



STUDENT GOVERNMENT

THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT AUSTIN

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Minutes of the Student Assembly for October 21, 1997

A regular meeting of the Student's Assembly of Student Government of the University of Texas at Austin was called to order at 7:30 p.m. on October 21, 1997 in the Student Assembly Room of the Student Services Building. The Secretary was present. Roll was called at the beginning of the meeting with the following representatives not present: Agour, Baker, Ghiselli, Hopkins, Ezra Johnson, Norwood, Pappas, and Stoup.

Open Forum

Christian Hodson - The Webmaster for Student Government

Hunter Stanco - Associate Editor of the Texan; Texas Union Referendum.

Prescott Caballero - Texas Union Referendum

President's Report - Marlen Whitley

A. Referendum on the Waller Creek Union on October 22 and 23, encourages everyone to get out and vote.

B. Working with Dr. Denise Swan - Director of the Learning Skills Center about Freshman retention and Freshman tutorial Wavers, purpose will be to provide at least one hour of free tutoring for all first time students at the University of Texas. The way to go about doing that would be for any of these students to pick up vouchers in the Student Government office who needs help in any of their introductory classes. Two fold purpose behind this is to

1. Introduce new students to Student Government and the resources Student Government can provide

2. Opportunity to introduce new students to the various learning and academic enhancement programs here on campus.

Would like to get this working by spring. Anyone wanting to take on this project for the year see Marlen.

C. Long Distance Longhorns - basically you are an pen pal in which students provide their name, hometown, major, email address and picture(to be photographed by the office of admissions), this information will be disseminated to high schools around the state of Texas. This allows incoming students personal access to current UT students and a way around all the media hype.

D. Office of the President, particularly Dr. Sharp, VP for Public Affairs and Administration, is working with Lisa Henken and Marlen Whitley on an issue to address post Hopwood initiatives and diversity in education.

Issuing up a call for anyone wanting to join any one of the 5 task forces which include, Undergraduate Admissions, Graduate Admissions, Student Success, Public School Outreach, and Value of Diversity. Each task force will consist of about fifteen members, six to seven students and they are looking for volunteers, what you will be doing is meeting with a number of administrators and there will be two Co-directors, one student and one administrator or faculty member, this will be the first time in the history of UT that students will be on equal footing with the administrators.

Vice President's Report - Randy Cooke

A. Submitting legislation, be sure to send an email copy to Randy Cooke

and a hard copy.

B. From 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. on Wednesday, October 22, 1997, mug shots will be taken for the Student Government.

C. Last Week - Thanks to the representatives who participated in the Hearts of Texas

Executive Director's Report - Onjaleke Seamster

A. Reminder about office hours, they are still going on.

B. Congratulations to Brandon Rhymes for a successful Engineering survey he completed last week. He had a really good turn out

C. Really listen to the Bills and Legislation that is going to be presented tonight because they did come back to Internal Affairs and the Representative was present to clarify them, he is not changing the constitution, just making it work to the ways we do things now, so we will not be doing things wrong anymore.

D. If you got a letter in your box about your hours and have not seen me, you need to see me directly after this meeting because absences will be going to Internal Affairs this week.

Financial Director's Report - Chuck Brady

A. The only piece of legislation, hopefully will close all this about spending out of the 41 and checking accounts, Non Student Service Fee accounts, AP10 basically says that you are going to appropriate all the funds in the checking and fundraising accounts to the executive with the following guidelines. Section 1 applies to the fundraising accounts and Section 2 applies to the checking accounts. To head off a couple of questions, Emergency Debt, sometimes at the end of the fiscal year we try to zero out the 29 account because if we do not spend that money it does not roll over to the next year. If there is a miscalculation somewhere and money is needed to pay debts, the money has to come from somewhere, the checking accounts and 41 account is there. Refundable Deposits, \$5,000.00, if money has been given to pay for something, but the place donating takes a while to write a check, the Financial Director writes the check to cover costs and then is reimbursed by the contributing party.

B. Beta Alpha Rho - was appropriated \$500 dollars for permits for their walk that benefits Austin EMS, those permits were donated by Austin P.D. and B.A.R. wants to know if they can use the money to pay for T-shirts to give out to people who participated.

C. Phone Cards - Vender Rep. Is looking at taking out a loan so that we can do what is called NET30 Business with them. More information at the next meeting.

D. Book Exchange - Will start Beta testing on November 2, 1997, anyone interested email Chuck. There will be about a 3-4 hour session with about 50 students where there will be a little microcosm and use pretend books and trade. Full system should be up and running around November 20, 1997. It will be free to the students.

