

Minutes for September 16, 2008 Student Government Assembly Meeting

- I. Call Meeting to Order – Meeting commenced to 7:03pm
- II. Bill Powers, President, The University of Texas at Austin
 - A. I want to welcome everyone back to Campus
 - B. I want to encourage all you freshman to get involved
 - C. All of you students are what keep this campus going
 - D. Thanks you, and congratulations
 - E. The more you give to the university, the more you get back from it
 - F. You need to know how to be leaders if you want to change the world
 - G. You can only learn a little about that in books
 - H. You learn to be leaders by going to and being leaders
 - I. You can only get stuff done by working in teams
 - J. There is no way to learn how to be a leaders that getting out there and being a leader
 - K. Student Government is also a way of getting involved in the community
 - L. Tomorrow is the State of the University Address at 4pm
- III. First Roll Call
- IV. Approval of Minutes - September 9, 2008 – minutes approved
- V. Guests
 - A. The Honorable Sheryl Cole, Councilwoman, Austin City Council
 1. The only thing missing from redefining how we think of our city is you
 2. UT sits on Waller Creek
 3. We need your input, because you sit on it and because it is something for you and future generations
 4. What would attract you to Waller Creek?
 5. We need a new committee with students
 6. What attracts people most is other people
 7. We need activity on the creek to attract others
 8. We don't have parks in Austin where kids are enjoying the water and eating snow cones while you are on a skateboard
 9. I am going to see Millennium Park in Chicago tomorrow
 10. President Powers challenged you to become leaders, but I challenge you to become donors
 11. In Paris, there is a trail running through restaurants, and that is Austin Weird to me so I want to keep that in mind
 12. People are very attracted to water
 13. A question is whether the University is going to complete the trail going through its land
 14. We think that Waller Creek will be the identity of Austin
- VI. Open Forum
 - A. Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity Inc.
 1. 10th annual TAKS carnival
 2. It rewards elementary school students for doing well on the TAKS test
 3. If you are interested in helping out, please fill out the sheet going around
 4. We will have a couple of organizational meetings

5. It will be on the East Mall
6. September 19th there will be a voter registration drive
 - a. You can be deputized in the Malcom X lounge this Friday at noon

B. Texas 4000 for Cancer

1. Started here at UT 5 years ago
2. We bike ride from Austin to Anchorage, Alaska
3. We are now accepting applications for Summer '09 and '10
4. They are due this Friday
5. Info session tomorrow in PAI 301 at 8pm
6. There are two different routes – one through California and one through the Rockies

VII. Ex-Officio Reports

- A. Graduate Student Assembly
- B. Senate of College Councils
- C. Student Events Center
- D. Student Services

VIII. Appointments

IX. Deputy Adviser Report

- A. Melinda Sutton- msutton@mail.utexas.edu
 1. Next Tuesday from 11am to 2pm, the DoS Open House will be on the FAC patio

X. Executive Reports

- A. President: Keshav Rajagopalan - keshavr@austin.utexas.edu
 1. Textbooks
 - a. We will be forming a committee to discuss textbooks
 - b. If you are interested in those issues, please let me know
 - c. We would like some legislation to come from the Assembly
 - d. We have been discussing an e-Book option
 - i. If the University provided an e-Book, how many would buy that?
 1. Pretty even distribution
 - ii. Publishers don't want to do both
 - iii. A course packet-like option might be possible
 - iv. Herndon: Maybe the more specialized classes could continue with textbooks?
 - v. Herman: Would the e-Book be like a PDF or more user-friendly
 1. There would be a program you download once
 - vi. Policy Director: You can still buy the textbooks online
 - vii. Parks: Would it be like iTunes where you view the book in the program?
 1. Yes, the program would allow you to treat it like a real textbook
 2. Monday at 7:30pm in UTC 2.112A there will be a free screening of the movie "Haze" by the Gordy Foundation
 3. Summer Enrollment
 - a. The Provost's office has put together a task force to see why summer enrollment is down
 - i. Bunch: In most instances, people will wait for the summer courses they can take in community courses that they don't need for their GPA
 - ii. Ma: Cost is a huge deal

