

# Minutes

## Agenda for November 11, 2008 Student Government Assembly Meeting

- I. Call Meeting to Order – Meeting commenced at 7:02pm
- II. First Roll Call
- III. Approval of Minutes- November 4, 2008
- IV. Guests
  - A. Legal Services for Students
    1. We are free for students
    2. We do a variety of legal work for students
    3. We cannot handle any disputes students will have with University, including UTPD
    4. If there is more than one student, we can't get involved
    5. We can't help doing anything with business, immigration, or tax law
    6. RRAA has been one of the top three things we have seen students being charged with this past year
    7. It wasn't so much illegal downloading, it was file-sharing
    8. The minimum settlement is \$3,000
    9. Another big issue is a security deposit
    10. Take pictures before and after you move in
    11. Another important issue is DWI's
    12. Most students that get DWI's aren't even over the legal limit
    13. If anyone has had ANYTHING to drink, don't get behind the wheel of a car
    14. Shulkin: Sometimes we don't know whether to go through the legal process or not. What is your opinion on that? Should we settle, or go through the process?
      - a. Every situation is different
      - b. Depends on facts and severity of conviction
    15. Trotter: If you can't help, do you put people in touch with attorneys?
      - a. Absolutely. We have specific attorneys that consult for free.
    16. George: Do you go with students on court dates?
      - a. On a class C misdemeanor, generally not.
      - b. We can sue and defend students in court
    17. Waley: Why don't you sue the University?
      - a. It is a conflict of interest
      - b. Office of Ombudsperson does that
    18. We are on the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor of the SSB
- V. Open Forum
  - A. Longhorn Philanthropy Council
    1. We promote philanthropic events on campus
    2. We are doing a food drive for capital area food bank because they have run out of all of their resources due to Hurricane Ike
    3. This is a student org wide competition to see who can raise the most drive
    4. This will last until November 20
    5. George: Can you bring money?
      - a. We haven't come across that, but if you are willing to do that, we can talk to capitol area good bank

- B. College of Communication
  - 1. We put together a short survey and hope to get everyone to participate in
  - 2. It has to do with using technology in meetings
  - 3. At the end there are give \$50 dollar amazon.com gift certificates that you can sign up to be in a draw for
  - 4. If you didn't get the email, you can go to the link on the page
  - 5. If you know anyone interested in taking the survey, please forward it to him
- C. Roosevelt Institution
  - 1. It is a student run think tank that operates at all levels of the university
  - 2. We encourage people to write policy
  - 3. We are currently looking for policy directors
  - 4. This is a non partisan organization
  - 5. Utroosevelt.org
- D. QSA
  - 1. A few statements on behalf of PEFSA and QSA
  - 2. Please educate yourself about Domestic Partnership Benefits (DPB)
  - 3. UT is not competitive with our peer institutions that offer DPB's
  - 4. Please pass this resolution
- E. UT Libraries
  - 1. We are running a survey that can be accessed by the libraries homepage
  - 2. We want to make only one search box, like google
  - 3. We want to know what library resources you want to see
  - 4. It takes 5 to 10 minutes at most
  - 5. Also, we have a new service – text message a librarian
  - 6. We are staffing a text message service that is open until midnight M-F
- F. Black Student Alliance
  - 1. I'm going to be looking into things we can do for our friends up in Waco for students being harassed at Baylor since Barack Obama won the election

VI. Ex-Officio Reports

- A. Graduate Student Assembly
- B. Senate of College Councils – Lauren Ratliff, Vice President
  - a. Last Thursday, we introduced SR503 to reduce construction noise during final exams
    - a. This asks provost to work with colleges to reduce these noises
  - b. Also, we are holding an open forum on CIS and registration next Thursday, November 20 at 7pm in the Glenn Maloney room
  - c. We are looking forward to our broomball match with y'all
- C. Student Events Center
- D. Student Services

VII. Appointments

VIII. Deputy Adviser Report

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

IX. Executive Reports

- A. President: Keshav Rajagopalan - keshavr@austin.utexas.edu
  - 1. Textbooks
    - a. I've been meeting with college deans and academic deans to figure out how to take next steps
    - b. Co-op is going to begin giving UT their textbook fees

