				y	y	y	y	y	y	y	y	y	y	y	y	y	y	y	y
Williams	Kase																												
Williams	Savannah	y	y	y	y	y	y	y	y	y				y	y	y	y	y	y	y	y	y	y	y	y	y	y	y	y
Wintory	Michael	y	y	y	y	y	y	y	y	y				y	y	y	y	y	y	y	y	y	y	y	y	y	y	y	y
Wolthuis	Ellie	y	y	y	y	y	n	y	y	n																			
		28	29	30	28	26		17	26	26				15	23	22	21	20	21	21	21	21	21	20	20	20	20	20	20
		0	0	0	0	0		12	0	0				10	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
		0	0	0	0	0		0	0	0				1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1

Chair: Caleb Robinson  
Vice Chair: Aaron Gilson-Bond  
Secretary: Michael Wintory

To request accommodations, please contact Congress@ou.edu prior to the meeting.

THE UNIVERSITY OF OKLAHOMA STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION

UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT CONGRESS  
CONGRESSIONAL SESSION CXV  
April 28, 2026

GRADUATE STUDENT SENATE  
SENATE SESSION GS26  
April 23, 2026

CONGRESSIONAL BILL CB-115-27  
SENATE BILL GS26-38

AS INTRODUCED

An Act of Procedure submitting the Fall 2026  
Unscheduled Holiday; recognizing the importance of  
voting and civic engagement, 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 “Unscheduled Fall Holiday Act of 2026.”

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

**Section 3:** The University of Oklahoma Student Government Association (SGA) officially submits the following dates as the Fall 2026 Student Holidays.

- Friday, October 9, 2026 (Red River Rivalry Holiday)
- Tuesday, November 3, 2026 (Election Day)

**Section 4:** SGA recognizes that since 1900, the Red River Rivalry football game between the University of Oklahoma and the University of Texas at Austin has been played 121 times on the first or second Saturday in October. Since 1932, the game has been played at the Cotton Bowl in Dallas, Texas. The importance of maintaining the student holiday falling on the Friday before the Red River Rivalry game is manifest in its position as a cherished university tradition. It also serves an important role in providing for student safety at one of the University’s most significant events of the academic year. In 2024 and 2025, ODOT Director Tim Gatz issued formal advisories designating Norman, Purcell, Turner Falls, and Thackerville as critical “choke points” where substantial congestion and construction coincide. By providing a non-instructional day, the University effectively removes thousands of student drivers from the road during the high-risk traffic period.

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Ultimately, the Red River Holiday is not merely a day off, but a strategic institutional measure that prioritizes student well-being and the University's cultural heritage.

**Section 5:** In addition to recognizing the importance and cultural significance of the Red River Rivalry Holiday, SGA recognizes that participation in federal, state, and local elections is an essential right of many students at the University of Oklahoma. SGA also recognizes that it is vitally important that students eligible to vote in these elections have the opportunity to exercise their rights and make their voices heard. A democracy is at its healthiest when as many people as possible have the ability to participate in the electoral process.

**Section 6:** SGA recognizes that the state of Oklahoma has one of the lowest voter turnout rates in the country. In the 2022 midterm elections, only 40.1% of Oklahoman voters turned out to cast a ballot. This is 6.5% lower than the national average.<sup>1</sup> SGA asserts that by providing a holiday for students on election day, more students will be able to participate in the electoral process.

**Section 7:** SGA recognizes that college students face unique, structural barriers to participating in the electoral process. Classes scheduled during polling hours, the need to travel long distances to their assigned polling places, and lack of personal vehicles are all factors that make it more difficult for college students to exercise their rights and to cast their vote in federal, state, and local elections. SGA recognizes that by providing a Fall Holiday on election day, we and the University Administration can remove some of these barriers and provide students the opportunity to exercise their constitutional rights.

**Section 8:** SGA recognizes that other university student groups across the country have taken various actions to promote and increase voting by college students, including but not limited to, working to make Election Day a holiday. In 2024, at least 86 universities cancelled classes for the presidential election.<sup>2, 3, 4, 5, 6</sup>

**Section 9:** Given the importance of both the Red River Rivalry Holiday and Election Day, SGA respectfully requests that the Administration of the University of Oklahoma grant a holiday on both of these days. SGA feels strongly that by providing a holiday on both days, the University can demonstrate its dedication to civil engagement, democratic processes, cultural heritage, and community. By providing a holiday on both days, the University can further its commitment to the values of excellence, opportunity and success, boldness, freedom of expression and civility, and civic commitment, as laid out in the University's strategic plan.

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<sup>1</sup> Allen, Cole, Vivian Morris, Gabriela Ramirez-Perez. 2023. The 2022 Midterms Reveal Our Democracy Is Still Inaccessible to Many Oklahoma Voters. *OKPolicy*, edited by the Oklahoma Policy Institute, Accessed April 22, 2026. <https://okpolicy.org/the-2022-midterms-reveal-our-democracy-is-still-inaccessible-to-many-oklahoma-voters/>.

<sup>2</sup> University of Tennessee Knoxville. 2026. 2026-2027 Academic Calendar. Electronic document, <https://registrar.utk.edu/wp-content/uploads/sites/4/2026/01/2026-2027-Academic-Calendar.pdf>, accessed April 23, 2026.

<sup>3</sup> University of South Carolina. 2026. 2026-27 Official Academic Calendar. Electronic document, [https://sc.edu/about/offices\\_and\\_divisions/registrar/academic\\_calendars/2026-27\\_calendar.php](https://sc.edu/about/offices_and_divisions/registrar/academic_calendars/2026-27_calendar.php), Accessed April 23, 2026.

<sup>4</sup> The Editorial Board of the Cornell Daily Sun. 2025. Make Election Day a University Holiday. *The Cornell Daily Sun*, October 27, 2025, accessed April 23, 2026. <https://www.cornellsun.com/article/2025/10/editorial-make-election-day-a-university-holiday>.

<sup>5</sup> Anderson, Greta. 2020. Students Push for Canceled Classes on Election Day. *Inside Higher Ed*, October 21, 2020, accessed April 23, 2026. <https://www.insidehighered.com/news/2020/10/22/movement-no-class-election-day-gains-steam>.

<sup>6</sup> TO2V. 2026. About TO2V. Electronic document, <https://www.to2v.org/the-movement>, accessed April 23, 2026.

**Section 10:** This act shall become effective when passed in accordance with the SGA Constitution.

Author(s): Sam Jensen, Ways and Means Committee Chair, Graduate Student Senate  
Benjamin Fellman, Sustainability Committee Chair, Graduate Student Senate  
Mercer Martin, SGA President  
Caleb Robinson, Undergraduate Congress Chair

Sponsor(s): Josephine Nicholson, SGA Vice President  
Henry Christiansen, SGA Chief of Staff

Submitted on a Motion by: Representative Toyos seconded by Representative Canady

Action taken by Congress: Passed unanimously 22-0-1

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 CXV  
April 28, 2026

GRADUATE STUDENT SENATE  
SENATE SESSION GS26  
April 23, 2026

CONGRESSIONAL RESOLUTION CR-115-14  
SENATE RESOLUTION NO. GS26-39

AS INTRODUCED

A Concurrent Resolution recognizing the cultural importance of the Red River Rivalry Game and its associated traditions; and providing for distribution.

- Whereas: The Red River Rivalry Game is an important component of the history and cultural heritage of the University of Oklahoma, with the first game dating back to 1900.
- Whereas: Since 1900, 121 rivalry games have been held between the University of Oklahoma and the University of Texas at Austin. Since 1932, the game has been played at the Cotton Bowl in Dallas, Texas.
- Whereas: The University of Oklahoma Student Government Association (SGA) traditionally requests that the University provide a holiday on the Friday preceding the game to allow students to safely travel to Dallas for the rivalry game. This request and subsequent granting of the holiday have become a cherished and culturally significant tradition at the University of Oklahoma.
- Whereas: The Red River Rivalry Game is an important opportunity for students, faculty, staff, and alumni of the University of Oklahoma to build community through friendly competition with the University of Texas at Austin.

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 “Red River Rivalry Resolution of 2026.”
- Section 2:** SGA formally recognizes the importance of the Red River Rivalry Game and its associated traditions to the history, culture, and cultural heritage of the University of Oklahoma. Boomer Sooner!
- Section 3:** SGA formally expresses its support of the traditions associated with the Red River Rivalry Game, including the holiday provided on the Friday preceding the rivalry game.

*To request accommodations, please contact [Congress@ou.edu](mailto:Congress@ou.edu) prior to the meeting.*

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

- Joseph Harroz, Jr., President of the University of Oklahoma
- André-Denis Wright, Senior Vice President and Provost
- David Surratt, Vice President for Student Affairs and Dean of Students
- Roger Denny, Vice President and Director of Athletics
- Hans E. Butzer, Dean of the Christopher C. Gibbs College of Architecture
- Michael Markham, Dean of the Dodge Family College of Arts and Sciences
- Robert Palmer, Dean of the College of Atmospheric and Geographic Sciences
- Laku Chidambaram, Dean of the Michael F. Price College of Business
- John Antonio, Dean of the Mewbourne College of Earth and Energy
- Stacy Reeder, Dean of the Jeannine Rainbolt College of Education
- John Klier, Dean of the Gallogly College of Engineering
- Mary Margaret Holt, Dean of the Weitzenhoffer Family College of Fine Arts
- Paul Gilmore, Dean of the Honors College
- Jonathan Stalling, Interim Dean of the David L. Boren College of International Studies
- Andrea Miller, Dean of the Gaylord College of Journalism and Mass Communication
- Randall S. Hewes, Dean of the Graduate College
- Anna E. Carpenter, Dean of the College of Law
- Miloš Savić, Dean of the College of Professional and Continuing Studies
- OU Daily
- OU Nightly

Author(s): Sam Jensen, Ways and Means Committee Chair, Graduate Student Senate

Sponsor(s): Mercer Martin, SGA President  
Josephine Nicholson, SGA Vice President  
Henry Christiansen, SGA Chief of Staff  
Benjamin Fellman, Sustainability Committee Chair, Graduate Student Senate

Submitted on a motion by: Representative Toyos seconded by Representative Cox

Action taken by Congress: Passed unanimously 21-0-1

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 CXV  
April 28, 2026

GRADUATE STUDENT SENATE  
SENATE SESSION GS26  
April 23, 2026

CONGRESSIONAL RESOLUTION CR-115-11  
SENATE RESOLUTION GS-26-25

AS INTRODUCED

A Concurrent Resolution informing about the negative impacts of confetti usage, along with strongly urging the use of more eco-friendly options at the University of Oklahoma, Norman Main Campus, and providing for distribution.

