

<b>Minutes Title</b>	Minutes for April 24, 2007 Meeting
<b>Meeting</b>	2007-04-24
<b>Owner</b>	Becky Carreon
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### April 24, 2007 Meeting Minutes

- I. Call Meeting to Order: Meeting commenced at 7:03pm
- II. Roll Call #1
- III. Approval of Minutes: Minutes approved
- IV. Guest : Lauren Bloom
  - A. Office of Ombudsperson is a student run office funded by student fees
  - B. Ombudspeople work to prevent and solve student problems
  - C. Office of Ombudsperson serves about 1100 students per year
  - D. Office operates on four main principles: confidentiality, neutrality, independence, and informal
  - E. HB 3578 will protect these four principles and protect ombudspeople from subpoenas, allowing ombudspeople to maintain confidentiality
  - F. Manz: You mentioned informal fact finding. What type of investigations does your office perform?
    - Under Memorandum of Understanding, ombudspeople have access to all university records
  - Manz: What is an example of a situation when you would want to have to the right to refute subpoena?
    - Office of Ombudsperson is not a place to officially report discrimination and harassment. Ombudspeople step out of legal situations and keep limited records.
  - Manz: Have we had an issue with this at UT?
    - The University of Texas at Austin has been asked to make a stance on the issue because we are a flagship university. We have had issues because the terms of protection are unclear.
- V. Open Forum
  - Motion to suspend rules and make AR3 the next item on the agenda
    - Motion seconded
    - Motion Passes

#### AR3: In Support of HB 3578

- Keshav Rajagopalan: HB 3578 establishes confidentiality for ombudspeople. Correction: "Whereas the University of Texas at"
- Friendly Amendment: Improve format
- Motion to fast track
  - Motion seconded
  - Motion passes

- Motion to improve by acclamation.

- Motion seconded
- AR3 passes

- A. Keshav Rajagopalan: Great job selling ribbons. Ribbon sales raised about \$2000 and all money collected goes to the Virginia Tech memorial fund. Please purchase ribbons or donate to the cause.
- B. Zack Hall: Nick Chu and Alex Hunt are also present. Announces formation of Tuition Accountability Coalition in support of AR2.
- C. Brandon Chicotsky:
  - 1. Ransom Notes perform this Friday
  - 2. Texas Student Media meeting this Friday 3pm
  - 3. Union Board meeting this Friday 3pm
- D. Thomas Trinh: \$25 Orange and White Ball tickets on sale at Co-op

## VI. Ex-Officio Reports

- A. Graduate Student Assembly
- B. Senate of College Councils
  - 1. Stephen Meyers: 2 forums to discuss plus/minus grading issue (12:30-1:30pm in UTC 3.122, 5-6pm in UTC 4.122)
- C. Student Events Center
- D. Student Services

## VII. Appointments

Motion to limit appointments to 45 minutes for all appointments

- Motion seconded
- Motion passes

- A. Marcus Cenicerros- Texas Union Board of Directors
  - 1. Motion to approve by acclamation
  - 2. Motion seconded
  - 3. Marcus Cenicerros is approved
- B. Richard Wang- Innovative Instruction and Assessment Committee
- C. George Musselman II- Study Abroad and Innovative Instruction and Assessment Committee
  - 1. Motion to approve by acclamation
  - 2. Motion seconded
  - 3. Richard Wang and George Musselman II are approved
- D. Whitney Yang- Study Abroad Committee
  - 1. Motion to approve by acclamation
  - 2. Motion seconded
  - 3. Whitney Yang and George Musselman II are approved
- E. Cameron Nick- Medical Services Fee Committee
- F. Ladan Agharokh- Medical Services Fee and Student Health Center Advisory Committee
  - 1. Motion to approve by acclamation
  - 2. Motion seconded

