

Minutes

Agenda for April 15, 2008 Student Government Assembly Meeting

- I. Call Meeting to Order: Meeting commenced at 7:04 P.M.
- II. First Roll Call
- III. Motion to suspend the rules and move PSAC appointment to next on the agenda
 - A. Motion seconded
 - B. Motion approved
- IV. Lauren Williams and Anthony Franklyn, PSAC
 - A. Williams - Plan II and Dean Scholar's Sophomore
 1. Wants to integrate various aspects of student body together
 2. Started organization that helps with recruitment of students that will help and integrate our student body
 3. One of her most important accomplishments is to express strong interest in becoming a UT student
 4. Involved in many organizations as a responsible student and member
 - B. Franklyn – Second year history, middle eastern studies, and government major
 1. Feels it is important to expose ourselves to various people
 - C. Hickson – You have tried to stress the importance of university and students. How so? What other organizations are you involved in?
 1. Williams - Everyday, I stop and talk to student and ask them what they are involved in, how are you doing, etc.? I reach out to make everyone feel like a part of campus. We are all part of a quilt and we are the individual fibers.
 - a. Freshman year, heavily involved in BSA. Involved in freshman advisory planning committee for the talent show. Went to Hispanic Health Professions meetings.
 - D. Meyerson: How do you two differ when your applications are very similar?
 1. Franklyn – Even though our organizations overlap, they attract very different types of people. Even though it looks like that on paper, we come from very different backgrounds. The issues and people I am trying to address are different from Lauren's.
 2. Williams – The people I attract are not exactly found on the social scene. Even though our objectives are similar, it is because we see the same cause that needs to be addressed on campus. When our goals align, we are able to reach the goal.
 3. Rajagopalan – If you approve them, President Powers and his staff will choose whom from the 12 they want to serve on PSAC. Some members come from Senate and GSA.

- E. Bunch – Given your involvement on campus, how do you plan to reach out to parts of campus that you haven't put a dent on?
 - 1. Williams – I want to go to various organizations and reach out to them at their meetings. I will come from a collaborative UT perspective, and the only way to do that is to go to various organizations and listen. I will take this perspective to President Power's committee.
 - 2. Franklyn – We both have a regular group of friends that allows us to reach out to many parts of campus. If there is a community we can't reach out to, we will find a way. Lauren and I will work together to do this.
 - 3. Shulkin – Keshav has worked with Senate and GSA to pick most diverse.
- F. Brown – Could you expand on other ideas aside from reaching out to different parts of campus?
 - 1. Franklyn – When all is said and done, we are still UT students and bettering the school is our first priority. I want to make FIG's requirements for freshman. Freshman year, I found it difficult to reach out and a FIG would build a network for Freshman,
 - 2. Williams – There are extensions that the school provides to not only grow as a student and contribute to the student body, but also to grow into adults. I will help freshman get in touch with UT's resources.
- G. Motion to approve by acclamation
- H. Motion seconded
- I. Motion objected
- J. Allow for five minutes of discussion/debate

V. Debate

Williams – thanks everyone for time and consideration

A. Yay

- 1. Stanton – Lauren is a qualified candidate because she showed initiative to start organization in Plan II Honors, but she has also done things outside of UT to help represent everyone's voices. She showed initiative to represent and help all students by reaching out of Plan II community.

B. Nay

- 1. Bunch – representation is purely shown on paper. The remark that she is involved in HHPO was uneasy. I am uneasy with Lauren. I am huge on people that will represent their part of campus, but she does not know her part of campus.

C. Yay

- 1. Rodriguez – looking at her application and being involved in HHPO it is indicative of her role. She is not afraid to represent students because she started her own organization.

D. Nay

- 1. Hickson – she said that was involved in BSA, but she was not. She was unfamiliar with the talent show she said she was involved. I appreciate her initiative, but we need to find someone who can branch outside of the black community.

