THE UNIVERSITY OF OKLAHOMA STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION

UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT CONGRESS
Session CXVI
General Body Meeting
7:00 pm, Tuesday, October 27, 2026
Dale Hall, Room 103

Call to Order 7:05 PM
Opening Roll Call
Mission Statement: The mission of the University of Oklahoma Student Government Association Undergraduate Student Congress is to represent the interests of undergraduate students in their pursuit of academic and individual achievement. The Undergraduate Student Congress is committed to building a strong campus community, promoting civic engagement, and enhancing the quality of the undergraduate experience at the University of Oklahoma.
Moment of Silence: 20 Second Moment of Silence to allow an opportunity for reflection.
Approval of Minutes | October 20, 2026
On a motion to approve the minutes Baker seconded Wick
Officer Reports

- Chair's Report: Hello thank you guys for being here. We have our two wonderful tickets here to come speak to you guys. So again thank you for showing up. We also do have 3 pieces of legislation so please make sure to stay the whole time for that. Vote in the elections Thursday and Friday SGA elections please vote. Then, please vote in the federal midterms on Tuesday. Your professors should have some leniency with you on that, communicate with them beforehand if you need to go home to vote, but please do go vote.
- Vice Chair's Report: Evening everyone! Here is the QR code for what y'all want to see in the snack box, PLEASE let me know what you all want or I might order 50 pounds of fruit snacks. Also, the Handbook will be going out this week, remember to get your CSPs and email the Congress Vice Chair account with any questions!
- Secretary's Report: Hi everyone! Thank you all for being here! Nothing new for me to report. If you are going to be absent from a meeting, please let me know 24 hours in advance. Hope you all have a great rest of your week!

Committee Reports

- Campus Outreach, Safety, and Concerns: Hello everyone, COSCO did meet officially this Sunday. We went over some of our projects, working on a survey bill that we might send out soon.
- Congressional Administration: We met officially on Sunday and gave CB-116-12 a rec of due pass which is what we are going to see today but that's all the projects that I have outlined before starting the session. So we're going to start brainstorm to see what else we can work on during the year.

- External Affairs: EA met officially this weekend. We further delegated our projects and assigned everyone to at least 4 sororities and fraternities.
- Human Diversity: HD met officially this weekend. We gave CR-116-10 a rec of due pass and we do have our potluck coming up November 29th. We will be tabling November 11th and 12th. I'm going to send out the sign up link which is a CSP. The potluck is also a CSP. There will be an ingredient form coming out along with a flyer. So if you need ingredients purchased so that you can provide a dish, then we can purchase those for you if you fill out that request form. The only thing we cannot provide is seasonings and spices, we cannot do that but please consider going to those events, get your CSP's and this is HD's biggest fall event so please come support us.
- Sustainability: We met over this weekend and we are planning future trash walks, confetti walks, and events that we'll be doing next semester.
- University Policy: UPOL met officially this past Sunday and we went over our finished project briefs.
- Ways and Means: WAM met officially this Sunday. We are also meeting Wednesday to finish up these aux applications.

Liaison Reports

Special Orders

- SGA Presidential Candidate Presentations and Questioning

Student Concerns

- Link to Campus Concern Form: https://cglink.me/27E/s208
- RSO decrease in involvement

Old Business

Items to Be Considered

On a motion see CB-116-12 Toyos Perez seconded Bass

- CB-116-12 "Committee Chair Duty Realignment Act" (Frehde/Fernstrom) (Due Pass)

Author's Explanation

- **Representative Fredhe**: This is just the committee chair duty realignment act, it's pretty simple. We found some issues within the language of section 6.1, all the committees, EA, HD, and UPOL have wording within it that dictates that the committee chair should meet with the director within the executive branch. Those directors don't really exist, or they change all the time. So we wanted to have some more universal wording in section 6.1, we added that the committee chair shall coordinate with the corresponding director. This just makes it more universal within the chairs. The other thing that we removed and then added is in section 6.4 under Susty. The student environmental council doesn't exist anymore so we kind of removed that wording that the chair must go to those meetings because they don't happen. We added some more wording that should kind of highlight the purpose of the chair within Susty.
- **Associate Fernstrom**: He pretty much covered it but this is basically to create some more clarity regarding some of these sections.

