



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.utsg.org>

Student Government Assembly Meeting

September 27, 2011

- I. Call Meeting to Order 7:04
- II. First Roll Call
- III. Approval of Minutes
 - a. Approved
- IV. Swearing in of New Representatives
 - a. Freshman Representative, Amanda Goodson
- V. Guests
 - a. Neil Grigg, 3 day startup
 - i. Organizer of 3 day startup - how many have you have had an invention idea, small business idea, or wanted to start a small business? How many of you are familiar with Mitt Romney's story? We are an organization that takes 40 students who start up a technology company (see slides for rest of information)
 - b. Austin Carlson, Student Government
 - i. Quick request, we haven't been voting by roll call, it is important as an assembly to produce the results of our voting, I'm going to ask that for legislation alone we do a roll call vote, so we can publish them and serve our constituents better
 - c. Yvonne Fuentes, VSLC
 - i. Thanks for having me, excited to have partnered with SG for some of our initiatives, I passed out a handout for you to read through, visit VSLC.org. I came to talk about Project 2012, Project was an initiative that was started by SG, as was the VSLC, legislation was passed to get a staff member and we grew into our own center, this year I have been meeting with Madison, Hayden and Josh to find out how we can rekindle the relationship, we have gratefulness to SG for getting us started. We are in our 13th year, and we are coming full circle. We have partnered up with the Dust Springs community, new community, very excited, we will be recruiting team leaders, 6AM – 6PM, for team leaders we are asking for a full days commitment, as a team leader you will supervise and train. If you want more info, visit utproject.org, we will be doing recruitment over the next couple weeks



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X. Executive Reports

- a. Natalie Butler, Student Body President – natalie.e.butler@gmail.com
 - i. Thank regular quests, Dean Lilly, Tom Dison
 - ii. Thank you to those of you ho came down to the capitol for the joint oversight committee, I testified, Reed from GSA, Carisa, Yaman, Emily Van Duyn, had great student testimony
 - iii. SSBC me, if you have any questions ask me or Ashley
 - iv. TPAC is having our first forum the week of October 10 (Thursday the 12th) we want students and CTBACS there, we want student opinion before deliberations, send that out to constituents
 - v. I have information on protocol for Keystone Pipeline event tomorrow, it isn't normal student event protocol, share that with your constituents, I will share those rules when I sit back down
 - vi. Wellness Network – About to finish strategic plan for the year, meeting first week of October, open to everyone, launching a new website, coalition of organizations focused on student wellness
- b. Ashley Baker, Student Body Vice President – ashleyv.baker@gmail.com
 - i. First Year Elections – Reps were elected, Ashley is here, Kornel is not
 - ii. SSBC met for the first time, if you have questions ask me
 - iii. First SG Mix at Six will be next Tuesday at 6pm, inviting Senate, College Councils, it will be a fun time, there will be pizza
 - iv. Thanks Veronica Seng and Eric Allen and Student Affairs for planning this
 - v. Transportation first win, students couldn't receive assistance from PTS on Dean Keaton or University because It wasn't university property, in mid-October, students will be able to receive assistance
 - vi. Thanks to everyone who came out to our first volleyball practice, get excited, practicing on Sunday at 7pm in recsports gym
- c. Andrew Townsell, Chief of Staff – andrew.townsell@gmail.com
 - i. Phillip Wiseman – SG leadership summit, October 16th, oppor0tunity to bring student leaders from around campus together to discuss important campus issues, Meet at noon, have lunch, icebreaker, show up before 1 o'clock, working on surprise guest speaker, Natalie will speak and invite students to participate in SG. This is turning over a new leaf in SG in reaching out to student organizations to let them know we are here for them, we want to



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be national night out, shattered dreams at 10:45 on speedway, national night out noon to four Thursday

XII. Representative Reports

a. Lawler, Liberal Arts

- i. CANPAC subcommittee to look at affordable housing, postpone it 2 weeks, October 4th meeting
- ii. Opposed development on 26th and Rio, was going to be a gas station but wanted additional housing such as apartments above the establishment
- iii. Received a lot of email about pipeline legislation, tons of support

b. Laurel Pugliese

- i. Thursday 7:00 SA meeting
- ii. Talking about different things, if you have ideas for SA, come by
- iii. First mix at six, if you haven't gone to your councils, go and announce it, it will be academically centered

c. Crystal Zhao

- i. Setting up a meeting with the budget office to get number breakdown with tuition, it is in the works, we will continue forward with it as we get more information

d. Joseph Lee

- i. Finance committee is probably not meeting tomorrow at 7:30, will be sending out another email

e. Yaman Desai

- i. Joint Higher Ed Committee meeting was successful, we talked about student involvement in the process, Carisa and I have been working on Invest in Texas stuff, we want the next session to be successful, if you are interested in helping, let me know

f. Ashley Carlisle

- i. Next Tuesday at 7:00 pm Comm Council will be hosting its first lecture in its lectureship series, Britney Bourn from the Longhorn Network will be presenting
- ii. Comm School CTBAC applications are due October 2nd, look at the newsletter, email it out to anyone on comm. Council for information