Whereas: Paper and Mylar confetti are small bits of streamers, and commonly used in celebrations including, but not limited to, weddings, birthdays, and graduations,<sup>1,2</sup>. Confetti is also used for small and individual gatherings<sup>2</sup>.

Whereas: However, confetti is a serious environmental concern as it is a microplastic<sup>3</sup>. Further, due to its small nature, confetti is very difficult to completely clean up when used<sup>4</sup>. Most paper confetti is not eco-friendly as it is not biodegradable, making it dangerous for wildlife, which may mistake it for food. Through drainage and runoff systems, confetti can also pollute waterways<sup>4</sup>.

Whereas: Over the last several years, college campuses across the country including Texas State University, Florida State University, and many others have discussed how confetti negatively impacts their local ecosystems<sup>5,6,7,8</sup>. In addition to its negative environmental impacts, there are large costs associated with confetti usage at university graduation ceremonies<sup>7</sup>.

Whereas: Many universities have provided more eco-friendly alternatives to paper confetti including but not limited to biodegradable confetti, flower petals, bubbles, or bird seeds<sup>5,9</sup>. Other campuses utilize bio-degradable and water soluble confetti options to reduce their environmental impact<sup>2</sup>.

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1. *Definition of CONFETTI*. 10 Apr. 2026, <https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/confetti>.

2. Tracy, Dylan. "The Dark Side of Celebration: The Growing Issue of Confetti in Graduation Photos." *Issuu*, <https://issuu.com/georgiasouthwestern/docs/souwester-nov-2023/s/41211450>. Accessed 10 Apr. 2026.

3. Grioghair. "Confetti: We Know What It Is but What Is It Made Of?" *KIMO*, 24 Feb. 2020, <https://www.kimointernational.org/news/confetti-we-know-what-it-is-but-what-is-it-made-of/>.

4. "Confetti Awareness." *UCF Arboretum*, <https://arboretum.ucf.edu/confetti-awareness/>. Accessed 10 Apr. 2026.

5. *Glitter Is Litter*. 17 Dec. 2025, <https://www.txst.edu/stormwater/litter-free-txst/confetti-glitter.html>.

*To request accommodations, please contact Congress@ou.edu prior to the meeting.*

Whereas: The University of Oklahoma GSS Sustainability Committee has received complaints from both students and faculty regarding the use and lack of adequate confetti cleanup. Students and faculty have similarly expressed desires for the confetti's usage to be more closely monitored.

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 “**Confetti Still Makes Me Upsetti.**”

**Section 2:** In this resolution, University of Oklahoma Student Government Association (SGA) urge students to inform themselves regarding the negative impacts of confetti usage to the Norman ecosystem and campus when non-environmentally friendly paper and plastic confetti is used in celebration.

**Section 3:** Although SGA cannot strictly monitor the use of non-environmentally friendly confetti, we strongly recommend that individuals who choose to partake in activities involving confetti explore more environmentally conscientious alternatives. As stated in one of the whereas statements, these alternatives can include, but are not limited to, biodegradable confetti, flower petals (dried or fresh) and seeds.

**Section 4:** We urge and recommend that the University works toward providing students with alternative forms of biodegradable confetti to limit the potential environmental impact confetti has on our campus.

**Section 5:** Copies of this resolution will be sent to:

- President Joseph Harroz Jr. of the University of Oklahoma
- Dr. David Surratt, Vice President for Student Affairs and Dean of Students
- The University of Oklahoma Board of Regents
- Office of Sustainability
- OU Daily
- OU Nightly

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6. Phelps, Alexandra. “Confetti Crackdown: Florida Students Raise Awareness about Graduation Celebrations That Harm the Environment.” *Caplin News*, 14 Oct. 2025, <https://caplinnews.fiu.edu/fiu-fsu-graduation-confetti-pallab-mozumder-enviornment/>.

7. Klonowski, Averie. “Why Is Confetti Banned at Some Salt Lake City Graduation Ceremonies?” *FOX 13 News Utah (KSTU)*, 15 May 2025, <https://www.fox13now.com/news/local-news/northern-utah/why-is-confetti-banned-at-some-salt-lake-city-graduation-ceremonies>.

8. *11 Eco-Friendly & Sustainable Confetti Alternatives*. 19 Oct. 2025, <https://onefabday.com/eco-friendly-sustainable-confetti-alternatives/>.

9. Tracy, Dylan. “The Dark Side of Celebration: The Growing Issue of Confetti in Graduation Photos.” *Issuu*, <https://issuu.com/georgiasouthwestern/docs/souwester-nov-2023/s/41211450>. Accessed 10 Apr. 2026.

Author(s): Benjamin Fellman, Chair, Graduate Sustainability Committee  
Tatiana Esteva-Ingram, Vice Chair, Graduate External and Legislative Affairs Committee  
Owen Cunningham, Chair, Undergraduate Sustainability Committee  
Anna Olson, Member, Graduate Sustainability Committee

Co-Sponsor(s): Summer Edwards, Chair, Graduate Student Senate  
Dana Mahmoud, Vice Chair, Graduate Student Senate  
Libby Ryan, Secretary, Graduate Student Senate  
Sam Jensen, Chair, Graduate Ways and Means Committee  
Caroline Lancaster, Chair, External and Legislative Affairs Committee  
Brandon Bueltel, Chair, Graduate Development and Philanthropy Committee  
April Moreno-Ward, Vice Chair, Graduate Sustainability Committee  
Reeya Shrestha, Member, Graduate Sustainability Committee  
Cydney Fleeks, Associate, Undergraduate Student Congress  
Trey Brite, Associate, Undergraduate Student Congress  
Ian Cox, Representative, Undergraduate Student Congress  
Jayden Bass, Representative, Undergraduate Student Congress  
Joshua Sterling, Associate, Undergraduate Student Congress

Submitted on a motion by: Representative Cox seconded by Radzanowski

Action taken by Congress: Passed unanimously 21-0-1

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 CXV  
April 28, 2026

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

CONGRESSIONAL BILL CB-115-30  
SENATE BILL GSXX-XX/GFXX-XX

AS INTRODUCED

An Act of Legislation to update the SGACA with current practices regarding space use in the Conoco Student Leadership Center; 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 ` Revision Act of 2026.”

**Section 2:** Purpose: The purpose of this act shall be to update the SGACA with current practices regarding space use in the Conoco Student Leadership Center.

**Section 3:** AMENDATORY: The University of Oklahoma Student Government Association Code Annotated Title XI Chapter 2 is amended as follows. For the purposes of this bill, all items removed shall be denoted with a strikethrough (~~strikethrough~~) and all items added shall be denoted with an underline (underline).

**Section 4:**

**Chapter XI-2 Conoco Student Leadership Center**

- 1) **Card Access.** ~~The Conoco Student Leadership Center Office SGA Staff Assistant shall collect ID numbers from organizations allocated space during the first two weeks of each semester. The Office shall provide these numbers to the Sooner Card Office, which will use said numbers to allow access to the Center with the ID card reader. This service shall be equally available to all RSOs allocated space. Any RSO submitting numbers that do not correspond to club members, or otherwise abusing this service, shall be subject to fines and ineligibility to apply for office space the following year. Card access to the Conoco Student Leadership Center shall be provided each semester to the following positions, along with other SGA members as needed, by discretion of the SGA Advisor & SGA Administrative Support Specialist.~~
  - a) Executive Branch Members

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- i) SGA President
- ii) SGA Vice President
- iii) SGA Chief of Staff
- iv) Executive Cabinet Members
- v) CLA Co-Chairs
- vi) CLA Vice Chairs
- b) Undergraduate Student Congress Members
  - i) Congress Chair
  - ii) Congress Vice Chair
  - iii) Congress Secretary
  - iv) Congress Committee Chairs
- c) Graduate Student Senate Members
  - i) Senate Chair
  - ii) Senate Vice Chair
  - iii) Senate Secretary
  - iv) Senate Committee Chairs
- d) Judicial Branch Members
  - i) Superior Court Chief Justice
  - ii) Superior Court Associate Justices
  - iii) SGA General Counsel
  - iv) SGA Associate General Counsel
  - v) SGA Election Commissioner
- e) Programming Branch Members
  - i) Campus Activities Council Chair
  - ii) CAC General Council Members
  - iii) CAC Event Chairs

## 2) ~~Space Allocation-Resources~~

- a) ~~Applications. Application for space shall be made available and accepted by the SGA Department of Student Organizations, and shall be due during the academic week before Spring Break.~~<sup>2</sup>
- b) ~~Eligibility. Only those organizations on the Norman Campus that will have been registered with the Center for Student Life for no less than one calendar year at the time of the Fall General Elections shall be eligible to apply for and receive office, cubicle, or storage space.~~<sup>3</sup>
- c) ~~Conoco Space Allocation Committee. The Conoco Space Allocation Committee, consisting of the SGA Vice President, Chair of Undergraduate Student Congress, Chair of Graduate Student Senate, and Campus Activities Council Chair shall consider all valid applications received and present recommendations to the SGA President.~~<sup>4</sup>
- d) ~~Procedure for Assignment of Space. The SGA President shall submit legislation to the legislative branch prior to the Fall General Elections. The space allocations shall be established through an advice and consent act of the SGA, as specified in the SGA Constitution.~~<sup>5</sup>
- e) ~~Term of Occupancy. The term of occupancy in the Conoco Student Leadership Center shall begin one week after the last day of classes in the spring semester, and shall end one week before the last day of classes in the spring semester of the following year.~~<sup>6</sup>
- f) ~~Failure to Renew Registration. Organizations failing to renew their registration with the Center for Student Life are considered inactive, and inactive student organizations are not entitled to office space in the Conoco Center. Any inactive student organization occupying office space in the Conoco Center shall promptly vacate so that the space may be reassigned~~

