



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 March 27, 2012

- I. Call Meeting to Order
- II. First Roll Call
- III. Approval of Minutes Approved
- IV. Open Forum
 - a. Jarius Drew Sowell, BSA
 - i. Would like to express my support for the University of Texas and its stance in Fisher v. University of Texas
 - b. Anil Heder, ISA
 - i. Here on behalf of the ISA, talent show this Saturday, TAAL, having 11 teams come out to the bass concert hall, we are tabling all week in West mall if you want to buy tickets, also can buy them at utisa.com
 - c. Jesse Hernandez, Party on the Plaza Student Committee
 - i. Looking for students to sit on the committee, happens on September 5th 2012, scholarship shootouts, mechanical bull, great way to welcome students back, due Friday march 30th at 5pm in the Gregory Gym administrative offices
 - d. Nick Spiller, Longhorn Start-up
 - i. This is my first time ever being at an SG meeting, thanks for listening, we have an incubator, longhorn startups, I am a student of doctor bob metcalfs class, one of the main parts of the solution is sparking more undergraduate entrepreneurship, I use that loosely, what I am working on is making it easier, I have three different projects, uthinktank, technology company that is trying to make a startup technology tool, essentially what we think we need to do is celebrate our student body a little more, not just work and try to make change, I am here to invite you to a celebration of the student body, so I guess I have been involved with the campaign and following each of them and all four had good campaigns and all fit into a good solution, I invite you all and all of your friends to the ignite texas party Thursday from 10-12 at 6th and Sanjac, you can rsvp at ignitetexas.eventbrite.com, or on my facebook, Thor and Wills and Big John have all agreed to come, I was going to invite Madison, I invited Yaman and all of the alliances, thanks for having me
 - e. Jaclyn Rosenthal, Israel Block Party
 - i. Wearing one of my other hats, its April 15th, Josh is part of it to, 12-6, that's after our leadership celebration, it's a cultural experience to learn about Israel, falafel, a chute, there is going to be a bounce house and a rock-climbing wall, whether you like it or not Israel does have an impact on your life and it would be great to learn about the culture
- V. Ex-Officio Reports
 - a. Michael Morton, Senate of College Councils President Elect
 - i. Thank you for having me, I will be here often to give you an idea of what we are doing, this is Andrew Clark, Vice President Elect
 - ii. Career Services working group met today at 7am and had a long conversation about the new career services center in the FAC, formulating on how that center will work, ongoing talks (very very early) if you have any feedback we can take it to that



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- iii. Myedu Implementation Committee, how we are going to use it and it's tools with UT's tools, we talked with the CEO about its faculty rating system, moving from stars to best fit system, 7 questions and scroll bar, we are looking at each specific tool that they are looking to implement
- iv. VPSA finalists will be coming to visit campus beginning next week, please do attend all of the open forums, ask tough questions, share any feedback with myself, with Natalie so we can get the best person for the job
- v. CTBACs are working at their college and school level to get feedback, they will work with DPAC as soon as the Regent's report is released
- vi. Andrew: I sit on a presidentially appointed task force on the honor code, our big topic is student involvement, as it turns out there is a ton of options from having our current system all the way to having a student-run model like UVA's, we are looking for student feedback, if you have any shoot me an email at Andrew.clark@utexas.edu
- b. Michael Redding, Graduate Student Assembly
 - i. Hi everyone, I cant use the same joke, I am the president elect for the graduate student assembly, I was unopposed so it isn't really that impressive
 - ii. We are conducting interviews for officer positions this week, the committee position applications are going out soon (as soon as I finish them)
 - iii. SAGE fast-track piece of legislation (Big 12 on the Hill) with Manny and Daniel Spikes Lobbying DC
 - iv. Legislation supporting fall break
 - v. Will be introducing a piece of legislation, basically the invest in texas constitution yall are looking at tonight
 - vi. Tuition assistance benefit, we would love to work with new reps on that, there are some problems with tuition for grad students as far as it not being covered by their benefits
 - vii. VPSA search is on, go to the open forums, if you don't give feedback, you cant complain
 - viii. The last thing is next week is the graduate and professional student appreciation week, GPAW, GSA 5k is that week, I know longhorn run is just after that, do it as a prep, in addition to, go to our event, tell grad students to come
 - ix. Thank you guys for all your work this year, it's the last assembly meeting, you've done a lot, congrats on behalf of GSA (unofficially) and good luck to everyone coming back
- VI. External Appointment Reports
 - a. Jesse Hernandez, University Unions Selection Committee
 - i. Contest for the fall is this spring, open now, closes April 30th, 15 winners are picked, pictures are printed, framed and posted on the wall, theme is burnt orange, you have a lot of leeway
- VII. Deputy Advisor Report
 - a. Melinda Sutton, Deputy to the Dean of Students – msutton@mail.utexas.edu
 - i. First off we are getting ready to provide research and information to your successors, if you have information about things we could have given you please let us know, we want to continue to improve the process