6:36 time remaining for questions

- **Vice President Nicholson:** What was your favorite part of writing bill?
  - **Representative Fredhe**: Reading through the bylaws is pretty fun. I like to do it every so often and finding wording is cool as well.

    - **Associate Fernstrom**: It was cool to collaborate with my peers on this and it's also cool to make an impact.
- **Representative Fisher**: What inspired you to make this bill?
    - **Representative Fredhe**: This was a project Alex highlighted within semester's works and it's something she assigned us both so we dove into it.
    - **Representative Toyos Perez**: It was just something that I removed from the executive branch. They have that power to change the directors of the people that make up their cabinet. That's one of the ways that they can accomplish all of their goals knowing their administration is going to be the same every year so they should have that flexibility to be able to create a department of inclusivity, create an external affairs branch. This year, they created a secondary of liberty and representation so having that freedom to create their own positions. I feel like our bylaws should have been clearer in making sure those committee meetings between the chair and maybe they are doing a SGA light walk, last year we did the sexual self-awareness month, the big SGA light walk. So making sure that those meetings between the branches are still happening but that way in the code it's like if there was ever a scenario that those meetings aren't happening, they can't say well this director doesn't exist anymore. It just might have a different title.

Passed unanimously 26-0-0

On a motion see CB-116-13 Toyos Perez seconded Dlamini

- CB-116-13 "Session 116 Expulsion Bill No. 1" (Le) (No Rec)

Author's Explanation

- **Secretary Le:** Hi everyone! This expulsion bill concerns members being removed from their seats due to excessive unexcused absences. According to the OU SGA Code Annotated and Official Student Congress Bylaws, members may not exceed four nonconsecutive or three consecutive unexcused absences. Members must notify me at least 24 hours before our Tuesday meetings at 7:00 p.m. for an absence to be considered excused, with the final decision at the secretary's discretion. As secretary, I am required to introduce an expulsion bill once a member reaches this threshold. I have also emailed each member on this bill two to three times to communicate their attendance records and inform them of potential removal. As members of the Undergraduate Student Congress, we have a responsibility to attend meetings, stay informed, and serve our constituents. While I understand that circumstances may prevent attendance, members must communicate with the secretary and remain accountable for their commitments. The members listed in this bill have not responded to my emails regarding their attendance and potential expulsion. Therefore, if this bill passes, they will be removed from their respective seats in accordance with established rules and procedures.

6:37 time remaining for questions

- **Representative Veenstra:** So you're saying none of these people listed reached back out to you after sending out the emails?

    - **Secretary Le:** So, these two people did not respond but there are three individuals who did respond and resigned, so I am asking for a friendly amendment to remove them off this bill. Unfortunately, they let me know after the bill was sent out on the agenda, but they will be taken off the expulsion bill. However, said so people that will not be taken off the bill have not responded to me and I have let them know over the course of a few weeks, three times. I emailed them stating that if they'd like to not be put on this bill, therefore resigning, respond before it is presented to the body.
- **Representative Wintory**: Would you be willing to accept a friendly amendment removing Estrella Quinones, Kase Williams, and Jackson Vella from this expulsion bill.
    - **Secretary Le**: Yes.
- **Representative Solomon**: Are there any representatives on this bill?
    - **Secretary Le**: There are two representatives on this bill, Leo Carter and Anabelle Castillo. Elle Cummings is an associate, but I have emailed them all and didn't get a response.
- **Representative Fisher**: I know for one of them, Leo Carter, I messaged her and she had said she sent an email saying she resigned earlier this semester. I was wondering did you ever receive that?
    - **Secretary Le**: No, I did not receive that email.
- **Representative Veenstra**: What colleges were these representatives in?
    - **Secretary Le**: Pre health, Arts and Sciences, Fine Arts, and Price College of Business.
- **Representative Fisher**: Did you only reach out to them by email or through GroupMe?
    - **Secretary Le**: I only reached them through email, but I believe as a college student you should check your emails. At least for me, I do check my emails not just as secretary but as a student daily. I think emailing them 3 times is a good amount of notice regarding their potential expulsion.
- **Representative Veenstra:** Do you as secretary have access to personal emails of these representatives and associates?
    - **Secretary Le:** No, I do not. I do not plan on reaching out to their personal email.

