

February 3 Meeting

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SUMMARY KEYWORDS

senator, students, questions, meeting, semester, sga, report, hearing, graduation, minutes, interdisciplinary studies, committee, pontchartrain, amendment, senate, week, center, flu shots, move, mott

SPEAKERS

Joy Ballard, VPP, Amber Lemelle, Unknown, VPLA LeBlanc, Senator Noble, Senator Bellow, Senator A. Johnson, Senator S. Johnson, President Romero, VP Jayson Ray, Senator Mott



VPLA LeBlanc 00:20

I call this meeting to order at 5:02pm. I will now call the roll. All right. *** Roll Call*** With 12 out of 21 senators present. We do meet quorum. All right, are there any corrections or changes on today's agenda? Are there any corrections or changes to the minutes from our last meeting? Which was November the 25th? Alrighty, hearing none, we will move next to communications and announcements. Are there any senator communications or announcements? Okay, hearing none, are there any non senator communications or announcements? All right. Next we're going to the committee reports. Does governance have a report?



Senator Noble 05:33

No report, sir.



VPLA LeBlanc 05:36

Gotcha rules, Does rules have a report.



Unknown 05:40

No report.



VPLA LeBlanc 05:42

Finance? Does finance have a report? Okay, Student Affairs, Does student affairs have to report? Okay, hearing none, we'll move on to the on campus dining and housing.



Senator Mott 05:58

I do actually have a short report, we actually did something before the SGA Senate even started which was unexpected. I didn't realize the date when I scheduled my meeting. Our committee is changing a little bit because I do not reside at Pontchartrain halls any longer. I still think this committee is important. So I've set up meetings with the directors of residential life and dining services. We're holding these meetings as open forums throughout the semester for students to express their concerns related to Housing and Dining. We just recently had our first one with the director of residential life yesterday, and some students were talking about their maintenance issues. That was the general gist. Maintenance issues and a few policy issues, but other than that, I believe that we're gonna have some good dialogues throughout the semester at these two departments. And I yield the rest of my time for questions. Thank you for that Senator Mott. Are there any questions for the On Campus Housing and Dining chair?



Senator S. Johnson 07:04

Motion to be recognized senator Sarah Johnson college of liberal arts.



Senator Mott 07:08

Second, Brendon Mott Jr. at large.



VPLA LeBlanc 07:12

Okay, with 13 out of 21. Senators. Present. We meet quorum .Okay, are there any questions for the on campus dining and housing chair? Hearing none, we will move along to other reports. Next is the Madam President, are you here?



President Romero 07:33

I am here.



VPLA LeBlanc 07:35

Do you ever report for us today?



07:36

Yes.



President Romero 07:49

I just have a few reports like updates on things happening this semester. We voted on diversity lounge renovation last semester, and we got updates on that. They should be done by mid to late April of this semester, which is really fast timeline. They said because of the pandemic, not too many students are on campus. So it's way easier to work. Graduation, have a few updates on that. They're trying everything they can to do it in person and safely. So what that may look like is socially distanced at the baseball field. And that's kind of what they're gearing towards. If doesn't happen, then we're just gonna have to do virtual again. But they are really in high hopes and thinking that they will be able to do an in person graduation. The health center is open. And we have been tasked with letting people know that there are flu shots available for students who don't want to catch Corona and the flu. So at least you can get some flu shots. Most insurances cover the price, so it'd be \$0. But if you don't have insurance or the insurance isn't accepted, I'm not sure which few aren't. It'll be \$25. They also do Coronavirus testing. It's the rapid test, which is the same as they were doing at Pontchartrain Hall. A few. I think last week, they did it and they did in the UC too. But anyways, they also offer it all day at the health center. And I've been told that if you do rapid testing to take at least two throughout this two or three throughout the span of a week, because they are sometimes inaccurate. And they don't want the like you can get the first test positive and the next to test negative and chances are you're negative but you would have to go get another test but Because their appetites are not always right, they recommend a few of them from and it's also free at the lakefront for students well for everyone, but that's something that's close by so you can take it at the lake. Also, along the line, the health center, our contract is up with Honors in a few months, well, not a few months in December of this year. So actually, you're not a few months anyways, is up in December, and Dr. Golson wants me to gather information on whether or not students feel Oscars was a good choice, what services they want, what services they don't have, or they would like to see, and just a general atmosphere of the health center. So she could renegotiate a contract, I mentioned that I