E. Congratulations to Owen Temple for his new C.D. Release

Attorney General's Report - Sunil Agrawal

A. There are about nine pieces of legislation

B. Concerns at the last meeting, Debate is not where you question one another, if there is a question it goes to the Chair. During debate the best thing to do is stand up and say what you do or do not like about a bill. This should speed up the process. You can suspend debate whenever you want. If you feel like something has been debated long enough, call a question. The key thing to know is that if you want to speak on a bill, you have to be recognized by the Chair, and when the chair recognizes you,

you go to one of the microphones. The reason for this to compensate for the acoustics of the room and to control the amount of time someone speaks. You generally only get to speak twice if and only if no one else wants to speak.

C. At the next meeting, Randy will not call on you if you do not make a proper motion, so brush up on the Parliamentary Procedure

Report of the Chair of the Cabinet of College Councils - Lisa Henken

A. Student Government Representatives going to College Council Meetings - if you still have not been contacted or do not know when the council meetings are, contact Lisa. It is really important that the Reps attend the meetings because the councils really want to hear what goes on in Student Government, so you need to give reports to at those meetings. The whole point of being there is to let them know what is going on in Student government and they will let you know what is going on in their council.

B. A few things that Cabinet is working on - one issue is

1. Group study space - all of the small meeting rooms around here are great for study groups, they are open any time there is not a meeting. Encourage people to come over and use those rooms for study space because that's a really great space for them to use.

2. Recognition of Dual Degree Students, currently if you are seeking two degrees from two different colleges, the University does not put that on your transcript, you cannot be advised in the two colleges and there are allot of headaches involved in that, we are working with the Educational Policy Committee right now to remedy that hassle.

3. Starting up the Longhorn School Bus again. Last year a fifth grade class from Duval Elementary School came to campus, we did little lessons with them, they toured around the campus and allot of really neat stuff. We are starting that back up in the Spring with the office of Public Affairs, if interested in helping, email Lisa.

Appointments

Fee Oversight Committee - Blythe Alaspa - Confirmed

Fee Oversight Committee - Lane Walker - Confirmed

Committee Reports

Legislative Relations Agency - Carl Olavesen: SG Lobbying, we are recruiting ten representatives to help represent the student body to the legislature, the applications are open to everybody who wants to help. Applications need to be in by November 14, 1997 at the Student Government office.

This Thursday, October 23, 1997, 7:00 p.m. in 4.212 SSB there is a meeting, Carl has a sub committee for voter registration, the chair people for that are working really hard on this. They are putting together a very large voter registration campaign and need allot of help on this, it is for the upcoming primary.

Student Services - Annie Holland: There is a Student Services Meeting Wednesday October 22, 1997 at 3:00 p.m. in the Assembly Room of the SSB. Now have four sub committees and have allot of great things that are getting done.

Member's Privilege

Representative Kim Nixon, Graduate: New Union, students are not paying 100% of the building cost, this is the first time

Representative Brandon Rhymes, Engineering: Thanks to those people who came out and helped with the Engineering survey; AP6 coming out today

Representative Paul Lee, 2 Year at Large: Commencement Advisory Committee

needs one graduate and one undergrad student

Representative Bob Hall, LBJ: Fee aspect of the New Union, not about the fee but for the students

Representative Ken Emanuelson, Law: It seems that the students are paying \$32 million instead of \$16 million for the New Union

Representative Jemima Pierre, Graduate: Not for the New Union fee  
New Business

1. Rules Suspended to move AR to the top of the list.

AR6 - New Union Fee Resolution - Sponsor: Cameron Hall ; was debated - Did not pass.

2. AB2 - To create an Assembly Rules Committee - Sponsor: Rep. Eric Opiela - Passes

3. AB3 - Assorted Revisions to the Internal Rules -- Sponsor Rep. Eric Opiela - Passed

4. AB4 - To Require Advisory Positions to be Official and to Specify Additional Duties of the Attorney General - Sponsor: Rep. Eric Opiela - Passed

5. AB5 - To Remove "ad hoc committee" Contradiction to Clarify Attendance at Special Events - Passed

6. AB6 - To Create an Agency for Handling Affairs Relating to Information Technology - Sponsor: Rep. Eric Opiela - Passed

7. AB7 - F.Y.I. has been Submitted to Internal Affairs

8. AR7 - Has been Withdrawn

9. AP10 - Spending Guidelines - Sponsor: Fin. Dir. Chuck Brady - there was a motion by Rep. Nixon to table, it was seconded, then declined by the majority as called by the chair. Then there was a motion to strike sections 1 and 2 with the exception that the Financial Director can continue to Discretionarily Spend money from the accounts until the next Assembly Meeting. AP10 now reads: The Financial Director shall have the authority to spend discretionary funds for a period of two weeks. - AP10 passed as amended

Announcements were made. Blythe Alaspa and Lane Walker were sworn into their positions by Vice President Randy Cooke. The roll was called with the following representatives not present: Agour, Arnold, Ghiselli, Ezra Johnson, Pappas, and Simister. The meeting was adjourned at 9:05 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,



Justin Ehly, Secretary