3. Cameron Nick and Ladan Agharokh are approved
- G. Jordan Davisson- Student Health Center Advisory Committee
  1. Motion to approve by acclamation
  2. Motion seconded
  3. Jordan Davisson and Ladan Agharokh are approved
- H. Sourav Biswas- Undergraduate Academic Experience Committee
- I. Chelsi Splawn- Undergraduate Academic Experience Committee
  1. Motion to approve by acclamation
  2. Motion seconded
  3. Sourav Biswas and Chelsi Splawn are approved
- J. Keshav Rajagopalan- Student Services Budget Committee
- K. Michael Voss- Student Services Budget Committee
  1. Motion to approve by acclamation
  2. Motion seconded
  3. Keshav Rajagopalan and Michael Voss are approved
- L. Martin Thomen- Transportation Agency Director
  1. Motion to approve by acclamation
  2. Motion seconded
  3. Martin Thomen is approved
- M. Amanda Roberson- Longhorn Legislative Aide Director
  1. Motion to approve by acclamation
  2. Motion seconded
  3. Amanda Roberson is approved
- N. Kelly Hickman- S.U.R.E. Walk Coordinator
  1. Motion to approve by acclamation
  2. Motion seconded
  3. Kelly Hickman is approved
- O. Prathiba Pandian- Membership Coordination Agency Director
  1. Motion to approve by acclamation
  2. Motion seconded
  3. Prathiba Pandian is approved
- P. Ruchy Sharda- High School Outreach Co-Director
  1. Motion to approve by acclamation
  2. Motion seconded
  3. Ruchy Sharda is approved
- Q. Dustin Deas- Hook 'em Arts (PAC)
  1. Motion to approve by acclamation
  2. Motion seconded
  3. Dustin Deas is approved
- R. Appointees take their oaths of office

#### VIII. Executive Reports

- A. President: Andrew C. Solomon-a.solomon@mail.utexas.edu
  1. Thank you for attending and helping with the candlelight vigil honoring victims of the Virginia Tech tragedy. Approximately 3,000 people attended and the Virginia Tech alumnae were especially grateful.
  2. Miniature Barbara Jordan statues are on display in Gregory. The Cesar Chavez statue will be unveiled in West Mall at 11am on Oct. 9, 2007.
  3. Please refrain from using instant messenger during Assembly meetings.

4. Transition PSAC meeting was held today. Andrew will chair PSAC next year.
  5. There have been complaints about people vomiting and urinating near the e-bus stop downtown. Keshav Rajagopalan will work to defend the utility and continuation of the e-bus.
- B. Vice President: Nicole Trinh- [netrinh@austin.utexas.edu](mailto:netrinh@austin.utexas.edu)
1. Representative Review: please sign up for at least 5 platform projects and feel free to add any of your own personal initiatives. Be sure to fill out your summer plans in the spreadsheet. Attend your committee meetings!
  2. Tax-Free Textbooks Senate Committee Hearing: Monday, April 30<sup>th</sup> at 9:00am in Capitol Extension 1.036. Representatives are required to attend unless there is an academic or medical reason in which you cannot, please notify Jordan Davisson.
  3. Staff Council Student Seat: I have been in touch with Erin Waneck, Chair of the UT Staff Council, and they will be discussing the proposal of having a student seat in their council at their next executive committee meeting.
  4. Big XII Relations: It has been decided to not create the Big XII relations director position but instead, create an ad-hoc committee led by the executive board in preparing the Fall Conference and maintaining the relations with the other Big XII schools.
  5. Reps of the Week: Carolyn and Vivian for helping out with the t-shirt sales at the vigil!
- C. Executive Director: Jordan Davisson- [jordandavisson@mail.utexas.edu](mailto:jordandavisson@mail.utexas.edu)
1. Student Government sold all Virginia Tech t-shirts within 1.5 hours. Please give me feedback regarding demand for more t-shirts.
  2. Attendance Policies: If you need to miss a meeting, you need to let me know. Medical issues will be excused. Must let me know a week in advance about school and mandatory event conflicts.
  3. IA Members, please send me your schedules
  4. Director of the Week recognition will begin in the fall
  5. In the fall we will begin having agency assemblies once a month
- D. Communications Director: Vicki Nguyen- [vicki.nguyen@bba04.mcombs.utexas.edu](mailto:vicki.nguyen@bba04.mcombs.utexas.edu)
1. Thank you for sending newsletter updates. Deadline for updates: Sunday at noon
  2. Outreach Committee, please send me your schedules so we can plan a meeting
  3. Please email me with ideas for the SG website
  4. Keep up with your projects and keep me updated on your projects
  5. Joke of the week
- E. External Financial Director: Stephen Gilstrap- [sgilstrap@mail.utexas.edu](mailto:sgilstrap@mail.utexas.edu)
1. New representatives and agency directors can purchase 100 Student Government business cards for \$10. Please email me if you are interested in purchasing business cards.
  2. Continue to hold Mobile Campus meetings to increase communication between Student Government and Mobile Campus. Feel free to ask Frankie or me about this issue.

## F. Internal Financial Director: Frankie Shulkin-fshulk714@aol.com

1. Jester Satellite Office opening this week - Please sign up to staff office.
2. Where the money goes - I am in the process of compiling a lot of important information about the budget of Student Government, where the money comes from, where it goes, when Student Government can reimburse you, etc. It is important for members of Student Government to know the answers these important questions. I will have a handout in the coming days and a workshop for those interested.
3. Stephen and I met with Mobile Campus and have inherited the program. Let us know if you ever have any questions.
4. Yvette and I met to discuss the Organization Outreach Initiative on Friday, and many of our ideas will be reflected in the internal rules that will be presented to the Assembly. If you would like to give input, please let Yvette, Keshav, or me know.
5. If you will be here this summer, let me know. Summer appropriations will begin after finals, and I will start organization the application and interview processes.