- iii. Stanton: Some people had trouble with financial aid in the summer
 - iv. Visitor: In natural sciences, there aren't many courses offered or only offered during one session. Offering more upper division classes
 - v. Reyna: During the summer, classes aren't full so I couldn't take the class
 - vi. Policy Director: Students find classes way too hard at UT
 - vii. D. Villarreal: I had to apply for my graduate program in the summer or fall. I chose summer because there is one course that teaches foundational topics. Summer was better for me.
 - 4. Safety Website
 - a. We are putting together a safety website with VPSA and Office of Employment and Campus Services
 - b. It will be launched by Safety Week in the Spring
 - c. It will consolidate everything
 - 5. Clean Energy
 - 6. SSB
 - a. A lot of things will be leaving this building and we need to figure out what to do with these spaces
 - b. Please think of this because these decisions will be made during the next few months
- B. Executive Director: Liam O'Rourke – liam.orourke@mail.utexas.edu
 - 1. Retreat Make-Ups
 - a. We filmed the entire thing in HD
 - b. My friend is going to make it into a DVD
 - c. We will have viewing parties in place of make-up retreats
 - 2. Attendance Policy
 - a. IA Committee met after retreat and we think this policy is working
 - i. It is increasing communication amongst us
 - ii. Make sure you email me before the meeting
 - 3. Agency Update
 - a. Please return the binders to the office
- C. Communications Director: Chelsea Fosse – chelseafosse@austin.utexas.edu
 - 1. Let's table all over campus!
 - a. Danielle Reyna spoke to a FIG group to encouragement involvement
 - b. Natty Sci reps have done some great tabling during their kick off week
 - c. If you need tabling materials, email me 24 hours before and I will get it ready for you
 - d. We also have tables for tabling available in the office
 - 2. Ally Training
 - a. I want an SG specific Ally training in the next few weeks or so
 - 3. Financial Management Class --- spread the word! 9/24 at 7pm in Jester
 - 4. Volley for the Cure: 10/29
 - a. Put this in your calendar
 - 5. MOCA on Wednesday at 7pm in the SG Office
 - a. (MOCA = Meeting for Outreach and Com. Agencies)
 - 6. Ike donation collection bin
 - a. Please add to the bin, please
- D. Internal Financial Director: Priti Joshi – priti.y.joshi@gmail.com
 - 1. Budget 08-09
 - a. Budget is at end of the packet
 - 2. Fall Appropriations Application - Thank you!
 - a. Interviews will be this weekend

3. Budget Meetings with Agency Directors
 - a. I want to sit down with agencies and discuss budget
 - i. I will have "office hours" next Wed and Thurs from 3pm to 5pm
 - ii. It shouldn't take very long
 - iii. If you can't make those days, email me
4. Student Organization Bank Treasurer Workshops
 - a. I have fliers
 - b. You must attend workshop to access from
 - c. You don't have to attend if you have in the past year
5. I just emailed all of Exec's expenses
6. Check with me to see if your organization has registered for required risk management workshop
 - a. Last day to apply is this Friday

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

1. Students Hooked on Texas
 - a. Applications have been extended to this Wednesday
 - b. PLEASE spread the word
2. Hook the Vote 2008
 - a. We want tables at registration round up on October 6
 - b. We want tables all over campus to get people to register
3. Constitution Day
 - a. This is tomorrow!
 - b. We will be registering students to vote on the West Ball
4. You can register to vote in the MIC
5. BleedOrangeThinkGreen.com
 - a. Good tips for house to reduce your carbon footprints
6. We will be having a deputization party on Monday, September 22 in Santa Rita room in the Union
 - a. There will be a voter security panel after

F. Administrative Director: Minator Azemi – minatorazemi@mail.utexas.edu

1. VIN Etching – Wednesday, September 24, 10AM-1PM in Lot 41 (north of the Frank Denius Practice Fields)
2. LPC Huge Project!
3. Dinner Suggestions

G. Vice President: Frankie Shulkin - fshulkin@austin.utexas.edu

1. This coming Saturday, we have a seminar over hip hop culture in college and how they interact
2. Campus Lighting
 - a. Over the summer, this issue was raised
 - b. UTPD want to train our committee on how to evaluate lighting on campus
 - i. Let me know if you are interested
3. SSBC
 - a. This is our intense period
 - b. This is student money so let us know if you have any questions
 - c. Our budget is a little over \$37 million

