

Minutes for the Student Government General Assembly Meeting
Tuesday, January 21, 2003 – 7pm

Meeting called to order at 7:05pm

Roll Call #1

Moved and seconded to move appointments to the next item on the agenda. Motion passed.

APPOINTMENTS

Victoria Sadler- SUREWALK

Introduced self. Questions entertained.

Moved and seconded to approve by acclamation. No objections. Motion passed.

Neel Gupta- One Year at Large

Introduced self.

Moved and seconded to approve by acclamation. No objections. Motion passed.

AG Wallace swears in Victoria and Neel.

Welcome Victoria and Neel ☺

Moved and seconded to move new business to the next item on the agenda. Motion passed.

Moved and seconded to move AR 26 to the first item under new business. Motion passed.

AR 26 Expressing support for the addition of a Men's Varsity Soccer program at the University of Texas at Austin, as well as the creation of an additional women's varsity sport. (Fast Track- Vote)

Authors introduced resolution. Authors explained changes made in the resolution since it was put in the agenda packet.

Questions entertained.

Cody Lin- we are also waiting on the newest Title IX report- there may not be a need for another women's sport.

Moved and seconded to approve by acclamation. No objections. Motion passed.

AR 25 Calling on the University of Texas at Austin Student Government to support the proposed Racial Harassment/Discrimination policy change.

Author (Shawn W. Cloonan) introduced resolution.

-This will replace Appendix i in the general student information.

Last year, the assembly decided that the Racial Harassment/Discrimination policies needed to be revamped.

Representative Durham- I have some questions about the policies...

Attorney General Wallace- this is not the time for these questions. You can go to University policy to discuss this.

Moved and seconded to vote to uphold Attorney General Wallace's opinion that discussion of the policy is appropriate right now. Motion failed.

Discussion:

Representative Curry: Why did you choose a student board is this fair?

Shawn: this is best it gives student the choice

Representative Kirkland: How will the student be appointed?

Shawn:

Representative Cobb: What kind of penalties will be designated?

Shawn: Academic expulsion, holding transcripts

Representative Cobb: Have any schools actually held penalties against students

Shawn: Yes but it is hard to get this information from schools

Representative Curry: What is up with the new Sexual Harassment Policy;

Representative Mofoye: I did not know about that

Representative Durham: I have problems with the wording; what does tolerance mean; I do not like that it infers inferiority

Shawn: I understand that; we used the old wording from the current preamble

Representative Mofoye:

Durham: this????? is illegal right now because of the "chilling affect"

Internal Financial Director Price: in Univ. Policy meeting tomorrow, will we just go over the resolution, or will we discuss the policy, too?

Shawn- we will discuss everything that needs to be discussed.

Internal Financial Director Price:

Representative Mofoye: when you submit a change, legal experts will look over it?

Price: does the police Department have a policy as well?

Shawn- after 9/11, the professor who was spat at had no avenues on campus and had to go to the police department... what else did you have a question about?

Price- what is the relationship between the Police Department and the University?

Shawn- the committee didn't ask UTPD for their view on racial discrimination

Price- why would faculty go by the student committee's decisions...

Representative Mofoye- this will affect student aggressors

Representative Jennings- Be careful how you word it- you are giving all the points against affirmative action in the resolution- you are shooting yourself in the foot.

Representative Durham- internal complaints- is there at some point an opportunity that this committee could get involved in this- a student not getting into UT based on race

Shawn- no- this policy is directed at student aggressors. it doesn't matter who the victim is- this is just for student aggressors. We didn't delve into affirmative action.

Representative Durham- why was this dissolved?

Shawn- the University thought they didn't need it anymore- right now the policy says you should go through the MIC

Representative Durham- What about Israel and Palestine

Shawn- the advantage of having a student board....

Moved and seconded to suspend the rules and move the Senate of College Council's Report to the next item on the agenda

SENATE OF COLLEGE COUNCIL'S REPORT

Our first meeting is this Thursday at 7pm.

Moved and seconded to move Open Forum to the next item on the agenda. Motion passed.

OPEN FORUM

Michael Alexander- in Sept. 2002, OU had a "Come as You Are" party- with people dressed like the KKK, etc. There was a statement from the President of that fraternity apologizing for it, but another member of the fraternity issued a statement saying they were just having fun. Monday, the MLK statue was defaced with eggs. Michael hopes to inspire everyone... racism is still prevalent. Tomorrow at noon, there will be a rally at the statue that will last 24 hours.

Bobby Apperson- Thanks everyone for passing AR 20- at the very least, we got people talking about it. Considering the Supreme Court is about to hear a Texas case... we are at a crossroads. Gays deserve a right to privacy. They will release a statement by June. This can happen- it will happen in our lifetime. Thursday at 3pm, we will be storming the Capital- we don't want to mail these. Meet in the rotunda.