Passed 24-1-1

On a motion see CR-116-10 Radzanowski seconded Sneller

- CR-116-10 "Diwali Recognition Resolution of 2026" (Demla/Popal) (Due Pass)

Author's Explanation

- **Representative Popal**: Hi everybody this is Diwali Recognition Resolution of 2026. We wanted to write this bill because I presented it to our committee because we think it's important to recognize all international celebrated holidays that we are celebrating on campus and not just some of the more popular ones.
- **Representative Demla**: Hi guys just to give a little about Diwali, it's also called the festival of lights. It's celebrated by Hindu's, Jains, Buddhists, Sikhs. Although different parts of the world celebrate for different reasons so the main reason for it is basically light over darkness and good over people. So it's personally my favorite holiday and the way families celebrate it is that they light oil lamps, decorate their homes, do fireworks, and just be with families. It's a really sacred time with your family. I unfortunately will not get to go home this year, but

it's okay. So the events around Diwali, I know the Indian Association hosts an annual Diwali every year so if you're ever looking for some culture or just fun food, please show up.

6:34 time remaining for questions

- **Representative Fredhe**: Do you happen to have any information on when and where the Diwali events might occur?
    - **Associate Demla**: November 13th at haystack from 6-9 pm.
- **Representative Wintory**: Did you work with any RSO's or any student led groups to formulate this legislation?
    - **Associate Demla**: I am the Vice president of the Indian association, and I brought this up to my co president and we kind of just discussed that since our event is coming up, it would be really nice to get it out there. Obviously, we want as many people as possible to show up, we want to share our culture with everyone who just commits, and we want everyone to know what we find very important.
    - **Representative Popal**: I did look for some more organizations that were hosting events and I couldn't really find any that were already being publicized when we wrote this bill. I did ask for it to be sent to the president of the South Asian Student Association, but they hadn't posted anything or have anything on Engage.

Passed unanimously 25-0-0

Announcements and Comments

- **Representative Sneller:** Homecoming week. Parade should go on as scheduled. Rah rally ticket still being sold for $15. Armory blood drive go sign up or walk in. Free flu shots tomorrow and the day after.
- **Election Commissioner Wang:** Elections this Thursday and Friday so go vote. Any candidates for elections, your finance forms are due tomorrow by 10 pm.
- **Vice President Nicholson:** SGA tabling on Friday for elections for tickets to get vote counts up. If running for a rep seat, you cannot table**.** Will send out link and would love if y'all sign up. Teach people how to vote and use Engage.
- **Representative Wintory**: Abstentions on voting on bills. Representative and voting on what issues affect your peers. Financial incentive or something that compromise your civic duty.
- **Chair Morgan:** Vote Tuesday and Thursday/Friday.
- **Representative Fisher:** Tomorrow 9 pm campus connections with engineering student life coordinator to learn about potential RSO engineering standpoint. 3 pm on equad computer science picnic and open to anybody with computer science professors being there. This Friday tailgate prep and Saturday engineering tailgate.
- **Chair Morgan:** Been better about not packing up early and making a lot of noise but I appreciate that.

Final Roll Call

On a motion to adjourn Baker seconded Veenstra

Adjourn 8:20 PM

Chair: Coleman Morgan
Vice Chair: Owen Cunningham
Secretary: Cai Le

THE UNIVERSITY OF OKLAHOMA STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION

UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT CONGRESS
CONGRESSIONAL SESSION CXVI
October 27, 2026

CONGRESSIONAL BILL CB-116-12

AS INTRODUCED

A Congressional Act of Procedure Realigning Committee Chair Duties; 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 "Committee Chair Duty Realignment Act"

Section 2: Purpose: The purpose of this act shall be to realign the duties born by committee chairs, more specifically, simplifying the wording of required coordination with corresponding executive directors to remove any confusion of responsibilities.