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- ii. Matt asked that I share that as you may know the Executive Alliance election is being held tomorrow and Thursday, results are posed to be presented at 6pm in the SAC Ballroom North
- iii. Thank you for all of your hard work, I enjoyed getting to know a lot of yall

VIII. Executive Reports

- a. Natalie Butler, Student Body President – natalie.e.butler@gmail.com
- 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
- e. Madison Gardner, External Financial Director – jmgardner22@gmail.com
 - i. Thanks for going out to the Neon run, had about 100 people, it was fun, cool prizes and swag, we are meeting about possibly having a run in riverside, something we wanted to address
 - ii. Longhorn Run is actually happening within the next three weeks, April 15th, please help us make the final push, longhornrun.com
 - iii. There is a UT prayer breakfast tomorrow morning at 7:30 in the SAC Ballroom North, faith from all journies, in combination with Rezweek, coffee and its just an hour
 - iv. Operation Open Arms – Donate old t-shirts on campus at any of the PTS guard stations, if you have any extra t-shirts please do that
- f. Ilse Quijano, Internal Financial Director – quij.ilse@gmail.com
 - i. Im sure you all are wondering where the exec board is, Natalie Ashley and Andrew are in DC, Sydney is out of town, Natalie mentioned the VPSA search
 - ii. Sydney said application deadlines were extended to April 6th until 11:59 pm
 - iii. Andrew wanted to thank IA for the Invest in Texas Constitution
 - iv. May 4th at 4pm is the last day to spend money, Special projects has 3,000 dollars, finance committee is bringing up legislation to appropriate some of that to new representative orientation
- g. Louis Armendariz, Administrative Director – louis.m.arm@gmail.com
 - i. Last time, cool
 - ii. On behalf of Ashley and myself we would like to invite you to the April 15th Student Leadership Celebration, if you still need that link email me or Ashley, look forward to seeing the new reps Sunday at 2:00 at the new representative orientation
 - iii. On behalf of the exec board we would like to thank you for sharing this chapter in your lives with us, we will still be around

IX. Committee Reports

- a. Academic Affairs – Chase Covington – charles.covington@bba10.mcombs.utexas.edu
- b. External Affairs – Bekah Thayer – bekah.thayer@gmail.com
- c. Financial Affairs – Joseph Lee – josephlee@utexas.edu
- d. Internal Affairs – Janette Martinez – janette.martinez12@gmail.com
- e. Legislative Affairs – Yaman Desai – yaman.desai@gmail.com
- f. Student Affairs – Laurel Pugliese – laurel@pugliesefamily.com

X. Executive Staff Reports

- a. Jordan Metoyer, Underrepresented Students Agency



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- i. Want to recognize Terran Bright, longhorn center of academic excellence, Dr. Gumpis, academic director of gateway scholars and Dr. Gu Chen, VP of longhorn center of academic excellence, they wanted to pass along how honored they are that SG is considered diversity in its applications
- ii. Cheyenne Hoffman, Rosa Gutierrez, Ira Gro, agency directors who helped us grow
- iii. I want to recognize representative Thompson and desai for taking the initiative to getting this legislation written

XI. Representative Reports

a. Matt Hicks

- i. Thank yall, best assembly I have dealt with, with the reform and the restructuring this year has gone smoothly, thanks for the work yall have done, we have addressed a lot of student issues, yall have done a lot so please give yourselves a round of applause
- ii. I feel like we should thank some others, our staff, Becky, Mindy, Veronica and Megan have done a huge service to all of us, they have done so much
- iii. And also our executive board have been the external view of SG and run the events and make things work, we wouldn't have SG without them
- iv. A quick couple of reminders, april 1st this Sunday will be new rep orientation, please come to that
- v. April 15th is the leadership celebration, make sure you and your guests get the invites

