

## SGA Senate Minutes

October 1, 2018

- I. Call to Order
  - a. Called to Order at 12:04 PM
- II. Roll Call
  - a. 13/17 senators present.
- III. Approval of Minutes
  - a. No minutes to approve.
- IV. Agenda
  - a. Approved.
- V. Communications and Announcements
  - a. Senators
    - i. Senator Cognevich: I am working on a sundial project with the Physics Club and other departments. I put together an informal proposal, and met with Nicklow and the Provost. They are on board. Would include fine arts, civil engineer department, and the physics department. I have received quotes from foundries one in Louisiana one in Kiln Mississippi. I am putting together proposals, looking for co-sponsors. It would have to go out to bid, we are looking for artists as well.
    - ii. Senator Kyser: The finance committee should look at cost effective numbers.
    - iii. Senator Cognevich: Does finance know how to do construction, because I do.
    - iv. Senator Bourgeois: What would be the source of funds?
    - v. Senator Cognevich: University has pledged a considerable number, alumni association has been contacted. Donor's names will be included on the design. 3rd funding source would be reserve account, so that we have control.
    - vi. Senator Bourgeois: What would be the estimate on how much we would put in?
    - vii. Senator Cognevich: It is complicated. The center piece would be around \$100,000. The University would put forth about \$30,000. I think we should put forward at least 50% so SGA can have leverage
    - viii. Senator Ligier: Dr. Nicklow has ordered an audit of the account. He says that funding does not exist. Bid process is at least 90 days.
- VI. Reports
  - a. Student Affairs:
    - i. Senator Bourgeois: In last month I have talked to students if they had money what would they do. I asked around 40-50 students. Majority said redo lecture halls in Milneburg and math. I met with Dr. Nicklow on numbers and he said they spent around \$100,000 for classrooms in psychology, and \$150,000 for lecture hall. Dr. Nicklow also made it clear that he wants SGA to present a full idea of what we want to do, not multiple proposals from multiple senators.
    - ii. Senator Cognevich: Whenever you asked students where were they?
    - iii. Senator Bourgeois: New area in library, hanging out in the breezeway. UC Deck, and by the fountain lunch time.
    - iv. Senator Kyser: Class size of those rooms?
    - v. Senator Christine: Smaller than this room.

- vi. Senator Ligier: I have been working with Tumulesh Solanky on a proposal for the math building, and that was private funding.
  - vii. Senator: Bourgeois: It is harder to get donations for small projects like desk and such.
  - viii. Senator Cognevich: Donors give for large projects because there is no place to put a name on a desk. That is why capital projects is nice.
- b. Dining and Housing Committee
- i. VPLA White: We are in the process of getting numbers of how many people live in Ponchatrain hall and have parking passes. We are meeting with Aramark tomorrow to discuss the student org menus.
  - ii. Senator Cognevich: Can we get their contract?
  - iii. President Hills: Their contract is almost up and I am on the committee to help pick a new contract.
  - iv. Senator Cognevich: I want to know which buildings are covered.
  - v. Senator Johnson: Have you discussed the times? Not open from 2-4 is a problem. Other students have expressed similar concerns. They have not expressed interest in getting rid of gap hour.
  - vi. Senator Bourgeois: They said they would put out a survey to work on better times.
- VII. Executive, Judicial, and Advisor Reports
- a. President
- i. President Hills: So this Wednesday October 3, voter registration party in the Captain's Quarters at 11:00. Computers to register to vote, decorations. Come out should be fun. The director of housing search will close on Tuesday and then we will hopefully choose one to fill that vacancy. I also have heard of lots of capital projects and I want to make sure I am on the up front end of them, I can veto them, and I want to make sure that they are going up the correct chain of command. The first generation lunch with the commissioner went well. She emailed me saying what a great event it was.
  - ii. Senator Ligier: I hear what you are saying about these capitals. You have to return emails for us to meet.
  - iii. President Hills: I have responded to all of them except the Tech Fee, I am meeting Dave Thursday and then was going to respond.
  - iv. Senator Cognevich: Do you have capital projects you plan to push?
  - v. President Hills: No
  - vi. Senator Owen: Voter Registration Party, will there be out of state options.
  - vii. President Hills: Yes there is an online link that you can register in any state.
- b. Vice President
- i. VP Roach: \$17,332.64 in the operating budget.
- c. Vice President of Legislative Affairs:
- i. VPLA White: Senator Anderson, Hawkins, and Cook have resigned because they cannot make the meetings times. Please extend time by the amount of time you believe it will last. You can always object to extending time. Whenever submitting bills please submit by Wednesday to guarantee being on the agenda.

Must include formal bill, and quotes and invoices, and necessary approval. After I send the agenda I cannot make changes without making motions at the beginning of meetings, please make sure you get things to me on time. The following seats are open: 3 business, 5 engineering, 10 Liberal Arts and Education, 8 sciences, 1 freshman at Large, 1 Junior at large, 2 senior at large, and 2 graduate at large. When you email any of the executives, please use our official emails. Also can you please make sure when you meet with administration that we are on the same page with what we are doing with funding, so we do not look unorganized.

