



STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSEMBLY
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>

THE **108TH** SESSION
OF THE
STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSEMBLY

STUDENT GOVERNMENT GENERAL ASSEMBLY MEETING

Tuesday, March 24th, 2015

SPEAKER OF THE ASSEMBLY: BRAYDON JONES, UNIVERSITY-WIDE REPRESENTATIVE

CLERK OF THE ASSEMBLY: JORDAN DURRANI

- I. Call Meeting to Order
- II. First Roll Call
- III. Approval of the Minutes
- IV. Guests
- V. Open Forum
 - a. Edwin Qian- Not on my campus. New campus initiative. IFC president after OU, got a call from student saying she was raped during weekend, as leader sought it best to change campus climate on sexual violence. Not on my campus- provide resources to victims, create dialogue about it. Mack Brown tweeted us. All of you are leaders on campus, would appreciate if you do this, not on my campus. Spread the word. Selfie taking.
 - b. Mohammad Nabulsi- Here to speak in solidarity to 3 pieces of legislation- 31, 35, 36, efforts across campus across US to address race/sex issues against marginalized groups including indigenous people. Recognize this at SG, important that we recognize these efforts, so please vote in favor of them.
 - c. Reed- AR 35- everyone has flaws, but Jefferson Davis was senator and war hero. Did some good things for our country. Proposal is one side- look at the whole picture. Was not erected to increase racism, but to commemorate WWI and Civil War generals. Everyone has flaws.
- VI. Ex-Officio Member Reports
 - a. Graduate Student Assembly
 - b. Senate of College Councils
 - i. Zach- Faculty Appreciation Week, spring edition of Integrity UT week, integrity panel from 5-6 in this room tomorrow. Today at 7:30- integrity pass it on at PCL, in transition between presidents and financial directors, we look forward to appointing exec board.
 - c. Events and Entertainment
 - i. Happy Tuesday- this is my last update- if any of yall have ideas for space in Union with computers/phones, please let us know. Tonight have the cowboys



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sentential lecture with Daymond John. Friend Zone tomorrow at Texas Union, tips on making friends. Willy Wonka 9pm in union theater. Big Hero 6, 40 Acres Fest with carnival theme, 2 at tower, 7 for concert, ra ra riot. Cezar Chavez speech about his legacy. Songwriter submission on union website as well. Our president for next year, Diana Padilla. Sophomore math major, part of E&E and Mexican American Culture Committee.

- VII. Internal Appointments
- VIII. External Appointments
- IX. Advisor Report
 - a. Alex Kappus, *Deputy to the Dean of Students* – akappus@austin.utexas.edu
 - i. International conference. Thanks to everyone outgoing, you've made the campus a better place. Wishes that this meeting is productive. Alex wants to remind
- X. Executive Reports
 - a. Kornel Rady, *President* – korirady135@gmail.com
 - i. Awesome to work with everyone, have gotten a lot of things done, lots of tangible things done.
 - b. Taylor Strickland, *Vice President* – taylor.strickland@utexas.edu
 - c. Nathan Waters, *Communications Director*- watersnathan1@gmail.com
 - i. Thanks to everyone, exec staff for everyone being incredible, wouldn't have been able to do it without yall. 3-5 Speedway town hall.
 - d. Rachel Miller, *Internal Financial Director*- Rachel.miller@utexas.edu
 - i. This year has been awesome. If you have any desire, please apply to exec.
 - e. Kyle Mason, *External Financial Director*- kylemason1@utexas.edu
 - i. Student Govt has been an amazing experience, diverse group of people in here all over campus. True story, didn't know what Tejas was before this. Appreciate the experience for this organization.
 - f. Nosa Aimuyo, *Administrative Director*- nosaaimuyo@utexas.edu
 - i. April 12 12-4:30 pm, will be sending out invitation shortly. Thank all of you for this experience, lots of growth during freshman year to here. Experiences that I hoped to have, been here with Rachel/braydon since the beginning, SG is here to do good for students on campus, sets a good precedent for the future. Carry this in your hearts.
- XI. Director and Executive Staff Reports
 - a. Amber Magee- looking to have huge diversity kickoff taking place under new administration, kicking this off. Transition happens all the time. Good to work with y'all. 108th Assembly.
 - b. Ronnie- LLA- sad to see everyone go but happy to see everyone in, looking for location for retreat for this semester.
- XII. Judicial Report
- XIII. Unfinished Business