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to a registered student organization in accordance with the University policy and SGA Legislation.<sup>7</sup>

~~g) Use of Space~~

- ~~i) Monitoring. The usage of allocated office space shall be monitored. A report shall be presented to the SGA President every month<sup>8</sup> of the academic year evaluating the usage of allocated office space by student organizations. Said reports may be amended by and shall be signed and published by the SGA President. Unless otherwise defined by the legislative branch, the SGA President shall set evaluative criteria and define what constitutes unsatisfactory use. Any such criteria and definitions shall be published. Unsatisfactory use shall include but not be limited to storage only, personal or academic uses, and any use in violation of University policy or higher law. Student organizations shall consent in writing to monitoring prior to occupation of allocated space.<sup>9</sup>~~
- ~~ii) Notification. Any student organization reported to be making unsatisfactory use of its allocated office space shall be notified within 5 business days.<sup>10</sup> Such a student organization shall be in bad standing for the purposes of the SGA budgetary process and shall continue in bad standing until said student organization is no longer reported to be making unsatisfactory use of its allocated office space. Any student organization reported to be making unsatisfactory use of its allocated office space in two consecutive reports shall receive a second notification.<sup>11</sup>~~
- ~~iii) Vacation. At any point prior to a third consecutive report of unsatisfactory use, a student organization may voluntarily vacate its allocated office space. Upon notification of the SGA President of a decision to voluntarily vacate said student organization shall no longer be in bad standing due to unsatisfactory use of office space.<sup>12</sup>~~
- ~~iv) Eviction. A third consecutive report or a fifth report within one semester of unsatisfactory use shall cause the office space allocated to an organization to be vacated by the order of the SGA President. Said organization shall not be eligible for the allocation by SGA of office space for the remainder of the academic year, but said executive eviction shall be considered by the SGA Budgetary Committee in any subsequent secondary or emergency allocations occurring in said academic year.<sup>13</sup>~~
- ~~v) Filling Vacancies. Vacant offices shall be filled according to an order established at the time of allocation. Any such office spaces so filled shall again become vacant at the time when the allocation to the previously occupying student organization would have otherwise expired.<sup>14</sup>~~
- ~~vi) Appeal. All executive decisions are subject to appeal to the SGA Superior Court.<sup>15</sup>~~
- ~~vii) Enforcement. The SGA President shall be responsible for the enactment of the provisions of Sec. 7 and may appoint whatever agents they deem necessary for this purpose with the advice and consent of the legislative branch.<sup>16</sup>~~

h) First Floor

- i) Office spaces on the first floor of the Conoco Student Leadership Center shall be reserved for the High Offices & other staff of the Student Government Association, designated by the SGA Advisor.

i) Second Floor & Third Floor

- i) The rooms of the second and third floors of the Conoco Student Leadership Center shall be reserved for use by Registered Student Organizations (RSO's) and students as follows:

(1) Booking Time: There shall be no minimum booking time for RSO's

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- (2) **Booking Window:** Booking shall open on the first day of classes each semester at 8am for that current semester.
- (3) **Event Length:** Booking shall be limited to a maximum of four hours per event. Maximum daily booking per RSO shall be limited to 8 hours.

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

**Author(s):** Henry Christiansen, SGA Chief of Staff  
Mercer Martin, SGA President  
Josephine Nicholson, SGA Vice President

Submitted on a Motion by: Representative Toyos seconded by Representative Pitts

Action taken by Congress: Passed unanimously 21-0-1

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 CXV  
April 28, 2026

CONGRESSIONAL BILL CB-115-29

AS INTRODUCED

A Congressional Act of Procedure expelling members from the Congressional Body; providing short title; and providing an effective date.

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

**Section 1:** Title: This act shall be known and may be cited as the “Session 115 Expulsion Bill No. 3.”

**Section 2:** The purpose of this act shall be to expel a member for excessive unexcused absences. Jaycee Gideon, Anayat Yousuf, Lila Lawrence: the membership of the aforementioned are pending expulsion.

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

Expulsion: Jaycee Gideon, Anayat Yousuf, Lila Lawrence

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

Author(s): Secretary Michael Wintory, Undergraduate Student Congress

Co-Authors: Cai Le, Associate Undergraduate Student Congress

Sam Bregnard, Associate Undergraduate Student Congress

Submitted on a Motion by:

Action taken by Congress:

Verified by Chair: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

THE UNIVERSITY OF OKLAHOMA STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION

UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT CONGRESS  
CONGRESSIONAL SESSION CXV  
April 28th, 2026

GRADUATE STUDENT SENATE  
SENATE SESSION GS26  
April 23, 2026

CONGRESSIONAL RESOLUTION CR-115-08  
SENATE BILL GS26-23

AS INTRODUCED

A Concurrent Resolution recognizing the importance  
and need for resources of Engineering Competition  
Teams on campus at the University of Oklahoma;  
providing for distribution

Whereas: Engineering Competition Teams are a type of RSO within the Gallogly College of Engineering with the intended mission of participating in competitions highlighting various engineering skills and abilities.

Whereas: Engineering Competition Teams compete in regional and national competitions hosted by various professional organizations such as SAE International<sup>7</sup> <sup>8</sup>, The American Society of Civil Engineers<sup>9</sup> <sup>10</sup>, The American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics<sup>11</sup>, and The Intelligent Ground Vehicle Competition<sup>12</sup>, among others, providing the means for students to make connections with industry professionals that extend beyond their academic career.

Whereas: Engineering Competition Teams represent the image and values of the University of Oklahoma on an international level.<sup>13</sup>

Whereas: Engineering Competition Teams offer avenues for students to explore new projects and ideas, allowing them to apply engineering skills outside their coursework.<sup>14</sup>

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<sup>7</sup> <https://www.fsaonline.com/>

<sup>8</sup> <https://www.bajasae.net/>

<sup>9</sup> <https://www.asce.org/communities/student-members/conferences/asce-concrete-canoes-competition>

<sup>10</sup> <https://www.asce.org/communities/student-members/conferences/student-steel-bridge-competition>

<sup>11</sup> <https://aiaa.org/dbf/>

<sup>12</sup> <http://www.igvc.org/>

<sup>13</sup> <https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/full/10.1002/jee.20418>

<sup>14</sup> <https://purdueseds.space/liquids/>

Whereas: Engineering Competition Teams offer ways for students to tailor their senior-level design projects towards their career field through involvement in such organizations.<sup>15</sup>

Whereas: Numerous members of Engineering Competition Teams have expressed concern with the limited funding provided by the Gallogly College of Engineering, frustration with the time and scope limitations placed on teams by departments and the College, and the lack of constructive dialogue between competition teams and college-level administration.

Whereas: Engineering Competition Teams have had significant success in their competitions, including:

- Sooner Competitive Robotics: 1<sup>st</sup> place in Auto-Nav & 1st Place in Grand Award at The Intelligent Ground Vehicle Competition in 2025, Best Design Report Award at The Student Tele-Operated Robotics Mission in 2025<sup>16</sup>
- Medical Device Make-A-Thon: OU Students placed 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> in 2025<sup>17</sup>
- Sooner Racing Team: Placed 4<sup>th</sup> in the Acceleration Event at Formula SAE in 2025<sup>18</sup>
- Concrete Canoe: First place overall results in 2018 & 2013<sup>19</sup>

Whereas: Engineering Competition Teams have raised a total of \$18,504.69 and taken the 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, and 3<sup>rd</sup> spots in amount raised for student organizations during OU Giving Day.<sup>20</sup>

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE UNIVERSITY OF OKLAHOMA STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION:

**Section 1:** Title: This act shall be known and may be cited as the “Engineering Competition Teams Resolution.”

**Section 2:** The purpose of this resolution shall be to recognize the importance and impact that Engineering Competition Teams have on their members; recognize their importance in spreading the image of OU; and acknowledge Competition Teams’ need for GCOE-funded resources to maintain their impact on and off campus. SGA also expresses support for competition teams across campus and encourages each college to support these teams financially and to provide opportunities for students to participate in competitive academic events.

**Section 3:** The University of Oklahoma Student Government Association commends the impact that Engineering Competition Teams have had on students’ education; values how they

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<sup>15</sup> <https://www.ou.edu/coe/ame/resources/capstone>

<sup>16</sup> <https://ou.edu/scr/results>

<sup>17</sup> <https://www.velocityokc.com/blog/inside-okc/student-led-2025-national-medical-device-make-a-thon-thrives-with-support-from-isok-and-greater-okc-chamber/>

<sup>18</sup> [https://www.fsaeonline.com/CompResources/2025/c796a916-c2e8-4ce6-bae3-c79f36776556/FSAE\\_2025\\_MI5\\_results.pdf](https://www.fsaeonline.com/CompResources/2025/c796a916-c2e8-4ce6-bae3-c79f36776556/FSAE_2025_MI5_results.pdf)

<sup>19</sup> <https://www.okasce.org/ou-student-group.html>

<sup>20</sup> <https://givesooner.org/pages/ou-challenges>

have represented the University of Oklahoma; and reaffirms support for teams' access and use of the Rawl Engineering Practice Facility.

**Section 4:** The University of Oklahoma Student Government Association encourages the Gallogly College of Engineering to have formal meetings with competition team leaders to explore greater avenues of funding for competition teams specifically through the College of Engineering, promote ambitious projects and the failure inherent to the engineering process, and create opportunities for productive conversation with Engineering Competition Teams.