g. Kristen Thompson



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- vii. **Fast-Track Passed**
- viii. **Amendments or Debate:**
 - ix. Andrew Townsend –I have lost my voice, I will try to articulate. I would have preferred the other resolution, but I think this is important, because it shows that students are concerned and want to address the issue. This issue represents a lot of important student interests. One of the things that was brought up is how this issue ties to students. It does this in several way. Environmental issues – Water, Air, soil quality. It is important for students to voice their opinions.
 - x. **Carlson: Amendment: Strike Last two whereas clauses and 2nd be it further resolved**
 - xi. Carlson: I agree with a lot of the things this bill has done, and that it is seeking student involvement in the process. It is almost neutral, but these three clauses still address the underlying issue. If we want to do anything political, we should do it in a referendum. If we think we want to survey our students on the issue at hand, lets do a referendum, but if not, then we shouldn't put out legislation on a political issue like this one. I am 100 percent for the bill as it is with the amendment, because it is important to advocate for student input. This is not neutral, thus requiring a referendum in my opinion
 - xii. Desai: From our standpoint this is not a political issue, and we believe the clauses you are trying to strike are not political, we are asking the state to find out if there will be environmental impacts, not implying that there will be. We want to make sure the state covers all ground and doesn't hurt our state with this pipeline
 - xiii. **Vote on amendment: Hand vote: 10 yes, 10 no, 2 abstentions**
 - xiv. Carlson: Chair has right to vote, as it would change the outcome
 - xv. Hicks: Chair Abstains
 - xvi. **John David Roberts: Move to reconsider**
 - xvii. Lawler: Can't reconsider, wasn't on opposing side since he abstained, can't reconsider
 - xviii. **Carlson: Move to amend by striking the 2nd be it further resolved clause**
 - xix. Debate:
 - xx. **Carlson: Move to previous question**
 - xxi. **Vote on amendment: Hand-vote: 16 – 5, amendment passes**



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- xxxii.** Bekah Thayer: I just don't feel comfortable with passing this with that piece unless we have the opportunity to go back to our councils to talk about it. John you said as representatives we have to take a strong opinion, but I don't voice my own opinion, I voice my constituencies opinion. I am comfortable in passing it without the Resolved statement
- xxxiii.** Thompson: The only stance we are taking in the statement to be removed is to seek further information about the issue
- xxxiiii.** Ragsdale: In this we are telling the US State Department that their report they put out was wrong and that we want them to do a new one because they didn't analyze the impacts about what this pipeline would do during drought conditions, I tried doing a little research on this, but I do not feel comfortable telling the state department
- xxxv.** Kathleen Hetrick: I called my engineering representative, voiced my opinion on the bill, and she told me that it was against her personal opinion and that she wasn't going to be at the meeting, yet she is here. I am a constituency, you don't represent me
- xxxvi.** Zhao: A lot of people said they supported me and voted for me because I would not participate in political shenanigans, I think I am representing my constituents by being in favor of this amendment, and I think this doesn't relate to UT
- xxxvii.** Desai: I am a democrat, it's a democratic state department, this isn't a political issue, its just asking for more information, it isn't taking a stance. We want them to update the research based on current conditions. We have debated and passed many resolutions that are much more political than this, and I don't ever remember taking any clauses out that ask for more information. If you don't want the information then keep it the way it is
- xxxviii.** Pugliese: The title is in support of student involvement, I am in support of that, but taking away the 2nd be it further resolved, I support your passion and student opinion is important. This clause does make it political. I am in support of student involvement
- xxxix.** Thompson: If we are calling for students to be involved in this issue we are doing a disservice by not providing them with all of the information they need to make a strong decision. We shouldn't be
- xl.** Lawler: Point of order: Is the goal of SG to represent student opinion to the administration, the local, state and national government?



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for them to produce more data, which doesn't even mean they have to provide it

- lvii. **Roll Call Vote on Amendment to Amendment 13y, 8n, 4a**
 - lviii. **Carlson: Previous Question, Debate Closed**
 - lix. **Vote on Amendment (Bring back the resolved, with strikes, with amendment): 20 y, 4 n**
 - lx. **Amendment passes**
 - lxi. **Desai: Move to approve by roll call**
 - lxii. **22 y, 4 a, passes**
- c. AR 17 – In Support of Increasing Textbook Requisition Percentages
- i. Covington: Back story – Most students buy their textbooks from the CoOp. the CoOp gets a list from the University, puts it online, submitted by faculty, they use this to buy books and make allocations, the CoOps don't get the order on time, it screws up their relationship with the provider, lower buyback prices, this calls for professors to have their book orders for the spring semester in by the deadline, October 31, Halloween, which the CoOp has made as a deadline, I want to use this legislation when I go talk to organizations. Authors is everyone in Academic Affairs, sponsors I want everyone possible to sponsor
 - ii. Letter – Prose is set, I wanted to add exec board members and academic affairs to the signature
 - iii. On the letter, can you list all of the sponsors?
 - iv. Covington: Yes
 - v. Committed to Academic Affairs
 - vi. Covington: Also I want to get as many people as possible involved in this process, please look out for an email for a meeting on Sunday night, try to come
- d. AR 18 – Allocation of Funds for Operating Expenses (*fast-track justified*)
- i. Carlson: Bills overdue right now, couldn't wait a week, it was proposed to fast-track the whole budget, but we are compromising and only fast-tracking the expenses needed to "pay bills"
 - ii. Thompson: What are some other examples of operating expenses?
 - iii. Lee: They are listed on the budget
 - iv. Carlson: Postage, Copy Bills, office max, paper, office supplies