would rather I would like to see marketing for the health center, because we don't really know what they offer. And I feel like a lot of students don't unless like, you go there and ask and I feel like if marketing could be considered more, more, students would know what's going on. And lastly, my office hours this semester, are going to be Monday, Wednesday, nine to 10, and then 12 to three. I'm really in my office all day, but I have class from 10 to 1150. And then from three to 415. But I don't I mean, my doors are closed, so chances are you won't catch me. So nine to 10 and 12 to three on Monday and Wednesdays. And about the health center if you want y'all can just email me at ***states email*** for your concerns about the health center. And that is all the time for questions. I think there might have been one in the chat. Do you know if they are mouth test or nose tests? I do not know. All I know is that they're rapid says I don't. I think they're mostly nose test. The Coronavirus testing, the ones I took are.

A Amber Lemelle 12:16
Okay, thank you.

P President Romero 12:18
No problem.

V VPLA LeBlanc 12:20
Anybody else? Any other questions?

S Senator Bellow 12:24
Senator Alex Bellow, interdisciplinary studies, regarding the graduation for the students who's going to be graduating in May? The ball field sounds like a cool idea. What's the backup plan for you know, if its storming and raining, you know, on that particular day, and obviously you can't be outside.

P President Romero 12:52
They weren't planning on doing the whole graduation on one day anyways, they were planning on doing it in a span, like throughout the week. So they haven't really said what their backup plan is. But I'm assuming it will just be another day throughout the week. But I can ask, I can ask at the next meeting, because spring showers are unpredictable here.

S Senator Bellow 13:13
Right, and you know, that's, to me, I don't graduate till the summer. So that doesn't impact me. But you know, for the students who are graduating, I think that would be something that they need to have on the radar to be thinking about, so that they can communicate clearly and set proper expectations. Because, you know, students look forward rightfully so to graduation, and they shouldn't be disappointed because they wake up and it's raining. They should be prepared for that.

P President Romero 13:22
I can say that they have a whole committee for graduation like this, like 20 people. I'm sure they have alternate plans, especially if it's outside for weather. I'll ask President Nicklow next time I talk to him.

S Senator Bellow 13:59
Okay, no problem. Thank you.

P President Romero 14:00
No problem.

V VPLA LeBlanc 14:02
Thank you. Are there any other questions for the president at this time? Hearing none, we will move along to the vice president. Mr. Vice President. Do you have any comments for us today?

V VP Jayson Ray 14:16
Yes, I do. I'll pull up the account totals real quick. All right. So totals for the semester for the Senate operating account, which is going to be which what most of the proceeds most of the bills take money from this semester. Right now it's at \$38,488.68. And the reserve account at this time is \$193,088. I will put those in the chat in just a little bit. Additionally, we had the first student fee committee meeting with Dr. Goalz and the CFO. It was pretty much just an introductory meeting. We did let them know that we want we'd like, like a description of where all the money goes from all the different fees. Because we know that's what most people have been, most students have concerns about. So we'll be looking for those in the next coming weeks. And that's it. I yield my time for questions.



VPLA LeBlanc 15:24

Any questions for the Vice President at this time? Hearing none, we will move along to the Vice President of Legislative Affairs, that will be me. I do have a report. So to start off, welcome to the spring 2021 semester of Senate, I'm glad to see so many of you returning. I do want to start off by saying that my office hours will be on Tuesdays and Wednesdays, Tuesdays from 10am to 2pm and Wednesdays from 10am to 3pm or you can always email me, we can set up a zoom call at some point. On those two days, if you need to reach out to me. I also want to bring up something that we've been working on since last semester, which is a I've gotten some feedback from a performing arts professor, Dr. Kevin Griffith, who is looking at revamping our amphitheater. So we've been talking about this since last month, some senators have been involved with it, but I didn't want to get everybody involved until we got some concrete information. So it looks like that is getting ready to start to come through actually, with some good news. So I will be reaching out to those existing senators. And if anyone else wants to get involved with that annoying information, just reach out to me, we can get that get you plugged in and get you up to date on where we are. The next thing is recruitment. I have spoken about this at our exec meeting. Something that I want to do differently this year is trying to figure out how do we get more of our, UNO students involved with student government and with Senate. So I think this will be from a collective effort from all of our senators, if you know of any friends or anyone who's interested just to start by that just let them know to reach out to me, we can get them plugged in somehow. Last but not least, our rules committee head, Amber Johnson, this would be her last meeting. As Rules Committee, she has decided to step down. And I will be appointing senator Sarah Johnson as the committee hit for rules which we will go ahead and confirm that appointment at our February the 10th meeting. So I just wanted to let everybody knows if you have any questions for Sara of some sort, just, you know, go ahead and shoot her an email or ask me, and I'll get that over to her. So that is the end of my report. Are there any questions for me? Okay, hearing none, we will move along to the Vice President of programming. Are they here with us today? Do they have a report?



