



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.uts.org>

Student Government Assembly Meeting January 17, 2012

- I. Call Meeting to Order 7:03
- II. First Roll Call
- III. Approval of Minutes Approved
- IV. Guests
- V. Open Forum
 - a. Alex Jones, MCBSAC
 - i. Over break we heard back from Powers, they are renaming the SAC atrium for MCB. Ceremony will be on April 13th at 11 O'clock, it's a friday
- VI. Ex-Officio Reports
 - a. Graduate Student Assembly, Manny Martinez
 - i. Welcome back, hope you had a smooth transition to classes
 - ii. Our past few days have been busy
 - iii. There will be an article in the Daily Texan about this, Dean Rodriguez will be stepping down, they will be appointing an interim dean, she is the Vice Provost, Lingua, we want to honor dean Rodriguez for her commitment to GSA
 - iv. PSAC – Graduate student housing, the UT system offices are considering 5 different locations for a possible move, one of them is Brackenridge, nothing has been established or determined, very cursory, we will be staying on top of that
 - v. We had our sage trip to Berkley, myself and Daniel went to speak about graduate student issues, preparing for our DC lobbying trip
 - vi. First GSA meeting is next Wednesday, if you are interested in any of these issues please contact me
 - b. Cameron Allison, SEC
 - i. Monday, Tournaments and Games day 11-2 in SAC, come by during down time to play games
 - ii. 25th Shaun of the Dead at nine in SAC theatre
 - iii. 26th Contagion at 6 and 9
 - iv. January 30th, winter wonderland, ice skating on Gregory plaza, make your own photo keychain and frames, hope to see you there
- VII. Pending Appointments
 - i. Butler – We put these positions out to the general body, we received only one additional application for CANPAC, a very involved person, but since Daniel is so involved, I encouraged him to apply for UAP
 - b. Central Austin Neighborhood Planning Action Committee - Daniel Evans
 - i. Daniel is awesome as city relations, perfect for this job
 - ii. Evans: CANPAC exists to preserve the neighborhood plan and votes to change or reject changes to that plan, comprised of members from 7 neighborhood associations around central Austin, I have been working with them for several months, John



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Lawler is there as a UAP appointment, we have been working there, CANPAC can ultimately effect neighborhoods around UT

- iii. Approved
- c. Soft Benefits Working Group - Patrick White
 - i. Butler: President asked me to sit on this, there was scheduling issues, I met with Pat for lunch shortly afterwards, he knows a lot about the issues they discuss, thought he would be perfect for the job
 - ii. Patrick White: Aimed specifically at LGBTQ, every benefit that is not monetary, it has been encountering legal issues, we have been working with our legal advisory, we have had 5 meetings so far to lay the framework for this semester, I am appointed to the visibility and availability of gender neutral bathrooms
 - iii. Love: What are gender-neutral bathrooms?
 - iv. White: Bathrooms with no designated sex, either says unisex or just has a picture of man and woman, family bathrooms
 - v. Love: How many of these are there?
 - vi. White: This was done quietly over the past few years, most buildings have one, they are looking into costs, working on NE Quadrant, want to work with the IOS developer to have locations on application, Most of the original ones were for family/handicap accessibility
 - vii. Love: What is the purpose of them is it for people that don't feel comfortable walking into the restroom of a specific sex?
 - viii. White: Correct, gender neutral bathrooms for people who do not feel comfortable entering a bathroom for a designated gender
 - ix. Approved
- d. Library Council - Ilse Quijano, Louis Armendariz
 - i. Butler: This is a similar situation as the last appointment, there is a lot of platform overlap, he has been working on a lot of these issues
 - ii. Carlson: Point of Information: It says on the agenda that Ilse is being appointed as well. Is Ilse being appointed?
 - iii. Butler: Typo on my part
 - iv. Approved
- e. Men's Athletic Council - Madison Gardner
 - i. A group of mostly faculty and 2 students that advise Athletics, issues on grades and academics, I sat on one of these for 2 years, addresses the student component, the reason I was interested in Madison and Anna, because we have a very fragile relationship with UT Athletics and the Longhorn run, they are both involved in longhorn run
 - ii. Gardener: I want to work with trademarking in the athletics department and how student organizations work with them, having exceptions for student orgs, I will be overseeing longhorn run, April 14th, and I want to work on the relationship with the athletic department