E. Yay

1. Stanton – She did not say she was a member of BSA this year. Her resume said last year. She was involved last year and she did help with the talent show.
 - a. She belongs to the greater community at large. She is not catering to the black community, but the entire community at large.
- VI. Motion to extend debate by 10 minutes
- A. Motion seconded
 - B. Motion approved
- VII. Debate Continued
- A. Nay
 1. Johnson – she is not quite as polished to be on a committee that will speak to the President. We need to find someone well spoken.
 - B. Yay
 1. Rodriguez yields time to Awad
 - a. She was stressed, but I know her personally, and she has a great work ethic and she will take job seriously and do it well. Their majors are very different and they represent different groups of people.
 - C. Nay
 1. Bunch – difference of major is indicative of them being in Liberal Arts. Years ago, PSAC appointment denied because of too many business students.
 - a. SG has done a good job of picking diverse people, but these two overlap too much. We should invest time and energy on different individuals that will represent a different voice.
 - D. Ma – Keshav, why did we put these two up?
 1. Rajagopalan - Based on five applications, they were the two strongest candidates and they interviewed well.
 - a. I sat down with GSA and Senate and picked diverse group. Twelve voices to president to represent voice of student body. President wants advice and discussion on university issues.
 - b. As Student Body President, it is my job to find out what concerns and students are. It is my job to find out what they are, and address them to the president.
 - c. We need to look at somebody who is willing to listen and learn, and that is what we saw in them.
 - E. Herndon – Will you talk about what research you did besides application and interview?
 1. Rajagopalan – I was not aware of misrepresentation in interview. Hickson addressed it, and I wasn't aware. I interviewed and looked at application, but I did not research more.
 - F. Stanton – She was a member of BSA last year, what it said on resume. She was not a member this year, because she was busy with her organization and with Democratic District Attorney's primary race.
 - G. Bunch – In the event that we don't approve them, can we send out the application out again?

1. Rajagopalan - Yes. Only five people applied, but we can reach out to different parts of campus to find more.
- VIII. Motion to approve Franklin by acclamation
- A. Motion seconded
 - B. Franklyn is approved
- IX. Debate Continued
- A. Hickson – I understand that starting an organization is difficult, but I does not understand how that can stop someone from being more involved on and off campus.
 1. I wanted to meet with her, and she could not meet with me today. If she can't meet with me, how is she going to meet with students and address them to the president?
 2. She is not qualified.
- X. Motion to extend debate by five minutes
- A. Motion seconded
 - B. Motion approved
- XI. Debate Continued
- A. Yay
 1. Stanton – You cannot judge how someone will be involved next year based on one day. She has found time to come and speak with use before she gets approved.
 2. Just because you choose one organization over another, does not mean that community will not be represented
 - B. Nay
 1. Trotter – I can see a lack of involvement on her resume. I want someone to be well rounded if they are being sent to PSAC. The resume does not show that. I am involved on campus and work and am able to be involved.
- XII. Motion to call the previous question
- A. Motion seconded
 - B. Motion carried
 - C. Roll call vote
 - D. Williams is not confirmed
- XIII. Approval of Minutes- April 8, 2008 – Minutes approved
- A. Jason Silverstein, not Justin Stein
- XIV. Guests
- A. Ryan Smith, Teach for America
 1. 2005 Mizzou Grad
 2. 2005 Teach for America core member
 3. UT is one of top 5 schools for Teach for America
 4. Teach for America wants to find our generations leaders
 5. Give training based on leadership skills and translate them into classroom
 6. Our generation needs to stand up and do something about our lacking education
 7. Application will going online in August at teachforamerica.com
 8. Taught 250 students and increased grade level by five years in two years

9. Ma – What can we do when we are not seniors with Teach for America?
 - a. You can recommend people who are graduating
 - b. We have campus reps that you can apply for
 - c. We have internships over the summer
10. Stanton – Are there any plans to expand into Dallas?
 - a. We are in Houston and Rio Grande Valley
 - b. Will be shocked and mad if they don't expand to Dallas next year
 - c. It is the biggest city they are not currently in
11. Jung – When you will be at Starbucks?
 - a. Email me and I will set it up
12. Awad – For students who change their mind on jobs at the last minute, can a student turn to Teach for America?
 - a. You do not have to want to Teach for America as freshman, but we help you do something that can have an impact on kids' lives. You need a bachelor's and a 2.5 GPA
13. Walker – Those that I have met in the program are great people
 - a. It can count as credit for an internship credit