XI. Committee Reports

- A. Rules – We are canceling this week's meeting
 1. Saturday at 6pm?
 2. Please email me your schedule
- B. Finance
 1. We are not having a meeting on Wednesday

- 2. Instead, we will meet early before interviews
- C. Internal Affairs
- D. Outreach
 - 1. We have a MOCA meeting this Wednesday at 7pm
 - 2. We will be working for the financial workshop
- E. Fundraising
- F. Legislative Policy
 - 1. We decided to not have a meeting this week
 - 2. We want to encourage all to attend the State of the University address
 - 3. LPC will be having a huge project

XII. Agency Director Reports

- A. Policy Director – Judicial commission has had one simple role: to be an appeals board to the ESB
 - 1. We want to expand the role of the Judicial commission
 - 2. If you are interested in this, please come speak with me
 - 3. We have a meeting this Sunday at 4pm to write policy to be presented to assembly
- B. Membership coordination
 - 1. Don't forget nametags next week
 - 2. We are making a pamphlet for students more familiar to SG, so if you have ideas please see us
- C. FLO
 - 1. Mentor applications are still being accepted
- D. SURE Walk
 - 1. We promote safety by promoting an escort system to walk students on campus
 - 2. We are trying to find organizations to help
- E. LLA
 - 1. By this time next week, we will have LLA's
- F. Organizational Outreach
 - 1. I want to know if y'all would be interested in swapping organizations
- G. Alumni Relations
 - 1. I want to gather our SG alumni and build a database
 - a. If you know anyone, please email me
 - 2. We want an event in the Spring with the Alumni
 - a. Alumni are excited
- H. Students with Disabilities
 - 1. We are working with the Lee Bagan Endowment to establish testing for students with disabilities
 - a. Committee will be working to oversee that and distribution of funds
 - 2. There will be a sister fundraising committee for endowment
- I. QSA
 - 1. Ally event this Saturday from 11am to 2pm in Santa Rita
 - a. There might be an Ally training depending on the turnout
- J. Campus Technology
 - 1. If there are any technology based ideas please come to me so I can push the idea through the committee
- K. CEC
 - 1. Earth Summit – clothing portion of Trash to Treasure
 - a. September 24 and 25 from 10am to 3pm on FAC patio and West Mall
 - b. Info on website at utenvironment.org

- L. Student Forum
 - 1. I am putting together great forums with SG logo
 - 2. I want more great ideas to cover a wide range of things, so email me

- XIII. Unfinished Business

- XIV. New Business
 - A. AB 6 – Creation of a Student Government Endowment
 - 1. There is money that has been sitting around that hasn't been used and we want to see it go to endowments
 - 2. A total of three endowments for the purpose of serving different things
 - a. SG Excellence Fund
 - i. Open to all students across campus to use for projects or organization events
 - b. Need-Based scholarship endowment
 - i. Anyone on campus can apply
 - c. Academic Research and Project Fund
 - i. Similar to a stipend for a student conducting research
 - 3. Governing Board will consist of nine members and one ex-officio member
 - a. We wanted to leave it flexible so the board can decide on application process on the first year
 - 4. Great thing about this is that it is our want of giving back to students
 - a. There are about \$180,000 to pay out
 - 5. A way for students to give back to students
 - 6. Herndon: Do you envision applying as an organization for the Excellence Fund?
 - a. They can apply as an organization or as a student. Board will decide.
 - 7. Herndon: Will this be similar to appropriations?
 - a. This can put on one event and this can help with the caliber of events. This will be more money to less students to ensure quality.
 - 8. D. Villarreal: Can you address line just about section 2? Can we add bullets?
 - a. Was left vague for the sake of paper, but look at the attached sheet with history of money.
 - 9. D. Villarreal: Why didn't the money go where it was supposed to go?
 - a. This was the purpose of the money. This was fundraised with no specific purpose.
 - 10. D. Villarreal: Fundraised, but not earmarked?
 - a. Yes.
 - 11. Lawlor: Section 2C. Will this stipend be specifically for project or a personal stipend for a student?
 - a. Initially, we wanted it to go to the project, but we will leave it up to the governing board to decide. Leaving it open ended will be the best thing to do.
 - 12. Trotter: On section 4, have you looked at governing board having complete control? Since the students elected us, shouldn't the assembly approve it?
 - a. It would be great for these nine people who have a wide variety of knowledge on campus to be able to convene. They have the ability to judge that.
 - B. AB 7 – Rules for Spending for Additional Non-Student Fee Accounts (Special Projects)
 - 1. This is housekeeping that is done every year.
 - 2. These just all outline rules for different account of SG.
 - 3. Special projects account we use to fund special projects.
 - 4. Money we use to fund special projects, and we can't fund more than \$300.
 - 5. Trotter: Can you give an example of special projects?
 - a. Oddly enough, it funds our copies to give students a market rate for copies.
 - b. Also for things that don't fit from the other accounts.