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- iii. Carlson: These two councils are in my opinion one of the most important committees on campus, because of the money they deal with, yet other positions get tons of applicants
- iv. Butler: I do, especially given past precedent, the most important is SSBC, I only had one applicant, and I was comfortable. We put it out there, advertised it, I received a few timing inquiries, and we would have given due diligence to any other applications
- v. Lawler: How can you say you gave the same due diligence when the application was not available 6 months ago and for the LLA position there was a huge advertising blitz
- vi. Butler: I don't think these positions are comparable to the LLA position, but more to the General appointment applications
- vii. Lawler: How can you say they are comparable when these applications were never made available to the student body? These never reached any of the
- viii. Butler: These are technically not an appointment, but a nomination, we put these out through the same process as the other ones, although it may be six months later
- ix. Carlson: Although we only have 1 applicant, but this application was strong enough to be comfortable with the appointment. Madison, in your application you said that you will communicate with Student Government and forward information, yet you haven't presented anything to the assembly. Why is that?
- x. Gardener: There has been 1 meeting, and I am not the voting member, the current voting member was appointed last year, this year I am just learning what I am supposed to be doing, next year and in the future there is going to be one or two meetings
- xi. Butler: There are two years, the learning year and the voting year, the voting members were appointed last year
- xii. Thompson: Motion to extend time by 10 minutes, seconded
- xiii. Lawler: Considering that you answered that question Natalie, Madison, can you give examples of how you have provided a continual dialogue
- xiv. Madison: One of the things I have done is communicating with the trademarks director and student organizations on things like t-shirts and publicity material
- xv. Lawler: Last years executive board, appointment, was voting?
- xvi. Butler: It was never voted on, if he submitted and
- xvii. Carlson: I am going to go back to this question, how are you going to make this dialogue happen?
- xviii. Madison: Right now I have been only to public meetings, so you could have been there, I am interested in having some type of open forum, reporting what the council is doing, I haven't publicly done anything like that
- xix. Lawler: Madison, did you ever at any point publish the date of that meeting or let anyone know you were attending
- xx. Gardener: No



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- xxi. Lawler: We have had six months with you serving in this capacity, but we have never heard anything, you have never come before the body and made announcements, do you think you have been a good external appointment
- xxii. Gardener: What I have had to report thus far is not substantial, so I have not
- xxiii. Lawler: So trademark is not a pressing issue for students? You just stated that there are some serious things going on
- xxiv. Gardener: You mean the issues of the councils? Which would you say is the most important issue
- xxv. Lawler: I am not sure, because I have never heard any of the goings on of this council, but I know trademarking is a huge issue, how are you as an application see yourself doing things in the future
- xxvi. Butler: Trademarking is an issue I have been updating the assembly on
- xxvii. Gardener: One of the things I am trying to and have been doing is increasing the ease of getting trademarking, I have a relationship with the director, moving forward, we are trying to see how he is moving forward with that, it takes awhile
- xxviii. Leonard: Move to previous question
- xxix. Hicks: Move to vote
- xxx. Lawler: Object
- xxxi. Carlson: I don't want to spend a lot of time on this, this position is important and is getting even more important, I wanted to hear from Madison what has happened, but I would feel a lot more confident if there were more applicants. We deserve better than one application, and if its going to be one application, it needs to be someone really strong, and I don't think Madison has done that.
- xxxii. Stone: I think Madison should get it, for every other appointment there have been as little applications, we all knew this was coming, Madison is a good applicant, he completely understands it, he has only been to one meeting, he is a non-voting member, I think you are asking to much of a guy who has been only to one meeting
- xxxiii. Lawler: I am more concerned of the 35,000 people on this campus than the 40 in this room. We have to be transparent for the entire body, I think Madison is caught up in some stuff right now. If you are on the Men and Women's athletic council there are a lot of unlisted perks, don't you get rings if a bowl game is won?
- xxxiv. Butler: I didn't
- xxxv. Lawler: There wasn't a bowl game won. I always come before you as a representative in UAP and CANPAC with complete transparency, don't let Madison the nice guy sway your vote, lets look at the way we came about this
- xxxvi. Desai: I heard someone came forward and wanted to apply and was told not to apply
- xxxvii. Butler: No one came to me
- xxxviii. Desai: I want to know about the time commitment, there has been one meeting in 6 months, I know it is a 2-year position
- xxxix. Butler: The 2-year part is the part that keeps people from applying. If you want the information, hold the current voting members accountable, that is key, I didn't



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- appoint them or approve them. Non-voting members have none of the information. I encourage all of you hold them accountable. I feel confident that the people we are appointing now will be accountable. I would like to see us take a vote and move on
- xl. Lawler: Natalie you are an excellent debater, axe murder. Regardless of non-voting status, we need to recognize a year from now what he will be serving in that capacity. None of use knew about that meeting. There are some perks on this committee, yet we never knew what was going on. A lot of you campaigned on transparency, so we need to focus on Madison is a great guy, but he has had his six months, none of us knew he was on it, going to the meetings, Natalie has brought up the trademarking issues. We aren't talking about Natalie right now. We are talking about a person who has been in a position for six months and has failed to be transparent. Look at the history here, what has transpired. Ignored the distractors
 - xli. Butler: What you brought up is that he hasn't brought forward information. As a nonvoting member you do not have that information. The voting members are the ones that have that information, there hasntg been laot
 - xlvi. Rady: I believe the RAs were also nominated
 - xlvi. Jones: Athletics reached out to Nike Focus Groups and RAs and students across campus were nominated
 - xlv. Desai: Do you know the date we released these applications?
 - xlv. Butler: December, published over the break
 - xlvi. Carlson: They drew up other applications. I strongly disagree with the nonvoting member and voting member status argument. Madison may not have as much information as the voting member, but he knows what's going on, when the meetings are happening, how students can get in contact with him. Six months, we should have known something about it
 - xlvi. Fazende: We are really trying to assess the situation and give external appointments and take steps to give them time to speak to address their roles. I think that every external committee has a few perks, although we keep saying we are not trying to make this a personal attack on Madison, but it is, when we chose to table these appointments, every one of us could have forwarded this application to all of your listservs and councils. We did this last meeting of the semester, timing was poor, we couldn't table. If you want more feedback and representation on campus, we could do that, and we can learn from this and get that application out to more people
 - xlvi. Hicks: Step down to debate. I just had to point something out. In my position I have asked the executive board to submit a list of appointments and vacancy three times and three times I have been told they will be on that last, I find it hard to believe that list has not been introduced with those spots
 - xlix. Lawler: I really appreciate that Alex Jones has raised URHA, whenever they were made aware, how many people were made aware, was it the top two people in the organization, or was it more widely dispersed
 - l. Jones: It went from URHA officers to all of the RAs, so basically all of the voting members, basically what was done here for the SG voting members