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- a. AR 31- In Support of Student-led Efforts to Raise Student Awareness and Help Stop the History of Oppressive Racism and Sexism from Repeating Itself at UT Austin
- i. Want a unanimous consensus to show everyone that we take a stance against these problems. This change is necessary and will have tangible impacts. Q/Banner- this summarizes the negatives of this university of 75 years, this university has taken lots of steps to better itself. I see this as an incentive to develop negative thoughts towards to UT which is giving them an education and a reason for scholarship. A: Perspective we take- there are not great things in this, but the classroom contextualizes these things to foster understanding and show that things like this are not okay. Pamphlet is structured to show that these things over time. Q/Banner- you say that, but from student's standpoint this is the past, negativity. A/Patel- if you look at the timeline, there are lots of student unity eg. Divestment from apartheid, I think we can also add points of contact for MEC/agencies that affect these issues. These things aren't recent issues, but rather gives a historical background. Q/Crane- what is the relevance on courses like Greek Mythology taking time away from course if not pertinent to course title? It's categorized as a Cultural diversity course for a reason. These issues are not history, they are status quo sentiments. Q/Barth- citations? Taken from centers here at UT, including African American studies, many of this has been put together by other historians. We as students need to get this together to tell a specific narrative. Q/Barth- is this UT specific or TX as whole? Specifically UT initiative. The proceses have to start somewhere. Q/Rindler- Lots of bad, not good. Not relevant to courses. Why? Q/Foster- have the groups that are being portrayed negatively been contacted about this? No, they haven't, but we also haven't produced a final pamphlet. Q/Foster- how is this uniting and not polarizing? This is about conversations that haven't been started, ever, or have been stifled strongly. Q/Mason- do you have full control over this if passed? All would have to be signed off by UT faculty, in the interest of university to be diplomatic about issues. Q/Clifford- how necessary is it to include names of groups since it may not be indicative of how they operate today? Q/Vaughn- how am I supposed to vote on this without knowing what it will include? Big picture- about the narrative, not the specifics or syntax. Move to amend all grammatical problems with resolution. Passes. Roll call motion fails so we go to debate.
1. Begins with Banner- my main concern is that it incentivizes people to hold negative views on the University. These are the problems, we need the solutions.
 2. Magee- I understand that they don't want negativity- students deal with this on a daily basis who are marginalized. UT has done good things, took till 2010 to rename Simkins. Lots of people realize. Fiji was not the first of this kind. Can't strike a part of history because you don't like this.



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3. Banner- Why can't good things be put in front of kids on the first day? They will be distraught and won't like UT.
 4. Cavazos- We should love our university, but they are still issues on this campus, and making the arg that this shouldn't be seen.
 5. Crane- I'm from the valley, I'm Mexican American. We are doing a disservice to the student body by rushing this out with all these errors. Should wait until next assembly.
 6. Taylor Strickland- this legislation is purely education based. Should not hide things that happen. This is in the news, but it's also history. That's going to be verified.
 7. Meredith Rotewein-I think a lot of other reps share belief that there are racial issues on this campus that need to be addressed. I know you have to meet with the Cultural Diversity Flag Committee soon, but I think there are a lot of issues that still need to be addressed with this pamphlet. I think it's not a good idea to pass this in its current state, and that if we are to pass this tonight, we need to have control over what is going to be in the pamphlet.
 8. Bryan Davis- LULAC- lots of groups have expressed interest in legislation like this. This is the story of the student body. Some things are bad. Hate crimes are not a good thing. Title IX office included in this legislation.
 9. Geison- Think what about the spirit of legislation is. Countless conversations about how SG hasn't done anything to respond to problems on campus. It's our job to include people in conversations, not exclude based on identifying characteristics. Whenever we're looking at
 10. Roll call vote for tabling passes.
- b. AR 33- In Support of Allowing the Student Regent to the University of Texas System Board of Regents to Have Voting Privileges
 - i. Not able to come in time to hear student voice at capitol. Passes by unanimous consent.
 - c. AR 35- In Support of Removing the Jefferson Davis Statue at UT
 - i. Hesitantly removed the title problem and drake and josh reference. Jeff Davis chosen as Confederacy president because of his dedication to the cause of slavery. Q/Barth- what would go in place? We can talbe and find out what the students think. Motion to add Santiago Rosales and Shannon Geison as sponsors passes. Move to amend for grammar. Vote by hand. Passes.
 - d. AR 36- In Support of Recognizing Indigenous Peoples' Day
 - i. Minor grammar changes. Jacob Barrios noted that lots of universities have recruitment initiatives for natives. Q/Rosales- put it on this. Motion to add



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grammar and citations. Q/Vaughn- is this either/or Columbus day or IPD? UT does not recognize Columbus Day. Passes by hand vote.

- e. AR 37- In Support of the Texas Dream Act
 - i. On that day, there was a bill filed for this to change residency status. Absent the dream act, it will affect some students status at this university if Dream Act is repealed. We can pass this as our final approval of solidarity. Passes by unanimous consent.
- XIV. New Business
- XV. Speaker of the Assembly Report- Braydon Jones– braydon.k.jones@gmail.com
 - a. Sunday March 29, dinner with Assembly Board talking about this. I'll send date/RSVP. Would love to grab coffees/dinners with yall. I've seen a lot of cool things during SG, and when I look back on this, there was no honor higher than to be speaker of the assembly. Would not be here for every single one of you. Transformed campus, the state, the nation. I spend 90% of my time talking about UT and the other 10% hoping that someone
- XVI. Assembly Committee Reports
 - a. Academic Affairs Committee, Chandler Foster- chanmfoster@gmail.com
 - b. External Affairs Committee, Jessica Sherman- jessicasherman@utexas.edu
 - c. Financial Affairs Committee, Shannon Geison- sgeison223@gmail.com
 - i. Special projects, Qs about application let me know.
 - d. Legislative Affairs Committee, Sergio Cavazos- sergiocavazos@utexas.edu
 - i. Thanks everyone.
 - e. Rules and Regulations Committee, Melysa Barth- melysabarth@utexas.edu
 - i. Shoutout to committee members,
 - f. Student Affairs Committee, Jamie Nalley- jamiennialley11@gmail.com
- XVII. Representative Reports
- XVIII. Announcements
- XIX. Second Roll Call
- XX. Recess