XV. Open Forum

- A. Ryan Ellis – College Republicans
 1. I want to commend SG for their pressure on UTIMCO to divest from Sudan
 2. We are bringing RR Commissioner Michael Williams to campus.
 - a. Wednesday, April 16, 7pm, CBA 4.328
- B. Jennifer – Campus Environmental Center
 1. Trash to Treasure – main fundraising tool for CEC
 2. We need volunteers for donation drive
 - a. May 7 – 19 in LBJ parking lot; three hour shifts
 - b. Sale is in August
 - c. If you volunteer, you can get into sale early and free
 - d. If you can't volunteer, we appreciate your donations
 - e. Trashtotreasureut.com
- C. Steve Lane - Iron Spikes
 1. April 25, Iron Spikes Spring Classic.
 - a. Softball tournament that benefits Dell Children's Society
 2. April 26 – Texas country concert at Waterloo park
 - a. All proceeds go to Dell Children's Hospital
 - b. Tickets are \$32.50
- D. Natasha Levinsohn – White Rose Society
 1. Resolution passed by last administration called for divestment of UTIMCO from Sudan
 2. It also called for this administration to pass similar resolution
 3. I want to pass a similar resolution calling for stronger action or to engage with fund managers
 4. UTIMCO can influence fund managers
 5. Utdivest.org
- E. Chad Stanton – BSA President

1. Lawsuit against UT to take our race considerations in admissions process
 2. We want to sit in a room and hear what all students have to say
 3. Email chad.stanton@gmail.com to give him your ideas
- F. Basil Awad – Union Board and MSA
1. MSA and UIC – Tomorrow, Is God a Democrat or Republican? 6:30-8:30pm at UCC
 2. The Spread of Islam – Friday, April 18, 8pm, Union Eastwoods Room
 3. Thursday, April 17, CBA 4.328 at 8 p.m., founder of IMAM Central coming to talk

XVI. Ex-Officio Reports

- A. Graduate Student Assembly
- B. Senate of College Councils
 - a. Lauren Ratliff – VP
 - a. Research Week this week
 1. Tomorrow, Research Bizarre from 11am-2pm on West Mall
 - b. General Assembly meeting Thursday
 1. Will vote on caps on experiences – will require all students to have CAPS on experience
 2. Supporting domestic partner benefits for graduate students
 3. Lawlor – what is caps experience?
 - a. Can be something that involves both in class and out of class knowledge
- C. Student Events Center
- D. Student Services

XVII. Appointments

- A. Jacob Bintliff and Lucia Simonelli, Campus Environmental Center
 1. Bintliff is in Argentina
 2. These two are recommended by former CEC leaders and approved by SG
 3. Bintliff emphasizes work with recycling master plan
 - a. He put it all together
 4. Worked on grants for recycling
 5. She has been in CEC since freshman year
 6. Asked President Powers to start sustainability task force
 7. Wants to coordinate efforts with SG
 8. April 22nd, Earth Day – please stop by one of our twelve tables
 9. Waley – What initiatives do you have for next year?
 - a. We have a fundraiser in August
 - b. Beautiful-U-Day
 - c. Energize Texas Conference – helped sponsor it
 - d. Expanding recycling program
 - e. Energy audits
 10. Motion to approve both by acclamation
 11. Motion seconded

12. Both are approved
- B. Tanya Dillard, Women's Resource Center
 1. WRC is an agency of SG
 2. Appointment comes from WRC leadership and approved by SG
 3. Very Nervous
 4. Director of Vagina Monologues
 5. Works with VAV
 6. Wants to get involved in WRC because she is a human rights advocate
 7. Has worked hard to get those things pushed at UT
- C. Muneezeh Kabir, Women's Resource Center
 1. Previous director of WRC
 2. Well aware of networking and rules of WRC
 3. Many hours in Annie Elderbroom's office
 4. Producer of Vagina Monologues
 5. Potential internship with Anne Richards School for Young Women Leaders
- D. Motion to approve both by acclamation
- E. Motion seconded
- F. Both are approved
- G. Executive Director O'Rourke swears them in

XVIII. Deputy Adviser Report

- A. Melinda Sutton- msutton@mail.utexas.edu

XIX. Executive Reports

- A. President: Keshav Rajagopalan - keshavr@austin.utexas.edu
 1. Appointments
 - a. Exec interviewed applicants on Sunday and are almost finished
 - b. Next two meetings will be appointment heavy
 2. RIAA
 - a. Threatening to sue students that engage in illegal file sharing
 - b. Working with ITS to start publicity campaign to inform students at orientation and throughout the year about the consequences of illegal file sharing
 3. Volunteer and Service Learning Center
 - a. Met with director of VSLC to find ways to engage students in volunteer activities
 - b. Will create website over the summer to help students pair up on volunteer project
 - c. SG has two appointments to VSLC and we are looking for people who are interested in that
 4. Task Force on Enrollment
 - a. Provost commissioned task force about this
 - b. Will keep assembly updated
 - c. Looking at numbers about CAP program, top 10% rule, etc.
 5. Outreach Events