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- li. Lawler: URHA as a whole found out that this was made available. Do you see discrepancies?
- lii. Jones: I would think that there's is a difference between a nomination and an appointment. I don't believe we ever filled those slots
- liii. Lawler: Do you see a discrepancy between that situation and this one?
- liv. Jones: Well it was sent to all of the RAs, all voting members, just like all voting members in this body. It is exactly the same.
- lv. Lawler: But initially?
- lvi. Jones: Initially, yes
- lvii. Desai: Do we know when the next meeting will be?
- lviii. Gardener: They haven't let me know yet
- lix. Desai: So there wont be one in the next week
- lx. Butler: The president's office called and asked me for names, they can and cannot take me. I can inform the presidents office that the student body did not support them and then it's out of my hands. I don't have the authority to put people on this committee, or pull them off.
- lxi. Desai: There seem to be concerns about the timing of the application. Could we perhaps pull it off for a week and see what other applications come through?
- lxii. Butler: Even if we put them out for another week, I do not have the authority to replace the other person
- lxiii. Hicks: These applications were first announced January 9th, before that they were at the most a list of titles.
- lxiv. Love: So like a week ago January 9th?
- lxv. Desai: I move to postpone for two weeks, both Athletic Council appointments
- lxvi. Lawler: Object
- lxvii. Lawler: I think we all know what the question here is: Do we think Madison gardener is the right person to appoint to the athletic council, so I think we need to make that decision, I think most people have made their mind up. We need to step up to the plate, and bat. We know Natalie, if she thinks someone is the right person, she will reappoint them. I am not here to make the executive boards' jobs harder, I just want to make sure we make the right appointment. If it does go to a vote, a ask that we vote against this question
- lxviii. Desai: The point has been brought up multiple times, we want to get more applications, you can blame whoever you want, lets see in two weeks if we have any more applications. There are a lot more people, and I trust Natalie will consider everyone properly, and I trust her to put the right person up. I say we postpone this for two weeks and try to get more applications.
- lxix. Vote on postponement: 8 yes, 22, 2 abstentions, motion fails, original motion is back for a vote
- lxx. Lawler: Move to previous question, seconded
- lxxi. Vote: 20 yes, approved



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- f. Women's Athletic Council - Anna Meyerson
 - i. Butler: Anna is replacing me on the Women's athletic council, she is part of the longhorn run committee, I want her to work on that relationship
 - ii. Meyerson: I have been before yall previously with longhorn run, I heard about this from Nell, we worked on longhorn run together
 - iii. Thompson: Have you attended any of the council meetings?
 - iv. Meyerson: Yes, I have been to two of them. We have talked about camps run by the teams, how much it costs, how much comes out of the budget, missed school days, basically when the schedule comes before us we see how many school days the athletes will miss, we try to make them miss few days as possible, working on how much community service and teamwork
 - v. Goodson: Do you know how many meetings there have been? Have you been to all of them?
 - vi. Meyerson: 2. Yes.
 - vii. Lawler: In your application, you say you will relay all information to the student government, why has that not happened, I know that hasn't happened
 - viii. Meyerson: The last meeting was December 16th, there were no SG meetings after that. These are open meetings, although we haven't advertised them, we can definitely start doing that
 - ix. Carlson: One of our requirements for approving applications is that the administrative director makes them available for public inspection
 - x. Butler: They were in the SG office
 - xi. Hicks: Extend time, time extended by 10 minutes
 - xii. Hicks: Why weren't the applications made available to all people at first, and not just the people currently sitting on these bodies
 - xiii. Butler: I though the current members would do the best job
 - xiv. Hicks: Do you think that is fair that they were not made available to all of the student body for the same amount of time?
 - xv. Butler: I gave these people a firm deadline before the SG meeting in December, it was about a week, I didn't want to give them more time, I didn't accept new applications
 - xvi. Lawler: You mentioned there were quite a few things going on during these two meetings, which is quite the contrary to our previous appointment, is there a difference between the mens and womens athletics council, since our male counterpart said that there was nothing really worth reporting. Given that there was a substantial amount to report on, why have we not heard anything, and why should we give you a second chance?
 - xvii. Meyerson: I really don't think there was a whole lot that needed reported, theres nothing I can do differently that you can do at those meetings
 - xviii. Lawler: Except know that they are happeneing
 - xix. Meyerson: But I just got an email, I could forward that