- i. You can take the list and go shop elsewhere
    - c. Also, we want to begin talking with faculty to submit book lists earlier
    - d. A lot of faculty don't realize that books are worth hundreds of dollars
  - 2. PSAC
    - a. We are going to be having an open on Nov 24 from 5-7pm in the Gregory games room
    - b. These items will be brought forward to President Powers
  - 3. Fan Behavior
    - a. I did not have a good experience in Lubbock
    - b. If you see fellow Longhorns engaging in poor behavior, tell them to knock it off
    - c. I am going to put together a piece for the Texan before the A&M game
  - 4. SG Website
    - a. Office of Public Affairs have put together a wire frame for our website
    - b. We want to have it launched before January
    - c. I will send it over the list serve
  - 5. PTS
    - a. Yesterday I met with PTS
    - b. Nursing school pedestrian issues were brought to my attention
    - c. They are going to be patrolling that area
    - d. If you can think of any other areas that need patrolling, let me know
  - 6. Special Election – November 12 and 13
    - a. Please log on and vote in the affirmative
    - b. Ask your friends to vote
  - 7. Legislative Update
    - a. Legislative pre-filing opened yesterday
    - b. A number of higher education bills were pre-filed
  - 8. Orange Santa
    - a. Every Christmas Day, Officer George outside of the President's office goes out on Christmas day to the Brackenridge Tract to buy kid's gifts
    - b. I want to organize a drive, probably for the last meeting
    - c. All of these kids are sons and daughters of UT students
- B. Vice President: Frankie Shulkin - fshulkin@austin.utexas.edu
  - 1. Mid-Year Report - Updates due Friday
    - a. Half an absence for not turning anything in
    - b. Include: What you've worked on, relationships with your constituents, and goals for next semester
  - 2. Yearbook - Please encourage your organizations to buy a page, get pictures taken
    - a. College Reps - Encourage your council leaders to promote the Cactus to the councils
  - 3. Campus Lighting Walk - Monday, meet in Student Government Office, 9:00 pm
  - 4. Future - Start involving your constituents to ensure representation for further years
  - 5. Friday, BoR Student Regent and THECB Student Seat apps are due
- C. Executive Director: Liam O'Rourke – liam.orourke@mail.utexas.edu
  - 1. Agency Mid-Year Reports are due by November 15 by noon
    - a. If you don't turn it in, it is a full absence
    - b. One of my LLA's put together a template
  - 2. Risk Management Training on November 17 at 8 PM in the SG Office (absence make-up opportunity)
  - 3. Make-up opportunities
    - a. Any SG event is a makeup opportunity
  - 4. Agency of the Month
    - a. QSA

- D. Communications Director: Chelsea Fosse – [chelseafosse@austin.utexas.edu](mailto:chelseafosse@austin.utexas.edu)
  - 1. Ally Training – thanks for coming last night!
    - a. We will put on another one in the Spring
  - 2. SG Bring-a-Buddy Meeting: Next Tuesday, November 18<sup>th</sup>
  - 3. SG Election Forum on Thursday, November 20<sup>th</sup> – tell everyone you know!
    - a. Last one of the semester!
  - 4. Athletics Rally Committee
    - a. If you're interested in joining as a representative of your organization, please email me at [chelseafosse@austin.utexas.edu](mailto:chelseafosse@austin.utexas.edu)
    - b. Any LLAs interested in joining Priti and I on the committee for the rest of this year? Meetings are usually biweekly on Tuesdays at 5:15pm and you get free dinner!
  - 5. MOCA (Outreach Committee and Communications Agencies)
    - a. MOCAn Star: Katie Foehrkolb
    - b. Honorary MOCAn: Taylor Ellison – way to Hook the Vote!
    - c. Next Meeting is Wednesday, November 19<sup>th</sup> at 7pm in SG Office
  
- E. Internal Financial Director: Priti Joshi – [priti.y.joshi@gmail.com](mailto:priti.y.joshi@gmail.com)
  - 1. CGI U
    - a. Application is due December 12
    - b. SG and VSLC are hosting a workshop to help you with your application
      - i. Nov 19, 4pm in Glenn Maloney room
  - 2. Special Elections – tabling
    - a. We are tabling tomorrow and Thursday
  - 3. No finance committee meeting this week, but email me your rep reports
  
- F. External Financial Director: Taylor Ellison – [taylorkellison@gmail.com](mailto:taylorkellison@gmail.com)
  - 1. Hook the Vote recap: thank you to everyone for all your help!!
  - 2. Texans Explore Longhorn Leadership- this Friday from 10am-4pm!!
    - a. If you want to help, please tell Sarah Watson or myself
  - 3. Camp Fair
    - a. Scheduled for February 9
    - b. If you have a camp that you want to be in attendance, let us know and we will invite them
  - 4. Have a great week!
  