- a. Frankie and I spoke to school students
- b. Email me if you are interested in that
- 6. Texas Exes Council
 - a. Spoke to them and they are excited to support SG, especially with legislation
- 7. State Legislature
 - a. If you are interested in LRA, please contact me
 - b. Will look into top 10% rule
- 8. Longhorn Halloween/Orange Santa/Explore UT
 - a. Thinking about ways for SG to help out with this
 - b. Find a way for students to help students
- 9. Virginia Tech Vigil
 - a. Tomorrow, 12-1 at East Mall bus circle
 - b. There will be a VA Tech Alum speaking
 - c. Join Facebook event
- 10. Divestment
 - a. Will send out email tonight to write legislation about that
- 11. PSAC
 - a. Will send out an application for PSAC
 - b. I encourage all to reach out and find qualified students
- 12. Election Reform
 - a. Meeting last night and we have pointed out three key issues
 - b. Will form a commission over the summer
 - i. If you are interested, email me
- 13. Judicial Commission
 - a. We don't have a judicial branch in our system of government
 - b. Looking into improving that to hold us accountable as leaders
- 14. Softball game with VPSA Office
 - a. Practice the day before
- 15. Jung – When will PSAC application close?
 - a. First PSAC meeting is April 30th
 - b. President needs time to see who we are appointing
 - c. We may need to close it by Friday so that we can put them up next Tuesday

B. Vice President: Frankie Shulkin - fshulkin@austin.utexas.edu

- 1. Study Abroad Fair
 - a. We are looking for ways to collaborate our efforts
 - b. They want our help with revamping their fair
- 2. Committees
 - a. All have list serves
 - b. Meetings are mandatory
- 3. DHFS
 - a. Committee looking into plate waste study
 - b. Looking to get more people involved
- 4. Internal Rules
 - a. We are bringing it up tonight as new business
 - b. We need to approve it by next week
 - c. Tomorrow night at 8:45 pm in SG Office

5. Initiatives
 - a. Send me your initiatives
 6. Rep. Meetings – with Executive Board members
 - a. I want to meet with as many reps as possible
- C. Executive Director: Liam O'Rourke – liam.orourke@mail.utexas.edu
1. Lee H. Bagan Endowment
 - a. Going through final steps
 - b. Will be endowed this summer
 - c. SDD Director will chair that committee
 2. Internal Affairs Committee
 - a. Has been working on attendance
 - b. Meet me after the meeting to find a time to meet
 3. Attendance
 - a. Smaller, but more effective
 - b. Nine meetings is too many to miss
 - c. Three absences are enough
 - d. Excuse absence is notifying me before 7pm
 - e. George – If you have excused absences, do they count toward anything?
 - i. If you are excused, you have opportunity to make it up
 - ii. Unexcused absences cannot be made up
 - f. Jung – What is grad rep policy on absences?
 - i. Frankie will address in internal rules
 - ii. There is no limit
 - g. Nyberg – What is a SG activity?
 - i. If we have something that is not an assembly meeting, but is something that is required, Frankie will specify
 - ii. Most will take place during regular meeting time
 - h. Nyberg – nothing about excuse absences
 - i. Wanted to limit wording
 - ii. You can have three excused absences
 - i. Nyberg – excused absences are not explained
 - i. I will explain them, but important thing is concept
 - j. Hickson – When does this start?
 - i. We would start it when it is approved
 - ii. Will contact those that have missed absences so that you know where you stand
 - k. Mai-Tran – Do these include council and committee meetings?
 - i. They count as half
 - ii. Larger colleges need to find a system of attendance and stick with it
 - l. Mai-Tran – What about at-larges?
 - i. They are not held accountable
 - m. Nyberg – Who will hold them accountable?
 - i. Exec members will by being at council meetings
 - n. Oldham – Will SG activities count against stuff we already have planned?