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- xx. Goodson: Safe to assume first meeting is introductory?
- xxi. Meyerson: Yes
- xxii. Vote: 23 yes, approved
- g. Student Organization Safety Board: Louis Armendariz
 - i. Butler: Louis is already a peer educator, been working on these issues, I appointed him as my designate
 - ii. Louis: As an at large member on this safety board, I got to experience this a lot last year, as you can see by the resolution I am putting up
 - iii. Approved
- h. Counseling and Mental Health Center Advisory Board: Louis Armendariz
 - i. Louis has been super involved with CMHC, a member of Tejas Club, who also works with CMHC
 - ii. Armendariz: I have worked with Brownson a lot, he co-sponsored a lot of our outreach events, I have gotten to know him and his team very well, on that note we have been doing some good work, updating their website, and something that is really important to me is the suicide prevention page on that website, I am in the pictures, it is near and dear to me for personal reasons
 - iii. Carlson: I was on this committee last year, and I understand the work they do, I just wanted to know
 - iv. Butler: The big thing is the overlap with our platform, they asked me to sit on it, but I couldn't so I sent him as a designate, since he has been working on a lot of those issues
 - v. Approved
- VIII. Deputy Advisor Report
 - a. Melinda Sutton, Deputy to the Dean of Students – msutton@mail.utexas.edu
 - i. Deadline for ESB applications are noon on Friday, please encourage friends to apply, there are five members representing each of the groups that participate, and will select the board.
- IX. Executive Reports
 - a. Natalie Butler, Student Body President – natalie.e.butler@gmail.com
 - i. Welcome Back, I hope everyone had a phenomenal holiday break, I will give a few quick updates
 - ii. Orientation Session for Transfer students, there is a transfer orientation, Rosenthal helped me run that, there were only a few people, hopefully they will get involved
 - iii. I got back last Friday taking meetings and working, Budget Council meeting to speak about Deans' 5 year budgeting plans, we will be bringing those people in to talk about budgeting goals. I will be sitting on that committee until June, President's office will choose someone to replace me June 1
 - iv. UT System is putting together a working group to discuss reducing the student debt burden, I don't have any more details, I just got a phonecall over winter break, Cigarroa met with Obama to talk about student debt, they had a wonderful



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conversation about texas and reducing student debt. I think I am the only student sitting on it

- v. System Student Advisory Council will be meetings Feb 3 and 4, don't have the agenda yet, but I will let you know what will be discussed
- vi. Continuing the work we started last semester, in the middle of a lot of projects
- vii. We have a little over two months left. We have done a lot of awesome work, and there is a lot more to be done. I hope you all really use these next two months to get things done. I know that if you are not involved in the elections, there is so much that we can do during that time. IF you have ideas, bounce them off of me and your peers. Take queues from representatives likes Rosenthal and the legislation she is introducing tonight. Your time is waning, but it isn't time to give up. Give it everything you got, because I will. I want to see a lot of you leverage that to, if you have ideas or questions, please let me know. This is a learning year and I hope we can do a lot with the relationships we have built this past year. I am ready to hit the ground running. Thank you all so much
- viii. Carlson: Grad Applications?
- ix. Butler: We have gotten a few, I am hoping to bring two people to you next week, we have gotten four applications, one person never responded to me, another had an unmovable conflict on Tuesday nights. It has been logistically challenging, but I hope
- b. Ashley Baker, Student Body Vice President – ashleyv.baker@gmail.com
 - i.
 - ii. Info session for SG coming up soon, week of 30th, if you have friends who are interested, let them know
 - iii. SSBC will begin meeting in about 2 weeks, you should expect updates
 - iv. On January 30th at 3:30 there will be a Bike around Blanton town hall
 - v. I will be working with people to be forming a shuttle bus task force, some things have come up this semester, they are asking if staff departments should be allowed to advertise on shuttlebusses.
 - vi. Room reservations project is close to completion, thanks to all of the LLAs researching and looking up rooms
- c. Andrew Townsell, Chief of Staff – andrew.townsell@gmail.com
 - i. Welcome back, I missed SG
 - ii. Advocacy- Student Leadership Summit, February 18th, with GLIE, I hope to see most of you there, registration link is live, it will be a leadership summit from all parts of campus, it's a good way to get in touch with constituents.
 - iii. Leadership and Service: Great Service Project coming up
 - iv. Health and Wellness: Run is up and coming, utlonghornrun.com, link is up, benefits excellence fund. Expo is on January 25th, fun event on Greg plaza. Genius bar by nike, working on cool projects. If you register within the next couple of days you save 5 dollars. 35 dollar training group from luke's locker