b. John Lawler

- i. UAP meeting Renaissance Artists passed around letter from students and other artists who are leaving due to drugs, vagrancy, market representation, drag rats/worms, they want our support, if you are returning to the assembly they want your support
- ii. Parking benefits dialogue will occur april 12th from 7-9pm here on campus, that's where we will be deciding the boundaries, where they go and where they go to
- iii. They brought up that the decision will be in the summer when students will not be there and that SG will want to push it back to the fall
- iv. Four new blocks of sidewalks in the West Campus area including lighting CANPAC

c. Hilal Peker

- i. International students are having trouble adapting to some of the issues in the US, there is an orientation but it is not enough, I am going to talk to the international office, if I can get your support and the International Office decide to work on it over the summer let me know if you have any ideas, especially for international students

XII. Unfinished Business

a. AB 5 – Invest in Texas Constitution

- i. Martinez: IA met late last night, we agreed to add this to the Internal Rules (not the constitution)
- ii. Desai: This is more consistent with our internal rules and documents, there are a lot of external appointments that SG appoints and we don't put those in our constitution, Invest in Texas will work with us and GSA and Senate to get a constitution together and hopefully SG will approve it
- iii. Committee Changes Approved
- iv. Desai: Move to approve by hand vote
- v. AB 5 passes



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- b. AR 36 – In Support of Creating a Fluoride Free Fountain at The University of Texas at Austin
- i. Pugliese: This went through SA, quite a few changes but I will let Desmond tell you all this
 - ii. Desmond: The inspiration for the legislation came from two concerned students who gave presentations on the health affects of water fluoridation on students with kidney disease, thyroid problems and diabetes. A few of us investigated this and discovered a wealth of scary information and wrote this bill. The first bill was weak and unfocused. The objective of this legislation is to provide water fountains on campus for people who are vulnerable to water fluoridation, we are only asking for five, I really hope there are not any issues with this, we also have Dr. Neil Carman here to answer questions
 - iii. Carlson: Do you know about how much this is going to cost?
 - iv. Fassio: It costs about 1000 dollars, 600 to work on the fountain for labor and then 400 for three filters that last four months, 400 years after that.
 - v. Carlson: So its 400 dollars for three filters that last a year
 - vi. Fassio: The goal of the legislation is to provide the fountains, it isn't guaranteeing that funds will be had, but we want five
 - vii. Carlson: Why not just one for the students who absolutely need it?
 - viii. Fassio: It just has to do with location, our campus is so big, we are trying to get at least one funded for the year by student government
 - ix. Desai: You are saying you would like to request special projects fund, but it doesn't do that?
 - x. Fassio: No its just telling you that we plan on requesting it
 - xi. Desai: I guess that is a question for the parliamentarian or the chair that there needs to be a resolved that says we would like to have it funded
 - xii. Hicks: The way I see it is it isn't saying that there is going to be the special projects funding, would like it to be a whereas
 - xiii. Pugliese: We talked about this a lot in committee, we don't want it to say that there will be funding, just a request
 - xiv. Lawler: This is really similar to the TSA legislation, which similarly requested funding outside of the legislation
 - xv. Desai: Where would the recurring 400 dollars come from, are we saying future SG monies will go towards that? Where will it come from?
 - xvi. Fassio: That is something that we haven't solidified yet, we hoped the administration will help out with it, but we don't have a solution, we have a year to look at it
 - xvii. Thompson: In the off chance that there is not future funding for these fountains, is there an uninstillation fee? Does it continue to work?
 - xviii. Roberts: I yield my time
 - xix. Seeing as I have both diabetes and thyroid problems, I think this is a good thing for students like me.
 - xx. Ragsdale: Was 5 an arbitrary number or was there logic behind that?
 - xxi. Schipper: It was kind of arbitrary but it would allow us to distribute it over a larger geographic area