- i. Academics first
 - ii. This is a commitment, so it is important
 - iii. Wanted to limit language
 - 4. Agency Directors
 - 5. Wellness Network
 - a. Ways to improve wellness culture on campus
 - b. Stanton - how does someone get involved in that?
 - i. Contact Justin Stein or myself
 - 6. Exec members at college council meetings
- D. Communications Director: Chelsea Fosse – chelseafosse@austin.utexas.edu
- 1. Newsletter
 - a. Apologize for lack of formatting in newsletter
 - b. If you have submissions for the newsletter, get them to me by Saturday
 - 2. Longhorns Talk Back
 - a. Wednesday, April 16 at 5pm in SSB 3.406
 - b. Friday, April 18 at 5pm in SSB 3.406
 - 3. Website
 - a. Everyone's name and contact info is on website, and pictures will be up by the end of the week
 - b. Brainstorm about what we want to add to the new website
 - 4. Summer Orientation
 - a. Whoever is interested can help with orientation
 - 5. Virginia Tech Vigil
 - a. Is anyone available at 11:30am tomorrow? I need help sending ribbons to East Mall
 - b. Oldham – can we come by earlier to get ribbons?
 - i. Yes. I will leave some with Becky and go get some right now
 - 6. College Council Meetings
 - a. I will be at Education and Natural Sciences Council
- E. Internal Financial Director: Priti Joshi – priti.y.joshi@gmail.com
- 1. Finance Committee – who wasn't able to make it to tonight's meeting, see me afterward to schedule one-on-one meetings with her.
 - 2. Need help at 10:30am getting sound equipment from Business School
 - 3. I will attend Business, Nursing and Social Work council meetings
- F. External Financial Director: Taylor Ellison – taylorkellison@gmail.com
- 1. Fundraising Committee - Meeting Thursday at 5pm in SG Office
 - a. Will email the committee on time
 - b. Email me about free time for individual meeting
 - 2. Great job on debating
 - a. Make sure to give attention and respect to speakers
 - 3. SG Meet 'n Greet – May 3rd
 - a. Bring friends to get them involved

4. Will attend Communications Council and Architecture Council meetings

G. Administrative Director: Minator Azemi – minatorazemi@mail.utexas.edu

1. AR1 – tabled
2. LPC – Meeting Sunday at 5 pm in SG Office
3. Spirits and Traditions Council
 - a. Spirit groups are not aware of appropriations and other SG resources
 - b. Looking to make STC more like IFC and Panhellenic
4. Will go to Engineering, Geosciences, and Social Work councils (for this semester)
5. Dinner at Ruby's BBQ after the meeting

XX. Committee Reports

- A. Rules
- B. Finance
- C. Internal Affairs
- D. Outreach
- E. Fundraising
- F. Legislative Policy

XXI. Unfinished Business

- A. AR1: In Support of Equal Access to Public Accommodations
 1. Tabled until next week

XXII. New Business

- A. AB1: Internal Rules
 1. Wednesday 8:45pm, Internal Rules meeting in SG Office

XXIII. Agency Director Reports

- A. FLO – The old officers are out of office
- B. First officer meeting tomorrow
- C. First FLO meeting is Thursday night at 6pm in Glenn Maloney
- D. I want to add leadership to FLO experience

XXIV. Representative Reports

- A. Herndon – working to get coffee vending machine in architecture school
 1. Talking with vending director in PTS
 2. Will fill out request for proposal
 3. If you want to change anything about vending, contact me
- B. Bunch – set up a meeting to meet with Directors of Centers on campus
 1. Friday, 2pm, SG Office
- C. Stanton
 1. Working to get financial advising class/program
 2. Email times if you want to help
- D. Hickson – Co-chair of Barbara Jordan Statue Committee
 1. Send me an email if you want to get involved with this committee

- E. Shwarts – Nursing school is by Frank Erwin Center
 - 1. Not convenient for nursing students
 - 2. If you can think of food options, besides hospital, please help me
 - 3. Come by nursing school
- F. Johnson – last week at UBC meeting, SAC met there
 - 1. Business school is withdrawing from ITS and will find a private printing vendor

XXV. Announcements

- A. Campus Fusion – established exec board and decided on events
 - 1. If anyone wants to help out, please let Nathan or Sabrina know
 - 2. 3 on 3 basketball tournament October 13-17
- B. Beta powderpuff football game – philanthropy for Dell Children's Hospital
 - 1. Betabowl.org
- C. Alisha Jones is the new BSA President
 - 1. BSA Freshman Action Team will host pool party April 25
- D. LAC is hosting showcase of English Department 11am-2pm on Monday, April 21 in courtyard between Parlin and Calhoun
 - 1. Wednesday – presidential election panel discussion 7pm in WEL 2.224
- E. Internal affairs meet after the meeting
- F. Wants to change WRC to change name to Agency because people thought it was a place
- G. UBC will host first Green Means Go 5K
 - 1. Sunday, April 27th
 - 2. Texasbusinesscouncil.com
- H. LPC meet after meeting to schedule one-on-one meetings

XXVI. Second Roll Call

XXVII. Adjournment: Meeting adjourned at 9:17pm