



STUDENT GOVERNMENT
THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT AUSTIN

1 University Station, A6210 · Austin, TX 78712-0810
(512) 471-3166 · Fax: (512) 471-3408 · <http://www.utsug.org>

Student Government Assembly Meeting

April 26, 2011

- I. Call Meeting to Order
- II. First Roll Call
- III. Approval of Minutes
Minutes Approved
- IV. Guests
 - a. Jim Nicar, Director of Campus Relations, Texas Exes
 - b. Scott Gross of the Urban Rail Program (Austin Transportation Department)
 - i. www.austinrail.com
 - ii. If you think something is significant and should be addressed, let them know
- V. Open Forum
 - a. Louis Armendariz
 - i. "Be That One" Suicide Prevention Workshop Wednesday, SAC 1.106, 7-8PM
 - ii. BCAL – Behavior Concerns Advice Line, free, 24 hours, anonymous 512-232-5050
- VI. Ex-Officio Report
 - a. Manny Gonzalez, GSA
 - i. Officer Board
 - ii. VPSA Portfolio
 - iii. UBC Legislation
 - iv. Trying to pass a piece of legislation in memory of a GRA who was fighting a bout of cancer, Lauren Edwards

Suspension of the Rules to allow Joseph Lee to Discuss Summer Budget

 - b. Joseph Lee
 - i. Assembly Appropriations
 - ii. The nine percent is referring to comm. cabinet
- VII. Appointments
 - a. **Clerk of the Assembly** – Wesley Williams
 - b. **Parliamentarian of the Assembly** – Cameron Miculka
 1. 4-5 years on robert's rules team
 2. Covington: What year are you?
 3. Miculka: 2nd Year
 - c. **External Appointments**
 - i. PSAC: Shannon Allport
 1. Natalie: Called all external appointments up



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1. Butler, Alice is involved in (inner cooperative council) COOP housing organization, John has served for two years and is in-house expert on city affairs
2. Alice: Innercooperative council, future assets coordinator hopefully, work with cooperative houses and city and community issues, this affects a lot of people
- v. University Area Partners: John Lawler
 1. Lawler- zoning issues, you will hear a report from me later about it, I apologize for not submitting an application, it used to not be required, brain fart for me
 2. Carlson: Considering the fact that there were three other candidates who did submit applications, do you feel comfortable with this appointment, considered he did not submit and application
 3. Butler: I do, he has served on this body for a year now
 4. Thompson – Why is your decision for external (non-SG) appointments hold true for PSAC but not for this position?
 5. Portillo: Article 24 states that people who have already applied technically don't have to submit an application
 6. Carlson: Move to table Lawler's appointment, Thompson seconds, does not pass
 7. Desai moves to vote, unanimous (Alice Armstrong)
 8. Desai moves to vote, 3 against, 1 abstention (LAWLER)
- vi. Faculty Council RecSports Committee: Angga Pratama
 1. Butler: Have to appoint 1 male 1 female, which works because we had both applications
 2. Second year civil engineering, Tejas, texas mens ultimate, good appointment on the basis that I have been involved in intramural and rec sports and know what the benefit of these programs are, through competitive expression
- vii. Faculty Council RecSports Committee: Jordan Tanoury
 1. Butler: First year business, lacrosse team, know the benefits of playing at the college level
 2. Martinez: Besides getting people involved in intramural sports, you talk about the operating budget, do you have budgetary experience
 3. Angga- Treasurer of an organization helped with allocation of funds on trips and stuff at the IM field events (food and stuff)