**Section-4 5:** Copies of this resolution will be sent to:

- Joseph Harroz Jr., President of the University of Oklahoma
- John Klier, Dean
- Ronda Shehab, Senior Associate Dean for Academic Affairs and Faculty Development
- Annette Moran, Assistant Dean of Students
- Zahed Siddique, Associate Dean for Research
- Jeffery Volz, Associate Dean for Partnerships
- Ramkumar Parthasarathy, AME Director and Professor
- Wei Chen, Director and Professor, Stephenson Endowed Chair
- Randall Kolar, CEES Director and Professor
- John Antonio, Dean, Mewbourne College of Earth and Energy and Lester A. Day Family Chair
- Shishir Shah, CS Director and OU Chief Artificial Intelligence Officer
- Dimitrios Papavassiliou, SCBME DIRECTOR
- J.R. Cruz, ECE Director, Tilley Chair Professor
- Michael Santos, Engineering Physics Program Chair and Professor
- Shivakumar Raman, Industrial and Systems Engineering Director
- OU Boomer Rocket Team
- Concrete Canoe
- OU Design/Build/Fly
- Sooner Competitive Robotics
- Sooner Off-Road
- Sooner Racing Team
- Sooner Rover Team
- Steel Bridge
- OU Daily
- OU Nightly
- Medical Device Make-a-thon

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Author(s): Mecca Fisher, Ways & Means Committee Chair

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Hayden Vedra, University Policy Committee Chair

Co-Author(s): Coleman Morgan, Congressional Administration Committee Chair

Co-Sponsor(s): Alexis Evans, Associate  
Matthew Baker, Engineering Representative  
Summer Edwards, Graduate Student Senate Chair

Submitted on a Motion by: Representative Canady seconded by Cox

Action taken by Congress: Passed unanimously 21-0-1

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 CXV  
April 28, 2026

GRADUATE STUDENT SENATE  
SENATE SESSION GS26  
April, 23, 2026

CONGRESSIONAL RESOLUTION CR-115-10  
SENATE RESOLUTION NO. GS26-26

AS INTRODUCED

A Concurrent Resolution acknowledging the importance  
of environmentally sustainable practices; and providing  
for distribution.

Whereas: April 22, 2026 is Earth Day<sup>21</sup>; and

Whereas: The first Earth Day was held April 22, 1970, with teach-ins on college campuses across  
the country<sup>22</sup>; and

Whereas: More than 1 billion people in 190+ countries celebrate Earth Day<sup>23</sup>; and

Whereas: Earth Day helped lead to the passage of some major U.S. environmental laws<sup>24</sup>; and

Whereas: Scientists from Cornell University in found that plants absorbed 157 billion metric tons of  
Carbon from the atmosphere in 2024<sup>25</sup>; and

Whereas: 157 billion metric of Carbon is equivalent to about 576 billion metric tons of Carbon  
Dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>), using standard EPA conversion<sup>26</sup>; and

Whereas: Scientists estimate about half of oxygen production comes from Earth's oceans<sup>27</sup>; and

Whereas: Earth's climate is warming at a rapid pace, not seen for the past 10,000 years<sup>28</sup>; and

Whereas: This warming is highly influenced by human activity<sup>29</sup>; and

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<sup>21</sup> Earth Day. "Earth Day 2026 | Theme, Activities, Events & Resources." Accessed April 10, 2026. <https://www.earthday.org/earth-day-2026/>.

<sup>22</sup> Earth Day. "Earth Day 2026 | Theme, Activities, Events & Resources." Accessed April 13, 2026. <https://www.earthday.org/earth-day-2026/>.

<sup>23</sup> 4-H Environmental & Outdoor Education. "The History of Earth Day." March 13, 2025. Accessed April 13, 2026.

<https://www.canr.msu.edu/news/the-history-of-earth-day>.

<sup>24</sup> Earth Day. "Our Successes." Accessed April 13, 2026. <https://www.earthday.org/our-successes/>.

<sup>25</sup> Energy, UT-Battelle LLC for the US Department of. "Plant CO2 Uptake Rises by Nearly One Third in New Global Estimates." October 21, 2024.

Accessed April 13, 2026. <https://www.ornl.gov/news/plant-co2-uptake-rises-nearly-one-third-new-global-estimates>.

<sup>26</sup> "U.S. Energy Information Administration - EIA - Independent Statistics and Analysis." Accessed April 13, 2026.

<https://www.eia.gov/environment/emissions/includes/methodology.php>.

<sup>27</sup> "How Much Oxygen Comes from the Ocean?" Accessed April 13, 2026. <https://oceanservice.noaa.gov/facts/ocean-oxygen.html>.

<sup>28</sup> Evidence - NASA Science. June 15, 2022. Accessed April 13, 2026. <https://science.nasa.gov/climate-change/evidence/>.

<sup>29</sup> Ibid.

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Whereas: 2025 was the third-warmest year on record, since records began in 1850<sup>30</sup>; and

Whereas: In February 2026, CO<sub>2</sub> in Earth’s atmosphere was 429 parts per million<sup>31</sup>; and

Whereas: In November 2025, Methane in Earth’s atmosphere was 1,946 parts per billion<sup>32</sup>; and

Whereas: It is estimated that 60% of the Methane in Earth’s atmosphere are the result of humans<sup>33</sup>; and

Whereas: As of March 2026, the global sea level rose about 3.6 inches since satellites started measuring in 1993; and<sup>34</sup>

Whereas: Modern industrial activities have increased CO<sub>2</sub> in Earth’s atmosphere by almost 50% since 1750<sup>35</sup>; and

Whereas: The largest source of human greenhouse gas emissions in the U.S. is burning fossil fuels for transportation, heating/air conditioning, and electricity<sup>36</sup>; and

Whereas: Since 1950, there has been around 6.9 billion tons of plastic waste<sup>37</sup>; and

Whereas: An estimated 19-23 million tons of plastic end up in water ecosystems per year<sup>38</sup>; and

Whereas: Since 1950, 91% of plastic waste was not recycled<sup>39</sup>; and

Whereas: When tracking the population of 5000+ vertebrates, the average size has shrunk 73% from 1970 to 2020<sup>40</sup>; and

Whereas: Pollution and habitat change are the strongest motivators of biodiversity loss<sup>41</sup>; and

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<sup>30</sup> National Centers for Environmental Information (NCEI). “Assessing the Global Temperature and Precipitation Analysis in 2025.” January 13, 2026. Accessed April 13, 2026. <https://www.ncei.noaa.gov/news/global-climate-202513>.

<sup>31</sup> Carbon Dioxide - Earth Indicator - NASA Science. September 25, 2025. Accessed April 13, 2026. <https://science.nasa.gov/earth/explore/earth-indicators/carbon-dioxide/>.

<sup>32</sup> Methane - Earth Indicator - NASA Science. September 25, 2025. Accessed April 13, 2026. <https://science.nasa.gov/earth/explore/earth-indicators/methane/>.

<sup>33</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>34</sup> Sea Level - Earth Indicator - NASA Science. September 25, 2025. Accessed April 13, 2026. <https://science.nasa.gov/earth/explore/earth-indicators/sea-level/>.

<sup>35</sup> Friedlingstein, Pierre, Michael O’Sullivan, Matthew W. Jones, et al. “Global Carbon Budget 2022.” *Earth System Science Data* 14, no. 11 (2022): 4811–900. Accessed April 13, 2026. <https://doi.org/10.5194/essd-14-4811-2022>.

<sup>36</sup> US EPA, OAR. “Sources of Greenhouse Gas Emissions.” *Overviews and Factsheets*. December 29, 2015. Accessed April 13, 2026. <https://www.epa.gov/ghgemissions/sources-greenhouse-gas-emissions>.

<sup>37</sup> “About | UNEP Law and Environment Assistance Platform.” Accessed April 13, 2026. <https://leap.unep.org/en/knowledge/toolkits/plastic/about>.

<sup>38</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>39</sup> UC Santa Barbara - Bren School of Environmental Science & Management. “What Percentage of Plastic Is Recycled Globally?” December 18, 2018. Accessed April 13, 2026. <https://bren.ucsb.edu/news/what-percentage-plastic-recycled-globally>.

<sup>40</sup> “Home.” Accessed April 13, 2026. <https://livingplanet.panda.org/en-US/>.

<sup>41</sup> Keck, François, Tianna Peller, Roman Alther, et al. “The Global Human Impact on Biodiversity.” *Nature* 641, no. 8062 (2025): 395–400. Accessed April 13, 2026. <https://doi.org/10.1038/s41586-025-08752-2>.

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Whereas: More than 48,600 species are at risk of extinction<sup>42</sup>; and

Whereas: That is 28% of all evaluated species<sup>43</sup>; and

Whereas: About 1/3 of food produced for humans is lost or wasted per year<sup>44</sup>; and

Whereas: That is about 1.3 billion tons of food<sup>45</sup>; and

Whereas: Analyses from the United Nations and leading experts estimate livestock contributed 12-19.6% of global greenhouse gas emissions<sup>46</sup>; and

Whereas: Humans have become a dominant factor shaping the Earth's climate and ecology<sup>47</sup>.

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 "Encouraging Sustainable Practices and Environmental Responsibility Resolution"

**Section 2:** The University of Oklahoma Student Government Association recognizes the importance of environmentally sustainable practices.

**Section 3:** The University of Oklahoma Student Government Association commits to promoting sustainable practices across student life, university activities, and campus operations.

**Section 4:** The University of Oklahoma Student Government Association encourages the campus community to:

- Attend Earth Day events
- Volunteer for Environmental Sustainability Organizations
- Go on the Sustainability Committee's Trash Walk
- Use bio-friendly confetti in graduation photos
- Share Earth facts on social media
- Support renewable energy initiatives
- Leave no trace in nature
- Plant trees
- Start a garden
- Thrift clothes
- Recycle

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<sup>42</sup> IUCN Red List of Threatened Species. "The IUCN Red List of Threatened Species." Accessed April 13, 2026. <https://www.iucnredlist.org/en>.

<sup>43</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>44</sup> "Global Food Losses and Food Waste." Accessed April 13, 2026. <https://www.fao.org/4/mb060e/mb060e00.htm>.

<sup>45</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>46</sup> The Breakthrough Institute. "Livestock Don't Contribute 14.5% of Global Greenhouse Gas Emissions." Accessed April 13, 2026.