- ii. Senator Cognevich: Can you send out the totals for those.
- iii. Senator Ligier: I presented ideas in open forum and I did not get much feedback, do I need to move to the next level? We don't normally all work together. How do we make this happen?
- iv. Senator Kyser: Bring ideas to facilities, so we could work together. Have organized gathering to take to the next step. That way there aren't a dozen people talking that leads to poorly written bills.
- v. Senator Ligier: Is there something like a google doc that we could work through together.
- vi. Senator Miller: That is the point of the committee like Cody said, then that committee can come together.
- vii. VPLA White: You can go to any other committees meeting's you just cannot vote. We can work on an electronic format.
- viii. Senator Cognevich: The reason I requested to meet straight with the president because capital projects is so complicated.
- ix. VPLA White: They only say no to projects if there are already plans in the work need to work.

VIII. Old Business

- a. None

IX. New Business

- a. Party in Pink

- i. Senator Miller: This bill is for Party in Pink Zumbathon. They would like money to host this event. There is an amendment. The full amount will be Risers \$700, DJ \$150, Photo Booth \$250, Food \$610.69, Decorations \$201.58 for a total of \$1,912.54.
- ii. Senator Owen: This event is necessary as a destresser for the community. It brings publicity to campus and tends to bring large number of attendees and raises large funds.
- iii. Senator Cognevich: What was the most recent numbers?
- iv. Senator Miller: Point of information this bill went through last year. I am not sure when the 200 attendees were.
- v. Senator Bourgeois: If SGA gives \$1000 of more for an annual event, they should put up a budget committee request according to the rules and procedures.
- vi. Senator Cognevich: Point of Information: This is not written as an annual event.
- vii. VPLA White: Did they request a budget request?

- viii. Advisor Ballard: No
- ix. Cory Pitalo: Motion to Table till the next meeting.
- x. Senator Kyser: Objection. This is my third time voting on this, but it does not say it is annual. I think we can strongly suggest that they put in a request, but I think it would look bad on us to not approve them for that reason.
- xi. VPLA White: This would just be tabling until the next meeting, not voting no.
- xii. Senator Cognevich: Counter point, if you have seen this every year it is defacto annual. Whether they say it or not. In looking at the rules.
- xiii. Senator Ligier: Is there a minimum date to have any of the money put up?
- xiv. Sponsors: Not that we know of:
- xv. Senator Bourgeois: We can table to get all the information and have the authors present. I do not want to not fund the event, just table to get clarification.
- xvi. VPLA: Hand Vote on tabling for one meeting.
- xvii. Senator Kyser: I Object
- xviii. Hand Vote
- xix. 9 Yes- 4 No- 2 abstain. Bill is tabled.

b. Procedural Amendment

- i. Senator Ray: This is a procedural amendment to change one time expenditures, because this is vague and not clear. We would change it to the reserve account shall only be used for purchases expected to last at least 5 years.
- ii. Senator Cognevich: Why is this vague?
- iii. Senator Ray: Basically as it stands now, anything could be a one-time expenditure. You could buy anything and just not update it.
- iv. Senator Miller: Can we buy furniture?
- v. Advisor Ballard: yes, we have in the past. The cove furniture for example.
- vi. Senator Bourgeois: A Parking lot, is a one-time expense
- vii. Senator Cognevich: Buying projects versus maintenance is the issue here. We should amend it to say that we do not do maintenance.
- viii. Senator Miller: I do think this is vague. Motion to question
- ix. Senator Kyser: Object
- x. Vote on moving to question
  - 1. 6 yes- 6 no- 2 abstentions
  - 2. VPLA White Breaks the Tie with a No vote. (Discussion continues)
- xi. Senator Cognevich: Would you be open to an amendment to define one-time cost? As opposed to changing all the verbiage.
- xii. VPLA: You can propose an amendment, or they can propose an amendment, or we can table to get more clarity.
- xiii. Senator Cognevich: Motion to table
  - 1. 11 yes- 1 no- 1 abstention.

X. Nominations and Appointments

a. Head of Facility Services Committee

i. Hannah Joy Miller

- 1. Senator Miller: Been on senate for 1 year. I served on the committee last year, and ran a tabling event. I want to be the head to have more

leadership opportunity. I would love to work with everyone on facility projects.