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- j. Lawler: I am trying to remember the last year you applied, was LRA your first choice last year?
- k. Brangan: First choice was LLA director
- l. Ragsdale: I noticed in your application most of your initiatives are focused on LLA, can you explain FLO initiatives
- m. Brangan: I want to focus outside of LLA agency because I feel like this policy director encompasses so much more than that, I regret the narrowness of my application, I really want to create a sense of unity between FLO and LLa, there are tons of opportunities, specifically service, huge involvement opportunities, FLO can and should be a huge part of that.
- n. Desao: Event Planning?, any growth ideas?
- o. Brangan: Served on Splash Bash Committee and Party on the Plaza, was on the Longhorn run committee, Pan-Hellenic recruitment team elect position, coordinating recruitment efforts, making sure potential new members are making their way to houses for events. Through that, I have the experience
- p. Lawler: Union board election infringements?
- q. Brangan: Started out running for union board, withdrew because it became too political, didn't break any rules according to the constitution, opponents were tediously looking at everything I did.
- r. Covington: I'm reading the initiative, and it sounds a lot like what Sierra did
- s. Brangan: I do think that Sierra's experience can be expanded on, I can definitely attest that I put it because those efforts were not done this past year, I feel like a lot more could have been done
- t. Covington: You want to increase the scale, are you gonna be here this summer?
- u. Brangan: Yes
- v. Desai: This oversees the two freshman agencies, only one with two agencies? Growth Ideas?
- w. New committee, make sure students are involved in wide-scale service projects, I just think we really need to get freshman involved in leadership positions on campus
- x. Hicks: Q&A Closed, motion to extend
- y. Martinez: Move to extend by 5 minutes
- z. Thayer: Object
- aa. Hicks: Motion passes



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that special groups on campus such as GLBTQ and working students and student parents are represented. I think we need to tie this all together and make sure that no stone is unturned, and advocate for all of the important issues for ALL students

Lawler: My concern that your application is totally geared for health and wellness, and you worked a lot on those issues this past years, Looking at this, why would we appoint you, someone who geared there entire application for this position for another position.

Wiseman: That's the beauty of this application, I may not have applied just for this one, but you know I am qualified, and I can do advocacy. I also think it's a great opportunity for me, and I really see this as just as good of a position for me

Lawler: Butler, I looked at Dunn, she applied for it, why didn't she get it

Butler: Melissa is wonderful, she is doing Archer program, she is gonna stay involved and help out

Lawler: Great response, I spoke to Melissa she would only be gone 2 out of the 12 months, which is the same thing for Andrew Townsell, why is the discrepancy?

Butler: 2 months she will not be here are during school session, when most of the events put on by the agencies are put on during this time

iii. Health & Wellness: Sarah Classen

Butler: Sarah has been very involved on campus, she will be excellent for this position, has a lot of interest in these agencies, Sarah initially wasn't interested in the policy director position, but called later and said she was

Classen: 2nd year business student, been involved in SG for 2 years, was an LLA first year and worked with exec director, last year was new member coordination agency director, We could do a lot of great things this year.

Carlson: Express specific ideas, sample initiative:

Classen: We have some really great agencies, I think sure walk has a lot of room to expand, we want the longhorn run to come back, I would like to see longhorn ems be promoted to students, and safety has a lot of potention, I would like to talk with the assembly and see how as a student body we can expand on this

Lawler: Look like a stellar applicant to longhorn run committee, why would you pass up something you were totally passionate about?



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Thayer: IF you want to talk about double standards and setting precedents, we appointed Phillip Wiseman to his second choice, we don't want to turn people away who want to get involved and have been involved for two years, we aren't going to make Wiseman fill out an application, are we, so why would we do it for Classen?

Lawler: She has PSAC listed as her second choice

Butler: In her updated application, which I sent you, she preffered it second

Approved

iv. Civic Engagement: Billy Calve

Butler: Billy is really involved in Hook the Vote, invest in Texas, and has a lot of the qualities we were looking for in this position, and I believe he will do a wonderful job

Calve: The main reason we are here is we are told that young people don't care and young people don't vote, and I don't have the magic formula to get people involved, but I would like to work with Udem's and CRs and other organizations (as many as possible) to get people to be civically engaged

Thompson: Given your involvement with Udem's, do you think your political views will conflict with your ability to perform in this position?

Calve:

Desai: In you application you talk about getting people involved in internships at the capitol, but what do you want to do for students who may not have time for that

Calve: I am excited to see what hook the vote can do this semester, as it can get lots of students involved

Approved

e. Executive Staff

i. Associate Director for Social Activity: Veronica Seng

1. Butler: Veronica has a lot of experience as an LLA in the different branches of SG,

2. Veronica: I was involved in the Latino Leadership initiative and hook the vote, and got really involved as an LLA

3. Approved

ii. Associate Director for External Appointments: Nicholas Tawse



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Horacio: I want to apologize for the informality of my attire, but I want to talk about my experience with alumni, I recently helped put on an event for liberal arts council involving alumni, and I have helped reach out to alumni in my fraternity

Leonard: What quality best qualifies you for this position?

