



STUDENT GOVERNMENT THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT AUSTIN

1 University Stations, A6210 · Austin, TX 78712-0810
(512) 471 - 3166 · Fax: (512) 471-3408 · <http://www.uts.org>

Student Government Assembly Meeting

February 15, 2011

I. Call Meeting to Order

II. First Roll Call

III. Approval of Minutes – February 8, 2011

A. Approved

IV. Guests

A. Rudy Williams

A. Speaking on at-large representation in Austin City Council. In 1951, single member districts were eliminated. Agreement in city of Austin, in 1975 if you were in place 2 and were Hispanic you won, in place 6 and you were black, you won. Representation of underrepresented constituencies has been repressed the past years. City Council's current structure is currently broken. 6 people on city council representing 851,000 thousand representatives. Mayor Leffingwell proposed at-large district representation, 6 single member districts, with 2 at-larges. 8-4-1 model can increase the accountability of representation for minorities in Austin. Single member districts has failed 6 times on the ballot.

Desai: Will this model actually benefit minorities? Are minorities spread out?

Williams: We won't actually know until March, but I do believe for the black community it'll be hard because its spread out.

Dunn: Why do you support 8-4-1, instead of 6-10?

Williams: Better representation of more diverse groups.

Butler: Do you think single member districts will make the city council more partisan?

Williams: No, because the cities around Austin are single member district and aren't in political wars. Many of the boards we have now, aren't partisan but are still not functional.

V. Open Forum

A. Thomas – Texas Public Health

466 college campuses have already gone tobacco free. About 50,000 Americans die from second hand smoke. Ozark Technical Community College, outlined a plan in 2003 to make their campus smoke free. Over 300 universities in Canada and the United States. Second hand smoke is dangerous, and there are a measurable number of carcinogens



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B. Matthew Olson – University Health Services

Important to develop policies to make UT's campus healthier. Not trying to demonize

C. Ticket Bud – John Fitch - Online program promotional website.
(www.ticketbud.com) Event provides different resources for John Fitch. johnitch@ticketbud.com

D. Andrew Nash – University Unions Auditorium reservations are online.
Reserveable at universityunions.utexas.edu

E. LEI – Jesse Hernandez – Swing Out Awards. 15 awards.

F. Billy Calve – University Democrats – Capitol advocacy workshops provided by two UT lobbyists.

VI. Ex-Officio Reports

A. Graduate Student Assembly – Negotiating dual advisory position with DOS and the Graduate School. Joint advisory connection under DOS, so that Student Government, and Senate as well as GSA are under the same umbrella.

a. GSA meets regularly with Federal Relations.

b. GPAW & 5K in the first week of April.

B. Student Events Center

a. Corey Morrow concert on Thursday.

VII. Appointments

VIII. Deputy Advisor Report

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

a. Executive Alliances debate on Monday February 21st at 7:00 PM.

i. University Wide representatives will be allowed statements.

IX. Executive Reports

X. Agency Director Reports

A. Out of State Students – March 8th – Project Hook up. Chat Night – April 13th.
Panels – March 24th, March 28th, April 4th, and April 8th

XI. Representative Reports

A. Council Reports

B. Committee Reports

C. Butler – Watching waivers for out of state and international students to come to UT.

D. Lawler – Keep Texas Smart. Statewide organization of statewide educators, looking to jointly host a rally March 12th. Expecting 50,000. Internal Affairs



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committee report. No more guaranteed stipends within Student Government. Now, Green Fund committee, releasing applications.

E. Joseph Lee – Bulk of money came from money unspent by the Executive Board. Around \$2000 in funds available.

F. Business: Dunn, - CTBAC applications open for McCombs. Thayer – Looking into implementation of new process of using print services. Dunn – ITS has services to help reduce waste.

G. Fazende- External Affairs is going to meet, let us know if you want to be a part and we will let you know the time of the meeting.

XII. Unfinished Business

A. AR 32 - In Support of Comprehensive Textbook Reform

- a. LPC and AfAff- added to have the University immediately take action when HB 33 passes (active in 2013) if it passes and publish a list on the website, Lawler: why not separate from the Co-Op language— University would be publishing a list through the Co-Op, as the Co-Op is an extension of the institution
 - i. Lawler-Amendment _ 2nd to last be it further- Have it say the the SG student , university independently implement its own university book list
 - ii. Amendment passes.
 - iii. Lawler – Move to approve by unanimous consent.
 - iv. Seconded.
 - v. **AR 32 PASSES**

B. AR 35 - In Support of the Installation of Benches In the Tower Memorial Garden

Anne – With the cost, 200,000, if we don't do this, will those funds be directed to other student funds?