- G. Administrative Director: Minator Azemi – [mazemi@austin.utexas.edu](mailto:mazemi@austin.utexas.edu)
  - 1. Senate Broomball
  - 2. STC
  - 3. SG Thanksgiving
  - 4. Meal to Seal the Deal – Posse East following the meeting

X. Agency Director Reports

- A. LLA
  - 1. Thank you for submitting work orders
  - 2. You now have an LLA guide
- B. FLO
  - 1. If you are a mentor and don't know who your mentee is, please let us know
  - 2. Next Thursday the 20<sup>th</sup> is our annual Flanksgiving dinner in the Rec Sports Game room
    - a. There will be a mentore/mentee dessert contest
  - 3. If you want a t-shirt, please let me know
  - 4. We are working on the FLOject for spring '09
    - a. We are voting this Thursday on the final idea
- C. Historical Research

1. I have been working on the MOCA facebook group
  2. If you are not in it, please join
- D. Longhorn Student EMS
1. We are looking into "Operation Sandy Claus" in Galveston
    - a. EMS and firefighters are in need of having a good Christmas
  2. We are also looking into creating a program on how to use AED's
- E. Student Forum
1. SG Election Forum on Thursday, November 20<sup>th</sup> – tell everyone you know!
    - a. Thanks to all who are going to tell their councils
- F. GLC
1. We have raised \$12,000 so far
  2. If you are part of a student global initiative, please talk to us
    - a. We want to help you publicize
    - b. We will reach about 3,500 students through our list serve
  3. We are working with two orgs in LBJ school
    - a. There will be a forum about Barack Obama's issues with nuclear powers in the nation
      - i. Sam Nunn will be speaking
    - b. We are working with RGK Center
      - i. We are bringing Matt Flaherty to speak
      - ii. Idea is to give small loans to the poorest of the poor
      - iii. It allows anyone with money to give money to a microfinanced organization
      - iv. Nov 24 from 5:30-7pm in the Santa Rita room in Union
- G. International Opportunities
1. I met with the study abroad office program coordinators for ideas
  2. There is a Study Abroad Alumni Promoters group that meets on Friday in the office on 24<sup>th</sup> street
- H. Membership Coordination
1. We are having bring-a-buddy meeting
  2. There is a prize for the person that brings the most friends
  3. Election forum is important
- I. Student Athlete Affairs
1. Nov 25 is the Hex Rally on the Main Mall at 8pm
- J. Women's Resource
1. Vagina Monologues open casting calls
    - a. Applications are due on the 12<sup>th</sup>
    - b. Auditions will be next week
    - c. Applications are in the SG office and outside the GSC
  2. Toiletry Drive for Babies As soon as we find boxes, you can drop them in there
- K. Public Relations
1. TELL needs volunteers this Friday!!!!
    - a. Especially at 9pm!
- L. CEC
1. Waller Creek Clean up will meet at San Jac and 21<sup>st</sup> on Saturday
  2. We are working with Longhorn Releaf to plant trees on Saturday at 9am
  3. November is energy challenge month
    - a. Cut down use to win prize for residence hall
- M. City Relations
1. City Internship Program
    - a. We sent a proposal, but we haven't heard back yet
  2. Rail

- a. We have been sending various letters to gain support for it
- N. SSD
  - 1. I organized a meeting with Liberal Arts dean to discuss issues in that college
    - a. 7 years of bad relations have been resolved
      - i. They will now respect our services
  - 2. We are having a meeting on Friday
  - 3. ADA coordinator on campus wanted me to announce that there will be two ADA forums
    - a. Tomorrow at 4pm
    - b. Friday from 12-1pm
- O. QSA
  - 1. World AIDS Day
    - a. Free HIV testing for that day

XI. Committee Reports

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

XII. Unfinished Business

- A. AR 4 – In Support of Reforming Textbook Costs
  - 1. New part we added is on the back page includes federal support
  - 2. There are a lot of things going on with textbooks right now, but this is an initial step
  - 3. We want to take each issue separately
  - 4. Stanton: Are there steps being taken to pass this in Faculty Council as well?
    - a. Yes. We want to gain some faculty support before we do that as well
    - b. That is the ultimate goal
  - 5. Motion to approve by acclamation
  - 6. Motion denied
  - 7. Motion to call to question
  - 8. Roll Call vote
  - 9. AR 4 Passes
- B. AR 5 – In Support of Domestic Partner Benefits
  - 1. This is important to real people
  - 2. They want to be able to raise their families just like all families
  - 3. This can send a message that the student body doesn't want this to interfere with their quality of education
  - 4. Stanton: Will this be distributed to other schools outside of UT System
    - a. Yes, it will be.
  - 5. Trotter: Can you point out that it does not conflict with Prop 2?
  - 6. In Texas' insurance code, it is expressed that it is a legislative change that needs to take place
  - 7. Maybe UT can be the first to contest it
  - 8. This will strengthen hands of university and advocacy groups to the legislature
  - 9. Shwarts: What are soft benefits?
    - a. Things like sick days
    - b. Nothing to do with health benefits
  - 10. Motion to previous question

