

Minutes for February 17, 2009 Student Government Assembly Meeting

- I. Call Meeting to Order – Meeting commenced at 7:04pm
- II. First Roll Call
- III. Approval of Minutes- February 10, 2009
- IV. Guests
 - A. Drs. Raymond Schiflett and LaToya Hill, Legends of China Trip
 - 1. Dr. Hill and I went on this trip last year
 - 2. This was an educational mission
 - 3. We have time to promote it this year
 - 4. This is a great opportunity
 - 5. Prices are lower this year
 - 6. This is a chance to interact with your counterparts the University of Beijing
 - 7. A lot of American universities have students on this trip
 - 8. There are three options
 - 9. You need to add \$500-600 more for trips to LA airport and for a trip to Houston to get a visa
 - 10. Trip runs from \$1500-\$3500
 - 11. This trip is largely supported by the Chinese gov't
 - 12. We are marking it to SG because we want to take student leaders this year
 - 13. We will have a registration deadline for UT students by March 2nd
 - 14. You need to fill out a peace ambassador application first
 - 15. Once you get approved by DoS, then you can follow with applying to Legends of China with a signature from UT Austin
 - 16. You can bring friends and family with you
 - 17. I will leave flyers on the back table
 - 18. Yue – is the trip date for trip C on the 13th?
 - a. The dates are within 48 hrs of each other
- V. Open Forum
 - A. UT Libraries
 - 1. We will be having a science or math study break at the Life Sciences library
 - a. They will be looking at the TV show "Numbers"
 - 2. We had a laptop loaning projects last semester
 - a. A lot of laptops weren't returned
 - b. We are looking to get recycled laptops from different places on campus
 - c. Are there a lot of students you know that use the laptop check out from the libraries?
 - i. We do see that there is a demand
 - ii. You can check out a library from five different laptops overnight
 - d. Students who don't return the laptop get fined
 - 3. McMillin – one thing you should bring up is that you can rent them if your laptop dies
 - 4. Kaur – I don't like to take my laptop to school everyday so I borrow them
 - 5. Fried – The CMA laptops are great because they have certain software
 - 6. We are running al ibrary video contest for undergrads

- a. Less than five minutes about one of five subjects
- b. Find info online

B. White Rose Society

- 1. I want to invite you all to a Legislative social on Monday from 5-7pm at the Capitol
 - a. A lot of offices have confirmed

C. Global Business Brigades

- 1. We help start micro businesses in Panama and Central America
- 2. We are having a fundraiser this Saturday at Clark Courts
 - a. 3 on 3 Tournament
 - b. \$8/person
 - c. 12pm-4pm

D. Policy Director

- 1. PTS is planning on changing its Nighthorn permit that will allow access to surface lots
- 2. There has been a proposal that the Faculty Council adopt a resolution for bicycles on campus
- 3. PTS is looking at the possibility of closing 24th from University to Speedway

VI. Ex-Officio Reports

- A. Graduate Student Assembly
- B. Senate of College Councils
- 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. Legislative Update
 - a. The legislature on Jan 30 decided that they wanted to cut our budget this biennium by 2.5%
 - b. UT System will cover most of it
- 2. Stimulus bill was signed
 - a. Pell Grants increased
 - b. Works Study program increased
 - c. Higher Ed Tax Cut increased also
 - d. This is, however, only a two year bill
- 3. Senator Ellis
 - a. Tomorrow from 5-6pm in FAC 21 wants to have a discussion with African American students that were in the top 10% of their high school class
 - b. Please help spread the word
- 4. CGI U
 - a. Thank you, Priti for putting this on!
 - b. We got President Clinton a pair of SG boots
 - c. This Saturday we are doing an emergency project day to finish the rest of our projects
 - i. From 11am-2pm
- 5. Higher Ed Committees
 - a. Senate Chair is Senator Zaffirini

- b. House Chair is Dan Branch
 - c. A number of bills have been referred to these committees
 - d. Financial Aid summit will take place on the Feb 24th
 - e. Please come out to advocate for funding and financial aid
 - f. If you want to come down the Capitol with me, let me know
 - 6. Textbook Initiative
 - a. We gave President Powers a debriefing today at PSAC
 - b. 1000 students are in the pilot program right now
 - c. We are working on getting a centralized book list for the University
 - d. When you register this Spring, you will have a book list
 - e. We are also informing faculty about students' issues
 - f. Faculty never discuss price when choosing books
 - 7. UT SAC
 - a. Made recommendations to System
 - 8. City Relations
 - a. We had a Mayor's Council meeting a few weeks ago, including PACE issue
 - i. It is picking up momentum
 - ii. This will limit the number of public assembly permits students can obtain per year
 - b. Guest: What is the current status lawsuit dealing with this?
 - i. It is not a lawsuit
 - ii. We are working on controlling this proposed amendment to the fire code
 - 9. Commencement
 - a. I sent out an email to see who we would like to come speak at 2010 commencement
 - 10. Campus Printing
 - a. A lot of reps talked about this
 - b. I have been having a lot of meetings
 - c. I have hit some roadblocks, and have had some good conversations
 - d. We are trying to look at this from College to College
- B. Vice President: Frankie Shulkin - fshulkin@austin.utexas.edu
- 1. I serve on TSM Board as the SG appointee
 - a. DT Editor and three sports for TSM board are up for election
 - 2. SSBC has started meeting this semester
 - a. We have a watchful eye on everything
- c. Executive Director: Liam O'Rourke – liam.orourke@mail.utexas.edu
- 1. Lee Bagan Endowment
 - a. Application process ends this week
 - b. The Board of Directors will choose the recipient and we will hold an end of the year event
 - 2. Agency Director of the Month!
 - a. This agency has been flooding my email box
 - b. They are holding their event in the next few weeks
 - 3. WRA Report
 - a. I have been flooding everyone's email boxes
 - b. Vagina Monologues happens in a 10 days
 - c. It will be at RecSports
 - d. Fri and Sat shows will be at 8pm, and Sun it will be at 2pm
 - e. Ticket will be \$10
 - f. All of the money we make will be given back to the University community
- D. Communications Director: Chelsea Fosse – chelseafosse@austin.utexas.edu
- 1. Center for Students in Recovery – Fun Fun Sober Run on April 18
 - a. Who will be interested in participating for this?
 - 2. Election Publicity