<https://thebreakthrough.org/issues/food-agriculture-environment/livestock-dont-contribute-14-5-of-global-greenhouse-gas-emissions>.

<sup>47</sup> Chua, Liana, and Hannah Fair. "Anthropocene." *The Open Encyclopedia of Anthropology*, ahead of print, January 8, 2019. Accessed April 13, 2026. <https://doi.org/10.29164/19anthro>.

- Use less plastic
- Commit to living a more environmentally-friendly life overall

**Section 5:** Copies of this resolution will be sent to:

- Joseph Harroz Jr., President of the University of Oklahoma
- Dr. André-Denis Wright, Senior Vice President and Provost — Norman
- Dr. David A. Surratt, Vice President for Student Affairs and Dean of Students
- Brian Holderread, Vice President for Campus Operations
- Dr. Matthew Rom, Associate Vice President for Facilities Management
- Marissa Pierson, Senior Director for Facilities Management
- Kyle McGehee, Director of Project Management and Engineering — Facilities Management
- Environmental Science Student Association
- OU Green Week
- Soil and Water Conservation Society
- Sustainable Energy Society
- The Geography and Environmental Sustainability Club
- Earthday.org
- OU Daily
- OU Nightly

Author(s): Ben Keupen, Associate

Co-Author(s):

Co-Sponsor(s):

Submitted on a motion by: Representative Baker seconded by Representative Pitts

Action taken by Congress: Passed unanimously 21-0-1

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 CXV  
April 28, 2026

GRADUATE STUDENT SENATE  
SENATE SESSION GS26  
Month DD, YYYY

CONGRESSIONAL RESOLUTION CR-115-12

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. GFXX-XX/GSXX-XX

AS INTRODUCED

A Concurrent Resolution recommending the Oklahoma State Legislature maintain current laws regarding weapons on campus; and providing for distribution.

Whereas: Weapons on campus create an unsafe learning and work environment. Furthermore, weapons affect the freedom of academic discourse that The University of Oklahoma strives to provide.; and

Whereas: There have been 814-gun deaths in the state of Oklahoma, with firearms being the leading cause of death for young people.<sup>1</sup> ; and

Whereas: Oklahoma has a firearm injury death rate of 19.9 out of 100,000 and is ranked as the 11<sup>th</sup> highest state for gun violence. <sup>2</sup>; and

Whereas: Currently, Oklahoma state law allows universities and colleges to make their own rules regarding campus gun carry; and

Whereas: Currently, multiple bills in legislative session affect the way that weapons are regulated on campus, those bills being OK HB1358 and OK HB3036, which loosen restrictions on concealed carry firearms on college campuses and for faculty/staff.

<sup>1</sup> CDC. "Oklahoma." *Stats of the States*, 20 Aug. 2025, [www.cdc.gov/nchs/state-stats/states/ok.html](http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/state-stats/states/ok.html).

<sup>2</sup> "State Data: Oklahoma | Center for Gun Violence Solutions." *Center for Gun Violence Solutions*, 2023, [publichealth.jhu.edu/center-for-gun-violence-solutions/data/state-gun-violence-data/Oklahoma](https://publichealth.jhu.edu/center-for-gun-violence-solutions/data/state-gun-violence-data/Oklahoma).

**BE IT RESOLVED BY THE UNIVERSITY OF OKLAHOMA UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION:**

**Section 1:** Title: This resolution shall be known and may be cited as the "Campus Safety Resolution of 2026."

**Section 2:** The Student Government Association believes campus safety is a priority to students; any changes to current policy would not only reduce campus safety and endanger lives but would also pose a significant detriment to the learning environment.

**Section 3:** The University of Oklahoma Student Government Association encourages the state legislature to maintain current laws regarding weapons on campus, in which the University President has the discretion to allow non-law enforcement personnel to carry weapons on campus when individual circumstances warrant it.

**Section 4:** The University of Oklahoma Student Government Association strongly opposes any changes to state law regarding weapons on college and university campuses.

**Section 5:** Copies of this resolution will be sent to:

- The University of Oklahoma Board of Regents
- President Joseph Harroz
- Dr. David Surratt, Vice President of Student Affairs and Dean of Students
- OUPD Chief Derek Fuller

**Author:** Maximilian Frehde, Member of External Affairs

**Co-Sponsors:** Michael Wintory, Congress Secretary  
Choncy Canady, Dodge College of Arts and Sciences Representative  
Austin Blackwell, Secretary of Ways and Means  
Matthew Solomon, Business Representative

Submitted on a motion by: Representative Canady seconded by Representative Cox

Action taken by Congress: Passed unanimously 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 CXV

April 28, 2026

CONGRESSIONAL RESOLUTION CR-115-13

AS INTRODUCED

A Congressional Resolution acknowledging  
the importance of the celebration

and recognition of Asian American Pacific Islander Month;

and providing for distribution.

- Whereas: May commemorates the first Japanese immigration on May 7th, 1843 and the completion of the transcontinental railroad on May 10th, 1869, where the workers were mostly Chinese immigrants<sup>1</sup>; and
- Whereas: About 6 percent of Asian or Pacific Islander descent lives in the United States<sup>2</sup>; and
- Whereas: Indian Americans is the biggest Asian-alone population in the United States<sup>3</sup>; and
- Whereas: According to the U.S. Census Bureau, which tracks 41 Asian groups, an estimated 24.7 million Asian people resided in the United States in 2022<sup>3</sup>; and
- Whereas: An estimated 1.8 million Native Hawaiians and Pacific Islanders lived in the United States in 2022<sup>3</sup>; and
- Whereas: Since the late 1970s, the United States has recognized the contributions of Asian American, Native Hawaiian, and Pacific Islander communities each May<sup>3</sup>; and
- Whereas: In 1990, President George H.W. Bush expanded the observance to the full month of May, and in 1992, Congress passed legislation, making it a permanent month-long celebration<sup>3</sup>; and
- Whereas: The first Asians arrived in America through Spain's Pacific Empire, which connected the Spanish colonies in the Philippines and Latin America<sup>4</sup>; and

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Whereas: Asian immigrant communities in Hawai'i and the mainland United States emerged due to dislocations from imperial wars, trade, and settlement<sup>4</sup>;and

Whereas: Since World War II, the number of Asian Americans has grown significantly, particularly after the Immigration and Nationality Act of 1965 and the refugee flows beginning in 1975<sup>4</sup>; and

1 "About Asian/Pacific American Heritage Month." Asian/Pacific American Heritage Month,.

2 "Introduction - Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage (U.S. National Park Service)." Nps.gov, 2024, home.nps.gov/subjects/aapiheritage/introduction.htm.

3 "AANHPI Toolkit - Resources | TAAF." Taaf.org, 2024, www.taaf.org/our-work/aanhpi-toolkit#learn. Accessed 19 Apr. 2026.

4 Lee, Erika , et al. Finding a Path Forward. 18 Oct. 2018.

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

Section 1: Title: This resolution shall be known and may be cited as the "AAPI Month Resolution of 2026"

Section 2: The University of Oklahoma Student Government Association acknowledges and celebrates the month of May as Asian American Pacific Islander Month.

Section 3: OU SGA encourages the student body to take advantage of the month of AAPI to celebrate Asian culture and learn about its history and impact.

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

- President Joseph Harroz Jr
- The OU Daily
- The OU Nightly
- Asian American Association
- Association of Southeast Asian Nations

Author(s): Teresa Nguyen, Associate

Co-Author(s): Madilynn Sneller, Associate

Submitted on a motion by: Representative Hicks seconded by Representative Pitts

Action taken by Congress: 20-0-1

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

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THE UNIVERSITY OF OKLAHOMA STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION

UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT CONGRESS  
CONGRESSIONAL SESSION CXV  
April 28th, 2026

GRADUATE STUDENT SENATE  
SENATE SESSION GS26  
April 23th, 2026

CONGRESSIONAL RESOLUTION CR-115-15  
SENATE RESOLUTION NO. GFXX-XX/GSXX-XX

AS INTRODUCED

A Concurrent Resolution acknowledging the importance  
of the celebration and recognition of Arab Heritage  
Month; and providing distribution.

Whereas: Since 1527, Arab Americans have been present in the United States, with significant waves of immigration beginning in the 1880s, including from Lebanon, Syria, Palestine, Egypt, and Iraq<sup>48</sup>; and

Whereas: National Arab American Heritage Month, recognized each April, states the presence of Arab Americans in the United States, connecting the past and present to pursue recognition and foster cultural understanding and equity; and

Whereas: National Arab American Heritage Month works as a bridge toward further education and recognition, as well as celebrates the role that Arab Americans have and continue to play not only in our country's economy, culture, and civic life, but in the broader history of human civilization; and

Whereas: In today's society, Arab Americans continue to face discrimination on multiple fronts and remain underrepresented at every level<sup>49</sup>;

Whereas: The recognition of April as National Arab American Heritage Month links Arab Americans across the nation to acknowledge past and present contributions, as well as to come together to address Arabophobia and discrimination on the largest scale possible; and

Whereas: Additionally, Arab Americans face the fact that federal Census forms have yet to include an official category that accurately reflects this community; and

Whereas: Arab Americans remain one of the most undercounted communities in the United States, with the American Community Survey recording approximately 2.2 million

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<sup>48</sup> Mark Dzaik, "Arab American Heritage Month," EBSCO, 2025, <https://www.ebsco.com/research-starters/ethnic-and-cultural-studies/arab-american-heritage-month>.