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- v. Safe Ride – We have been working on that extensively, we are getting more figured out, continuing conversations, report more as I know it
- d. Sydney Fazende, Communications Director – sydneyfazende@gmail.com
 - i. How about that newsletter?
 - ii. Jester Satellite Office is under construction, we will be finding ways for outreach
 - iii. Twitter Allstars, your season opener will be next week
 - iv. New Media stuff in the works
 - v. We are re-evaluating outreach initiative, let EA know if you have any issues
- e. Madison Gardner, External Financial Director – jmgardner22@gmail.com
 - i. Excellence Fund application is out, it benefits student events and organizations for a good cause
 - ii. Longhorn Run registration is live, spread the word and tell your friends, sign up, it will be open up to the date of the run
 - iii. Philanthropy team are going to a conference at A&M that help other schools create a campus wide community service event
 - iv. Carlson: Excellence Fund? The assembly is responsible for funds, what is the excellence fund going to look like?
 - v. Madison: It is a fundraising account, overseen by a committee
 - vi. Butler: Technically isn't student government funds
 - vii. Carlson: Can you explain how this comes out of the purview of the assembly?
 - viii. Gardener: The funds are on a different account, there are several different members on the committee
 - ix. Lawler: When we approved the excellence fund, it came before the student body, how has it changed?
 - x. Gardener: I wasn't aware that anything had changed, the committee oversees the funds
 - xi. Carlson: Can you explain how this is not student government funds and why shouldn't the assembly have to approve it
 - xii. Butler: My understanding is that because it is not from SG appropriated funds from "students", if you want to look at the process we can
 - xiii. Carlson: So you can claim that because of that wording it isn't student government funds
 - xiv. Butler: Because it is a different type of account, yes
- f. Ilse Quijano, Internal Financial Director – quij.ilse@gmail.com
 - i. 15,000 for appropriations, application made available this Friday, due the 8th, let us know if you want to help
 - ii. Appropriations banner – West Mall, SAC Screens
 - iii. Help us promote appropriations, we want all money out before spring break
 - iv. Natalie and I will be presenting to SSBC about our budget
- g. Louis Armendariz, Administrative Director – louis.m.arm@gmail.com



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- i. Social Activities: MIX@6 February 7th in the ballroom SAC
 - ii. Thompson: Considering the attendance of the last mix@6, is there a way we can change the location to have a better turnout?
 - iii. Armendariz: Reserving the plaza and west mall are more difficult to reserve, and the reserving deadline has passed, but we can definitely look into it, email me, call me, text me, we want to amp it up, let me know if you have suggestions
 - iv. Within my repertoire, there will be a mid-year report, due date is Jan 28th, which includes external appointments, there is a lot of good work we are doing, please ask more questions before times like these have to happen, we have a lot of associate directors, please ask questions about making improvements
 - v. SG History: Documenting the year a little more, Sydney is awesome, she found a cool technological way, we will be documenting an online link
 - vi. Please email me or Sydney or david harrera if you have any stuff from SG events
 - vii. Butler: The anti-defamation league has put together an Austin-wide task force to talk about hate crimes, it should be interesting, city-wide thing, ill let you know what comes out of that
 - viii. I have set president office hours at noon every Wednesday, those are for yall and students, I will be in my office until the jester satellite office opens back up. Last semester I tried to find a regular time, but I set that a few days ago and it is hardlined, super pumped about the jester satellite office reopening
- X. Agency Director Reports
- a. Jesse Hernandez – Andrew and I met and went over ideas on how to expand the Leadership and Service Policy area, LLA and FLO have been doing great, we want to work with UT elementary to create a new service initiative run by student government, but they have a lot of things that they already need volunteers for, so we want to provide them with volunteers for student government. They have a lot of volunteer opportunities, including the mentorship opportunity, although its already robust, and they don't need a lot of new mentors, we chose three commitment level opportunities, from weekly, monthly, to once a semester. The first is a book fair that UT elementary sponsors with scholastic, they will need cashiers, February 27th-March 2nd. First come first serve for volunteers, they will get to participate, I will be point of contact. Bulletin board decorators, monthly, and the third is the writer's workshop publishers. They do it m,w,th,Friday, they have us help first graders type stories to get them published. Sydney and the twitter allstars will be promoting UT Elementary .Considering the different levels of commitment, we are going to ask executive staff teams, committees, and agencies to be present to at least two of the opportunities, we hope to involve flo and LLA as well. As part of this, because it is fairly knew, we hope to do some assessment after you volunteer. Thank you
- XI. Representative Reports
- a. Rosenthal: I hope all of yall had a great break, I have a lot of updates about the internship review database, let me know if you want to be a sponsor, I want to clarify details
 - i. The main intent of this database is to create a student internship database that is secure and monitored, where students new to internships and searches and students