Horacio: My experience. It's a new experience, so not much has been done on it, but I believe my experience will help me do the best job possibly

vii. Associate Director for New Media: Brian Tran

1. Butler: I think this is going to be a very important position for rebranding SG and using videos and interactive things to reach out to students and I really think Brian will do a really good job at that

2. Tran: I will highlight my professional experience, interned and served as a student reporter on Channel 1 News. I am a media consultant full time. I hope the experiences I have had translate to me doing a great job at this position

3. Leonard: What is your biggest initiative

4. Tran: Increasing transparency, getting the word out to students

viii. Associate Director for Public Relations: Angie Deng

1. Butler: Important in rebrand, Angie has experience, worked with other organizations to undergo rebrands, really has a lot of experience and organization which will help her write press releases

2. Angie: Third year MPA major, involved in BPA, did branding work with OJs as treasurer to create a consistent image and get it out to students

f. Agencies

i. Hook the Vote: Dana Henning

1. Butler: Dana has been really involved in Hook the Vote and a lot of the things this position requires

2. Dana: I have been involved in Hook the Vote as a volunteer and deputy registrar, also a departmental rep in LAC

3. Approved

ii. Governmental Relations (City): Daniel Evans

1. Butler: Highly recommended by John Brady (transportation) strong background in academics will ensure success



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Desai: Move to appoint in absentia, seconded, passed

Carlson: Could you explain appointment, application is great, but since we're doing this

Butler: Only one that made it her first choice, hard worker, been involved for a year and a half, has done so much, one of the largest agencies in student government

Thompson: Best accomplishment?

Butler: Expansion of involvement to different areas of the UT community?

Covington: Garrett Dee speaks highly

Carlson: Can't we just approve her next week?

Butler: You can, I was just suggesting

Lawler: Move to approve by unanimous consent

Carlson: Object

Hand Vote?

viii. Campus Safety: Alisha Patel

1. One of our platform goals, we really want to improve campus safety, Alisha has worked hard as an LLA and has a lot of experience to qualify her for this experience
2. Patel: Passion for campus safety, really want to work with all of the safety programs to increase and expand services to make campus a better place

ix. Longhorn Student EMS: John Suffredini

1. Longhorn EMS has an internal structure, appointed internally
2. Director of operations for Longhorn EMS, very involved, know the structure very well, and am excited for next year

x. SURE Walk: Hooff Cooksey

1. Butler: didn't apply but has held position over the last year, I worked a lot with this position, I feel like it hasn't gotten a hole lot of support from the executive board.
2. Junior studying public relations, served as SURE walk co-director, learned how it really worked, including operations and logistics, want to move forward to make students feel more comfortable with the program
3. Carlson: Why?
4. Butler: We discussed his interest in the program prior to the application submission



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All non-external appointees were sworn in

VIII. Deputy Advisor Report

No report

IX. Executive Reports

- a. Natalie Butler, Student Body President – natalie.e.butler@gmail.com

Appointments:

Hold-up for Japan: This weekend, please sign up, show up at 9:30 at the parking lot behind the LBJ school, please ask me or Berenice Medellin if you have any questions

Regents Task-force: After finals we will have a debrief, we have been working with GSA and Senate, this issue changes every day, Chancellor wrote a letter in response to my ASU letter, he is playing politics, he is on our side

1-on-1s : Contact Becky with a time so we can meet and discuss platforms

- b. Ashley Baker, Student Body Vice President – ashleyv.baker@gmail.com

- c. Andrew Townsell, Chief of Staff – andrew.townsell@gmail.com

- d. Sydney Fazende, Communications Director – sydneyfazende@gmail.com

Website- Legal affairs, three week time period, then we can begin designing in summer months. I want your summer availability so we can get you involved in summer recruitment and rebranding efforts for SG website

Interest and Affiliations Survey: We want to get to know you and include you in projects, please fill it out

- e. Madison Gardner, External Financial Director – jmgardner22@gmail.com

Austin's Pizza Fundraiser: Thursday May 5th, come get pizza, invite your friends

Boot Scholarship:

McCombs CTBAC: Gonna start a survey to engage on what issues they want, what services they value, meeting with department chairs on issues, please let me know if that matters