<sup>49</sup> Ibid.

individuals of Arab ancestry in 2022, while researchers and the Arab American Institute estimate the true population to be significantly higher; and

Whereas: The Arab American population has more than doubled since 1980 and grew by nearly 43% between 2010 and 2024, representing one of the fastest growing groups in the world, with Arab Americans present in all 50 states<sup>50</sup>;

Whereas: In 2023, the FBI recorded 123 anti-Arab hate crime incidents, the highest number since the category was first tracked in 2015, representing a 34% increase from 2022, with researchers noting this figure is a significant undercount of actual incidents<sup>51</sup>; and

Whereas: Arab Americans live in all 50 states, with nearly 70% concentrated in twelve states, and up to 95% residing in metropolitan areas<sup>52</sup>, reflecting a deeply rooted and geographically widespread community whose contributions touch every region of the country; and to 3.7 million; and

Whereas: Arab Americans own over 110,000 businesses across the United States, generating billions in annual revenue and contributing to every sector of the American economy; and<sup>53</sup>; and

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

**Section 1:** Title: This resolution shall be known and may be cited as the “Arab American Heritage Month Resolution of 2026”

**Section 2:** The University of Oklahoma Student Government Association acknowledges and celebrates the month of April as Arab American Heritage; and

**Section 3:** The University of Oklahoma Student Government Association encourages the student body to take advantage of the month of April to learn more about Arab Heritage and History and challenges faced by the Arab community, to foster a better environment for access and opportunity to thrive on campus.

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

- Joseph Harroz, Jr., President of the University of Oklahoma
- Belinda Higgs-Hyppolite, Vice President for Access and Opportunity
- David Surratt, Vice President of Student Affairs and Dean of Students

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<sup>50</sup> Jonathan Salant, “US Arab Population Doubles in 20 Years,” The Guardian, December 2, 2003, <https://www.theguardian.com/world/2003/dec/05/israelandthepalestinians.usa>.

<sup>51</sup> Arab American Institute. “AAI Statement on the FBI's 2023 Hate Crime Data Release: Highest Year on Record for Total Hate Incidents for Third Consecutive Year.” Washington, D.C.: Arab American Institute, September 23, 2024. <https://www.aaiusa.org/library/2023hatecrime>.

<sup>52</sup> “National Arab American Demographics,” Arab American Institute, accessed April 8, 2026, <https://www.aaiusa.org/demographics>.

<sup>53</sup> R.M. Frumkin “Arab American Intergroup Relationships,” EBSCO, 2025, <https://www.ebsco.com/research-starters/ethnic-and-cultural-studies/arab-american-intergroup-relations>.

- Quy Nguyen, Director of Student Life and Assistant Dean of Students
- International Advisory Committee
- International Student Affairs
- Arab Student Association
- Omani Student Association
- Afghan Student Association
- Arab Literature Book Club
- Arabic Club
- Belly Dancing Club
- Turkish Student Association
- *The OU Daily*
- *The OU Nightly*

Author(s): Delia J. Benitez Mendoza, Business Representative  
 Audrey Digua, Member of SGA  
 Taj Burris, Associate  
 Dana Mahmoud-Elhaj, SGA Graduate Student Senate Vice Chair

Co-Author(s):

Co-Sponsor(s):

Submitted on a motion by: Representative Baker seconded by Representative Cox

Action taken by Congress: Passed unanimously 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 CXV  
April 28th, 2026

CONGRESSIONAL RESOLUTION CR-115-16

AS INTRODUCED

A Congressional Resolution acknowledging  
the importance of the recognition of  
Mental Health Month;  
and providing for distribution.

- Whereas: Mental Health Awareness month, recognized every May since 1949, serves as a vital period for raising awareness, and adds a way for people to support<sup>54</sup>; and
- Whereas: University of Oklahoma's Counseling Center reporting a significant rise in students requiring hospitalization for suicidal ideation<sup>55</sup>; and
- Whereas: Mental Health Month serves as a lighthouse for students across the University of Oklahoma to come together and create a space where no one is alone; and
- Whereas: Emergency Orders of Detention (EODs), a process used when a student is endangering themselves, involving the OU Police Department have increased more than four times the amount since 2014, reaching 30 incidents annually; and
- Whereas: Studies show a high frequency of depression among college students at 48.9%, with risk factors like higher academic performance pressure, enrollment in pre-medical or STEM degrees, and poor physical health<sup>56</sup>; and
- Whereas: Green is the official color to represent Mental Health Month
- Whereas: Mental Health Month acts as a pillar to raise awareness and spread resources to increase resilience and community across campus; and
- Whereas: Student mental health problems have tripled, with 1 in 6 undergraduates experiencing mental health problems; and

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54 Luo, Ming-ming, et al. "Prevalence of Depressive Tendencies among College Students and the Influence of Attributional Styles on Depressive Tendencies in the Post-Pandemic Era." *Frontiers*, Frontiers, 1 Apr. 2026, [www.frontiersin.org/journals/public-health/articles/10.3389/fpubh.2024.1326582/full](https://www.frontiersin.org/journals/public-health/articles/10.3389/fpubh.2024.1326582/full).

55 Rains, Sierra. "OU Students Face Greater Need for Services as Mental Health Issues Continue to Rise." *OU Daily*, 6 Mar. 2019, [www.oudaily.com/news/ou-students-face-greater-need-for-services-as-mental-health-issues-continue-to-rise/article\\_a0403fac-405d-11e9-8198-cf4423863341.html#:~:text=College%20students%2C%20nationwide%20and%20at,per%20100%2C000%20people%20in%202017](https://www.oudaily.com/news/ou-students-face-greater-need-for-services-as-mental-health-issues-continue-to-rise/article_a0403fac-405d-11e9-8198-cf4423863341.html#:~:text=College%20students%2C%20nationwide%20and%20at,per%20100%2C000%20people%20in%202017)

56 Team, Brown University Health Blog, et al. "The Importance of Mental Health Awareness Month." *Brown University Health*, 26 Apr. 2024, [www.brownhealth.org/be-well/importance-mental-health-awareness-month](https://www.brownhealth.org/be-well/importance-mental-health-awareness-month).

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Whereas Students are 25% more likely to drop out due to mental health, the most common reason given was emotional stress (69% by bachelor's and 55% of community college students); and

Whereas Undergraduates who attended state schools have, on average, worse mental health compared to students at private schools<sup>57</sup>; and

Whereas Whether diagnosed or not, mental health impacts both students and faculty on a multifaceted scale. Mental health month serves as a pipeline for understanding and creating a safe space on campus; and

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

**Section 1:** Title: This resolution shall be known and may be cited as the “Mental Health Month Resolution of 2026”

**Section 2:** The University of Oklahoma Student Government Association acknowledges and the month of May as Mental Health Month

**Section 3:** OU SGA encourages the student body to take advantage of the month of May to reach out to those around them and learn more about the resources available.

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

- President Joseph Harroz Jr
- The OU Daily
- The OU Nightly
- Director of Advocacy and Education, Ann Schafer
- OU Advocates
- Goddard Counseling Center

Author(s): Kyla Callahan, Business Representative  
Madilynn Sneller, Associate

Co-Sponsor(s): Lorelai Radzanowski, Arts and Sciences Representative  
Alexandra Toyos, Arts and Sciences Representative

Submitted on a motion by: Representative Baker seconded by Cox  
Action taken by Congress: Passed unanimously 20-0-1

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<sup>57</sup>“Student Mental Health Problems Have Almost Tripled, Study Finds - TASO.” *TASO*, 21 Nov. 2024, [taso.org.uk/news-blog/student-mental-health-problems-have-almost-tripled-study-finds/?gad\\_source=1&gad\\_campaignid=22821369731&gbraid=0AAAAABoPCRGJkrkWvskvGjdkrmZQnqLAo&gclid=CjwKCAjwhLPOBhBiEiwA8\\_wjHDNQK0Vn8KX6pLdY4IzITH6oXzXq68hbdknDPoRkFNClpbb-3UeBdBoCK7cQAVD\\_BwE](https://taso.org.uk/news-blog/student-mental-health-problems-have-almost-tripled-study-finds/?gad_source=1&gad_campaignid=22821369731&gbraid=0AAAAABoPCRGJkrkWvskvGjdkrmZQnqLAo&gclid=CjwKCAjwhLPOBhBiEiwA8_wjHDNQK0Vn8KX6pLdY4IzITH6oXzXq68hbdknDPoRkFNClpbb-3UeBdBoCK7cQAVD_BwE). Accessed 2 Apr. 2026.

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

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THE UNIVERSITY OF OKLAHOMA STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION

UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT CONGRESS

CONGRESSIONAL SESSION CXV

April 28, 2026

CONGRESSIONAL RESOLUTION CR-115-17

AS INTRODUCED

A Congressional Resolution acknowledging  
the importance of the celebration  
and recognition of Pride Month;  
and providing for distribution.

Whereas: On June 28th, 1969, a police raid on the Stonewall Inn in New York City sparked a series of protests that became a pivotal turning point in the modern LGBTQ+ rights movement; and

Whereas: The Stonewall uprising brought national visibility to LGBTQ+ activism and catalyzed a broader movement for civil rights and social justice; and

Whereas: On the first anniversary of the Stonewall uprising, the first Pride marches were held in New York City and across the United States, establishing a tradition of public celebration and advocacy that continues today; and<sup>58</sup>

Whereas: The HIV/AIDS epidemic has had a profound and devastating impact on the LGBTQ+ community, with more than 700,000 people in the United States having died from AIDS-related illnesses since the early 1980s<sup>59</sup>; and

Whereas: During the early years of the HIV/AIDS crisis, widespread misinformation and stigma contributed to harmful stereotypes, including the false belief that the disease was exclusively linked to gay men,<sup>60</sup> and

Whereas: In response, LGBTQ+ activists and organizations, including groups such as ACT UP, mobilized to demand increased medical research, equitable healthcare access, and public awareness, transforming Pride into both a celebration of identity and a movement for survival and justice; and<sup>61</sup>

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<sup>58</sup> HISTORY.com Editors. "Pride Month 2024: Origins, Parades & Dates | HISTORY." *HISTORY*, 8 May 2023, [www.history.com/articles/pride-month](http://www.history.com/articles/pride-month).

<sup>59</sup> Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. "HIV in the United States and Dependent Areas." *U.S. Department of Health and Human Services*, <https://www.cdc.gov/hiv/statistics/overview/ataglance.html>

<sup>60</sup> McCarthy, Justin. "Gallup Vault: Fear and Anxiety during the 1980s AIDS Crisis." *Gallup.com*, Gallup, 28 June 2019, [news.gallup.com/vault/259643/gallup-vault-fear-anxiety-during-1980s-aids-crisis.aspx](https://news.gallup.com/vault/259643/gallup-vault-fear-anxiety-during-1980s-aids-crisis.aspx).