- C. AB 8 – Rules for Spending for Additional Non-Student Service Fee Accounts (Fundraising)
 - 1. This account is money that we have fundraised.
 - 2. Actions can't exceed \$500 or \$2000 per semester.
 - D. AB 9 – Rules for Spending for Additional Non-Student Service Fee Accounts (Gifts)
 - 1. Exec will not touch this money until it is approved by assembly
 - E. AB 10 – Rules for Spending for Additional Non-Student Service Fee Accounts (Checking)
 - 1. Most used
 - 2. Can't exceed \$300 per event or \$1200 per semester
 - 3. Will be reimbursed if used by exec
 - F. AB 11 – Allocation for Additional Funds for Appropriations from Fundraising Account
 - 1. We will take \$12000 during both long semesters for appropriations
- XV. Motion to suspend the rules and fast track AB 7 – AB 11
- A. Motion Seconded
 - B. Motion Approved
- XVI. Unfinished Business
- A. Motion to approved AB 7 – AB 11 by acclamation
 - B. Motion seconded
 - C. Motion approved
- XVII. New Business
- A. AB 12 - Budget for Funds Received from the Student Services Budget Committee
 - 1. Proposed budget
 - 2. Approved budgets of past four years attached
 - 3. We have allocated more money to communications agencies and overall umbrella of comm. agencies
 - 4. CEC money was given by SSBC to SG to give to CEC
 - 5. The same applies for QSA
 - 6. Waley: Wages for work study haven't increased in four years.
 - a. State and Federal mandates are set
 - b. Amount we set is only a part of the way – it is matched three times by state and government
 - 7. Policy Director: Where can we go to find itemized budget for agencies?
 - a. It's online and I want to meet with agencies to discuss with agencies to itemize their budgets
 - 8. FLO: What program do you use to make up the file on the website?
 - a. If you can't open them, we will fix this.
 - 9. Hickson: What are the telephone area fees?
 - a. It is the amount to run the phone lines out of the office.
 - 10. FLO: I saw for retreat under internal expenses it was \$0.
 - a. It was out of the discretionary fund.
- XVIII. Motion to suspend the rules and fast track AB 12
- A. Motion seconded
 - B. Motion approved
- XIX. Unfinished Business
- A. AB 12 - Budget for Funds Received from the Student Services Budget Committee
 - 1. Meyerson: Why is CEC half of the allocation?
 - a. That is money that is given from SSBC to CEC through SG
 - 2. Meadows: Under Misc. the Daily Texan is listed. Is that the money funded to the Texan?
 - a. It is money to advertise.
 - 3. Policy Director: I was told that QSA money was allocated from somewhere else. Is this true?

- a. This is all SSBC money. This QSA money was a special request from SSBC and has already been approved.
- 4. Motion to approve my acclamation
 - a. Motion seconded
 - b. Motion approved

XX. Representative Reports

A. Waley

- 1. Sunday at retreat we worked on textbook legislation and I want to make that actual legislation so let me know if you want to help

B. Ma

- 1. Business school reps have been working to get new soap
- 2. We are finally getting new soap!!