VPP 18:33

Is that me?



VPLA LeBlanc 18:35

Yes, sir. Okay,



VPP 18:40

The only thing I have to report is there's an event tomorrow with SAC. It's at 12:30. It's like, making friends. We're using the icebreaker program. I think it's called if you guys want to meet new people, meet more students or whatever I would recommend everybody come all the informations on our Instagram. Yep. That's it.



VPLA LeBlanc 19:06

Thank you. Are there any questions for the Vice President of programming at this time? Hearing none, we will move along. Next, we will be moving along to advisor Ballard. Advisor Ballard. Do you have a report for us?



Joy Ballard 19:46

I do, very quickly. Um, first of all, thanks to our all of our execs for being here and sharing all of their information. I think they covered almost everything that was on my list, which is impressive. Thank you all for being here today. I know 2021 is not getting any better than 2020. Yeah, I think we still got a long way to go. So I appreciate your commitment to being here sticking through with SGA. I also want to shout out the people that came to our winter retreat. We had a lot of fun. I think that they learned a lot of things, they're going to be really useful for our organization. Moving forward, so that's exciting to me. And finally, my only other note, I am completely out of the office next week. Like seriously out of the office, I'm getting married. Please don't need me. Now. What that does mean for yall though April Gremillion, who works in our office, she is fantastic. She will be attending your meeting helping y'all out if y'all need anything in the world talk to April. Also, please be on your best behavior. I'm not going to care. But I trust y'all to do good things. make good choices. If you need anything call you can call April. All right. Yeah. Do you have any questions for me?



Senator Bellow 21:17

Alex Bellow Senator to Interdisciplinary Studies. I'm trying to figure out if it's appropriate for Joy to just be dropping this wedding on us at the last minute, and like it's no big deal. Congratulations to you, Joy.



VPLA LeBlanc 21:32

I am eloping. No one's invited. So y'all are not missing out. My mama isn't even coming but thank y'all, I appreciate it.



Senator Mott 21:45

Brendon Mott Junior at large. I do have a quick question regarding coordinator, student governments. I know they have those interviews, are we going to be having somebody new coming soon to advise us?



Joy Ballard 21:57

Yes. What a great question. Um, so we are in the process of interviewing for a new coordinator of student governance, we are going to switch up the way we advise SGA just a tiny bit, it's not going to affect y'all a whole lot. **But me and the new person will be working together to advise SGA.** So y'all are still gonna see me but you're also going to see them. And we will take turns with senate meetings. As it stands right now, it's really hard for me to, you know, go on vacation because I am yalls only close advisor. We are hoping to mitigate that this new person is going to know all about y'all. And all about SAC's doing that way we can share the load. And if I'm busy, I'll have somebody else. So we're really just hiring y'all some extra support.



VPLA LeBlanc 22:54

Thank you for that. Are there any other questions for the advisor? Hearing none, we'll move along. Next, we will move along to old business. This was information that we had on the November 25th agenda. We didn't meet quorum that meeting, but that's okay. Do we have a motion to hear old business with a proper Second.



Unknown 23:29

Motion to hear old business Senator *** rich graduate at large.



Senator Bellow 23:36

Alex bellow college of Interdisciplinary Studies I second the motion.



VPLA LeBlanc 23:42

Motion carries. Okay, so the first item that we will be pulling up is the code of laws. And that is pa dot F dot two zero dot k dot 001. I did send that out to everyone for viewing. we do have guests so I'll go ahead and pull it up and share my screen. all right. Can everyone see my screen?

V VP Jayson Ray 24:42
Yes.

V VPLA LeBlanc 24:51
. Okay, so this is the procedural amendment for the code of laws. Will the principal author and sponsor if they're here, I think Senator Fretz Is she here yet? Okay, Senator noble? Are you here?

S Senator Noble 25:19
Yes.

V VPLA LeBlanc 25:20
Okay. You have six minutes to introduce your bill and 10 minutes for questioning. Okay.