<sup>61</sup> Takach, Michail. "How AIDS Activists Fought for Patients' Rights | HISTORY." *HISTORY*, 30 Nov. 2022, [www.history.com/articles/act-up-aids-patient-rights](http://www.history.com/articles/act-up-aids-patient-rights).

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- Whereas: In 1999, President Bill Clinton officially recognized June as Gay and Lesbian Pride Month through Presidential Proclamation No. 7203, marking a significant moment of federal acknowledgement<sup>62</sup>; and
- Whereas: In 2016, President Barack Obama designated the Stonewall National Monument, the first U.S. national monument dedicated to LGBTQ+ history, preserving the legacy of future generations<sup>63</sup>; and
- Whereas: Pride celebrations have grown into large-scale events nationwide, with major cities hosting millions of participants annually, demonstrating widespread visibility for LGBTQ+ communities<sup>64</sup>; and
- Whereas: Recent data indicates that approximately 7.6% of adults in the United States identify as part of the LGBTQ+ community, reflecting a growing visibility and recognition of diverse identities<sup>65</sup>; and
- Whereas: LGBTQ+ students make up a significant and visible portion of college campuses, contributing to the diversity, inclusion, and academic vitality of institutions of higher education; and
- Whereas: Norman Pride Weekend is to be hosted May 1-3, with the Norman Pride Parade hosted in Downtown Norman on May 3<sup>66</sup> to allow for University students to be in attendance.

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

- Section 1:** Title: This resolution shall be known and may be cited as the “Pride Month Resolution of 2026”
- Section 2:** The University of Oklahoma Student Government Association acknowledges and celebrates the month of June as Pride Month.
- Section 3:** OU SGA encourages the student body to take advantage of the month of June to celebrate pride and learn about the representative communities here on campus.
- Section 4:** Copies of this resolution will be sent to:
- President Joseph Harroz Jr
  - The OU Daily
  - The OU Nightly
  - Norman Pride

<sup>62</sup> Clinton, Bill. “Proclamation 7203—Gay and Lesbian Pride Month, 1999”. *The American Presidency Project*, <https://www.presidency.ucsb.edu/documents/proclamation-7203-gay-and-lesbian-pride-month-1999>

<sup>63</sup> National Park Service. “Stonewall National Monument.” *U.S. Department of the Interior*, <https://www.nps.gov/ston/index.htm>

<sup>64</sup> NYC Pride. “NYC Pride Gears Up for 2019 - 2020 Season.” *Heritage of Pride*. <https://www.nycpride.org/news-press-media/nyc-pride-gears-up-for-2019-2020-season#:~:text=The%20WorldPride%20NYC%20%7C%20Stonewall%2050%20season,organizations%20in%20the%20New%20York%20metro%20area.>

<sup>65</sup> Jones, Jeffrey M. “LGBT Identification in U.S. Ticks Up to 7.6%.” *Gallup*, 2024, <https://news.gallup.com/poll/611864/lgbt-identification.aspx>

<sup>66</sup> Norman Pride. “Norman Pride Weekend.” <https://www.normanpride.org>

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- Queer Student Association
- Laminar
- OU National Gay Pilots Association
- oSTEM

Author(s): Madilynn Sneller, Associate  
Lorelai Radzanowski, Arts & Sciences Representative

Co-Author(s):

Co-Sponsor(s): Evan Pfeffer, Architecture Representative

Submitted on a motion by: Representative Baker seconded by Representative Cox

Action taken by Congress: Passed unanimously 20-0-1

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

THE UNIVERSITY OF OKLAHOMA STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION

UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT CONGRESS

CONGRESSIONAL SESSION CXV

April 28, 2026

CONGRESSIONAL RESOLUTION CR-115-18

AS INTRODUCED

A Congressional Resolution acknowledging  
the importance of the celebration  
and recognition of Jewish Heritage Month;  
and providing for distribution.

Whereas: In 2006, Congress passed House Concurrent Resolution 315, which designated May as Jewish Heritage Month; and <sup>1</sup>

Whereas: Jewish Heritage Month serves as a bridge between Jewish communities in the modern era and those in a rich history that dates back thousands of years; and

Whereas: Jewish History Month celebrates the over three hundred fifty years that Jewish Americans have contributed to their communities and nation; and

Whereas: Haym Solomon, a notable Jewish revolutionary figure, funded the Yorktown campaign, which resulted in the British surrender and American independence; and

Whereas: Levi Strauss, a Jewish businessman, founded a small clothing store in California that would later turn into the billion-dollar company and American staple, Levi's jeans; and

Whereas: Albert Einstein, a Jewish scientist, worked closely with Robert Oppenheimer on the Manhattan Project to create the atomic bomb and was later awarded a Nobel Prize in physics; and

Whereas: Stan Lee, a Jewish writer, created the Marvel franchise along with Jewish artist Jack Kirby, which is now worth billions and has its own theme park at Universal Studios; and

Whereas: Ruth Bader Ginsburg, a Jewish lawyer, was the second woman to serve on the Supreme Court of the United States and was an advocate for gender equality; and <sup>2</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> "What Is Jewish American Heritage Month?" *AJC*, 17 Apr. 2023, [www.ajc.org/news/what-is-jewish-american-heritage-month](http://www.ajc.org/news/what-is-jewish-american-heritage-month).

2 Sicherman, Sarah. "Happy 250th, America! A Brief History of Jews and Religious Freedom in the USA - Berman Hebrew Academy." *Berman Hebrew Academy*, 22 Jan. 2026, [www.bermanhebrewacademy.org/2026/01/happy-250th-america-a-brief-history-of-jews-and-religious-freedom-in-the-usa/](http://www.bermanhebrewacademy.org/2026/01/happy-250th-america-a-brief-history-of-jews-and-religious-freedom-in-the-usa/).

Whereas: Jews have faced a continuous era of discrimination, and even more so in the modern day; and

Whereas: Over the past ten years, antisemitic incidents of harassment, vandalism, and assault have increased by 893%; and

Whereas: There are around 100,000 Jewish students in colleges across the United States, making up 1.9% of the collegiate population; and <sup>3</sup>

Whereas: Since 2023, Antisemitic incidents on college campuses have increased by 83%; and <sup>4</sup>

Whereas: Nearly half (47%) of American Jewish College students report experiencing antisemitism during their time on campus; and <sup>5</sup>

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

**Section 1:** Title: This resolution shall be known and may be cited as the "Jewish Heritage Month Resolution of 2026"

**Section 2:** The University of Oklahoma Student Government Association acknowledges and celebrates the month of May as Jewish Heritage Month.

**Section 3:** OU SGA encourages the student body to take advantage of the month of May to learn more about Jewish History, to use the past to create a better future for all students.

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

- President Joseph Harroz Jr.
- The OU Daily
- The OU Nightly
- Jewish Sooners
- Norman Chabad

Author(s): Madilynn Sneller, Associate

Co-Author(s):

Co-Sponsor(s): Delia Benitez, Arts and Sciences Representative

Submitted on a motion by: Representative Toyos seconded by Representative Hicks

Action taken by Congress: Passed unanimously 20-0-1

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

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3 Jewish Telegraphic Agency. "105,000 Jewish Students in U.S. Colleges, B'nai B'rith Finds - Jewish Telegraphic Agency." *Jewish Telegraphic Agency*, 2018, [www.jta.org/archive/105000-jewish-students-in-u-s-colleges-bnai-brith-finds](http://www.jta.org/archive/105000-jewish-students-in-u-s-colleges-bnai-brith-finds).

4 "Audit of Antisemitic Incidents 2024: Key Insights." *ADL*, 2024, [www.adl.org/audit-antisemitic-incidents-2024-key-insights?gclid=Cj0KCQjwkMjOBhC5ARIsADIdb3cSKtCkAYaALFeeYE6vGWaCc2rno4WF2JFsvwm3kMQeSSju6j0DQPgaArRuEALw\\_wcB](http://www.adl.org/audit-antisemitic-incidents-2024-key-insights?gclid=Cj0KCQjwkMjOBhC5ARIsADIdb3cSKtCkAYaALFeeYE6vGWaCc2rno4WF2JFsvwm3kMQeSSju6j0DQPgaArRuEALw_wcB).

5 "The State of Antisemitism in America 2025: What You Need to Know." *AJC*, 10 Feb. 2026, [www.ajc.org/AntisemitismReport2025#prioritybox](http://www.ajc.org/AntisemitismReport2025#prioritybox).

THE UNIVERSITY OF OKLAHOMA STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION

UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT CONGRESS

CONGRESSIONAL SESSION CXV

April 28, 2026

CONGRESSIONAL RESOLUTION CR-115-19

AS INTRODUCED

A Congressional Resolution recognizing May 4-8 as  
Teacher Appreciation Week; Thanking Teachers; and  
providing for distribution.

- Whereas: Teacher Appreciation Week is May 4-8, 2026; and
- Whereas: The University of Oklahoma has 1,768 teachers<sup>67</sup>; and
- Whereas: There are an estimated 5.7 million teachers in the United States<sup>68</sup>; and
- Whereas: The average teacher will impact more than 3,000 students throughout the course of their career<sup>69</sup>; and
- Whereas: 83% of students surveyed said a teacher helped improve their confidence and self-esteem<sup>70</sup>; and
- Whereas: 88% of people surveyed said their teachers played a significant positive role in their lives<sup>71</sup>.

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 “Teacher Appreciation Week Resolution of 2026”.
- Section 2:** The University of Oklahoma Student Government Association recognizes Teacher Appreciation Week as May 4-8.
- Section 3:** The University of Oklahoma Student Government Association appreciates all teachers as they inspire, empower, guide, and mentor us everyday. Your tireless effort, passion, and

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<sup>67</sup> “University of Oklahoma Faculty Matrix Fall 2025” University of Oklahoma Institutional Research & Reporting.