- f. Ilse Quijano, Internal Financial Director – quij.ilse@gmail.com

May 6th is last day to spend

May 20 – Summer Appropriations released

Working on revamping appropriations process, if you have ideas let me know
Speaker circuiting to reach out to organizations, let me know if you have any organizations you would like us to reach out to

- g. Louis Armendariz, Administrative Director – louis.m.arm@gmail.com

Sunday is new member retreat, now allowed to send invitations out to policy directors and agency directors

Kyle Clark – Diversity Training



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Bunch: Some of the language in here isn't actually feasible. A stipend is dealt annually. Right after I got appointed I signed what my stipend would be for the year. We received it monthly granted we met the hour requirements, but the structure the assembly you are aiming for does work. To audit the stipends monthly just wouldn't technically work because the stipend amount is set and the structure isn't feasible. Human resources has to deal with it. Just because the constitution has been changed doesn't make it automatically happen

Lawler: Valid points, but as you and I know, anything you want to do in SG, if you want historical background, you talk to Becky Carreon, and I talked to her last week and that concern was not raised. I don't agree with the remark that not enough research was done, I spoke with both Becky and Cecilia Lopez (chair of the reform task force)

Dean Lily: I spoke with Matt and Joseph raising points for you to consider. This is your assembly, but there are things to consider. We need to make sure we understand employment, the integrity of stipends, and the integrity of scholarships. If you talk about need, you are really referring to a scholarship. If you talk about the opportunity to revoke, you are really looking at employment. If you are going to approve the stipend based on need, you need to consult the representation of financial aid. We learned through the boot scholarship that if you award it based on need, it affects the financial aid package. When you talk about the stipends, you need to consider criteria, application, etc. etc.

Lawler: This is really cool because I think we are on the same wavelength, we added a qualifier that none of the application process should cross boundaries of privacy, legality, etc. We need to make sure Dean Lily's concerns in the application process, but we also think we can do this in a totally legal way. I think it is positive that we don't see Dean Lily up here in a fuss, but saying that is feasible, because we don't want to do anything beyond our boundaries. Based on what we have here, we can do this in an appropriate and legal manner.

Rep: Definition of Stipend, Scholarship, Employment?

Lily: Stipend – educational award, cannot implement it monthly, language is acceptable, work closely with legal to implement guidelines

Scholarship – Based on financial need, generally
employment- involves taxes, devil is in the details

Nathan's comments are appropriate based on how it is implemented

Rep: I just don't understand why this isn't considered a scholarship

Lily: That's my point



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Martinez: Ex-officio members currently have the debate and motion rights without yield, but this will require yielding time for anything but a question. We are not trying to keep people from speaking, we just want to make it more organized.

Pugliese: So what about speakers

Article 2 Section 11 A + B: Amend to read: representative “present and voting”

Seconded

Hicks: Would not change quorum, 2/3 would still be necessary

Hicks: Amendments?

Ragsdale: Can we go back to talking about Article 32, Section 2? The committee members, currently without where it is right now, currently the ex-officio members speak as the representatives? So you say this is to keep a lot of people from talking at once?

Martinez: It's not to keep anyone from speaking, just to organize speech

Ragsdale: Isn't it the chairs job to keep order?

Ragsdale: Move to strike changes in Article 32, Section 2

Carlson Objects

Debate:

Carlson: I know you guys are tired but this hasn't been explained well. There is a very clear reason you don't allow ex-officios to have the same powers as legislators. There is no point to be a legislative body. They can debate us. It is without precedent to take away this amendments. The members of this legislative body should be the only ones to have the legislative powers. When we debate a bill, it needs to be only legislators unless time is yielded.

Armendariz: This just allows us to have speaking time. We don't limit Matt Hicks to his talking as an ex-officio to the exec board?

Lawler: Has the exec board ever made you feel excluded?

Hicks: No comment (constitutional right)

Portillo: I agree with Austin. Speaking from a representatives point of view, you have to establish that this is your court. I encourage you to yield time to whoever wants to speak, but its an important consideration, as all legislative bodies practice this.

Lawler: Close Debate

Vote: 13-8, Passes

Bearden: Can you clarify the changes to summer budget?

Carlson: Move to previous question