Section 3: AMENDATORY: The University of Oklahoma Undergraduate Student Congress Bylaws §6.1 and §6.4 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 6.1: STANDING COMMITTEE ESTABLISHMENT

The seven (7) standing committees (also referenced in these Bylaws as "committees") and their responsibilities shall be as follows:

2. EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
    a. COMMITTEE PURPOSE The External Affairs Committee shall address issues concerning the local, state, and federal levels of government. The Committee shall strive to improve the relationship of SGA and of the University with the city and state governments. The Committee shall aim to improve civic engagement among the undergraduate student body.
    b. COMMITTEE CHAIR The Committee Chair shall work ~~with the Director of the Department of the Exterior in the Executive branch~~ to coordinate SGA-wide programs and events including but not limited to Higher Education Day and voter registration drives.

3. HUMAN DIVERSITY
    a. COMMITTEE PURPOSE The Human Diversity Committee shall address any and all issues related to diversity issues within the University of Oklahoma. The Committee shall advocate for policies within the University and within SGA that promote inclusivity and equality.
    b. COMMITTEE CHAIR The Committee Chair shall work ~~with the Director of the Department of Inclusivity in the Executive branch~~ to coordinate SGA-wide efforts related to Inclusivity.
5. SUSTAINABILITY
    a. COMMITTEE PURPOSE The Sustainability Committee shall address any and all issues environmental sustainability within SGA, at the University, or among the undergraduate student body. The Committee shall strive to improve environmental consciousness among the undergraduate student body and shall advocate for environmentally conscious policies at the University. The Committee shall be responsible for ensuring environmental RSO's compliance with the SGA Code Annotated, as well as be the primary point of contact for these organizations. The Committee shall also ensure that environmental RSOs communicate effectively with each other regarding events and projects.
    b. COMMITTEE CHAIR The Sustainability Committee Chair shall ~~be required to attend monthly Student Environmental Council Meetings. If the Sustainability Committee Chair cannot attend, they shall find a member of the Sustainability Committee to attend in their place.~~ work to promote SGA-wide sustainability efforts including but not limited to trash and confetti cleanup walks.
6. UNIVERSITY POLICY
    a. COMMITTEE PURPOSE The University Policy Committee shall address all student concerns arising from university policies, programs or initiatives, or the lack thereof. The committee shall research best practices employed by peer institutions, innovative solutions, and the latest scientific and social science research to draft resolutions to the University administration recommending new policies or reforms of existing policies.
    b. COMMITTEE CHAIR The Committee Chair ~~shall coordinate efforts with the Director of the Department of the Interior in the Executive Branch and~~ shall stay up to date on the projects and initiatives of peer institutions' student governments.

Section 6.4: COMMITTEE OFFICERS

1. OFFICERS ESTABLISHED. Each committee shall have a Chair, Vice-Chair, and Secretary as its officers.
    a. COMMITTEE CHAIR RESPONSIBILITIES
        x. The Committee Chair shall coordinate with the corresponding director in the executive branch to complete SGA-wide projects.

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

Author(s): Maximilian Frehde, Congressional Administration Vice Chair
Natalie Fernstrom, Associate

Co-Author(s): Alexandra Toyos Perez, Congressional Administration Chair

Co-Sponsor(s): Mercer Martin, Student Government Association President

Submitted on a Motion by: Representative Toyos Perez seconded Representative Bass
Action taken by Congress: Passed unanimously 26-0-0
Verified by Chair: _____ Date: _____

THE UNIVERSITY OF OKLAHOMA STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION
UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT CONGRESS
CONGRESSIONAL SESSION CXV
October 27, 2026

CONGRESSIONAL BILL CB-116-13

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 116 Expulsion Bill No. 1"