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- xxii. Ragsdale: I still don't understand where this money is coming from, I understand that we are applying to use SG funds, but what if those aren't possible?
- xxiii. Lawler: And the good thing about this legislation is it allows us to continue to pursue it if we don't get the funding from SG
- xxiv. Ragsdale: I under
- xxv. Rosenthal: Amendment (attached)
- xxvi. Fassio: What was the reason for the amendment about protecting the students...
- xxvii. Rosenthal: It was to remove bias since we don't actually have the research to prove that it is harming people
- xxviii. Fassio: Would you consider adding to the end of that adding the people susceptible to dental fluorosis
- xxix. Amendment passes
- xxx. Rosenthal Amendment Passes
- xxxi. Desai: Amendment "to pursue the possibility of... being" to second to last be it further resolved
- xxxii. Carlson: Change 5 to 1 amendment, no second
- xxxiii. Carlson: The reason I moved for this is the unfunded mandate of 4000 plus 1600 recurring, if you have one we can pay for it and get rid of the cost burden, people can fill up at one spot, making it more tenable, there are other subsets of the population who can use things to help their health but we cant do that because of funding, and it make it much more realistic to get it accomplished
- xxxiv. Desai: Also talks about signage
- xxxv. Carlson: Move to amend to 2 fluoride free fountains
- xxxvi. Schipper: With this resolved calling for five, we aren't stipulating where the funds come from, there is community support, we can add a whereas calling for community support or a be it resolved, how about the word ideally five
- xxxvii. Carlson: I think two probably is a better compromise, if we want this to be accomplished and we have funds that aren't university funds, two is a good compromise, less of a cost burden, fill the water bottle
- xxxviii. Crystal: We want to keep five on the legislation to encourage as many possible, its just advocating for the possibility of, not the exact number, can be changed, ideally five is a good compromise
- xxxix. Rosenthal: I just asked students if we had limited funds if they would be okay with reduced numbers, two would be best, jester area and dean Keaton area
 - xl. Pugliese: I don't think we want a financial burden, its just trying to make a goal, we are only talking about one being funded here, we would love five, a goal that our research has been working towards, ideally or "want" to
 - xli. Desai: Have there been any studies about where students with these health problems get their water from?
 - xl.ii. Lawler: We don't have the answer to that question?
 - xl.iii. Rosenthal: Minimum of 2 amendment
 - xl.ii. Carlson objects: I am fine as long as we can get something in here about cost considerations
 - xl.ii. Lawler: One of the problems that I am having right now is that we keep basing everything



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- xlvi. Rosenthal: The minimum of two gives us an opportunity to have one that we fund with a special projects fund and the other from fundraising, community of university funds, leaves room for more if we find the funding, two is for two sides of campus
- xlvii. Amendment to amendment vote passes
- xlviii. Amendment Vote: Amendment passes “A minimum of two”
- xlix. Vote on AR 36: AR 36 passes
- c. AB 6 – Addition of the Assembly Board
 - i. Add Desmond Schipper as a sponsor
 - ii. Carlson: What we presented last week was bare bones, we met last night and flushed it out more, we think this is important because it solidifies the leadership of the assembly, we brought it up this now because we wanted to evaluate how the new system works, this creates the assembly board, which oversees absences, which makes sense rather than having a normal representative, its better to have some person in a leadership role looking over those sorts of things, allows the board to fill vacancies (work with the Student Government President who will express his or her opinion, we solicit the applications) and the rest of the bill is making sure we change things like the name of IA to Rules and Regulations, people are concerned about the time constraints on Committee Chairs, it really is as active as they want it to be, they can just have a short meeting
 - iii. Hicks: This is a change that I have wanted to see since I was elected by yall in the beginning, it will work better and more logistically in how things are done, we brought it up now because we didn’t want roles to change mid-year and now the new committee chairs know what they are getting themselves into, this is making sure we are running the way we are supposed to be running
 - iv. Desai: I know having a constitution change requires an election, do we know when that will happen?
 - v. Hicks: Its too late for anything to be put on tomorrow’s ballot, but whatever can be enforced immediately will be, as far as vacancies, those are usually mid-year issues so they wont see that take effect until them
 - vi. Desai: So this wont take effect until the reps are elected two-years from now since representatives serve the constitution they are sworn under?
 - vii. Hicks: We might have to direct that to the J-Court
 - viii. Carlson: If we have to wait a year for this that is fine, we can direct that to the J-Court
 - ix. Harris: We will have to look into that, I am not sure that it says that expressly, but if it does, we will have to follow it like that, next year’s assembly will follow the new structure
 - x. Fassio: I have a question about appointing vacancies, why did yall pick one month to have the council pick a person?
 - xi. Carlson: We didn’t change that, I just duplicated what was originally in the constitution
 - xii. AB 6 committee changes pass
 - xiii. Ragsdale: I expressed my opinions last night, I am kind of worried that this will create an unneeded hierarchy in the assembly, does that concern yall?
 - xiv. Hicks: A lot of the tasks that the Assembly Board deals with are already a part of the Chair or IA’s job, what we are doing is moving absences from one of the six