## G. Secretary to the Assembly: Chelsea Wade-chelsea.wade@bba05.mcombs.utexas.edu

1. Legislative Policy Committee members please come to front following Assembly to discuss a meeting time
2. Dinner at Trudy's!

## IX. Committee Reports

- A. Rules : Will meet this Sunday at 3pm to discuss rules for entire Assembly period
- B. Finance: Meeting this Sunday at 5pm
- C. Internal Affairs
- D. Outreach: Please support satellite office
- E. Fundraising: Please email me with available meeting times
- F. Legislative Policy: Unofficial meeting held this past Sunday to discuss legislation

## X. Unfinished Business: AR 2: Calling on the Texas Legislature to Increase Funding to Public Universities &amp; Repeal Tuition Deregulation (tabled)

## XI. New Business

## A. AR 4: In Support of the E-Bus

1. Keshav: We would like to show our support for the e-bus. It is safe and convenient. This resolution will be discussed during the LPC meeting on Sunday.
2. Student Government will have input in determining the location of the e-bus pickup

## B. AB 1: Granting Spending Powers to the Executive Branch

1. Keshav: All spending powers are with the Assembly, which does not meet during the summer. This bill would give the executive branch power to spend Student Government funds throughout the summer.
2. This bill will be sent to the rules committee and the Assembly will vote

on it next week.

C. AB 2: Freshman Representation Amendment

1. Katie Sowa: We would like to have 2 freshmen elected at the beginning of the fall semester to serve as representatives.
2. Meyerson: Does SG determine qualifications or do the students run independently?
  - § There will be some criteria, but not strict criteria
  - § Candidates will be required to attend a workshop prior to elections
3. These representatives would represent freshmen, not the entire student body
4. Knudson: Why is it only freshmen that have this option?
  - § Freshmen do not have the opportunity to vote
5. Shulkin: Has there been any resolution regarding the logistics of the election?
  - § Katie: We are focusing now on the legislation, but will have more details next week.
6. How will this opportunity be advertised?
  - § We would find ways to make it available to all freshmen and the opportunity would be promoted during orientations.
7. Hall: It gives freshmen the opportunity to get involved in the Assembly

D. Trinh: Please educate yourself on these pieces of legislation

XII. Agency Director Reports

- A. Nathan Bunch- Policy Director: It is imperative that Student Government help table for the Satellite Office.
- B. Liam O'Rourke- Students with Disabilities Agency Director: Raising it for Texans with Disabilities was a great success. We are continuing to receive funds and have enough money to begin the endowment. Please let me know if you are interested in helping to establish this endowment.
- C. Phil Novoa- FLO Director: Announces officers
- D. Zack Hall and Preston Powell- Legislative Relations Agency Directors: Went to capital to try to put student on Higher Education Coordinating Board. Tax-Free Textbooks Senate Committee Hearing: Monday, April 30 at 9:00am in Capitol Extension 1.036. Meeting Sunday at 8pm for those interested in testifying.

XIII. Representative Reports

- A. Keshav Rajagopalan
  1. You will be able to restrict information shown on UT Direct beginning May 1.
  2. Working on legislation to request that the motion to implement plus/minus grading system be postponed until research on the issue is updated.
  3. Please be informed about AR2 for next week's voting. I will be in office on Thursday at 4pm and Sunday 2-4pm to discuss the resolution and UT's budget.
  4. Working on Public Safety Task Force. Please provide me with thoughts



and concerns.

B. Joe Grosso

1. On Friday Communications Council was named most outstanding organization on campus.
2. There are several issues facing the college: in desperate need of a new building (we are in the middle of a fundraising campaign for this building), inability to minor (dean says it is feasible). I would appreciate student feedback

C. Dan Villereal: I wrote a letter to the editor about Jester's refusal to accept traveler checks and received an apology and a \$12 meal certificate. Lesson learned: speak up.

D. Stephen Manz: Please read the technical email that I am going to send.

E. Nathan Bunch: Thank you to liberal arts representatives for attending LAC. Thanks to everyone who put together the Virginia Tech candlelight vigil.

F. AJ Meyers: Registration for Camp Texas opens May 1

XIV. Announcement: Orange and White Ball this Friday, April 27

XV. Roll Call #2 for Representatives

XVI. Adjournment: Meeting adjourned at 9:10pm