Andrew Dobbs- If Dr. King could do all he did, what more can the 50,000 students at this University do? The hate will not disappear by itself. We must devote ourselves- vote for AR 27- and maybe everyone in this room be a sponsor. This is about the dream that all men and women are created equal.

STANDING OVATION.

Executive Director Hammond- Internal Affairs voted unanimously to fast track AR 27, so it will be introduced and voted on right now.

AR 27 A Resolution Condemning the Defacing of the King Statue

(not in the agenda packet)

Authors introduced resolution. Changes:

Title- take out the "in"

4th Whereas- break up-> end after "nation" start new one with "Whereas individuals committed a hate crime against Dr. King's statue by defacing it with eggs"

Be it resolved-

Representative Durham- change "justice in this nation" to "justice in this world"

Moved and seconded to approve all amendments by acclamation. No objections. Motion passed.

Moved and seconded to approve AR 27 by acclamation. No objections. Motion passed.

If you would like to add your name to sponsors, sign the sheet when it is passed around.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT (as read by Executive Director Hammond)

- Congrats to Neel and Victoria for their appointments
- SG will be co-sponsoring women's legislative days
- Student Regent drive- everyone must complete two sheets with signatures (40 signatures). This is a system wide petition drive. Be at the West Mall everyday this week.
- We are invited to dinner with President Faulkner Feb. 19th from 6-8pm in Main 212. Sign sheet if you want to come
- Becky is getting something done- send her an email
- Working on a resolution for ????????
- Red Pill Forum next week
- Stress Management next week
- Sheila Jackson Lee will be coming to campus- sign up if you are interested in actively participating, send Katie an email
- Urges all to postpone AR 23 until next week to get the word out to more students. We need to hold a forum on this
- All are invited to come to the office next Monday for lunch for Katie's birthday (11-1)
- Sorry she isn't here tonight. She is currently pursuing the student regent battle

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

- Return petition forms to Alex
- Thanks to everyone who supported AR 27
- If you want the scholarship to Princeton Review, turn in essay next week. Sg gets a 10% rebate at the Princeton Review

VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT (as read by External Financial Director Palnitkar)

- If you have any of the recycling bags, return them as soon as possible
- DDP is not in service due to lack of funds
- Student Services Fee Report for 2002-03 is out- you will receive copies soon.
- In addition to the two mandatory pages for the petition, the rep. who has the most will win a prize.
- Congrats to Neel Gupta
- We still do not have a law representative- the BAR association has to appoint one
- Please go to rally
- Representative of the Week- Sheima Mojtahedi!!!!!! ☺ Congratulations

EXTERNAL FINANCIAL DIRECTOR'S REPORT

- We have celebrity judges for Battle of the Bands
- pay \$20 to get your tickets and you will make your money back
- We will be selling on the West Mall and at the door

- Tickets are \$5

INTERNAL FINANCIAL DIRECTOR'S REPORT

- If you didn't get to sign the list to sponsor AR 27
- Appropriations will be held on Feb. 5th, 6th, and 7th- Mandy will need help

ATTORNEY GENERAL'S REPORT

- has been receiving emails on Wednesdays about how we leave this room- we need to clean up before we leave

SECRETARY'S REPORT

- no report ☺

REPRESENTATIVE'S PRIVILEGE

Representative Navratil- fell off of his bike this morning and had to get stitches for his chin- awww ☹ Thanks for the debate on the racial harassment policy

Representative Cobb- made a list of largest classes at UT to get petitions from- see Cobb after the meeting to make announcement

Representative Buckley- UT just sued the AG of Texas- wants to do a resolution about it- about surveillance of students. Maybe the cameras on campus are fake?

Representative Durham- has research of affirmative action- it will be long. This is an issue we need to take a stand on. We need to be aware that there is a new "other"- those of Middle-Eastern dissent. We need to be careful about racial politics on campus. Ben is a white male and wakes up and realizes he is privileged everyday. We (white people) need to recognize that we are privileged!

Representative Buckley- there was also a circle of roses around Robert E. Lee's statue yesterday- if you are also interested in a resolution about this, let Jordan know.

Representative Riley- was interviewed while in a parade- they want to know what the students in Texas think about affirmative action (Alene reads statistics about the LBJ School at UT- which is supposed to be the most diverse graduate program at UT- only a 13% minority population.)

Mandy- we are the model right now for the top ten percent- we really need to take a stand on this issue.

COMMITTEE AND AGENCY PRIVILEGE

Apperson- rally 3:30pm at the capital- we want the Confederate statues to be melted down

Morrison- if you want a FLO t-shirt, they are \$12

Brent Purdue- call in to the radio show

NEW BUSINESS

AR 21 Expressing appreciation for UT administration and the Get Noisy About Boise Coalition for their work in helping to end the University's purchase of paper from Boise Cascade. (VOTE)

Moved and seconded to approve by acclamation. No objections. Motion passed.