2. Senator Kyser: How do you envision this role in bring SGA together, and looking competent in eyes of administration?
  3. Senator Miller: One way I think we can look more competent, is I could have weekly meetings with the higher ups and senators to help things run smoothly. I have met with Dr. Nicklow in the past and I think I have a good working relationship with him. I am level headed and calm, and I think I can make sure projects are together.
  4. Senator Bourgeois: What are you involved in now? What can you dedicate to the position?
  5. Senator Miller: I am here most of the week studying. Not here on Fridays but I could be.
  6. Senator Ligier: How long have you been in SGA?
  7. Senator Miller: A whole Year.
- ii. Jaylan Johnson
1. Senator Johnson: I am a college of liberal arts senator. I think I can bring new perspectives and inclusiveness. Examples: Mold in the dorms, dusty carpet in the library. I believe someone who lives here can do more.
  2. Senator Bourgeois: This is your first semester in SGA?
  3. Senator Johnson: Yes
  4. Senator Ligier: How can you bring SGA together to work as a unit together, and look competent in eyes of administration.
  5. Senator Johnson: Bring it to open forum first, and then discuss, and if they like the idea, and we vote on it. There is no need to go to the president if most people have said no.
- iii. Wesley Cognevich
1. Senator Cognevich: I previously knew the head of Sodexo. I know many of the guys on there I have read their contract I know what they are required to do. I have worked construction management for many years. I have managed multi-million dollar contracts. I have dealt with a lot of legalese. Really I am loud, and confident, and I can talk to these guys. I have talked to them many times. This committee was formed because I met with them as a student. If you put me in the position, you will get with someone who will meet with them regularly.
  2. Senator Ligier: You were head before?
  3. Senator Cognevich: No I was on the committee.
  4. Senator Ligier: How much longer will be here at UNO?
  5. Senator Cognevich 1 1/2 to 2 years.
  6. Senator Bourgeois: How will you bring the senate together and how would you make us look competent?
  7. Senator Cognevich: Start with the individual, help them find problems and answer the whys. Make a list, and talk to him all at once versus in

fragmented pieces. Let individuals work on their own things. Advise, and let them speak for themselves.

8. Senator Bourgeois: If you do not get this position will you stay on the committee?
9. Senator Cognevich: Yes, I will continue to do what I do, as a good student, not just a senator.
10. Senator Kyser: Is there any conflict of interest that you work for?
11. Senator Cognevich: No, I am only working for UNO now.

iv. Open Discussion

1. Senator Bourgeois: I think this is important. Wesley has been here the longest, Hannah Joy and Wesley have been on the committee and have a lot of passion. I don't want to knock out any one, but I think they are the top 2 candidates.
2. Senator Liger: Older student can see both sides, I enjoyed what Hannah has to say, but I think Wesley is most qualified.
3. Senator Kyser: While Cognevich experience seems very relevant, that is not really our job as senators. We vote on what we want there are other people who are paid to put things together. I am concerned, he seemed unwilling to reach out to student body at large. That is the main legwork of the facility services committee. Must be able to talk to students. I have seen Miller do that, she is great at tabling events.
4. Senator Bourgeois: Something that concerns me, although Wesley is qualified I second what Kody says. I also think we should give a new face experience. This position needs that in my opinion.
5. Senator Ligier: Is it at all a possibility to have co-chairs?
6. Advisor Ballard: There is nothing to prohibit that.
7. Senator Bourgeois: We asked if he would still be on the committee and he said yes. He will still be apart.
8. Senator Ray: Motion to Question.
9. VPLA White: Motion to secret ballot
  - a. Johnson 1 Cognevich 3 Miller 7 Absention.1
  - b. With no one receiving a majority of the senate, we will have a run off for next week.

b. Presidential Slate

- i. Aasiyah Williams: Junior Marketing transferred from Louisiana Tech last year. Here for chief of staff. Work with Kenady on any task she ask for, helped Campaign to elect Kenady. No SGA experience, but excited to learn. Co-President of Garden Club.

President Hills: The other appointments are former senators who could not be here for class time, I think they will all be great.

c. Discussion

- i. Senator Ray: Nothing was said about Max Nodier, but we are in the same fraternity. He is very involved as recruitment chair. He is very informative and great at pushing stuff.

- ii. Senator Bourgeois: What does a secretary of athletics do?
- iii. VPLA White: Report on athletics to president. No official powers. These positions are really what the president makes of them.

- 1. Vote

- a. 11 Yes- 0 No- 1 Abstention

XI. Open Forum

- a. Senator Johnson: During the summer we discussed having people know what SGA does. I would like to host a ted talk or jeopardy game.
- b. Senator Miller: I think it is a great idea. The sponsors of the Party in Pink bill are present if you have questions after the meeting.
- c. President Hills: I am working with Jordan on videos as well for letting people know what we do.
- d. Senator Bourgeois: I like the ted talk idea, I am not sure how a game would work, but I think the ted talk would be great.
- e. Jaylan: I think when people compete people remember things.
- f. Senator Ligier: The driftwood is \$160,000 in debt. We need to consider bailing them out and present a proposal to keep them out of debt. Is this something we want to do?
- g. VPLA White: I do not think it is beneficial or something the students want to bail out the Driftwood. I have heard about it, and talked to other people, no one is really interested.
- h. Senator Kyser: Just like SGA, journalism is a great institution on a campus. You can lead a horse to water you can't make them drink. If they want to proposition us for money Driftwood needs to come to a meeting. They should have digital resource.
- i. Senator Cognevich: Times picayune years ago stopped doing full circulation we are behind. Most people get their news form digital sources. No one reads a newspaper. Let them fold. We are a stem school, why can't we keep up.
- j. Senator Ligier: We are the only source of this funding.
- k. Senator Cognevich: If president wants it money will be found.

XII. Adjournment

- a. Meeting Adjourned at 1:15.