- a. Keep an eye out for election publicity
 - b. Let me know if you have any new ideas for publicity
- 3. SG Materials
 - a. Does anyone know of any missing materials?
 - b. Please bring them by
- 4. MOCA tomorrow at 7pm in the SG Office
- 5. Jester Office
 - a. We have received Frankie's permission to require that reps contribute one hours a week, or be charged with absences

E. Internal Financial Director: Priti Joshi – priti.y.joshi@gmail.com

- 1. CGI U - Thank you!!!
 - a. Thank you for Keshav and crew for helping me put this on
 - b. Thank you to all the volunteers and attendees
- 2. Finance Committee - Thank you!!!

F. External Financial Director: Taylor Ellison – taylorkellison@gmail.com

- 1. Thank you Michelle Sereno and Sarah Stroube for a wonderful Camp Fair! Many thanks to all Camp Fair volunteers for your help with the event!
- 2. Shuttle Bus Committee Update
 - a. Who lives in North Campus Hyde Park area?
 - i. North Campus has the Night Owl that is similar to the West Campus E-Bus
 - ii. I will bring promo items for that next week
- 3. Boot Scholarship Application on the Way
 - a. Application will be out next week, and we need to publicize it and give a lot of the money away to qualified students
- 4. Students Hooked on Texas Week-mark your calendars!
 - a. We will be teaming up with VSLC and college councils
 - b. April 14th – 17th
- 5. **Way to go Priti on a very successful CGI U weekend!**

G. Administrative Director: Minator Azemi – mazemi@austin.utexas.edu

- 1. Senate Broomball – March 8; 9pm
- 2. Meal to Seal the Deal – Austin's Pizza following the meeting

X. Agency Director Reports

A. SSD

- 1. Lee Bagan Endowment committee info will be out in a few weeks
- 2. This semester we are pushing for more publicity about disabled students issues
- 3. We are holding four forums this semester
 - a. Next week will be about students with psychological disabilities
 - i. Monday 2-3pm in UTC 3.120
 - ii. UHS, CMHC, and SSD will be there
 - b. We will continue with the forums for the rest of the year

B. LRA

- 1. Legislative Summit on Financial Aid coming up next week
- 2. We meet every Wed in this room
- 3. We want to write textbook legislation for the assembly to hear

C. Membership Coordination

- 1. I tabled at Act Local Think Global last week
- 2. It was a great program!

D. LLA

- 1. LLA – At-Large social
- 2. We want the rest of SG to come
- 3. Austin' Pizza from 5-7pm this Sunday

- E. Alumni Relations
 - 1. Thank you for helping me with the alumni database
 - 2. April 18th from 3-5pm, Location TBD
 - 3. Alumni are excited about this
 - 4. Let me know if you want to help me contact alumni
- F. Transfer Student Affairs
 - 1. There is not a whole lot we can do with Transfer Student orientation
 - 2. One thing we can do is have a student services fair for them
- G. External Appointments
 - 1. I am getting the contact info for all of the different committees
- H. International Opportunities
 - 1. I am working on setting up a satellite office to help inform people about study abroad opportunities
- I. Resource Center/Organizational Outreach
 - 1. I have a list of organizations on campus with their contact info

XI. Committee Reports

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

XII. Unfinished Business

XIII. New Business

XIV. Representative Reports, College Council Reports, Announcements

- A. Jung
 - 1. Faculty Council
 - a. Yesterday Faculty passed a resolution supporting their reaffirmation of the gun ban
 - i. It was unanimously passed
 - b. President Powers also discussed misconceptions of the economic standing of UT
- B. Shwartz
 - 1. A school is being built inside of the nursing school
 - 2. It will be the U of H satellite branch
 - 3. If any of your colleges have a problem with construction noise, let me know and we can work on legislation with this
 - 4. Last week, I gave out bananas because we had a great meeting
- C. Taylor Ellison
 - 1. Leg summit – utsg.org/legsummit
- D. Stein
 - 1. LAC brought on 32 new members
 - 2. Reps McMillin and Owens, and I are working with getting students involved with academic integrity process
- E. Westerman
 - 1. KIPP was going to be this Friday, but it will be postponed until future notice
 - 2. Boot Scholarship App will be open soon
 - a. Please start telling people about the scholarship
 - i. Especially working students
- F. Brown

1. We are discussing a co-curricular transcript, and if you want to help with this, let me know

G. Fried

1. We are working on SHoT for Comm School
2. We are starting a video campaign next week
3. We are going to reach out to seniors in organizations

H. Ma

1. Scott and I met with development person today in B School
2. We are working with UBC to get this working
3. Gee-Way and I are working with Asian American Round Table to try and figure out how to put together an umbrella group
4. Yogurt Spot will offer 10% off for students if they mention Phi Beta Chi

I. George

1. Matt and I are working with putting on a Student-Teacher mixer and to foster those relationships

XV. Second Roll Call

XVI. Adjournment

- A. Motion to adjourn
- B. Motion seconded
- C. Motion carries
- D. Meeting adjourned at 8:16pm