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committees to a body made up by six of the elected committee chairs, its just another committee with executives elected

- xv. Carlson: In any sort of organization you are going to have some sort of leadership, here in this body you had the assembly leadership an
 - xvi. Hicks: One of the concerns is that it would create stress for the committee chairs, but I don't think it would, if you want to have an assembly leadership position, this would be the job description.
 - xvii. Walker: So this would change it so that the President wont make the appointments?
 - xviii. Hicks: Just those that are within the assembly
 - xix. AB 6 passes 26-1
 - xx. Hicks: The new agenda that we are dealing with, I don't know if yall have noticed or like the change, added a committee report, changed agency to executive staff report, added external appointment reports, would like to make a motion to adopt these changes within the internal rules
 - xxi. Motion passes
 - d. AR 37 – Honoring Texas Veterans of Modern Wars
 - i. Depew: We are glad you decided to hear this today, we aren't asking SG for any money, will be privately funded, a lot of support of Administrators, Texas Legislators, we are trying to get students aware of the project and get the community behind it.
 - ii. AR 37 passes
- XIII. New Business
- a. AR 39 – In Support of The University of Texas and Its Stance in Fisher v. University of Texas at Austin
 - i. Metoyer: As a result of last week's announcement regarding the fisher case, the importance is clear, SG supports the Universities stance on the case which is here, we also support the Universities efforts on increasing recruitment and retention of underrepresented students, the university is going to be in the spotlight for that
 - ii. Covington: Why not wait and do this with the next assembly, seeing as this is coming up next year, wouldn't it be more pertinent in the fall?
 - iii. Desai: Students are wanting to do things this semester, it would help those students use this at those events, three weeks before they could pass it
 - iv. Thompson: We also want to reinforce it with the new assembly
 - v. Covington: Pass it twice?
 - vi. Desai: We want to pass it once
 - vii. Metoyer: This is something that has already been said, it has been in the works
 - viii. Ragsdale: I am trying to understand this, is this more for the organizations to have that are doing these events, if the university has already taken a stance on it?
 - ix. Thompson: I think it is important as a deliberative body to have a stance for students
 - x. Thayer: I just want to repeat chase's sentiments on next year's assembly
 - xi. Metoyer: MIC is holding a teach-in in April, will make an announcement to the next assembly about the teach-in and why this was passed
 - xii. Fast-track vote: Objected by Carlson
 - xiii. Covington: Move to skip debate and vote on this
 - xiv. Fast-track vote: AR 39 is fast-tracked



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- xv. Roll Call Vote, AR 39 Passes
- b. AR 40
 - i. Lee: This weekend we are having new representative orientation, we need money for supplies and refreshments
 - ii. Fast-tracked
 - iii. AR 40 Passed
 - iv. Hicks: We changed the constitution, so that in order to do that we need to have a referendum, move to have a special election for AB 6 and anything the assembly wants to add to it on May 1st
 - v. Desai: Would you like to change that to May 2nd and 3rd. to be consistent with normal elections?
 - vi. Amendment made to may 2nd and 3rd
 - vii. Motion passes
- XIV. Announcements
 - a. Hicks: Sunday at 2pm we have the new member orientation, come to pass on your advice, on April 15th we have the Leadership Celebration, thanks to Cameron and Wesley for their work
 - b. Martinez: This Thursday a Latino magazine are hosting the latino college choice from 7-9 in FAC 29, free food, 4 people discussing issues that affect latino voters, two students and two reps, I am one of the students. I want to thank yall for making this an interesting and a fun year in SG, thanks for the good memories, I want to give a huge shout out to the Internal Affairs committee, interesting people, Exec, LLAs, judicial court, have a good year
 - c. John Lawler: I want to echo Jeanette's Remarks, this is my third year in the SG assembly, Joseph is the only other one, we have come really far, we have done a lot, it was weird going to Liberal Arts council as my last day as Representative, thanks for putting up with my city announcements
 - d. Thayer: Rezweek in front of Gregory, 24 hour coffee and hot chocolate, shout out to external affairs, LLAs, encourage all of you who ran to step up and be chairs, write important legislation, I love all of yall, hope we remain friends
- XV. Second Roll Call
- XVI. Adjournment