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who have done their research and wants to search for a specific internship and seek reviews. I met with 11 out of 17 career department leaders, and have gotten lots of feedback. I think peer review is important and will really help students. I encourage you to talk to your constituents about this initiative, it is evolving every day. There was a sample survey sent out. We have legislation. There are so many resources that people do not know about as far as career offices, and SG is a good body to spread that availability, so you all should consider that, if any of you have questions about finding internships, I have a lot of answers

- ii. Thomspon: Concerns?
 - iii. Rosenthal: How it is being monitored, something might slip through the cracks and reputations will be tainted, confusion in the student body
 - iv. Thompson: Expense?
 - v. Rosenthal: I have been working with DoS, that question could probably be directed with Dean Lilly
 - vi. Lilly: We would fold it into an existing portfolio, but it would be the time of a Graduate Assistant working with an SG member to monitor the feedback
 - vii. Thompson: IS there a mandatory survey? How will feedback be gathered?
 - viii. Rosenthal: This would be purely by choice. Since this is an SG initiative, I would like there to be a delegated person to be in charge of emails and flyers. It wont be anything mandatory, there will be a pilot phase, for now we are in the very beginning stages, as far as the feedback goes, I find them very helpful
 - ix. Yuan: You said the business school and engineering school wanted to be a part of this?
 - x. Rosenthal: Engineering wants to be a part of this, there has been a lot of tension with career services, I did not meet with the Business School Director, but the UBC president is going to relay the information, She is nervous to jump onboard, and might be willing to meet with me
 - xi. Jbelly: Non-mandatory websites with survey information seem to be useless to me
 - xii. Rosenthal: Its to tense to make it mandatory, but it might evolve into that, the Vanderbilt model has 2,550 responses in 3 years with a 7,000 member undergraduate. I think this will have a good response. We are still in the process for thinking of a name, if you have an idea, let me know
- b. Martinez: I sent everyone an updated copy of the election code, let me know if you have any questions, I hope it passes
 - c. Zhao: Mary Knight of the budget office finally gave us some samples that her team created for us for the breakdown, if you click on the link and pick one, its easy and basic, the numbers aren't final, we are including a more extensive breakdown, just pick the most aesthetically pleasing
 - i. Pugliese: If you would do that, they have put a lot of work into it
 - ii. We met with the registrar, he gave us a lot of suggestions, SA will have a meeting Doodle



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- iii. Carlson: Talk about breaking down the student services part of that
- iv. Zhao: They are going to include that in the final breakdown
- d. Lawler: COLA Representative, a lot that went on over the Christmas break
 - i. Affordable Housing Initiative: Last week we had a round table hosted by the city of Austin, we met with them and we think we found some common ground, they agreed to go out of the subcommittee, and within the next two months they will be putting it before city council
 - ii. City has been hosting charter revision meetings, I have been attending them with Austinites for Geographic Representation, they have been extremely receptive, they want more students to come, if you ever want to go, Yaman and Evans know, we can get you there
 - iii. Tuition Referendum on next general election: Up or down on tuition increase, purely democratic, give us an arsenal for the board of regents for tuition over next two years
 - iv. There has been a string of sexual assaults over Christmas break, on new years eve there was a woman named esmerelda, she was murdered by someone who was waiting outside her house, she was on her way back from spider house, her friend was in the bathroom vomiting, the sketch has similarities that suggest it's a serial assaultist, if you are interested in safety I sent out details over my listserv
 - v. Portillo: Can you tell everyone when the meeting is that the board of regents meeting is that will recommend tuition changes
 - vi. Lawler: March 15th, we will have referendum results, hope to have links to information, good opportunity for SG and Senate to work hand in hand to educate students about tuition increases. We still need to put it in the hands of the students
- e. Desai: Invest in Texas
 - i. Over the break we had hire Ed at home, I know a lot of yall took part in that, we asked students to visit their hometown reps office and let their reps know that higher Ed issues matter to them, we hit over 100 offices, we got great feedback from representatives, UT governmental relations, students
 - ii. Going into the semester, we will have meetings to discuss what we will be working on, if you are interested let me know
- f. Taylor Ragsdale
 - i. Business Week does a ranking thing of undergraduate business schools every year, part of their ranking is surveys they send to seniors, we are starting an initiative called raise the rank, encouraging students to fill out the Business Week survey and tell their friends to do it, because those surveys have a significant amount of weight
 - ii. Gardener: It is sent out to about 1100 students, you need a 33 percent turnout for it to count, and last year we didn't get that and it hurt our ranking, we want to raise that number back for it to count
- g. Bernadette De La Cruz
 - i. Classical Re-invention: Revival of Classical music. What would make you more interested?