S Senator Noble 25:28
So for the clerk laws, we did make a change to remove section 300.2. The reason that was removed was because it was something that we weren't currently using. So we wanted to make sure that everything in the code of laws actually reflected what we are currently doing. It was clear and concise. And that is what I have for the first part of Code of Laws

V VPLA LeBlanc 26:07
Okay. We will move to questioning. Are there any questions with this procedural amendment to our code of law? All right, hearing none, we will now enter. Thank you for that introduction. Senator noble, we will now move into initial debate. Do we have any senators that rise in opposition to this Amendment. Okay, hearing none, the next three minutes will be controlled by the person who rises in support of the amendment. Does anyone rise in support? Hearing none, the next three minutes will be controlled by the principal sponsor of the bill. Do you have anything else you would like to say? Okay, hearing none, we will move to amendments. Are there any amendments to this procedural amendment? Okay. The next three minutes will be controlled. Okay, no, we don't have any amendments. Sorry about that. We will now enter final debate. The first few minutes will be controlled by any senator who rises in opposition or support. Okay, we will now move to a vote. And I will conduct a roll call vote on this. When you hear your name, just please let me know the way you vote. ***Roll Call Vote*** With 12 out of 21

senators voting yes, zero no's and one abstention. This amendment passes. Okay. Next we will move to the Senate rules and procedures. amendment. All right. Is everybody able to see this? Yes. Okay. Great. So, Senator noble, you may come up again, you have six minutes to introduce your bill in three minutes for question and 10 minutes for questioning.

S

Senator Noble 31:18

Yes. So the same with code of laws. I wanted to make sure that the rules and procedures were clear, concise, and were easy to follow and to read. These are the sections that either I found or committee found that they're hard to read or that needed to be revised. And that is, we will, so we went through and we rewrote section 3.93, 4.13. And as you can see, clearly, we also went through and removed 4.152 and 4.153. The reason we changed section 4.184. doesn't already have it pulled up. If you have any questions about either while we remove the section, change the section, or edit sections, I'll be glad to answer those questions for you guys. That's it. That's my report.

V

VPLA LeBlanc 32:31

Okay. Are there any questions about their principal sponsor? Again, all senators did get this information. So if you have any questions, feel free to ask them now. Okay, hearing none, we will move along. Thank you for that introduction Senator noble. We will now enter initial debate. The first three minutes will be controlled by the first senator to rise in opposition. Okay, hearing none, the next three minutes will be controlled by the first senator to rise in support.

S

Senator Mott 33:24

I do, Brendon Mott Jr. at large I rise in support, because I think that these changes are necessary to make sure that our rules and procedures are clear and concise, especially for new senators who might not understand them as much as some of the some of the senators who have been here longer. I just think it's important to be clear and concise.

V

VPLA LeBlanc 33:48

Thank you for that Senator Mott. Okay, the next three minutes will be controlled by the principal sponsor again. Senator noble, do you have anything as you would like to like to share?

S Senator Noble 34:04
No, sir.

V VPLA LeBlanc 34:05
All right. Next, we move to the amendment section. Are there any amendments that you guys would like to propose to this procedural amendment? Hearing none, we will move on to our final debate. Is there a senator that rises in opposition or support? Okay, Senator noble, once again. These three minutes will be controlled by you. Do you have anything you would like to say?

S Senator Noble 34:43
The only thing I would like to say is ***unknown***. I hope that any of the changes that were made, are up to you guys's satisfactory.

V VPLA LeBlanc 34:58
Thank you for that Senator Noble. We will now conduct a roll call vote on this. When you come when I call your name, please state the way how you vote. This is for our rules and procedures guys. ***Roll Call Vote**** Okay, with 13 out of 21. Senators voting yes, zero no's and zero abstentions this procedural amendment passes. Congratulations, Senator Noble and Senator Fretz and all the others who were on that committee. I know you guys worked really hard. Okay. The next item on the agenda? I know we don't have any new business. So the next item on the agenda will be moving is open forum. We have 12 minutes. And this is anything for the betterment of SGA. And I'm going to start us off by saying that for anyone who has any legislation, sorry that they would like on the agenda for next week. If you can send it to me today before the end of the business day. I will count it so that we can hear it next week so that it can go out. Just this one time not going forward. You do have to have that before 5pm. Anyone else? If no one has anything to say. I will entertain a motion to adjourn.

S Senator Bellow 38:10
Senator Alex Bellow Interdisciplinary Studies motion to adjourn.

S Senator A. Johnson 38:16
Senator amber Johnson carries



VPLA LeBlanc 38:20

At 5:40pm I adjourn this meeting. You guys have a great rest of your evening. And I will see all of you next week. expect some emails from me.