



112th STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSEMBLY
THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT AUSTIN

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



THE 112TH SESSION
OF THE
STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSEMBLY

STUDENT GOVERNMENT GENERAL ASSEMBLY MEETING
Tuesday, October 2, 2018

SPEAKER OF THE ASSEMBLY: BENJAMIN SOLDER
PARLIAMENTARIAN: TRIP DAVIS
CLERK: JESSIE YIN

- I. Call Meeting to Order - 7:00PM
- II. First Roll Call
- III. Approval of the Minutes
- IV. Open Forum
 - a. Signa - Today and tomorrow on campus to recruit for a 2 year rotational program. Medicare and manage-care business. It's a great way to get a lot of experience in your career early. Health services leadership program, operations development, technology development, sales development, etc. Will be at the career fair tomorrow in the Texas BallRoom. Can visit signa.com/careers to apply directly to these positions.
 - b. Saurabh Sharma
 - i. President of Young Conservatives of Texas
 - ii. Mentioned a past protest event
 - iii. Wanted to clarify what would happen if YCT was attempted to ban
 - 1. Nothing would happen.
 - 2. The stage legislature would need to convene to discuss this ban.
 - c. Ian MacEntee
 - i. Academic Affairs Policy Director
 - ii. Also apart of Liberal Arts Council
 - iii. LAC is looking to improve the process of creating a new student organization
 - iv. If you have created an org in the past few years, please reach out to Ian to discuss this process and how it can be made better
 - d. Izzy Fanuci?
 - i. Interpersonal Violence Prevention Coalition Co-Director with Katie Hlides



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- ii. UT vs. OU weekend is considered a red-zone because of sexual assault
 - 1. Initiative to improve these conditions and spread more awareness
 - 2. Please spread the graphics and educate yourself!

V. Appointments

a. Ellen Teuscher, *Federal Relations Director*

- i. Ellen - Past liberal arts representative last year. Applied for this position because she is a government major, and is passionate about UT's involvement at the federal level. Mentioned the importance of the Big 12 Lobby event in the spring. Also working on a lot of voter engagement initiatives
- ii. Vivianne - Ellen is one of the hardest workers she knows and is excited to have her on the team.

iii. APPROVED BY UNANIMOUS CONSENT

b. Payton Anderson, *Student Services Budget Committee*

- i. Payton - Wants to make sure that there is a graduate student voice, as a lot of money from the SSBC goes towards graduate initiatives
- ii. Mehrnaz - Payton's voice is incredibly valuable to the committee
- iii. Ben - how much money does the SSBC allocate to organizations?
- iv. Payton - The total is \$42 million
- v. APPROVED BY UNANIMOUS CONSENT

c. Naquia Lokhandwala, *Undergraduate Studies Representative*

- i. Naquia - I've always wanted to be apart of student government. One thing I did in high school was girl state. I passed my own bill, and am excited to be apart of student government!

d. Avi Patel, *First-Year Representative*

- i. Avi - From Waco, TX. Business Major, switching to Bio, on the Pre-Dental Path. Super grateful to be apart of SG. Ideas on safety, transportation, and inclusivity.

e. Ashish Dave, *First-Year Representative*

- i. Ashish - Really excited to be here! From Pearland, TX. BHP, Plan 2 and Finance Major. Also plans to minor in spanish
 - 1. Initiatives:

- a. Reforming Surewalk/suride system
- b. Passion for financial literacy

f. All appointees got sworn in by a Supreme Court Justice.

VI. Working Recess: Cultivating Culture

- a. Representatives will be put into groups of 3-4 people. For two weeks they will be searching to take the most pictures of squirrels.
- b. You must have at least two people present for a picture of a squirrels to count.
- c. You must have a team name



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- d. You must email the Speaker of the House, Benjamin Solder, all of your submissions in ONE email.

VII. Representative Reports

- a. Marshall -
 - i. Hubbl and Alden met with the director of admissions yesterday. Goal to expand the mailing process to prospective students. Asked for help from representatives to write letters to students from your hometowns, areas of interest, etc.
 - ii. Meeting with Mulu, the director of student union, to get starbucks to accept our rewards points
- b. Mascov
 - i. Longhorns as Partners
 - ii. Monday November 5th - Symposium. Looking for an MC
- c. Hasan
 - i. Met with representatives and other college councils about Mental Health Week
 - ii. Had a meeting with a constituent today about making a more positive campus environment in regards to some recent events
- d. Obstfeld
 - i. Reaching out to more UT students to get involved in charity work
 - ii. Reached out to Orange Outreach
 - iii. Reaching out to Reps to get involved!
- e. Lucas
 - i. You get a receipt when you buy food at JCL, and you do not have an option on whether to receive one or not. If anyone knows who to contact, please reach out to Jakob!
 - ii. UT Investment - UT has received money from strange sources, and Jakob wants to learn more about it. Reached out to
 - iii. Interested in the politics of language, and how certain words are related to certain ideologies. In light of recent events, if you want to create a better campus environment, reach out to Jacob to discuss what change you can make
- f. Pontikes
 - i. Make sure to let Michael know about events Senate should be aware of
 - ii. Working on Brown Bag Lunches initiative
 - iii. Also still working on the Improve UT initiative
- g. Engel
 - i. Really limited options for on-campus food on the weekends. Looking for people who would be interested in working on expanding these images