Dunn – That was 8 years ago. The benches would be \$1,400 a piece?

Portillo – Have you been in contact with campus planning?

Williams – Yes, in discussions in October.

Gardner – What has been response been?

Williams – Facility services has been excited about the project.

Nguyen – Where would this money come from?

Dunn – 3 main ways of funding. Facility Services has funds for its own special projects. Student Fees won't be used. Secondly, special projects. Third, would be student giving campaign. Fourth would be raising funds. Last time, 820,000 was raised last time.

Dunn- This won't change our rankings.

Portillo – Should we put benches on the south mall?

Lawler – Why were benches not originally installed?

Williams – They did not originally raise the money needed the first time.



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Lawler – How would you feel that student fees be considered last, and private donations be considered first?

Kabir clarified on difference between student fees, and tuition. PMCS operates off of tuition, not fees.

Lawler – Offer an amendment. Between 7th & 8th be it further resolved, “Be it further resolved, The University of Texas at Austin Student Government strongly encourages SSBC allocated funds be considered last for a revenue stream, and that private donations be considered first and foremost for financing.”

Daley – If we wanted to use funds from SG, that would have to be a bill?

Kabir – Correct.

Kabir – There was an objection to the vote. Now we will vote on the amendment. All those in favor of the amendment, please raise your hands.

Passes.

Kabir – Are there any questions? If there are no more questions I will ask for a motion.

Lawler – So moved.

Daley – Seconded.

Portillo – Object. Hand vote.

Seconded.

Kabir – All those in favor, please raise your hand.

5 opposed. 1 abstention.

AR 35 PASSES.

C. AB 20 Student Government Town Halls

- a. Hernandez – In Committee, decided on who should be in charge of this, it was established that the Communications Director would be in charge.
- b. Hicks – Comm Director would be in charge.
- c. Desai – Have you considered the turn over of the administration?
- d. Kabir – To clarify all of that exists with everything.
- e. Hicks – None of this is written in stone
- f. Wiseman – Would you be opposed to adding a clause, that instead of the first Tuesday, there be something clarified further.
- g. Portillo – These are the internal rules, so this could easily be suspended.
- h. Yager – There would be one meeting a month that the Communications Director publicizes.
- i. Lawler – Quick clarifying questions, this will provide students with a bigger way of students speaking.
- j. Desai – Will this take affect immediately?
- k. Talarico – Was there discussion for External Affairs to be responsible?
- l. Fazende – I felt that was more for Executive Board.
- m. Kabir – I will entertain a motion.
- n. Yager – Move to approve a voice vote.
- o. Seconded.
- p. Dunn – Hand vote.



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q. Seconded.

XIII. New Business

- A. AR 34 – In Support of District Representation for Austin City Council
 - a. Yager – Has more student input been collected? That was one of the reasons it was postponed.
 - b. Brady – Yes. But that wasn't the only intent behind it. If it goes to LPC, then more input can be collected
 - c. Lawler – If student input is collected, and the 8-4-1 process is supported, will this change intent? I just want to make sure that you all are saying that you don't want to adopt a specific intent.
 - d. Kabir – Yes, that will change intent.
 - e. Yager – You said that you'd commit this to LPC, would it be relevant because of actually legislative intent in the House/Senate?
 - f. Kabir – With that, it could be committed to External Affairs.
 - g. **Committed to External Affairs.**
- B. AR 36 – In Honor of Robert Schmidt
 - a. Lu – Could you define exactly how it would celebrate him?
 - b. De La Cruz – More so a way to acknowledge SG is aware of what is going on COFA.
 - c. Committed to Student Affairs
- C. AR 37 – In Support of an Online Room Reservation System in the Reliant Productivity Center at the McCombs School of Business
 - a. Gardner- Essentially this
 - b. Kabir – **Committed to Student Affairs.**
- D. AR 38 - In Support of Making The University of Texas at Austin a Smoke-free Campus

XIV. Announcements

- A. Yager – Discussion on Voter ID resolution after meeting.
- B. Butler – Dance Marathon this Saturday
- C. Wiseman – Looking for changes to take place, on policy . Looking to form committee to investigate.
- D. Fazende – EA will meet Sunday at 5:00 PM.
- E. Dunn – CEC, is having a large reuse, recycle, refill.

XV. Second Roll Call



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XVI. Adjournment