<https://www.ou.edu/content/dam/irr/docs/faculty-&-staff-reports/Faculty%20Matrix%202025.pdf>

<sup>68</sup> “Bureau, US Census. “Back to School: August 2025.” Census.Gov. <https://www.census.gov/newsroom/stories/back-to-school.html..>

<sup>69</sup> “30 Incredible Teacher Statistics [2023]” Zippia. <https://www.zippia.com/advice/teacher-statistics/>

<sup>70</sup> “30 Incredible Teacher Statistics [2023]” Zippia. <https://www.zippia.com/advice/teacher-statistics/>

<sup>71</sup> “30 Incredible Teacher Statistics [2023]” Zippia. <https://www.zippia.com/advice/teacher-statistics/>

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commitment are the foundation of our growth, maturity, and success. Thank you for all that you do.

**Section 4:** The University of Oklahoma Student Government Association suggests the following ways for students to recognize Teacher Appreciation Week:

- Thank your current teachers
- Thank your former teachers
- Share stories about your favorite teacher
- Share how teachers have affected you personally
- Share teacher appreciation messages on social media

**Section 5:** Copies of this resolution will be sent to:

- Dr. Stephanie Beauchamp, Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education Vice-Chancellor of Academic and Student Affairs
- Joseph Harroz Jr., OU President
- Dr. André-Denis Wright, Senior Vice President and Provost – Norman
- Dr. Gary Raskob, Senior Vice President and Provost – OUHSC
- Susan Bynum, J.D., OU Tulsa Vice President
- Dr. David Surrat, Vice President for Student Affairs and Dean of Students
- Dean Denise Stephens, MLS, University Libraries
- Dean John Klier, Ph.D., Gallogy College of Engineering
- Dean Anna Carpenter, J.D., LL.M., College of Law
- Dean Randall Hewes, Ph.D., Graduate College
- Dean Mary Margaret Holt, MFA, Weitzenhoffer Family College of Fine Arts
- Dean Stacy Reeder, Ph.D., Jeannine Rainbolt College of Education
- Dean Laku Chiambaram, Ph.D., Michael F. Price College of Business
- Dean Miloš Savić, Ph.D., College of Professional and Continuing Studies
- Dean Bob Palmer, PhD., College of Atmospheric and Geographic Sciences
- Dean Paul Gilmore, Ph.D., Honors College
- Dean Andrea Miller, Ph.D., Gaylord College of Journalism and Mass Communication
- Dean Michael Markham, Ph.D., Dodge Family College of Arts and Sciences
- Dean John Antonio, Ph.D., Mewbourne College of Earth and Energy
- Dean Hans Butzer, MArch, Christopher C. Gibbs College of Architecture
- Interim Dean Jonathan Stalling, Ph.D., College of International Studies
- OU Faculty Senate
- Dr. Nick Migliorino, Norman Public Schools Superintendent
- OU Daily
- OU Nightly

**Author(s):** Ben Keupen, Associate

*To request accommodations, please contact [Congress@ou.edu](mailto:Congress@ou.edu) prior to the meeting.*

Co-Author(s):

Co-Sponsor(s):

Submitted on a motion by: Representative Canady seconded by Representative Hicks

Action taken by Congress: Passed unanimously 21-0-1

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

THE UNIVERSITY OF OKLAHOMA STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION

UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT CONGRESS  
CONGRESSIONAL SESSION CXV  
April 28, 2026

CONGRESSIONAL RESOLUTION CR-115-20

AS INTRODUCED

A Resolution urging University of Oklahoma Parking Services and the University of Oklahoma Police Department to increase monitoring and enforcement of disability parking spaces; and providing for distribution.

Whereas: Access to designated disability parking is essential for student, faculty, and visitor accessibility across the University of Oklahoma campus; and

Whereas: The Americans with Disabilities Act requires a certain number of accessible parking spots, as well as van accessible parking spaces based on the total number of parking spots in the lot or garage; and

Whereas: The University maintains many handicap-accessible spots in multiple areas around campus; and

Whereas: Student complaints have indicated a recurring issue with unauthorized vehicles parking in these designated spots, particularly during after-hours periods; and

Whereas: Current OU Parking Services policy dictates a \$150 fine for parking without a placard and a \$200 fine for fraudulent use, yet consistent illegal parking continues to occur; and

Whereas: OUPD has indicated that while they can respond to after-hours parking violations via their non-emergency number, such calls are handled only as volume allows and are not prioritized over active incidents.

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 “Disability Parking Enforcement and Accessibility Act.”

*To request accommodations, please contact [Congress@ou.edu](mailto:Congress@ou.edu) prior to the meeting.*

**Section 2:** The University of Oklahoma Undergraduate Student Congress urges OU Parking Services and OUPD to develop a more proactive strategy for monitoring disability parking spaces, with a specific focus on increasing enforcement during evening and weekend hours when standard parking enforcement isn't viable.

**Section 3:** The University of Oklahoma Undergraduate Student Congress suggests the following actions to improve accessibility:

- Increase after-hours patrols, specifically targeting high-density areas like the dorm parking areas, Dale Hall parking lot, and areas near the Student Union.
- Placing signage near disability parking spots with the OUPD non-emergency number to encourage reports of violations.
- Utilize and expand existing policy to ticket vehicles illegally parked and tow vehicles that are found to be repeat offenders to deter continuous illegal parking.

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

- Joseph Harroz Jr., President of the University of Oklahoma
- David A. Surratt, Vice President for Student Affairs and Dean of Students
- Derek Fuller, Police Chief of the University of Oklahoma Police Department
- Kris Glenn, Director of Parking and Transportation Services

**Author(s):** Kayla Hawley, Journalism and Mass Communication Representative

**Co-Sponsor(s):**

Submitted on a motion by: Representative Toyos seconded by Representative Vedra

Action taken by Congress: Passed unanimously 23-0-1

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

Approved by SGA President: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

THE UNIVERSITY OF OKLAHOMA STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION

UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT CONGRESS

CONGRESSIONAL SESSION CXV

April 28, 2026

CONGRESSIONAL BILL CB-115-28

AS INTRODUCED

An Act of Procedure amending the Bylaws to reflect the necessary changes to the expulsion process; 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 “Expulsion Bylaw Update”

**Section 2:** Purpose: The purpose of this act shall be to amend the Undergraduate Student Congress’s Bylaws to clarify the process for members pending expulsion to advocate during a regular meeting.

**Section 3:** AMENDATORY: The University of Oklahoma Undergraduate Student Congress’s Bylaws Section 3.4 is amended as follows. For the purposes of this bill, all items removed shall be denoted with a ~~strikethrough~~. All items added shall be denoted with an underline.

2. EXPULSION FROM STUDENT CONGRESS FOR ABSENCES

1. A member of Congress may accrue three (3) unexcused absences, aggregated from general body meetings, committee meetings, and monthly constituent service requirements, without being eligible for expulsion for excessive unexcused absences.
2. Absences may be excused at the discretion of the Secretary. All absences not excused shall be recorded as unexcused. Additionally, for an excused absence to be counted as such, the member must notify their committee secretary 24 hours prior to said meeting. Exceptions to this rule may be made at the discretion of the Committee Chair. These exceptions may be made in accordance with ADRC guidelines, or under other special circumstances, provided that the member notifies the secretary as soon as reasonably possible.
3. In the case of foreseeable, repetitive absences a member may petition the executive committee of the Undergraduate Student Congress for an attendance waiver.
4. In the event that a member of Congress has accrued multiple absences, the Student Congress Secretary shall make a concerted effort to contact the member so that the member is aware of their accrued absences.
5. In the event that a member of Congress accrues at least four (4) nonconsecutive or third (3<sup>rd</sup>) consecutive unexcused absences—regardless of if they are consecutive or non-

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consecutive—in the current legislative session, said member may be expelled from Student Congress. Absences for every member of Congress shall be set to zero (0) at the start of each new session.

6. Upon accruing the fourth (4<sup>th</sup>) nonconsecutive or third (3<sup>rd</sup>) consecutive absence, the Student Congress Secretary shall prepare an act of procedure to expel any member of Congress who has accrued excessive unexcused absences. Additionally, two consecutive unexcused absences from committee meetings will require the member to meet privately with the committee chair.
7. This act of expulsion shall be brought before the Executive Committee at its most immediate meeting. If the act receives a “Do Pass” or “No Recommendation” recommendation, it shall appear before Student Congress on the agenda at the next regular general meeting.
8. While the inclusion of the act of expulsion on the agenda shall be considered notice of pending expulsion, the Student Congress Secretary shall notify the member of Congress in question about the pending legislation by electronic mail to said Congressional member's university-sponsored electronic mail account.
  - a. If the member(s) up for expulsion attends the meeting at which the expulsion bill is being seen, Congress will divide the question. During the Author's Explanation, the Congress Secretary will list their absences, and the rest of the time will be left for the listed member to speak.
9. A two-thirds (2/3) vote of representatives present and voting is required to expel a member.
  - a. If an act of expulsion of a member of Congress fails, that member must accrue two (2) additional unexcused absences before they are again eligible for expulsion in the same session, by the above procedure.
  - b. If a committee officer is successfully expelled, that committee officer is removed from their position and loses their seat if they possess one. If a member is successfully expelled, that member loses their seat.
  - c. If a member is successfully expelled, they are not eligible to be appointed to any district until the session in which the member was expelled has passed. All of the following shall apply only to the application process and shall not affect the election process in any way.
    - i. After the session in which the member was expelled has passed, the expelled member may be allowed to apply for a district's seat, should the seat be vacant. The expelled member should receive the same application process as does a new applicant.
      1. If a formerly expelled member returns to their seat in the next session and subsequently is expelled a second (2nd) time, then they may be allowed to reapply in the next session as associates only.
      2. Upon a third (3rd) expulsion for the member having been reappointed as an associate, that member should be automatically considered expelled for life in the application process, waivable by the Executive Committee upon review.

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

**Author(s):** Michael Wintory, College of International Studies Representative

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Submitted on a Motion by: Representative Toyos seconded by Representative Cox

Action taken by Congress: Passed unanimously 21-0-1

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

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