VIII. Time for Action: Initiative Progress Check-In

- a. Working in Groups to discuss the progress of your initiatives



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IX. Introduction of Legislation - by Representative Linda Duraj

a. A.R.3 In Support of Survivors of Sexual Violence

i. 3 minute recess to digest legislation

ii. 5 minute moderated caucus of this legislation

1. Lucas - You can support sexual assault survivors without supporting this legislation
2. Hasan - Legislation can be served as a catalyst of social change
3. Bonin - This legislation has good content, but its not necessary to be passed. It seems directly in response to current events. Introducing the legislation the day of seems unprecedented.
4. Vanden-Hoek - Legislation has been passed the same day.
5. Pena - SG needs to take constructive measures to prevent assault. The timing of this legislation makes SG appear to be taking a political stance. Need to make sure that we are not divisive.
6. Dave - Fantastic message that needs to be out. Has concerns about the context. Interested in solution-oriented legislation. Wants legislation that has substance and promotes certain change. This legislation does not support actual change
7. Marshall - SG is an inherently political institution . The last few words does mention the instigators of today's event.
8. Deutsch - Not necessary to send this legislation to YCT.
9. Engel - Spoke to the past Interpersonal Violence Preventing. Coalition Committee Co Chair. The chair said that 40-50 assault survivors have reached out to her about. Shows that there is a need for more resources and change. You can change legislation when it gets to committee.
10. Lucas - The last 4 words are directed. We should send a message in some way, but maybe not this way. Sometimes solutions to this problem involve specific agents of this action
11. Hasan - In his opinion, any kind of legislation is actionable in its support of something. All resolutions are inherently toothless. If you have issues with the last 4 words, that can be changed in committee.
12. Bonin - YCT is in the back. They have received this message
13. Obstfeld - In his opinion, this legislation is ideal to come out today, but this should be a result of the terrible statistics represented on this sheet, not just the few opinions of a small group of people. The last four words of the legislation should be taken off.



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14. Sreedharane - All for solution oriented legislation. But words are also important, and speaking out about SG's clear stance is important. It is good to say that SG supports sexual assault survivors.
15. Duraj - This can be amended. It can be and probably should be. As far as what happened today, I think we should talk about it. This legislation was a way to do that.
16. Engel - While this legislation might seem as just a pointed response to the events today, there has been similar efforts against sexual assault. It's not just about the process. The OU vs. UT weekend is one of the works weeks for sexual assault. The timing is great to take a stand on this issue
17. Pontikes - If we do pass this piece, it would not get passed right away.
18. Rizvi - This piece of paper is really pointless, as it doesn't do anything. I saw the protest too, and what happened, but I just chose not to engage in it. We should engage with this issue through other initiative such as "Hooked on our safety". You do not always have to engage with every person who does not agree with you.
19. Patel - Agrees with Hubbul. This seems to be a symbolic piece of legislation, instead of action. The statistics are awful, but I don't see anything that this legislation is doing.
20. Bagepally - The idea of just ignoring what is happening is not constructive. As the representatives of this student body, I believe it is ideal to issue some kind of statement about sexual assault.
21. Sereno - In my personal opinion, this resolution is great, but it's also providing the platform for the issues that were raised. We are responding to how other groups want us to respond. I don't think we can make a plan in one week.
22. Vanden-Hoek - Moves to expand the moderated caucus by one minute
 - a. Motion failed

iii. ¾ must vote yes to pass this to a first reading/hearing

1. FAILED

iv. Representative Hasan - Request for point of personal privilege to discuss the current legislation.

1. REQUEST DENIED

X. Time for Action: Discussion Groups

a. Emergency text for incident outside Duren:

<https://www.dailytexanonline.com/2018/09/12/university-of-texas-police-clarifies-emergency-notification-protocols-following-reports>



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- b. Hooked on OUR safety:
<https://www.dailytexanonline.com/2018/09/30/student-government-hosts-%E2%80%9998safety-week%E2%80%9999>
<https://www.dailytexanonline.com/2017/10/10/sg-aims-to-spread-sexual-assault-awareness-before-ou-game-weekend>
- c. On-campus dining hours:
<https://www.dailytexanonline.com/2018/10/01/students-deserve-weekend-access-to-dining-halls>
- XI. Ex-Officio Member Reports
 - a. Senate Rep
 - i. Going to introduce 2 new pieces
 - ii. If you want to work on legislation with Senate, please contact Amrutha!
- XII. Office of the Dean of Students Report
 - a. Nothing to report
- XIII. Executive Board Reports