C. Cotton

- 1. Interested in going to law school?
 - a. October 15 law school info session so undergrads know how to prepare for law school.
 - b. We will have Dean Sager, Carlos Martinez from UT System, and Former SG President Brent Chaney
 - c. We do need a lot of help promoting this

D. Stanton

- 1. We will be having a personal finance workshop next Wednesday so if you want to help, please let me know.
 - a. This will help Freshman
- 2. For the KIPP seminar, I am making a power point.
 - a. If you have hip hop history info, email me

E. Westerman

- 1. Last call for this month's KIPP seminar
 - a. If you have any ideas, it's this Saturday
- 2. Next month's will be about financial literacy, so just to give a heads up
 - a. Even if you don't know anything about the subject, we will have open Q&A forum just to talk about college, so you can help with that if you don't have anything to say about the seminar

F. Shwartz

- 1. We had a mental health class and our teacher showed us the CMHC website and it was AWESOME!
 - a. You can do guided imagery online
 - b. If you know anyone that is stressed, let them know

G. Parks

- 1. We talked about fundraising for the business school
 - a. We spoke with Suzy Brown in the business school
 - i. She said that we don't have funding to get a funding program going
 - ii. I am interested in SHoT and getting people more involved on the college level
 - iii. College reps, if you are interested in getting a campaign going for your college, get involved with SHoT

H. Maldonado

- 1. School supply drive by BESO all day tomorrow from 10am – 5pm in Sanchez Building

XXI. College Council Reports

A. Natural Sciences

- 1. Natty Sci week is this week
 - a. Tomorrow there will be a lecture on monster stars on top of RLM
 - b. Rest of the week there will be a seminar for what is love on Thursday and Friday there will be an info session on becoming a donor

- B. Liberal Arts
 - 1. New level of organizations for members in council
 - a. Much better way to keep tabs and have direct lines of communications with those departments and centers
 - 2. I want to recognize Lawson Bishop, LAC president
 - a. He has been doing a great job moving and shaking LAC
 - b. He was created a Dean Student Advisory Committee that meets with dean every month
 - 3. Forming committees of students to work on new Liberal Arts building
 - a. Contact Lawson if you are interested
 - 4. LAC allocate scholarships for study abroad LA students and applications are due Oct 10
 - a. Application can be found online
- C. LBJ School
 - 1. GPAC had full elections last week
 - a. Several new positions were mirrored from this SG and new process went well
 - 2. Last week we had Madeleine Albright at Coming Out Party
 - a. Great article in the Austin-American Statesman
 - b. If you have questions about Master of Public Policy, let me know
- D. Engineering
 - 1. There is an expo for engineering students from September 23 – 24
 - 2. Dean Streetman has retired
 - a. New dean is Greg Fenves
 - b. We are meeting with him next week

XXII. Announcements

- A. During National Convention, DNC named UT UDems chapter was named national chapter of the year
 - 1. Our Katie Naranjo was elected College Democrats of America President
 - B. Thanks to everyone for getting out appropriations applications
 - C. This weekend I am going to Nebraska for Black Student Alliance Big XII Conference on SG
 - 1. If you have a question on the issues, let me know
 - D. Sigma Lambda Beta and Kappa Phi Gamma are holding fundraising events
 - 1. Oct 1 – 3 we are holding fundraisers for Malaria No More
 - a. Oct 1 Kick Off rally on Gregory Plaza
 - i. 12pm – 4pm Fundraiser at Spicy Pickle
 - b. Oct 2 from 5pm – 7pm Fundraiser at Taco Cabana
 - c. Step Show Oct 3
 - d. More information will be sent out
- E. Texas Revue applications are still available
 - 1. Apps due Friday
 - 2. texasrevue.com; turn into SEC box office
- F. Latin American Studies program is best in the nation
 - 1. First Ever undergraduate research journal in the nation
 - a. Even if you aren't interested in Latin America, it is a interdisciplinary program so anyone can apply
- G. On behalf of IA, I want to thank Louis for videotaping retreat
- H. Next Thursday, September 25 7-8:30pm in FAC 21 there will be another forum on rail
 - 1. Dr. Sinclair Black will be speaking
- I. Normandy Scholars
 - 1. Applications are due October 6
 - 2. You experience WWII

XXIII. Second Roll Call

XXIV. Adjournment – Meeting adjourned at 9:01pm