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XII. Unfinished Business

- a. AB 4 – Student Government Election Code for 2012 Elections
 - i. Martinez: Move to pull it out of committee, passed
 - ii. Martinez: IA along with some other people have been working on this a lot, thanks to Philip Wiseman, Reid Long, Mindy, hopefully this one looks a lot better and you have had a lot of time to look over this
 - iii. Big changes: Three titles, general provisions, election common code, student government specific things that only apply to us, there have been quite a few changes
 - iv. Martinez: Move to amend, passed
 - v. Ragsdale: What is the intent for 4.03? Was that how it was last year
 - vi. Martinez: That is something new that everyone had come up with, Philip wrote that language
 - vii. Wiseman: Prior to any of this, there has been no way to actually enforce the spending limits, except to inflict further fines. If you can tie your spending limit into your ability to be elected, people will follow it. This is the same thing OU does.
 - viii. Ragsdale: The fines that are implemented counts towards part of the budget?
 - ix. Carlson: Wording needs to be changed to 20% over?
 - x. Lawler: Move to amend 4.03 to say “Candidates who spend 20% or more over their designated spending”
 - xi. Amendment, 24 yes, amendment passes
 - xii. Pugliese: This whole immediately disqualified seems a little aggressive, what is the reason for immediate disqualification?
 - xiii. Wiseman: Its saying it isn’t optional
 - xiv. Fassio: I would like to go to page 5 where it talks about the filing fee, I want to get rid of the filing fee, speaking, when I first went for this position, I was shocked to see that there was a filing fee, it covers free advertising in the daily Texan, I feel that our budgets should pay for those advertisement, get rid of 7.07, seconded, passed.
 - xv. Desai: No where does it specify when campaigning begins
 - xvi. Martinez: It says two weeks before spring break
 - xvii. Desai: That’s the election day, I mean campaigning
 - xviii. Sutton: Filing Deadline: Candidate Seminar, filing period, 2 weeks, becky was concerned with that turnaround time, I don’t know if there is time to do that because she has to check details
 - xix. Wiseman: Strike 2 week details
 - xx. Desai: I would propose to have the candidate seminar sooner and have campaigning start at midnight February 13th New 5.01 that would say midnight Monday two weeks before the election day “Campaigning shall begin at midnight three Mondays before the first election day”.
 - xxi. Nimmer: That isn’t feasible, there is no time to do that unless you want to come in on a weekend



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- xxii. Wiseman: Under election timetable section, as you say, midnight on the Monday two weeks before the election, the seminar being held the Wednesday three weeks before the election
- xxiii. Ragsdale: The seminar is being held on this Wednesday?
- xxiv. Martinez: The 13th has already been the date of the seminar
- xxv. Wiseman: Withdraw the amendment
- xxvi. Thomspn: Article 7 Subchapter C: 7.16 and 7.18 are the same statements, just two words are switched. “Strike 7.18”, passed
- xxvii. Fassio: Strike page 7, 3.13 because it also mentions the filing fee, I would like to strike that, seconded, objected
- xxviii. Zhao: I know filing, in terms of the papers, cost money, would that come from SG funds? Would you maybe say that’s not fair, someone that wants to run is doing it out of self ambition, why should student government pay for that?
- xxix. Lawler: The first thing we need to remember is that we agreed as an assembly that there should not be no filing fee, because we believe that the democratic process should be available to everyone, we should use our left over money to go to the student body is to pay for those costs and not force students to make that expenditures
- xxx. Zhao: It says the fee can be waived in the part that we struck?
- xxxi. Lawler: One thing I will stress is that an argument we have had in this assembly is how “You can waive it if” plays on peoples psychology. We had a great and healthy conversation about stipends, you don’t want the “If you can prove” caviat. We recognize and respect the democratic process as something we want to fund.
- xxxii. Vote to strike 3.113, passes
- xxxiii. Martinez: Move to amend on page 9, 5.08 to specify the campaigning time “Campaigning shall begin the Wednesday two weeks prior to the first election date”
- xxxiv. Thompson: Does this code specify that campaigning is limited to two weeks?
- xxxv. Lawler: We really think that two weeks is enough, because any longer would force us to lose the attention of the student body
- xxxvi. Thompson: That’s Valentines Day
- xxxvii. Amendment Passes
- xxxviii. Thompson: 4.01, sub-bullet b, “University-wide” rather than “Representatives at-Large”
- xxxix. Ragsdale: Strike section 4.03, seconded, objected
 - xl. Lawler: I will start this off, first and foremost, I think the core principal is that students should not be able to pay to win a student government seat, there is something inherently wrong with that, there should be some cap, you can run a clean election, and you can win. For those of us who make a mistake, if you get that 20 or 30 dollar infraction, but if you are systematically playing the system by breaking the rules, we are not going to have that. The option of disqualification. Don’t vote for this amendment, because it allows people to buy an SG election