 - a. Admin Director
 - i. Thank you for coming to the social!
 - ii. I have office hours! Thank you to those who came to my office hours last week!
Mondays 10-11am and Fridays 12-1pm
 - iii. Introduced her team of directors
 - iv. <http://bit.ly/SGagencycontact> - more information about all of our SG Agencies
 - v. Please take care of yourselves and each other. Your mental health is important!
Tell your friends and family that you love them.
 - b. Comm Director
 - i. TX OU is this weekend!
 - 1. Share the resources we provide on social media
 - 2. Change your profile picture, etc.
 - ii. SG Spotlight Communications
 - iii. Headshots are next week from 6-7pm right before Assembly
 - c. Vice President
 - i. Dean Lily is very hopeful about the feminine hygiene initiative
 - 1. Working on meeting with UT's CFO about it
 - ii. Still working on registering people to vote. October 9th is the last day to register people to vote! If you have an organization that meets before then, let Mehrnaz know if you want people to come register people in your organizations.
 - d. President



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- i. Addressed the car accident that happened over the weekend. That involved 6 UT students
 1. A go-fund me was created and raised over \$50,000 for the people involved in the crash.
 - ii. Our community can make a huge difference when we actually look out for each other.
 1. Colton went to visit people at the hospital today. While there, he got the notification of the protest that happened.
 - a. There will always be perspectives that we do not agree with.
 - b. Less upset about the protest itself, more upset about the intent.
The intent was to inflame people.
 - c. Defended YCT. Disappointed at how people treated each other.
Don't be so quick to dehumanize others.
 - d. Continue to treat others well.
 - e. This will not be the last protest on campus
 - f. We are student leaders, and we set the tone for how the university deals with Campus protests. So keep that in mind going forward!
- XII. Assembly Committee Chair Reports
- a. Student Affairs
 - i. Everyone should feel safe on campus
 - ii. In this room, we were elected to represent constituents, not just ourselves.
 - iii. Just got a new member for the committee!
 - b. Financial Affairs
 - i. We should all just be kind to each other, regardless of your views.
 - ii. Special Projects - If you have applied to special projects, the committee will be looking at the applications soon.
 - iii. Also have a new member.
 - iv. Meeting time next week is TBD
 - v. Yesterday in Assembly board, they talked about merchandise.
 1. Will put a message in the groupme to discuss what people want for merchandise.
 - c. Governmental Affairs
 - i. Working on a survey to pass out to Liberal Art students.
 - ii. Ashish is now a member of the Governmental Affairs committee!
 - iii. We have engaged in respectability politics. Everyone's views deserve to be heard.
Respect is earned. There are some actions that I do not respect.
 - d. Academic Affairs



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- i. Vinit not present, Vice-Chair Liam spoke instead.
- e. Ethics and Oversight
 - i. Posted attendance policy.
 - ii. Met last week and confirmed people!
 - iii. Going to set up a consistent meeting time
 - iv. Upset over the parliamentary game today. I will continue to be “annoying” because there are people on this campus who want to have their voice heard and aren’t able to. It is important that we need to represent these voices. Will be back next week with more action.
- f. Rules and Regulation
 - i. Disappointed that A.R.3 could not even get a reading in the assembly. Does not see anything controversial. There are many news- worthy instances that have occurred recently that are relevant. There shouldn’t have to be an event in order for us to share our support of sexual assault survivors. Resolutions are supposed to be symbolic, as they are in support of something. For us to not stand in support of survivors is ridiculous. I hope the Assembly should do a better job at supporting students in the future.
- XIII. Speaker of the Assembly Report
 - a. Fenves will be postponed to next week.
 - b. Ross Ramsey will be here next week.
- XIV. General Announcements
 - a. Duraj - If you can see something is happening, and are not affected by it, just know that not everyone has that privilege. Make sure to do something, even if its not the legislation that was attempted to be passed.
 - b. Goodman - I love all of you. Please be safe this weekend.
 - i. Tejas house this Thursday is having an event.
 - c. Ricky Cooks - as of 45 minutes ago, Beto doesn’t feel comfortable attending the tejas club event. The new event will be h
 - d. Rizvi - Camp Texas Counselor info session
 - e. Moharram - Please be safe! We can walk home together
 - f. Pontikes - Senate Events
 - g. Solder - Please be a community. Respect each other. Listen to each other!
 - h. Mehraz - Shared her number as she will be at the TX vs. OU weekend.
 - i. Engel - Also willing to share her number, and has a car.
- XV. Second Roll Call
- XVI. Adjournment



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NOTICE OF ACCOMMODATIONS AT PUBLIC MEETINGS

Persons with disabilities who plan to attend this meeting and who may need accommodations in order to fully participate, such as a sign language interpreter, are requested to contact Benjamin Solder at benjamin.solder@gmail.com, 72 hours prior to the meeting, so that appropriate arrangements can be made.

NOTICE OF FILMING AND PHOTOGRAPHY

Student Government events and meetings are open to the public and press. When you attend a function of Student Government, you enter an area where audio and video recording, and photography may occur. This shall constitute notice to any person who accesses the agenda.