Section 2: The purpose of this act shall be to expel a member for excessive unexcused absences. Leo Carter, Annabelle Castillo, and Elle Cummings have accrued excessive unexcused absences; 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: Leo Carter, Annabelle Castillo, Elle Cummings

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

Author(s): Cai Le, Undergraduate Student Congress Secretary

Submitted on a Motion by: Representative Toyos Perez seconded Representative Dlamini
Action taken by Congress: Passed 24-1-1
Verified by Chair: _____ Date: _____

THE UNIVERSITY OF OKLAHOMA STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION

UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT CONGRESS
CONGRESSIONAL SESSION CXVI
October 27, 2026

GRADUATE STUDENT SENATE
SENATE SESSION GF26
October 29, 2026

CONGRESSIONAL RESOLUTION CR-116-10
SENATE RESOLUTION NO. GF26-18

AS INTRODUCED

A Concurrent Resolution recognizing the religious and cultural significance of Diwali, acknowledging the traditions and values associated with its celebration, and providing for its distribution.

Whereas: Diwali, also known as the Festival of Lights, is a religious and cultural holiday observed by Hindu, Jain, Sikh, and some Buddhist communities around the world[1].

Whereas: Diwali symbolizes the triumph of light over darkness, good over evil, and knowledge over ignorance, while holding distinct religious meanings around the communities that celebrate it[2].

Whereas: Diwali is traditionally celebrated through the lighting of oil lamps, decorating homes, sharing sweets, wearing traditional clothing, and gathering with family and friends[3].

Whereas: The University of Oklahoma's India Student Association hosts an annual Diwali celebration, providing students with an opportunity to celebrate the holiday and share its cultural traditions with the broader university community[4].

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[1] Howard Kaplan, "Diwali: The Festival of Lights," Smithsonian National Museum of Asian Art, November 14, 2012, https://asia.si.edu/whats-on/blog/posts/diwali-the-festival-of-lights/.

[2] Debbie Schaefer-Jacobs, "Illuminating Thoughts for the Holidays," Smithsonian National Museum of American History, December 20, 2023, https://americanhistory.si.edu/explore/stories/illuminating-thoughts-holidays.

[3] Smithsonian Asian Pacific American Center, "Easy Homemade Sweets for Diwali," *Pickles and Tea*, November 10, 2015, https://apa.si.edu/picklesandtea/easy-homemade-sweets-for-diwali/.

[4] https://www.oudaily.com/news/ou-india-student-association-diwali-night-celebration-music-dance-food/article_c11a7db6-9c5d-11ef-871b-7b9cb2b9d09d.html

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 "Diwali Recognition Resolution of 2026."

Section 2: The University of Oklahoma Student Government Association shall recognize November 8th, 2026, as Diwali.

Section 3: The University of Oklahoma Student Government Association shall recognize that Diwali is an internationally celebrated holiday, focusing on the triumph of Dharma over Adharma, light over darkness, good over evil, and knowledge over ignorance.

Section 4: The University of Oklahoma Student Government Association encourages the student body to participate in Diwali Night, hosted by the India Student Association on November 13th, 2026, as well as other events thrown by cultural organizations on campus celebrating Diwali.

Section 3: Copies of this resolution will be sent to:

- Joseph Harroz Jr., President, University of Oklahoma
- The University of Oklahoma Board of Regents
- Dr. David Surratt, Vice President for Student Affairs and Dean of Students
- Quy Nguyen, Director of Student Life Office and Assistant Dean of Students
- Saliha Panjwani, Caitlin Varghese, Co-Presidents of the India Student Association
- Preet Damani, President of the South Asian Student Association
- OU Daily
- OU Nightly

Authors: Vera Demla, Undergraduate Student Congress Associate
Sitara Popal, Undergraduate Student Congress Arts and Sciences Representative

Co-Sponsor: Lorelai Radzanowski, Undergraduate Congress Human Diversity Chair

Submitted on a motion by: Representative Radzanowski seconded Representative Sneller
Action taken by Congress: Passed unanimously 25-0-0

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: _____