11. Motion seconded
12. Motion Approved
13. Voting
14. AR5 Passes

XIII. New Business

XIV. Representative Reports

A. Stanton

1. Everyone that worked with me on diversity resolution, please send to me the research that LLAs put together for you

B. Waley

1. I met with Dr. Brian Roberts about improving UT Website
2. Also, we spoke with them about creating an internship about students working on web design

C. Westerman

1. I went to the GLBTQ Ally training last night, and I learned a lot
  - a. I think it important that everyone does it
  - b. They make up a big part of our constituency

D. Shwartz

1. Last week, UTNSA met
2. I gave out muffins and donuts again for suggestions
3. I spoke to Student Affairs office and they said that there isn't a good walkway by the nursing school and Keshav took care of that
4. We had over 100 students come to our meeting
5. I have been emailing people every week after SG meetings and have gotten a lot of feedback

E. Stein

1. Plate Waste focus group
  - a. They have had trouble with involvement
  - b. Meeting is tomorrow from 5-6pm

F. Stanton

1. Baylor has a form letter so we should sign it
  - a. Let me know if you're interested in that

G. Rodriguez

1. I have been speaking with LRA directors to organize a summit of sorts to bring students together to discuss issues coming up in the legislature in the Spring
2. If you want to help, let me know

H. Owens

1. I am introducing someone interested in running for SG Geosciences rep next year

I. Herman

1. Registration committee met last week with Pres and VP of Senate of College Councils
  - a. Forum is next Thursday
  - b. Registrar will be there
  - c. If you have concerns with registration, please tell me right now
  - d. Suggestions given

J. Westerman

1. KIPP seminar is this Saturday
  - a. It is about sexual health
  - b. If you want to help with this, let me know

XV. College Council Reports

A. Engineering

1. Yesterday we have an SEC meeting

- a. We are starting a new program "SEC grants"
    - b. \$1000 to winning society based on your video
  - 2. Renovations to office are finished
    - a. We have an office again
- B. Communication
  - 1. Comm council spoke about summer enrollment
    - a. We had over 1000 responses
  - 2. Thursday at 8pm in Jester Auditorium is COMM Get your Act On
    - a. MC's are great
- C. Business
  - 1. 5K Green Means Go
    - a. Nov 16
    - b. Registration is going on right now
    - c. You can find it on McCombs website
    - d. \$12 per person

XVI. Announcements

- A. Realize McCombs is Saturday morning and I can't do it
  - 1. From 8am to 9:30am
- B. Crazy Science Extravaganza
  - 1. 200-300 3<sup>rd</sup> – 5<sup>th</sup> grades
  - 2. Tuesday from 9am-1pm
  - 3. At Texas Hillel
- C. Texas Revue is having a talent show info session
  - 1. Tomorrow at 6pm in UTC 3.112
- D. Delta Sigma Pi is hosting an event Around the Table in 60 Minutes
  - 1. Round table discussion about global issues
  - 2. Digital Camera is prize
- E. Thursday is FLO Sack Lunch extravaganza
  - 1. From 11am-2pm
  - 2. Gregory Plaza and RLM
- F. Pancake Night at Tejas House next Thursday as a fundraiser for Dance Marathon
- G. This Friday is Texas Cowboys Harvest Moon
  - 1. 6pm at Waterloo Park
  - 2. Buy tickets from any Texas Cowboy
- H. Next week, Sigma Lambda Beta is having Founder's Week
  - 1. We are having three events
  - 2. Breast cancer event at Jester Concourse on Wednesday
  - 3. Thursday, we are having CPR awareness from 10am-2pm on West Mall
  - 4. Friday, Drunk Driving event on Gregory Plaza
- I. Pick up flyers from me for SG election forum

XVII. Second Roll Call

XVIII. Adjournment

- A. Motion to adjourn
- B. Motion seconded
- C. Motion approved
- D. Meeting adjourned at 8:45pm