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- xli. Ragsdale: My objection with this statement, although we think SG elections are nice, it would turn into a fine war, especially with more sought-over positions, especially if someone goes around and takes pictures of unattended signs, two infractions and you are done (as a college rep). We should be able to enforce the rules strongly, we shouldn't put such an absolute though
- xlii. Nimmer: This has been in the OU code for 20 years, it still hasn't broken down, the fine wars happened last year, they are arbitrary in our system. Fines have no real affect because you can either pay them or chose not to pay them. 20% is not that big of a deal. Saying a rule should not be that hard to enforce, why have a rule?
- xlili. Thayer: This is a great idea, but doing it right now is a little bit, can we do 30%
- xliv. Thompson: Is there any record of previous election fine totals?
- xlv. Wiseman: The one problem with using those is there is not a standard for them to use when making those fines
- xlvi. Jones: I don't think we want to remove accountability. We don't want to put in steadfast percentage rules, you will no longer be going to the merits of your system, knock-off goal, we don't want this to turn in to election technicalities, it should be based on what students want. Don't put a specific number goal?
- xlvii. Goodson: If someone is doing something that is going to get them "Knocked-off" They deserve to be disqualified
- xlviii. Pugliese: I guess I just I don't like what Alex is saying, I know that kind of happens, I don't want to immediately disqualify, is there an alternative
- xliv. Carlson: Move to previous Question
 - 1. Wiseman: There was a consideration of that. Stipulating campaign spending limits as a limit was something that was made clear in last years IA assembly. Elections cannot should not and will not tolerate to be bought.
 - ii. Pugliese: Was this put in there last year? I am just wondering why put a cap on now?
 - lii. Baker: Last year there was no stipulation, so for a second we had to ask if fines counted in our budget, we had to get the ESB
 - liii. Stone: Fines come out of spending limit, which will actually affect you
 - liv. Rosenthal: It bothered me about how absolute that was, who is going to be calculating that? Who will tally it? For such an absolute punishment, unless someone actually filed a complaint, its not like someone is actually there monitoring it?
 - lv. Nimmer: ESB chair tallies it, every fine and financial disclosure, easy to keep count, Natalie would have been disqualified
 - lvi. Tran: There are some things that could be out of control, what if someone who gets desparate for votes, sabotage, chalking
 - lvii. Zhao: I know you voiced your concern about fine wars and accidental stuff, the ESB will examine all context and make the rulings, the process is fair
 - lviii. Desai: Move to previous question, debate closed
 - lix. Vote: Amendment Fails



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- ix. Thayer: Can we either raise the percentage or say the ESB has a hearing to determine disqualification. "Candidates who spend 20% or more over designated spending limit shall be reviewed by referendum by the ESB, which could include possible disqualification"
 - lxi. Thompson: Objected
 - lxii. Wiseman: Limit means don't go over. If you keep it flexible, it is not a real limit. The point of having the 20% grace period is actually a limit. If you don't want them, get rid of the campaign limits
 - lxiii. Pugliese: Because there are the fines, that is eliminating the 20%. It leaves it to the discretion of the ESB, you are saying they are thinking more of the repercussions of the fines, so that leaves the outcome to the ESB
 - lxiv. Nimmer: Please explain to me what review by referendum. If you type it in that this is going to be a 20% at the discretion of the ESB to disqualify, everything is at the discretion of the ESB to disqualify, so there is not point. Now there will be an objective limit, if you get fined a fifth of your campaign budget, you probably should not be running
 - lxv. Thayer: Its 10 and I am trying to come up with a compromise, I don't feel comfortable with this, yes Alabama does this but I don't feel comfortable with either side. I want to make this not based on buying an election, but also still have some room.
 - lxvi. Carlson: Previous Question
 - lxvii. Vote: 15 No, 8 Yes
 - lxviii. Amendment Fails
 - lxix. Thompson: Is there a timetable for when fines are due?
 - lxx. Wiseman: Its in there
 - lxxi. Thayer: Austin and I are trying to find a compromise
 - lxxii. "Candidate who spend 20% or more over their designated spending limit will be disqualified at the discretion of the ESB, candidates who spend 40% or more will be disqualified immediately by"
 - lxxiii. Amendment Fails
 - lxxiv. Debate is over
 - lxxv. Vote on AB4: AB4 Passes
- b. AR 24 -- In Support of Changing the Words to the Texas Fight Song
- i. Still in committee
- XIII. New Business
- a. AR 25 -- In Support of Co-Sponsoring The University of Texas Tobacco Talks
 - i. Armendariz: This resolution is in support of the tobacco talks initiative, this is already going to be implemented by them, they are already going to do that, the first day we will be asking students about smoking on campus, Wednesday will be a debate in the Avaya Auditorium, it's a cool room, and basically it will be like a pro con tobacco on campus, maintains neutrality. The third night will be at the Tejas



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Clubhouse, it will be similar to Wednesday, allows us to reach out to different students. Pro smoking and anti-smoking opinions will be presented. What I think we should be doing is supporting this and telling people about it, it is a heated discussion on campus and students need to be more knowledgeable

ii. Committed to Student Affairs

b. AR 26 – In Support of Creating an Online Student Opinion Database to Review Internships

i. Rosenthal: This is just in support of creating what I was talking about earlier, its not saying that this will 100% happen, its just saying that students support it, and I think it is, I think it's a good idea

ii. Committed to External Affairs

XIV. Announcements

XV. Second Roll Call

XVI. Adjournment